

Feedback on Fatma Orhan's draft of final paper

The topic of your final paper is very interesting and I think it can be beneficial since sociological and anthropological studies of minority ethnic groups are gaining in importance more and more. As I understood it from your draft, there are certain conflicts and tensions between the Nogai people and the Turkish society since they tend to see each other in opposition. Your key research question concentrates on sociological characteristics of the community, but I think it might be defined too widely. I would either specify the question or add some more sub-questions. Since the Nogai people live in multiple countries, I would like to know if the dominant culture (in this case the Turkish) has affected their culture and how. You mentioned that they live in closed groups. But is it possible to observe attempts to assimilate or integrate into the Turkish society? Does the Turkish government guarantee them cultural autonomy (for example regarding their own schools)? Are the younger generations more prone to integrate into the majority or do they on the contrary reinforce their authentic identity? These are some issues that crossed my mind and maybe you would like to write more about them. I would be glad to read your paper and learn more about Nogai Turks and their way of life.