

English translation:

Umm... After coming to Uzbekistan. Uzbekistan... Middle Eastern¹ people rather than Uzbekistan. Middle Eastern people were informed prior to their [the Abkhaz Turks'] arrival that such people were coming and "that you should stay away from those people because they are the kind of people who eat other people." I mean, this is what the indigenous people were told. Umm... Of course, after these people's arrival, those days were the days of hunger in the Middle East, umm... whatever those people had in their hands, they were... I mean the Middle Eastern people were sharing their houses with these people; they were giving them homes and shelter, even though they were wrecks, but still partially relocating them. Umm... Those were the days of hunger... umm... people were sharing the supplies they brought to the Middle East from Abkhazia... the grains... I mean barley, whatever food supplies they had, they were sharing it with the indigenous people. I mean, they were living in severe conditions. People... umm... after coming to the Middle East... umm... people came all the way from Caucasia to the Middle East. I mean, they couldn't adapt to the weather conditions. Umm... Right after that a lot of people died, too. I mean, because of their... umm... they could not adapt to the weather, because of hunger and such. Many people were defeated by that. After the 44th,² after they were relocated, they were kept under an administration of soldiers. I mean, they were kept in quarantine until the 56th year [1956]. I mean... umm... they couldn't get self-renunciation, they were not able to reach a state of ease; they were always in a state of poverty. They were living in these conditions for twelve years, in which they could not go from one village to another without permission. The people were relocated separately. Every night they informed the soldiers; they [the soldiers] would say, "Is such and such person here?" "Yes. Here," and then they would sign in.³

I mean, no one was able to leave one village for another. They were living under tough conditions; people were exposed to immense torture and cruelty as well during those twelve years. Then it was getting even worse. In the 1956th year [1956], they were freed from the quarantine; they were free of the soldier's surveillance. And then, I mean, I don't know... those were the days of hunger... umm... It was not a time of welfare for the state. Their persecution lasted until... umm ... the 70, 75, until the 70th year [1970], umm... people were exposed to persecution. But, along with our people, other people were exiled as well. For example, the Chechens, Crimean Tatars -- they were exiled as well, but after the 56th year [1956] umm ... a law was established saying that all nations could go back and relocate to their homeland, except for the Abkhaz Turks. The Abkhaz Turks had the right to live anywhere in the Soviet Union, except for their own homeland - I mean any other region except for Abkhazia. You see people were living under such

¹ The "Middle East" referred to here is the "Greater Middle East," extending beyond the Near Eastern countries to include those of Central Asia.

² 1944 -- colloquially, they refer to actual years with enumeration suffix.

³ Soldiers took attendance in order to ensure everyone was present.

cruelty until the 70th year. Umm... after the 70th year [1970] until the 89th year [1989]... umm... people were a little more comfortable, rich, until the 89th year.

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