

Ethnic Composition of Xinjiang Population: Past and Present

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ABSTRACT This study was carried out to analyze the characteristics and specificity of the XUAR national composition formation during the modern and contemporary periods. The main thesis of the work is the proposition that the formation of the modern structure of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region population is extended in time and dependent on Beijing's policy towards national outskirts. The researchers consecutively showed stages in the formation of Xinjiang population highlighting five stages in the formation of modern ethnic composition. The main conclusion of the research is that a demographic explosion is expected in the XUAR in the coming years. A surge of the positive migration balance can occur only at the expense of the "infusion" of Han Chinese from the interior regions of China. In this way, China's central government is trying to bind "demographically" and strengthen its position in the western region, through Central Asia.