**Myong Soon-ok, Chun Byong-soon, Yem N.B.**

Al Farabi Kazakh National University,

Republic of Kazakhstan, Almaty

Email: [okmyong@gmail.com](mailto:okmyong@gmail.com)

**Cultural Politics of Post-Soviet Koreans in Kazakhstan: Duties to the State Language, Power, and Memories.**

**Abstract.** This study reveals the cultural politics of the Post - Soviet Koreans in adaptation difficulty to the new state language - Kazakh. The Soviet Koreans were quickly assimilated into the Soviet language. Driving forces to assimilation were the strong external pressure with repression and violence under the Stalin regime, a breakthrough for survival and settlement, and at the same time voluntary willingness. However, since independence of Kazakhstan, the Koreans have not shown willingness to learn new state language. There was a boundary between the self-language and other language, which was reinforced and reproduced by the experiences and memories of the Soviet society. Moreover, the opening of economic activity to survive in a free market economy system has led to the passive attitude to the duties of state language, despite social pressure and discrimination in public sphere due to the language limit.