



ELSEVIER

Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

ScienceDirect

Procedia

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences 116 (2014) 4970 – 4976

5th World Conference on Educational Sciences - WCES 2013

Expression of an agreement vs. disagreement in the course of kidnapping of the bride among Kazakhs

D.M Koishigulova *, A.Ospanova, A. Syrgakbaeva, O. Abdimanuly

Str. al-Farabi 71, Almaty, 050040, Kazakhstan

Abstract

Currently Kazakhs marry through betrothal and by kidnapping the bride. Kazakhs abduct the girl with her consent, and often with the consent of her parents. Abductions without the consent was the infringe the common law in the past, but today recognized national consciousness as a national tradition. The paper considers the temporal dynamics and causes distribution of the Kazakh bride kidnapping. It was apparent that fictitious kidnapping (abduction with the consent of the girl), and a real steal (abduction without the consent of the girl) - they are two fundamentally different things, and in the modern Kazakh life exist those two kind of abductions.

© 2013 The Authors. Published by Elsevier Ltd. Open access under CC BY-NC-ND license.

Selection and/or peer-review under responsibility of Academic World Education and Research Center.

Keywords: consensual bride abduction, nonconsensual bride abduction, forms of marriage

1. Introduction

Theft of a bride with her consent

In traditional Kazakh society marriage by abduction of the bride has ex alongside with matchmaking, although it was relatively rare. Argynbaev considers several options for the abduction of girls with their consent (Argynbaev 1975: 71-72). Groom kidnaps a bride wood by him, whom he is unable to marry because of different reasons (eg, the father violated the terms of the original matchmaking). Thus, the abduction was preceded matchmaking, and all parties have been notified of the rights of the bride and agree to them. There were cases of abduction a girl wood for another man with her consent. Occasionally there were cases abduction of an unwood girl with her consent, when the parents did not agree to marry without dowry (Zhakipova 1971: 55), i.e. situation where "the pursuit of spiritual intimacy with a woman overpowering the strictest prohibitions" (Persiy 1979: 219). Characteristically, these options include the suit as necessary norm in marriage - in the first case, the suit was preceded by capture, and in the other, if the girl's parents forgive the young, and it ends the process of kidnapping (Argynbaev 1975: 76). This action introduced a violation of the rules in the framework of tradition. Currently fake bride kidnapping of Kazakhs are not associated with matchmaking. Usually, the decision to marry by kidnapping is taken by youth, sometimes parents are alerted.

Often parents of the groom are announced in advance on future theft, so they have time to prepare, the girls are still often hesitate to warn his family. Sometimes they can say publicly or only to hint about her younger sister, or anyone of the wives of the brothers. We describe a fictitious scenario of the Kazakh bride kidnapping, which is similar to those in other regions of Kazakhstan, although it has its own characteristics.

* Corresponding Author: D.M. Koishigulova. Tel.: +7 (775) 9337039
E-mail address: dickosh@mail.ru

Usually after some party a guy takes a girl to his home. If the parents of the guy are aware of his plans, the house is all set for the meeting, and guests are invited. A "stolen" girl steps inside with her right foot over the threshold, a guy and a girl are sprinkled with shashu (candy bursaks and so on.). The groom's mother or grandmother throws her head a scarf. Bride seats at a table on the place of honor - tor. This is one of the features of the Kazakh bride kidnapping. Informants emphasized that this is the only time that the bride can sit on the tor. She will not be allowed any more after this. The next day respected people are sent from the groom's family to the bride's parents to apologize. A delegation from bride's relatives is sent to a groom's house, to ask about her consent. The "chase" involves girl's younger brothers, and wife of her older brothers. Its main purpose is to find out whether the girl willingly "ran away." Zhenge - brother's wife plays the main role in the negotiations. She finds out if she agrees to stay in this house. If so, what she wishes the youth happiness, participants of the "chase" are invited to the table and given gifts. If the relatives know that girl left on their own, the "chase" is more like a game. If the girl had not told anyone of the family, the "thief" is afraid of a real conflict. As our informant says, the pursuit is not a joke, chasers become quite serious, and they can even break the window. The girl is considered to be a wife after the Muslim wedding ceremony of Nikah. "If a girl is stolen, Nikah is done immediately. And she continues living as a wife", - assured us an old Kazakh woman from Saryzhaz village in Almaty region. However, it is likely that Nikah can be done later. The wedding is celebrated much later - after the parties are ready for this event.

Stealing the bride without her consent

HA Argyubaev identifies several options of forcible abduction of girls in traditional Kazakh society: theft of a wood bride without her consent, stealing someone else's wood bride and finally stealing an unwood girl. The latter option can be compared with the modern real abductions, so it is of great importance to quote Argyubaev on this subject: "There are such facts when guys of influential feudal villages forcibly abducted an unwood girl from less affluent families. Such actions were regarded as a serious crime, and they strongly urged girl to consent to marriage, sending ambassadors with rich presents to the parents of a kidnapped girl. In case of a girl's consent, the parents did not particularly insist on her return, and, receiving a heavy fine and a full dowry, blessed the young. In case of strong protest of a kidnapped girl, she was returned to her parents, and the perpetrators were fined heavily" (Argyubaev 1975: 75). It is quite difficult to say whether these cases were typical.

Currently, the largest number of bride without their consent is recorded by us in the South Kazakhstan region, Maktaraly region. In this paper, the details of the specific case of bride theft Kazakhs are given.

History of AA.: Born in 1974, in Raiymbek district, Narynkol village. She was stolen in 1991, when she was 18 years old. While she was studying at Women Pedagogical Institute and came home for the summer holidays. She was stolen by her classmate with whom she was "friends" only for a week and she was not going to marry him. As it turned out, he also did not want to marry. However, his older sister refused to allow him to marry a girl with whom he was going out. They "found out" A. for him. One day they travelled to the neighboring village Shalkode by car with his friends and her friends to visit his classmate. They were returning late, around 11 p.m. Despite promises, A. was not taken home, but straight to his house. Friends were aware of the plans, but she was not warned. In the house of the groom everything had already been prepared, and women with handkerchiefs in their hands went out to meet her. She was afraid to go out of the car and was crying. Mother, sisters and other female relatives of the groom were pulling her out of the car, dragged her into the house and put him in a corner behind a specially made red curtains.

She plucked a handkerchief, and they again threw it down. This went on for five hours. She cried, and they tried to persuade her, according to her words, she was "promised mountains of gold." They promised that they would give to finish school and threatened: "If you leave, you will be dishonored".

When she calmed down and was a bit tired and, in the morning, older women ("grandmothers") went to her parents to tell the girl stolen, and ask for forgiveness.

After a while her mother, aunt and grandmother came. Her mother asked, if she had come willingly. And a friend of the bridegroom in her voice said: "I came myself". It at this time it was noisy because of young people and his friends surrounding her. Mother got angry and: "If you had come, stay. I suppose you will not repent." And she left.

After that, all of the groom's relatives came, hugged and thanked her. She was dressed in a pre-purchased new things: a black dress with red roses, pink blouse, black boots, stockings, in general, in the latest fashion, parents