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photo by Diana Petriashvili



PARENTING

AND GENDER

CULT OF MOTHERS IN CULTURE OF FATHERS

EDITOR'S NOTE

Gender problems? What are you talking about? We have the cult of mother! — my Georgian opponents say. And I have to ask them these questions (and to answer them myself):

What is the maternity allowance? 100 dollars in an average, paid only once.

How much does a baby pay make? Zero point zero.

How much is the pension of a housewife mother? 20 dollars...

What is the cult about?! It is indeed humiliation and mockery - at the state level.

Maybe cult is somewhere else, at the everyday life level?

A young and good-looking mother goes for vacations along with her two-years-old son. They are alone, without their husband and father. As three days pass, she has to escape from the beach, because local admirers do not let her stay there. They kept whistling, making proposals, and knocking on her windows...

At work: there are two candidates for a vacancy - a man and a single mother woman. Who, do you think, will be accepted? In nine cases out of ten - a man. "He has to earn money for his family," an average boss would explain his selection. Just as if she doesn't have to do the same.

It's a traditional Georgian party with plenty of guests. A housewife rushes back and forth from the kitchen to the table. A male toastmaster proposes the toast to mothers. "In the person of housewife," he says, meaning that it's the toast to all mothers. The party calls for the housewife, who listens attentively to this common toast, thanks the toastmaster and rushes back to the kitchen. Everyone feels happy - the ritual is over.

That's all. This is the weak support of the mother's cult myth, the myth designed for poor and not thinking. Just think of it: why would the cult of women appear in the traditional culture of men?

Polina MILORADOVICH
Georgia

sober view

MATERNITY

AS RISK

not every woman
dears
to become a mother

My friend Tamuna is 37. Not only she had never been married, but she is even a virgin. And I tell her:

"How is it possible? Aren't you curious at least? Virginity at your age "

"What do you mean - 'age'? My neighbor was in her seventies, when she died. She was a virgin, but once told me: don't stay an old maid," Tamuna replied.

We are quite frank when talking, and Tamuna willingly confesses that not only curiosity is what worries her the most. Any possibility to start a romantic relationship means a brilliant outcome to her - becoming a mother is what she really wants from life. Love and relations is only prelude to the long-awaited result, a small baby Tamuna would love and care until the end of her days. This is her ultimate goal and her most important dream. But as years pass by, more problems appear, as she is getting older.



From one hand, the passing time is good for her, as people change their mentality and become more loyal to those women who have children without getting married. A single mother would feel okay nowadays, especially if she lives in the capital city. All people would do is guessing who the father is; or, maybe, gossip about her failing to get married. But as the result, she would not be treated as a fallen woman, as it used to be for many centuries previously. Quite the contrary many people would respect her boldness and independence. Others, who do not live happy lives with their husbands will probably even feel envious.

But still - there is something that keeps Tamuna from making this step. She is already 37. Sometime I feel that she is already obsessed with the idea of losing virginity and getting pregnant, as she talks too much about it. She speaks on different topics, about different things, but eventually

ends up with her problem. And about the fact that she will not be punished (morally) if she does it. About the perspective of giving birth to a baby and feeling okay about it.

"Even my mom told her friend, whose daughter had a baby without getting married, that she'd like me to do the same."

"I am already in the age when no one would say that I am a whore. Everybody knows the way I lived before doing that. People will simply say: she really wanted to have a baby."

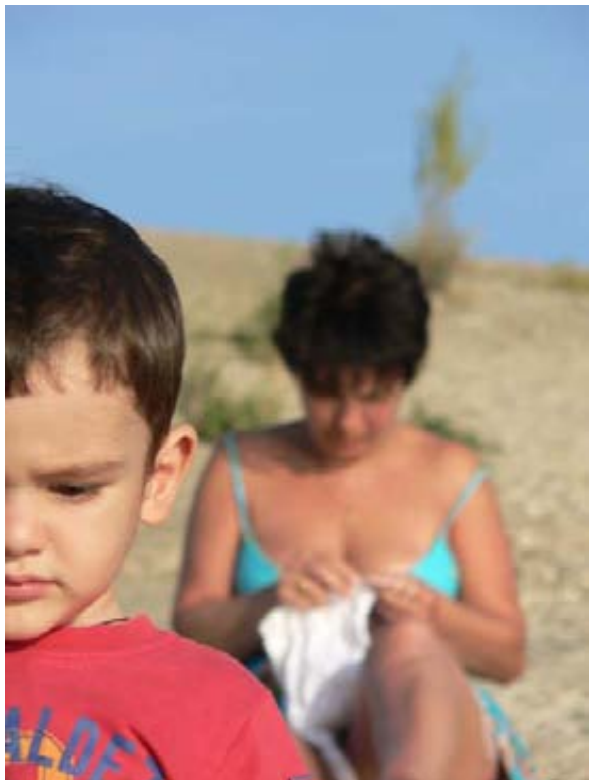
There is no baby yet, but Tamuna keeps reflecting him to her mom, her relatives, neighbors, colleagues.

Sometimes I get irritated about it and I get harsh when responding her:

"Well, you are a coward. You are not responsible for yourself. You belong to your mother, your neighbors, to the Republic of Georgia and Caucasus region. But not to yourself!"

Tamuna suffers from my words and gets silent. But than she says:

"I will do it once. People will understand that I've exhausted the chances for doing it in the manner I was supposed to.



I'm your chance, mommy. Venture!

Photo by Diana Petriashvili

APROPOS

ITALY LEADS IN NUMBER OF MOTHERS 'IN THEIR FORTIES'

In the West, women tend to postpone childbirth and spend their young years building careers. Many women decide to have children in the age, when their fertility declines.

The number of late pregnancies consistently grows in Great Britain - the number of pregnancies at the age of 35 and older has already made 7%; along with it, an average age of pregnant British women approaches 30 years (29.4), while an average age for the first pregnancy reached 27.4. An average age of pregnant Spanish women is even higher - 32 years old.

According to the research held by Bocconi University, Italy, the country turned out to have the highest percentage of babies born from over-40 moms.

"There are both social and biological constraints on postponing motherhood," writes Francesco Billari, Bocconi Professor of Demography and Director of the Dondena Research Center on Social Dynamics, in his paper "Approaching the Limit: Long-Term Trends in late and Very Late Fertility."

These age-related constraints have proved surprisingly consistent over time, despite the introduction of increasingly sophisticated IVF reproduction techniques, Billari believes.

Source: Bocconi University: http://www.uni-bocconi.it/index.php?procid=104&nav_level1=15&nav_level2=2&nav_level3=6&documento=&procedura=&subaction=news%2Fnewmeet_view_news.php&subparam=&subfunction_title=&newsid=2240&appid

Altyn AKHMEDOVA

Turkmenistan

killing subjection

LITTLE KHALIDA

w i l l n e v e r
b e a b l e t o t a l k

WITH HER GRANDMA

First I saw this attractive young woman at the air traffic bureau in Ashgabat. She did not look like Turkmen at all with her light color of eyes, skin and hair; but she wore a traditional Turkmen long dress. There were a lot of people in the line for air tickets, but the number of plane seats was very limited. One day later I saw her at the railway station - both of us failed to get airplane tickets and had to take train to get to the North.

We appeared together in the same train roomette. After closer look at each other, we began talking. Nazira turned out to be only 23 years old, but she already had two children. She had no Turkmen blood at all; Nazira's mother was Russian, her father is half Uzbek and half Tatar; this is why she looked so unusual for an average Turkmen woman.

24 hours of travel idleness disposed us to talking and I learned Nazira's story. Her mother was involved in small private business, bringing clothes for sale from Russia to Turkmenistan, but in mid 1990ies she disappeared without a trace. Her older sister, who tried to do her best to help somehow father feed sister and two brothers and take care of grandparents, gained the reputation of frivolous and come-at-able person. When Nazira was 18, her grandmother convinced her to get married, motivating this by alleging that her sister's behavior would hamper her from getting married in the future. Nazira dreamed about studying and finding job in the future, but she got married.

In her new family, mother-in-law was the person who had all the power. Her husband died several years ago and now she spread all her power to her daughters-in-law, who kept being under her constant control. Daughters-in-law had to work from morning till night, the younger ones suffered the most. Nazira had to get up at 5 a.m. to sweep the yard and the street. Then she had to cook the breakfast, to serve at the table, to do the dishes, to clean the kitchen... Because of this volume of work, day felt endless to her.

Once Nazira realized that she was pregnant, her mother-in-law decided to dismantle old construction in the yard and to build a new verandah. Nazira had to do the hardest work: her duty was to lift and carry old bricks. She did it for several months, and realized that she was extremely healthy: a weaker woman would loose a baby.

She had son first, and after two more years she gave birth to daughter. The girl had a big birthmark on her back, and parents called her Khalida, which means God-marked. Everyone believed that the girl will be very happy.

In winter, when the baby turned year and a half, she got sick. Nazira, who had plenty of hose keeping duties did not spend much time with her children and missed the time when the girl got sick. Nazira's mother-in-law did not let her take care of the baby, and instead of staying with her child Nazira kept doing laundry and feeding cattle. The girl had constant fever, she groaned and looked at Nazira with suffer in her eyes.

On the third day Nazira's neighbor became doing febrifuge injections, and the girl showed sign of feeling better, she was falling asleep. But after the fifth day, she slept constantly, without waking up. 22 years-old mother suspected there was something really wrong with her child, but the mother-in-law said: "Calm down. She's asleep, and she is recovering." And gave her more work to do.

On the sixth day, the neighbor who came to give baby a shot, said the girl looked very strange, and Nazira rushed to the telephone and called the emergency.

Doctors examined the girl and diagnosed severe meningitis with very small chances for survival. It turned out that the girl was not asleep but was in coma, if at least one more hour would pass, the girl would die.

Doctors struggled for the baby's life during two months. The girl survived but she became blind and lost the ability to move. Doctors state that accurate care and long-term treatment should

restore Khalida's ability to sit and even to stand, but she will not restore the ability to see and to speak...

One year passed since that tragedy. There are some improvements in the girl's state: she smiles, when hears mom's voice, she learned to move her hands and to touch a toy, she now expresses her emotions with inarticulate sounds.

We talked until late in the night, as there were only two of us in the roomette. I felt indignation and compassion towards this young woman: how could she be so afraid of her mother-in-law, so that her scare of losing the child appeared on the background?! But actually there is nothing extraordinary about it: according to the tradition of Turkmen and Uzbeks, a wife should submit to her husband's parents first, and then to the husband. They are on the first place, and only after them come the kids. Even guests are considered to be more important than your children.

Once I witnessed a situation, when a young mother went to the kitchen to heat food for her baby, when there were guests in the house. The 4-months old baby was artificially fed and thus was supposed to get food in accordance with strict schedule. At that moment woman's mother-in-law entered the kitchen and ordered the woman to remove baby food from the heat and to make tea for the guests. "Guest is on the first place!" the old woman said, "Go to the neighbors and heat the food there," she added harshly. These are the rules. And even Nazira, who grew up with her Russian mother, did not dare to contradict.



Even adult children seek care and justice from their mother. But sometimes for vain.

Photo by Altyn Akhmedova

APROPOS

Save The Children published its eighth annual Mothers' Index report highlighting the conditions for mothers and children in 140 countries - 41 developed nations and 99 in the developing world. The report and shows where mothers fare best and where they face the greatest hardships. All countries for which sufficient data were available are included in the Index. Below are the countries that ranked highest and lowest on the list. According to Save The Children, over 10 million children below age of 5 die in the world every year. The majority of these children die in the developing countries.

According to the report, the best country for being a mother is Sweden. Iceland is on the second place and Norway is on the third. These countries are followed by New Zealand, Australia, Denmark, Finland, Belgium, Spain and Germany. Russia occupies the 36th place, Ukraine is on the 37th position.

The worst places to be a mother are Chad, Yemen, Sierra Leone and Niger (the last position).

The report also includes statistics on children's mortality. Among the developed countries, Iceland is the best-doing country from this point of view; Sweden, Slovenia, Norway, and Japan follow it with their low mortality rates. The highest mortality rates registered in Ukraine, Macedonia, Russia, Albania and Romania.

Source: Save The Children

<http://www.savethechildren.org/campaigns/state-of-the-worlds-mothers-report/2007/mothers-index.html>

received from Azerbaijan Gender Information Center
<http://www.gender-az.org>

APROPOS

Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary general, in message for World Population Day urged creation of better world by men supporting safer motherhood

The World Population Day was marked on July 11; this year its theme was Men as Partners for Maternal Health. Ban Ki-moon highlighted in his message that many women die as the result of lack of care during pregnancy and childbirth: "More than half a million women die each year during pregnancy and childbirth, 99 per cent of them in developing countries. Many more suffer serious complications that can have a severe impact on the quality of life for women and their families. Almost all of this death and suffering is preventable," UN Secretary General stressed.

"Far too many women die during pregnancy and childbirth because their right to sexual and reproductive health is denied. The alarming spread of HIV among women is a tragic reminder that, in many places, women do not have the power to protect their own health. When a woman can plan her family, she can plan the rest of her life. When she is healthy, she can be more productive. And when her reproductive rights are promoted and protected, she has freedom to participate fully and equally in society," Ban Ki-moon stated in his message.

ALONG WITH THIS IN AZERBAIJAN

The country set the task to decrease children and maternal mortality 5 times. Specialists are presently working at the perspective reproductive strategy, a new plan designed for seven years to implement it. The plan will include several components all aimed at providing safer conditions for mothers and children. Preventing measures on HIV and other infections transmission from mother to child will also be included into the strategy. According to UNICEF report, children's mortality rate index in Azerbaijan makes 74 children in 1000, which is ten times higher than analogous index in Europe.

Ruta PELS
Estonia

price to pay

LIFE IS GETTING BETTER!

but not for the families,
where mother raises children alone



photo by Polina Miloradovich

A quarter of all Estonian families have children.

The majority of families with children have one or two kids; an average of children per family makes 1.5.

Solving the demography problem is one of the state's priorities

It's a real baby-boom for number of Estonian ministries and large companies! Tens, hundreds of workers have recently taken maternity leave. The highest index was registered in the Foreign Affairs ministry - 38 workers had babies there, 29 in the Finance Ministry, there are 27 young mothers in the Justice Ministry, 22 in the Environment Ministry, 20 in Social Affairs and Agriculture each, 14 in Economics and Communication Ministry, 12 in the Defense Ministry, 10 in the Ministry for the Interior, and 5 in the Ministry of Culture. This tendency is understandable: women have used state-introduced parental salary, which is directly depended on the income one of the parents had when working.

Solution of demography problem is the top issue on the agenda for Estonia, the country with the aging population. The state has recently offered several measures aimed at increase of the population; and parental salary is among these measures. The minimal parental salary made 2690 kroon (EUR 172) this year, while minimal salary for workers is 3600 kroon (EUR 230). According to statistics, maximal parental salary today equals 21 624 kroon (EUR 1382).

Monthly parental salary can be paid even in the case, when none of parents worked, in this case it is calculated from one of working relatives and is being paid until the newborn reaches three years age.

Newborn babies allowances are being paid by local authorities. In Tallinn this kind of allowance makes 5000 kroon (EUR 320), in the case a baby's mother was previously reg-

istered as the resident of Estonian capital, or if at least one parent lived in Tallinn during at least one year before baby was born. Besides this, a young mother should present medical certificate, saying that she began attending doctor before the 12th week of pregnancy and that she kept being under permanent medical control. Along with this, a baby should be registered as the resident of Tallinn and should be living at the same address with at least one of his parents.

This year, the allowance for babies living with guardians increased from 900 to 1500 kroon. 750 kroon are being paid monthly for those babies whose dad or mom serve in the army. In 2008 the volume of parents' tax-free additional income will be increased, which means the increase of family budget.

According to the researches conducted by PRAXIS, center for political studies, due to family allowances, parental salary and tax-free income, the number of children living beyond poverty level decreased by approximately one third, or by over 20 thousand people. This achievement involved significant expenditures: the state spent over 300 million kroon in 2006. According to the researches, allowances to families with many children turned out to be the most effective. Parental salary tax-free income for the second childbirth showed less effect, while the influence of state subsidies on families with only one parent (mothers, usually) brought minor effect, researchers stressed.



You are the only person I can rely on, mom

Photo by Polina Miloradovich

APROPOS IN GEORGIA

CONSERVATIVE PARTY WOMEN DEMAND INCREASE OF ASSISTANCE TO LARGE FAMILIES

The majority of Georgian large families live beyond the poverty line, Ketevan Enukidze of the Conservative Party said. Conservatives emphasized that this is a serious problem for the country. The party's women's wing demanded the increase of large family (three children and more) allowances to at least GEL 150 (approximately USD 90) per month. Besides this, women conservatives propose introduce additional payment for every next child born in the family, i.e., according to the party activists, parents should receive additional GEL 100 for their fourth child. Today, large families receive allowance of GEL 35 per month (approximately USD 20), and even in the case if there are 7 and more children in the family.

To implement the Conservatives proposed project, the state budget would have to allocate additional GEL 37 million annually (approximately USD 23 million). According to the official data, there are 243 233 families having three and more children in Georgia.

(C@ucAsia)

APROPOS IN RUSSIA

good news

MOTHERS GAINED SUIT IN EUROPEAN COURT

one more example

European human rights court ordered to the authorities of Voronezh city to pay moral compensation of EUR 3 thousand to each of seven families whose childcare allowances payment was postponed

The European court published seven orders against Russia all based on claims of families who were not receiving childcare allowances during 1997 - 2000. It is for the first time that women receive not only material damage compensation, but will also be reimbursed for the moral harm.

By 2000 payment of childcare allowances were catastrophically delayed in Voronezh district of Russia. The allowance makes 70 Rubles for a child monthly, 235 thousand children had a right to get this social aid from the state. Thousands of mothers applied to local courts, and despite all the courts ordered payment of allowances, there were no funds in the regional budget. The debt was repaid by 2005 only. However, seven Voronezh residents applied to the European Human Rights Court claiming that allowances were repaid with huge delay and without indexation.

Previously the European court had already made decisions regarding payment of allowances to Russian children. The suit of Svetlana Poznarikhina, resident of Novovoronezh town was the first one. In 2005, under the Court decision Poznarikhina received compensation of moral damage that made 6500 Rubles.

Source: Human Rights in Russia web-portal
<http://www.hro.org/court/2007/02/07-1.php>
 Received through www.owl.ru listserve

Nino SUKHIASHVILI

Georgia

mommy, daddy and me

LOVING EQUALLY, BUT...

u s e d o u b l e s t a n d a r d s

Merab and Manana are twins. They were born on the same day, they grow up together, and they study in the same class. In order to improve their studies, parents designed a 'salary' for them. For each 5 grade Merab gets in school he receives 1 Lari; the payment for grade 4 is twice less and makes 50 tetr; and he gets nothing if he brings 3. Manana's 'salary' is less: for each of her 5s she gets as much as Merab gets for his 4s. The pay for Manana's 4s is only 25 tetri. Irma, the twins' mother says that children study differently: Manana does all the written homework, while Merab simply copies it in his notebook. This is why he has more time for playing. Parents know about it, but Merab's grades remain being more expensive and the reason is very simple: Merab is a boy.

Children's encouragement in studies is a complicated issue, but even if we accept the system used by Irma ad her husband, it is obvi-

ous that if both children would be of the same gender, their successes would be paid equally.

Keti Kurdadze, psychologist, commented on the situation:

"This is a typical case. I would not say that parents love their son more than their daughter, it is not about loving. They unconsciously follow the tradition which says that a man is more 'expensive.' And this is the reason the encourage and stimulate their son so that he takes proper care of his family and sister, when he grows up. And they do not ask themselves a question on if he has the ability to do everything they expect from him. Not only women suffer from methodics like this, men also suffer. Traditional culture defines their responsibility differently, and does not consider such important details as their personal qualities."



It's a pity, sis; but I can't do anything about it

Photo by Umida Akhmedova

The twins' parents want their daughter to grow up into a good mother and housewife. To become one, you don't have to have good education and skills. In many cases, education for a girl means no more than a part of her marriage portion. For example, women doctors, who quit working as soon as they get married, are very popular in Georgia.

The son's future seems completely different to the twins' parents. He will also have a family, but it will not be the most important for him. In their dreams the parents see him as a parliament member or a famous scientist. And as it impossible to achieve career growth without education, Merab's school grades cost more expensive.

Life does not go in accordance to our plans, and it is quite frequent that that women earn the most part of money for their families. Some of Georgian men do take part in hose keeping and are quite successful in it. But they never speak about it. It is a closed information! It's a shame. Traditional mentality says that in this case a man's pride is being humil-

iated. And another scenario is way more widespread: after loosing his job a man seeks consolation in the use of alcohol or drugs...

Psychologist Kurdadze comments on this as saying that from the early childhood men were taught that they are the lords of the Universe - only because they are men.

Not only men themselves, but also their wives, mothers and children share this belief...

We held a short phone poll among women (100 respondents). It turned out that none of them asks their sons to help in doing laundry, cleaning house or cooking. But their daughters help families at harvesting, domestic constructions and other types of work, traditionally considered to be purely male. Despite this parents prefer having sons, and any echoscopy room can confirm this statement. According to Nona Nozadze, radiologist, selective abortions remain being popular in Georgia:

"The risk of abortion is especially high when there already is a girl in the family. It is very difficult for me to tell the parents that there baby is female, when I know that they don't want to have a girl. Sometimes I tell them that I can not tell for sure what is the baby's sex. There are several girls that were born due to this lie of mine... But they will never learn about it.



A boy or a girl? Ultrasound room is not a store!

Photo by Diana Petriashvili

APROPOS IN ARMENIA

According to one of the researches, abortions take place in 48 cases out of 100. Approximately 5% of all abortions appear because of parents' unwillingness to have a girl, especially if it is not the first child in the family.

Alma BEKTURGANOVA-ANDERSEN
Denmark/Kazakhstan

mothers and sons

IT'S HARD TO BE A SON'S MOTHER



photo by Polina Miloradovich

I always wanted to have a son. I remember my mom saying that she felt sorry, when discovered that I was a girl:

"But why?" I asked her, "You already had a son."

"It is hard to be a woman," my mom responded, "they have a difficult destiny. They are always in charge for everything taking place in the family. And they always have to sacrifice themselves. And everyone can hurt them..."

This was why I dreamed about a son, my aid and my defender.

My son is already a teenager, and it turned out that men also suffer a lot from gender stereotypes and specific men's problems. The society demands from them to be always strong and to conceal their feelings! I remember how sorry I felt when my little son would fall down and all the people around would tell him strictly: "Don't cry, you are a man!"

The society also demands from a man to be successful, to have a good job and to earn

good money, and to make decisions alone. Recently, me and my son went to Kazakhstan. Teenage criminality remains extremely high there and I felt terribly worried for my son. To visit his old school, he had to be accompanied by his friends, otherwise he would get in trouble from neighbors, who chase every stranger... A friend of mine, who is also a son's mother said that going to school is a huge problem for her family. He has to get to his part of the town before it gets dark, if he is late, he might be robbed and bitten. She also said that there is a new tendency now - girls accompany boys home, as it is safer to walk in the streets, when you are with a lady. It's a new unwritten rule.

But the biggest headache for today's parents is to keep your son away from serving in the army. This problem is of current importance even here, in Denmark, if your son is of call-up age and is the citizen of, let's say, Russia. My friend's son failed to go to his grandmother's funeral only because there was the draftee searching campaign in Russia, while he was registered as the resident of Moscow, despite of studying in Copenhagen school.

Today I live in the country where gender problems are not as burning as in my home country. Here, it is not a shame for a man to take paternity leave, to cook, to shop and to clean the house. And maybe this is why people here look way more friendly and happy.

Galia IBRAGIMOVA
Uzbekistan

rare, but possible

M O T H E R A N D M A S T E R

photo by Galia Ibragimova



At the age of 23 she obtained her Master's degree and became the mother of four daughters: Munisa, Fatima, Zukhra and Zakhro.

The birth of triples was not only a gift, but also a real challenge for Dilnoza Kayumova.

But even in this situation Dilnoza was determined to start a post-graduate course and has already chosen the topic for her thesis.

Dilnoza had to spend four months of her pregnancy at the hospital, one of these months she spent at the emergency care department. Her relatives and doctors did their best to help the newborn girls be healthy. The weight of each of triples was a little more than 1.5 kilos, and this is why the young mother had to stay with them at the hospital for three months. "I spent so much time at the hospital with them, that the older daughter began forgetting me," Dilnoza said.

"When preparing for defend Master's thesis my schedule was very busy - I working during the daytime, when my relatives were around, in the breaks between writing I fed the girls; and in the night I had to stand by their beds singing lullabies. But today my master's thesis is already in the past, and I am preparing for becoming the candidate of science, I am sure my girls will be proud of me."

At the second year of her studies at the university, when Dilnoza did not have children, she obtained the scholarship of Cairo University and went to study there for one year.

"I was very interested in Arabic culture and ancient Egypt from early childhood. It was hard to study there, but I felt very responsible, as I was the first Uzbek student in Egypt.

Dilnoza made significant progress in her studies and was offered by the university rector to continue studies in Egypt.

She got married soon after coming back to Uzbekistan, and soon had Munisa. But Dilnoza did not quit studying and entered the University of World Economy and Diplomacy.

"I was in my ninth month by the time when I had to take exams. But I got to the university! In September, when academic year began, Munisa was only 1.5 months. It was very difficult to combine studying and raising the girl, but Dilnoza received significant support of her relatives. Grandparents were taking care of Munisa, when Dilnoza was in the class, and her husband tried to come home from work earlier to help the family.

"Umid, my husband is the only breadwinner in our family. He works from the morning till night, he is also involved in science. As girls grow up they need more and better food and care. I do not get any childcare

allowances. I applied to so many places! As I was told, the reason why I don't get payment is that I do not work anywhere. Legally, these allowances are being paid to employed women only. Nobody considers it any important that I have been studying for seven years already. Neither my husband gets any aid for the kids. Recently, I saw it on TV that some woman, who had triples, received a new apartment! Right now we live with my husband's parents, there are eight of us in one apartment."

This is what Dilnoza told me earlier this summer. On August 15 Mir Novostey newspaper published article about her and the miracle happened - the state allocated 4-room apartment for this young family. As the author of that publication I felt extremely happy for Dilnoza.

However, she still fails to get child care allowance. But me and Dilnoza keep hoping.



Stand firm, Munisa! You are the biggest

Photo by Galia Ibragimova

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