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**The BAM in the history of my family**  
**(The memories of my grandfather Sidorov Alexey Timofeevich)**

Исследовательский проект по английскому языку

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**п. Сулук**

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## I. Introduction

There was the construction in our country, which had been already called the construction of the century by contemporaries. This construction is the Baikal-Amur Mainline (the BAM). The construction of the Baikal-Amur Mainline clearly demonstrated the best qualities of our country's specialists. This was the time of professionalism, enterprise, mobility, responsibility and ... romanticism. Yes, exactly the romance made people come to the Far East. Today they say that times changed. But despite "the new market relations" people who came that time cannot live without fogs and without the smell of taiga, so they still live and work here.

Due to everything I said earlier I think that it is important to remember the feat of the Komsomol members that time, about their unselfishness and hard work. Not abstract people built the BAM, but our own grandparents. Children must know about their countryman, builders and the first settlers of the village of Suluk. As for me I want to know much more about the BAM to talk further to my children.

The research **goal** is to compose an album of memories of my grandfather Sidorov Akexey Timofeevich and show the importance of memory the events and people for the younger generation not only in our country but in whole world.

To achieve the goals I needed to solve a number of **tasks**:

1. To study the materials of the family archive of grandfather Sidorov Alexei Timofeevich.
2. To learn the materials about the BAM.
3. To study the living conditions of young people during the construction (from literary sources, periodical materials).
4. To systematize the material in the framework of local history work, to draw conclusions.

I used the following research **methods**:

1. search (collection of information on the topic of work);
2. theoretical (the study of various literary sources, archival materials);
3. empirical (survey, interview of Alexey Timofeevich);

**Object of research:** labor activity of the first builders of Suluk

**Subject of research:** the life history of Sidorov Alexei Timofeevich, his contribution to the construction of Suluk.

**Hypothesis:** Creating an album of memories of Sidorov Alexey Timofeevich will help to preserve the memory of the BAM construction time and show foreigners the examples of great labour of Russian people.

There are no special studies on this topic. The relevance of our research has confirmed the results of a survey conducted by us in Secondary School No. 20: the participants know very poorly the history of the BAM and are not well informed about the construction its branch Ural - Komsomolsk-on-Amur, its importance not only for our region, but also for the Russian Federation in a whole. (Annex 1). As a result of our work, an album of memories of my grandparents who participated in the construction of BAM was compiled. This story can be used in class-based lessons; I could show it to children and talk about the hard work of my grandparents. Thus, the work has practical significance.

I think that this topic and this work are very important for me, because habits and the nature of communication are changing, but we should remember what young Soviet people have done for us.

## **II chapter. The Baikal-Amur Mainline in the fate of our country.**

### **The construction of Suluk.**

The symbolic date in the history of the village Suluk is August 25th, 1977, when the Khabarovsk Komsomol squad landed in the Verkhnebureinsky district. The first builder squad consisted of 100 people. They prepared a place for further work. The whole detachment was headed by Sergey Manoilenko.

The formation of the train began on July 5th. The main mechanic of the trust Daltransstroy Sergey Ivanovich Stupin was appointed as the chief and then he became the head of the construction-assembly train No. 338, organized for the construction of the village of Suluk. The first and most important question was to complete the squad by people. The BAM is a construction site for young people, so the decision on the question of a squad was made on young people.

The regional committee of the Komsomol took the resolution of the bureau, and then it was decided to create a Komsomol-youth detachment of 100 people till July 12. City Komsomol began to receive applications from volunteers. Young people from all over the region responded to the call of the Komsomol "Give Suluk!". In the regional committee of the Komsomol a special mandate commission has been organized, which selects the best of the best. The first builders and residents of the new city should adequately represent the order-bearing land.

The principle of selecting people was determined, of course, by the specifics of the work - a construction of new buildings. It meant that people of different professions would be required at different times. For example, the construction of residential houses, a dormitory and a canteen for 75 beds, a boiler room, a diesel one currently required masons, structural workers. Then, electro-mechanical technician and a fireman are needed, who need to speed up the creation of a heat economy. They are not just solid masons, machinists, but those who have mastered these professions perfectly.

The trust is pinning their hopes on the Komsomol-youth squad, which the guys go to, who have received a reliable specialty in the army, hardened in the regional squad "Banevurovents"

The project of village was given to work out to Institute Dalgiprotrans. The Institute had to prepare the whole project both documentation and general plan of town (its design, vertical layout). They need to make the town to be the example of architectural planning solutions. The documentation needed to be ready till the first of August. But it was not. That's why the departure of Komsomol squad was delayed. And so the squad Khabarovsk-Komsomolets landed on August 25th for the construction of the village Suluk

## **1.2. Memories of Sidorova Alla Islamovna and Sidorov Alexey Timofeevich**

The history of The Baikal Amur Mainline connected with fate of our family. Among builders of railway were my grandparents.

My grandfather's name is Alexey Timofeevich. He is 62. He came to Suluk as member of first builder squad. My grandfather has long hardworking career. Alexey Timofeevich finished school in village Shurma Kirovskaya oblast in 1971. Then in 1973 he graduated from Professional technical college №7 in town Zuevka Kirovskaya oblast. He received the speciality "Team leader of road maintenance". After graduating the college Alexey Timofeevich worked in railway station in Gorkovskaya. But this time his parents moved here in Khabarovsk krai, so my grandfather decided to follow them. It was 1973. Then in 1974 he went to the army. After him coming from the army he decided to go to the BAM. But at first he finished courses at Vocational school in city Khabarovsk (Technicheskoe uchilische), and got the profession "The excavator driver".

My grandfather told: "In April 1974, the party issued a resolution on the construction of the BAM. As at that time The Party said: "It's necessary!" — The Komsomol answered: "Will do!. It was needed to build 4200 km in total from the station Taishet to Komsomolsk-on-Amur. It was also necessary to build towns and cities. On October 1, 1984, "golden" links from the Nuanda station were laid, and on October 27, 1984 at the rally in the city of Tynda, the ceremonial opening of train traffic throughout the BAM took place. "

Alexey Timofeevich Sidorov arrived at the BAM in 1977 on August 25, together with the Khabarovsk Komsomolets detachment to build the village of Suluk. His wife Alla Islamovna and their little daughter arrived a year later. They arrived from the village of Pereyaslavka Khabarovsk krai.

Grandfather happened to know the life of the tent camp. After all, when he arrived he lived in a tent, but only in October 1977 he moved to the hostel. Together with everyone, they built a settlement in the heat and cold.

The first task before the detachment was to build dormitories, a bathhouse, a boiler room, an outpatient clinic, a canteen, a post office, a shop, a club. All this was built in almost a year. After the temporary settlement was built, they began to build a permanent settlement, depot, boiler room, station, water intake, and sewage treatment plant.

My grandfather worked as an excavator driver and my grandmother was a plasterer and painter.

A permanent settlement began to be built from kindergarten, then four five-storey buildings and a leisure house for locomotive brigades were built.

Grandfather was the honorary passenger of the first passenger train: train on laying silver link at Urkalty station. He worked very hard. And my grandmother was always there very reliable support.

Alexey Timofeevich awarded for his work activity by certificates of honour, valuable gifts and thanks. He took the title Winner of Social competition in 1980. Also he was awarded by medal «For high-powered work» because he was good at work and people always noticed that my grandfather was very careful. Alexey Timofeevich was awarded by medal “Young Guard of five-year plan”, because he excellently made plans and solves problems of construction. My grandfather is only one among the builders of Suluk who got the honorable medal.

Interesting stories, of course, there were a lot of. For example: fires in the 1980s around the village and floods and searched for mushroom pickers who got lost. Grandfather said the day would not enough to tell everything.

There are no very big awards but I consider that my grandfather has invested his share in the construction of BAM.

The grandfather has three medals "Veteran of BAM", "For the construction of the Baikal-Amur Mainline", and "For Labor Difference", as well as rewarded with signs of the Komsomol, "I am the master of the construction" "Young Guardsman of the Five Year Plan" impact work in the Eastern section of the BAM”.

## **Conclusion**

I think that I achieved my goal: the album was created (Annex 2) and it is possible to trace all the work of my grandfather Sidorov Alexei Timofeevich at the beginning of Suluk's construction and during its development.

The life path of Alexey Sidorovich was not easy, but he adequately worked for the benefit of Suluk and our homeland. He did not hide behind the backs of others: my grandfather, among the first builders of Suluk, came to an unfamiliar land quite young. I consider that his rewards speak about his hard work. My grandmother followed grandfather came to build Suluk with a very young child in her arms.

But even after the end of the all-Union construction, my grandfather and grandmother continue to be an example for the rest, there was not a single day that they did not work, did not work for the good of our country.

Their life is a reflection of the events of the 20th century in the history of Russia. It vividly shows the life of the majority of Soviet citizens who did not make deals with conscience and did not shirk from the tasks that time set for them.

I want to say thanks to thousands of other people who, despite the cold, frost, impenetrable taiga built the BAM, built their bright future and our bright present.



#### Information sources

1. **The archive of Suluk administration**
2. **The archive of school museum**
3. **The archive of Sidorov's family**
4. **<http://bam.railways.ru/lyrics.html>**

The survey

20 participants took part in the survey

1. Do you know the history of the Baikal-Amur Mainline?
  - a. Yes, I do.....2
  - b. No, I do not.....8
  - c. Yes, but not very good.....10
  
2. Is the construction of the Baikal-Amur Mainline important for people in Khabarovskiy krai
  - a. Yes, it is.....16
  - b. No, it is not.....4
  
3. Is the construction of the Baikal-Amur Mainline important for the Russian Federation?
  - a. Yes, it is.....13
  - b. No, it is not.....7
  
4. Have you got relatives who worked in construction?
  - a. Yes, I have.....18
  - b. No, I have not.....2



# The BAM in the history of my family

(the memories of my grandfather  
Sidorov Alexey Timofeevich)

1

Suluk

2019

### Sidorov Alexey Timofeyevich



Sidorov Alexey Timofeyevich with his daughter Natalia, 1977

He was born on March 17, 1956. He finished school in village Shurma Kirovskaya oblast in 1971.

Then in 1973 he graduated from Professional technical college №7 in town Zuevka Kirovskaya oblast. He received the speciality “Team leader of road maintenance”.

After graduating the college Alexey Timofeyevich worked in railway station in Gorkovskaya. But this time his parents moved here in Khabarovsk krai, so my grandfather decided to follow them. It was 1973. Then in 1974 he went to the army. After him coming



from the army he decided to go to the BAM.

But at first he finished courses at Vocational school in city Khabarovsk (Technicheskoe uchilische), and got the profession “The excavator driver”.

He was was among the first builders Suluk, the first squad of 100 young Komsomol members. In different years he worked as excavator operator, electrician.

1977 to 1983 he worked as excavatordriver, than he became an electrician at Central boiler house until 1997. My grandfather finished the working career as an electrician at the Dusse –Alin tunnel. There he worked for 20 years.



## Suluk. Construction

A landmark date in the history of the village is August 25, 1977, when the detachment "Khabarovsk-Komsomolets" landed in the Verkhnebureinsky district, the first group of builders consisted of 100 people. They prepared a place for further work.





At the head of the detachment stood Sergey Manoilenko.



The construction and installation train No. 338, organized for the construction of p. Suluk was headed by Stupin Sergey Ivanovich.

The formation of the train began on July 5. The chief was appointed chief engineer of the trust'transstroy Sergey I. Stupin. As well as at creation of any other organization first of all there was a question of acquisition of SMP by shots. The regional Committee of the Komsomol on July 12 by the decision of the Bureau decided to create a Komsomol youth squad of 100 people. And a few days later in the district committees, Komsomol city committees began to receive applications from volunteers.



Young people from all over the region responded to the call of the Komsomol "Give Suluk!". In the regional Committee of the Komsomol organized a special mandate Commission, which selected the best of the best. The first builders and residents of the new city should adequately represent the order-bearing region.



The principle of selecting people was determined, of course, by the specifics of the work - a construction of new buildings. It meant that people of different professions would be required at different times. For example, the construction of residential

houses, a dormitory and a canteen for 75 beds, a boiler room, a diesel one currently required masons, structural workers. Then, electro-mechanical technician and a fireman are needed, who need to speed up the creation of a heat economy. They are not just solid masons, machinists, but those who have mastered these professions perfectly.

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### Memories of Sidorov Alexei Timofeyevich

My grandfather Sidorov Alexey Timofeevich came to the BAM in 1977 on August 25 with the detachment of "Khabarovsk Komsomolets " for the construction of the village of Suluk.

Alexey Timofeevich told about this day following. It was a cool and foggy morning. Then it began drizzling. But despite such weather people around were cheered up, everybody waited the opening ceremony. S. I. Stupin, S. Manoilenko and Brigade agents from Khabarovsk spoke to the young people. They told about the importance and necessity of the railroad for the whole large country Soviet Union, about future good and bright life in the town Suluk. And everybody believed this speech.

At first the Memorial Stone had to be established. It was brought from ridge Dusse-Alin. The Memorial Stone was established in front of Administration Building.



The Memorial Stone in 1977



The Memorial Stone in 2019



Grandfather worked as Excavator driver, he showered the ground. But it was not only his work. Also he made holes with a compressor when the school was built.



He put the mosaic at station building, which was recognized one of the most beautiful station through stations of the BAM.

Alexey Timofeevich was awarded for his work activity by certificates of honour, valuable gifts and thanks.

He has three medals "Veteran of the BAM", "For construction of Baikal-Amur Mainline," and "For labor distinction" and awarded badges of the Komsomol, "I am the master of construction", "Young Guard of five-year plan" "the Winner of Social competition 1980", "the impact of labor on the Eastern section of the BAM».



Alexey Timofeevich was awarded by medal «For high-powered work» because he was good at work and people always noticed that my grandfather was very careful. Alexey Timofeevich was awarded by medal “Young Guard of five-year plan”, because he excellently made plans and solves problems of construction.



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