The Concepts of Sultan-Galiev, Mariátegui and Haya de la Torre. A comparative approach

The article presents the outline of a comparative analysis of selected political and ideological concepts belonging to the ‘revolutionary nationalism’ current which emerged in the peripheral areas in 1917–1930. The concepts described by Maxime Robinson as a ‘Marxist-like nationalism’ constituted one stream in this current. The frame of reference for a project sketched in such a manner will include, on the one hand, the political and ideological proposals put forth by a Tatar from Kazan, Mir Sayit Sultan Galiev, both from the period when he collaborated closely with the Russian Bolsheviks, as well as post-1922, when he had already broken off with them and was persecuted. On the other hand, it will include the political activity and concepts of the radical Peruvian thinker and columnist, José Carlos Mariátegui, the author of a book seen as a breakthrough in Peru’s intellectual history, *Siete ensayos de la interpretación de la realidad peruana* (*Seven Interpretive Essays on Peruvian Reality*) (1928). Mariátegui’s concepts were rejected by the Comintern and subsequently condemned as ‘populist’. Such a comparative analysis was suggested years ago by the authors of studies dedicated to Sultan Galiev and the radical turn in the attitudes of the Russian Muslims after 1917. The author of the article suggests that, in view of fundamental political differences between Sultan Galiev and Mariátegui, such a direct comparison is not possible.

What is necessary is to extend the analysis to the figure, and to the concepts, of another Peruvian activist, the founder and the leader of the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance (APRA), who held this position for more than half a century, Victor Raúl Haya de la Torre, a political friend of Mariátegui and, subsequently, his critic and an opponent of the Comintern.