

# **The Caucasus Under Soviet Rule**

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## Local resistance to collectivization

meanwhile continued to find expression in the accompanying massive slaughter of large livestock herds, with their absolute numbers in Kabardino-Balkaria declining from 263,000 head in 1928 to 143,600 by the beginning of 1931.

In February 1930, meanwhile, in fulfilment of Stalin's famous corresponding demand to 'eliminate the *kulaks* as a class', it was also proposed to deport from the North Caucasus and Dagestan some 20,000 individuals. These families were to be deported to the Urals, far north, and other distant regions of the country, in conditions of the utmost haste and disorganization, despite OGPU chief Genrikh Iagoda quickly reducing the initial quota of deportees from 20,000 to 10,000, and extending the period for carrying out this particular operation until the end of April. On 9 February 1930 there was nonetheless carried out the deportation of 14,551 *kulaks* from the North Caucasus *krai*.<sup>52</sup>