

The mysterious death of Nadezhda Alliluyeva

The name of Nadezhda Sergeyevna Alliluyeva became known to the Soviet people only after her death. In those cold November days of 1932, people who knew this young woman intimately would say goodbye to her. They did not want to arrange a circus from the funeral, but Stalin ordered otherwise. The funeral procession that passed through the central streets of Moscow gathered a crowd of many thousands. Everyone wanted to spend on the last journey the wife of the "father of nations" These funerals could only be compared with the mourning ceremonies that were held earlier about the death of the Russian empresses.

The sudden death of a thirty-year-old woman, and the first lady of the state, could not but cause a lot of questions. Since foreign journalists, who were in Moscow at that time, could not get the information of interest from the official authorities, the foreign press was full of reports about various reasons for Stalin's untimely death of his wife.

Citizens of the USSR, who also wanted to know what caused this sudden death, for a long time were in the dark. Various rumors spread around Moscow, according to which Nadezhda Alliluyeva died in a car accident, died of an acute attack of appendicitis. A number of other assumptions have also been made.

The version of Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin turned out to be quite different. He officially stated that his wife, who had been sick for several weeks, got out of bed too early, which caused serious complications, resulting in death.

She couldn't say that Nadezhda Sergeevna was seriously ill, because several hours before her death she was seen alive and healthy at a concert in the Kremlin dedicated to the fifteenth anniversary of the Great October Revolution. Alliluyeva communicated with high-ranking state and party officials and their wives.

What was the real reason for the early death of this young woman?

There are three versions: according to the first of them, Nadezhda Alliluyeva committed suicide; supporters of the second version (they were mostly employees of the OGPU) claimed that Stalin himself killed the first lady of the state; according to the third version, Nadezhda Sergeevna was shot by order of her husband. To understand this confusing business, it is necessary to recall the entire history of the relationship between the Secretary General and his wife.



Nadezhda Alliluyeva

They married in 1919, Stalin was then 40 years old, and his young wife is only 17 and a little. An experienced man who knew the taste of family life (Alliluyeva was his second wife), and a young girl, almost a child ... Could their marriage be happy?

Nadezhda Sergeevna was, so to speak, a hereditary revolutionary. Her father, Sergey Yakovlevich, was one of the first among the Russian workers to join the ranks of the Russian Social-Democratic Party, he took an active part in three Russian revolutions and in the Civil War. Mother of Hope also participated in the revolutionary speeches of the Russian workers.

The girl was born in 1901 in Baku, her childhood fell on the Caucasian period in the life of the Alliluyev family. Here in 1903 Sergey Yakovlevich met Joseph Dzhughashvili.

According to family tradition, the future dictator saved Nadya, two years old, when she, playing on the Baku embankment, fell into the water.

After 14 years, Joseph Stalin and Nadezhda Alliluyeva met again, this time in St. Petersburg. Nadia was studying at the gymnasium at that time, and the thirty-eight-year-old Joseph Vissarionovich had just returned from Siberia.

The sixteen year old girl was very far from politics. She was more interested in pressing questions about food and shelter, rather than the global problems of the world revolution.

In her diary of those years, Nadezhda noted: "We are not going to leave St. Petersburg anywhere. With provisions so far well. Eggs, milk, bread, meat can be obtained, although expensive. In general, it is possible to live, although the mood in us (and in general at all) is terrible ... boring, you will not go anywhere. "

Rumors about the performance of the Bolsheviks in the last days of October 1917, Nadezhda Sergeevna rejected as absolutely groundless. But the revolution has come true.

In January 1918, together with other high school students, Nadia attended the All-Russian Congress of Workers', Soldiers' and Peasants' Deputies' Councils of Russia several times. "Quite interesting," she wrote down in her diary the impressions of those days. "In particular, when Trotsky or Lenin speak, the rest speak very sluggishly and meaninglessly.

Nevertheless, Nadezhda, who considered all other politicians uninteresting, agreed to marry Joseph Stalin. The newlyweds settled in Moscow, Alliluyeva went to work with the secretary of Lenin to Fotieva (several months earlier she became a member of the RCP (b)).

In 1921 the firstborn appeared in the family, named Basil. Nadezhda Sergeevna, who gave all her strength to social work, could not give the child proper attention. Joseph Vissarionovich was also very busy. Alliluyeva's parents took care of the upbringing of little Basil, and the help was also provided by the servants.

In 1926, the second child was born. The girl was named Svetlana. This time Nadezhda decided to raise a child by herself.

Together with the nanny who helped take care of her daughter, she lived for a while in a dacha outside Moscow.

However, the case required the presence of Alliluyeva in Moscow. At about the same time, she began to collaborate with the magazine Revolution and Culture, and often had to go on business trips.

Nadezhda Sergeevna tried not to forget about her beloved daughter: the girl had all the best - clothes, toys, food. Son Vasya also did not go unheeded.

Nadezhda Alliluyeva was a good friend for her daughter. Even without being close to Svetlana, she gave her good advice.

Unfortunately, only one letter of Nadezhda Sergeyevna to the daughter was saved with a request to be smart and reasonable: "Vasya wrote me a little, naughty about something a girl. It's terribly boring to receive such letters about a girl.

I thought that I had left her big and reasonable, and she, it turns out, is very small and does not know how to live in an adult ... Be sure to tell me how you decided to live further, seriously or somehow ... "

In memory of Svetlana, who early lost the most dear person, the mother remained "very beautiful, smooth, smelling of perfume."

Later, Stalin's daughter said that the first years of her life were the happiest.

This cannot be said about the marriage of Alliluyeva and Stalin. Relations between them every year became more and more cool.

Iosif Vissarionovich often went overnight to the cottage in Zubalovo. Sometimes one, sometimes with friends, but most often accompanied by actresses who were loved by all high-ranking Kremlin leaders.

Some contemporaries argued that even during the life of Alliluyeva, Stalin began to meet with his sister Lazar Kaganovich Roza. The woman was often in the Kremlin's chambers, as well as at the Stalin dacha.

Nadezhda Sergeyevna was well aware of her husband's love affairs and was very jealous of him. Apparently, she really loved this man, who could not find any other words for her except "fool" and other rudeness.

Stalin showed his displeasure and contempt in the most offensive way, and Nadezhda tolerated it all. Repeatedly, she attempted to leave her husband with her children, but each time she was forced to go back.

According to some eyewitnesses, a few days before his death, Allilueva made an important decision - to finally move in with her relatives and end all relations with her husband.

It is worth noting that Joseph Vissarionovich was a despot not only in relation to the people of his country. The members of his family also experienced strong pressure, perhaps even more than everyone else.

Stalin loved that his decisions were not discussed and executed without question, but Nadezhda Sergeyevna was a clever woman with a strong character, she knew how to defend her opinion. This is evidenced by the following fact.

In 1929, Alliluyeva expressed a desire to start studying at the institute. Stalin long opposed this, he rejected all arguments as insignificant. Abel Yenukidze and Sergo Ordzhonikidze came to the rescue of the woman, together they managed to convince the leader of the need to get an education in Hope.

Soon she became a student at a Moscow university. Only one director knew that Stalin's wife was studying at the institute.

With his consent to the faculty, two secret agents of the OGPU were taken under the guise of students; their duty was to ensure the safety of Nadezhda Alliluyeva.

The institute's wife came to the institute by car. The driver, who took her to classes, stopped a few blocks from the institute, and the remaining distance Nadezhda traveled on foot. Later, when she was presented with a new "gas", she learned to drive herself.

Stalin made a big mistake by allowing his wife to enter the world of ordinary citizens. Communication with fellow students opened Nadezhda eyes on what is happening in the country. Previously, she knew about government policy only from newspapers and official speeches that reported that everything was fine in the Land of the Soviets.



Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin

In reality, everything turned out to be quite different: the beautiful pictures of the life of the Soviet people were overshadowed by forced collectivization and unjust expulsions of peasants, mass repressions and famine in Ukraine and in the Volga region.

Naively believing that her husband does not know what is happening in the state, Alliluyeva told him and Yenukidze about the institute conversations. Stalin tried to get away from this topic, accusing his wife of collecting gossips everywhere, spread out by the Trotskyists. However, left alone, he cursed Nadezhda with the nastiest words and threatened to ban his classes at the institute.

Shortly thereafter, fierce cleansing began in all universities and technical schools. Employees of the OGPU and members of the party control commission carefully checked the reliability of the students.

Stalin fulfilled his threat, and two months of students dropped out of the life of Nadezhda Alliluyeva. Thanks to the support of Enukidze, who convinced the "father of nations" of the infidelity of his decision, she was able to complete the institute.

Studying at the university contributed to the expansion of not only the range of interests, but also the circle of communication. She has many friends and acquaintances. For those years, Nikolai Ivanovich Bukharin became one of the closest comrades for her.

Under the influence of communication with this man and fellow students, Alliluyeva soon developed independent judgments, which she openly expressed to her power-hungry husband.

Stalin's discontent grew with each passing day, he needed an obedient like-minded person, and Nadezhda Sergeevna began to indulge in critical remarks about party and state leaders who had carried out party policy in life under the strict guidance of the general secretary. The desire to learn as much as possible about the life of the native people at this stage of its history led Nadezhda Sergeevna to pay special attention to such problems of national importance as famine in the Volga region and in Ukraine, and the repressive policies of the authorities. The case of Ryutin, who dared to speak out against Stalin, did not hide from her either.

The policy pursued by her husband did not seem to Alliluyeva right. Disagreements between her and Stalin gradually intensified, eventually they grew into severe contradictions.

"Betrayal" - this is exactly how Joseph Vissarionovich described his wife's behavior.

It seemed to him that Nadezhda Sergeevna's communication with Bukharin was to blame for everything, but he could not openly object to their relationship.

Only once, silently coming up to Nadya and Nikolai Ivanovich who were walking along the paths of the park, Stalin dropped the terrible word "I will kill". Bukharin took these words as a joke, but Nadezhda Sergeevna, who knew her husband's character very well, was frightened. The tragedy occurred shortly after this incident.

On November 7, 1932, wide celebrations of the fifteenth anniversary of the Great October Revolution were scheduled. After the parade, which took place in Red Square, all high-ranking party and state leaders and their wives went to the reception at the Bolshoi Theater.

However, one day to celebrate such a significant date was not enough. The next day, November 8, another reception was held in the huge banquet hall, which was attended by Stalin and Alliluyeva.

According to eyewitnesses, the secretary general sat across from his wife and threw balls into it rolled up from bread flesh. According to another version, he threw mandarin peels at Alliluyev.

For Nadezhda Sergeevna, who experienced such humiliation in front of several hundred people, the holiday was hopelessly flawed. Leaving the banquet hall, she headed home. Polina Zhemchuzhina, Molotov's wife, left with her.

Some argue that the wife of Ordzhonikidze Zinaida, with whom the first lady had friendly relations, acted as a comforter. However, Alliluyeva had practically no real friends, with the exception of Alexandra Yulianovna Kanel, the head physician of the Kremlin hospital.

On the night of the same day, Nadezhda Sergeevna was gone. Her lifeless body was found on the floor in a pool of blood, Karolina Vasilievna Thil, who worked as a housekeeper in the house of the Secretary General.

Svetlana Alliluyeva later recalled: "Shaking from fear, she ran to our nursery and called the nurse with her, she could not say anything. They went together. Mom lay covered with blood near her bed, in her hand was a small Walter pistol. Two years before the terrible tragedy, this lady's weapon was given to Nadezhda by her brother Paul, who worked in the Soviet trade mission in Germany in the 1930s.

There is no exact information about whether Stalin was at home on the night of November 8 to 9, 1932. According to one version, he went to the dacha, Alliluyeva called him there several times, but he left her calls unanswered.

According to supporters of the second version, Joseph Vissarionovich was at home, his bedroom was located opposite the room of his wife, so he could not hear the shots.

Molotov claimed that on that terrible night, Stalin, who had been greatly supported by alcohol at the banquet, was fast asleep in his bedroom. He was allegedly upset by the news of his wife's death, he even cried. In addition, Molotov added that Alliluyeva "was a bit of a psychopath at the time."

Fearing information leaks, Stalin personally supervised all reports that came to the press. It was important to demonstrate that the head of the Soviet state was not involved in what happened, hence the talk that he was at the dacha and did not see anything.

However, from the testimony of one of the guards follows the opposite. That night, he was just at work and dozed off when his sleep broke the sound, like the sound of a door closing.

Opening his eyes, the man saw Stalin leaving his wife's room. Thus, the guard could hear both the sound of a slammed door and a pistol shot.

People studying the data on the Alliluyeva case claim that Stalin did not necessarily shoot himself. He could provoke a wife, and she committed suicide in his presence.

It is known that Nadezhda Alliluyeva left a suicide letter, but Stalin destroyed it immediately after reading. The Secretary General could not allow anyone else to know the content of this message.

The fact that Alliluyeva did not commit suicide, but was killed, is shown by other facts. Thus, Dr. Kazakov, who was on duty at the Kremlin hospital on the night of November 8 to 9, 1932, was invited to witness the death of the first lady, but refused to sign the suicide act drawn up earlier.

According to the doctor, the shot was fired from a distance of 3-4 meters, and the deceased could not independently shoot herself in the left temple, since she was not left-handed.

Alexandra Kanel, invited to the Kremlin apartment of Alliluyeva and Stalin on November 9, also refused to sign a medical report, according to which the wife of the secretary general died suddenly from an acute attack of appendicitis.

Other doctors at the Kremlin Hospital, including Dr. Levin and Professor Pletnev, did not sign the document. The latter were arrested during the purges of 1937 and shot.

Alexander Kanel was removed from office a little earlier, in 1935. Soon she died allegedly from meningitis. So Stalin dealt with people who opposed his will.