

## **Written sources on the Kazakh Khanate**

(the second half of XV – the first third of XVIII centuries)

As the prominent Russian Orientalist T.I.Sultanov pointed out, the specifics of the research of the medieval history of Kazakhstan largely determined by weak spreading of written language and book education among the Kazakhs. It should be noted, the only work created in the early of XVII century was by a representative of Zhalair tribe Kadyrgali-bek.

Data on the history of the Kazakh Khanate is largely known in science from the writings of the medieval authors. The most important material is contained in narrative sources: historical, memoir, geographical, written mainly in Persian, Chagatai, ancient Uzbek and also Arabic languages. Their self-descriptiveness is different, the most degree of knowledgeable were authors from neighboring Central Asia and also Iran and Eastern Turkestan. Unfortunately, there are no sources on the history of the Kazakh Khanate. Available data to historians on the Kazakh Khanate history are represented in the works fragmentarily. They are mostly related to political history, the history of relations with the neighboring states, and also there are genealogic of khans of various dynasties in them. There are data on their ethnic composition, economy and elements of spiritual and material culture in some sources.

Nowadays, a significant number of sources have been introduced into science and translated into Russian.

Two types of classification are mainly spread among the researchers: linguistic and dynastic. It is considered, that the dynastic classification of the written sources is the most exact and they are divided into Timurid, Moghul, Shaybanid and Astakhanid groups.

Among them, Timurid works are of great importance to the study of the period, which had proceeded to the formation of the Kazakh Khanate.

The anonymous essay “Tavarikh-i guzida-yi Nusrat name” tells on the situation in Dash-i Kipchak after Shaybani Khan’s struggle against Kazakh and Moghul Khans

for possession on the Syr Darya cities and valuable data about Zhanibek Khan's campaign to Central Asia.

Numerous data about Kazakhstan and Kazakhs are contained in the work of literary man, "one of the most skilled masters of the Tajik verse" Kamal ad-Din Binai (1453-1512) "Shaybani-name". "Shaybani-name" by Kamal ad-Din Binai described the situation in East Dasht-i Kipchak after Abulkhair Khan, the loss of power by his son Sheikh Haidar Khan, the Jujids opposition including Zhanibek and Zhirau, Kazakh khans and Mangyt mursas, the struggle for influence in the Syr Darya cities.

Period of XVII century found its reflection in seven volume encyclopedic work by Makhmud B. Amir Wali Bahr Al-Asrar, relating according to the dynastic classification to the Astarkhanid historiography. Materials of Volume VI are related to the history of Kazakhstan, especially history of relations with Central Asia in the first decades of XVI century. Materials on the confrontation between Kazakh sultans, Ishim Khan and Tursun, Ishim Khan's campaign against the Oirats, granting Tashkent and Turkestan to Ishim Khan by Imam Kuli Khan and other data are of great interest.

*Used materials:*

*Zhanat Kundakbayeva, "History of Kazakhstan in the late medieval period of the XIII-the first third of the XVIII centuries"*