

The history of Kazakhstan is a part of world history

The history of Kazakhstan is a part of world history. From the moment when the Republic of Kazakhstan became independent reconsideration of history of the country began. The Kazakhstan people, as well as other people of the world, left mark in world history. Thanks to the accepted "Cultural heritage" program the history of Kazakhstan was replenished with new historical data.

During many centuries Kazakh people was under the power of Russian Empire and since 1917 was a part of USSR. Only in 1991 when our country received independence there was a new revolution in the history of our country.

Till 1991 it was violently created unilateral opinion about our history. They are as follows:

- till that time Kazakh people were nomads, its cultural and spiritual heritage came from Europe, Russia.
- despite the fact that Kazakh people settled in boundless territory, Kazakh was formed as a nation, country in the 2nd half of XV century, till that time its history was gloomy;
- stories of the cities in the territory of the Kazakh people began in a new stage of development of mankind. Such opinions especially could be seen in looks of Russian historians. For example, Oral in 1613, Guryev (today's Atyrau) in 1640, Almaty city in 1854, Aktobe in 1854, Karaganda in 1853 were founded;
- In 1731 Kazakh Khanate joined Russian Empire by its own wish.
- Kazakhstan lagged behind in such spheres as science, education.

Only independence gave a chance to our people to look at what they had gone through. Such need to look for the roots, to feel it again, it is peculiar to all mankind. If so being located in Eurasia in XXI century and being one of 9 largest countries of the world it is lawful for Kazakhstan to return its place in world history.

Undoubtedly Kazakh history should be as immense as its territory. The territory of Kazakhstan from ancient times till today had been visited by Herodotus (b.c.e. V), Ptolemy (b.c.e. II), Italian traveler Plano Carpini (137), Flamand traveler William Rubrouck and others.

Later since The Russia Empire began to investigate the history of Kazakh people. It was due to the colonization of Kazakhstan by Russian Tsar. It began from the decision of Piotr I in 1722 when he said: "Kazakh nation is a key and gate to Asia".

From that time Russia started to collect purposefully materials about Kazakh people, about the country. In order to carry out it fruitfully the following actions had been taken:

1. They placed special organizations to the cities which bordered with Kazakhstan like Astrakhan, Omsk and etc. They controlled Russian-Kazakh connections, all materials were collected there.
2. The empire used army strengthening along the river Zhayik between the cities Oral, Guriyev, Orenburg.
3. In Orenburg the Orenburg expedition was organized to control the whole Asia and purposefully carry out the policy on colonization. Later its name was changed to commission, general-governorship organization, but its purpose was to reach India and East Turkestan through Kazakhstan (1).

On the instructions of the empire different travelers, expeditions had been sent to Kazakhstan. For example, among those, who first received a task, was a former artist of Orenburg expedition, Englishman John Castle. He handed over his diary to the expedition where he wrote about his journey to Abilkhair khan in 1736. This work was published in Riga in 1784. In this book Kazakh nation was described as follows: "in the east it borders with kontaishi-kalmak nation, in the south with Bukhara, in the west with the Caspian Sea and Aral Sea, and Khyua, in the north with Siberia and Bashkurtstan". Moreover following was written about Abilkhair khan: "He is a person with a large constitution, harmonious, light, benevolent, and also the person with a good health and mighty, there is nobody equal to him in shooting. His name can be considered as "reputation", "title" because Abil means "good" and Khair means "hero". Such descriptions about geographical places and governors were given in the book (2).

In 1826 Europe got acquainted with work of E.K. Meyendorf "Journey from Orenburg to Bukhara". France showed an interest in this monograph and it was published in Paris. Researcher Kh.A.Khalfin explained it that external politics of France wanted scientifically to investigate the East. E.K.Meyendorf was the captain of a general staff of the Russian army (3). So that E.K.Meyendorf wished his work to be spread all over the world. The most important for us is the collection of materials about Kazakhs, about geographical and natural peculiarities of our territory. Thanks to researches of the Russian captain, facts about historical personalities such as Aryngazy khan, interesting materials about customs and traditions of our people had spread all over the world.

All work done during XVIII-XIX centuries on studying of Kazakhstan at world level in different directions had been concentrated in works of researchers-englishmen Reynold Hoge, I.Ganvie, J. Elton, French Zh.B. Duhalde, American J. Ledward and others, and in special organizations of Russia such as Russian geographical society, statistic and archival committees. K.L.Esmagambetov familiarized with materials in detail and in his book "What had been written about us in the West" noted: "In XVIII century – wrote B.Bartold, - we see the first examples of the European travel to the east only with the scientific purpose, irrespective of any political, commercial or missionary tasks". In our opinion this assessment is lawful first of all concerning the French and Scandinavian researchers who during the considered period reached considerable successes in studying of east countries, including Central Asia and Kazakhstan".

In XIX century the Russian Empire could advantageously use the Russian geographical society, created on October 6, 1845 to fulfill its plan to colonize and conquer Kazakhstan successfully. Despite the fact that the main aim of the Russian geographical society was written as to research the native land and people living there, to collect geographical, statistical, ethnographic materials about Russia, the members of the society directed to the east, China, East Turkistan and other Asian countries. The society had branches on Caucasus, in Irkutsk, Vilnius, Orenburg, Kyiv, Omsk, Khabarovsk, On direction of Asia Orenburg branch was opened in 1867, Omsk branch in 1877, Tashkent branch in 1897. The members of the society published the results of researches in the editions of the Russian geographical society. In only one Orenburg subdivision worked "Note of the Orenburg department of IRGS ", " News of the Orenburg department of IRGS". Till 1917 4 collections of "Note", 25 editions of "News" reached the readers. Researches of the subdivision extended worldwide. Kazakh educators such as Sh.Ualikhanov, B.Daulbayev, I.Altinsarin, M.S.Babazhanov, A.Bokeikhanov, Sh.Kudaiberdiyev became member of Imperial Russian geographical society and distributed spiritual heritage of our people to the world.

At the same time with Russian geographical society in 80th years of XIX century started to be organized the scientific and archival commissions. The main purpose of this commission was to save eternally the documents and records, which kept in the offices of Russian provinces. According to the order of the tsar the Orenburg commission began its work since December

1887. U.T.Akhmetova, who investigated the history of the commission, highly appreciated its role in keeping the history of Kazakh people (5).

In the archival commissions one thousand documents had been collected concerning the history of the Kazakh people during the period XVIII-XX centuries. The commission members carried out scientific searches about the history of the Kazakh people, ethnography, archeology and household and the materials were published in "Works". A. Baitursinov, G. Balgymbayev became members of the commission. 39 "Works" that had been published by the commission spread to scientific centre of the world.

So the richest inheritance collected in Russia became a property of mankind. If we, certainly, say about the history of Kazakhstan, the facts, documents concerning it, are saved in libraries and archives in Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Astrakhan, Orenburg, Omsk, Ufa and other. Also in the Republics of Uzbekistan, Kirgiztan, Turkimenistan, which have been a part of USSR till the yesterday's moment, it is possible to find a set of materials about our history.

For today, when our country is independent these historical heritages are investigated from the new point of view. They revived the early created unilateral opinion.

"Cultural heritage" program accepted in 1998 in our country and financial support from our government allowed our scientists to carry out scientific investigations in different parts of the world.

In conclusion it should be emphasized civilization of nomads contributed much to the world development, to the development of the city civilization in the Middle Ages. Moreover Kazakh people established connections with the neighboring countries like Russia, China, and Turkey and didn't stop fighting for freedom since the moment when colonized by Russia. Place of historic figures like Abilkhair, Abylai, Kenesari khans, and heroes as Syrym, Isatay, Makhambet are of great value for us and their place in the history was proved properly.

References:

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