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## THE HISTORY OF THE STUDY OF THE BAYANAUL OUTER DISTRICT

**Annotation.** The article presents a historiographical review of works related to the activities of the district and volost government of the Bayanaul outer district. The administrative and management system in the Kazakh steppe was undergoing profound changes related to the political organization of Kazakh society in connection with the reforms of the 20s of the 19th century. Materials on the issues of establishing a new management system and organizing local authorities on the example of the Bayanaul district are studied during the writing on the paper. The author analyzed the scientific works of the pre-revolutionary period, works written in the Soviet era, and researches published by scientists of independent Kazakhstan. The main sources of the article are materials of historical folklore, expeditionary materials and sources of personal origin, which include notes of travelers and researchers from the Russian intelligentsia, as well as monographs of famous scientists of the Soviet and modern periods. It is noted that in Soviet times the activities of volost governors are covered from the point of view of political and ideological attitudes, but all sources contain rich factual material. An analysis of historiography shows that the activities of the Bayanaul outer district did not become the subject of special research, therefore, the systematization of the material and a comparative analysis of historical data was required during the writing on the article.

**Keywords:** Bayanaul, outer district, volost administrators, administrative-managerial system, historiography, senior sultan, colonial policy, Russian Empire, Shon Bi, Musa Shormanov.

### *Introduction*

Scholarly studies of Imperial Russia's colonization of Kazakh lands have held a central place in the study of Kazakhstan's history.

During the early decades of the 19th century, key events occurred that profoundly influenced the course of Kazakh history. In 1822, following the enactment of the "Charter on the Siberian Kyrgyz," the traditional authority of the khans in Kazakhstan was formally abolished. In its place, the tsarist administration implemented a new system of governance, introducing districts and volosts as administrative units and replacing the long-established Kazakh political structures with a framework aligned to imperial administration. Akmol, Kokshetau, Karkaralinsk, Ayagoz, Kokpektinsky districts were established on the territory of the Middle Zhuz and after in 1833 Bayanaul outer district was opened. Bayanaul district had its own characteristics and historical conditions for the formation. It is known that the introduction of a new administrative-territorial structure, tailored to the needs of the Russian authorities, initiated a significant phase in the development of the Kazakh steppe as an integrated part of the Russian Empire. This transformation not only redefined the region's political and administrative organization but also had profound social and cultural consequences, influencing local leadership structures, patterns of land use, and relations between the Kazakh population and the imperial government. Consequently, a major focus of historical research has been to analyze this reform comprehensively, exploring its underlying causes, understanding its nature, and assessing its implications for the evolution of Kazakh society within the imperial framework.

We highlighted the key aspects of the issue under examination in the context of historical literature. There are implementation of governance reform in the Kazakh steppe and mechanisms for creating a subordinate administrative system, determination the social status and main activities of volost governors.

### *Materials and methods*

The comparative-historical and chronological methods were used during writing of article. Firstly, comparative historical analysis makes it possible to identify the specifics of the issue under consideration in historiography, to differentiate research models, and to expand the field of opinions. This methodological approach allows us to analyze correctly the significance of the article, the features of writing of the considered historical



literatures. Secondly, we can collect deep historiographical knowledge about the period of Bayanaul district's formation using the chronological approach. This enables us to avoid false conclusions by taking into account the uniqueness of the historical era.

#### *Results and discussion*

The institute of district and volost administration of the Kazakh steppe has not been systematically studied in historical science. The first studies appeared in the second half of the 19th century. Various kinds of Russian and Kazakh scientists' works are the main historiographical data in the process of writing a research paper. It should be noted that the period of publication of these works covers the period from the 19th century to the present day. There are studies of the pre-revolutionary period, works written in the Soviet era, and studies published by scientists of independent Kazakhstan.

In pre-revolutionary historical literature, researches devoted to the development of the district and volost administrative systems emerged only during the latter decades of the nineteenth century. Among those who have studied the Kazakh Steppe are authors from the Russian and foreign intelligentsia, among them the Polish writer Adolf Januszkiewicz, Major General S. B. Bronevsky, A. K. Geyns, as well as the works of the Russian ethnographer G. Potanin and the Kazakh scholar Chokan Valikhanov.

Pre-revolutionary documentation provides valuable insight into the operation of district orders and their officials. In this regard, particular attention should be paid to the travel notes of Alexander Gaines, a Russian intellectual and government figure who took part in developing reform initiatives for the Kazakh Steppe in the 1860s. He studied the district management system within the West Siberian General Government and noted that each district consists of villages inhabited by representatives of one clan and clans do not leave their territory according to the rule of the charter. Gaines was a member of the Field Commission in 1865 and spoke about necessity to apply the mentioned system on the territory of the Turkestan Governor-General. It is known that agha sultan of Bayanaul outer district Musa Shormanov was also involved to draft the "Temporary Regulations" under the leadership of Alexander Gaines. The members of the Commission for the Preparation of the Reform headed by A.K. Gaines visited Bayanaul district in 1865. At that time Musa Shormanov told him: *«It will not be worse than the present»*. Thus, he gave his assessment of the upcoming reforms, understanding that these reforms would strengthen the influence of the colonial authorities and significantly weaken the position of the local nobility. Gaines worked in Bayanaul for four days and noted in his personal records on the district's senior sultan: *«On arrival in Bayanaul in the evening, the most influential person of the Middle Horde, aga sultan of the district Musa Chormanov was with us and he was a very worthy person...»*. *«The author observed that the morning was spent speaking with Musa Chormanov about summer migration routes and winter living conditions, while later in the day, after lunch, a short trip around Bayanaul was arranged»* [1; 323-324 pp.]. Therefore, Alexander Gaines came to the Bayanaul region as the head of the Russian Ethnographic Commission and showed an interest in preserving the historical heritage of the Kazakh people. For about two years, he studied the region in detail and collected the richest materials of a historical and everyday nature. These materials were included in his «Diary», a number of articles were published in the «Military Collection».

In the 19th century, Russian researchers visited the Kazakh steppe and left amazing memories of the life of the Kazakh people of that time. The notes of officers who were leaders of military expeditions is a valuable source that reflects the original culture of Kazakhs. Such sources include the works of I.G. Andreeva «Description of the Kyrgyz-Kaysak's Middle Horde» and S. Bronevsky «Notes on the Kirghiz-Kaisaks of the Middle Horde». The military mission led by Colonel S.B. Bronevsky in 1824 was followed several years later by the release of his major work, «Notes on the Kirghiz-Kaisaks of the Middle Horde» (1829–1830), in which he paid special attention to the characteristics of the Kazakh economy, their way of life, morals, and spiritual culture.

It is known that the establishment of the Bayanaul outer district was carried out thanks to his first agha sultan Shon bi Edigeuly and his great authority in the Kazakh steppe. In his work «Notes on the Kirghiz-Kaisaks of the Middle Horde» S.B. Bronevsky wrote: *«Despite his age, Shon Bi Edigin was recognized for his wisdom and benevolence when he assumed the position of senior sultan. He was highly respected by the inhabitants of the Turtugul volosts and exercised notable authority among them»* [2; 135 p.]. At the same time Semen Bronevskiy explained in his notes that Shon Bi tried to improve his relations with the Chinese and Bukhara rulers not only with the tsarist government in order to maintain political stability in the region of the Middle Zhuz. The author has a note entitled «On the coming of the Chinese to the mountains of Bayan-Aul». He wrote: *«Seeking to implement their plans in the region, the Chinese authorities in 1824 launched an expedition to the Bayanaul mountains...»* [2; 16 p.].

The images of Kazakh district, volost sultans and biys are reflected in the works of the Polish democratic writer Adolf Yanushkevich. Yanushkevich left information about the first aga sultan of the Bayanaul outer district Shon bi Edigeuly in his notes. The Polish democratic writer Adolf Yanushkevich in his work «Diaries and Letters» said that the first senior sultan of the Bayanaul outer district was not from the «Tore» line, but was wise and fair,



and even the khans could not see these qualities of him [3; 244 p.]. According to the charter of 1822, senior sultans were supposed to be only from «Tore» genius, but only a senior sultan of Bayanaul outer district did not belong to this line.

A traveler and researcher of the 19th century Grigory Karelin explored the Kazakh steppes and described the Bayanaul region in his notes. He started his expedition in 1842 from Bayanaul and Karkaralinsky regions and conducted research in the eastern part of Altai. According to Karelin, the village of Bayanaul is fortified and includes 47 residences. Nearby, one can observe deposits of copper and lead. The land is considered favorable for living. The Kazakh inhabitants are reported to experience poverty, which the author links to their lack of industriousness. The local government is led by the senior sultan, supported by two Russian and two Kyrgyz officials. Overall, the district comprises 20 volosts and around 600 households [4; 2-3 pp.].

One of the first works that mentions the activities of the Bayanaul outer district is the work of P.P. Rumyantsev «The Kyrgyz people in the past and present». In the 3rd part of his work, the author wrote about the history of the Kazakhs between 1822 and 1891, this work was written based on the statistics of the resettlement department.

For the first time the administrative and state activity of Bayanaul outer district's agha sultans became the subject of historiography in the work of the statistician P.P. Rumyantsev, a statistician of the Resettlement Administration. In his study, the author provided a critical evaluation of Musa Shormanov, primarily in connection with the escalation of land disputes in the Bayanaul district. Scholars have noted that the decisions of the senior sultan were often perceived as unjust, frequently leaving one of the parties dissatisfied. He faced accusations of taking control of the ancestral lands of the Aidabol-Malgozy clan by force and of adjudicating disputes to the advantage of his relatives from the Karzhas clan [5; 54 p.]. Thus, the senior sultan of the Bayanaul outer district Musa Shormanov was described as a person who oppresses the weak Kazakh clans.

Information on the history of the peoples of Western Siberia, the historical legends of the Kyrgyz people, interesting materials on culture and life can be found in the works of the ethnographer Shokan Ualikhanov. In his 1857 report titled «On the Bayanaul District», Ualikhanov noted that the tore (sultans) exercised limited authority in the Bayanaul district, as local governance was primarily managed by the biys. Among the local population, Shon Bi of Aydabol and Shorman Bi of Karzhas were particularly esteemed and enjoyed widespread popularity [6; 309 p.].

Important information about the activities of Bayanaul district and the rulers of this district are recorded in the written heritage of the Kazakh thinker, poet Mashkhar-Zhusip Kopeyuli. M. Kopeyuli wrote about the origin of the senior sultans in his work «Қазақ шежіресі» (Kazakh Genealogy). The most valuable information about Musa Shormanov is contained in M.-Zh. Kopeyuli's poems such as «Мұса мырзаны жоқтау» («Wailing for Musa Murza»), «Мұса мырзаның асы» («Musa Murza's funeral»). At the beginning of his work, he paid tribute to Musa Shormanov, highlighting his commitment to the welfare of the people and noting that he journeyed to Omsk for their sake, where his life ultimately ended [7; 90 p.].

It is necessary to note M. Kopeyuli's writings about first senior sultan of Bayanaul outer district Shon bi Edigeuly. He wrote in his work «Өмірбаяндық дерек» («Biographical Sources»): «A colonel named Ivan Semenovich arrived, planted trees in a place called Myrzashoqy in the Bayanaul Mountains, built a town, and elected Shon Bi as the senior sultan. Since then, the Kazakh people have lived in peace, could eat in tranquillity, and widows and orphans became the owners of their livestock». M. Kopeyuli marked that on the day when the ruler of the country was Shon, the Kazakh people ate their food calmly, widows and orphans received their livestock. Thus, he highly appreciates the personality of first senior sultan of Bayanaul district.

M. Kopeyuli analyzed the social and political conditions of the region and noted that «Russians arrived in Bayanaul in the year of the cow with the aim of building a new fortress. In the same year, about 10 Chinese arrived with the same intentions. This happened during the reign of Abaydilda-khan and biys Shon and Toraighyr. At this time, the people were on summer pastures ...». Author noted that in order to maintain political stability in the region, Shon Bi tried to improve relations with the Russian Empire as well as with the Chinese rulers.

In addition, a part of pre-revolutionary historiography is associated with the name of Musa Shormanov who was a prominent public figure and a leading representative of the Kazakh community in the region. During his tenure as senior sultan of the Bayanaul district, Musa Shormanov systematically documented the customs, oral histories, and ethnographic data about the local Kazakh population. In the 19th century, representatives of the Russian intelligentsia, including Grigory Potanin, Nikolai Yadrintsev, Nikolai Kostylevsky, and Alexander Geins, took an interest in Musa Shormanov's writings, such as On the Kyrgyz of Pavlodar County (1866), Customs and Traditions of the Kyrgyz (1871), and Economy of the Kyrgyz of Western Siberia (1833).

Z. Zimanov, E. Bekmakhanov, S. Tolybekov were among the authors who made a significant scientific contribution to the study of this topic in the Soviet era. In the historiography of the Soviet era, S.Z. Zimanov was among the earliest scholars to examine the establishment of the volost governor system within the Kazakh steppe.



He studied the volost system on the basis of the reforms of 1822. He considered the main issues of volosts formation of in the places of winter nomadic Kazakh tribes of the Middle Zhuz as part of the districts of the Siberian Department.

Zimanov analyzed the structure and activities of the local authorities of the Middle Zhuz and noted that despite the fact that the “Charter” of 1822 proclaimed the election of local governors who headed the administration of the districts, the election system was observed only partially in his work «The Political System of Kazakhstan at the end of the 18th and the first half of the 19th centuries». He wrote: «*The power in the volosts was in the hands of the economically influential part of the nobility*». And he provided information of the property status of Bayan-Aul district’s volost governors in 1857 [8; 176 p.].

At the same time, Zimanov also gave an objective assessment of the reform of 1822: «It contributed to the development of agriculture, settlement and trade among the local population, helped to weaken the power of feudal fragmentation and constant civil strife, contributed to the rapprochement of the Kazakh and Russian peoples».

In Bekmakhanov’s monograph «Kazakhstan in the 20-40s of the 19th century» it is determined that the reforms carried out in Kazakh society in the 19th century changed the order that had developed in the Kazakh steppe for centuries. In the initial part of the book, attention is given to the economic organization and social structures among the Kazakhs, alongside an analysis of Kazakhstan’s ties with the Russian Empire. E. Bokeikhanov wrote about the Kazakhs of Kokshetau, Bayanaul, Akmola districts that «*from frequent communication with Russians, they get used to settled life and, imitating Russians, build houses and other institutions for themselves*». Regarding the local feudal system, he observed that Kazakh lords generally relied on the unpaid labor of poorer members of their communities rather than hiring shepherds, and that Musa Shormanov oversaw an entire aul of such laborers [9; 80 p.]. The author, therefore, described of the preparatory period, territorial division and political and social situation in his work.

The Soviet Kazakh historian and economist S.E. Tolybekov interpreted this period as one marked by land-related conflicts rooted in feudal property relations. He pointed to the case of Musa Chormanov, who forcibly displaced the Malgozy clan from the Akkelin mountain region and redistributed the territory to more than one hundred households affiliated with the Karzhas clan [10; 411 p.].

The processes through which imperial administrative mechanisms were introduced into the Kazakh steppe from the 1820s onward have been critically examined in the works of B.M. Abdrakhmanova, a scholar representing the historiography of independent Kazakhstan. Her analysis concentrates on the institutional configuration, legal foundations, and practical competencies of local governing institutions that operated under the jurisdiction of the Western Siberian general-governorship.

In her study *History of Kazakhstan: Power, Management System, Territorial Structure in the XIX Century*, Abdrakhmanova assessed the transformation of political institutions governing Kazakh society during the 19th century. She observed that the traditional mechanisms of political authority were gradually losing their relevance: although they continued to coexist alongside the new administrative structures introduced by the Russian authorities for some time, they increasingly functioned outside the legal framework and the formal mechanisms regulating social life. As a result, these traditional institutions were gradually deprived of their historically established influence [11; 132 p.].

In the first years of independence, local historian, scientist Serik Zhaksybaev studied the formation of the Bayanaul region. His articles “Opening to Bayanaul Outer District” and “Musa Chormanov - Tsarist Colonel” were published in the newspaper “Industrial Karaganda” in 2006

Some information about the historical and ethnographic heritage of Bayanaul was provided by S.K. Kosanbaev in his work "History of the formation and development of the ethnography of Kazakhstan in the 18th - 20th centuries". He drew attention to the materials of Musa Shormanov about the socio-political and spiritual culture and national values of the Kazakh people.

In modern time public, state, as well as research activities of the agha sultan of the Bayanaul outer district are studied in the candidate's dissertation of E.K. Rakhimov "Musa Shormanov - a public statesman and researcher of the traditional culture of the Kazakhs", which is written on the basis of archival materials and materials of historical folklore.

### Conclusion

The transformation of the territory of Kazakhstan into a colony of the Russian Empire was studied in different periods, under the conditions of political systems, within the framework of established ideologies, and led to the writing of a number of fundamental works and scientific articles. Scientists and researchers drew conclusions according to the requirements of the society in which they lived. However, an analysis of historiography shows that the activities of the Bayanaul outer district did not become the subject of special



research. It became clear during the historiographical analysis that there are aspects of the problem that still need to be studied

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#### А.К. Кайруллина, А. Гюндюгду БАЯНАУЫЛ СЫРТҚЫ ОКРУГІНІҢ ЗЕРТТЕЛУ ТАРИХЫ

**Аңдатпа.** Аталмыш мақалада Баянауыл сыртқы приказының округтық және болыстық басқару қызметіне қатысты еңбектерге тарихнамалық шолу берілген. 19 ғасырдың 20-жылдарындағы реформалардың нәтижесінде қазақ қоғамының саяси ұйымдасуына байланысты әкімшілік-басқару жүйесі терең өзгерістерге ұшырауда. Басқарудың жаңа жүйесін құру мен Баянауыл аймағы мысалында жергілікті билік органдарын ұйымдастыру бойынша мәліметтер зерделенуде. Революцияға дейінгі кезеңдегі ғылыми еңбектер, кеңестік дәуірде жазылған еңбектер, тәуелсіз Қазақстан ғалымдары шығарған зерттеулер сараланады. Мақаланың негізгі дереккөзі болып тарихи фольклор материалдары, экспедициялық материалдар мен жеке күнделіктер, олардың ішінде саяхатшылардың жол жазбалары, орыс интеллигенциясынан шыққан зерттеушілердің естеліктері, сондай-ақ кеңестік және жаңа кезеңдегі белгілі ғалымдардың монографиялары саналады. Кеңестік дәуірде болыстық басқарушылардың қызметі саяси-идеологиялық көзқарас тұрғысынан қарастырылғаны айқындалған, бірақ барлық материалдар құнарлы деректерді қамтиды. Тарихнаманың талдау Баянауыл сыртқы округінің қызметі арнайы зерттеу нысаны



ретінде қарастырылмағанын көрсетеді, сондықтан да мақаланы жазу барысында материалдарды жүйелеу, тарихи деректерге салыстырмалы талдау жасаланды.

**Кілт сөздер:** Баянауыл, сыртқы округ, болыстық басқарушылар, әкімшілік-басқарушылық жүйе, тарихнама, аға сұлтан, отарлық саясат, Ресей империясы, Шоң би, Мұса Шорманов.

**Кайруллина А.К., Гюндогду А.**

### **ИСТОРИЯ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЯ БАЯНАУЛЬСКОГО ВНЕШНЕГО ОКРУГА**

**Аннотация.** В статье представлен историографический обзор трудов, связанных с деятельностью окружного и волостного правления Баянаульского внешнего округа. В связи с проведением реформ 20 годы 19 века административно-управленческая система в казахской степи переживает глубокие перемены, связанные с политической организацией казахского общества. Изучается материал по вопросам установления новой системы управления, организации местной власти на примере Баянаульского округа. Анализируются научные труды дореволюционного периода, работы, написанные в советское время, и исследования, которые опубликованы учеными независимого Казахстана. Основными источниками статьи являются материалы исторического фольклора, экспедиционные материалы и источники личного происхождения к которым относятся путевые заметки, воспоминания путешественников и исследователей из среды российской интеллигенции, а также монографии известных ученых советского и современного периодов. Отмечено, что в советское время деятельность волостных управителей освещается с точки зрения политических и идеологических установок, но все источники содержат богатый фактический материал. Анализ историографии показывает, что деятельность Баянаульского внешнего округа не становилась предметом специального изучения, поэтому в ходе написания статьи требовалась систематизация материала, а также сравнительный анализ исторических данных.

**Ключевые слова:** Баянаул, внешний округ, волостные управители, административно-управленческая система, историография, старший султан, колониальная политика, Российская империя, Шоң би, Муса Шорманов.