

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHANGES OF KAZAKH COMMUNITIES IN THE AKTOBE UYEZD (LATE XIX - EARLY XX CENTURIES)

GANIBAEVA ZH.A. , ANDIROV N.T. 

Ganibaeva Zhaidarman Anuarovna - Candidate of historical sciences, senior lecturer, K. Zhubanov Aktobe regional university, Aktobe, Kazakhstan

E-mail: zganibayeva@zhubanov.edu.kz, <https://orcid.org/0009-0001-5445-5815>

Andirov Nurlan Tursyngaliuly - Master's student, K. Zhubanov Aktobe regional university, Aktobe, Kazakhstan

E-mail: nurlankz480@gmail.com, <https://orcid.org/0009-0009-7813-4176>

Abstract. The article is dedicated to the socio-economic transformational processes of the Kazakh communities in the Aktobe uyezd of the Turgai region during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Based on the historical and statistical data of the expedition led by F. Shcherbina in 1898–1899, the research provides a comprehensive analysis of the development of socio-economic changes in the Aktobe uyezd during this period. The primary focus of the study is directed toward the adaptation of the nomadic society to agriculture, the restructuring of land relations, and radical changes in the composition of livestock herds. The authors highlight the influence of the region's geographical and natural characteristics on its economic evolution, emphasizing their decisive role in developing the economy. Statistical data analysis demonstrates that the effective combination of animal husbandry and agriculture contributed to the transformation of the Aktobe uyezd into an economically significant area within the Turgai region. Due to its natural and climatic conditions, the Aktobe uyezd stood out from other uyezds because of its pronounced economic changes and the fully-fledged nature of its transformational processes. The gradual transition of the economic system in the Aktobe region from extensive pastoralism to market-driven intensive sedentarization and agricultural development is substantiated by concrete evidence. The internal social stratification and structural shifts within the communities are examined through the lens of the region's integration into the general imperial economic system. The study reveals that the uyezd's Kazakhs not only preserved their livestock traditions but also enhanced their capacity to produce commercial raw materials in response to local market demands.

Key words: F. Shcherbina's expedition, Kazakh community, land use, volosts (districts), economic auyls (villages), agriculture, economic transformation, social stratification.

Introduction

The late 19th and early 20th centuries represent a complex period of the history of Kazakhstan, marked by explored socio-economic changes. The colonization policy of the Russian Empire deeply impacted the traditional structure of Kazakh society, leading to the transformation of its economic system, social relations, and public consciousness. This perspective, studying the socio-economic development of Kazakh communities in the Aktobe uyezd is one of the most pressing issues in national historical science. The Aktobe Uyezd clearly reflected the economic evolution in the steppe regions of the Russian Empire, demonstrated the transition from a traditional nomadic lifestyle to settlement and agriculture. The economic structure's investigation, development, and historical evolution of the nomadic in the Kazakh communities on the way of life in the Aktobe uyezd constitutes a vital research topic. Furthermore, it provides an opportunity to understand the progress and regional specificities of the traditional structure of Kazakh society. The tribal life and land-tenure traditions of this region directly influenced the social and economic relationship of the Kazakh people. This study is grounded in historical materials, expedition records, and statistical reports concerning rural life. It provides a comprehensive analysis of the number of registered households in each village («auyl»), their social composition, distribution across villages and volosts, as well as economic transformations, and the development and changes in animal husbandry, farming, and crafts. Additionally, the shifts in land-tenure forms among Kazakh communities are examined. The expedition findings demonstrated that the analysis of Kazakh land-tenure should not be approached solely from a historical or economic perspective. On one hand, it was important the tribal interests and traditional lifestyle of the population considered; on the other hand, it was necessary to recognize the objective development of economic forms, including the agriculture's expansion and the emergence of new settlements.

Materials and methods of research

The transformation of the economic structure in the Aktobe uyezd was taken as the primary material for this research. This uyezd is distinguished from other uyezds of the region by various unique characteristics: while certain economic changes were only beginning to emerge in other regions, they demonstrated clearly and completely in the Aktobe uyezd. These distinctive features take into a comprehensive investigation of the uyezd's economy and offer a fresh assessment of the evolutionary development of animal husbandry among the Kazakh people within the vast steppe territory. The study is based on F. Shcherkina expedition's materials, which investigated the Aktobe uyezd in two stages from 1898 to 1899. During the fieldwork, the volosts of the uyezd were considered by each household was accounted for the statistical data regarding the economic activities of the nomadic people were compiled. The expedition materials were compiled in the form of textual descriptions and extensive statistical tables. The general summary of the uyezd was prepared by F. Shcherbina, despite of the materials about the land-use and natural-historical conditions were combined by N.F. Dmitriev and I.M. Urodkov.

The economic system's nature in the Aktobe region uncover and identify its patterns, a comprehensive set of interdisciplinary methodological principles in modern historical science was applied. The first of all the historical-genetic method was employed to study the causal relationships between transition process among the uyezd's Kazakhs from a traditional extensive economy to an intensive direction, analyzing its chronological stages in terms of time and space. This approach make it possible to identify of this transformative phenomenon. To clarify These developmental trajectories demonstrate and the historical-comparative method was used to differentiate the archival and statistical data, thereby revealing the adaptation rates and differences among Kazakh community households across various volosts of the uyezd. The statistical analysis method was applied to process and categorize the enormous data's volume that constitutes the source base, including the dynamics of livestock numbers, cultivated land's size, and the indicators of internal social stratification within the communities. This method and the transition process from quantitative to change in the regional economy was empirically demonstrated. At the same time the framework of the historical-systemic method, Kazakh households in the Aktobe uyezd were examined and it hasn't as an isolated phenomenon, but as an integrated microeconomic structure directly dependent on the general colonial system of the Russian Empire and the resettlement policy in the region. This methodological compound affirmed harmony between the theoretical conclusions and empirical data of the research.

Results and its discussion

The study of the socio-economic structure and development of economic communities in the Aktobe uyezd during the late 19th and early 20th centuries represents a significant direction in national historiography. This problem has been consistently examined within the framework of the traditional economic system of Kazakh society, specific features of land use communal relations, and the Russian government's colonial policy. Most of all, "the materials about Kyrgyz (Kazakh) land-use" provide as one of the primary source bases for determining the economic structure, social stratification and settlement patterns of Kazakh communities. In the context of modern regional (micro-historical) research, this topic has been explored more deeply at th egrade of specific regions. N.A. Tasilova's scientific research about the resettlement measures applied by the Russian Empire in the Aktobe region on the steppe krai are explained through the prism of newly accessed archival funds [1]. This research in this direction has allowed for an activity, clarification, commission has tasked identifying "surplus lands" at the uyezd level, including the regional specificities of local communities' transition from extensive pastoralism to mixed economic types (an intensive direction).

T. Tasilova's works, "the materials about Kyrgyz (Kazakh) land-use" are evaluated as a historical materials and their importance of studying the socio-economic structure in Kazakh economic communities is thoroughly analyzed. These materials based on the researcher emphasizes, it is possible to determine the land-use systems, types of economies, social composition, and regional characteristics of Kazakh communities. However, her works examined the adaptation of Kazakh households in the Aktobe uyezd to traditional animal husbandry, the communal relations' system, and the colonial policy on socio-economic transformations.

These problems have been addressed by the studies of N.E. Bekmakhanova [2], S.Z. Zimanov [3], Zh.B. Abylkhozhin [4], V.V. Vostrov [5], and G.S. Sultangalieva [6]. While N.E. Bekmakhanova focused on the social structure and demographic situation of the Kazakh population, S.Z. Zimanov investigated the traditional communal relations and legal systems in Kazakh society. Zh.B. Abylkhozhin's works analyzed the Kazakh economy and socio-economic transformations. At the same time V.V. Vostrov provided regarding their settlement systems and the specific nature of their economic activities and useful data the tribal structure of the Kazakhs. G.S. Sultangalieva's work about the archival documents form for analyzing the administrative-territorial division of the Aktobe uyezd in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, its socio-ethnic structure, the formation of its multi-ethnic and multi-confessional population, the developmental dynamics of the first as a fortification and later as an uyezd center and its overall socio-economic development.

The Aktobe uyezd bordered on the lands of Orenburg Cossack host and partially the Kostanay uyezd in the north; in the west, it connected with the possessions of the Orenburg Cossacks and further with the lands of the Ural Cossack host. The greatest part of southern border was shared with the Ural region, while its eastern part bordered on the Irgiz uyezd. The territory of the Aktobe uyezd spanned this area of 50,389 square kilometers (5,240,456 dessiatines) [7, 2]. The natural and climatic conditions of the Aktobe uyezd exerted a significant influence on its economic development. The Kazakhs occupied primarily in animal husbandry, a practice facilitated by the region's pastoral conditions and the uyezd, along the river in the eastern part. Including the territories of the Terekty, Borli, and Aktobe volosts in the western part was characterized by a mountainous topography. This region featured high hills and excellent pastures; but also, it was highly suitable for agriculture its fertile soil. The uyezd in the southwestern was developed farming successfully on chernozem (black) soils.

The F. Shcherbina expedition, which investigated the Kazakh steppe from 1896 to 1903, was not merely a statistical group but a major school composed of genuine experts in their fields. The expedition's composition was highly diverse: it included translators fluent in the steppe languages, registrars, and accountants who recorded every piece of data. By instruction of the department of state lands and properties, the normative indicators developed by F. Shcherbina for the Aktobe uyezd were utilized as a baseline for determining land-use norms in the Ural uyezd.

The Aktobe uyezd was divided into 12 volosts, each consist of administrative villages (auyls). There were 92 administrative villages in the uyezd. According to the F. Shcherbina expedition's materials: each volost was subdivided into several villages at the end of the 19th century. For example, the Borli, Elek, and Karakobda volosts consisted of 5–6 economic villages; the Aktobe volost had 6; Karatogay and Kobda contained 7 villages; Araltobe had 8 villages; Oysylkara, Terekty, and Bestamak comprised 9 villages; Tuztobe had 10 villages; and the Borti volost consisted of 12 villages. A volost manager (volostnoy upravitel) had governed the volost, while a village older (auyl starshina) governed the village [7, 3].

The primary forms of social organization in Kazakh society were the «economic village» (khozyaystvenny auyl). The Aktobe uyezd was formed under the conditions of tribal life, with its structure rooted in nomadic pastoralism. The Aktobe uyezd associated terming «auyl» (as a nomadic community). The expedition's materials were designated as «agricultural/economic auyls». According to these materials, there was a total of 1,236 economic communities in the Aktobe uyezd. On total, a single village comprised 14 households, numbering about 80–85 people. If it compared the village in the Kostanay uyezd averaged 9 households (53 people), the Atbasar uyezd had 5 households (29 people), and the Kokshetau uyezd had 8 households (44 people). This unusual feature demonstrates that economic life was transforming under the influence of agricultural pursuits [7, 5].

The analysis of individual volosts revealed that among the economic villages, large-scale villages predominated over smaller ones. These quantitative characteristics are presented in the table below:

Table 1. Number of households across the Aktobe uyezd.

Volost		Total number of economic villages	Number of villages by the number of households						Number of households per single economic village	
			1 hh.	2hh.	3hh.	4hh.	5hh.	over 5 hh.	minimum	maximum
1	Araltobe	193	3	13	17	16	25	119	1	39
2	Oysylkara	185	-	5	12	16	23	129	2	22
3	Terekty	169	-	3	4	7	8	147	2	77
4	Aktobe	111	-	5	9	12	11	74	3	37
5	Bestamak	87	-	1	-	2	-	84	2	64
6	Borli	59	-	1	-	-	1	57	2	51
7	Borte	121	1	-	1	1	-	118	2	53
8	Karatogay	81	1	-	-	2	1	77	1	49
9	Elek	55	-	-	-	-	-	55	7	49
10	Karakobda	67	-	-	2	1	2	62	3	27
11	Tuztobe	69	-	-	-	1	3	65	4	90
12	Kobda	39	-	-	1	4	-	34	3	71
Across Uyezd		1236	5	28	46	62	74	1021	1	90

The data in the final columns of the table indicate that village sizes across the uyezd varied substantially. The smallest village consisted of only a single household, the largest village comprised up to 90 households. If villages uniting from one to five households are considered small villages- a metric characteristic of the traditional Kazakh nomadic lifestyle—the total number of such villages in the Aktobe uyezd was 215. This figure represents about 17.4% of all economic villages in the uyezd.

The precise quantitative structure of these small villages was as follows: villages consisting of a single household numbered 5 (0.4%); two-household villages numbered 28 (2.3%); three-household villages accounted for 46 (3.7%); four-household villages stood at 62 (5%); and five-household villages made up 74 (6%) [7, 6]. These figures demonstrate of small villages within the settlement structure of the Aktobe uyezd was remarkably low; conversely, large-scale villages consolidating multiple households held a dominant position.

The distribution of small villages across the volosts of the Aktobe uyezd exhibits distinct regional characteristics. Specifically, their proportion reached 38.3% in the Araltobe volost, 30.2% in the Oysylkara volost, and 33.3% in the Aktobe volost. In other volosts of the uyezd, the share of small villages declines significantly. For instance, they accounted for 13% in the Terekty volost, 14.7% in the Kobda volost, and 7.5% in the Karakobda volost. Meanwhile, in the Bestamak, Borli, Borte, Karatogay, and Tuztobe volosts, this indicator ranged only between 2.5% and 5.8% [7, 7].

Most of the economic villages in the Aktobe Uyezd possessed a deep history was established more than a century prior. Specifically, the number of villages for hundred years had looking forward even earlier stood at 522, accounting for 53.4% of all villages.

The F. Shcherbina expedition investigated the historical formation of 247 economic villages on a generational basis. The findings revealed that 7 villages (2.8%) had existed for two generations, 17 villages (6.9%) for three generations, 18 villages (7.3%) for four generations, 52 villages (21%) for five generations, 136 villages (55.1%) for ten generations, and 17 villages (6.9%) had sustained themselves for more than ten generations [7, 7]. The economic villages and their subsequent transformation into settlements or large-scale villages are attributed to the concurrent development of animal husbandry alongside agriculture. The characteristic economic system of the Aktobe uyezd, a legitimate and orderly process was one economic form replacing another is observed. The quantitative composition of households within the villages in the Aktobe uyezd demonstrates that they were significantly larger compared to other uyezds. This distinct feature reflects the influencing of factors facilitated the gradual adaptation of regional economic life toward agriculture. The presence

of fertile soils and abundant natural vegetation created favorable conditions for the existence of more populous villages, rather than the small-scale villages typical of purely nomadic pastoralism [8, 52-53].

The Aktobe uyezd has an important role in two primary sectors of the economy and animal husbandry and agriculture. The Aktobe uyezd's agriculture was so distinctive that it is characterized as one of the few prominent regions with well-established farming practices among the steppe oblasts. By comparing the Aktobe uyezd with other uyezds, the following characteristics regarding agricultural development can be identified:

Table 2. The agricultural development indicators by uyezds within the steppe oblasts.

Uyezds	Number of households			% of farming households	Cultivated area per single household (in dessiatines)	
	All households	Farming Households	Total cultivated area		Total households	Haymaking area
1. Aktobe	17689	16703	103157	95,4	5,83	6,17
2. Kostanay	19474	15017	54912	77,1	2,82	3,66
3. Atbasar	12837	3938	6129	30,7	0,47	1,55
4. Kokshetau	12498	2782	5594	22,3	0,45	2,01
5. Omsk	5080	168	310	3,3	0,06	1,84

These data demonstrate was not only the Aktobe uyezd held a leading position in agriculture, but also that its agricultural sector possessed unique characteristics compared to other uyezds. The neighboring Kostanay uyezd was relatively close in this regard. While 77% of households in the Kostanay uyezd engaged in farming, this figure reached 95.4% in the Aktobe uyezd [7, 28]. In other uyezds, the level of agricultural engagement and the volume of cultivated land were noticeably lower. In the Atbasar and Kokshetau uyezds, the cultivated area per household was approximately half a dessiatine, and in the Omsk uyezd, the indicator was even lower [7, 28]. Furthermore, the highest percentage of households engaged in agriculture not only for consumption but also for commercial sale belonged to the Borli, Karakobda, and Bestamak volosts of the Aktobe Uyezd. The local population residing in the uyezd was not only able to achieve grain self-sufficiency but also had the opportunity to surplus-market it. Thus, out of 8,812 households, 97% were involved in crop cultivation, with each household possessing more than 7 dessiatines of arable land. The Kazakhs of the Aktobe uyezd primarily cultivated millet, and during fertile years, the yield ranged between 70 and 150 poods per dessiatine. Spring wheat ranked second in terms of cultivation volume, yielding up to 50–70 poods per dessiatine, with an average productivity of 50–70 poods. Concurrently, the Kazakhs cultivated oats and barley in smaller quantities. In years of abundant harvest, a pood of millet was sold for 10–25 kopecks, whereas in years of crop failure, the price rose to 2 rubles 50 kopecks, and the price of wheat reached up to 3 rubles [6, 77]. In 1903, the indicators of cultivated areas in the Aktobe uyezd were characterized as follows: a total of 239,168 poods of seed were sown, and 1,804,229 poods of crops were harvested. The average yield ratio was 7.5%. The decrease in the volume of harvested grain in 1903 compared to the indicators of 1902 was directly linked to a severe summer-long drought in the uyezd [8, 8-9].

The widespread expansion of agriculture were exerted a distinct influence on local animal husbandry in the Aktobe uyezd, resulting into a sector closely integrated with farming. This integration was reflected in the organization of animal husbandry, the specific composition of livestock herds, and livestock management conditions; namely, alongside open grazing, stall-feeding in barns was widely adopted. The specific characteristics of animal husbandry more clearly define in the Aktobe uyezd, it is essential to utilize statistical materials in comparison with other uyezds. The table below categorizes data on the composition of livestock herds across three uyezds, where all livestock types are converted into conventional horse units, with one horse equated to 6 sheep, 5

cattle, or 1 camel.

Table 3. Composition and number of livestock herds by uyezds [7, 29].

Uyezds	Livestock in horse units					% of the total			
	Horses	Large horned cattle	Camels	Sheep and goats	Total	Horses	Large horned cattle	Camels	Sheep and goats
Aktobe	98155	131763	17409	54285	301612	32,5	43,7	5,8	18,0
Atbasar	149660	40291	47049	93069	330069	45,3	12,2	14,3	28,2
Omsk	87567	44628	819	20665	153669	57,0	29,0	0,5	13,5

The livestock herd was given to cattle in the Aktobe uyezd, horses predominated in other uyezds. The horses were the second bred livestock after cattle in the Aktobe uyezd. On the other hand, the sheep and camels were prioritized after horses in the Atbasar uyezd, the horses were bred in the highest numbers among all livestock types, followed by cattle in the Omsk uyezd. These variations in herd composition were influenced by economic factors alongside natural conditions. Despite the presence of fertile lands and abundant pastures, the long and heavily snowy winters necessitated an emphasis on breeding horses, which are resilient to winter grazing (tebin) and adapted to the cold in the Omsk uyezd. The composition of the livestock herd was shaped by economic factors in addition to natural conditions in the Aktobe uyezd. The fertile soils and lush pastures in the uyezd facilitated the widespread development of agriculture. In terms of livestock management, animals were not solely grazed on open pastures but were also kept in stalls during the winter, supported by the preparation of ample fodder. Since cattle are incapable of winter foraging through snow (tebin), they required winter sheltering in barns, thereby gaining priority over other livestock types.

Although the distinctive characteristics of animal husbandry in the Aktobe uyezd remained characterized as a uyezd as variations existed across its individual sub-regions due to specific natural and geographical conditions.

Table 4. Composition of livestock herds based on natural and geographical conditions within the territory of the Aktobe uyezd.

Part of the uyezd	% of the total number (in horse units)				Cultivated area per household (dessiat.)
	Horses	Large horned cattle	Camels	Sheep and goats	
West	29,9	47,7	4,8	17,6	7,8
South	29,9	43,3	8,2	18,6	4,4
North	34,2	37,7	5,4	22,7	3,7
East	46,1	30,2	8,0	15,7	3,6

The data indicate that cattle predominated in three sub-regions of the uyezd, while horses held a dominant position in one area. It is indicated that cattle predominated in three parts of the uyezd, while horses were predominant in one specific area. The figures in the final row, a clear correlation emerges: as the amount of arable land decreased, the number of livestock in the herds also declined. This explicitly demonstrates that agricultural development proceeded in parallel with the cattle breeding expansion. The predominance of horses in the eastern part of the uyezd is explained by the regional environmental conditions and the specific composition of forage resources, given that these territories, to a certain extent, constituted the southern steppes of the regional steppe zone.

The transition of the Kazakh population to a sedentary lifestyle laid the foundation for haymaking. The winter climatic conditions widespread livestock losses known as «zhut»—periodically devastated the Kazakh steppe, recurring approximately every 10–12 years. The haymaking operations and modernize forage harvesting techniques organize, the Turgay regional administration purchased a mowing machine for the Borte volost of the Aktobe uyezd in 1890. Subsequently, mowing machines became a widely adopted agricultural technology among wealthy

livestock owners. There were 3 mowing machines in the Aktobe volost, 2 in the Khobda volost, 7 in the Karatogay volost, and 1 in the Araltobe volost at the end of the 19th century, all of which facilitated the accumulation of sufficient hay reserves. According to A.I. Dobrosmyslov, by the beginning of 1893, the Kazakhs of the Borte volost alone possessed 30 mowing machines, underscoring the practical utility of agricultural machinery for the local population. Firstly, it enabled the local Kazakhs to secure sufficient winter forage for their livestock, and the machinery proved capable of recovering its initial cost within a single year. Secondly, the accumulation of substantial forage surpluses allowed them to commercialize the product. Forage prices fluctuated depending on the quality and composition of the hay. In this years with rainfall, the price of a pood of hay was as low as 3 kopecks, whereas during drought years, it skyrocketed up to 50 kopecks [6, 80]. In 1903, the volume of prepared livestock feed in the Aktobe uyezd was distributed as follows: 12,792,062 poods of hay and 2,810,658 poods of straw were harvested. The total fodder supply reached 15,602,720 poods. Horticulture in the Turgay Region developed at a remarkably slow pace and was primarily considered an occupation of the settled population. Among the indigenous Kazakhs, gardening and horticulture remained highly limited [8, 8-9].

For centuries, trades and crafts were highly important and widely practiced among Kazakhs. At the 19th and 20th centuries, as a result of the impoverishment of a significant part of the population and the growth of commodity-money relations, trading and crafts began to serve as an additional source of income. Traditional subsistence methods, such as hunting, fishing, and especially domestic crafts and cottage industries, held a distinct place in the life of the Kazakh people. According to expedition materials, there were 5,831 households engaged in trades in the Aktobe uyezd (district), which accounted for 33% of the total number of households. The breakdown by type of trade was as follows: artisans and craftsmen: 559 people (7.2%). Small-scale traders: 133 people (1.7%). Miscellaneous trades: 1,312 people (14.8%). Freight transport (carting): 140 people (1.6%). Among the artisans, 492 shoemakers, 40 blacksmiths, and 27 carpenters were specifically highlighted [9, 47].

One of the most widespread trades among Kazakhs was freight transport using draft animals (izvoz), which was practiced by the poor who lacked livestock. The Kazakhs were engaged in transporting cargo from post stations, delivering salt to the industrial centers of European Russia and settlements in Central Asia. For example, Ilek salt was transported by Kazakh carriers as far as the south of Kazakhstan. The Kazakh society participated in the freight trade in various economic groups. The Orenburg-Tashkent railway and the freight transport trade was considered a vital sector of the economy for the local population in the Turgay region [9, 47]. Salt was extracted from lake Orkash (Aktobe uyezd) and delivered to Kostanay, Orenburg, Troitsk, and other regions. Kazakhs transported these goods over long distances using horses and camels.

In addition to the freight transport trade, Kazakhs engaged in hunting, fishing, and other crafts, which had been deeply intertwined with the life of the Kazakh people since ancient times. Hunting animals and birds was not only an additional source of subsistence for the Kazakhs but also held a distinct trade value. Marmot and wolf pelts were brought to the fairs along the Orenburg and Irtysh lines for trade and barter. It is worth noting that over time, hunting increasingly became a pastime and trade primarily for the wealthy. Depending on natural and climatic conditions, Kazakhs actively engaged in this type of trade in the volosts (administrative districts) best suited for hunting. Kazakhs were also involved in fishing. This served as an additional occupation for rural inhabitants, functioning as a vital source of subsistence, particularly for the poor.

The production of items made from goat down (cashmere), felt goods, and everyday household utilities was considered a major source of income within local crafts. Local Kazakh artisans skillfully crafted wooden components for saddles, wooden tableware, and ornamental patterns for yurts. Meanwhile, blacksmiths manufactured knives, awls, and spears, as well as women's headpieces and jewelry—often plated with silver—along with various other small metal wares.

The crafting of silver and bronze items, the production of yurt furnishings, leather processing, blacksmithing, and other trades were widespread among the Kazakhs of the uyezd. These crafts were primarily practiced by men who possessed specialized skills. Workshops producing items in daily demand and for wide consumption were typically located at fairs and other densely populated

gathering places.

At the end of the 19th century, the Russian Empire pursued a policy of strict administrative restriction in the Kazakh steppe with the aim of weakening the influence of Islam. Archival documents clarify the restrictive policies implemented by the tsarist government regarding the Muslim community on the basis of historical data. Among these, the most significant restriction was the opposition to the construction of mosques. According to decree No. 6500 of the Ministry of Internal Affairs dated February 10, 1895, local authorities were strictly forbidden from constructing more than one mosque per volost. This decision served as a legal mechanism to systematically reject the requests of the Kazakh community to build new mosques. The religious situation was under the direct supervision of the Department of Religious Affairs in the Turgay region. In accordance with the special regulations from 1892 to 1896, the religious activities and initiatives of Tatars residing among the Muslim population in the aforementioned region were put under surveillance and subjected to the requirements of the regulations. These rules complicated the process of mosque construction and severely hindered the population from fulfilling their spiritual needs [10, 92].

Conclusion

At the end of the 19th century underwent fundamental changes under the influence of natural-geographic conditions and new economic factors the traditional nomadic economy of the Kazakhs in the Aktobe uyezd. As evidenced by the data from the expedition led by F. Shcherbina, the region's population transitioned from purely nomadic pastoralism to a more stable, mixed model that combined agriculture and livestock breeding. This trend was directly linked to the widespread adoption of farming and the vital importance of haymaking for securing winter livestock feed. The new land cultivation system significantly shortened the seasonal migration routes between summer pastures (zhailau) and winter quarters (kystau), thereby accelerating the transition toward a sedentary lifestyle. The effective combination of livestock breeding and agriculture contributed to the Aktobe uyezd becoming an economically significant region within the Turgay oblast. Furthermore, the increase in the private use of arable and meadow lands led to the emergence of new social classes within society. These included wealthy agrarian-pastoralists (bais), as well as impoverished zhataqs (settled laborers) who owned neither farming tools nor livestock and were forced to work as hired laborers for the wealthy. As a result of these transformations, bread and grain products began to replace meat and kumis in the population's daily diet, and the former subsistence economy shifted toward a market-oriented capitalist system. While preserving the core structures of traditional society, the Aktobe uyezd demonstrated a clear path of successful integration into the global economic processes of the Russian Empire, laying the foundation for the region's contemporary agrarian-industrial landscape.

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АҚТӨБЕ УЕЗІНДЕГІ ҚАЗАҚ ҚАУЫМДАРЫНЫҢ ӘЛЕУМЕТТІК- ЭКОНОМИКАЛЫҚ ӨЗГЕРІСТЕРІ (XIX Ғ. АЯҒЫ-XX Ғ. БАСЫ)

ГАНИБАЕВА Ж.А. , ӘНДІРОВ Н.Т. 

Ганибаева Жайдарман Ануаровна - Тарих ғылымдарының кандидаты, аға оқытушы, Қ.Жұбанов атындағы Ақтөбе өңірлік университеті, Ақтөбе қ., Қазақстан.

E-mail: zganibayeva@zhubanov.edu.kz, <https://orcid.org/0009-0001-5445-5815>

Әндіров Нұрлан Тұрсынғалиұлы – Магистрант, Қ.Жұбанов атындағы Ақтөбе өңірлік университеті, Ақтөбе қ., Қазақстан.

E-mail: nurlankz480@gmail.com, <https://orcid.org/0009-0009-7813-4176>

Аңдатпа. Мақала XIX ғ.соңы - XX ғ.басындағы Торғай облысы Ақтөбе уезіндегі қазақ қауымдарының әлеуметтік-экономикалық трансформациялық үдерістеріне арналады. Зерттеу жұмысы 1898–1899 жылдары Ф. Щербина басқарған экспедицияның тарихи-статистикалық мәліметтерін негізге ала отырып, XIX ғ.соңы - XX ғ.бас. Ақтөбе уезінің әлеуметтік-экономикалық өзгерістерінің дамуына жан-жақты талдау жасалады. Зерттеудің басты назары көшпелі қоғамның егіншілікке бейімделуіне, жер қатынастарының жаңаша сипат алуына, сондай-ақ мал табынының құрылымының түбегейлі өзгерістеріне аударылады. Авторлар аймақтың географиялық және табиғи ерекшеліктерінің экономикалық эволюцияға тигізген ықпалы, олардың шаруашылықты дамытудағы шешуші рөлін ашып көрсетеді. Статистикалық мәліметтерді талдау, мал шаруашылығы мен егіншіліктің тиімді ұштасуы Ақтөбе уезінің Торғай облысындағы экономикалық маңызды аймаққа айналуына ықпал еткендігін көрсетті. Ақтөбе уезі өзге уездерден табиғи климаттық жағдайларына байланысты шаруашылық өзгерістердің айқын көрініс тауып, трансформациялық үдерістердің толыққанды сипат алуымен ерекшеленді. Ақтөбе өңіріндегі шаруашылық жүйесінің біртіндеп экстенсивті мал шаруашылығынан нарықтық талаптарға сай қарқынды отырықшылыққа, егіншіліктің дамуына көшу үрдісі нақты айғақтармен дәлелденеді. Қауымдардың ішкі әлеуметтік жіктелуі мен құрылымдық өзгерістері өлкенің жалпыимпериялық экономикалық жүйеге интеграциялануы тұрғысынан қарастырылады. Уезд қазақтары тек мал шаруашылығын сақтап қана қоймай, жергілікті нарықтық сұранысқа сай тауарлы шикізат өндіру қабілетін арттырғанын көрсетеді.

Түйін сөздер: Ф.Щербина экспедициясы, қазақ қауымы, жерді пайдалану, болыстар, шаруашылық ауылдар, егіншілік, шаруашылық трансформациясы, әлеуметтік жіктелу.

СОЦИАЛЬНО-ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКИЕ ИЗМЕНЕНИЯ КАЗАХСКИХ ОБЩИН АКТЮБИНСКОГО УЕЗДА (КОНЕЦ XIX - НАЧАЛО XX ВВ.)

ГАНИБАЕВА Ж.А. , ӘНДІРОВ Н.Т. 

Ганибаева Жайдарман Ануаровна - Кандидат исторических наук, старший преподаватель, Актюбинский

региональный университет имени К.Жубанова, г. Ақтөбе, Қазақстан

E-mail: zganibayeva@zhubanov.edu.kz, <https://orcid.org/0009-0001-5445-5815>

Әндіров Нурлан Тұрсынғалиұлы – Магистрант, Ақтөбінский региональный университет имени К.Жубанова, г. Ақтөбе, Қазақстан

E-mail: nurlankz480@gmail.com, <https://orcid.org/0009-0009-7813-4176>

Аннотация. Статя посвящена социально-экономическим трансформационным процессам казахских общин Ақтөбінского уезда Тургайской области в конце XIX – начале XX веков. На основе историко-статистических данных экспедиции под руководством Ф. Щербины 1898–1899 годов проводится всесторонний анализ развития социально-экономических изменений в Ақтөбінском уезде конца XIX – начала XX вв. Основное внимание исследования уделяется адаптации кочевого общества к земледелию, формированию нового характера земельных отношений, а также коренным изменениям в структуре скотоводства. Авторы раскрывают влияние географических и природных особенностей региона на экономическую эволюцию и показывают их решающую роль в развитии хозяйства. Анализ статистических данных показал, что эффективное сочетание животноводства и земледелия способствовало превращению Ақтөбінского уезда в один из экономически значимых регионов Тургайской области. Ақтөбінский уезд отличался от других уездов тем, что вследствие природно-климатических условий хозяйственные изменения здесь проявились наиболее ярко, а трансформационные процессы приобрели полноценный характер. На конкретных фактах доказывается постепенный переход хозяйственной системы Ақтөбінского региона от экстенсивного скотоводства к интенсивной оседлости и развитию земледелия, соответствующих требованиям рынка. Внутреннее социальное расслоение и структурные изменения общин рассматриваются с точки зрения интеграции края в общеимперскую экономическую систему. Показано, что казахи уезда не только сохранили скотоводство, но и повысили способность производить товарное сырьё в соответствии с потребностями местного рынка.

Ключевые слова: экспедиция Ф. Щербины, казахская община, землепользование, волосты, хозяйственные аулы, земледелие, хозяйственная трансформация, социальное расслоение.