



Отандық тарих – Domestic history – Отечественная история

IRSTI 03.20.00

<https://doi.org/10.32523/2616-7255-2024-147-2-33-56>

Research article

Historical analysis of entrepreneurial activity in the second half of the 19th to the early 20th century (using the example of Eastern Kazakhstan)

Bakyt Atantayeva¹ , Ulzhan Sairanbekova² , Muhtarbek Karimov³ 

Shakarim University, Semey, Kazakhstan

(E-mail: corresponding author: ²uljan0202@mail.ru, ¹batantaeva@mail.ru, ³karimov_51@mail.ru)

Abstract. This research analyzes and studies entrepreneurial activities in the Zaysan region during the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century. Nestled in East Kazakhstan, Zaysan City serves as a treasure trove of historical insights into entrepreneurial pursuits. Throughout this epoch, notable trade hubs burgeoned within urban centers and expansive settlements like Semey, Ust-Kamenogorsk, Zaysan, and Kokpekti, all situated within the East Kazakhstan Region. This proliferation of commerce was emblematic of the region's stature as a pivotal nexus of trade and economic activity during this period.

The study includes an analysis of factors that influenced the development of entrepreneurship in Zaysan, such as the city's geographical location, the presence of waterways, trade routes, and connections with other regions. Additionally, the research examines the impact of political and socio-economic conditions, including demographic changes and shifts in the region's ethnic composition, on the development of entrepreneurship.

Moreover, the research analyzes the role of entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship in Zaysan's economic life. It highlights their contributions to the development of the city and the region as a whole. The study gives special attention to the philanthropic activities of entrepreneurs in areas such as education and cultural advancement, among others.

Keywords: Zaysan; entrepreneurship; trade; merchants; fair; Tatars; history; economics; personality.

Received 26.02.2024. Revised 11.03.2024. Accepted 12.05.2024. Available online 30.06.2024.

For citation:

Atantayeva B., Sairanbekova U., Karimov M. Historical analysis of entrepreneurial activity in the second half of the 19th to the early 20th century (using the example of Eastern Kazakhstan) // Bulletin of the L.N. Gumilev Eurasian National University. Series: Historical Sciences. Philosophy. Religious studies – 2024. – Vol. 147. – No. 2. – P. 33-56. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.32523/2616-7255-2024-147-2-33-56>

Для цитирования:

Атантаева Б., Сайранбекова У., Каримов М. Исторический анализ предпринимательской деятельности во второй половине XIX – начале XX веков (на примере Восточного Казахстана) // Вестник Евразийского национального университета имени Л.Н. Гумилева. Серия: Исторические науки. Философия. Религиоведение – 2024. – Т. 147. – No.2. – С. 33-56. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.32523/2616-7255-2024-147-2-33-56>

Introduction

In the second half of the XIXth century and the beginning of the XXth century, although Kazakhstan was a colonial region of Russia, it became an integral part of it, fully dependent on the metropolis politically and economically. During those times, entrepreneurship played a significant role in Kazakhstan as well, contributing to the development of market relations and the wider inclusion of capitalist relations. In this period, cities and large settlements in the East Kazakhstan region turned into transit trade centers connecting Russia with places like Xinjiang, Tibet, Mongolia, among others. The Russian state, constantly expanding its territories eastwards towards Central Asia and Siberia, closely monitored the swift annexation of new lands and their integration into the country's unified economic circulation.

East Kazakhstan region is of significant geopolitical, socio-economic, ethnic-demographic, and cultural importance. Located at the crossroads of many historic trade routes connecting Asia with Europe, this region has served as a crucial center for trade and cultural exchange due to its strategic location. To leverage the advantages of this region effectively in modern times, it is necessary to objectively assess the outcomes of local entrepreneurship development that took shape in the second half of the 19th century.

The city of Zaysan played a significant role in the trade and economic development history of the region in the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the XXth century. During this period, entrepreneurial structures emerged, significantly influencing the city's economy and social life. The imperial administration's view of Kazakh lands merely as a source of raw materials, a market for goods, and a source of cheap labor undeniably gave a colonial character to the development of local entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurs play a crucial role in solving the social and economic issues of a country.

The article covers both the economic and sociocultural aspects of the topic under study, including the impact on social structures and the cultural life of the region. The main aim of the article is to investigate and describe the mechanisms and consequences of trade integration between Kazakhstan and the Russian Empire. The authors seek to identify the social and economic changes that occurred in the East Kazakhstan as a result of this integration. The article also examines the influence of trade activities on the social structures and cultural life of the population of Kazakhstan. It identifies political and economic factors that either facilitated or hindered the development of trade in the region. In addition, the biographies and business achievements of key trading entrepreneurs, including Tatars and Kazakhs who actively participated in this process, are presented.

Entrepreneurship is a relevant field of study in today's world. This is because the rapid development of the market is always accompanied by the flourishing of entrepreneurship.

Methodology, methods and materials

The research on the economic development and the role of the merchant class in the Zaysan region at the end of the XIXth and beginning of the XXth centuries is based on a comprehensive approach to analyzing historical processes, involving a wide range of

sources. For the realization of specific tasks, various documentary sources were used, including materials from archives and museum funds, thereby ensuring a multifaceted illumination of the subject matter.

Particular attention is given to the funds of the State Central Archive of the Republic of Kazakhstan (SCARK): Funds No. 15 and No. 64, containing official documents, reports, and correspondence of government bodies and trade organizations, provide data on trade activities and the economic development of the region. The State Archive of the Abai region (SAAR): Fund No. 48 includes documents related to local administration and the economic life of the Zaysan region, including trade and entrepreneurship.

Materials-memories of the merchants' descendants (Kh. Bekmukhamedov – granddaughter of P. Bobkin, G. Baisalov – granddaughter of K. Babaev, M. Satpaev and A. Satpaeva – children of B. Satpaev) stored in the Zaysan Historical-Local Lore Museum were used. The analysis of personal memories allows us to reconstruct the everyday life scenes, economic interests, and social activity of the merchant class in the Zaysan region. Data from the historical-local lore museum of Zaysan city, as well as reviews and research on the history of the region published by Kazakhstani and foreign scientists, serve as an important addition to the archival materials.

The study employs various methods of historical science. The historical-comparative method allows comparing the economic development of the Zaysan region with other regions of Kazakhstan and Central Asia. The historical-genetic method is used to analyze processes and events in their development and change over time. The historical-biographical method is applied for the reconstruction of the life and activities of individual representatives of the merchant class. The historical-systemic method provides an analysis of economic and social processes in a complex of interrelations and dependencies.

The research is based on the principles of objectivity and scientific substantiation. Special attention is paid to identifying and analyzing the specific features of the economic life of the region, including the role of the merchant class in the socio-economic transformations of the Zaysan region. For the quantitative analysis in the article, statistical data were used, including census data, trade statistics, and economic reports covering various time periods. As literary sources, scientific works, articles, and monographs dedicated to the history of entrepreneurship in Kazakhstan and Central Asia, as well as specialized journals and publications, were employed.

Thus, the presented methodological approach and comprehensive analysis of various sources allow for a thorough examination and assessment of the contribution of the merchant class to the economic, social, and cultural development of the Zaysan region, as well as their role in trade, entrepreneurship, and philanthropy.

Discussion

Comprehensive and thorough research on the trade and economic development indicators of the Zaysan region, which played a significant role in the economic development of the Steppe region from the second half of the XIXth century to the beginning of the XXth century,

and the notable entrepreneurs there, is lacking. The issue is mostly considered only in the research concerning the Upper Irtysh area, which includes the Zaysan region of Kazakhstan.

However, Western European and Russian historians, geographers, natural scientists, and travelers from these countries have historically been interested in the Zaysan region.

In the 17th century, the French diplomat De La Neuville wrote «Curious and New Information about Muscovy» (Braudo, 1891), which contained detailed information about Lake Zaysan and its inhabitants. The Danish Evert Isbrand Ides also left similar records of that time.

In 1715-1716, I. Buchholz's expedition conducted extensive research in the Zaysan area. The arrival of Buchholz's expedition to the Zaysan region was closely related to the Russian Empire's eastern policy of colonizing the southern Siberian lands, including Kazakh territories.

In the 1860s, research in the Zaysan region began on a larger scale. This was due to the incorporation of the lands within the Zaysan valley into Russia. With the eastern policy adopted by Russia, significant attention was also paid to researching territories in China, beyond Kazakhstan. (Zhaparov et al., 1998: 48).

Flowing along the Saur Mountains through small ravines located at their foothills, one of the numerous rivers draining into the Zaysan Basin is named Zhemenei. In the upper reaches of the Zhemeneika, amidst dense forests between 1830 and 1840, the first foundation stone of the city of Zaysan (formerly known as the city of Zhemeneika) was laid. Starting from 1860, the lives of the city's inhabitants became closely linked with Lake Zaysan and the Irtysh River. Numerous travelers from Semipalatinsk, Pavlodar, Karkaralinsk, Ust-Kamenogorsk, and other cities began to refer to this region as Zaysan. According to historians, "the foundation of Zaysan dates back to 1968, when there arose a need to establish a military outpost here for support and governance of the region." Through the Zaysan customs post (from 1891 known as the international customs of Maikapchagai), wool, hides, timber, and other raw materials started to be exported from Kazakhstan to China, Tibet, and Xinjiang, while fabrics, clothes, and handicrafts were imported from there. In 1893, Zaysan was granted city status. Thus, a border town emerged, taking its name from the ancient lake, which, according to legend, is also called the Lake of Ringing Bells. Zaysan, conveniently located for both domestic and foreign trade, quickly expanded, enhancing mutual trade with Western China and Mongolia. (<http://e-arhiv.vko.gov.kz/ru/Page/Index/1537>)

In 1876, German scientist and traveler Alfred Edmund Brehm, along with his colleague ethnologist Otto Finsch, conducted research in Western Siberia and Kazakhstan. They documented their findings in the work «Travel to Western Siberia», which included a detailed description of Zaysan Post in the eighth chapter. According to Brehm and Finsch, the city was rapidly developing with wide, clean streets, beautifully assembled brick houses and a symmetrical appearance. The whitewashed houses gave the streets a cheerful look, and there was a lovely wooden church with a bell and a three-class parish school. The Zaysan market offered a variety of European and Asian goods, and the city had a population of 2,000 (including military personnel) residing in 163 houses. (Finsch, 1882: 104).

Although there were no specific research studies on the trade and economic development of the Zaysan district or city and the Zaysan entrepreneurs in the mid-19th to early 20th century, various published guides provide general information about the socio-economic development of district cities in the Steppe region. These publications included some information about the population of urban settlements, the development of trade and industry, and the state of social and cultural spheres in those areas.

Even at that time, research problems were set to determine the role of cities along the Irtysh in developing transit infrastructure (Venjukov, 1861: 161), the dynamics of commodity circulation between Russia and Kazakhstan (Zavalishin, 1867: 145), and the peculiarities of trade movement between Western Siberia, Central Asia, and Chinese territories (Balkashin, 1881: 32). However, these works were limited to explaining market phenomena in regional economic development.

G.N. Potanin, while studying the trade in the Steppe region and Siberia, showed that the emerging bourgeoisie was mainly engaged in trade and usury (Potanin, 1867). He provided a fairly comprehensive description of the merchants in the city of Semey and other cities of the Semey region. The main direction of the merchants in the Irtysh region was shown to be the city of Semey, which was located at the crossroads of transit trade routes (Potanin, 1884).

"Russia: A Complete Geographical Description of Our Fatherland" is a monumental work, standing as one of the most significant projects in the history of Russian scientific geography and ethnography. Edited by V. P. Semenov and under the general supervision of P. P. Semenov-Tyan-Shansky, the vice-president of the Imperial Russian Geographical Society, this work presents a detailed description of Russian lands, their nature, population, economic life, and culture at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. The 18th volume is dedicated to the Kyrgyz region, including the Ural, Turgai, Akmolinsk, and Semipalatinsk provinces. The authors of this volume — A. N. Sedelnikov, L. P. Osipova, A. N. Bukeikhanov, and others — collected extensive material that sheds light on the geographical, ethnographic, economic, and social aspects of these territories at the beginning of the 20th century. The book is of interest as a valuable historical document, reflecting the state of the researched areas before the major socio-economic changes in the 20th century. (Rossia, 1903)

Additionally, the results of the 1897 census related to the Semey region and the 13-volume «Materials on Kyrgyz Land Use» (Materials..., 1898-1906) collected under the leadership of F. Shcherbina, particularly volumes 8 and 9 related to the Zaysan and Ust-Kamenogorsk districts, as well as volumes 2 and 3 containing the results of the 1913 works, can be regarded as sources of significant research value. These volumes provide abundant data on the natural-geographical features, land conditions, economy, land use, and settlement patterns of the region.

During the Soviet period, scholars conducted a more in-depth study of the Zaysan region. In 1928, Academician V. A. Khaklov published the first part of his notable work, «The Zaysan Basin and Tarbagatai Birds Zoogeographical Sketch» (Khaklov, 1928), in the «Izvestiya of the Tomsk State University». In this work, V. A. Khaklov highlighted the enormous potential for developing beekeeping in the Zaysan region. Although it did not mention the Kazakhs involved in this profession, it raised the issue of entrepreneurship, which would be vital for the Kazakhs in the future.

In the collection of documents released by the Archives Administration of the East Kazakhstan region titled "Trade Relations of the Semipalatinsk Irtysh Region (18th - early 20th centuries)," archival materials are presented. They reflect the role of the Semipalatinsk Irtysh Region and its administrative center — the city of Semipalatinsk — in the development of domestic and foreign trade, which occupies an important place in good relations with Russia, the countries of Central Asia, and the People's Republic of China (Torgovye, 2004).

Between the 1960s and 1980s, in particular, the comparative-economic development of cities in the Asian part of Russia received significant attention. Specific movements also took place in covering the socio-economic and cultural development of the district cities of the Steppe region from the mid-19th century to the early 20th century. A group of authors focused on individual aspects of this theme (demographic processes, economic development of district cities, etc.), either directly or concurrently. For example, N. V. Alekseenko (Alekseenko, 1981), N. E. Bekmahanova (Bekmahanova, 1986), and V. S. Chernikov (Chernikov, 1985) in their works addressed issues of the number, social, and national composition of urban settlements in northern and eastern Kazakhstan, while S. A. Sundetov (Sundetov, 1969), Zh. K. Kasymbaev (Kasymbaev, 1981), and G. Chulanov (Chulanov, 1960) introduced some data into scientific circulation concerning the trade-industrial development of the district centers of the Steppe region.

In the historiography of Kazakhstan during the Soviet era, the works of E. B. Bekmahanov (Bekmahanov, 1957) and T. Zh. Shoinbaev (Shoinbaev, 1982) provide concise and specific materials on the history of merchants in the cities of East Kazakhstan. These authors focused on the issues of establishing trade relations between Kazakhstan and Russia, China, and Central Asia from the perspective of studying the main processes of Kazakhstan's incorporation into Russia.

As a result of revitalizing the study of district settlements, efforts were made to write the first general works on the topic. One of such works is Zh. K. Kasymbaev's «Cities of Eastern Kazakhstan in 1861-1917 (Socio-economic Aspect)» published in 1990. According to the author, during the period of capitalist modernization, the administrative functions of the cities in Eastern Kazakhstan were more aligned with economic functions. He argued that the development of trade played a significant role in increasing the economic significance of the cities and had a much higher impact than industrial production. Additionally, the author noted that the revitalization of economic life in the cities of Eastern Kazakhstan led to changes in the composition of the urban population, especially an increase in the number of merchants and townspeople.

The work primarily focuses on the intermediary role of the cities in Eastern Kazakhstan in trade relations and covers the development period of Zaysan city from 1861 to 1917. Although the work is about cities in general, some data related to Zaysan can be found. Nonetheless, it must be noted that there is a complete absence of specific scientific studies like Zh. Kasymbaev's monograph.

In current historiography, Kazakhstani historians have collected new specific materials and published works on the economic development history of district cities in the Steppe region towards the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century. One such

work is «Development of Kazakh Entrepreneurship in East Kazakhstan» (Karimov et al., 2016) by M.K. Karimov, M. K. Asylbekov, and A. F. Dautova, which contains significant information on the trade-economic development and entrepreneurs of the Irtysh region, including the Zaysan area. Another work by V.Z. Galiev, «The Book That Awakened the People» (Galiev, 2011), examines Mirzhakyp Dulatov's poetry collection «Wake up, Kazakh!» in the context of his teaching years in Zaysan and the political events of the time. This work also provides information about several entrepreneurs and merchants in Zaysan.

The monograph by O. G. Klimov, titled «Organization of the Study of the History of Siberian Entrepreneurship in the Second Half of the XIXth - Early XXth Century », is dedicated to organizing the study of the history of entrepreneurship in pre-revolutionary Siberia. It examines the scientific schools in Siberia that study entrepreneurship, the genres of historiographical mastery of the history of Siberian entrepreneurship, and also presents bibliographic data and a historiographical review of the works of Siberian scholars on the history of entrepreneurship and the merchant class. (Klimova, 2021)

There are several works related to East Kazakhstan, particularly Zaysan, that were written by local historians. These studies include information about the historical development of the area. Well-known local historian S. Chernykh's works «One but Fiery Passion» (Chernykh, 1986) and «From the Banks of the Irtysh» (Chernykh, 1986) provide information on the development of entrepreneurship in the Zaysan region. Other informative works include G. Baibaturov's «History of Zaysan» (Baibaturov, 2003), K. Altybaev's «Homeland Zaysan» (Altybaev, 2006), and M. Zhensekhanov's «Legendary Zaysan» (Zhensekhanov, 2004), which reveal different aspects of the history of the region. Although these works have limited archival materials, they contain a significant amount of data based on oral history.

The article by A. Zh. Gabdulina, K. V. Dzhumagalieva, R. D. Akhmetova, Kh. A. Aubakirova “The History of Development in Industrial Capital The Merchant Dynasty Pleshcheyev in Outskirts Russian Empire” examines the history of commercial and industrial development of the outskirts of the Russian empires of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The authors, relying on archival sources and documents, examined industrial and merchant activity in the Kazakh region using the example of the Pleshcheev family. (Gabdulina et al., 2020: 674-686.)

The article by B. Zh. Atantaeva and R. D. Akhmetova “Tatar merchants of the Semipalatinsk region in the XIXth - early XXth centuries” explores the history of the formation of the Tatar ethnic group in the Irtysh region of Semey. On the basis of documentary data, the reasons for the construction of the Tatars in the Kazakh steppe in the 19th century and the history of the emergence of Tatar settlements were discussed. (Atantayeva, Akhmetova, 2019: 262-269).

The article by Gabdulina A. Zh., Aubakirova K. Sh., Akhmetova R. D., Abenova G. A. “Merchants of The Steppe Region in the second half of the XIX – early XX centuries: Entrepreneurship and Charity” examines entrepreneurial and charitable activities of merchants of the steppe region. The region pays attention to the process of creating water trade routes, as well as the corresponding infrastructure. (Gabdulina et al., 2021:738-749)

The article «Caravan Trade of Central Asian Merchants with Russia in the First Quarter of the 19th Century» by K.A. Abdurakhmanov analyzes the labor activities of Central Asian merchants engaged in caravan trade with the Russian Empire through the Orenburg region.

It examines the main tasks and organizational features of trade security, emphasizing the importance of moral-psychological resilience and communication skills of the merchants. (Abdrahmanov, 2021: 399–410)

Despite the renewed interest in research on the topic, there are still several critical aspects that have not been adequately covered. Existing studies fail to provide a comprehensive understanding of the relationships between various forms of trade in the Zaysan region, as well as their evolution over time. Similarly, the role played by Zaysan merchants and entrepreneurs in the region's trade and economic development during the late 19th and early 20th centuries remains undefined. All of these issues highlight the need for further research into the contribution of the Zaysan region and its entrepreneurs to the overall economy during this period.

Results

In the second half of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century, Kazan and Siberian Tatars were active participants in the process of integrating Kazakhstan into the unified all-Russian market. This aroused interest in studying their role in the development of various types and forms of trade entrepreneurship. The Tsarist authority fully understood the economic potential of trade activities on Kazakh land and began to promote it from all sides. In 1828, merchants from Omsk, Semipalatinsk, and Petropavlovsk had the opportunity to engage in retail trade, even if they did not have trading certificates. (Kraft, 1898: 161)

The Russian government took measures to develop trade in the Kazakh steppes. For instance, various duties were repeatedly abolished to facilitate local trade: in 1831 on Kyrgyz leather and oil, in 1835 on bread, agricultural, and other iron products exported to the steppe. In 1845, merchants were allowed to start barter trade in the Kyrgyz steppes. (Gibadullina, 2013: 70)

At the start of the 20th century, trade entrepreneurship in the Kazakh region was on the rise, which was directly related to the development of capitalist relations among the local population. M. Krasovsky stated that more and more individuals were dedicating their time and capital to conducting trade operations, and merchants began to emerge among the Kyrgyz. Meanwhile, G. Kolmogorov described the development of trade entrepreneurship among the Kazakhs as involving the purchase of small goods of primary necessity from Russians in border towns, which were then transported across districts and exchanged for sheep, hides, felt, wool, and other sundries (Asfendiyarov, 1993: 205-210).

The merchants and entrepreneurs of Zaysan conducted trade across all of Russia, especially in the Siberian and Ural regions, as well as in Chinese cities like Shawar, Yining, Kashgar, and in Central Asian cities like Tashkent, Samarkand, and Bukhara to satisfy the local population's needs and demands. They attended popular fairs like Irbit, Urkut, Koyandy, Shar, and Ekaterininsk (the Ekaterininsk fair took place in the city of Ust-Kamenogorsk from November 24 to December 9. Its turnover in 1900 amounted to 27,952 rubles, and various goods such as grain, fur, wax, animal and vegetable oils, hides, honey, and hazel grouse were sold there.), opening shops and employing traders. The residents of Zaysan

were also involved in cartage and caravan driving (Zhaparov et al., 1998:54). At the same time, fairs were held in the city of Zaysan itself, which were convenient for local merchants. For example, from May 1 to 10, 1901, the Nikol'skaya Fair was held in Zaysan. At this fair in 1902, goods were sold for a total of 9,185 rubles, which was 1,535 rubles more than the turnover in 1901, and livestock was purchased for a total of 23,628 rubles, which was 6,928 rubles more than in the previous year.(Aden, 2021)

From the 1870s, Zaysan city began to receive special attention for trade development. As a result, the Nikolsk fair, held annually in May, attracted merchants from Central Asia, Russia, China, and Mongolia to facilitate trade. In 1860, a Russian trading firm was established in Urga (formerly known as Ulan Bator) despite the dissatisfaction of Qing rulers. The firm established connections with merchants from various cities including Ust-Kamenogorsk, Zaysan, and Semey. The Moscow firm 'Savva Morozov and Sons' played an active role in this endeavor. In 1872, they sent goods worth 45,000 rubles, loaded on 92 camels and 30 horses, from Zaysan post to Urga (Kasymbaev, 1990: 49).

According to the report of the Governor-General of the Steppe region in 1886, urban administrations and districts issued 3,565 trade documents valued at 44,509 rubles and 25 kopecks (an increase of 6,233 rubles and 25 kopecks compared to 1885).

In Table 1, the trade documents provided by district regions are as follows:

Table 1

Trade Documents. (CSARK, F. 64, Op. 1, D. 299, L. 126-132)

Districts	Number of Documents	Value
Semey	2045	28066 rubles 50 kopecks
Pavlodar	449	4777 rubles
Oskemen	393	4186 rubles 25 kopecks
Karkaraly	358	3307 rubles
Zaysan	163	2092 rubles
Kokpekti	157	2080 rubles 50 kopecks
Total	3565	44509 rubles 25 kopecks

In the specified period, there was a noticeable increase in trade activity in the region. In addition, the Zaysan region proved to be a favorable location for the livestock industry, which began to shift towards commodity production in large numbers. As a result of this growth in trade, the number of livestock increased to 4,755,869 heads in 1910, showing a rise of 391,755 heads compared to previous censuses. (Source: CSARK, F. 64, Op.1, D. 5895, L. 15-26).

During that period, trade relations with China and Mongolia were in the hands of the Zaysan merchants' firm. These included the «Erzin and Co.» partnership, the «Bobkin and Co.» trading houses, and others, some of which were owned by Kazakh merchants. Moreover, Zaysan merchants such as Abilkhanov and Tatanov achieved remarkable success

in their trade relationships with Mongolia. In 1911, the «Erzin and Co.» partnership in Zaysan conducted trade worth 155 thousand som by purchasing raw materials and livestock worth 140 thousand som (Zhaparov et al., 1998: 52).

During those times, among the well-known homeowners, merchants, employees, and traders in Zaysan were: Sagidolla Abylkhanov, Valiulla Anvarov, Yusup Abylkhanov, Akhmetzaki Akhtyamov, Safa Akhtyamov, Abdulla Akhtyamov, Galymzhan Aubakirov, Abdalnabi Akhunov, Hakim Aigozin, Mikhail Agapov, Aitkhozha Abdurasulhodzha, Gumar Akhtyamov, Muhammed Abdurahmanov, Khozhadzhah Akhunnodzhaev, Sagindyk Abdurashitov, Muhammed Abdurashitov, Kadyrbay Baimurzin, Tokfulla Bikchentaev, Saidnasim Bariev, Ahmed Batrutdinov, Gabdullvaliy Batrutdinov, Mikhail Beloglazov, Makar Bokov, Fideaakhmet Bobkin, Salimzhan Babaev, Fedor Borovtsev, Muhammedzhan Bitrakov, Hisamutdin Batyrshin, Kerimberdi Babaev, Ibragim Bulatov, and others (Galiev, 2011: 111-112).

Three mills along the Zhemenei River provided the city's population with flour. Dobrazhinsky's brewery, producing «bovr» beer (Bavarian beer - U.S.), not only supplied the district but also reached the level of exporting abroad. Two large soap boiling plants were also located in the city. The city of Zaysan also had a plant that processed iron ore brought from other regions and exported iron to China, Tibet, and Mongolia. Astatsev's hemp pressing factory and several other large enterprises were also present. The woodworking industry was well-developed, with Zaysan workshops sawing planks and manufacturing doors, windows, and home furniture. During this period, craftsmen's workshops that made women's decorative jewelry were also operational. Traders and merchants were attracted to the region, which was rich in raw materials, and tried to settle in Zaysan city (Altybaev, 2006: 53).

Entrepreneurs in Zaysan played a significant role in both the city's economic development and spiritual and social progression. They constructed mosques and madrasas, and also contributed to literacy by engaging in the book trade. A certificate from November 1904 reveals the existence of a book trade in Zaysan city, allowing the merchant Sagidulla Abylkhanov to trade in Muslim-language books. The certificate confirms that the representative of the "Bikchentaev and Abylkhanov" trading house, the Zaysan merchant Sagidulla Abylkhanov was of good political standing, had no previous convictions, and had not been under investigation. The certificate was signed by the district head Biryukov on November 12, 1904, in Zaysan town. This document was issued by the military governor of the Semey region to authorize the trade of Muslim books in Zaysan city (CSARK, F.15, Op. 1, D. 518, L. 2).

As Table 2 shows, the selected data on the Zaysan district confirm the active participation of local merchants not only in the economic, but also in the social life of the city. The table presents a list of homeowners in Zaysan who were eligible to participate in the elections for the simplified city administration from 1899 to 1903. The list includes names, ages, property values, duration of property ownership, and the occupations of the participants.

Table 2

List of Zaysan City Homeowners' Rights to Participate in the Simplified Public Administration Election Assembly from 1899 to 1903. (CSARK, F. 15, Op. 1, D. 1032, L. 7-8).

№	Name, title	Age	Value of Immovable Property	Years of Ownership of Immovable Property	Occupation
70	Sagidulla Abylkhanov, Zaysan merchant	48	500	10	Trade
71	Yusup Abylkhanov, Zaysan merchant	55	1000	3	Trade
72	Valiulla Anvarov, Zaysan merchant	43	400	10	Trade
73	Latif Akhtyamov, Zaysan townsman	60	400	20	Trade
74	Gyalam Aygazin, Kokpekti townsman	72	100	5	Townsmen
82	Fidahmet Bobkin, Zaysan townsman	35	150	4	Trade
83	Salimzhan Babaev, Zaysan townsman	36	200	10	Trade

Active involvement in community life, specifically in social and public affairs, is observed among the entrepreneurs and other residents of Zaysan city. One such document that highlights this is the meeting minutes from the Zaysan City Duma on October 25, 1918, numbered 117. The document discusses the election of four members and two deputies to the local tax district for the professional tax, effective from January 1, 1919, for the next four years. The proposed candidates were: Gumar Devletkildeev, Hasan Erzin, Lafa Nasyrov, F. P. Kazarinov, Muhammed-Galiya Saifullina, Ibragim Bikmaev, Hasen Abilkhanov, Ivan Boyko, P. N. Volkova, Kerimberdi Babaev, Yusup Haybullin, V.T. Anvarov, F. A. Bobkin, and Hamen Tatanov (SAAR, F. 48, Op.1, D. 95, L.7). As the content of the document shows, these entrepreneurs were undoubtedly actively involved in social and public matters.

Beekeeping was one of the most diverse entrepreneurial activities in the Zaysan region during that time. The area's mixed steppe and mountainous terrain was abundant with honey-producing plants, making it ideal for bee cultivation. As the demand for honey grew among Central Asian merchants, beekeeping became a highly profitable venture. In productive years, each hive yielded 5-10 poods of honey and up to 1.5 poods of beeswax from 20 pounds. Zaysan's honey was also sold at the Irbit fair. Beekeeping was introduced to Zaysan in 1882, when geologist and regional researcher A.S. Khokhlov requested land from the local government for bee cultivation. He established his first apiary near the Temirsu River, not far from the city of Zaysan, and later opened a second one along the banks of the Terekty River. To increase

honey production, he also cultivated nectar-rich plants like thistle and blueweed. The honey was traded in large cities like Semey, Ust-Kamenogorsk, Omsk, and Tomsk. Soon, Khokhlov's honey gained significant demand and received high recognition at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair (Baibatyrov, 2003: 47).

During the period of development in the Zaysan region, Akhmetzyaki Akhtyamov played a significant role in contributing to the area's growth. He was an influential religious leader and entrepreneur who lived from 1851 to 1921. Akhmetzyaki Akhtyamov was one of the intellectuals who built a mosque in Zaysan city and established separate schools for boys and girls. His ancestors were from the Kazan Bulgars. He received religious education in Kazan and taught the basics of Islam in schools. He was fluent in Arabic and Tatar and spoke Russian and Kazakh fluently. Akhmetzyaki Akhtyamov's son, Yakub Akhtyamov, wrote about his father's life in his memoirs, «Against the Blows of Fate». He described how his father made the pilgrimage to Mecca twice and conducted celebrations, wedding ceremonies, and funerals in Zaysan city. In addition to his religious pursuits, Akhmetzyaki Akhtyamov was also well-versed in trade and business. He owned a brick factory, raised livestock at home, and provided employment to people. The Akhtyamov family was highly educated, and they spent a significant portion of their income on charity. They had a particular interest in education and science and maintained an extensive home library containing religious and literary works in several languages. Akhmedzaki continually monitored the arrival of modern literature and textbooks at the Tatar library in the city (Akhtyamov, 1997: 6-20). However, Akhmet Zakki's religiosity and intellectualism were not favored by the government at that time.

In 1893, the Bishop of Tomsk and Semey governorates wrote a letter to the Governor-General of Western Siberia mentioning a special agricultural school for Kazakh children located in Zaysan. The school's leadership was tasked to teach 'God's word,' which meant spreading Christianity. However, the local Muslims demanded the appointment of a mullah to teach the laws of Sharia. Since there were Tatar schools next to mosques, all Tatars were literate. Requests were made to relocate Akhmet Zaki Akhtyamov, who managed the mosque and madrasas, demolish the mosque, and close the four Tatar schools associated with it (CSARK, F.64. Op.1, D.3155. L.6-7). The Bishop's suggestion was not satisfied, and Akhmet Zaki continued his duties.

In 1918, the Soviet government was established in the city of Zaysan. The garrison announced its establishment through the publication of merchant Bekchentaev Tukhfatulla. Subsequently, the Soviet authorities began to confiscate the property of Zaysan merchants and arrest them. One family affected by this was the Akhtyamovs. Akhmedzaki Akhtyamov sent his wife and children to Tashkent and stayed temporarily in Zaysan. However, in 1921, he was arrested and exiled to Siberia. Unfortunately, he died on the way and was left unburied under the snow. This sudden turn of events can be seen as a tragic manifestation of the totalitarian regime that was established during that period (Kumarova, 2010).

Pidakhmet Bobkin was a well-known figure not just in the Zaysan region but also in the entire Semey province during his time. He was a prominent merchant born in the Zaysan territory in 1863. From 1890 to 1920, he was involved in entrepreneurial activities. Pidakhmet started his career in trade, but later he established a leather processing factory in Zaysan, elevating his products to the level of being exported to Russia's Nizhny Novgorod fair. His leathers,

especially the types known as 'shagreen' and 'suede,' gained fame not only in Russia but also in countries like China and Mongolia. It was easier for the Russians to call him by the name Bobkin rather than his Kazakh surname Babikenov. Additionally, the Russians gave him the name Fida Akhmetovich. Pidakhmet did not mind being called by this name, so his Russian colleagues referred to him as Bobkin Fida Akhmetovich.

Bobkin was a successful trader who made annual trips to the Nizhny Novgorod fair. At the fair, he would sell leathers and valuable furs to the famous Russian merchant family, the Morozovs. Fida Akhmetovich would then purchase necessary goods from the Morozovs and transport them by ship via waterways to Zaysan. The Morozovs had complete trust in Pidakhmet and would lend him money when he needed it, without requiring any collateral. Pidakhmet always lived up to their expectations and proved his integrity and wisdom as an entrepreneur. Savva Morozov even suggested that Pidakhmet open the well-known leather factory in Zaysan and became his financial partner in the venture. This information was shared by Halima, a niece of Bidakhmet, the granddaughter of Bekmukhamet, and the wife of the renowned Kazakh scientist Ermukhan Bekmakhanov, who lived in Almaty until recently.

Bobkin frequently took his eldest daughter, Aisha, with him to the Nizhny Novgorod fair. Aisha was well-educated, fluent in Russian, proficient in typewriting, and assisted her father with paperwork. Pidakhmet Bobkin himself had never received formal education, but he taught himself to read and write in Kazakh and Russian, and learned the necessary mathematics for trade. He was keen on ensuring not only the literacy of his children but also that of his community. The 14th issue of the 1912 «Aikap» journal states, «The Kazakhs of Zaysan organized fundraising activities to build a school. Pidakhmet Bobkin contributed 500 soms to this cause». Additionally, Pidakhmet Bobkin was known for his generosity and open-handedness. He never hesitated to help those who sought his assistance, whether it was paying for someone's education or providing funds for travel from Zaysan to Semey by ship, among many other benevolent acts that are still remembered by people today. (Bolshaya..., 2011).

During the tumultuous period leading up to the establishment of the Soviet government, Bobkin's family was forced to flee to Mongolia in 1920. However, upon their return to Zaysan, they discovered that the Bolsheviks were establishing Soviet rule. The family then relocated to Semey and later to Uzbekistan and Karakalpakstan, before finally settling in Tashkent. Unfortunately, on August 11, 1937, the Uzbek SSR NKVD State Security Administration arrested Pidakhmet Bobkin on false charges of being a foreign spy. Despite his old age of 74 years and loss of hearing, NKVD falsely listed his age as 55 and concealed his disability to make him eligible for hard labor in the camps. (Baltabaeva, 2021) Pidakhmet Bobkin's granddaughter, Khalima Bekmukhamedova, writes in her memoirs that her grandfather, Pidakhmet Bobkin, died on the way while being transported in stages to the city of Voroshilovgrad. Towards the end of his life, Pidakhmet Bobkin advised his grandson to remember to give alms to the poor after his death. (Bolshaya..., 2011).

It is important to study the kind acts of citizens like Pidakhmet Bobkin, a prominent entrepreneur from the Kazakh people, in order to inspire others to follow their example. These individuals have become a prominent part of the nation's history due to their charitable actions, and serve as role models for future generations to look up to.

When we look at the saying "Judge a man by the village he comes from," we find the lives of personalities from Zaysan city to be of significant interest to us. According to the proverb, "A person lives a thousand years through his offspring, for the future," the impressive deeds and lasting legacy of Kerimberdi Babaev, who contributed to history with his conscious and creative efforts, are both refreshing and inspiring to the current generation.

Kerimberdi is remembered by the people for his patience, dignity, and charitable works for the community. He always treated his subordinates with decency and respect. One of his workers at the brick factory shared that Kerimberdi had personally helped him transport bricks with camels and even build a house for him. Even today, elders who benefited from Kerimberdi's kindness speak of him with great admiration, describing his stories as legends.

The point is that while every Kazakh citizen could be supportive of their kin during hard times, it was exceptional for someone like Kerimberdi to find the key to profitable trade when circumstances were unfavorable, travel to Moscow and Irbitk to help the needy, and earn the respect and affection of his contemporaries. It became a tradition among Kazakh elites, like their Tatar counterparts, to financially support talented poets and writers, contributing to the publication of their works.

Argynbek Apashbaiuly, a renowned poet and educator of his time from Zaysan, received the support of Kerimberdi Babaev. Argynbek Apashbaiuly was one of the influential poets who continued the legacy of Abai. Abai laid the foundation and raised the structure of Kazakh written literature. Initially, Apashbaiuly worked for Tatar merchants in Zaysan and later for Russian railroad surveyors. Recognizing his talent and being his friend, Kerimberdi sent Apashbaiuly's qissa-dastans (epic tales) to Shamsiden Kusaiynov's printing house in Kazan for publication (Karimkhan, 2022).

Kerimberdi also extended his help to his friend Aqyt Khaji Ulimzhiuly, who lived in Chinese Altai at the time (Arykkaryqzy, 2009: 17). Aqyt's works were published in Kazan with Kerimberdi's assistance. Aqyt mentioned Kerimberdi in his poetry, which has been preserved:

«Kerimberdi Babaev is a well-known figure in Zaysan.

Great Kerai of Altai,

Unable to reach the press,

Alas, the land is far away...

Kerimberdi, Salimzhan,

Zaysan's Babaev –

A well-known merchant in Altai,

Recognized by the entire populace.

Valuable people, think,

Let's send the qissa to the post.

Shamsuddin Kusaiynov

If he deems it precious». - it is said (Karamsakov, 1987: 81-92).

According to Shakarim, history is timeless and aims to preserve the valuable and pure aspects of the past. The new era will be founded on the essence and values of history. The dedication and integrity of individuals who worked for the betterment of their people and land, whether holding a hoe or riding a horse, always bring comfort to the heart.

Bayazit Satbayuly, the first architect and entrepreneur from Kazakhstan, built the former house of B. Bobkin in the city of Zaysan. Today, this building serves as the Zaysan Regional Museum and this information has been verified by the museum. Bayazit Satbayuly was born in 1870 near the village of Shynkozha in the current Abay region, Ayagoz district. He was born into a humble and poor family and his lineage belongs to the Kerey clan. His father, Sätbay, had graduated from the Akhmet Riza madrasa in Semey city and had established himself as a mullah.

Bayazit, reaching the age of 12, faced the loss of his father, Satbay, which led to difficult family circumstances. In 1883, at the age of 13, he moved with his mother, Tushtybala, to Belagash near Semey. Being the middle child in his family, with a sister and a younger brother, Bayazit started working as a hired laborer after his sister married a man named Alimzhan (from the Uaq clan). Between 1883 and 1885, Bayazit worked for a wealthy Tatar man, and from 1886 to 1892, he was employed by a Russian merchant, P. Ivanov. During this time, he became familiar with various business tasks and began learning Russian. From a young age, Bayazit was bright and eager to learn. He started by learning basic construction elements and then advanced to more complex architectural designs. In 1890, during the construction of a new mosque in Semey, a Turkish architect, Abdolla Efendi from Istanbul, was specially invited to oversee the project, and Bayazit was also involved. Through this experience, he became acquainted with Eastern architectural styles and also learned Russian and European architectural techniques, eventually reaching a level where he could manage construction projects (Toktabay, 2015).

In 1893, Bayazit got married to Khadisha, the daughter of a man named Bozkhozy, with the help of P. Ivanov. Unfortunately, tragedy struck when Bayazit's brother-in-law Alimzhan and sister Kalima passed away, leaving their children Nurkhozha and Aitkhozha in Bayazit's care. He taught them the art of architecture and introduced them to the family business. The Satbaev family became famous in their native land of Ayagoz, leading relatives Japar, Suleyman, and Arykhmolla to move the family to Sergiopol in 1897. There, they established themselves economically by taking on various construction projects commissioned by wealthy individuals. Bayazit had already gained a reputation for his work, and as the economic situation in Zaysan improved, construction work in the city expanded significantly. In 1900, Bayazit Sätbaev received an invitation to Zaysan and moved there with his brother Nurke and nephews Nurkhozha and Aitkhozha.

Between 1900 and 1906, Bayazit designed and constructed several significant buildings in Zaysan, Kazakhstan. These included the headquarters of the Cossack-Russian military, the Nikolsk church, and military barracks. Later, in 1907-1908, he built the Tatar mosque, which was considered one of the most remarkable mosque structures in the region at the time. The project's client was Tukhpatolla Bekchentaev, also known as «The Great Hajj». The mosque was built along with a madrasa. From 1910 onwards, Bayazit began constructing private houses and shops based on orders from prominent individuals such as Akhmetzaki, Bobkin, Tatanov, Bekchentaev, Abilhanov, Mergenbaev, Erzin, Tokhsanbaev, Musin, Seyfullin, Kazarinov, and others.

Bayazit Satbaev is known for constructing a building for the Muslim gymnasium in Shaueshek city and a minaret in each of the four corners of Shaueshek city that call to prayer. He was invited to Xinjiang by the Tatar rich man Ramazan Chanyshov during 1915-1917. The famous

ethnographer Akhmet Tokhtabay wrote that A. Baitursynov, M. Dulatov, and R. Marsekov came to Zaysan city and established the eastern division of Alashorda in a house built by Bayazit. At that gathering, Bayazit Satbaev showed them around Zaysan, pointing out the constructions he built, from the Tatar mosque to the Nikol'sk church, which earned their approval.

In 1928, Kazakhstan replaced counties with districts, and the Kyzyltas district (now known as Aqsuat district) was established. It bordered the Ayagoz side of the former Zaysan county. The district center was set up in the village of Kyzylkesik. In Kyzylkesik, two buildings were constructed under the guidance of Bayazit Satbayev. They were made of red brick, with wooden floors and tin roofs. One of the buildings, named "Nardom," was used as district offices, while the other was a school known as the Red School. However, the Nardom building was met with opposition from local Kazakh peasants who were against the oppressive policies targeting them. In the same year, the dissenters burned down the Nardom building. These events were recounted by Karpuk Egizbayev, a distinguished educator in the Kazakh SSR and a resident of the village.

Sharipkhan Kogedayev, a noble descendant who once served as a governor in the Altay region of China, invited Bayazit Satbayev to Xinjiang in 1933. While there, Bayazit contributed to the construction of government buildings and individual memorial complexes, leaving his unique signature in his work that still stands out today. Bayazit Satbayev passed away in 1954 in the Dorbiljin district of China (Toktabay, 2015). When reflecting on Bayazit Satbayev's life, it's evident that his architectural talent was exceptional and seemed to come naturally to him. It's also worth noting that Bayazit Satbayev was one of the pioneers in the field of architectural entrepreneurship.

Results

During the latter half of the XIXth century and the beginning of the XXth century, entrepreneurship in the Zaysan region experienced rapid development. Local entrepreneurship grew and took on unique characteristics, which were heavily influenced by the region's socio-economic development and colonial policies. Despite this, Zaysan was not isolated from the global market. Instead, it was an integral part of this process and constantly evolved with it.

As the Kazakh territories, including the Zaysan area, became part of the political and trade-economic circulation based on developing market relations in Central Asia, traditional life of the local inhabitants underwent significant changes. The business acumen of merchants and industrial entrepreneurs positively influenced the infrastructure development, prosperity, and market positions in Zaysan city and surrounding regions.

Authors' contributions

The contributions of the authors to the article are crucial for a comprehensive study of the subject. B. Zh. Atantayeva, a Doctor of Historical Sciences and Professor, made significant contributions to the research concept and actively participated in the analysis and interpretation of the data obtained. Her role in writing the main text of the article and critically reviewing the

content was key. Professor B. Zh. Atantayeva also took responsibility for the final approval of the article for publication, ensuring a high level of scientific accuracy and integrity of the work.

U.S. Sairanbekova, PhD student, had a significant impact on the collection of primary and secondary data used in the article. She actively participated in the collection of archival materials and work with historical documents, which enriched the analytical part of the work with new facts and interpretations. U.S. Sairanbekova also took part in writing the text and its revision.

M.K. Karimov, a Candidate of Historical Sciences and Professor, specialized in the methodological support of the research, contributing to the development of the scientific structure of the work and the selection of analytical methods. M.K. Karimov also actively participated in the interpretation of data, making suggestions for improving the text of the article, and preparing the final version of the document for publication.

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Бакыт Атантаева, Ұлжан Сайранбекова, Мұхтарбек Каримов

Шәкәрім атындағы университет, Семей, Қазақстан

XIX ғасырдың екінші жартысы – XX ғасырдың басындағы кәсіпкерлік қызметті тарихи талдау (Шығыс Қазақстан мысалында)

Андатпа. Зерттеу жұмысы XIX ғасырдың екінші жартысы - XX ғасырдың басындағы Зайсан өңіріндегі кәсіпкерлік қызметті талдауға және зерттеуге бағытталған. Шығыс Қазақстан аумағында орналасқан Зайсан қаласы кәсіпкерлік тарихынан мол деректер береді. Бұл кезеңде Шығыс Қазақстан аймағында орналасқан Семей, Өскемен, Зайсан, Көкпекті сияқты қалалар мен ірі елді-мекендер белгілі сауда орталықтарына айналды. Өйткені өңір аталған кезеңде аймақтағы маңызды сауда-экономикалық орталықтардың бірі болды.

Зерттеу аясына қаланың географиялық орналасуы, оның үстінен су мен сауда жолдарының өтуі және басқа аймақтармен байланысы сияқты Зайсандағы кәсіпкерліктің дамуына ықпал еткен факторларды талдау кіреді. Сонымен бірге, кәсіпкерліктің дамуына әсер еткен саяси, әлеуметтік-экономикалық жағдайлар, оның ішінде демографиялық және өңірдің ұлттық құрылымындағы өзгерістер де қарастырылды.

Зерттеуде Зайсанның экономикалық өміріндегі кәсіпкерлер мен кәсіпшіліктің алатын орны, олардың қала және бүтіндей аймақтың дамуына қосқан үлестері талданды. Кәсіпкерлердің білім беру ісі, мәдениетті көтеру және т.б. салаларға қатысты меценаттық қызметтеріне де ерекше назар аударылды.

Түйін сөздер: Зайсан; кәсіпкерлік; сауда; көпестер; жәрмеңке; татарлар; тарих; экономика; тұлға.

Бакыт Атантаева, Улжан Сайранбекова, Мухтарбек Каримов
Университет имени Шакарима, Семей, Казахстан

Исторический анализ предпринимательской деятельности во второй половине XIX - начале XX веков (на примере Восточного Казахстана)

Аннотация. Данное исследование направлено на анализ и изучение предпринимательской деятельности в Зайсанском регионе во второй половине XIX - начале XX веков. В указанный период крупнейшими торговыми центрами стали такие города и крупные населенные пункты, как Семей, Усть-Каменогорск, Зайсан, Кокпекты, находящиеся в Восточно-Казахстанской области. В это время Зайсан являлся одним из ведущих торгово-экономических центров в области.

Исследование включает в себя анализ факторов, которые способствовали развитию предпринимательства в Зайсане, таких, как географическое расположение города, наличие торговых путей и связей с другими регионами. Также рассматриваются социально-экономические условия, которые повлияли на развитие предпринимательства, включая демографические и изменения в структуре занятости.

В статье анализируется роль ключевых предпринимателей и предприятий в экономической жизни Зайсана, их вклад в развитие города и региона. Кроме того, внимание уделяется отраслям, в которых предприниматели активно участвовали, таким, как сфера образования и благотворительность.

Ключевые слова: Зайсан; предпринимательство; торговля; купец; ярмарка; татары; история; экономика; личность.

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Авторлар туралы мәліметтер / Information about the authors / Сведения об авторах:

Амантаева Бақыт Жұмағазықызы – тарих ғылымдарының докторы, профессор, Семей қаласының Шәкәрім атындағы университеті, Глинки к., 20А, Семей, Қазақстан.

Atantayeva Bakyt Zhumagazyevna – Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor, Shakarim University, Glinki str.20A, Semey, Kazakhstan.

Амантаева Бақыт Жұмағазыевна – доктор исторических наук, профессор, Университет имени Шакарима, ул. Глинки, 20А, Семей, Казахстан.

Сайранбекова Ұлжан Сайранбекқызы – докторант, Семей қаласының Шәкәрім атындағы университеті, Глинки к., 20А, Семей, Қазақстан.

Sairanbekova Ulzhan Sairanbekkyzy – PhD student, Shakarim University, Glinki str.20A, Semey, Kazakhstan.

Сайранбекова Улжан Сайранбековна – докторант, Университет имени Шакарима, ул. Глинки, 20А, Семей, Казахстан.

Каримов Мұхтарбек Қарпықұлы – тарих ғылымдарының кандидаты, профессор, Семей қаласының Шәкәрім атындағы университеті, Глинки к., 20А, Семей, Қазақстан.

Karimov Muhtarbek Karpykovich – Candidate of Historical Sciences, Professor, Shakarim University, Glinki str.20A, Semey, Kazakhstan.

Каримов Мухтарбек Карпыкович – кандидат исторических наук, профессор, Университет имени Шакарима, ул. Глинки, 20А, Семей, Казахстан.