SOME ASPECTS OF ETHNOGRAPHIC STUDIES OF THE RUSSIAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY IN KAZAKHSTAN IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE 19TH- EARLY 20TH CENTURIES

The occupation policy of Tsarist Russian territory of Kazakhstan started from the 18th century and was carried out in two directions. The first is military politics and the second is “occupation” politics. In the politics of invasion of the territory of Kazakhstan, the researches of the Russian Geography Society’s folk art are very important. The first sushi of the Society was officially opened in 1845 in the towns of Oral, Omb, Tashkent and Semey in Kazakhstan. In these sights, the leading scholars of the Russians have done field research and left great scholarly wealth in the Kazakh people. Semyonov Tyan-Shanski, who conducted side-by-side surveys on the progress of Tsarist Russia in the 19th century to the South-East direction of Kazakhstan, and F.P. Litke’s work is very important. In addition, N.M. Yadrintsev and G.N. Potanin’s work is valued a major contributor to Russian colonialism among the Kazak Turks. Research conducted by the society in the direction of popular science The socio-cultural, political and economic situation of the territory of Turkestan Governorate (southern region of present day Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan) will play a major role in the investigation of this region’s methods of Russification politics. For this reason, the studies on the people’s consciousness that constitute the main source of our work will open the methods of the colonial policy of Tsarist Russia in Turkestan in the second half of the 19th century and early 20th century.

The activities of the Russian Geographical Society of the Russian Geography Society on the territory of Kazakhstan during the tsarist Russia period will reveal the following issues:
– Turkestan will explain that the main purpose of the scientific activities of the Russian Geographical Society in the region is Russification;
– will show how Kazakista entered Kazakhstan’s Russian administration system by investigating the rites of the people of the region, oral literature, worldview and religious understanding of the people of the region, and at the same time the form of administrative reforms carried out in this territory between 1860 and 1890;

Key words: Tsarist Russia, Turkestan, Ethnography, Russification Policy
Политика колонизации царской России территории Казахстана началась с 18 века и осуществлялась в двух направлениях. Первая – военная политика, а вторая – «научная» экспансия. В политике колонизации Казахстана очень важны этнографические исследования Русского географического общества. Первые отделения Общества были официально открыты с 1845 году в городах Орал, Омба, Ташкент и Семипалатинске. Ведущие российские ученые провели полевые исследования и оставили богатое научное наследие для казахского народа. Необходимо отметить работы Семенова Тян-Шанского, который проводил весомые исследования в Казахстане в XIX веке на юго-восточном направлении и работы Ф.П. Литке. Кроме этого, работы Н.М. Ядринцева и Г.Н. Потанина ценится оценено мировым сообществом. Исследования, проводимые Обществом были направлены на изучение социально-культурного, политического и экономического положения территории Туркестана (южный регион Казахстана, Узбекистана, Туркменистана и Кыргызстана) которые сыграли важную роль в разработке и проведении русификационных реформ. В связи с этим, исследования проводимые членами Русского географического общества откроют методы колониальной политики царской России в Туркестане во второй половине XIX – начале XX века.

Деятельность Русского географического общества на территории Казахстана в период царской России выявила следующие проблемы:
– Основная задача научной деятельности Русского географического общества в Туркестане является русификация;
– Изучая традиции, устное творчество, мироозерение и религиозные верования казахского народа и проводя археологические исследования, царская администрация имела целью полную колонизацию Казахстана.

Ключевые слова: Царская Россия, Туркестан, этнография, русификация, колониальная политика

Introduction
Unfortunately, some scholars who study Tsarist and Soviet periods in Kazakhstan’s history today say that the “Russian colonial policy” is still a progressive and improving one (Auel’bekova, 2012). However, it exploited the territory of the Russian people by “dissolving” the national entity of the indigenous people who occupied the integrity of Russian colonial politics. Russian colonialism aimed at destroying the traditional state management system of Turkestan Turks, keeping the indigenous people under Russian education policy with various methods, changing the religious and cultural life, mul-
tipplying the taxes, seizing the land and exploiting its natural resources. There is no difference between the Tsarist Russian and the Soviet era, and both systems have tortured Turkestan Turks as “genocide” as possible. The tsarist administration, which saw themselves as high cultural representatives, used the attitudes of aboriginal “aborigen”, “saltmets” and “inorodicheskiye naseleniye” for the indigenous people and tried to create a “Russian person” under the name of “Soviet man” in the Soviet period.

The occupation of Kazakhstan and the colonial policy of the Russian Empire cover three hundred years. From the second half of the 18th century until the beginning of the 19th century, Russian culture supremacy in the Kazak steppes was not sound. During this period, Tsarist Russia carried out military-political activities and bound Siberia from the Ural region and formed occupation lines from there to the Sichim and Irtish valley. In this way, he connected the Western and North-East regions of Kazakhstan to today. From the beginning of the 19th century the size of the Russian occupation policy changed. In 1809, the Tsarist administration applied various rules for the occupied territories and allocated the land to the Russian Kozak (RF OSA, Unit 2). In 1813, the Russian administration, which planned to involve these places in the legal direction, first examined them in parallel, and then began to place the Russian Kozaks in mass. In 1821, the fertile lands of Kazakhstan’s five provinces in the west and northeast directions entered the Tsarist rule. In 1822 and 1824 he carried out reforms to remove the Khanate administration of the Kazakh Turks. The governor of Siberia, headed by these reforms, Speranskkiy said he was taking a decisive step to increase Russian influence in the region and to exploit the steppe. According to him, “fictitious citizenship” was replaced by “Russian citizenship” and fortifications were built to fulfill orders in the occupied lands for this purpose. The tsarist administration considered Kazakh Turks as “backward people” and in 1822, he tried to imitate projects such as the “Siberian Kyrgyz Regulation” developed by M.M. Speranskkiy (Kazahsko-Russkiye Otmoseniya, 1964: 572). Thus, for example, in the second part of the Regulation, paragraph 20, paragraph 20, “Two Russian evaluation experts and police and judicial authorities were established by the Russian commander beside the senior sultans” (RF CSHA, Unit 1264).

In the 1840s, the Tsarist administration began building occupation lines and building administrative territorial units (stanitsa, hutor) consisting of several military garrisons, one or several Russian Kozak settlements to increase Russian influence in the Kazak steppes. These military garrisons that emerged in the first half of the 19th century maintained their military significance for several years and served as transit points for colonial government troops, then they were turned into towns. For example, Orenburg, Ural, Turgay, Irgiz, Semey, Oskemen, Verniy, Perovsk and so on. As thus, we can say that the Tsarist government is pursuing military targets to exploit the steppes, not the cities that will mainly provide convenience to the Kazakh Turks when building military garrisons.

After the occupation of Tashkent in 1865, the present Kazakh lands began to be governed entirely by three governorships, Orenburg, West-Siberia and Turkistan. Administrative reforms took place between 1867-1868 and 1880-1890. As a result of these reforms, the Russian administration system was strengthened. Numerous Russian schools, research centers, museums, churches built for Russian villagers, administrative units have increased in the region. During the Russian occupation and after Russian influence became firmer, the Kazak steppes began to be investigated extensively. The most important role in this issue was played by the Imperial Russian Geography Society.

In the mid 19th century, the need for scientific research of Turkestan was needed, and Russian researchers continued to work in detail for the geopolitical interests of the Empire. The inclusion of Kazakhstan in the economic and political life of the Russian Empire necessitated the examination of the natural resources of Kazakh steppe and nomadic life culture. “In the present situation, knowledge of different tribes and tribes living in physical, moral, social and linguistic contexts is required” (Semyonov, 1896) in the Statute of the Russian Geography Society shows that the Russian Empire is doing extensive studies.

Field surveys of the Kazakh steppes of the Russian Geographical Society have taken care to spread Russian culture and Russian among the people of the region. In the archives of the societies opened in Kazakhstan, the maps, the drawings, the analytical works and the extensive rock samples, the material and moral cultural items, the military commanders, the clergy, the ordinary people were partially purchased by the gift giving and reconnaissance tour members or altered tangible goods may be impregnated.

For this reason, in the second half of the 19th century, Russian scientists dealt with the folklore, customs, religions and worldviews of the Kazak Turks in order to Russianize them and developed various methods for this. This issue which is consi-
dered in this context is regarded as current and important. The purpose of the research is to reconcile the activities of the Imperial Russian Geographical Society in the Kazakh steppes, to classify the systematic work of Russian scientists.

**Research Methods**

The methods of researching the public consciousness correspond to the structure of the methods of any science for the object of knowledge. In general, this is a set of research techniques that enable you to obtain new information from existing information. For this reason, attempts have been made to show that Russian scholars attempts to incorporate Kazakh steppes into the system of the Russian Empire, by taking account of the old Soviet folklore methods traditionally accepted by Kazakh historiography. The main way of generating the source of public knowledge is to conduct field surveys around the people under investigation. Here it is important to know that folklore, like many natural sciences that constitute a source of experimentation, produces its source on almost the same conditions. Russian scientists who put forward these rules have paid great attention to field research. The next methods of folklore correspond to the regulating procedure of facts. Here is a description of ethnographic phenomena (formation of ethnographic text) based on the most common ones: a descriptive approach, the sum of the cases obtained by direct observation, and other resource types. So, the folklore studies of Russian scientists were classified, grouped and systemized. Furthermore, by means of the cartographic approach, the compilation of ethnographic maps reflecting the spatial distribution of cultural phenomena was studied.

**Foundation of the Russian Geographical Society and Activities in Kazakhstan**

In 1845, the Russian Geography Society was founded in Peterburg. The head figure in the organization of the society was Admiral P. Litke. In his scientific activity, academicians K.M. Ber, V.Ya. Struve and G.P. Helmersen, Baron F.P. Vrange and P.I. Rikord, I.F. Krusenstern played a vital role. In addition to this, Kont F. Ferg, K.I. Arsenyev, M.V. Voronchenko, P.I. Keppen, V. Dal, A.I. Levshin, Kont M.N. Muravyov, Prince V.O. Odoevski, Kont V.A. Perovskiy, P.Ya. Chihaczov and many other researchers took place. In 1845-1861, the activities of this society proceeded on pre-reform conditions of Tsarist Russia. In the second year of the existence of the Russian Geography Society, attention was paid to geographical and historical studies in Turkestan. Nevertheless, in 1847-1861, a significant amount of public knowledge about Kazakh Turks was published. The authors of these works were mostly Russian officers who served in the Kazakh steppes.

The first studies on the Kazakh Turks published by the Society were done by Ya.V. Hanikov and M.I. Ivanin. Ya.V. Hanikov (1818-1862), a talented Russian geographer and cartographer, has been busy examining only the geography of the Kazakh steppes for almost fifteen years, the rights of the Yedisu and the Silla and Amuderiy basins. In 1839, he published his first scientific work using the statistical and ethnographic information about the people of Kazak (“The Orenburg Region Geographical Review”) (Hanikov, 1837). Ya.V. Hanikov, a graduate of the University of Peterburg, was “identified as one of the special officials in the Ministry of Interior”. He has actively participated in the initiatives of the Society. Thus, in 1846, a report on the development of geographical, ethnographic, statistical information programs of the regions was presented. Raporda published a book entitled “An Essay on the Situation of the Inner Kyrgyz Quarter in 1841” by drawing the way for the Russian troops to move easily to the inner parts of the Kazakh steppe. In this work, the writer describes the characteristics of the interior bokey Ordinary Kazakh Turks as a table with detailed figures of the lengths and tails, describing the characteristics of the houses, and defining the characteristics of houses made of tents and mud from the summer pastures and winter pastures, number of domestic animals, and houses made of tents and mud. (Puteshestviye, 1971: 316). Ya.V. Hanikov published a detailed map of the Aral lake and the Hiva Khanate in 1851 in the journal “Notes of the Russian Geographical Society” (Zapiski RGO) with explanatory notes. His work served as a handbook of the Russian administration. As a new contribution to the climate, another cartographic successful work has been published in the Issyk Lake map in the same year.

Another researcher in the Russian Geography Society is M.I. Ivanin (1801-1874) served as an officer of the local union from 1835 to 1855 in the Orenburg region, and later served as the adviser and manager of the Provisional Council of the Inner Bokey Circle. In his article titled “A Journey to the Mangyshlak Peninsula in 1846” about the candidate boy of the Small Jury, interesting ideas about the folklore and the customs of the people in the region are found (Ivanin, 1847). In 1848, he joined the
construction of the Novopetrovsk garrison. Ivanin wrote in his memoirs to Mangyshlak: “I heard from a fisherman that there are piles carved into the shore that reveal the presence of a scaffold at the harbor called Old Mangyash in the bay of Sarytas” (Ivanin, 1847: 267-305). It is necessary to say that the pier at Sarytas bay has become the starting point of the spread of tsarist troops. From here, Russian soldiers and peasants settled on the banks of Turkmenistan and Mangistau. According to archival documents, the Russification of the candidate tribe has been very difficult to manage. M.I. Ivanin visited all the regions of Mangyshlak, defined the region, participated in mine searches, and identified the local Kazakh and Turkmen peoples closely. The author emphasized the dilution of the land and the desert and shallow lands of the peninsula by the Kazakh Turks. He was also interested in the Kazakhs’ spiritual cultures, hospitality, national games, illnesses and medical knowledge, beliefs, worship of horses, cult of ancestors. Such studies have provided cartographic material for the eastward expansion of the Russian Empire. The tsarist administration provided the opportunity to better understand the local people and to develop methods for their Russification.

In 1848-1849, valuable information about the Kazakhs on the Aral coast, Butakov collect. This discovery was organized by the military division and its scientific results were published by the Russian Geography Society. A.I. Butakov and his friend A.I. Maksheyev stated that Kazakh Turks pioneered a semi-established economy by attaching importance to agriculture in the eastern and southern regions and to animal husbandry in the north. The Russian administration ruled the islands of Aral only from the islands of Barsa-Kelmes, suggesting that they could pass by when the waters were frozen in the winter. Other islands in the area where the waters did not freeze suggested that the Cossacks were not known. Russian researchers, who say that the poor live in the Aral coast, have repeatedly described the facts of the tough material situation of the poor and the Kazak Turks, without limiting them to simply express themselves. They repeatedly wrote that the poor lacked property, rabbits used clothes for men and women, used reeds instead of goat wool in their beds, the primitive low productivity tools of the indigenous people, the economy did not improve, and diseases were widespread (Istoriya, 1979: 355).

The Ukrainian painter T.G. Shevchenko took the remains of Aral’s shores and drew pictures of the people’s lifestyle. Poetry Russians paintings drawn during the occupation policy are now on the museum in Kiyev and they are named as: Kazakhstan in the Front, Kazakh in the Tent, Kazakh Sleeping Warming in the Stove, Kazak in Kos-Aral Camp, Sweater on Horse.

As a form of military intelligence, military-scientific discoveries were actively used by the Russian government in the 1840s and 1860s specifically for the Turkestan region. Among the missions of these expeditions were soldiers in the first place. The administration certainly added scientists or civil servants and merchants to their side. Often these discoveries were carried out under the umbrella of the Russian Geographical Society and had an official scientific appearance. There had to be extensive research into the discoveries, and it was imperative to have an officer with a topograph.

The first scientific trip to the Kazak steppe with the support of the Russian Geographical Society was carried out in 1850 by the folklorist P.I. Nebolsin. He visited Orenburg, Uralsk, Astrakhan and many Kazak villages in 1850-1851. P.I. Nebolsin wrote in his own memory that “I saw Kyrgyz, with all the changes in their daily life, with totally nomadic and sedentary life ... and I made a special friendship with them” (Istoriya, 1979: 44). During this scientific discovery, P.I. Nebolsin wrote a large number of scientific books and scientific notes, collecting rich statistical materials. Among them, “Central Asia and Russia’s Trade Experiment” is considered important. It contains various information about the traditions, occupations and lifestyle of Kazakhs. Nebolsin’s other works have been published under the name of “Sketches of the Underline of the Volga”, “Struggle with Bukhara, Kyrgyz, Bashkir and Kalmiklar”.

Various geographical and statistical discoveries were organized in the middle of the 19th century, with the support and participation of the Russian Geographical Society, to the Kazakh steppe, which collected important materials. In 1849 and 1851 the mining engineer A. Vlangali and S.I. Gulyaev visited and studied two valuable articles for Russian soldiers. These articles later led to the systematic execution of the occupation activities of the Russians in the region. In this article, which shows the rivalry between the tribes and tribes in the region, and which constantly informs the villagers who were attacked by the Hokand Khanate, the routes of the Russian soldiers were drawn. In addition to this, there are archaeological monuments on the subject titled “On the Ancient Artifacts Discovered in Kyrgyz Stepper” and in the other there are geographical and archaeological figures of the region in the study titled “Notes on Irish and Other Countries”.

The eastern and southeastern foothills of the Kazakh steppes in 1856-1857 were the Russian
scientist P.P. Semenov-Tian-Shanskiy studied. His main target was Tiyan Shan Mountains. P.P. The memoirs of Semenov-Tian-Shanskiy contain many aspects that characterize the lifestyle, economy, material and spiritual cult of the Seven Cossacks. He took care to examine the regions kadi system. The author, who aims to get acquainted with the traditional kadi system of the Kazakh Turks, first sought to increase the value among the region’s wealthy Bi. P.P. Semenov-Tian-Shanskiy explained in detail the cause of the emergence of the cases in his work. For example, the Cossack girl has learned to refuse to marry a man he loves, the weight of the Bi in society, and property issues in detail. He tried to find out who and what they deserve in the Cossack community. Thus, he prepared methods of how Kazakh Turks would subject the kadi system to Russian law (Kosven, 1971).

The place of military intelligence in the Russian Geography Society and its precaution is honest. There were widespread agents in each region. They were handled directly by the military authorities. Special appointing officers coordinating military intelligence in every region of Kazakhstan have worked. The Chief of Staff coordinates the delivery of intelligence information at the headquarters of the military territories to the district center. The necessary precautions were taken here, and then it was processed at the meetings of the empire, which was dedicated to the development of foreign policy issues, and was presented to the Minister of War for a decision.

The Society provided military-scientific discoveries primarily with the necessary knowledge of the soldiers. After fully occupying Kazakhstan’s territory, the Military Minister ordered the Russian Geography Society to map the Hive Khanate and investigate previously unknown areas. As for the Russian Geography Society, it developed a multi-faceted program to study the occupied territories before the Russian military campaign (Voprosi, Predlagayemymi 1873). For this reason, K.P. Kaufman, who was the head of the Hive occupation and later appointed as the General Governor of Turkistan. Colonel He ordered A.I. Glukhov to organize a military scientific discovery to study the old channels of Amu Daryan. As a result of the studies, the gaps between Amu Darya old channels called Daudandarya and Kunyadarya and the Igda and Sarykamyshev were examined in detail for the first time and thus Turkestan and Caucasian military topographical departments were brought together in 1871-1872 (Gluhovskoy, 1875).

In the nineteenth century, the activities of the Russian Geography Society directly represented the policy of the Russian Empire, and work was carried out in four directions of this institution. These are discovery, military-scientific explorations, military-diplomatic missions and intelligence discoveries. The members of the Society developed methods of collecting information, published intelligence reports as a scientific study by scientific classification, and made scientific contributions to reach the ultimate goal of Tsarist troops.

**Scientific and Cultural Studies of the Sovets of the Russian Geographical Society in Kazakhstan**

The chapters of the Russian Geography Society in Kazakhstan were opened in Orenburg in 1868, in Omsk in 1877, in Tashkent in 1896 and in Semipalatinsk in 1902. Their status and work activities are written in § 8 of the Charter of the Society. According to this: “Branch is an indivisible part of the Society and for this reason it is in possession of the Seal stamp seal and the State Emblem. Branch, who is involved in all scientific initiatives and classes of the Society, accepts the obligation to help with the information, materials and other scientific aids with advice, directives and communication. Each year, Branch provides a detailed report on the activities of the previous year, allowing the Empire to be included in the general activity report to the Russian Geography Society” (Ustav, 1905).

The Western Siberian anniversary of the Russian Geographical Society was founded in 1877 in Omsk. On March 1876, the Governor of West Siberia, N.G. Kazakov sent a request for the establishment of the Western Siberian Branch in Omsk, which he supported, and on 10 May 1877 the State Council decided to establish it. As the first president, I.F. Babkov was treacherous, M.V. Pevtsov was chosen.

Scientific research discoveries and sending out military reports were an important part of the Shuben. The episode has performed more than 300 times, including Western Siberia, Altai, Central Asia, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, China. “Tobolsk, Tomsk, Akmola, Semipalatinsk, Semirechyi region, Mountain Altay Region, Yenisey, Northwest China and the south of Western Mongolia” (Skoblin, 1994). The Kazakh steppes were one of the most searched provinces and since the early years of its existence, the Western Siberian tribe of the Russian Geographical Society had paid much attention to this. From 1878 to 1917, 36 scientific discoveries of the Western Siberian chapel of the
Russian Geographical Society were organized. Among these, in the province of Kokshetav of the province of Akmola of I.Ya. Slovtsov, 1877-1906., organized for the investigation of Kokshetav, Zerendinsk and Sandytav mountains in order to collect material for geological compilation. The research committee headed by G.G. Anzimirov and the geographical surveys of Lake Balbas, which regulates A.Nikolisky, are considered to be the most important. She made reports on the results of the expedition. The most updated of these was published in various publications. Branch himself published a magazine “Notes” (Zapiski) from 1879 to 1916 (Erlih 1998: 44).

The Russian Geographical Society had a library of Western Siberian chapels. This library was filled with receipts from all regions of Russia and foreign countries. His foundations were laid by Western Siberian researchers in 1862. Based on the collection of minerals, animals and plants collected in 1878, folk art and archeology collections, Sue founded a local museum.

He opened a new branch in Semipalatinsk with the help of the Western Siberian Chamber of Russian Geography, which is trying to expand the research of the Kazakhstan region and attract as many local people as possible. Chairman of the Statistics Committee and the military governor of Semipalatinsk With the active support of A.F. Karpov, the research activities in the region have gained momentum. Semipalatinsk Governor A.P. In 1883, with the support of Protsenko, the Semipalatinsk Statistical Committee established a museum linked to Branch (Rikkov, 1914: 18). The creation of the museum included political exiles, for example, the archeology department. It was opened by E.P. Mihailes. As a scientific institution of the department, the museum has conducted active education activities among the public and organized trips to many sections such as archaeological, natural history, ethnography, paleontology, agriculture and industry. Thus, the efforts of attracting the indigenous people to the Russian cultures were thoroughly pursued. The importance of studying the members of the chapters was emphasized, they were taught Russian in the regional Russian schools and attracted the local children to these schools. In addition, scientific conferences and reports were presented at general meetings of the community and in public lectures of the general public. The conversations among the locals included the following subjects: about Japan, Central Asia, the people of Turkestan, the people of Siberia, the people of Kazakh people.

The investigation of West Kazakhstan was carried out in 1868 by the Orenburg Chamber of the Russian Geography Society upon request of the general governor of Orenburg. “For example, in many places there are no coal deposits despite the presence of signs, and the agrarian and traditional culture of the steppe population has not been sufficiently explored” (Il’yasova, 2006).

Orenburg State, Urals, Kazakhstan and Central Asian territories entered the scope of research of Orenburg Chubby. As its president, the military governor of the Turgai region, General Staff L.F. Balluzek was tainted. The founders of Branch had a long scientific study of the investigation of the Kazak steppes and were in close contact with the Russian research centers. Among them were the Border Control officers of the Kazakh children, members of the Narodnik movement, officials of colonial institutions and school teachers.

The most extensive work of Kazakh legal traditions was carried out in the 1880s by the Russian authorities and the military governor of the Serbian province. It was done by the district officers with the certification of the N.I. Grodekov. In 1887, N.I. Grodekov published the work “Kyrgyz and Karakirgz” of the Sirderya Region. In this work, in addition to the traditional legal material, there are geographical information, historical legends of the copies of old manuscripts preserved in the hands of the Kazakhs, heroic poems, beliefs, epistles, jokes, tenses, proverbs and words.

Despite the important work of Russian scientists during the 60-90s of the 19th century, there was no collective study of general Kazakh legal traditions. In this regard, the Russian press has constantly expressed this concern. In the “Kyrgyz courts” article, the Russian Geographical Society had been instructed to carry out such work together with the colonial administration of the Kazakh steppe of the Western Siberian Branch. It was emphasized that those who are familiar with Kazakh peoples lifestyle and language should be involved in this work (Masanov, 1959).

In the second half of the 19th century, the interest of the Russian scientists to the Kazakh Turks ethnogenesis issue increased considerably. One of the first special studies about the origin of the Kazakh Turks is the historian A.N. Haruzin. He had previously been famous for his work on Bokey Ordas. Member of the Geographical Society in the Russian science field. The work of N.A. Aristov is very important. He served in Semirechiye region between 1868-1889. In order to improve the administration of the Turkestan region, the colonial
administration has been involved in Kazakh law and various legal issues. He was consulting with Aristov and making him a member of various commissions in preparing the documents. N.A. Aristov traveled a lot around Turkestan. He visited almost all the villages of Yedisu region and went to Tashkent many times about his important works. He was especially visiting Kazakh and Kyrgyz villages, where he was attending the case and spreading the government’s decisions among the indigenous people. He recorded the size and tribal myths of Kazakh Turks and their residential directions. N.A. Aristov’s first scientific studies were published in the journal “Turkistanskiye Vedomosti”. N.A. Aristov collected geographical, folklore and anthropological information and published his work on the number and ethnic structure of the Kazakh people. The following expressions of his publications on the official gazette of the Russian Geographical Society, “Zametki” (Notes), should be of interest to today’s historians: “26 million Turks from the Sea of Okhotsk and the Arctic Ocean to the Adriatic Sea speak on a Turkic language, Central Asian Turk understand Yakut and Ottoman Turks” (Aristov, 1896: 277).

The political and economic interests of the Russian Empire, as well as the interest of the invading peoples, needed a deeper investigation into the lives of these peoples, especially the tribes of the Kazakh steppes. In the Russian foreign policy, the Kazakh steppes had a special place strategically. With the reform of Speranskiy, Tsarist Russians interest in Turkestan increased even more. It was the ultimate goal of the Russian Empire to gather information about the beliefs of all peoples in Siberia, including the Kazakhs, traditional law, lifestyle, traditions, and Russification of occupied territories in the future.

**Conclusion**

In the 19th century, the activities of the Imperial Russian Geographical Society in Kazakhstan showed historical and cognitive value. The work has been conducted on the basis of a variety of information gathering and serious scientific research in the field of history research, economics, geography, geology, biology and folklore. Branch, who was founded in Omsk, Orenburg, Tashkent, Semipalatinsk and members of the Russian Geographical Society, contributed greatly to the investigation of the Kazakh steppes.

With its expansion in military, political and economic terms, Russia was pursuing another goal in the realization of colonialism in Kazakhstan. One of the most important goals was the forced Russification of these Kazakh Turks, that is to say, the native people made their faith in Russian in Russian. In order to achieve this goal, the native people first thought of as much Russian as possible and created a maid for them. The Orenburg governing documents contain records of Russian schools should teach the Kazakh children only to read and write. Their rationality has been taken care of in order to develop from the side and to decrease working opportunities. For this reason, members of the Russian Geographical Society studied extensively the migration directions of the Kazak villagers and the tribes and tribes. Their reports were presented to the Minister of Education and, according to him, methods of Russification were being prepared and applied in Kazakh steppes.

One of the other important instructions of the Tsarist administration to the Russian Geography Society was to make friends with the wealthy and authentic members of the Kazakh Turks and to attract them to them. He then christened the Cossacks on the upper floor as much as possible. Among the members of the Russian Geographical Society, a large number of missionaries have conducted their own research and have made it possible for Orthodoxy to spread to the territory of Kazakhstan. They carry out this policy with the help of clerics and bureaucrats of the local government. In colonial politics, the Tsarist administration tried to use the Orthodox Church for its political purposes and saw it as the most important means of influencing the spiritual life of the region’s population. Missionary institutions were established in Kazakhstan to spread Orthodoxy with the Christianization of the indigenous people. In this case, the share of the Russian Geographical Society is great. For this, Cemiyete affiliate spy department was established. They used two basic methods to obtain the data on the people in the region, in order to investigate the migration directions of the nomadic people by making personal observations, and to present intelligence in a report to Cemiyet. The second was to prepare “agents among the locals”.

The activities of Branch, established by the Russian Geographical Society in Kazakhstan, were not limited to scientific research. The members of the Society paid attention to the work of the museums and libraries in the region, organized exhibitions and continuously contributed to the participation of the indigenous people, gave importance to press publication, propagated Russian culture in scientific journals and newspapers and organized popular science courses among the people.
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