

HISTORY OF THE STUDY OF BRONZE AGE MONUMENTS IN NORTHERN KAZAKHSTAN IN THE XX – FIRST QUARTER OF THE XXI CENTURY

Abstract

Northern Kazakhstan is one of the most extensively researched regions in the study of the Bronze Age. The region's geographical position at the crossroads of the Southern Urals, Western Siberia, and Saryarka has fostered active cultural and historical processes, which, in turn, have shaped the study of its ancient history. The purpose of the study is to trace the history of archaeological research, evaluate the contribution of individual expeditions and researchers, and form a complete picture of the archaeological research process in the region.

The first archaeological investigations in Northern Kazakhstan began in the late 19th century. These were essentially occasional activities conducted under the auspices of the Orenburg Scientific Archive Commission and the Imperial Archaeological Commission. With some exceptions, this sporadic approach to archaeological research persisted until the latter part of the 20th century. A new stage, marked by the research activities of G. B. Zdanovich, V. V. Evdokimov, S. Y. Zdanovich, and V. N. Logvin, became pivotal, laying the foundation for studying the region's archaeology and ancient history. Today, despite the vast amount of accumulated material, the pace of new field research on this subject has somewhat declined. A focus on qualitative analysis of the existing data and an expansion of topics beyond the Andronovo culture characterises the current research stage. This article presents data reflecting the key stages in studying Bronze Age monuments in Northern Kazakhstan, from the pre-revolutionary research of individual scholars to the professional expeditions of the present day.

Key words: archaeology, monument, Northern Kazakhstan, Bronze Age, excavations, historiography

Introduction

The level of research on Bronze Age monuments in Northern Kazakhstan appears to be one of the highest in the country. The abundance of archaeological monuments in the region, both in quantity and quality, is beyond doubt. This connection was essential to the region's geographical position within the Southern Urals, Western Siberia, and Sary-Arka. This conditioned an active course of cultural and historical processes in this territory in the Bronze Age, which in turn predetermined the prospects of the region for the study of the region's ancient history.

It is a well-known fact that further research and discoveries in science are impossible without evaluating the creative contributions of predecessors. Researchers have accumulated a considerable body of knowledge on this topic, but, as a rule, scientific works do not cover the entire territory of Northern Kazakhstan within its modern administrative borders. For the most part, works positioned as historiographical studies on the Bronze Age of Northern Kazakhstan are limited to the territory of Priishimye. At the same time, materials from Kostanay and Pavlodar regions are only partially included or completely omitted. Thus, in this work, the concept of Northern Kazakhstan refers to its modern administrative boundaries, which encompass four regions of the republic: Kostanay, North Kazakhstan, Akmola, and Pavlodar. The absence of historiographical works touching upon the subject of archaeological research of Northern Kazakhstan in all its administrative unity determines the significance of this article.

This work aims to cover the history of the development of archaeological research in Northern Kazakhstan. To achieve this goal, it is necessary to accomplish the following tasks: trace the history of archaeological research, evaluate the contributions of individual expeditions and researchers, and form a comprehensive picture of the archaeological research process in the region.

Materials and methods of research

Significant successes have been achieved in the study of the Bronze Age of Northern Kazakhstan, which is connected not only with the scope of field research but also with the long history of the study of antiquities of the region. It seems possible to distinguish several stages which reflect the dynamics of archaeological research. The pre-revolutionary stage is characterised by the initial accumulation of scientific ideas about the region's archaeology. Nevertheless, there are works containing historical and archaeological reviews [1]. Many scientific works, both Soviet and contemporary Kazakh and foreign researchers are devoted to the study of the history of archaeological research: bibliographic indexes, summaries of monuments, articles, monographs, and dissertations. When analysing the available scientific literature, the author determined that most of the works positioned as historiographical works on the Bronze Age of Northern Kazakhstan are limited only to the territory of Priishimye, materials of Kostanay and Pavlodar regions are included partially or not at all [2], [3], [4]. Most often, in the context of archaeological and historiographical works, there is a situation of delimitation of the territory of Northern Kazakhstan into three groups – Kazakhstan Priishimye [5], Pavlodar Priirtyshye [6], Turgay Trough [7]. Other sources of information are monographs, articles, and dissertations of historiographical character, in which the history of archaeological research in Northern Kazakhstan is presented in the complex of nationwide research on archaeology [8], [9], [10]. Depending on the nature and scope of scientific works, the history of archaeological research is considered broadly, and several issues require more detailed study.

The methodological basis of the work is formed by general historical and historiographic methods of scientific research: with the help of the comparative method, separate stages of archaeological study of the region were compared and objective regularities of its development were established; the historical-genetic method made it possible to develop cause-and-effect relations in the process of the study of the region and to estimate the significance of those or other events; the problem-chronological method implies dissection of separate nodal problems into many narrow issues. The integrated use of these methods made it possible to objectively convey the historical period under study.

Results and its discussion

Research works that touched upon the issues of the archaeological survey of Northern Kazakhstan have long roots. The beginning of the archaeological study of the Turgay region was laid in 1884 by the famous ethnographer F.D. Nefedov [11]. E.Y. Petri and P. Nazarov also excavated in the Nikolaev district on behalf of the Archaeological Commission. Prominent researchers engaged in the study of the archaeology of the Turgay region are I.A. Kastanye, A.L. Anikhovsky, A. Popov and others. In the works of the Orenburg Scientific Archive Commission (OSAC), there are numerous notes on accidental finds, identified kurgans, and excavations [12]. The first Bronze Age monuments of the Akmola region were investigated in 1894 by A.V. Selivanov on behalf of the Archaeological Commission. The lack of information on archaeological monuments of this region served as a justification for exploratory excavations. In his report, A.V. Selivanov noted a large number of burial mounds, most looted. Later, engineer A.A. Kozyrev conducted research in the Kara-Agach tract, and he also discovered an anthropomorphic statuette from the Bronze Age. The Archaeological Commission initiated excavations of the burial ground at Pestroe Lake near Petropavlovsk, undertaken by Y.P. Argentovsky and N.I. Bortvin [13].

To some extent, the result of pre-revolutionary studies is the first general sketch of archaeological monuments of Kazakhstan by I.A. Kastanye. He collected a considerable amount of data on the archaeological monuments of Kazakhstan, which were included in his consolidated work. The studies of pre-revolutionary researchers were limited to typological descriptions of monuments without excavations on a systematic level.

It is also worth noting the issue of protecting archaeological monuments during this period. The Ministry of Internal Affairs, in 1904, established the «Commission for the Revision of Existing Regulations on the Protection of Ancient Monuments»,. The intermediate results of the

work were submitted for discussion to various governmental and private institutions, among which the OSAC was also included. Thus, at the regular meeting of the OSAC members, the main provisions were heard and significantly supplemented. Among the succession of progressive amendments and additions, the following provisions are particularly noteworthy: the recognition of all archaeological monuments as state property and their exemption from private ownership, the establishment of bodies for the protection and registration of material heritage objects, the prohibition of their export abroad, and the introduction of administrative and criminal liability for the destruction of monuments, etc. [14]. However, despite attempts to create a state monument protection system, achieving the set goals was impossible. In comparison, such protective measures were necessary. Thus, in the works of the OSAC and other sources, numerous reports have been made about the local population and settlers' predatory excavations of burial mounds [12.– 26]. The establishment of Soviet power opened opportunities for the creation of state legislation on protecting archaeological monuments. Thus, starting from the government decree of 1918. «On the registration of all monumental and material monuments of antiquity and art owned by private individuals, societies and institutions» and subsequent legislative acts and decrees, the basic principles of the consistent development of the protection of archaeological heritage in the USSR were laid down. Thus, the problem of the right to private property, which in the pre-revolutionary period stood as an insurmountable obstacle to the adoption of effective measures in the protection of archaeological monuments, was resolved radically after the revolution by eliminating this right.

Since 1930, O.A. Krivtsova-Grakova has been studying the Alekseev complex. The works initiated by the Kustanay Museum were continued in 1931, 1935–1936, and 1938–1939. During excavations, a settlement and a sacrificial hill were discovered near the burial ground. It became clear that the researcher had a whole complex of monuments. The obtained materials formed the basis of O.A. Krivtsova-Grakova's thesis, defended in 1941 [15].

At this time, active registration work in the Akmola region was carried out by L.F. Semenov, who founded a historical and local history museum in 1923. In 1930, he published a job describing all the cultural monuments known at that time on the region's territory. The same year, B.N. Grakov's work «The Nearest Tasks of Archeological Study of Kazakstan» was published. In this work, the author, having conducted a brief review of archaeological research, outlines the problem of a small study of Kazakhstan with its vast territory. In these conditions, he proposed the principle of fragmentation in archaeological research [16].

In 1938, S.S. Chernikov visited Kazakhstan to investigate ancient mining workings around Stepnyak. During the exploration works, eleven settlements of the Bronze Age were discovered, the cultural layer of which was practically destroyed. Some of the settlements were classified as metallurgical because of the large number of ore mining and processing implements. Based on the pottery fragments discovered, S.S. Chernikov identified three stages with transitional groups, which reflected the smooth development of ceramic vessel forms from the Late Bronze Age to the Early Iron Age [17].

During wartime, archaeological research in Kazakhstan was suspended. Museum, local historians, and evacuated specialists did research work to a small extent. For example, in the summer of 1942, during the research work of the Kustanay Museum, six Kurgans and Sadchikov settlements were recorded and examined by the famous archaeologist A.Y. Brusov, who was evacuated to Kustanay. 1948 O.A. Krivtsova-Grakova returned to Kazakhstan and excavated near the Sadchikov settlement. According to the work results, this settlement was the closest to Alekseev, synchronized with the Srubno-Hvalynsk antiquities and attributed to the second, final stage of the Andronovo culture [18].

With the beginning of the development of virgin and fallow lands, the problem of preserving archaeological monuments became acute. Due to the mass ploughing of lands and subsequent weathering the cultural layer of monuments was subjected to destruction. To avoid the destruction of archaeological monuments, the Institute of History of the Academy of Sciences of the Kazakh SSR organized so-called virgin expeditions within the framework of a

large-scale project. In 1954–1956, ten archaeological expeditions worked in the areas of virgin land development, which covered ten regions of Kazakhstan. Thus, in 1954–1956 in the territory of North Kazakhstan, Kokchetav and Akmola regions operated expeditions and detachments under the general leadership of K.A. Akishev. In total, 19 burials of the Bronze Age, including about 40 burials of various types, and eight settlements of the same period, from which topographic plans were taken and lifting material was collected, were identified, and examined in the territory of the three regions [2. – 8]. In 1955, an expedition led by G.I. Pacevich operated in the Kustanay region. During the exhaustive survey of the virgin lands, ploughing zone more than 70 groups and single barrows were discovered, of which more than 20 were excavated. Two Bronze Age settlements were found around Dzhangildin and Viktorov villages, from which lifting material was collected. An archaeological expedition led by E.I. Ageeva and A.G. Maksimova operated in the Pavlodar region. Based on the analysis of the lifting material from settlements and excavations of two fences of the Alakul burial ground located in the Bayan–Aul district, the chronological stages of the Early, Middle and Late Bronze Age were distinguished. The obtained materials from the virgin expeditions were partially published and included in the fundamental scientific publication of 1960 «Archaeological Map of Kazakhstan».

One of the researchers of Northern Kazakhstan who left a bright trace in its study is A.M. Orazbaev. In the mid-50s–60s, he headed the North Kazakhstan expedition; also, in some years, he led the study of archaeological monuments in the Kokshetau region. He investigated the Bronze Age burial ground Nurmanbet in the Pavlodar region, materials from which were published posthumously. In 1958, A.M. Orazbaev published a large-scale work, «Northern Kazakhstan in the Bronze Age», which traced the successive change of cultural and historical stages – Fedorov and Alakul stages of the Andronovo culture, the Zamaraev culture. When establishing the relative chronology, the researcher mainly relies on the materials of burial grounds because of the small number of well-researched settlement monuments, represented at that time by Sadchikov and Alekseev settlements, and explored settlements near Stepnyak, attributed by A.M. Orazbaev to the Zamaraev culture. Also, it should be noted that this paper contains some observations on issues that A.M. Orazbaev will touch upon in future works. So, on ethnographic parallels, the similarity of forms and devices of graves and dwellings of nomadic peoples is marked. On this basis, the conclusions related to the reconstruction of Bronze Age dwellings and their similarity to the houses of Kazakhs, fully realised in a series of works on the Bronze Age settlement of Chaglinka, are given. Thus, based on the materials of fieldwork at the Chaglinka settlement in 1964–1967, the author assumed that some prototype of the yurt and other types of residential and economic buildings of the Kazakhs could be considered to some extent the dwellings of the Bronze Age.

A qualitatively new stage in studying the Bronze Age of Northern Kazakhstan is associated with the activities of G.B. Zdanovich, V.V. Evdokimov, S.Y. Zdanovich. In Petropavlovsk, G.B. Zdanovich founded and headed the North Kazakhstan Expedition (1967–1976), and after moving to Chelyabinsk the Ural-Kazakhstan Expedition (1977–1986). So, the beginning of mass discovery and study of archaeological monuments in Kazakhstan Priishimye was laid. About 100 settlements and more than 120 burial complexes belonging to the Bronze Age were revealed during this period. Stationary excavations were carried out at the settlements of Yavlenka I, Ilyinka I, Bishkul IV, Bogolyubovo I, Novonikolskoye I, Sargary, Petrovka II, IV, at the burial grounds of Amangeldy I, Kenes, Burluk, Semipalatnoye, Petrovka, Aksaiman, Berlik II, etc.

A landmark monument is the children's burial ground near Petrovka village, discovered in the field season of 1968 and initially accepted as a sacrificial site by analogy with the Alekseev complex. At the monument, it was possible to obtain a practically pure ceramic complex, with the help of which the same-type materials from different settlements were identified. These materials allowed us to allocate the Petrovka stage of the Bronze Age of Northern Kazakhstan as preceding the Alakul. Also, at this time, completely new data were obtained, which were the confirmation of the unstable situation in the Petrovka period: settlements with defensive constructions – Novonikolskoe I, Petrovka II; remains of combat two-wheeled chariots in burial

monuments – Kenes, Aksayman, Berlik, Ulubay were discovered and studied. In 1975 G.B. Zdanovich defended his thesis on «Periodization and chronology of Bronze Age monuments of Petropavl Priishimye». At the archaeological seminar held in 1980, the results of research work on the study of the Bronze Age of the Ural-Kazakhstan region were summed up. G.B. Zdanovich's periodization and scheme of development of Bronze Age cultures were adopted. Later these data were somewhat revised: the Petrovka stage was reconsidered as a separate archaeological culture, formed based on early Bronze Age monuments of the Vishnev type; the Alakul culture; the Fedorov culture; the culture of roller ceramics, with transitional stages – Kulevchy and Amangeldy. The study of the final stage of the Bronze Age of Northern Kazakhstan was carried out by S.Y. Zdanovich. On the materials of single-layer monuments, such as the Sargary complex and Petrovka 4, the Sargary culture was singled out as a local variant of the community of roller ceramics. The characterisation of the Final Bronze Age culture was thoroughly substantiated in several articles and a thesis defended by S.Y. Zdanovich [19].

The name V.V. Evdokimov is associated with a new stage in the study of the Bronze Age on the territory of the Turgay. In 1969, he organized the Verkhnetobolsk expedition (1969–1976) and, on the advice of A.M. Orazbaev, took up the excavation of the Alekseev settlement. The excavation at the settlement was laid on a section of the quarry side, on which the section of the ancient structure was well fixed. The filling of the pits of the two studied dwellings yielded a practically «pure» collection, as defined by O.A. Krivtsova-Grakova, of «household» ceramics, which was later labelled as Sargary-Alekseev. Thus, new data on the secondary settlement of the Alekseev settlement were obtained and its multilayer nature was confirmed.

In total, during the years of leadership of the Verkhnetobolsk expedition V.V. Evdokimov identified and studied ten settlements and four burials of the Bronze Age. The materials obtained during the fieldwork allowed V.V. Evdokimov to start the research to comprehend the accumulated information on the Bronze Age of Kustanay as a whole. The materials available by that time were distributed into two epochs. In the Developed Bronze Age two stages are distinguished: early, represented by monuments of the Petrovka type and late, marked by antiquities of the Alakul type. The Late Bronze Age includes the Alekseev culture, which passed through two stages in its development – Alekseev and Zagarin stages. In the last quarter of the 2nd millennium B.C. monuments of the Cherkaskul and Fedorov cultures appeared [20].

The logical conclusion of this research stage was the defense of the thesis «Population of the Steppe Pre-Bronze Age in the Bronze Age» in 1984. Archaeological data were used to reconstruct the socio-economic structure of the population in the Bronze Age. Later, V.V. Evdokimov defended his doctoral thesis on the Bronze Age of Northern and Central Kazakhstan. Partial publication of the dissertation materials became a textbook in co-authorship with V.V. Varfolomeev, above. The analytical research included materials of 47 monuments of Northern Kazakhstan, including 12 burial grounds and 35 settlements. All studied settlements were referred to the same cultural circle of monuments based on constructive proximity of multi-chambered dwellings, similar set of materials, similarity of ceramic complexes. Justification of the demographic situation at the settlements revealed that the territory of Northern Kazakhstan in the Bronze Age was densely populated [21].

The most significant researcher who studied the archaeological monuments of Turgay Trough is V.N. Logvin. The research activity of the scientist began with the establishment of the Turgay expedition and the Laboratory of Archaeological Research. The scientific interest of V.N. Logvin lay in the field of study of the Neo-Eneolithic epoch, the least investigated in the region at that time. During excavations by V.N. Logvin and S.S. Kalieva of the Tersek settlement Kozhay I, an Alakul child burial ground consisting of ten burials was discovered. Subsequently, many years of rescue work on the emergency monuments were carried out. Thus, in 1981–1983, the multilayer settlement of Bestamak, functioning from the Neolithic to the Late Bronze Age, was investigated. Excavations of the ground Alakul necropolis of Dzhangildy V,

which was destroyed because of sand pit development, were carried out during four field seasons in 1984–1987 [22].

It is especially worth noting the studies at the burial grounds of Tokanay I and Bestamak, belonging to the Sintashta-Petrovka Circle of monuments. In 1982, rescue works were carried out at Tokanay I burial ground. The necropolis, located in the south of the region, became the extreme point in the south-eastern direction of the identified Sintashta-Petrovka monuments, which significantly expanded the area of distribution of this culture [23]. During 1991–1993 and 1996, the Turgay expedition investigated the emergency burial ground Bestamak, which functioned during the Stone and Bronze Ages. The excavation covered the entire destroyed part of the burial ground and investigated about 60 burials, most of which were attributed to the Sintashta-Petrovka Circle of antiquities [24].

Near Lisakovsk, a Bronze Age settlement with five dwellings was discovered in the zone of destruction of the Tobol River shoreline. Rescue archaeological works were started in 1985 by the Lisakovsk detachment of the archaeological expedition of Karaganda University under the leadership of V.V. Varfolomeev. Later, seven burial grounds of the Bronze Age were found in the Lisakovsk district. Since 1986 E.R. Usmanova has been studying this complex, which received the conventional name «archaeological monuments of the Lisakovsk District». During 20 years from 1986 to 2007 there 119 funerary constructions and 154 burials were uncovered. The peculiarity of the complex is the coexistence of the Alakul and Fedorov burial traditions within one burial ground [25].

In the 1990s, the pace and volume of archaeological work at the Bronze Age monuments slightly decreased, primarily due to the lack of funds for research. Also, under the conditions of fundamental reforms in the socio-economic life of the country and related problems, there were systematic violations in the field of protection of historical and cultural heritage, primarily due to the imperfection of normative-legal acts regulating these issues, which rightly caused resentment among the scientific community [26]. Among the positive aspects, it is worth highlighting the successful implementation of state programmes aimed at strengthening national identity based on a common historical past, including the study of archaeological monuments. Thus, within the framework of the large-scale state programme «Cultural Heritage», which functioned from 2004–2011, dozens of archaeological monuments from the Stone Age to the Middle Ages were studied and selected based on their significance in telling ancient history. Within the framework of this programme, the Bronze Age monuments of Bestamak and Kenotkel burial grounds were investigated in Northern Kazakhstan. Also works on drawing up generalizing summaries of historical and cultural monuments in the North Kazakhstan, Akmola, Pavlodar regions, where the revealed and partially investigated objects of the Bronze Age took a special place [27], [28], [29].

The beginning of systematic study of the ancient history of the Pavlodar region relates to the activity of V.K. Merts and the Pavlodar Expedition he founded in 1988. At this time Karaganda archaeologists actively participate in stationary studies of Bronze Age monuments of Pavlodar Priirtyshye: V.V. Vartholomeyev excavates the Late Bronze Age burial ground Shoindykol; an expedition led by A.A. Tkachev investigates the multi-temporal burial ground Michurino. Thus, monuments from the Middle to the Final Bronze Age in Northern Kazakhstan were studied quite thoroughly to understand the cultural and historical processes taking place in the region. The situation with the Early Bronze Age monuments was quite different due to the lack of source base and the difficulty of distinguishing between Eneolithic and Early Bronze Age materials. All Early Bronze Age materials of the region were synchronized with the Krotov-Elunin antiquities of Western Siberia as the most studied monuments. Thanks to the purposeful research of V.K. Merts, it was possible to identify and study a significant number of monuments containing materials of the Early Bronze Age: Shauke III, Shiderty II, Vtori III, IV, Pyatirizhsk, Grigoryevka II, Michurino I, and others. In addition to studying monuments of the Early Bronze Age, monuments of later stages of the Bronze Age, including petroglyphs – Kenzhekol,

Akbidaik, Olenty, Sholpan IV, V, Shidertinskoye I, Kara-Tumsuk, Kyzyltan, etc. – are actively studied [29. –18]

In 1998, A.V. Logvin took over the leadership of the Turgay Expedition. During the years of independence, the TAE staff identified and investigated many monuments of the Bronze Age: settlements Konezavod I, Halvay IV, Kamysty, burial grounds Bestamak, Kulchukai, Halvay III and V, Beregovoye, Karatomary. The cultural affiliation of most of the complexes studied by A.V. Logvin and I.V. Shevnina dates to the time of the Sintashta-Petrovka antiquities. The study of the Bestamak burial ground (2002–2003, 2005–2008), included in the State Programme «Cultural Heritage» in 2006–2008, was continued within the framework of the study of the Bronze Age. The uniqueness of the monument lies in the fact that it is the first and the only burial ground on the territory of Northern Kazakhstan, the materials of which are represented from the Eneolithic to the Middle Ages. This makes it possible to trace the peculiarities of burial rites within the framework of one monument, left by the population that successively replaced each other. About 170 burial pits and ritual structures were uncovered and studied. More than 70 % of burials are burials of Sintashta-Petrovka time, making the Bestamak burial ground the key in studying the Bronze Age of Northern Kazakhstan [24. –32]. Long-term studies of the site have allowed us to thoroughly examine various aspects of funeral rites, social structure, and material culture of the ancient inhabitants of Turgay Trough, including through the publication of individual burials, which is explained by their variability and saturation of the ritual sphere.

The monuments of the Sintashta culture located near the Karatomar reservoir are of exceptional interest. First, these are Sintashta burial mounds Halvay III and V, investigated by TAE in 2009–2012. The materials from the burial mound Halvay III were fully introduced into the scientific turnover in a monograph format with a detailed characterization of the burial rites and inventory. Special mention should be made of perfectly preserved organic materials (wood, leather, fur), which are usually difficult to record in archaeology. This made it possible to obtain additional information about attaching bronze and stone items to handles and shafts [30]. During the study of the Karatomar barrow in 2017–2018, a unique find was discovered – a bronze vessel, previously not found in Sintashta monuments. This metal vessel cast spearheads from Halvay, and an openwork plaque from Bestamak demonstrate the high level of metallurgical production of the Sintashta [31]. Also, the Turgay expedition in 2021 began the study of the Kamysty fortified settlement. This monument of Sintashta culture within the project «Sacral Geography of Kazakhstan» was recognized as a sacral object of national importance, as the only Indo-Aryan proto-city on the republic territory. Based on the materials of the monuments of the Sintashta-Petrovka circle of Turgay Trough, A.V. Logvin defended their thesis in 2019. The researcher identified two cultural variants of the monuments: the Bestamak and Tokanay, formed under the dominant influence of the Southern Urals and Central Kazakhstan population, respectively.

In the area of the Kazakhstan Priishimye, systematic excavations continue to be carried out by the North Kazakhstan and Kokshetau expeditions, mostly researching Eneolithic and Early Bronze Age monuments. Bronze Age monuments were studied mainly because of security excavations of emergency sites. Thus, for example, in 2001–2003. The SKAE under the direction of A.A. Pleshakov studied the Bronze Age burial ground Baganaty III, with burials of the Petrovka and Alakul culture. During the 2007–2008 Kokshetau expedition under the programme «Cultural Heritage» conducted conservation excavations of the burial ground Kenotkel 18, located near the village of the same name. The design of burials and funerary inventory allowed us to draw analogies with the burial grounds of Aksaiman and Tanabergen II, dating the monument to the Sintashta-Petrovka period [32].

Long-term studies are conducted at the Shagalaly II settlement in Akmola Priishimye, stationary excavations of which have been carried out since 2010. The excavations were carried out by the Esil expedition headed by M.K. Habdulina and supervised by S.K. Sakenov. The peculiarity of the settlement is the architecture of large two-storey dwellings and a pottery workshop, the presence of easel pottery, indicating cultural links with Central Asian agricultural

centers. S.K. Sakenov distinguishes three types of dwelling structures at the Shagalaly II settlement, functioning in the Early Alakul, Fedorov and Alekseev-Sargary times, which is also supported by radiocarbon dating [33]. In 2020, he defended his doctoral thesis on «The Bronze Age of Northern Kazakhstan (on the materials of the Shagalaly II settlement)».

To date, many investigated funerary and settlement monuments of the Bronze Age are known (Fig. 1). In modern practice more and more attention is paid to interdisciplinary research, the role of natural sciences in domestic archaeology is increasing. Such integration solves many problems: radiocarbon dating of monuments, analysis of ancient materials, study of paleoeconomics, etc. Bronze Age monuments of Northern Kazakhstan have become an essential part of large-scale international projects in the field of paleogenetic research, and isotope analysis [34], [35], [36]. Thus, archaeological research with the application of methods of natural sciences allows not only to investigate individual aspects of the life of society more deeply but also to creation generalized ideas about cultural and historical processes in the Bronze Age.

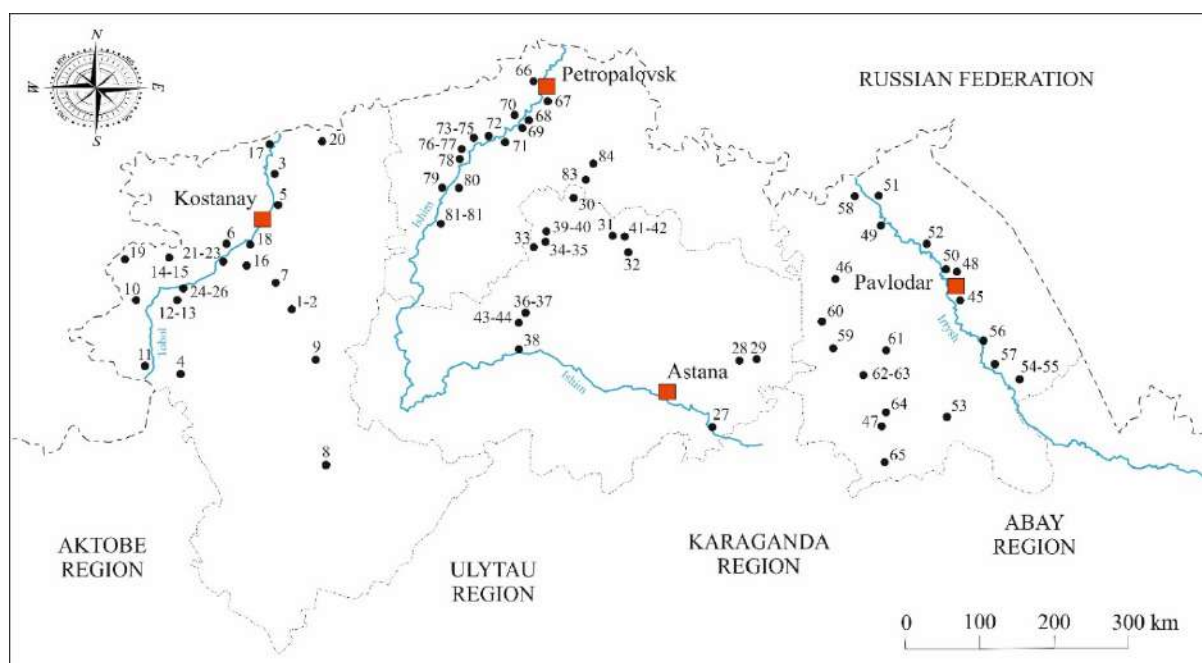


Figure 1 - Map of Bronze Age monuments of Northern Kazakhstan: 1-2 – s-b. Bestamak; 3 - b. Dzhangildy V; 4 - b. Urkash VII; 5 - b. Konezavod; 6 - c. Alekseev; 7 – s. Semiozerno; 8 – b. Tokanay I; 9 – b. Naurzum; 10 – s. Zhelkuar; 11 – s. Verkhnetobol; 12-13 – s. Shukubay I, II; 14-15 – s. Pereleski II, b. Pereleski; 16 - b. Evgenyev; 17 – s. Zagarinka; 18 – s. Sadchikov; 19 – s. Kamysty; 20 - k. Kulchukay II; 21-23 - b. Halvay III, V, Karatomary; 24-26 – s-b. Lisakovsk, b. Novoilin; 27 - b. Izhevsky I; 28 - b. Balykty; 29 - b. Zvenigorodka; 30 - b. Kuropatkino II; 31 - b. Borovoye; 32 - b. Zhukey II; 33 - b. Ormandybulak; 34-35 - c. Kenotkel; 36-37 – s-b. Sargary; 38 – b. Rodionovka II; 39-40 – b. Pavlovka, s. Shagalaly II; 41-42 – b. Obala, b. Birekkol; 43-44 - s-b. Zhabai-Pokrovka; 45 - b. Akmola; 46 - b. Nurmanbet; 47 - b. Shoindykol I; 48 - b. Michurino I; 49 - b. Kara-Tumsuk; 50 - b. Grigorievka II; 51 - s. Vtori IV; 52 - b. Kyzyltan; 53 - s. Koktas I; 54-55 - s. Sharbaky I, II; 56 - b. Tilektes; 57 - b. Lebyazhie; 58 - s. Kostomar; 59 - s. Shiderti II; 60 - p. Olenty; 61 - p. Akbidaik; 62-63 - s-b. Kurkeli; 64 - p. Zhasybay; 65 - c. Koytas; 66 - s. Vishnevka I; 67 - s. Bishkul IV; 68 - s. Bogolyubovo I; 69 - b. Semipalatnoye; 70 - s. Novonikolskoye I; 71 - s. Yavlenka I; 72 - b. Amangeldy I; 73-75 - s. Petrovka II, IV, b. Petrovka; 76-77 – b. Kenes, b. Berlik II; 78 - b. Aksaiman; 79 - b. Baganaty III; 80 - b. Burluk I; 81-82 - b. Ulubay, b. Alypkash; 83 - s. Chaglinka I; 84 - s. Vinogradovka VI (s. - settlement, b. - burial ground, p. - petroglyphs, c. - complex).
Note: Compiled by the authors

Conclusion

This article presents archival sources, historiographical and other works, reflecting the history of archaeological research in Northern Kazakhstan in the XX – first quarter of the XXI century. The mentioned questions allow to present the history of archaeological research in the specified period as rather long historical process which passed on a similar direction, as well as

in general in Kazakhstan. Conditionally it is possible to allocate several stages of the given process: pre-revolutionary, Soviet, and modern. The pre-revolutionary stage, characterized by the initial accumulation of data on the Bronze Age of Northern Kazakhstan, is associated with the activities of members of the Orenburg Academic Archive Commission and the Imperial Archaeological Commission: I.A. Kastanye, A.L. Anikhovsky, Y.P. Argentovsky, A.V. Selivanov and others. However, the activity of pre-revolutionary researchers was limited to typological description of monuments without systematic excavations. At the Soviet stage two periods differ significantly. The first (until the mid-1960s) is associated with the formation of archaeological research in the region with a significant role of local historians, individual investigations by scientists or organizations: excavations of the Alekseev complex and Sadchikov settlement by O.A. Krivtsova-Grakova, A.M. Orazbaev's research in North-Kazakhstan and Akmola regions, virgin expeditions of the Institute of History of the Kazakh SSR Academy of Sciences. The second period (till 1991) in many respects became defining in the study of monuments of the Bronze Age of Northern Kazakhstan, which laid down modern knowledge on archaeology and ancient history of the region. This stage of university archaeology relates to the research activities of G.B. Zdanovich, V.V. Evdokimov, S.Y. Zdanovich, V.N. Logvin and others. The complex study of many funerary and settlement complexes and the isolation of new archaeological cultures contributed to the creation of a qualitatively new concept of the history of the development of ancient societies in the Bronze Age. At the present stage of archaeological research, against the background of a considerable amount of accumulated material on the Bronze Age, the pace of research on this subject has somewhat decreased. Orientation on qualitative comprehension of the accumulated sources, development of themes lying beyond the limits of Andronovo culture, and strengthening of a role of natural sciences characterizes a modern stage of research on the Bronze Age of Northern Kazakhstan.

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XX – XXI ҒАСЫРДЫҢ БІРІНШІ ШІРЕГІНДЕГІ СОЛТҮСТІК ҚАЗАҚСТАННЫҢ ҚОЛА ДӘУІРІНІҢ ЕСКЕРТКІШТЕРІН ЗЕРТТЕУ ТАРИХЫ

Андатпа

Солтүстік Қазақстан қола дәуірін зерттеу тұрғысынан ең көп зерттелген өңірлердің бірі болып табылады. Оңтүстік Орал, Батыс Сібір және Сарыарқа аумағындағы аймақтың географиялық орналасуы мәдени-тарихи процестердің белсенді жүруіне әкелді, бұл өз кезегінде өлкенің ежелгі тарихын зерттеудің болашағын анықтады. Зерттеудің мақсаты – археологиялық зерттеулердің тарихын қадағалау, жеке экспедициялар мен зерттеушілердің үлестерін бағалау, аймақтағы археологиялық зерттеулер процесінің тұтас бейнесін қалыптастыру.

Солтүстік Қазақстан аумағындағы алғашқы археологиялық жұмыстар XIX ғасырдың аяғынан бастап жүргізіле бастады. Бұл әдетте Орынбор ғылыми мұрағаттық комиссиясы мен Империялық археологиялық

комиссияның қамқорлығымен жүзеге асырылған эпизодтық іс-шаралар болды. Г.Б. Зданович, В.В. Евдокимов, С.Я. Зданович, В.Н. Логвиннің зерттеу жұмыстарымен байланысты келесі кезең негізінен анықтаушы болды және аймақтың археологиясы мен ежелгі тарихы туралы негізгі білімді қалыптастырды. Бүгінгі таңда қола дәуірі бойынша жинақталған материалдың үлкен көлемінің аясында осы тақырып бойынша зерттеу қарқыны біршама төмендеді. Жинақталған дереккөздерді сапалы түсінуге және андроновтан тыс тақырыптарды әзірлеуге назар аудару зерттеудің қазіргі кезеңін сипаттайды. Мақалада Солтүстік Қазақстанның қола дәуірінің ескерткіштерін жекелеген ғалымдардың революцияға дейінгі ізденістерінен бастап қазіргі уақыттағы кәсіби экспедициялық зерттеулерге дейінгі зерттеу кезеңдерін көрсететін деректер келтірілген.

Негізгі сөздер: археология, ескерткіш, Солтүстік Қазақстан, қола дәуірі, қазба жұмыстары, тарихнама

ИСТОРИЯ ИЗУЧЕНИЯ ПАМЯТНИКОВ ЭПОХИ БРОНЗЫ СЕВЕРНОГО КАЗАХСТАНА В XX – ПЕРВОЙ ЧЕТВЕРТИ XXI ВЕКА

Аннотация

Северный Казахстан является одним из наиболее исследованных регионов в плане изучения эпохи бронзы. Географическое положение региона в пределах Южного Урала, Западной Сибири и Сары-Арки обусловило активный ход культурно-исторических процессов, что в свою очередь предопределило перспективность изучения древней истории края. Цель исследования – проследить историю археологических исследований, оценить вклад отдельных экспедиций и исследователей, сформировать цельную картину процесса археологических исследований в регионе.

Первые археологические работы на территории Северного Казахстана начали проводиться с конца XIX века. Как правило, это были эпизодические мероприятия, которые осуществлялись под эгидой Оренбургской ученой архивной комиссии и Императорской археологической комиссии. Подобное положение в деле археологических исследований, за некоторым исключением, сохранялось до конца второй трети XX века. Следующий этап, связанный с исследовательской деятельностью Г.Б. Здановича, В.В. Евдокимова, С.Я. Зданович, В.Н. Логвина, во многом стал определяющим и заложил базовые знания по археологии и древней истории края. Сегодня, на фоне огромного количества накопленного материала по эпохе бронзы, темп исследования по данной тематике несколько снизился. Ориентация на качественное осмысление накопленных источников и разработка тем, лежащих за пределами андроноведения, характеризует современный этап исследований. В статье приводятся данные, отражающие этапы изучения памятников эпохи бронзы Северного Казахстана от дореволюционных изысканий отдельных ученых до профессиональных экспедиционных исследований настоящего времени.

Ключевые слова: археология, памятник, Северный Казахстан, эпоха бронзы, раскопки, историография

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Information about authors:

Almas Zhalelov – **corresponding author**, Master of Arts, PhD student, department of Social and Humanitarian Sciences, Akhmet Baitursynuly Kostanay Regional University, Kostanay, Republic of Kazakhstan

E-mail: nacion98@mail.ru

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8468-7051>

Irina Shevnina – doctor of philosophy (PhD), Candidate of Historical Sciences, acting associate professor, department of Social and Humanitarian Sciences, Akhmet Baitursynuly Kostanay Regional University, Kostanay, Republic of Kazakhstan

E-mail: shevnina_i@mail.ru

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3595-6849>

Информация об авторах:

Алмас Жалелов – **основной автор**, магистр гуманитарных наук, докторант, кафедра социально-гуманитарных дисциплин, Костанайский региональный университет им. Ахмет Байтұрсынулы, г. Костанай, Республика Казахстан

E-mail: nacion98@mail.ru

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8468-7051>

Ирина Шевнина – доктор философии (PhD), кандидат исторических наук, и.о. ассоциированного профессора, кафедра социально-гуманитарных дисциплин, Костанайский региональный университет им. Ахмет Байтұрсынулы, г. Костанай, Республика Казахстан

E-mail: shevnina_i@mail.ru

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3595-6849>

Авторлар туралы ақпарат:

Алмас Жалелов – **негізгі автор**, гуманитарлық ғылымдар магистрі, докторант, әлеуметтік-гуманитарлық пәндер кафедрасы, Ахмет Байтұрсынұлы атындағы Қостанай өңірлік университеті, Қостанай қ, Қазақстан Республикасы

E-mail: nacion98@mail.ru

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8468-7051>

Ирина Шевнина – философия докторы (PhD), тарих ғылымдарының кандидаты, қауымдастырылған профессордың м.а., әлеуметтік-гуманитарлық пәндер кафедрасы, Ахмет Байтұрсынұлы атындағы Қостанай өңірлік университеті, Қостанай қ, Қазақстан Республикасы

E-mail: shevnina_i@mail.ru

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3595-6849>