

## **Life writes history on particles – our task is to collect them**

In June, 2013 on enlarged meeting of the Interdepartmental working group on questions of study of national history under the chairmanship of the State Secretary of Kazakhstan M. Tazhin the decision to organize collection, systematization and classification all available abroad and in the country of historical material about national history of Kazakhs and Kazakhstan was made. To create the full list of the available manuscripts, artifacts, books, others printing, audio-and the video records, etc. which are stored in the museums, libraries, archive centers abroad and within the country.

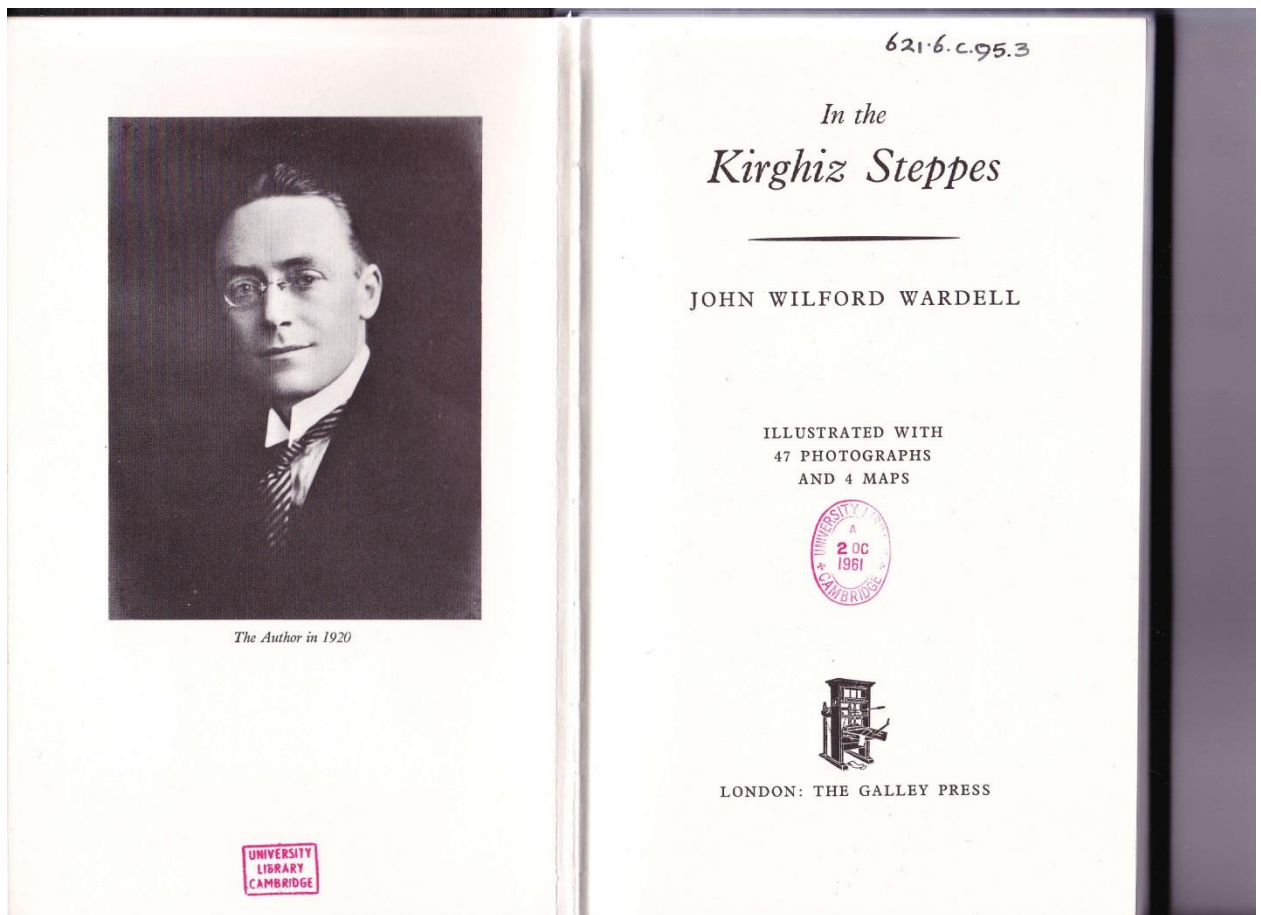
Years of independence of Kazakhstan showed that the historical science of Kazakhstan develops in new measurement – independent Kazakhstan historical and scientific and historiographic space. In the contemporary history of the country the historiography became especially significant area of historical knowledge.

In rapidly changing global world Kazakhstan found the historical place. The study of history is tightly connected to other social sciences. Perhaps, that fact is also explained by it that I, the philologist, work not the first year at Institute of history of the state. My task is not to write history, but help my colleagues to do this difficult, but noble work.

In 2013, having passed competition, I won a grant of the President of Kazakhstan “Bolashak” and by this program had training at the Cambridge University. During my training it was necessary to combine subjects of scientific researches, both on Philology and on the History. In addition to enhancement of English, on the instructions of Institute of history of the state it was necessary to work and on the subject "The Western Historiography about Kazakhstan".

Fluent English allowed working with library resources of University of Cambridge, National Library and in the British National Archive in London to collect actual material about the history of Kazakhstan. I wanted to find as much as possible interesting material in which foreign authors to some extent authentically would light history of my native land. And here for the first time I understood, the feelings of historians, having found the document, artifacts and facts that they have been looking for.

Now there is a huge opportunity to get the most interesting material from the Internet, than young, unsophisticated people often use. But in libraries, there are materials that could not be found on Internet. One of my finding was the book of John Wardel called “In the Kirgiz Steppes”.



In 1914, being the design engineer in the British company, John Wardel arrived together with other English experts in Atbasar in Akmolinsk area, and then to Spassky coal development plant. After the long stay in Petropavlovsk, by the Trans-Siberian railroad afterwards went to the Far East.

The book is rich for illustrations and cards of Kazakhstan of that time. It had description not only an economic status, but also life, culture and nature of the area. In 1919, having arrived to London, J. Wardel, wrote the book, at that time when almost whole world prayed for ruin of ideas of the Russian Revolution, and planned to publish it after falling of the USSR. But only forty years of existence of the USSR, he decides to publish the book which is published in 1960. The advantage of the book is that the author was able to save in the documents historicity, reliability and at the same time author's vision of Northern Kazakhstan of that time.

There were plenty of latest sources among of my collection, and all of them reflect different aspects of history of Kazakhstan during different periods. But I did not want to restrict my sources only by books, and I went to National Library and National Archive of Great Britain. Despite the fact that Ariel Cohen in the book "Eurasia in equilibrium. Amerika and regional change of the power" mentioned that restoration of the term "Big Game" also anachronistically as idea to revive the Great Silk Way as the means connecting China with Europe is one of the most

important aspects of the increased interest of the western researchers in Kazakhstan.

The term "Big Game" for the first time in 1834 was introduced by the officer of the British investigation, the traveler and writer Arthur Connolly. He used it to describe fight between the Russian and British empires for domination in Central Asia. Later, as Alexander Kuli wrote, this term was used in Rudyard Kipling's novel of "Kim" in 1901. The British officials used the term "Big Game" concerning the Russian Empire which as it seemed to them, quite widely extended the influence on the Caucasus and Central Asia, thereby posing threat to northern boundaries of India, to access to the Indian Ocean, and even to the most British Colony. This term became especially popular in a geopolitical case during the Post-Soviet period. Kazakhstan found the historical mission in the region as the rod of Central Asia. All this also was an incitement for me to continue search of necessary documents in archives of the Indian Office in Great Britain.

Although the fact that Kazakhstan not the direct neighbor of India, but its unique location that functioned as the conductor and potentially even the diplomatic intermediary among the competing forces in Central Asia. It is quite interesting that in documents of Indian office in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries there are very limited materials about Central Asia. However, at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, travelers and inspectors regularly leave to the North from India to Central Asia. Although their reports did not cause in the government of India of special political interests and in spite of the fact that all information was sketchy, is not coordinated and very often moved with a big share of prejudices, however, documents were a basis for further use.

In 1812, for example, William Moorcroft, the horse breeder and the veterinary surgeon, traveling across the Himalayas, reported that the Russian dealers are active in Nepal and Tibet. From the middle of the nineteenth century he was the first Englishman who reached Central Asia. His reports were one of the first in whom the question of the Anglo-Russian commercial competition in Central Asia was brought up. In 1818 he got permission to leave to northwest Asia for the purpose of adjustment of commercial relations and delivery of horses for improving of the British breed and for military science. For this purpose he went till nomad tribes, having gone deep into the Kyrgyz steppes from Turkestan to the Caspian Sea on the territory occupied with three hordes the Kazakh-Kyrgyz. Following were the reports of Arthur Connolly, the amateur traveler.

His reports cleared up and added information to the increasing compound of knowledge and the hearings accumulated by the British services about this territory. The gratitude was expressed to him for provision of information on the Russian interests in Central Asia from Sir John Makdonald, the British minister in Tehran. Moorcroft's letters pass as official reports on India (the European Manuscripts) to Confidential Department. Protocols of listening and reports of the

actions which are usually subjected to censorship before the printing are published. All these confidential documents are available in Department of study of India and Africa of National Library.

Additional information was collected at the beginning of the nineteenth century as a result of different diplomatic missions sent to Russia, Afghanistan and to northwest boundary in attempt to counteract Napoleonic projects of which were afraid in India. Permanently the extending interests of Russia and Great Britain in Central Asia and sequential growth of strength between these two countries were a dominant in political speculations of governors and administrators of the British India. Their concern is reflected in extensive amount of the initial material which is today in reports of the Indian office. These sources represent the general composition of available materials about events of the next decades. Political and diplomatic relations can be traced, first of all, through political and classified reports of department and through protocols of listening.

Siege of Herat in 1898, the Russian expedition to Khiva and the first Anglo-Afghan war entered a military element into the term "Game". The Crimean war reflected a military culmination point of "Big Game". By this time the range of available sources extended, including both military and political reports, official publications (in particular parliamentary documents) and materials of library, such as newspapers. All these increased an information stream which afterwards was arranged for more convenient use by the ministers creating a policy of further actions on their basis.

Within the subsequent years of 19th and 20th centuries the main policy consisted in concentrating on the relative balance of forces and influence taking place between Great Britain and Russia in the buffer states between two Asian empires. For officials of Political Departments both in India and in London data collection and processing for the purpose of support with auxiliary materials of the government and their ministers became the main objective. The small reference manual "Who is who in Central Asia" (General Staff became one of such sources which drew my attention. India, 1929. Simla. Government of India Press), let out in 1929.

This document which turned yellow from time under a signature stamp "Confidentially" was stored especially carefully under personal monitoring of the official to which it was recommended behind the royal signature. It contained information on key figures of Central Asia for that period. I will give quite eloquent exposures from the reference manual: "Vedensky – before war was the official of the Russian Residence in Bukhara and the friend of Emir. He was arrested by Bolsheviks in 1919, the Emir offered the large amount for his release, in which he was refused. He was released and lived in Tashkent, and then at the beginning of 1920 moved to Bukhara with Broydo's Mission.

Bondarev – the counter-revolutionary, nationalist and chauvinist. He was the commander of the 3<sup>rd</sup> division, and had poor education. He was the worker of Putilovsky plant and differed in the civil war. December, 1927, Bobrovsky – Russian, the former communist, imperious, was known for the cruelty and alcoholism, run way in Meshed, having stolen money from Bolsheviks. Urazbekov (1928), having bad character, greed and unreliable, poorly educated Kyrgyz without any influence, was the President of Central Executive Committee (CEC) of Kirgiz Republic.

In a case with Turar Ryskulov – huge respect for the Kazakh leader. No. 671 Ryskulov – age of 35 years, Kyrgyz. He was the teacher at Muslim school. September, 1919 – the Secretary of the Tashkent Council; March 1920 – the president of Communistic Muslim Bureau and member of Communistic Council of the Turkestan Commission, also the president of Provincial Communist Bureau of Muslims. He was perfectly informed and studied in perfection all methods of the Russian Bolshevism. Turar was the chairman of Muslim Bureau of Turkestan Communist party (1919). Together with Abdusaffarov he gained authority on a role of "Tsentrovik". He had vigorous personality and strong character. Turar was not really popular among Muslims, but had support from the Russian Bolsheviks. T. Ryskulov was chairman of the Turkestan-Siberian Railway Construction Committee in 1929.

In the reports the staff of intelligence services of that time described not only a geopolitical situation in the territory of the Russian Turkestan or Semirechie as they called our territory, but also represented the vision about indigenous people of the area. For example, in one of the reports they wrote: "For example, Bolsheviks, in general, found in Kazakhs satisfactory to their purposes material.

As nomads, certainly, they had very few cultural or religious traditions introduced from the outside, than people who lived in the cities, and there was no special nationalist feeling. Anyway, for the closest century of the Russian board and presence of Russians everywhere, the territory which was known before as Semirechie, was occupied now by a large number of the Russian settlers that will tend to erase Empire boundaries where more or less neglect Kazakhs. Last 20 years of the Soviet mode brought to indigenous people, both advantages and inconveniences of the modern Soviet civilization".

From the short fragments given by me from the sources found in libraries and archives of Great Britain it is possible to come to the conclusion that the solution of Enlarged meeting of the Interdepartmental working group on questions of study of national history is quite topical and based on facts. The study and promotion of national history should not be restricted within one country. In my opinion, it is important to continue media lighting of the conducted researches.

**M. Anafinova**

*Candidate of Philology,*

*Head of Eurasianism and Comparative Political Researches*

**Provided by the Institute of History of State**