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## **Relations of the Kazakhs and Russian Empire in the first half of the 18th century in the inventories of fund 248 “The Senate and its institutions” RGADA**

The inventory 3 of fund 248 “The Senate and its institutions” of Russian State Archive of Ancient Acts (RGADA), containing data on regions bordering Kazakh lands is analyzed. The inventory consists of 150 books, each includes from one to several dozen. Totally, above 170 cases with data on history of Kazakh-Russian relations in modern times were studied. The research results showed relevance and diversity of archival documents of 248 RGADA fund, its source potential on history of relationships of Kazakhs and Russian Empire in the first half of the 18th century. Analysis of the headings of inventory cases made possible to determine a specific range of issues on history of bilateral relations based on available archival data. Four groups have been singled out taking into their subject specifics. The first group is related to Orenburg and its administrative and political entities: expedition, commission, line of fortifications. The documents of the second group contained data on military-political contacts of Kazakh khans and foremen with representatives of Russian administration. The third contains materials on Kazakh-Russian relations in trade sphere. In fourth, cases are concentrated on relations of Kazakhs with other nomadic peoples, whose contacts were in sphere Russian Empire interests.

*Keywords:* Kazakh-Russian relations, RGADA, history of Kazakhstan, history of Russia, 18th century, Russian archives, sources, funds, inventories, diplomacy.

### *Introduction*

Historical studies in Kazakhstan have conducted significant exploratory works to discover and publish written historical sources on the problems of different chronological periods. The modern era is an important area. Local historians have been working hard from the 20th century till the present day to identify new documents of this period. Numerous separate papers, as well as complete collections, have been published. Such works include thematic documents dedicated to various problems related to modern times; one such is the history of the Kazakh-Russian relationship, especially in the first half of the 18th century. Simultaneously, there remains a serious shortage of historical sources, which leads to an unequal study of some problems. The need to conduct more extensive work to further identify and introduce new sources into the academic community is noted at the state level, as evidenced by several government programs to solve this problem.

The solution to this urgent problem for national science requires the involvement of materials from various archives, local and foreign ones. In Russian archives, for example, a significant array of documents remains unidentified or partially published, sometimes with serious mistakes.

There is also a severe lack of sources when studying the history of Kazakh-Russian relations, especially in their earliest period of modern time. It must be noted that a considerable body of published materials is often not an introduction of new sources but a reprinting of previously known and published ones. One of the largest archival repositories containing written sources related to this historical period is Russian State Archive of Ancient Acts (later – RGADA). A famous foreign researcher P. Kennedy told that RGADA is one of the oldest Russian archives that owns a Special status which was received after new reorganization as the 6 major archival institutions [1; xl].

The most required and most often used archive funds in research and publications among historians who study the issued theme are the following: No. 113 “Zyungor (kontaishin) cases – (collection) from the funds of the Ambassadorial (Posol’skii) Prikaz and the Ambassadorial chancellery”, No. 119 “Kalmyk cases”, No. 122 “Kirgiz-Kaisak cases”. However, researchers rarely use archival fund No. 248 “Senate and its institutions” from RGADA, although its wider use could have contributed to studying various aspects of the history of Kazakh-Russian relations and the history of Kazakhstan in modern times in general. This requires a more detailed study of materials from this fund.

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### *Experimental*

The documents of RGADA form the article source base. First of all, the historicism method facilitated the chronological sequence of thematic groups of archival documents. The analysis method made it possible to determine the significance of RGADA materials for the history of Kazakh-Russian relations based on historiography data. The synthesis enabled the modeling of historical events from the materials used in the studied inventory. The comparative-historical method helped to conduct a comparative analysis of historiography on the research topic. The classification method facilitated the work on systematization and delineation of thematic groups of documents. The problem-specific approach allowed to highlight the critical problems of the research objects, according to which the groups presented in the article was composed.

### *Results*

The publication of collections of archival documents and materials often includes documents from RGADA. For instance, records from Fund No. 122 “The Kirghiz-Kaisak cases” are edited in some history docket which were published in 1948 and 1961 in sourcebook compiled by I.V. Yerofeeva “Epistolary Heritage of the Kazakh Ruling Elite of 1675-1821” (2014), which also includes the records from funds No. 122 and No. 248 [2, 267–269, 270–274, 278–279, 288–293; 3, 17–32; 4, 6–8; 5, 93–95, 97–105, 116–138].

Published documents of RGADA mainly represent official correspondence of Kazakh political figures (khans, sultans, elders) with Russian tsars, employees of the chancellery, regional administration, and diplomatic missions. Thus, the general area of published documents in the archive by these days is interstate relations. The published documents mainly contain information about Kazakh rulers, their relations with neighboring nomadic peoples, data on the release and exchange of captives, trade relations of nomads with the population of Russian fortifications; the presentment of donations which were sent by Russian rulers to the Khans of the Kazakhs, etc.

The RGADA documents are equally important for scholars studying Kazakh history in the early modern period. A.I. Isin correctly points out that documents on the international contacts of the Moscow State stored in the RGADA are valuable and voluminous material, without the use of which it is impossible to understand the completeness of the historical processes of the politics of Eurasian countries [6; 17].

The significant repository of sources on Kazakh-Russian relations is Fund 248 “Senate and its institutions (union of funds), St. Petersburg, Moscow”, the materials of which are dated to 1733–1804. The fund contains about a hundred inventories. The main types of documents of the fund are correspondence, documentation items, cases, books of internal structural institutions, descriptions of magazines and minutes, meeting materials, etc. [7]. Inventory 3, which was selected for the study, covers materials from several border country areas, which territories were part of the empire in the 18th century, and the departments responsible for contact with them. More than 170 cases related to the history of Kazakhstan and Kazakh-Russian relations in the studied period. A survey of the inventory documents allowed us to divide the existing cases into several thematic groups.

As a result of the study, the first group, the largest and most numerous one, comprises the cases related to Orenburg and the problem of the importance of Orenburg for Kazakh-Russian relationships in the first half of the 18th century. This group’s topics are diverse. Here we can highlight such issues as the functioning of the Orenburg expedition, The Commission, and the creation of a fortification line. The expedition’s materials are reports of its leaders I.K. Kirillov, V.N. Tatishchev, and others associated with such activities as providing food, finance, equipment, reports, etc. There are reports on the Orenburg fortress construction and the extraction of minerals found in its vicinity [8], reports on the organization of the defense of Orenburg factories with an attached statement on the number of weapons and ammunition in the South Ural fortresses [9]. There are descriptive materials informing about the arrival of ambassadors from khans of the Younger and Middle Zhuz to Orenburg at the end of October in 1735, the relationship of the Kazakh rulers with the Russian administration. It also contains letters from the Younger Zhuz representative, Satiy Batyr, about the sending of an ambassador and the transition to Russian allegiance with lists of kinsmen [10].

The other part of this group is the Orenburg Commission materials, including documents from the office and correspondence with higher authorities. Among them, there are documents containing information regarding the allocation of funds for gifts to Kazakh rulers and their entourage [11], construction of fortresses for making a fortified line along the Samara River and Yaik River up to Siberia [12], the foundation of the city on the Syr-Darya River upon the Abulkhair Khan’s request. These sources also report on the envoys

from the Middle Zhuz khan Abulmambet to Petersburg [13], awarding of Tarkhan title to Kazakh and Karakalpak elders for special merits. Documents related to the Orenburg fortification line also belong to this group. Among them are the cases informing on sending Yaik Cossacks, Siberian noblemen, and clerical Murzas of the Kazan governorates for the settlement construction [14], on undertaking measures to strengthen garrison forces in response to the attacks by Kalmyks [15], on drawing maps of Orenburg and Siberian border lines [16].

The second important group of cases is on the issue of military and political relations between the Kazakhs and Russians. These materials mainly contain the names of I.I. Neplyuev, I.K. Kirillov, V.N. Tatishchev, and others from the Russian side, and Abulkhair and Abulmambet Khans from the Kazakh side. There are reports on contacts between the Russian administration and the Younger and Middle Zhuz Kazakh Khans - Abulkhair and Sameke [17]. This group also includes data on military collisions, for example, attacks of the Kazakh units on the settlements and groups of serving people in Tsarsk uyezd [18], detachments headed by Tyulep Batyr and Koshkar against Kalmykian nomads and Russian fortresses, to cities of the Astrakhan province with instructions on the required reports in case of Kazakh and Karakalpak attacks [19], on the necessity to strengthen the Tsaritsynskaya line due to Kazakh attacks to Kalmykian nomads [20], measures to protect the Russian border governorates from the Kazakhs and Karakalpaks' attacks [21].

Several documents of this group are related to the attacks on Yaitsky town. Among them is the report of the Kazan governor A. Saltykov on the ambitions of the Kirghiz-Kaisaks (Kazakh) and Karakalpaks to attack the Yaitsky town and messages of Kazakh incursions [22].

The third group includes documents on trade relations between Russians and representatives of the Kazakh nobility. This group also incorporates the problems of economic contacts between the Kazakhs and Russian merchants, nomadic clans with a population of cities and fortifications. Among them, there are such documents as the report of the Privy Councillor I. Neplyuev on the concentration of Russian trade with the eastern peoples in cities and fortresses of Orenburg region, due to the proximity of looting of caravans going to Khiva, Bukhara, Tashkent, and the Kazakh settlements [23].

The fourth group of cases demonstrates the issues of building a system of contacts between the Kazakhs and other Asian peoples – the Kalmyks, Bashkirs, Dzungars, etc., and their relations with the political and administrative entities of Russia. The priority issues with the Kalmyks were mutual raids to steal cattle, solve this problem and reconciliation, recruitment of baptized Kalmyks for military service against the Karakalpaks with granting of certain privileges, caution of the imperial administration towards a possible alliance between the Kazakhs and the Kalmyks. This is evidenced by such documents as the report of the Collegium of Foreign Affairs proposing correspondence with the Astrakhan Governor V.N. Tatishchev on the driving away of cattle by the Kalmyks from the Kazakhs and on preventing Kazakh forces from attacking the Kalmyk settlements; a case concerning the recruitment of baptized Kalmyks to guard against Karakalpaks' raids, providing them with horses, weapons and monetary compensation; the case of taking precautionary measures in the Siberian province, in connection with the gathering of armed Kalmyks, Kazakhs and Buryats on the Karasuk River; the report of the head of the Orenburg Commission, Lieutenant-General V. Urussov, on measures of Russian administration to prevent clashes between Kazakhs of Middle Zhuz and Kalmyks of Khan Dunduk Omba (with an extract listing the activities in this area since October 1739); report of the chief of the Orenburg Commission written by Lieutenant-General V.A. Urussov, on measures to reconcile the Kazakhs with the Kalmyks [24–27].

This may also include documents on Kazakh-Bashkir relations such as the case about the Karakalpaks and Kazakhs supposedly moving to Bashkiria and about relations with Ishim and Saltan-Murat who were Karakalpaks Khans; about instruction to Ufa Provincial Chancellery to investigate the case about robbery made by Bashkirs, Chudoy Batyr, and Karabash with comrades, who plundered property of a Bukharian Kazym Khammet Mulla and a Kazakh Karagul Saltybalduyev; preventing the Kazakhs from joining the Bashkir rebellion; the report of Ufa Vice-Governor on the return of the Bashkirs, who fled to the Kazakhs after the rebellion had been suppressed; about measures in Siberian, Kazan governorates and Ufa province to prevent the Bashkirs from uniting with the Kazakhs who crossed the Yaik River; on measures to suppress the rebellions of both peoples; on the suppression of the Bashkirs rebellion, who made an alliance with the Kazakhs for a joint campaign to the Kazan governorate; the report of Saratov military government on the lack of forces and on the organization of precautionary measures against the possible attack of the Bashkirs, who went to Yaitsk town together with the Kazakhs; the report of Ufa province chancellery on the return from the Kirghiz-Kaisak Central Horde of the Bashkirs, taken as prisoners by the Cossacks, who broke the Karasakal detachment (with notes of their stories of being in captivity); on sending to the head of the

Orenburg commission I. Neplyuev's the decree to summon fugitive Bashkirs from the Kirghiz-Kaisak Horde [28–32]. Studied cases also mainly reveal the topics on Kazakh-Dzungar relations: the implementation by the Russian diplomatic departments of measures to prevent the transition of the Middle and Younger Kazakh Zhuzes under the suzerainty of the Dzungar ruler Galdan-Tseren, strengthening the border military forces in connection with the possible intentions of the Dzungars to attack the territory that is subordinate to the Orenburg expeditions, official relations of the Orenburg Commission employees with the Kazakhs, Karakalpaks and Dzungars, as well as their internecine contacts, sources of personal origin (diaries) of Russian officers and officials on Russia's relations with Central Asian people [33–35].

### *Discussion*

The documents of the first group are dated back to 1719–1745. Its analysis and discussion allow to determine the valuable insights on the Orenburg expedition activities, whose leaders played an essential role in the relationship of Kazakhs with Russia, as well as its contribution to the research of natural resources and the growth of region's infrastructure. These leaders often participated in negotiations with Kazakh rulers and clan leaders and acted as organizers of work on constructing fortifications, cartographic, building and intelligence activities. The documents of the other part of this group are dated back to 1736–1746. The case materials provide information regarding the activities of the commission in the establishments of cities and fortresses, strengthening the contacts of the Russian officials with khans and representatives of Kazakh nobility by presenting the latter with gifts, titles, assistance in ensuring the arrival of Kazakh ambassadorial missions to Petersburg. The document information related to the Orenburg fortification line is dated back to 1737–1744 and provides essential data on the formation of the Russian fortresses, region geography and toponymy, nature of its settlement, and contacts of urban population with neighboring peoples.

Most of the documents of the second group are dated back to 1720–1742. These materials provide information for discussion of such items of military-political diplomacy as the defense of cities and fortifications, the attitude of nomadic peoples to Russian fortresses. It also includes information about names of the leaders of Kazakh clans, names of local settlements, plans for Russian military fortifications.

Researchers can observe and discuss the materials on the third group, which are related to the trade situation in Orenburg, report of the Kazan governorate chancellery on the organization of caravan trade between Orenburg and Tashkent and support of the Orenburg merchant community. Most of the documents are dated back to 1736–1743. In general, the documents provide valuable information on the routes of trade caravans, data on the goods supplied for sale, the most important cities in frame of trade and economic contacts of Kazakhs and Russian Empire.

The documents of the fourth group are dated back to 1720–1744. These materials provide information for discussion of such direction as relations between Kazakhs and Bashkirs. The main problems in this direction are the following: the migration of Kazakhs and Karakalpaks to Bashkiria, investigations regarding the Bashkirs incursions on the Kazakh territories, Russia opposition to a possible union of Kazakh and Bashkir clans, preventing their joint attacks on Russian fortifications, shelters for fugitive Bashkirs, joint uprisings. The next problems of the group are relations between the Kazakhs, Kalmyks, Karakalpaks, and Dzungars, as well as participation of Russia in their contacts. The main issues were Russia's opposition to the Kazakhs' possible entrance into the allegiance of Dzungaria, attacks by the Dzungars on Russian fortifications, the relationship of the Kazakhs, Dzungars, and Karakalpaks among themselves and with representatives of the Russian administration, in particular with the Orenburg Commission, information from Russian envoys on contacts between Kazakhs and Dzungars.

In general, the materials of the group are dated back to 1720–1780. The inventory documents provide significant insights into the relations of the Kazakhs with neighboring nomads and the Russian Empire and give comprehensive characteristics of the policy of building a system of relationships in the studied region.

### *Conclusions*

To sum up, we draw several conclusions. Firstly, the archive's materials are a valuable source for scientists researching history of Kazakh-Russian relations in modern times. Secondly, the review of the inventory of Fund 248 showed that this fund contains a significant number of cases relating to the history of Kazakh-Russian relations

The examined inventory No. 3 of Fund 248 of RGADA contains archival files in the chronological range of the 1720s–1780s and fully demonstrates almost the whole spectrum of the Kazakh-Russian contacts in the researched period. The most frequently mentioned names in the documents are Khans – Abulkhair,

Abulmambet, Sameke – and the batyrs – Koshkar, Satiya, Tyulep, etc. on the Kazakh side. On the Russian side, these are such military and political figures as I.K. Kirillov, I.I. Neplyuev, A.Saltykov, V.N. Tatishchev, V.A. Urussov. The most mentioned geographic locations are the cities of Orenburg, Yaitsk, Khiva, Bukhara, and Tashkent, the rivers of Samara, Syr-Darya, Yaik and Karasuk, the Siberian and Astrakhan provinces, the Orenburg region, Bashkiria, etc. Thus, the inventory of archival cases provides valuable information on the policy, geography, military and commercial diplomacy of the Kazakh Khans in their relations with Russia and the neighboring peoples within the sphere of interest of the Empire. The classification of groups carried out by researchers allows to designate the most significant aspects of the Kazakh-Russian contacts in the 18th century.

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### **РМЕАА-ның «Сенат және оның мекемелері» 248-ші қорының тізбесіндегі XVIII ғасырдың бірінші жартысындағы қазақ және Ресей империясының қатынастары**

Мақалада Ресей мемлекеттік ежелгі актілер архивінің (бұдан әрі – РМЕАА) «Сенат және оның мекемелері» 248-ші қорының 3-ші тізімдемесі талданған, онда қазақ жерімен шекаралас өңірлер бойынша деректер бар. Тізімдеме 150 кітаптан тұрады, олардың әрқайсысы бір кітаптан бірнеше ондағанға дейінгі әртүрлі істерді қамтиды. Жаңа кезеңдегі қазақ-орыс қатынастарының тарихы бойынша құнды мәліметтері бар 170-тен астам мұрағаттық істердің тізімдемелері зерттелген. Зерттеу нәтижелері XVIII ғасырдың бірінші жартысындағы қазақтар мен Ресей империясы қатынастарының тарихын зерттеуге арналған 248-ші қордың дереккөздік әлеуетін көрсетті. Тізімдеме істерінің тақырыптарын талдау архивтік деректері бар екіжақты қатынастар тарихы бойынша мәселелердің нақты шеңберін айқындауға мүмкіндік берді. Осы тізімдеменің істері жүргізілген талдау нәтижесінде олардың пәндік ерекшелігін ескере отырып, төрт топқа бөлінді. Істердің бірінші тобы Орынбор және оның әкімшілік-саяси құрылымдарымен байланысты, яғни: экспедиция, комиссия, бекініс шебі. Екінші топтағы құжаттарда қазақ хандары мен старшиналарының орыс әкімшілігінің өкілдерімен әскери-саяси байланыстары туралы деректер бар. Үшінші топта сауда саласындағы қазақ-орыс өзарақатынастары бойынша материалдар топтастырылған. Төртінші топта Ресей империясының мүдделерінің саласына кіретін өзге көшпенді халықтармен қазақтардың қатынастары бойынша істер жинақталған.

*Кілт сөздер:* қазақ-орыс қатынастары, РМЕАА, Қазақстан тарихы, Ресей тарихы, XVIII ғасыр, дереккөздер, қорлар, тізбелер, дипломатия.

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### **Отношения казахов и Российской империи в первой половине XVIII в. в описях фонда 248 «Сенат и его учреждения» РГАДА**

В статье проанализирована опись 3 фонда 248 «Сенат и его учреждения» Российского государственного архива древних актов (РГАДА), содержащая данные по регионам пограничным с казахскими землями. Опись состоит из 150 книг, каждая из которых включает в себя разное количество дел от одного до нескольких десятков. Всего изучены описи более 170 архивных дел, содержащих ценные сведения по истории казахско-русских отношений в новое время. Результаты исследования показали источникный потенциал фонда 248 для изучения истории отношений казахов и Российской империи в первой половине XVIII века. Анализ заголовков дел описи позволил определить конкретный круг вопросов по истории двусторонних отношений, по которым имеются архивные данные. Дела данной описи в результате проведенного анализа были разделены по четырем группам с учетом их предметной специфики. Первая группа дел связана с Оренбургом и относящимся к нему административно-политическим субъектами: экспедиция, комиссия, линия укреплений. Документы второй группы содержат данные по военно-политическим контактам казахских ханов и старшин с представителями российской администрации. В третьей группе сконцентрированы материалы по казахско-русским взаимоотношениям в сфере торговли. В четвертой группе сосредоточены дела по отношениям казахов с другими кочевыми народами, контакты с которыми входили в сферу интересов Российской империи.

*Ключевые слова:* казахско-русские отношения, РГАДА, история Казахстана, история России, XVIII в., российские архивы, источники, фонды, описи, дипломатия.

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