



## The First Scientific Expeditions in Karakalpakstan in the 20-30s of the Xx Century: Problems and Consequences

*Khidirniyazov Zulxandiyar\**

*Researcher, Karakalpak State University, Nukus, Uzbekistan*

<b>Received</b> 12-06-2022	<b>Abstract:</b> The first scientific expeditions that played an important role in the formation and development of Karakalpak local history are described. The goals of these expeditions, the issues and problems being studied, and the results achieved are highlighted. The main problems of the first scientific expeditions are also shown.	<b>Keywords:</b> scientific expedition, ethno-linguistic expedition, history of the Karakalpak people, examples of oral folk art, productive forces potential, natural resources, cultural heritage, conference
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### INTRODUCTION

Russia's invasion of Central Asia had long-term strategic plans. It was a new sphere of influence, new lands, markets for the sale of industrial products, rich natural resources, cheap labor, and so on. In order to consolidate its power, Tsarist Russia began to study the entire economic structure, life, culture, and history of the peoples who lived here. Among them was the Amudarya expedition, the materials of which are still waiting for their researchers. "In general, the Amudarya expedition of 1874-1875 laid the foundation for a more comprehensive and systematic study of the country. This expedition is the most remarkable study of the southern part of Central Asia at that time." [1]

Consequently, this, in turn, led to another goal - how to better organize the supply of raw materials to the industry of the Center and to ensure the uninterrupted operation of trade markets, as well as the subjugation of the indigenous population. With the establishment of Bolshevik rule, Russia's policy towards Central Asia remained virtually unchanged, with all of these regions becoming a raw material supplement to the Russian economy, which was particularly evident in the late 1920s and early 1930s.

### MAIN PART

In the course of the new economic policy of the Soviet government, Russia's growing industry needed cotton, leather raw materials and many other things, for which the new government sent a number of intelligence expeditions to the outskirts of that period, including Karakalpakstan. These expeditions mainly dealt with the problems of the Amudarya productive forces, irrigation, transport, fisheries, and livestock. In 1925, L.S. Berg

organized a scientific expedition to the Aral Sea basin, as a result of which fishing, fishing gear, fish species and reserves, the conditions of navigation in the Aral Sea were described in detail [2].

Karakalpak Autonomous Oblast (hereinafter - after the formation of the KAO, in October 1924, the local political elite, represented by A. Dosnazarov, K. Nurmuhammedov and others, became interested in organizing research on the language, history, ethnography of the Karakalpak people. Lack of scientific staff. Therefore, the Executive Committee of the QAO asks the Central Executive Committee of the Kazakh ASSR (hereinafter - the MIC of the Kazakh ASSR) to send a scientific expedition to the QAO to study the region specifically, as QAO was part of the Kazakh ASSR from its inception until 1930 [3 sent an expedition consisting of N. A. Baskakov and A. Davlet, students of the Faculty of Ethnology of Moscow State University and the Museum of Ethnography and Archeology of the USSR [4].

The expedition worked for three years - from 1926 to 1929 and collected a large amount of ethnographic material. N.A. Baskakov wrote about this expedition: "The first trips in 1926, 1928, 1929 were not for dialectological, but for ethnographic purposes, although during this period important linguistic materials were collected" [5]. 1928-1929. the composition of the ethnographic expedition increased. He was joined by a great specialist A. Melkov, who also collected very interesting materials on ethnography and language.

In 1927, the Regional Executive Committee of the QAO proposed to the regional department of public education (oblXTB) to intensify the

publication of scientific and literary materials available in the QAO in the Karakalpak language. At the same time, the need to study the basics of language, the procedure for defining and approving terminology was emphasized. It should be noted that during this period, the development of the basics of grammar was already underway.

In 1927, Schultz, an employee of the Leningrad Institute of Ethnography of the USSR Academy of Sciences, conducted research on the language and life of the Karakalpaks, which was published in 1928 as a small article in the form of a report reflecting general information about the Karakalpaks. Almost simultaneously in 1928, A.Morozova, a graduate of the Oriental Faculty of the University, conducted a study on the ethnography of the Karakalpaks in the northern districts of the KAO.

The Central Asian Museum of Ethnology has prepared for a special expedition in a number of districts of QAO - Turtkul, Chimbay, Takhtakor and Khalkabad. A.Davlet, a researcher at the museum, collected a collection of folk costumes, spinning and weaving tools, and even made an ethnographic film about Karakalpakstan, some of which are of great interest to science.

In 1929, the ethnographic group of the Society for the Study of Kazakhstan also worked in the territory of Karakalpakstan and continued its research until 1930.

In the same years, the first archeological excavations began in Mizdakhon (Khojeyli district). This complex was first described by A.Yu. Yakubovskiy. From the beginning of 1930 a systematic study of the cultural heritage of the Karakalpak people was established. The Institute of Oriental Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences (USSR Academy of Sciences) has a special place in this research, its main task was to comprehensively develop the problems of the history of the peoples of the East. These issues were put on the agenda in 1936 at a meeting on the problems of Central Asian history and archeology. After this meeting, the Academy of History and Material Culture (later the Institute of Archeology of the USSR Academy of Sciences) organized the Khorezm Archaeological and Ethnographic Expedition of the USSR Academy of Sciences in 1937 to study the problems of pre-Islamic history of Central Asia. The expedition was led by a future corresponding member of the USSR Academy of

Sciences, Honorary Academician of the USSR Academy of Sciences SP Tolstov [6]. The role of this expedition in the formation and development of local lore of Karakalpakstan is special and important, so we decided to dedicate a separate article to it.

From June 15 to September 15, 1930 (for 2 months) the first ethnological-linguistic expedition worked in Karakalpakstan. It was headed by SE Malov, a graduate of the Faculty of Turkish Philology, future doctor of philological sciences, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, sent by the Turkology Cabinet of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The purpose of this expedition was to create a solid spelling and grammar of the Karakalpak language together with other Turkic languages [7]. TS Safiev, NA Baskakov - researchers of the Karakalpak regional department of public education, NV Torchinskaya - the head of the museum of local lore, ethnographer AH Davlet, K. Ubaydullaev, writers M. Daribaev, P. Seytmuratov, O. Ayteshev, A. Morozova, T. Bekimbetov participated. The ethnological-linguistic expedition collected rich materials on the basis of which S.E.Malov and N.A.Baskakov's "News on the Karakalpak language", "Samples of folklore of Karakalpaks of Kegeyli and Chimbay districts" Samples of folklore of Karakalpaks of Kungrad districts", manuscripts of N.A. Baskakov and T. Bekimbetov" Project of Karakalpak spelling "[9] were prepared.

The study of the productive forces of Karakalpakstan, its material and spiritual culture, was carried out from June 20, 1930, even after its direct entry into the RSFSR. On December 27, 1931, a meeting of the Plenum of the Council for the Study of Productive Forces of the USSR Academy of Sciences was held. It was attended by A.B.Fersman, S.F.Oldenburger, A.Yu.Samoylovich, S.I.Solntsev and others. A.Shestov's report on the plan of research work in Central Asia was heard at the plenum. As for the QAO, the need for a comprehensive study of the lower reaches of the Amudarya was recognized.

In 1932, the USSR Academy of Sciences, in accordance with the agreement with the government of Karakalpakstan, sent a complex expedition to the region, including geochemical, agro-economic, geobotanical, sandy-desert, geological exploration of phosphorites, ethnographic and historical-bibliographic teams. Teams of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The

Kyzylkum expedition geochemically studied the natural resources of the Central Kyzylkum and Sultan-Uvoys-Mountains. A total of 12 people, including a student of the Leningrad Institute of Geology, KM Urazov, originally from Karakalpakstan, took part in its work under the guidance of engineer-geologist of the Institute of Geochemistry of the USSR Academy of Sciences AF Sosedko. The complex expedition worked in all areas of the national economy, as well as in the field of cultural heritage of the Karakalpak people [10]. The first conference on the study of the productive forces of Karakalpakstan was held in Leningrad at the initiative of the Government of Karakalpakstan and the Academy of Sciences of the USSR in order to summarize the collected materials and implement a number of practical measures on them. In its work, the conference aimed to draw the attention of scientists of the USSR Academy of Sciences to the further study of the region, which would help to develop the economy and culture of the region. The conference was attended by representatives of leading organizations of the republic and young Karakalpak scientists, including the Chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the USSR K.Nurmuhamedov, K.Ubaydullaev and other young scientists from the USSR. To convene the conference at the meeting, academicians - A.P. Karpinsky, A.B. Fersman, I.G. Alexandrov, K.K. Gedrats, B.A. Keller, S.F. Oldenburg, A.F. Arkhangelsky, professors - An organizing committee consisting of V.A.Zelenko, F.I.Abolin, I.V.Mutkov, L.S.Berg was elected. The conference heard 37 reports on the state of Karakalpakstan's productive forces and the cultural heritage of the Karakalpak people.

The conference was an important step in the further study of natural resources and culture of the republic. In order to implement the decisions set out at the conference, on April 12, 1933, the Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences considered the need to take a number of measures arising from the decision of the conference on the study of the productive forces of Karakalpakstan. The Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences decided on the issue under consideration:

- To publish the materials of the first conference on the study of the productive forces of Karakalpakstan in 2 volumes under the heading "Works and materials of the I Conference of the USSR Academy of Sciences on the study of the productive forces of the Karakalpak ASSR."

- Academician S.F. Oldenburg, Academician A.Yu. Samoilovich, correspondent member S.G. Tomchinsky, Director of the Institute of Material Culture of the USSR Academy of Sciences NM Thorin to establish a temporary commission on Karakalpakstan [12].

In addition, with the support of this commission, a scientific library was established at the Karakalpak Research Institute (QQITI), which became the basis of the Republican Museum of Karakalpakstan.

On June 23, 1933, an agreement was signed between the commission of the USSR Academy of Sciences and the Karakalpak Research Institute, under which the Institute of Oriental Studies and the Institute of History and Archeology undertook to collect and publish documents on the history of Karakalpakstan.

The joint plan of the Institute of Oriental Studies and the Institute of History and Archeology of the USSR Academy of Sciences for the development of the history of Karakalpakstan provided for the following work: collection and preparation for publication of manuscripts and archival materials on the history of Karakalpakstan. These are chronicles of Khiva and the East, materials of historical acts in Russian, descriptions of Russian and Western European travelers from Persian, Arabic, Turkish, Tatar manuscripts, printed historical works; Archives of Moscow, Leningrad and other cities of the USSR, as well as materials from foreign archives, if possible. In 1933, the USSR Academy of Sciences decided to hold a mobile session of the All-Union Academy of Sciences in Tashkent. This issue was specially considered at the meeting of the Presidium of the Central Asian Economic Council on December 1, 1933, which decided:

- To approve the resolution of the All-Union Academy of Sciences on the organization of a mobile session of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR in Tashkent in the spring of 1934.
- To consider expedient the organization of session of Academy in the first half of May, 1934 with obligatory sending of separate brigades to the cities of Samarkand, Ashgabat, Stalinabad, Frunze and Turtkul.
- To form a committee headed by Comrade Paskutsky to assist in organizing and conducting the session of the USSR Academy of Sciences. [14].

The session focused on the prospects of the energy sector, in particular, the electrification of the Central Asian republics; Central Asia's natural resources and prospects for their industrial development; the problem of cotton yield in the struggle for mechanization of cotton growing and irrigation; Issues of agricultural zoning and the introduction of new crops in the Central Asian republics; transportation problem; The task of communal construction in the Central Asian republics; livestock problems were caught in the fall.

## CONCLUSION

Thus, in the 20-30s for the rapid development of all sectors of the economy of the RSFSR. It will send a number of research expeditions to the territory of Karakalpakstan. These expeditions dealt mainly with irrigation, transportation, fisheries, and, at the same time, cultural issues - during the study of natural resources, the Center was forced to study the history and culture of Karakalpakstan in order to pursue its policy toward the region [15].

A distinctive feature of all these studies is that they attempt to study the historical past of a nation in the context of world history. At the same time, the participants of the expedition consisted mainly of visiting scholars who did not know and could not know the psychology and customs of the Karakalpak people, and as a result pursued a policy that was acceptable to the regime that ruled at that time.

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