This special volume of the journal The Anthropologist is devoted to the topical issues of Kazakhstan’s Anthropology. Research by Kazakhstan scientists covers a number of important issues of social and cultural anthropology, including historical, economic, political, religious, archaeological and ethnological. This allows creating a development of Anthropology in Kazakhstan (Sadvakasova 2014: 16-21).

The purpose of the issue is reducing the linguistic, scientific and methodological gaps between scientists from Kazakhstan and the international scientific community (Ordabaeva 2013: 83-84). In particular, it will be interesting for researchers, who are exploring Kazakhstan and Central Asian regions. In this case, Kazakhstan’s material is the key to understanding the history, socio-demographic and cultural processes, which are taking place in the designated region and in the wider Eurasian space. Kazakhstan shows how social and cultural potential of the region is formed. Also, the process is the interaction and synthesis of different ethnic cultures, and new trends have emerged in the process of an independent national state development, global acts of modernization and traditional relations (Pain 2014: 11-14).

Globalization, which is the coverage of the economic, political, social and cultural relationship of the human community, is the predominant orientation of the current world development. Conditions and factors, the extent and forms of participation of the scientific communities of Central Asian states in the contemporary globalization are not only theoretical interest, the results of this analysis are able to influence the content of the integration processes and mechanisms of their implementation in the region (Lebedeva et al. 2014: 1-11).

Anthropology in Kazakhstan recently received new incentives for development due to globalization and the scientific environment, which enabled researchers to use new methodological approaches, not constrained by paradigms. It definitely should be noted that the Kazakh Humanitarian science is based on a wide historiographical base and extensive experience of domestic researchers. Scientific and intellectual potential of the anthropology has a broad and strategic support of the state (Sharipov 2011: 11-14; Praliev et al. 2014: 40-48).

New domestic and foreign challenges require a comprehensive analysis of all aspects of the activities of the Kazakh society and understanding of the historical background of its development. This edition gives readers a series of answers to existing questions and challenges. Papers are interesting to historians, political scientists, economists, religious and they show the relevance of the theoretical research and the practical necessity and demonstrate a scientific analysis based on rich empirical material.

**SUMMARIES OF THE ARTICLES**

The *history part includes five papers*. Zhanar Koniratbaeva, Zhadira Altaeva and Ordali Koniratbaev in the “Kazakh Ethno and Lingvo Cultural Ideology: The Symbol of «Blue»” researched the ethnonym of the word Blue. Ethno and lingvo cultural description of the importance of reaching a symbolic rate of the blue color are illustrated in this article. Its meaning was analyzed in relation to customs and traditions of the Kazakh ethnicity. In particular, the blue color gives an opportunity to reveal the link with Tengi, the Lord of Power as a symbol of clearness, holiness, stability and eternity. Further, Samal Kabyltaeva, Tilegen Sadykov and Kuralai Seytkazina in the “Batyrs: Historiographical Survey” analyzed the historiography of the batyr's role in maintaining the integrity of the Kazakh state in the first quarter of the XVIII to the second half of the XIX century. The researchers identified contemporary tendencies and directions in the study of theoretical problems of the role of batyrs as a social institute (‘institution’ should have been more appropriate) in the life of Kazakh society. In the next paper, “Role of Biys in Historical Consciousness Kazakh Society”, Zauresh Kolumbaeva, Tengesh Èlenova, Zhuldyz Karsybáieva, Gulbarshin Èînkina, Gulmira Rainbekova and Zarina Muslimbekova explored the biys’ speeches to reveal their role in the historical consciousness formation of the Kazakh people. In the research done, there were resolutions made that the biys played an important part in the formation of the historical consciousness of the Kazakh people. Industrial system in Kazakhstan were showed by Tlegen Sadykov, Kuralai Seytkazina and Gulbarshin Konkina in “Zhезказган in 1950-1980”.

The young Soviet state pursued a policy of industrialization in the coun-
try, as the government became aware that the Second World War was inevitable. In this regard, the industry centers were established in places where there were deposits of natural resources, but it experienced a shortage of workers. Aurika Serubayeva in the “Shokhan, Explorer of the History of People in Central Asia” studied Shokhan Ualikhanov’s scientific heritage. Finally, Makhbät Kozybayeva and Ziyabek Kabuldinov in the “City population of North Kazakhstan in 1920-1930s” analyzed the everyday life. The paper provides an analysis of scientific literature covering specific areas in the study of everyday life of the population in the cities of the Soviet Union.

The economy part has three papers. “The History of Taxation in Kazakhstan” and “Special Aspects of Distance Learning in Educational System” are by Maiya Arzayeva, Ulan Umitkaliev, Mira Koishubayeva, Kalzhan Rakhimzhanov, Aliya Abdrahmanova and Gulmazym Supugalyeva. The first paper presents a detailed analysis of the evolution of taxation in Kazakhstan. The researchers try to reveal the meaning of the basic concepts and categories, to give the characteristics of the main types of taxes in accordance with the Tax Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, as well as further improvements in the tax system. The second paper presents a detailed analysis of the special aspects of distance learning in the educational system of Kazakhstan. The meaning of the basic concepts and categories are revealed, the characteristics of distance learning in the educational system of the Republic of Kazakhstan, as well as issues of further improvement are given. The third paper presents a detailed analysis of the special aspects of a curator-adviser as the most important indicator of professional activity of a University teacher. The results of the adviser considered in its annual assessment and conclusion of the individual labor contract for the following year.

The political part consists of the four papers. In the first article, “Kazakhstan and European Union: New Tendencies, Priorities and Prospects” by Aigerim Ibrayeva, Raikhan Tashmukhanova and Lazat Nursultanova analyze the problems of strategic cooperation between the republic of Kazakhstan and the EU, which is characterized by new challenges and threats, and the global financial and economic crisis, international terrorism, transnational crime and illegal migration were studied. The second paper, “Shanghai Cooperation Organization and its Activities in Ensuring Human and Social Security” by Somzhurek Baubek, Yessengaliyeva Anna and Elmira Adil reflects the activities of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in ensuring human and social security within the context of the latest threats. The paper focuses on the implications of the SCO for ensuring human and social security in its area of activities including Afghanistan due to its geographical proximity to Central Asia. The paper, “Territorial and Border Issues in Central Asia: Analysis of the Reasons, Current State and Perspectives” by Raikhan Tashmukhanova, Zhanar Medeubayeva, Aizhan Serikbayeva and Madina Igunbayeva examines the expert opinions on the territorial and border issues. In the course of research, the common ground and knots of contradictions were identified in the expert’s approaches on the issue. This fact indicates the complexity of solving the underlined issues in the short-term. The last paper—“Famine and Kazakh Society in the 1930s” by Ardak Yesdauletova, Aitmukhanbet Yesdauletov, Saule Aliyeva and Galina Kakenova determines the role of famine in the 1930s and its consequences in the Kazakh Steppe. The researchers indicate the causes of the hunger, which were laid mostly on economic mismanagement and Soviet struggle against the rich peasants.

The religious part has two papers. “Al-Mashani and Islamic Philosophy” by Zada Dukenbayeva, Magripa Zholseitova, Gulziya Akmadiyeva and Talgatbek Manash have analyzed the historical significance of scientific works of al-Mashani in Heritage Research eastern thinkers, as well as his great contribution to the development of Farabi directed science. The researchers read many books by Nosir Abu al-Farabi, which proved that he was a Kazakh and was born in Otrar, the largest center of the ancient culture of Kazakhstan and Central Asia, which was called Farabi. “Sufism in Central Asia: Akhmet Khazini and its Doctrine” by Ganizhhamal Kushenova, Zadash Dukenbaeva and Zhanar Esimova studied Sheik Sufi Akhmet Khazini’s works. On the basis of a comprehensive analysis of Shaykh’s activities, his religious and political parties were revealed. Therefore, Ahmad Khazini should be seen as a spiritual person as well as a politician.

The archeology part includes three papers. The first paper “Kazakh Children’s Play “Asyk”
is Ancestor’s Heritage” by Yerlan Sydykov, Ulan Umitkaliev, Zylikha Ibadullayeva and Saltanat Botbaybekova. Kazakh children have been playing “asyk” (playing with lamb bone) from ancient times. Currently, the game still retains its value among the Kazakhs, as it is commonly played among the Turkic-Mongolian people in Eurasian Steppe. This paper is based on material that researchers have received during excavations in East Kazakhstan in 2014. The next article is the “Population and Social Structure of Tasmola Culture” by Sergey Yarygin and Nikolay Lapin. Their paper explored the early Sakas of the Tasmola culture. The core of this community, the Central Kazakhstan’s Tasmola archaeological culture, received scientific justification in the fundamental work of Kadyrbayev in 1966. Except for some generalized works, the grand question, which did not receive proper interpretation about the Tasmola tribes, is the socio-demographic characteristics of the Tasmola society. The last paper—“Ancient Musicians’ Monuments in the Kazakh Altai” by Zhalkas Zhalmaganbetov, Zeinolla Samashev and Ulan Umitkaliev presents new archaeological data obtained in the course of research on the burial Karakaba Kazakh Altai (Republic of Kazakhstan) in 2012-2014. The researchers explore the funeral ceremony, and feature the design and facilities inside the grave. Musical Instruments and craniotomy and other data allows the researchers to reconstruct the hierarchy of the society of the ancient Turks.

The ethnological part has one article—“Rituals of the Agricultural Cycle of the Kazakhs: The Rite of Calling for Rain” by Raushan Mustafina. This paper is devoted to the ancient agricultural Kazakh rite of “tasattyq” or “call for rain”. This is evidenced by numerous ethnographic data collected by researchers for several years of field research in different regions of Kazakhstan.

REFERENCES


