

## **Bozok - the Turkic Cult Center in Central Kazakhstan**

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**ABSTRACT** The ancient settlement of Bozok is located on the Southern outskirts of the Astana city, among the marshes of Ishim River's left floodplain. The topography of the Bozok settlement is not typical for settled monuments of Central Kazakhstan. The ruins of the ancient city buildings occupy a compact area on the Eastern shore of Lake Buzukty. This paper presents the results of a study of ancient Turkic cult center in Central Kazakhstan. The authors give a description of the archaeological site, analogy and dating. Researchers report that this is a rare type of monument. The aim of this research is to present the results of the Bozok settlement's research, characterized as an ancient Turkic cult center. The unique three-part settlement planigraphy and architecture, ritual burial of a man in the Northern quarter, and the sacrificial complex, testify to the special functional appointment of the object.