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FORMATION OF POLITICAL SYMBOLS IN THE KAZAKH STEPPE

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Introduction. The symbol is the basis of the cognitive process. Everyday life of a person and generally the entire socio-cultural space are filled with symbols. Being one of the key factors determining ideology, education and upbringing, symbols are reflected in almost all areas of society. Especially in the political sphere, symbols are widely used and play an important role in influencing the consciousness and behavior of people. Therefore, symbols are an integral part of political sphere.

In any state, the highest authority has a special socio-cultural nature and a personal distinctive history. In most cases, such a cultural-historical feature manifests itself in state symbols. Through these important symbolic systems, state power demonstrates to the world community not only its national-cultural identity, ideological and value orientations, but also expresses certain political views.

The process of forming state symbols determined by a combination of factors of geographical, cultural, historical and geopolitical development took place differently in different countries of the Eurasian continent. For example, the appearance of attributes of supreme power in the traditional society of nomadic kazakhs in our country coincides with the formation of the Kazakh khanate [1]. Therefore, the symbols of the modern political process in Kazakhstan originate in the history of the appearance of symbols of the traditional Kazakh statehood in the late middle ages and modern times.

Research methods. The analysis and study of symbols used in the Kazakh khanate was the main task, the work was written on the basis of the historical method. The state symbols in the form of a flag and an impression of the seal of the Kazakh khanate were described. In addition, conclusions were made by comparing the tribal signs in the formation of the Kazakh people.

Research results. The Kazakh khanate acquired state symbols in the form of a flag and an impression-a seal of blue sky color, characteristic of the medieval period. However, the

Kazakh khanate did not have a single emblem dedicated to the flags and seals of the ruling elite, passed from generation to generation by various degrees of status (aga khan – junior Khan – sultans). Nevertheless, each official ruler- a khan or sultan- had his own personal flag and personal named seal. Other rulers also were distinguished by signs identifying their owner [2].

The blue flag of heavenly color was adopted not only as an effective tool for commanding troops in battle, but also as a sacred symbol in the Kazakh khanate. During large-scale wars, the khan's flag was displayed, which was considered the general flag of the army [3]. This state symbol, which is a sacred symbol of the country, was treated very carefully. Even during the battle, the enemy flag was deliberately chased. The fall and loss of the main flag of the national army was equated with the concept of defeat of the opposing side. Therefore, the soldiers especially protected their flag in battle.

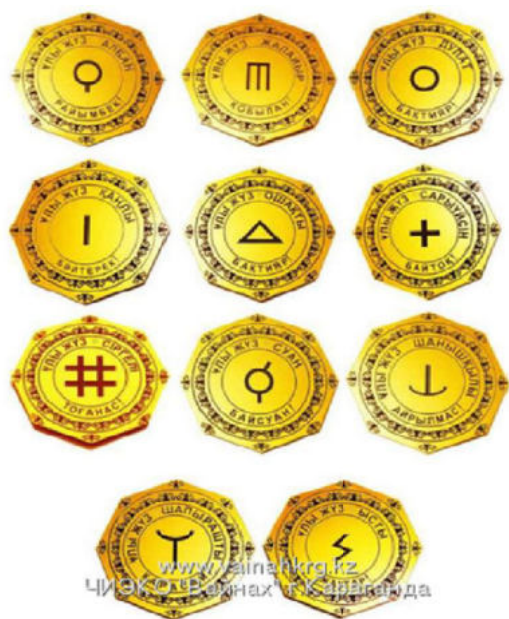
As noted above, one of the main attributes of the the Kazakh khanate's statehood for four centuries was the applied seals of kazakh khans and sultans. They were used to certify various internal political documents and international treaties. This is a manifestation of the sovereignty, independence of the state. The study of many documentary sources of that time, as well as familiarization with relics of famous kazakh sultans of the late XVIII-early XIX centuries with the names of some of his modern descendants, gives reason to argue that the personal seals of the kazakh elite were mainly in the form of metal rings. The seal in the form of rings was distinguished by its simplicity, clarity and elegance.



Picture1. Image of ring-shaped seals used by representatives of the kazakh ruling elite

According to the steppe tradition, drop-shaped shields for making such seals were divided by jewelers into two equal parts: the upper part consisted of a sharp tip, and the lower part consisted of a regular semicircle. At the top of the shield is the title of the owner of the seal, written in arabic script – «khan» or «sultan», and just below - his personal name and, in most cases, the honorary title «bahadur» («hero»). The name and position of the seal holder's father are also indicated at the bottom [4]. At first glance, arabic letters and words may seem confusing, but the text is actually easy to read. distinguished by its simplicity, clarity and elegance.

Since ancient times, tribal relations have played a very important role in the kazakh people. The ancient tribes of Kazakhstan were divided into three main ethnic groups related to historical, geographical, economic and political conditions. This is the Great, Middle and Junior zhuzes. The great zhuz, starting from the Syr Darya, completely covers the Semirechye land. It consists of the uysun, kanly, dulat, alban, suan, sirgeli, ysty, oshakty, shapyrashty, jalaiyr, shanyshqyly, katagan, and other tribes. Middle zhuz inhabits the regions of Central Kazakhstan and part of North-Eastern Kazakhstan. It includes the genera kypchak, argyn, naiman, konyrat, kerey, uak and tarakty. The location of Junior zhuz is the lower part of the Syr Darya, the coast



of the Aral sea. It consists of the union of tribes - Alimuly (karakesek, karasakal, kete, tortkara, chomekey, shekti); Baiuly (adaya, alshyn, zhappas, alasha, baybakty, berish, esentemir, kyzylkurt, sherkesh, ysyk, taz, maskar); Zhetiru (tabyn, tama, kerderi, zhagalbayly, kereit, toleu, ramadan). The date of formation of zhuzes and the way of their organization have not yet been studied in detail [5].



Picture 2. The signs of the Middle and Junior zhuzes

The names of these tribes and tribal unions are still preserved among kazakh people. Each tribe has its own symbol and slogan. This symbol was first applied to the cattle of the tribe, and on the grave of the deceased was engraved on a stone. The slogan was the names of the ancestors of those tribes or the heroes of this tribe. The clan sign was used as a symbol of this clan and was applied to the flags of the clan. Many kazakh tribes are named after the signs of this tribe. For example: baganaly, baltaly, shanyshkaly, baltaly, ergeneki, tarakty, sirgeli and much more. Another type of tribal name comes from the totem concept of this tribe. For instance, konyrat, bura. In the eighth volume of the Kazakhstan national encyclopedia, the sign is mentioned as follows: in the world practice of writing culture for the purpose of preserving secrecy, in comparison with writing samples using their own code and cipher, generic signs and runic concepts of nomadic turks are unique on earth " [6].

Discussion and conclusion. Thus, individual seals of kazakh khans and sultans in a strict specific form and peculiarly designed, allows to conclude that the Kazakh khanate has a large political symbolic character both within the country and in the field of international relations

with other states. The fact of acquiring such a seal determines the high official status of its owner in kazakh society, a representative of the ruling elite and possessing certain exclusive privileges and rights in the field of political management. Even the presence of any kazakh ruler's own drip seal is assessed by the heads of neighboring states as "This ruler has the right to interfere in the internal and foreign policy of the ruling country". In addition, the semiotic signs of individual seals of kazakh khans and sultans indicate the sufficient development of various stages of power and the presence of specific structures.

The presence of a characteristic sign and slogan of each kind among the kazakh people has the great political significance. These symbols influenced the unification of people. Because it has an integrative feature.

In conclusion, it is obvious that the seals of the kazakh khans and sultans and the flag of the Kazakh khanate, as attributes of state power, had a political character and an important role in the internal socio-political life and foreign diplomacy of the country. The formation of the Kazakh khanate is not only one of the most important events in the history of Kazakhstan, but also the basis for the formation of state symbols.

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