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THE KAZAKH TRADITIONAL JEWELRY

Kaliaskar D.

The territory of the country stretches 1600km. from north to south and 2800km. from west to east: a total area is 2,7mln. square km. Kazakhstan borders Russia to the north, China to the east, Kyrgysia, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan to the south, and the Caspian Sea to west. The landscape of Kazakhstan is diverse. The northern- steppe becomes steppe, semi-desert and desert in the south. The climate of Kazakhstan varies widely throughout the country.

There are 16.2 million inhabitants in Kazakhstan today (fiftieth place in the world): 63,6% of the population are ethnic Kazakhs, and 23,3% - Russians, over 120 nationalities live in Kazakhstan. Among them are more than 333,2 thousand Ukrainians, 178,2 thousand Germans, 457,2 thousand Uzbeks, and more than 203,3 thousand Tatars.

Many times people in Kazakhstan and Central Asian territory lived in reciprocal cultural exchange. There is showed one side this exchange – The jeweler trade.

The geographic factors and, moreover, Kazakhs’ nomadic way of life generated stylistic diversity within jewelry. The jewelry art of the Kazakhs was developed and enriched by the constant movement of nomads through the huge space of the Asian steppe, the dialogues between nations this engendered and the exchange of cultural values between peoples.

Kazakh traditional jewelry it is necessary to mention the fact that the significance of any kind of ethnic considerably surpasses the aspect of its practical implementation (namely for the purpose of personal adornment). Traditional ethnic jewelry can be regarded as a reflection of the particular state of culture and national mentality as well as a way to make a certain statement, to express beliefs and ideas, feelings and emotions.

Jewelry as an art holds a special place in the history of Kazakh national culture. It clearly and incisively reflects the people’s ideals, tastes and the level of their artistic and material values.

Kazakh jewelers – zergers (from the Persian zer-zar, meaning “gold”) – worked alone, passing their mastery from generation to generation. They had a specially set of instruments – anvil, hammers, vice, scissors, awl, files and others. Also, they utilized different technical movements – stamping, engraving, notching, blackening and filigreeing. Same the specially set of instruments and technical movements utilized in Central Asians’ masters. Also, jewelers’ Central Asian and Kazakhstan made similar jewelers. And they had similar functions and names. They showed material status and could protect owners’. For example at everyone Asians’

people have similar 'toumar' is a breast jewelry - talisman, brides' headdress 'saukele', jewelry for hair 'sholpi' and another.

Carnelian (also spelled cornelian). The people of the steppe believed that carnelian could protect against the "evil eye" and infertility. In addition, "this solar stone" could return youthful vigor and good spirits to the elderly.

A pearl is a hard object produced within the soft tissue (specifically the mantle) of a living shelled mollusk. It was believed that pearls treated cataracts.

Precious coral or red coral is the common name given to *Corallium rubrum* and several related species of marine coral. Nacre protected against a wicked tongue and simultaneously promoted the one's welfare.

Nacre also known as mother of pearl is an organic-inorganic composite material produced by some mollusks as an inner shell layer. It is very strong, resilient, and iridescent.

Turquoise is an opaque, blue-to-green mineral. Turquoise brings happiness.

Kyrgyz, Turkmen, Uzbek and Karakalpak nations have same meaning 'stones'.

In Soviet period traditional jewelry art was weak develop.

Today jewelry art is having interest in our country. And now we have two directions: traditions and modern design. In our time in Kazakhstan work jewelers as S. Bashirova, S. Rysbekova, S. Orazova, B. Alibay, O. Omirova, A.Kadyrbayev, K.Tasova, I.Rafikova.