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## REFLECTION OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN KAZAKHİSTAN AFTER USSR TO TURKEY

The process of the collapse of the USSR, which began under the leadership of the Baltic countries, ended with the declaration of independence of the countries under its rule in 1991. Kazakhstan, which has been in the mosaic of the USSR for more than 70 years, declared its sovereignty on October 25, 1990, and independence on December 16, 1991. In the elections held on December 1, 1991, Nursultan Nazarbayev was elected the first President of independent Kazakhstan. The first country to recognize it was the Republic of Turkey. Before this period, "social, cultural, and economic" relations between the two countries were practically non-existent. After Kazakhstan gained independence, mutual political contacts resumed. Agreements have been signed with Turkey in many areas. A great contribution to the prosperity of Kazakhstan today was made by the first President of the country, Nursultan Nazarbayev. Turkey has established close cooperation with Kazakhstan, which is in our heart and cultural geography, and has strengthened the relationship that it has been striving for years.

This study included field research and a literature review. In the study, the connection between Kazakhstan and Turkey was interrupted during the period of Soviet Russia. With the collapse of the USSR, very important opportunities appeared. The importance of this study lies in the fact that it reveals the importance of these relations between the two countries. A point will be given for further research on the connection between Kazakhstan and Turkey.

**Key words:** USSR, Kazakhstan, Turkey, Trade, Culture.

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### КСРО-дан кейін Қазақстандағы әлеуметтік-экономикалық оқиғалардың Түркиядағы көрінісі

Балтық жағалауы елдерінің басшылығымен басталған КСРО-ның ыдырау процесі 1991 жылы оның билігіндегі елдердің тәуелсіздік жариялауымен аяқталды. 70 жылдан астам КСРО мозайкасында болған Қазақстан 1990 жылы 25 қазанда егемендігін, 1991 жылы 16 желтоқсанда тәуелсіздігін жариялады. 1991 жылы 1 желтоқсанда өткен сайлауда Нұрсұлтан Әбішұлы Назарбаев тәуелсіз Қазақстанның тұңғыш Президенті болып сайланды. Оны алғаш мойындаған мемлекет Түркия Республикасы болды. Осы кезеңге дейін екі ел арасында «әлеуметтік, мәдени және экономикалық» байланыстар іс жүзінде болмаған. Қазақстан тәуелсіздік алғаннан кейін екі ел арасындағы өзара саяси байланыстар қайта жанданды. Түркиямен көптеген салада келісімдерге қол қойылды. Қазақстанның бүгінгі гүлденуіне елдің тұңғыш Президенті Нұрсұлтан Назарбаевтың қосқан үлесі зор. Түркия біздің жүрегімізде және мәдени географиямызда орын алған Қазақстанмен тығыз ынтымақтастық орнатып, жылдар бойы ұмытылып келе жатқан қарым-қатынасын нығайтты.

Бұл зерттеуде далалық зерттеулер мен әдебиеттерге талдау жасалды. Зерттеуде Қазақстан мен Түркия арасындағы байланыстың Кеңестік Ресей тұсында үзілгені айтылады. КСРО-ның ыдырауымен өте маңызды мүмкіндіктер пайда болды. Бұл зерттеудің маңыздылығы екі ел арасындағы осы қатынастардың құндылығын ашуында. Мақала Қазақстан мен Түркия арасындағы байланысты одан әрі зерттеуге бағыт береді.

**Түйін сөздер:** КСРО, Қазақстан, Түркия, сауда, мәдениет.

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### Отражение социально-экономических событий постсоветского Казахстана в Турции

Процесс распада СССР, начавшийся под руководством стран Балтии, завершился провозглашением независимости стран, находящихся под его властью, в 1991 году. Казахстан, находящийся в мозаике СССР более 70 лет, провозгласил свой суверенитет 25 октября 1990 года и независимость 16 декабря 1991 года. На выборах, состоявшихся 1 декабря 1991 года, Нурсултан Назарбаев был избран первым Президентом независимого Казахстана. Первой страной, признавшей его, стала Турецкая Республика. До этого периода социальные, культурные и экономические отношения между двумя странами практически отсутствовали. После обретения Казахстаном независимости возобновились взаимные политические контакты. С Турцией были подписаны соглашения во многих областях. Большой вклад в процветание Казахстана сегодня внес Первый Президент страны Нурсултан Назарбаев. Турция наладила тесное сотрудничество с Казахстаном, который находится в нашем сердце и культурной географии, и укрепила отношения, к которым стремилась годами.

В этом исследовании были проведены полевые исследования и анализ литературы. Согласно данным, связь между Казахстаном и Турцией была прервана в советский период. С распадом СССР появились большие возможности. Важность этого исследования состоит в том, что оно раскрывает необходимость и ценность данных отношений между двумя странами. Статья даст толчок для дальнейших исследований связи между Казахстаном и Турцией.

**Ключевые слова:** СССР, Казахстан, Турция, торговля, культура.

#### Introduction

Kazakhstan, which occupies an important place among the Turkic republics, was sacrificed in the last century to the hegemony of totalitarian regimes. There was a struggle to occupy their geography and erase history from the scene. The country that became part of the Soviet Union was turned into open prison life, limiting its contact with the world. Kazakhstan, which gained independence with the collapse of the USSR, took by surprise, like a patient who had just come out of a coma, and prepared a comprehensive program for building a new state. In this process, close cooperation was established with fraternal Turkey. Because with the collapse of the USSR, the balances changed, and, naturally, Turkey did not remain indifferent to the independence of Kazakhstan and the situation in which it is. Before this process, Kazakhstan and Turkey; there were practically no social, cultural, and economic ties. Bilateral relations were quickly restored with sound policies.

The main questions here are:

1. Why did Kazakhstan, which had rich underground and aboveground resources during the Soviet period, lag economically?
2. What was the main purpose of the collective farms for the Kazakh people?
3. Why did Kazakhstan, which has an ancient history, undergo cultural assimilation?

4. Why did the Soviet administrators limit contact between Kazakhstan and Turkey?

5. How did the mutual benefits between Turkey and Kazakhstan develop in the long term after the collapse of the Soviet Union?

#### Purpose of the study

Before the collapse of the Soviet Union, it was impossible to explore and analyze archives. With the proclamation of the independence of Kazakhstan, new opportunities opened up before the scientific world. To this end, in this article, we have evaluated the sources and literature obtained by us during our visits to Kazakhstan. We compared Soviet Kazakhstan with independent Kazakhstan. We analyzed bilateral relations between Turkey and Kazakhstan. We aspired to this study so that other scientific papers on this topic could be written based on these data.

#### Research Methodology

This article was written based on field research, especially a literature review. To this end, to conduct field research and see developments in place, in Kazakhstan; We have repeatedly visited important cities such as Almaty, Aktau, and Nur-Sultan. We received data from the commercial attaché of the Republic of Turkey in Kazakhstan.

We evaluated the results we got from here in the article.

### Results and discussion

Between Turkey and Kazakhstan during the USSR period; social, economic, and cultural relations are almost non-existent. With the independence of Kazakhstan, bilateral relations began to develop rapidly. The Republic of Turkey shared its experiences with Kazakhstan and shared its experiences to get rid of the situation that the state had fallen into.

During the period of the USSR, Kazakhstan's connections with the outside world were cut off. That is why the freedom of travel has been abolished. With the collapse of the Soviet Union and the independence of Kazakhstan, a new era has begun. Today, a large number of flights are organized from Turkey to Kazakhstan, while travels are made from Kazakhstan to various cities of Turkey, especially Istanbul, for tourism purposes. On the other hand, in Turkey; He goes to Kazakhstan from here, just as he came to study with thousands of students for High School, University, Master's, and Doctorate.

Turkey's investments in Kazakhstan tend to increase day by day. As in the SOCAR example of Azerbaijan in Turkey, infrastructure systems should be established to transfer Kazakhstan's oil to other countries through our country. Again, for the Silk Road to assume its role in history; It is essential to revive the sea and land routes in the triangle of China, Azerbaijan, and Turkey, and to realize the corridor, which is described as the middle lane. Because when we look at history, the periods when the Turkish states were strong were made possible by their possession of the world trade route. If Kazakhstan and therefore Turkey wants to have a say in the global economic arena, they have to cooperate closely in the social, cultural, and economic fields as a requirement of their ancient and common civilizational values and lineage. In this sense, today's conjuncture is the key point to putting them into practice.

#### *Economic Developments*

In the period of Soviet Russia, with the establishment of collective farms in Kazakhstan, the property of the people was forcibly confiscated. "In January 1930, the products started to be collected by the regime. At the beginning of February, 35%, and in March, 42.2% were filled into collective farms." (Yalçınkaya, 1997, S.27).

Not content with these, the Soviets nationalized the lands owned by the people. He paid the price with his life. The purpose here is obvious. That's why "The Kazakhs, who were experiencing eco-

omic difficulties, faced the disaster of hunger and famine, 2 million Kazakhs died according to official statistics." (Damira 2016: 128). After all these developments, Kazakhs became a minority in their homeland, a great decrease in population potential started, and a situation like the one in the table below emerged.

**Table 1** – Kazakh Population in Kazakstan Between 1926 and 1950

	1926	1939	1950
Kazakh	3.627.612	2.833.000	3.000.000
Russians	2.164.582	2.877.000	3.400.000
Others	404.162	436.000	6.900.000
Total	6.196.356	6.146.000	6.900.000

*Source:* Nursultan Nazarbayev, Kazakstan Linchpin of Eurasia Publisher: Laurent Taieb, 2010:211.

The resettlement policy, which started during the Tsarist Russia period, evolved in a different direction with the 1917 Bolshevik revolution, and the situation became more serious with the Soviets taking over the administration and the inclusion of Kazakhstan in the Soviet Republics. By the order of the Soviet administrators, Russian and Ukrainian peasants were settled in Kazakh lands, and the original natives were reduced to second-class citizens. Unfortunately, while the Kazakh population tended to decrease with the implemented policies, the situation developed in the opposite direction among the Russian people. The low population potential of the country today depends on this.

With the disintegration of the USSR in 1991, Kazakhstan went through a series of economic reforms, especially privatization, to transition from a socialist economy to a free market economy after the second half of the specified year (1992-1996 periods). However, the Citizen was caught unprepared for this. This is why there has been internal turmoil and unrest in the country.

"Kazakhstan, general government budget (1985-1991) (shown in Appendix 1) The general government budget, which drew a graph between the years 1985-1990 in the closed economic order of the USSR, was based on 1991 data during the transition period to the market economy that started to be implemented with the independence process. decreased to 6.5 billion. Kazakhstan, which has great economic potential and where bottlenecks

can be overcome with foreign economic support and economic measures taken, gained an economic structure that can stand on its own feet in the 2000s. (Yavuz, 1993, S.37).

**Table 2** – Turkey and Kazakhstan Foreign Trade Values

Period	Export	Import	Balance	Volume
1992	19.412	10.511	8.901	29.923
1993	67.834	43.741	24.093	111.575
1994	131.686	32.305	99.381	163.091
1995	150.775	86.631	64.144	237.406
1995 Jan. Sept.	102.124	54.148	47.976	156.272
1995 Jan. Sept.	107.983	57.584	50.399	165.567

Source: Turkish Prime Ministry Undersecretariat of Foreign Trade, 1997

In this, Kazakhstan and the Republic of Turkey; Mutual investments made in areas such as finance, credit, industry, agriculture, transportation, energy, and communication have been effective. It was also effective that Kazakhstan got rid of a closed economic structure and carried out a transparent process. Indeed, the figures below confirm this.

“While Turkey’s exports to Kazakhstan were 13.72 million dollars in 1992, it was 116.14 million dollars in the 2000s. Imports, on the other hand, were 8.78 million dollars in 1992, while it was 346.34 million dollars in 2000. (Smoke, 1993, p.51). Again, if we look at the data of the Prime Ministry Undersecretariat of Foreign Trade in July 1997, we encounter a situation like Annex 1.

As can be understood from these data, economic relations between the two countries were almost non-existent until the independence of Kazakhstan. It can be said that the Soviets’ limitation of social and economic relations was effective in this. Another factor that changed the course of the business was the Kazakh government’s rational policies and opening of the country to foreign investments. (See Appendix 2)

The importance given to the sister country Kazakhstan by the representatives of the Turkish private sector and these protocols signed between the two countries has been extremely effective in making the relations even more evident. Turgut Özal, the President of the period, made great contributions to bringing the relations to this level. Turkey has

become one of the most important commercial and economic partners for Kazakhstan. “The total trade volume between the two countries in 2003 was 314.2 million dollars (exports-9.7 million dollars, imports 216.4 million dollars).” (Mukhamejanov, 2007, p.95) Underground resources constitute the basis of Kazakhstan’s exports to Turkey. The goods imported from Turkey, it is observed mostly consist of construction materials, textiles, and chemical products. According to the data in 2005, the commercial agreement between the two countries was 557 million US dollars. As a result of the contributions of Turkish businessmen to Kazakhstan trade, exports have increased in recent years and exceeded the 900 million dollar mark.

*Cultural relations*

Kazakh people have had a rich cultural heritage since the day they appeared on the stage of history and have created a deep-rooted lifestyle. Based on this; Intellectuals who instilled national consciousness such as Hoca Ahmet Yesevi, Ahmet Baytursun, Sabit Dönentay, and Yusuf Köpeyoğlu were raised and left a great impression on the people. The 19th century was a period when Kazakh Turks were exposed to assimilation. Soviet Russia wanted to Russify the people by dividing their countries. For this purpose, they changed their alphabet and corrupted their language. This obsession continued until the collapse of the USSR.

“With the issuance of the decrees on the ‘mobilization of foreigners’ issued on June 25, 1916, an armed uprising broke out in Kazakhstan. The reason for this uprising was the policy of colonization by the Russians in the country of the Cossacks they occupied, demanding that these lands create a settled colony period with the immigrants they brought to these regions, as well as obtaining all the possibilities of these lands, and numerous political and openly executed tricks such as the Russian attack on the Kazakh language, religion, and life.” (Azamat, 1997, p.1217).

After the strict practices of the Soviet leader Stalin, the alphabet of the Kazakhs was changed and their language was exposed to destruction. The reforms initiated by the last leader of the union, Mikhail Gorbachev, became a new hope for the Kazakh Turks, who lived under such difficult conditions for 70 years. The USSR collapsed in 1991, and Kazakhstan gained the status of an independent state with a radical decision. Half an hour after this announcement, Turkey recognized Kazakhstan. The following part in the first speech of Nursultan Nazarbayev, who was elected as the head of state with a large percentage, is very important. “Turkey is a

country that we take as an economic model. We are attracted by the moves Turkey has made in a short period.” (Sabah Newspaper Turkish Republics Series, 1992, p. 11).

Countries that immediately started cultural moves “According to the agreement signed on October 31, 1992, Hodja Ahmet Yesevi International Turkish-Kazakh University was establis-

hed in the city of Turkestan. In addition, there is the private Süleyman Demirel University in Almaty. In this context, relations between Turkey and Kazakhstan in the field of education started with the signing of the preliminary protocols determining the general scope of education and cooperation at the beginning of 1992. (Sofuoğlu, 2015, P.88) .

**Table 3** – Agreements and Protocols

Agreement	Date and Place	Official Gazette
Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement*	26.09.1991 Ankara	25.11.1991 (21062)
Protocol on the Establishment of a Joint Economic Commission	02.09.1993 Ankara	
Agreement on Mutual Promotion and Protection of Investments*	01.05.1992 Almatı	11.02.1995 (22199)
Double Taxation Avoidance Treaty*	15.08.1995 Almatı	8.11.1996 (22811)

\*entered into force

On the other hand, many other agreements have been made with Kazakhstan in the field of Education. These agreements have been effective in reviving the culture, language, and traditions of the history between Turkey and Kazakhstan. With cooperation in fields such as mutual student sending and health tourism, people have started to meet and mingle again.

“At the Istanbul Culture Ministers Meeting on 20 June 1992, work on the Common Turkish Alphabet was reached. Preparations were made for the training of 80 people determined by the protocol on carpet making and handicrafts for 9 months. As of May 1992, an agreement on TV broadcasts has been made. Satellite earth stations have been built in each country to transmit PTT and TRT, and Turkish YV broadcasts to these countries. Upon the request of Kazakhstan, 7 clergies were sent by the Turkish Presidency of Religious Affairs.” (Iron, 1998, p.67).

### Conclusion

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