

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BAIGUNAKOV DOSBOL

The doctor of historical sciences, professor of the department of archeology, ethnology and museology in Kazakh National University named after al-Farabi, the famous scientist Dosbol Suleimenovich Baigunakov turned 50 years old.

Dosbol Baigunakov was born on January 1, 1969 in Turkestan, South Kazakhstan region, in a family of rural intelligence. His father, Suleimen Baigunakov, worked in various institutions, taught at the Special Technical Vocational School in the village of Turtkul, Ordabasy district, Turkestan, and later was the head of the «Mambet» farm. Mother – Galiya Naushabaeva, taught «Russian language and literature» in the **Turtkul's High School**. The environment of the rural intelligence had a great influence on **Dosbol Baigunakov's formation as a scientist and a person**.

In 1986 he graduated from Turtkul's High School. In 1994 he graduated with honors from the Faculty of History of the Kazakh National University named after al-Farabi. In 1998-1999 he was an intern researcher, and in 1999-2002 graduate student at the department of archeology and ethnology of this university. In 2003-2004 he worked as a teacher at the department. Then in 2003-2010 he held the position of teacher, senior teacher and associate professor at the history department of KazNPU named after Abay. In 2011-2013 he took place of an associate professor at the Department of Archeology, Ethnology and Museology of the Kazakh National University named after al-Farabi. He combined the post of deputy director at the Eurasian Research Institute of the International Kazakh-Turkish University named after K. A. Yasawi. In 2013-2016, he was a rector at the Academy of Economics and Law named after U. A. Dzholdasbekov in Taldykorgan. In the 2016-2017 academic year, he worked as the head of the department of magistracy and doctoral studies at the Central Asian University. Since 2017, he has been working as a professor at the department of archeology, ethnology and museology of the Kazakh National University named after al-Farabi.



The name of the hero of the anniversary is widely known in scientific world of Kazakhstan. The works of Dosbol Baigunakov that devoted to ancient history, have been the main part of his career, and he is one of the leading experts in this field. In 2003, he defended his PhD thesis (led by Professor Zhaken Taymagambetov) under the title of «Stone Age of Kazakhstan: history of studying and the main problems». In his dissertation, Dosbol Baigunakov systematized researches on the Stone Age of Kazakhstan, outlined the main features of the Kazakhstan's paleolithic, mesolithic and neolithic periods. He considered the origins of the Stone Age periods' formation, drew attention to the genetic relationships of archaeological cultures, revealed trends, new conceptual approaches and general patterns of evolution of the stone tools. The author raised a question of the initial settlement of Kazakhstan, the problems of paleo-economics and the worldview of ancient people and summed up the studies of the Stone Age of Kazakhstan.

In 2010, Dosbol Baigunakov defended his doctoral dissertation (scientific consultant, Professor Koshim Esmagambetov). His dissertation «Historiography of ancient Kazakhstan (from the paleolithic era to the early middle ages)» was devoted to the ancient history of Kazakhstan. The author conducted a historiographical analysis on various issues of antiquity. In this work he systematized all the scientific approaches, concepts and points of

domestic and foreign historical and archaeological science. The author for the first time carried out a comprehensive study and comparative analysis of problems related to the history of ancient Kazakhstan. Dosbol Baigunakov uncovered and determined theoretical and methodological aspects of the ancient history in the context of cultural and historical periods, summed up the fundamental works and gave a substantive description of field studies in archaeological expeditions on problems of the history of ancient Kazakhstan. He analyzed the periodization and chronological attribution of archaeological monuments, characterized ideology, worldviews, social order and power of ancient societies, and ethnonyms of the early Iron Age, the resettlement of ethnic groups, the localization of the ancient cities, and so on. In his work, Dosbol Baigunakov analyzed the main points of the ancient history of Kazakhstan and highlighted the problems where other specialists should do further researches.

He is the author of more than 150 scientific works, including 15 books (photo albums, textbooks and monographs). His monographs that related to the problems of ancient Kazakhstan, have valuable contribution to the development of antiquity of Central Asia. With excellent knowledge of the field research methodology, he considers this ability as his duty to train beginner students. Dosbol Baigunakov is the author of such textbooks as «Excursion Business» (2013), «Museum Business in Kazakhstan» (2018) and several publications on museology. Moreover, he is the author of the textbooks such as «The Stone Age» (2018), «The Prehistoric Evolution of Humanity» (2018), etc. All his textbooks are in great demand among students. The range of issues reflected in his works covers a wide spectrum of the problems of national history and archeology from the ancient stone age to the present. In addition to the problems of ancient history, Dosbol Baigunakov published several works on the Middle Ages, studied grave-stones (qulpytas) of the new time (XIX-XX centuries), which were located in South Kazakhstan. A large place in his writings is also occupied by studies on rock paintings in Karatau Ridge. According to the materials of rock paintings, he singled out the worldview of ancient and medieval nomads, and systematized ancient cults as well as rituals.

In 2010, Dosbol Baigunakov became a fellow of the Bolashak International Program of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Under this program, he completed a scientific fellowship at the University of Siena (Italy), and got a great experience. His supervisor was Professor Lucia Sarti and by her recommendation, Dosbol Baigunakov established scientific contacts with European scientists and received good field

practices. Under the guidance of Professor Fabio Martini (Florence) in 2011, he took an active part in the excavation of the «Grotta del Romito». He also worked as a member of the archaeological expedition of the University of Turin, Professor Alessandro Mandolezi in Doganacci, where he studied the monuments of Etruscan civilization.

As an archaeologist, he participated in the work of about twenty archaeological expeditions. Among them are the following: Joint Russian-Kazakhstan Archeological Expedition (led by A. Derevyanko), Archaeological Expedition to study the Stone Age of Kazakhstan (led by J. K. Taimagambetov), Central-Kazakhstan Archeological Expedition (led by Zh. Kurmankulov), Kazakh-Italian archaeological expedition (led by Zh. Kurmankulov), Chilikta archeological expedition (head A. T. Toleubaev), Ulzhan archaeological group (Z. Samashev), North-Kazakhstan archeological Kaya expedition (led by V. F. Zaibert) and others. Some archaeological expeditions were led by him. For example, the archaeological expedition of KazNPU named after Abay, the Archeological and Ethnographic Expedition of the Institute of Culture, and so on.

Of great importance is the editorial activity of Dosbol Baigunakov. In addition to his scientific and pedagogical experience he worked closely with publishing houses. He translated several archaeological books used by university students. He was an editor, an author and a compiler of several encyclopedic publications. Among the encyclopedic publications are following: «Kazakhstan. National Encyclopedia» (10 volumes), «Kazakhstan. Short encyclopedia», «Taraz», «Otrar», «Zhetysay», «Sacred Kazakhstan» (1st volume).

For his works on archeology and history, Dosbol Baigunakov in 2009 was awarded the Certificate of Honor by Almaty mayor, in 2013 became the «The Best University Teacher», in 2016 he was awarded with the Medal of «Noble Worker of Education» by Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Honesty, integrity and humanity – those are the main qualities of our hero of the day. He is always ready to help any person; his openness and kindness have earned him the love and respect of his colleagues, friends and students.

We sincerely congratulate Baigunakov Dosbol Suleimenovich on his anniversary, and wish him health as well as new creative successes!

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