

Traditional Kazakh suit as object of ethnographic research

Traditional Kazakh suit from the ancient times was the object of ethnographic research. In particular, the special monograph I. Zakharov and U. Hodzhayev was published; the section “Kazakh National Suit” was included in the first volume of the book-album of A. Margulan; the same section was included in the book of H. Argynbayeva and in the work of U. Dzhaniybekova. The description of the suit of Kazakhs of Southern Altai was given in the work of A. Konovalov, materials about the clothes of Kazakhs of China in the monograph of Swedish scientist Ingvar Swanberg and American researcher Linda Benson, in the album of Imangali Tasmagambetov “Works of masters-jewelers of Central Asia”.

Unique manifestation of the material culture of the past is the Kazakh national suit created under the influence of living conditions in steppes with their hot summer, with the penetrating winds, frosts in the winter and big changes of temperatures in daytime. It found its reflection on ideals of the nation, its way of life and social equivalents. It differs with its uniqueness and played a certain role in saving and consolidation of ethnic consciousness of the people, along with informal conversation, anthropological indexes served as resistant determinant to distinguish strangers. The community of forms for all segment of the population with a certain age regulation is appropriate for it.

A. Divayev the one who the first stood at the origins of historical science of Kazakhstan. He created a basis for study culture of the Kazakh people in his work “The ethnographic biography of Kazakhs” by collecting ethnographic materials. In the section “Clothes and Jewelry of Kyrgyz of Kazalinsky district” Kazakh national suit he describe as follow:

1) “In winter and summer men wear the shirt from the same fabric — a calico, very wide and long that reaches almost knees; sleeves up till hand, turn-down collar and clasps on one button or fastens. The color of a shirt is only white. Trousers made of same material and same color. They also very wide, but not too long, and reach an ankle. They fasten with a belt (“bau”). The shirt called — “koilek” and trousers — “dambal”. During summer and winter they wear white scarf. During the summer they put on top of it felt hat called “kalpak” and winter — tumak, the hat that covers ears: on top covered with any material, wealthy Kyrgyz cover them with a cloth fabric or velvet. They are lined with fur mutton and rich ones with the fox fur and sometimes quilted by wool. Hats of rich people can be embroidered by trimming — called “zer”. Kyrgyz wear “ichig” (the type of light shoes) over of which wear galoshes called “kebis”. In winter time they wear big boots over ichig, they are made of felt called — “kiiz baipak”. Over the shirt and trousers they wear wide trousers and under tunics. Wide trousers are the same cut as the trousers, but from the other fabric. Usually, under tunic and trousers made of the same fabric — cotton, and rich people can afford them made of wool and cloth.



Тюбетейка.



Suede leather trousers with embroidery, A. Galimbayeva from an album "Kazakh National Suit", Alma-Ata: Kazgoslitizdat, 1958.

On top of all they wear Khivan gown called “shapan” or like quilted gown called “zhadagay”, sometimes Sartovsky gown not quilted. There are silver fasteners on under tunic, but majority have ordinary buttons. All clothes fasten on the right side, it is considered as a sin to fasten on the left side. Wide trousers and coats were made of sheepskin. There were no difference between festive attire and everyday clothes.

Women wear shirts and trousers with the same cut as men’s, but longer than their till the ankle. Women of all age wear the same cut. Over the shirt they wear short

besmet (the cloth same as caftan) without sleeves called “kamzol”. In special occasions and holidays they wear silk gown — “batchai shapan”. Girls wear beautiful red scarf on their head. They decorate the edge of the scarf with fringe. Newly married woman wears white scarf, tie it up on a chin, or wear “zhaulyk” — long white fabric. They wind it around head and then put the turban over it. Girls’ hair braided in 8-14 braids, whether women’s 2-4 braids. Braids interwoven with the lace called “shashbau”, which has silver coins. Women connect the ends of braids, whether girls are not.



National suit of Kazakhs. A. Galimbayeva from an album "Kazakh National Suit", Alma-Ata: Kazgoslitizdat, 1958.



Полный костюм молодой женщины. Алма-Атинская область.
Костюм состоит: жаулык и кимешек — головной убор, камзол-безру-
кавка, шапан-халат, отделанный мехом выдры, и койлек — платье.
Илл. А. Галимбаевой из альбома «Казакский народный костюм». —
Алма-Ата: Казгослитиздат, 1958.

Full suit of the young woman. A. Galimbayeva from an album "Kazakh National Suit", Alma-Ata: Kazgoslitizdat, 1958.



Кимешек — головной убор замужней женщины работы Беркимбаевой. Алма-Атинская область.
Илл. А. Галимбаевой из альбома «Каззахский народный костюм». — Алма-Ата: Казгослитиздат, 1958.

Kimeshek – a headdress of the married woman. A. Galimbayeva from an album "Kazakh National Suit", Alma-Ata: Kazgoslitizdat, 1958.

Women wear ring on hands called — “dosok sakina”, bracelets — “bilesik”, earrings — “syrga” and on breast wear jewelry decorated with coins. Moreover, in solemn occasions girls wear the special hat called “kamshat borik” made of beaver fur. On the other hand the triangular form velvet sheathed by fringe and decorated with bunches (on the right) is hanged down. Women and men wear amulets (tumar) in the form of small triangles, sewing them to an under tunic on a breast, a back or shoulder, and to the shashbau.



Traditional Kazakh jewelry for women, A. Galimbayeva from an album "Kazakh National Suit", Alma-Ata: Kazgoslitizdat, 1958.



Saukele – a wedding headdress. A. Galimbayeva from an album "Kazakh National Suit", Alma-Ata: Kazgoslitizdat, 1958.

Ishans (the leader of Sufi community) wear long white shirts, unfastened under tunic and Sartov gown. On the head they wear a big white turban. Officials' clothes do not differ from rich people. Wedding clothes of men differ do not differ from everyday ones. Bridal clothes are made of more expensive material like silk, velvet, etc. Also they wear long cone-shaped headdress called "saukele", decorated with gold, silver, pearls and corals. Kyrgyz (Kazakhs) do not use cosmetics and colors at all".

Literature:

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