

## **Economic role of the cattle**

**The cattle were the target object during the nomadic cattle. However, the significance, place and role of cattle in the system of pastoral nomadic economy could not be concluded by designation on this circumstance.**

It is important to define the economic role of the cattle first, which is the main object of Kazakh nomads' production. Characteristics of the economic system depend on how role and place of the cattle are evaluated in the production system.

Some people consider that the cattle is the only means of production in nomadic society and land is the pantry of all the wealth as pasture is not a means of production in nomadic pastoral societies. For instance, S.Tolybekov writes: 'At nomadic farming, with no agriculture, the land could not serve as the main means of labour and was a natural condition of production'. 'The land and cattle served as various objects and main means of labor in two independently sectors of material production in history – nomadic pastoralism and sedentary farming'.

There is another opposing point of view, which determines that the cattle cannot be attributed to the means of production. In the era of feudalism, irrespective of the nature of production in agricultural and nomadic societies, land is declared as a single, comprehensive means of labor.

To assume, that the notion 'means of production' includes only the land or the cattle in nomadic societies in all cases under feudalism and based on this formula, to accept land or cattle as the only object of feudal property without distinction of countries and historical conditions is wrong.

The target object of production is the cattle in nomadic pastoral societies, the preservation and development of which is the primary goal of every member of society. In turn, this task can be achieved only through systematic development of pastures, creation of necessary condition for cattle.

Some researchers consider incorrectly that acceptance of land as a basic means of production in the feudal nomadic societies that leads to identification of pastoral and agricultural societies. The feudal method of production, being one of the stages of historical development of society arises under certain laws which are identical for all countries in the world. Feudalism, as in the nomadic and settled agricultural societies is based on the basis of the exclusive right possession of basic means production of society – feudal lords and exploitation (based on extra-economic coercion) of the direct producers – peasants.

The acceptance of land as the main means of production in Kazakhstan does not mean subsequent mechanical transfer of all legal and economic institutions of the agricultural societies in the life of Kazakh society. No one is going to identify Kazakh feudal society with other feudal societies.

It is important that the nomad deals with the cattle. But, on one hand, the cattle is the natural product of the land and on the other hand is the result of labor associated primarily with the development of rangelands. The development of pasture does not only require human labor, it means transformation of land into a source of human existence through the use of cattle as means of influence. The cattle, which plays a mediating role between the land and nomad is the means of production.

The labor in cattle breeding should be followed by the pasture development. The cattle and land are the most important means of production in these societies.

*Used material:*

*S.Zimanov 'Social systems of Kazakh people in the first half of XIX century and Bukeyev Khanate'*