

NTERNATIONAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY

HISTORY OF KAZAKHSTAN

lecture #7-8:

Economical and political features of the Soviet Kazakhstan

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The brief content of lecture

- 1. -The contradictions and consequences of the Soviet post-war and other economic reforms in Kazakhstan
 -Apogee "cult of personality" and the influence of the "thaw" in the socio-political sphere
- Social-economic and political life in 1950- 60s: development of industry, agriculture, social life
- 2. -Socio-economic and spiritual "stagnation." Ecological problems of Kazakhstan
- Social-economic and political life in 1970-80s: development of industry, agriculture, social life

Union of Soviet Socialistic Republics and Soviet Socialistic Republic of Kazakhstan 1936-1953 – period of ruling by Stalin

1953-1964 – period of "thaw" (Khrushchev's period)

1964-1982 – "stagnation period" (Brezhnev's zastoy)

1984-1991 – period of re - constructions -Perestroika

Stalin's period

- 1925-1939- period of modernization with policies of
- a) Collectivization
- b) Industrialization
- c) Cultural revolution (Repressions)

And foundation of USSR in 1922, Kazakh Soviet Socialistic Republic in 1936

- The Great Patriotic War
- Renaissance of Soviet economy
- Strengthening of totalitarian regime cult of personality (Repressions)

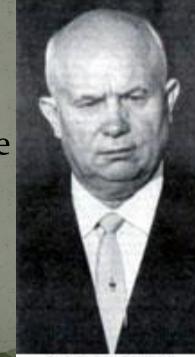
period

The main activities:

- a)de-stalinization: -20 Congress of CPSU (Communist Party of Soviet Union) - exposing the cult of personality
 - partial amnesty for victims of repression
 - destruction of GULAG (?)
 - changes in foreign policy
- b)Reforms in economy: industry with introducing of sovnarhoz

in agriculture – tselina

- c) Improving of social life soviet people:
 - khrushchevka-housing,
 - dacha (villages), selling of cars for simple people
 - appearance TV
 - passport system for peasantry



Н.С. Хрущев

Secret speech

- On the Cult of Personality and Its Consequences" was a report by Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev made to the 20th Party Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union on 25 February 1956.
- Aim of the speech:
- denunciation of the deceased Soviet leader Joseph Stalin



Social, cultural and economic reforms

- The Thaw initiated an irreversible transformation of the entire Soviet nation by
- opening up economic reforms and international trade,
- educational and cultural contacts, festivals, books by foreign authors, foreign movies, art shows, popular music, dances and new fashions, and massive involvement in international sport competitions.
- It was a chain of unprecedented steps to free people from fear and dictatorship

Positive changes

Fewer repressions

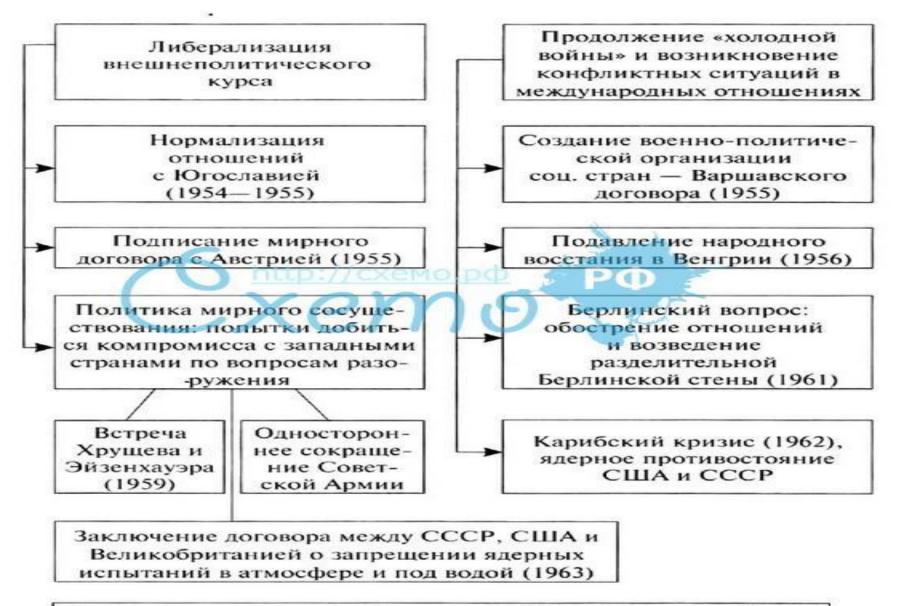
 Selective rehabilitation of those sentenced and repressed in the Stalin period

Prisoners were released from Gulag labor camps

Partial liberalization of political life

Slight weakening of the totalitarian regime.





Ухудшение отношений с Китаем и Албанией начиная с 1960 г.



Khrushchev's thaw

- **Reforms of democratic character** were undertaken in economy: creating SNH *sovnarkhozs* (советы народного хозяйства).
- These organizations were based in republics, autonomies, oblasts, and managed economy at their territory. Problem with this project was that management of separate branches of industry weakened
- at local levels the Party better understood needs of population, that is why republics, autonomies and oblasts should have more control over industry at their territory.
- In 1956 republics' ministries were responsible for 55% of industrial plants and factories, while in the late years of Stalin's rule only 31% were
- There were big changes **in agriculture:** decreasing of taxes; passport regime; right to migrate from kolkhoz
 - **economic successes** must improve conditions of real life for ordinary people : textile and food-processing industries (light industry), vital for everyday needs of population, were paid more attention and better invested
- Government made efforts to make consumer goods, automobiles, dachas, and especially radio and TV sets more available.
- Plan to provide people with houses were declared in 1957. From 1956 to 1963 more flats were built in the USSR than during the previous 40 years. The 5-stored buildings constructed then are called today *khrushevka*.

Industry of Kazakhstan

From 1953 to 1964 in Kazakhstan 730 new plants, factories and workshops were introduced:

Zhezkazgan Enrichment Factory, first line of Ust Kamenogorsk Plant of Machine-Making for Mining Equipment, Sokolov-Sarybai Mining Enrichment Factory, Aktobe Plant of Chrome Composites, Concrete-Making Plants in Qaragandy,

Chimkent and Semipalatinsk (these proved stress on government's houses building program)

In 1958 Kazakhstan took the 3rd place in the USSR in terms of industrial output (after Russia and Ukraine, but before Belarus, Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan).

development of infrastructure:

The 8 railroad systems that worked at the territory of Kazakhstan were united in 1958 were joined into the *Kazakh Railways* (Qazaqstan Temir Joldary).

Growing needs of industry stimulated growth of **energy-producing** in the republic. In 1960 Kazakhstan produced 10 times more electricity than after the War.

Proportion of republic in USSR's **iron-mining reached 1/3**, despite the fact that before Stalin's industrialization it didn't exist here.

Generally, **industry in Kazakhstan continued** to grow and Soviet Union's look at the republic was beneficial.

Development of virgin and unused lands in 50-s.

- exploration of virgin lands were headed by Ponomarenko and Brezhnev.
- March 28, 1954 the decree "On Increasing Grain Production in 1954-1955 through the Development of Virgin and Idle Lands"
- 13 million hectare of new lands was planned to cultivate in 1954-55.
 Aug 1954 6.5 million hectare in Kazakhstan planned by the 7th Conference of CPK.
- In 1955 The 2-years long state plan of exploration of virgin lands was realised within 1 year.
- To cultivate new lands, hundreds of thousands of people arrived to North Kazakhstan. Government used new methods:

the debts of kolkhozes were liquidated,

the taxes were decreased.

Prices for meat, milk, wool, potatoes, and vegetables were increased.

Significant discounts were made for tselinniks:

Free transportation of families to new places,

financial support, and loans to build a house,

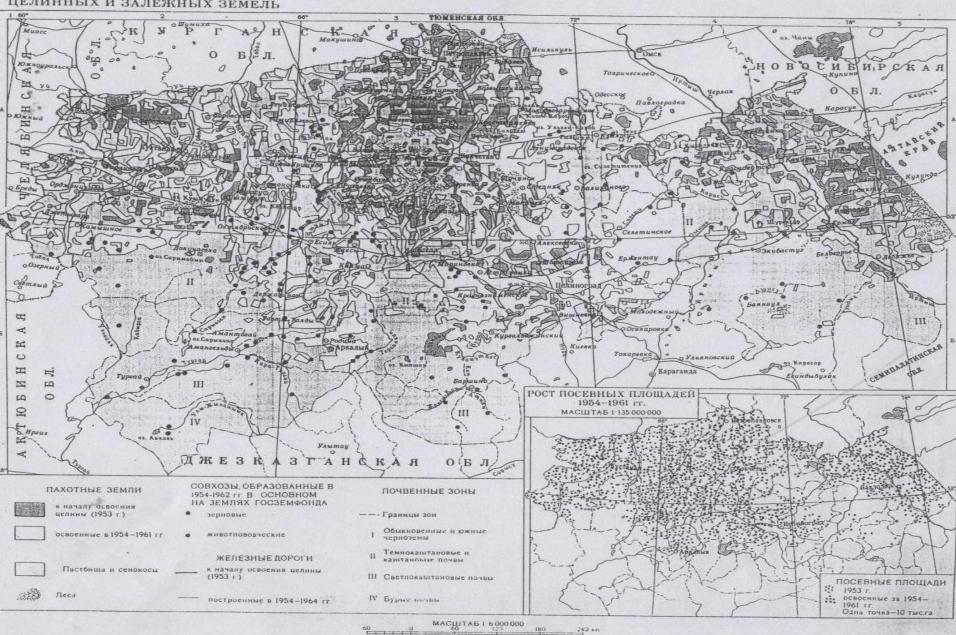
money to buy seeds and cattle,

no taxes for 2-5 years.

As the result of efforts by government and people, in 1956 Kazakhstan produced 12 billion tons of wheat (миллиард пудов зерна).

EXPLORATION OF VIRGIN LANDS

ОСНОВНЫЕ ОБЛАСТИ ОСВОЕНИЯ ЦЕЛИННЫХ И ЗАЛЕЖНЫХ ЗЕМЕЛЬ



Political leaders and actions

- Starting from 1960, the new leader of Kazakhstan was D. A. Qonaev.
- In 1962 Yusupov was appointed the 1st secretary of CPK. Khrushev supported A. Yusupov, an opponent of Qonaev.
- The most infamous action of A. Yusupov was transfer of several cotton-growing districts of Kazakh SSR to Uzbek SSR, which was explained by the economic necessity and unimportance of borders between national republics within the USSR.

Qonaev was against that and Khrushev called him as a "Kazakh nationalist".

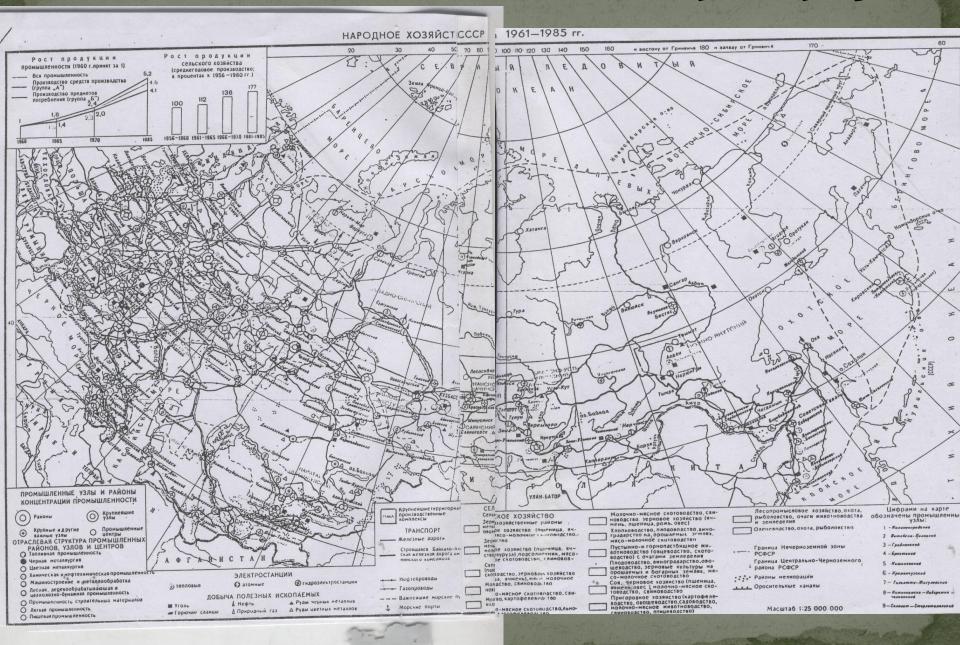
- A group of USSR's other top leaders, including Brezhnev, ideologist Suslov, and head of KGB Semichastnyi, in Oct 1964 forced Khrushev to resign from his posts for Khrushev's "voluntaries" style of ruling and failures in economy.
- Brezhnev was appointed the 1st secretary of CPSU and became head of USSR.
- In Kazakhstan Yusupov was ousted, and Qonaev again became head of Kazakhstan.
- Due to good Chinese-Soviet relations, in the early 1960s former Soviet and Russian citizens, who earlier had to immigrate into China, got permission to return to their land.
- About 200,000 of them (mainly of Kazakh but` also other ethnicities) arrived to Kazakhstan. When China-USSR relations worsened in the mid-1960s, this process stopped, and they were even armed conflicts on border, including *Zhalanashkol* conflict on Kazakh-China border in 1970

Brezhnev's zastoy "stagnation period"

- deep conservatism in economy, political and social life
- 1977, Oct 7 adoption of the new Constitution of the USSR
- December 1979 1989 war in Afghanistan

ECONOMY OF USSR IN

1961-1985





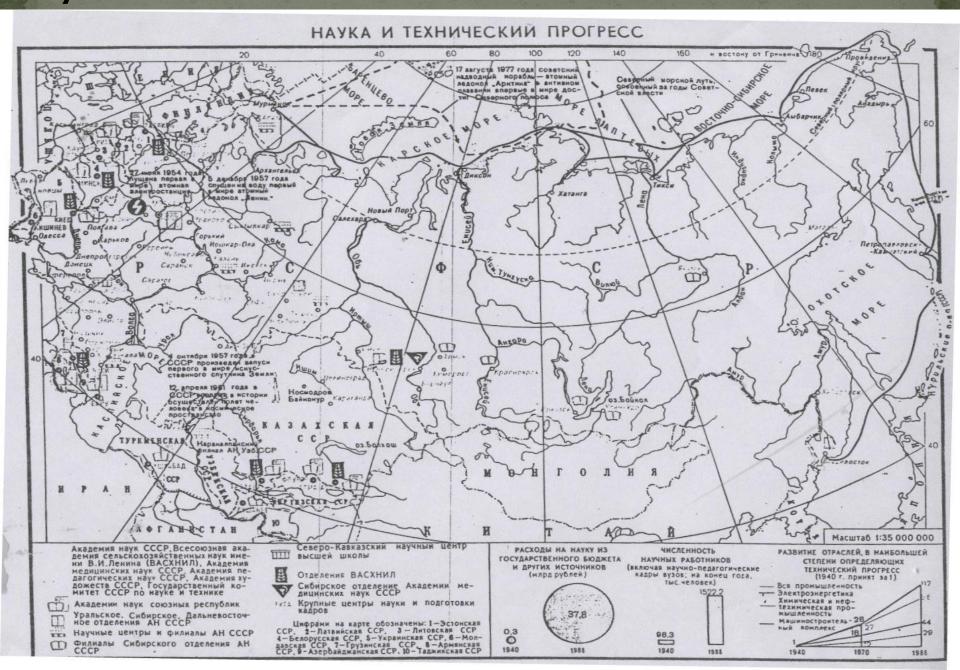
Industry of Kazakhstan

- In 1965 ministries (instead of sovnarhozes)were formed to manage metallurgy, non-ferrous metals, transport, etc.
- New methods of planning: Plans were given by the central ministries, but the enterprises worked on self-support basic and material stimulus for high productivity.
- Science-technical revolution: Special plans for new technology stimulated the using of new invention. Productions of titanium, magnesium, electromechanical, mechanical engineering were based on the achievement of scientific-technical revolution.
- Oil and chemical industry had allusion significance.
 In 1965 the first oil was produced in Uzen.
- Results of the reforms:
- 1970 Kazakhstan the leading position in the USSR for production of lead, copper, titanium intensified economy ties with the other republics.
- New light and food industries were built: Almaty and Shymkent cotton factories. Semipalatinsk, Zhezkazgan, Aktyubinsk stockinet factories.
- During 5-years 14 fabrics were built.

Science and culture

- One of the reasons of the late-USSR crisis must have been that in 1970s it didn't catch up with the new wave of scientific-technological revolution.
- In funding science and education in 1970s and 1980s a "leftover" (остаточный) principle was often used.
- Academic people didn't have any stimuli to provide Soviet industry with the latest innovations.
- Because Kazakh SSR didn't have a well-planned policy of support of science, in 1970s only 3% of scientific discoveries were made in our republic.
- On the other hand, the USSR provided population with more or less good chance to get education. Especially good was quality of education in technical and natural sciences such specialist were demanded by the huge military-industrial complex industries.
- However, social sciences, literature and arts in 1970s were dominated by conservatism, dogmatism and pseudo-Russian nationalism. They totally depended on the CPSU ideologists.
- When the prominent Kazakh poet *Olzhas Suleimenov* published in 1975 a controversial book "*AZiYA*" about deep influences of nomadic Turks (Kypchaks) on medieval Russian culture, a Kremlin-inspired critical campaign against him started in the Party-controlled mass-media.

70-80-ies



Soviet society in 60-ies

In the 60-s the struggle in the Soviet society was between **two political trends**:

the reformers demanded democratic changes,

the conservative wanted to preserve the old system.

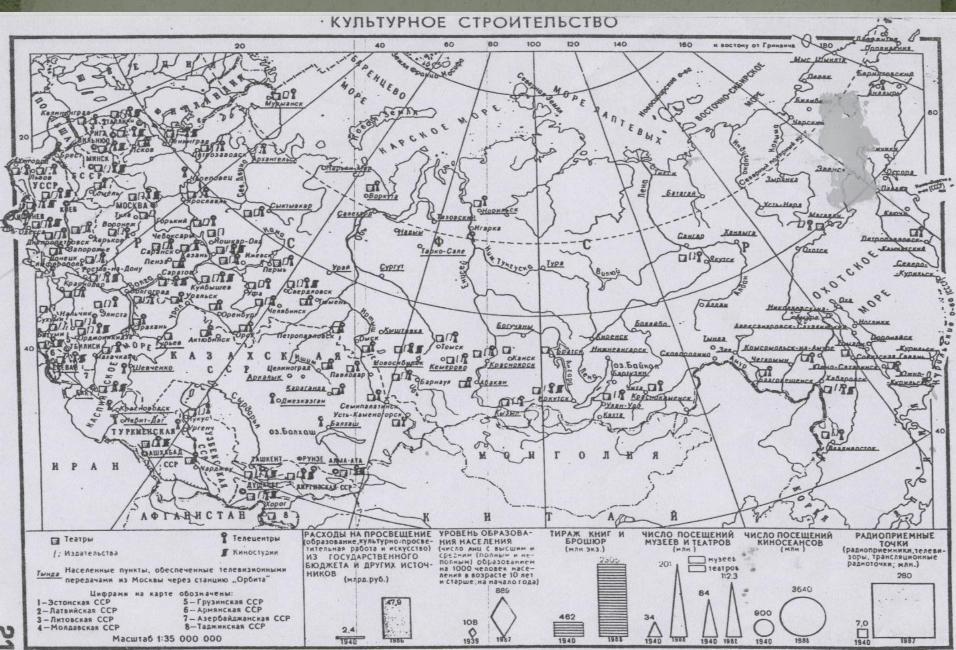
But the ruling command-administrative system didn't always keep the government's promises. Ignoring social issues couldn't stay without negative consequences:

people's dissatisfaction became evident in Temirtau in August 1959.

For construction of the metallurgical plant 132,00 people arrived to the town, mainly youth from *Komsomol* organisations. Building of residential houses for newcomers wasn't done at the necessary pace. People had to live in tents with no good supplies of drinking water and food. This caused many negative emotions about the government's management. On Aug 1, 1958, a group of angry youth attacked dining places, which started the riots all over the town. People's justified dissatisfaction was used by criminal elements, which plundered shops, market, cafes, and finally tried to storm the city's militia office (GUVD). The 3-days long riots were put down by additional forces of militia and soldiers, who used weapons. 16 people were killed, 50 wounded. The main activists and instigators were tried by court and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

better-known riots in Novocherkassk (Russia) in 1962,

Culture USSR in 70-80-ies



SCIENCE AND PROGRESS USSR 60-80-ies

- In 1960s the USSR's economic and administrative system reached the top of its effectiveness.
- The biggest scientific, economic and political victory was the space exploration program:

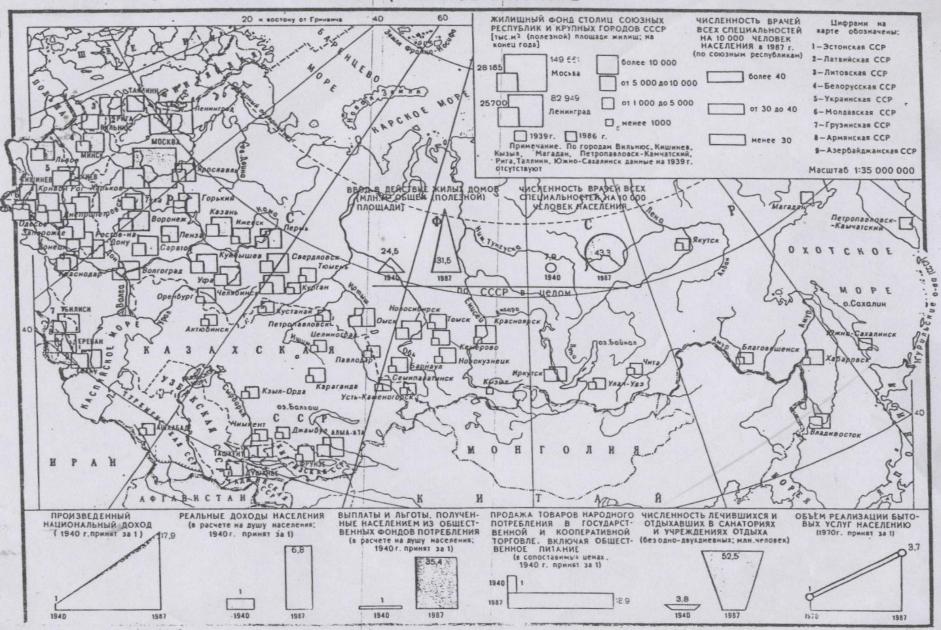
its symbols were the first artificial space satellite, Sputnik-1 (1957)

the first man on space orbit, Yuri Gagarin (1961).

- Together with successes, economic reforms showed the limits imposed by absence of freedom of choices and normal market relations.
- The 1960s were also time of more freedom for thinking:
 - Works of anti-totalitarian writers (Solzhenitsyn, Bulgakov, etc.) were published and openly discussed.
 - Free thinking people who were against totalitarian system (dissidents) tried to publish their papers on their own (samizdat). Kazakhstani example of free thinking was an informal organisation Zhas Tulpar, created by Kazakhstani students in Moscow and Leningrad.
- Young people discussed there issues of Kazakh culture, history and problems of modern Kazakhstan's development.
- However, even those small freedoms were limited by still dominant administrative-command system.
- Especially, totalitarian trends grew after 1968, when Soviet tanks entered Czechoslovakia to
- suppress democratic reforms began there.

Social development USSR in 70-80-ies

СОЦИАЛЬНОЕ РАЗВИТИЕ



The period from 1970 to 1985

- is popularly known as *zastoy* (stagnation).
- Probably the most characteristic feature of Soviet society and its elite was deep conservatism.
- No large-scale reforms were taken those years. Most efforts were directed on working out new laws and acts that would improve life of Soviet people.
- 1977 adoption of the new Constitution of the USSR (Oct 7 was declared a Constitution Day holiday).
- This document contained all kinds of freedoms and rights for citizens, in real life many of them didn't work.
- KGB prosecuted and harassed any kinds of dissidence and critical looks on the Party's policies.
- The crisis became evident, when in Dec 1979 the *Politburo* made a decision to enter Soviet troops into Afghanistan trying to establish a full-control of local communist government. As the result of this, the war started, which lasted until 1989. About 10,000 Soviet soldiers were killed in that war.
- From Kazakhstan almost **22,000 men** were sent to serve there, almost **800** died on the war.

I Ullucal leaders of Obbit allu

Kazakhstan

- three leaders of CPSU during from 1964 to 1985 didn't leave their post until their death: Leonid Brezhnev, Yuri Andropov, Konstantin Chernenko
- They were old and sick for most of that time. Domination of aged leaders in power is referred to as *gerontocracy*. 1964- died in Nov 1982 *Leonid Brezhnev* Two years earlier his partner in leading the USSR, the long-time prime minister, *Alexei Kosygin died*.
- Brezhnev's successor Yuri Andropov, the former KGB head, tried to start reforming the USSR on basis of more strictness and discipline. But he soon died in Feb 1984.
- The last one of the group, ordinary Party functionary, Konstantin Chernenko died in Mar 1985.
- In Kazakhstan an unchallenged leader during the time remained Qonaev.
- The evidence of unrest with Kremlin's dictate in Kazakhstan was the disturbances of 1979 in *Tselinograd* (today *Astana*). Andropov proposed an idea to create a German autonomous oblast in Northern Kazakhstan.

The last "Piyatiletka" 1986-1990

ОСНОВНЫЕ СТРОИКИ ДВЕНАДЦАТОИ ПЯТИЛЕТКИ (1986-1990 гг.) 160 и востону от Гринанча 180 и западу от Гринанча ПРОДУКЦИЯ
СЕЛЬСКОГО ХОЗЯЙСТВА
(среднегодовой объем
валовой продукции)
114.4 (в процентах к 1985 [naan] PRYTCH ОБороди CARHOLODCE **■** Тугнунское Заранор, ОСНОВНЫЕ ОБЪЕКТЫ РАСШИРЕНИЯ. РЕКОНСТРУКЦИИ И НОВОГО СТРОИТЕЛЬСТВА С МАШИНОСТРОИТЕЛЬНОГО КОМПЛЕКСА ПРОМЫШЛЕННОСТЬ СТРОИТЕЛЬНЫХ Добыча сланцев материалов, стекольная и фар-**ДЕГКОЙ ПРОМЫШЛЕННОСТИ** производства конструкционных мате-РИАЛОВ И ХИМИЧЕСКИХ ПРОДУКТОВ ТОПЛИВНО-ЭНЕРГЕТИЧЕСКОГО КОМПЛЕКСА **Б** ПИЩЕВОЙ ПРОМЫШЛЕННОСТИ Масштаб 1:35 000 000 Добыча и обогащение руд черных Тепловые электростанции Крупнейшие территориально-произ-Гидроэлектростанции и гидроакводственные комплексы СОКРАШЕНИЯ: Н Черная металлургия кумулирующие электростанци: Населенные тункть -- Transit Heret Hosevenin 30-6 PCOCP Электростанции Atomesie stertboctaeuna Добыча и обогащение вуд цестных M - Map-tian С.-Сангтудинская Атомные станции теплоснабмения несозопось :----Б-Бендеры P - POCTCE-Ha- DONY 7. -Талимарджанская Цветная металлургия — Железные дороги кр - Красноярск Pyc. - Pyctasu Ш.-Шамалды-Сайская Нефтеперерабатывающая Добыча химического сырья Зап.-Запорожская 1 Порты к Р. -Кривой Рог 10 - Y- 10 WHO- YKDBUHCKBR промышленность и - Игналинская Тур. - Турсунзаде ГАЭС-Гидроаккумули-Химическая и нефтехимическая к -Кутанси Добыча природного газа най-Кайшядорская гующая электростанция Города, имеющие метрополитен пронышленность Кир - Кировабад Газоперерабатывающая **К-Каневская ГАЭС** Лесная, деревообрабатывающая и цел-Города, в которых строится или проектируется метрополитен Добыча и обогащение угля

- Social life
 The 1970s to early 1980s were the period for which most aged post-Soviet people fell nostalgic today.
- The Soviet economy provided citizens with stable jobs, housing, free education and medical service, enough time for cultural rest.
- The Kremlin got big incomes from exporting oil and gas to Europe in 1970s. Lots of imported goods were available in shops, and a Soviet version of "consumer society" had formed.
- Although the USSR industry was the 2nd biggest producer in the world, its efficiency was very low. Much more resources were spent on producing one commodity than it was in the Western economies.
- At the same time lots of money was spent on the army. For example, an approximate cost of an underground testing (explosion) of one experimental atomic unit at the *Semipalatinsk* test-site was 30 million roubles. The nuclear test-site, located at the border of Semipalatinsk, Qaraghandy and Pavlodar oblasts continued to ruin ecological situation in the area.
- Kazakhstan's industry was still dominated by big mineral-resources related enterprises.
 - In 1970s three big territorial-industrial complexes were created in Kazakh SSR: Mangystau, Pavlodar-Ekibastuz, Karatau-Jambyl.

CONCLUSION

 The 2nd part of XX c. was famous by the development of industry, agriculture .The big achievements demonstrated Soviet people: exploration of cosmos, testing of nuclear weapon, development of science

but

- Many political and economical actions no based on scientific researches
- There were uncompleted reforms, race of weapon led to deterioration in the economy, started deficit of goods and provision