

**Papers on Inner Asia
Special Supplement**

**HISTORICAL MAPS
OF CENTRAL ASIA
9th—19th centuries A.D.**

Edited by Yuri Bregel
Indiana University

**INDIANA UNIVERSITY
RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR INNER ASIAN STUDIES**

**Bloomington, Indiana
2000**

PREFACE

The enclosed small collection of maps was initially prepared by me as transparencies for the use in two of my courses at the Department of Central Eurasian Studies (formerly Uralic and Altaic Studies) of Indiana University: "Central Asia in the 16th-19th centuries" and "Ethnic history of Central Asia". When I began teaching Central Asian history at Indiana University in 1981, I was immediately confronted with the fact that there were no satisfactory historical maps of Central Asia available in English or in western languages in general. *An Historical Atlas of Islam* (ed. by William C. Brice, Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1981) gives only one map of Central Asia — in the 10th—11th centuries (which, however, covers only a part of this region). Various maps that can be sometimes found in western publications on Central Asian history are inadequate. Moreover, even a general physical survey map of the whole of Central Asia (from Turfan in the east to the Caspian Sea in the west, and from Khorasan in the south to the Siberian forest in the north) is impossible to find. The best historical maps of Central Asia, usually covering only parts of it, are found in some Russian publications, and they were used for the preparation of my maps. Ideally, such maps should be based on an extensive study of historical sources. However, the present publication has a much more limited aim — mainly to serve as a teaching aid that can be used in the class — and it is based mostly on secondary sources.

Besides the main physical features (mountains, deserts, rivers, and lakes), the maps provide information on the chief political entities that existed in Islamic Central Asia at different times, as well as on major nomadic groups (Qazaqs, Turkmens, and other). It should be kept

in mind that the borders shown on the maps are only approximate: in most cases it is hardly possible to speak about fixed borders in Central Asia before the partition of the region between Russia and China and the establishment of the northern boundaries of Iran and Afghanistan at the end of the 19th century.

The maps in their present form have been prepared, under my guidance, by two graduate students of the Department of Central Eurasian Studies, Ryan Gliha and John McKane, who converted my hand-drawn originals into computer files, using the programs Adobe Illustrator 8.0 and Adobe Photoshop 5.0; as the geographical basis for these maps a map of Central Asia was used that is found in an atlas of the Soviet Union published in Moscow in 1962 (*Atlas SSSR*, map on pp. 22-23).

The present publication should not be considered as an attempt at giving a definitive cartographical product: it is rather a work in progress, which, I hope, can be improved in the future. Therefore any and all remarks and suggestions concerning these maps will be received with gratitude.

Yuri Bregel
January 2000

LIST OF MAPS

Legend

Central Asia: Historical Provinces and Oases

Central Asia: 16th-18th Centuries. Main Provinces and Trade Routes

Central Asia: Second Half of the 9th Century

Pre-Mongol Central Asia: Beginning of the 13th Century

Central Asia: Middle of the 14th Century

Central Asia: Second Half of the 15th Century

Central Asia: Beginning of the 16th Century

Central Asia: Middle of the 16th Century

Central Asia: Middle of the 17th Century

Central Asia: Second Half of the 18th Century

Central Asia: First Half of the 19th Century

Legend



Mountains



Rivers



Bodies of Water



Deserts



Oases



Cities and Other Settlements



Political Entities



Historical Provinces



Main Nomadic Groups



Dry River Bed



Approximate Boundaries



Greatest Expansion of the Özbek State Under Shībani Khan



Main Trade Routes



Direction of Russian Expansion in the 19th Century











Central Asia:
Middle of the 14th Century

Scale
1:10,000,000

0 100 200 300 400
kilometers (km)











Central Asia:
Second Half of the 18th Century



