

CHINA'S LAST NOMADS

Studies on Modern China

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The History and Culture of China's Kazaks

Linda Benson and Ingvar Svanberg

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The History and Culture of China's Kazaks

**LINDA BENSON AND
INGVAR SVANBERG**



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Contents

<i>Preface</i>	vii
<i>A Note on Romanization</i>	x
<i>Abbreviations and Measurements</i>	xi
<i>Map of China</i>	xii
<i>Map of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region</i>	xiii
Photographs follow page 170	
Introduction	3
1. The Kazaks of Northwestern China: The Physical and Cultural Setting	11
2. Kazaks in Central Eurasia and China to the Twentieth Century	30
3. China's Kazaks, 1912–1949	56
4. CCP Minority Policy and Its Implementation in Xinjiang	88
5. Life at the Local Level: Development and Change in Xinjiang's Autonomous Kazak Areas	126
6. Kazak Culture and Chinese Politics	171
7. Kazakstan and China's Kazaks in the Twenty-First Century	197
<i>Notes</i>	207
<i>Bibliography</i>	225
<i>Index</i>	241

A growing interest in China's borderlands accelerated after the 1991 breakup of the Soviet Union, which brought independence to new states like Kazakstan as well as a new configuration of power to Central Eurasia. Despite renewed interest in the region and its peoples, information on the Kazaks, and particularly on the Kazaks living in China, has remained limited. This new study, based on Chinese publications and archival materials as well as on recent fieldwork, provides an up-to-date treatment of Kazak history and culture, emphasizing their experience in twentieth-century China and their status today as one of China's minority nationalities. Not only does this book add to an understanding of the Kazaks of Xinjiang, but it contributes to a broader understanding of China's own stake in Central Eurasia as this politically sensitive region prepares to enter the twenty-first century.

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