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## REVIEWS

### ***GEOGRAPHY IN NEW MILLENNIUM*** ***(bibliographic review)***

By the calendar it is the second decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century already. However, the modern geography, being one of the oldest sciences, is undergoing a rapid process of renewal. The Age of Discovery consigns to history. Nevertheless, the development of geography rises to a new level today...

New accessions in the Information and Library Center of the Tyumen State University reflect modern trends in geography.

First of all, it should be mentioned the three-volume edition of the seminal work by Nicolaas Witsen (1641-1717), a Dutch scientist, the author of *Noord en Oost Tartarye* (North and East Tartary in a Russian translation), describing the area located in northern and eastern parts of Europe and Asia [1]. This publication was a joint project of the scientists from Russia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and for the first time it was available to Russian readers in a translation from Dutch to Russian. The three-volume writing, created in the late 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> century, is a narrative of the geography, climate, and environment of the "Tartary" peoples, of the Ostyaks, the Samoyeds, the Tungus, the Yakuts, and many other tribes of Siberia. There is information about the Crimea, Caucasus, Central Asia, China, Japan, and Korea... It is interesting to note that Tyumen is also mentioned in the work. It is said there that the city "is located only 180 miles from the main town of Tobolsk...". The third volume is a scholarly commentary to the writing by Witsen and it fully reflects the current state of the science.

Along with the writing by N. Witsen, it is necessary to highlight *Khorograficheskaya kniga* (cartographical sketch-book of Siberia), composed by Semyon Ulianovich Remezov in 1697-1711. It was published in a facsimile on the occasion of the 300 year anniversary of the issue at the initiative of the Revival Tobolsk Public Charity Fund by Arkadii Yelfimov [2]. *Khorograficheskaya kniga* contains 35 thousands of geographical names, the information on Siberia climate, its landscapes, routes, distances from one point to another, natural resources, flora and fauna, various peoples, their life and customs... It should be added that the book is available for Russian scientists and readers for the first time in history, because the original is in Harvard University Library.

The scientists from St. Petersburg and Moscow have dedicated their collective monograph *Economic Geography of the Global Development. The 20<sup>th</sup> Century to economic geography* — the discipline, that is at the intersection of natural and social sciences [3].

In modern society, ecology has predominant importance. In this regard, it will be interesting for the geographers to familiarize themselves with the study, entitled *Information Technologies in Environmental Monitoring Systems* by Viktor Savinykh, a cosmonaut, twice Hero of the Soviet Union, Professor, Rector of the Moscow

State University of Geodesy and Cartography [4]. It should be mentioned that the cosmonaut and cartographer of global renown used in his monograph the latest scientific achievements in “digital” space survey.

Nicholay Akinin, Professor, Vice Rector of the Mendeleev Chemical Technology University, has dedicated his monograph *Industrial Ecology: Principles, Approaches and Technology* to the problems of environment protection [5]. The author highlighted the concepts and principles of ecology, went on to describe the foundations for environmental management, environmental issues, and even environmental insurance, stressing that in the Russian Federation, it is now only ten percent of the potential risks...

The current state of the economic situation on the land and agricultural markets cannot be imagined without geographic approaches to this problem. The team of researchers from the Tyumen State University, headed by Professor Victor Osipov, devoted their collective monograph to the analysis of the farming lands and the landscape of the south of Tyumen region [6]. According to the data submitted by them, 2187.9 hectares, i.e. 74.7% of all farming lands in the south of Tyumen region are suitable for economic use. According to the authors, “it is possible to expand the use of southwestern lands of Tyumen region in the long term due to the commissioning of new lands...”

The environment and management of natural resources were the focus of the international conference held in the Tyumen State University under the University Partners of Russia and the USA programme. The symposium by the participants from the Tyumen State University, the Surgut State University, the Tyumen State Agricultural Academy, Moscow and Krasnoyarsk representatives also was added to the funds of the Information and Library Center of the Tyumen State University [7].

Among the novelty books in Geography, it is necessary to mention the original Russian-English Dictionary on Hydrology, Glaciology, Climatology, Meteorology, Geoecology, Hydrogeology, Hydrophysics, Water Chemistry and Oceanography [8]. It is composed by Professor Vladimir Lezin. The dictionary contains two thousand words (terms) and 8,000 word combinations from A to Z, e.g. “abysmal”, i.e. so deep as to be unmeasurable or geographical term “zonal soil”. This novelty book, indeed, will attract the attention not only of subject matter experts but the attention of non-specialist audience as well.

An idiosyncratic work of the V.I. Shpilman Scientific Analytical Center of Rational Subsurface Management in the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous District Yugra, entitled *Atlas: the Ecology, Natural Resources, Social and Demographic Development of the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous District — Yugra* can be called a real rare book among the novelties on Geography [9]. The Atlas is true to scale 1:200 000 and gives a complete picture of the forest districts location, cadastral division, land use, ecology, and environmental monitoring. The list of the sites of mineral resources distributed reserves with the licenses to explore and mine hydrocarbons is published in it. It remains to add that the data, obtained by space survey of the area, was used to compose the Atlas.

In general, the introduced issues make a significant contribution to the development of Earth sciences.

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