



World Scouting welcomes a new member country: Kazakhstan

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It is a pleasure to announce the WOSM membership of Kazakhstan's National Scout Organization, 'the Organization of the Scout Movement of Kazakhstan (OSMK)', as from 16 January 2008.

A warm welcome into the World Scouting family is extended to all the youth and adult members of OSMK, and it is with great pride that we look forward to their participation at the World Scout Youth Forum and World Scout Conference in Korea in July.

Scouting in Kazakhstan is for all boys and girls of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds. Scouts take part in a variety of activities; helping handicapped children, cleaning up public areas and teaching children first aid and other outdoor skills; and are active in the areas of environment and nature conservation. All of these activities, based on Scouting principles, are aimed to provide growth in moral strength and character, to enhance the development of physical, mental and emotional fitness of young people in Kazakhstan.

Today, there are many Scout groups in in the different regions and cities. There are 1,300 registered members of OSMK.



A BRIEF TIMELINE OF SCOUTING IN KAZAKHSTAN

The Scout Movement in Kazakhstan was founded in 1991 after the fall of communism. The first Scout Troops were organised in 1991 by Victor Deimund and Oleg Mozheiko. Later that year, Scout troops were organised in many towns and districts in Kazakhstan. The official founding date of the OSMK is 1992.

In 1993, the first training courses was held to train scout leaders. Later in the summer, the first All-Republic Camp (National

Jamboree) was held at the National camp, Jasybay.

In 1994, the first handbook, "Scouting For Everybody" was published and distributed in Kazakhstan, and representatives from Kazakhstan took part in an Informative Council on Scouting in the former Soviet Union, held in the Crimea and hosted by the World Scout Committee. During the Council, President Deimund discussed the development of Scouting in Kazakhstan with Doctor Jacques Moreillon, the Secretary General of WOSM. Leaders of Kazakh Scouts took part in the international seminar "Scouting: Youth without Borders" in Morocco.

In 1995, a small delegation of the Scouts of Kazakhstan participated in the 18th World Jamboree in the Netherlands. Since 1994 the Organization of the Scout Movement of Kazakhstan has a continuing partnership and an exchange program with the German Scout Association Bund der Pfadfinderinnen und Pfadfinder (BdP). The BdP provides the OSMK with financial assistance and with organisational support. 20 Guides and Scouts from the BdP travelled to Kazakhstan for the National Camp in 2002. Every year Guides and Scouts from the OSMK and BdP meet each other in camps or training courses either in Germany or Kazakhstan, helping and learning from each other.



In 1999, Kazakhstan held the First International Scout Camp "Kakharman-99", and in 2003 held WINGS2003, a subcamp for 10 to 14-year-olds. On October 5, 2004, the Internet Access and Training Program (IATP) brought together 20 Scouts from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan for a two-hour online discussion of their activities from the IATP access sites in five cities in Kazakhstan and three in Uzbekistan, aimed to bring together representatives of the Scouting movements from these countries to promote friendship and cooperation.

In October 2007, the World Scout Bureau received an application for membership in WOSM from the OSMK.