



Kazakhstan, once a part of the former Soviet Union, declared its independence in 1991. Fueled by abundant minerals and energy resources this new country is rapidly remaking itself as it follows the path of constitutional democracy, free market trade and freedom of religion.

1. Introduction - Maps

2:07 Kazakhstan, located in central Asia, was once a part of the former Soviet Union. This chapter also includes video calibration charts.

2. Kazakhstan: Following a New Path

10:10 It has only been 17 years since the Republic of Kazakhstan declared its independence. The fall of the former Soviet Union in 1991 allowed this country to follow its own pathway to the future - a route not dictated by the authoritarian Communist powers of Moscow.

3. Seeds for Fallow Soil

7:10 Sheep and goats are still common in the rural areas of Kazakhstan as a lone herdsman cares for animals that once

represented the resources of an entire village. A century ago the lifestyle was much different. Ninety percent of the population lived off of the land as they traveled from mountains to valleys.

4-7. The Narrow Path 27:10 These four chapters cover the religious and political history of Kazakhstan. Use Play 4-7 to view all in sequence.

4. The Wanderers - The Narrow Path, Part 1 3:41 The ebb and flow of history has brought together a multitude of peoples to form what is now known as Kazakhstan. Religious beliefs, political affiliations, lifestyle and physical appearance remain as guide posts for the pathways that individuals, families and ethnic groups follow.

5. Pathway to Survival -The Narrow Path, Part 2 4:59 The legend associated with the Baiterek Tower in Astana symbolizes a mystic time when a dragon continually destroyed the hopes and dreams of the Kazakh people. But, 400 years ago there were many real dragons facing the steppe nomads as they searched for the pathway to nationhood.

6. The Path of Sorrows -The Narrow Path, Part 3 11:30 Prison labor camps known as Gulags were set up to purge the Soviet Union of political descent. Many were in Kazakhstan. Trainloads of so-called “enemies of the State” were dumped hundreds of miles from civilization in the desolate, inhospitable land.

7. Choosing a Path -The Narrow Path, Part 4 7:00 The citizens of Kazakhstan have much to sing about as they experience the benefits that freedom brings. In the 17 years since achieving independence, the people, for the first time in their lives, have unprecedented freedom; freedom from the U.S.S.R.



8. Kazakhstan: Going Forward with Pride 7:13

The nomadic lifestyle of the Kazakhs is no more. What once was a resilient and resourceful lifestyle, molded by the harsh environment of the steppe, became only a dream of the old way of life, which was eventually put in chains by forces

outside the control of the people.

9. Astana: Slaying the Dragons 8:42 For Astana, to reach this point in time, many problems were overcome. Dragons were slain that sought to destroy the hopes and dreams of a future that was to be different than the past. The Baiterek Tower, meaning “tall poplar tree” in the Kazakh language, symbolizes this feat.

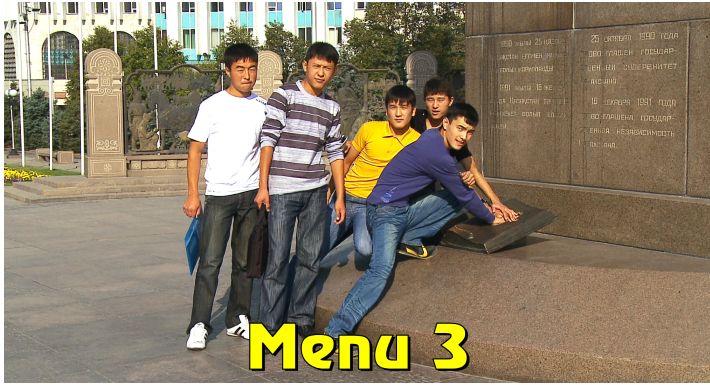
10. A View From the Tenth Floor 10:56 It is a long way down to the street from Ivan’s tenth floor flat. At 8 o’clock in the morning there are only a few people up and about. For most, their work does not start until 9 o’clock. The construction cranes are silent now and they will probably not work today.

11. On a Clear Day in Temirtau 4:13 On a clear day, smoke stacks can be seen pumping soot, ash, sulfur and other chemicals into the blue sky above the city known as “Iron Mountain” or, in the Kazakh language, “Temirtau”. It is iron that defines this city and its people.

12. Meeting at the Bench 4:00 The favorite meeting place for these three gentlemen is under a shade tree with the large heating pipes for their bench. Their grandchildren are nearby - all enjoying the sunny afternoon. This is also a good place for the grandmothers to sit and share time with the young children.

13. Karaganda: Overcoming a Tragic Past 7:16 Karaganda of today is much like other large cities in Kazakhstan. The new imported cars making their way along the main street point to the present as well as to the future; except, the tragic past of this city is hidden.

14. Saran: Changing Lives, One Heart at a Time 6:36 The 30-mile drive from Karaganda to the small city of Saran is a vista of discouragement and lost dreams. All along the way, surrounded by the scrub vegetation of the steppe, are old decaying coalmines. Most of the people who once worked here are now gone; still, this is the home of about 40,000 people. In general, they continue to go about their daily routines; activities that appear to have little hope for the future.



15. The Celestial Mountains 5:55 It is only about an hour's drive south of Almaty to the Tien-Shan Mountains - "The Celestial Mountains" - a 1500-mile long mountain range that borders China to the East and Kyrgyzstan to the

South. This is a place to place to rest.

16. God Makes Miracles!!! 11:57 This could be almost any small city in Kazakhstan or possibly in the United States or Europe. Japanese, Korean and European made automobiles are all around and most are new. People are coming and going as they finish their shopping.

17. Pravda Avenue 5:33 This street in Almaty, Kazakhstan once had the name of "Pravda". The old street sign remains but the letters have long since faded. "Pravda" in the Russian language means "truth". The city of Almaty has undergone major changes since independence in 1991. It remained the capital until 1997 when the new city of Astana was formally designated as the capital of the Republic.

18. Bazaars: A Crossroads of Time and Space 6:24 The bazaar has long been the tradition of the peoples of Kazakhstan; a place to buy and sell goods, often crowded, noisy and, sometimes, smelly but still it endures. It has grown dramatically since independence; since a true market economy came into being.

19. The Hands of Man 4:40 Standing high, at the entrance of Republic Square in Almaty, Kazakhstan, is the Independence Monument with a reminder of the Golden Warrior, - a symbol of the ancient civilization that once lived here. There are more reminders of the past throughout the city.

20. Guardians of Tomorrow's Freedom 5:10 These students at a major university in Almaty grew up in a free Kazakhstan. It was their parents and their grandparents who endured the

repressive control of Moscow. They will soon be given the responsibility to protect as well as expand the hard won freedom.

21. The New Life for Almaty 7:33 For some, the recently completed apartment buildings represent a dream come true. All the more, they are located in an upscale district overlooking the city of Almaty. A large department store is nearby and a well-equipped playground is for the kids. Those living here are experiencing a new life of comfort, convenience and prestige.



22. The Legends of Borovoye 6:25 Borovoye, sometimes called the "Pearl of Kazakhstan", is a place where legends are made. Where it is said that when God was creating the world one of the nations was given rich forests, another got fertile fields with green pastures, another a large tree-

lined river and a fourth received beautiful mountains, blue lakes and streams flowing down the steep ravines but, all that the Kazakhs received was the steppe.

23. Kokshetau 6:06 Grain elevators are a common sight along the highway leading to the city of Kokshetau. On this highway, during the wheat harvest, huge combines make their way from one field to the next. The north central part of Kazakhstan is the grain belt of the country.

24. Winter: The Familiar Path 7:03 Winter in the northern part of Kazakhstan is a time of unparalleled beauty as the snow and ice hangs on the trees and lakes and rivers freeze over. It is also a time of danger as the relentless winds and below zero temperatures threatens the exposed skin of those who venture out.

25. Wedding Traditions 3:18 For this bride and groom, their wedding would not be complete without a professional videographer choreographing the sequence of events. Things that are included in the script are: the symbolic "heart to heart", the walk to a famous monument and the ride to various places in a long white limousine decorated with large wedding rings and, of course, accompanied all the while with rock music in the background.

26. Atyrau: East meets West 11:28 Cars and trucks stream across the bridge that spans the Ural River, a river that separates the East from the West, Asia from Europe. But, this is only a river, a place to fish, a place to ride an excursion boat, a place that looks the same from either direction. About 30% of the wealth of the Republic comes from this area where oil and gas fuel the economy of Kazakhstan.

27. Oh Isa! Oh Isa! Oh Isa! 5:39 "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!" You can hear the words, the adoration for their Savior. Sometimes they sound near, and, other times, distant. Where are those who know, trust and follow Jesus? Would it be possible to join with them as they sing praises to God and to His Son, Jesus? Where did these believers come from? How did they learn about Jesus?