

Game Guide

Written by Gulzat Kokoeva

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1. Toguz Korgool is a traditional mancala game played all over the World. Especially famous in Central Asia: Kazakhstan (known as a *toguz kumalak*), Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. It's also played in some parts of Russia (Altay, Khakassia, Tuva, Tatarstan, Yakutia, Karachay-Cherkassia), by Kyrgyz tribes in northern east of Afghanistan and Van province in Turkey (*doguz korgol*), Western Mongolia and northern west of China (Urumchy).

2. The origin of the game might be related to the spread of Islam and it's cultural artifacts. Some Kazakh experts related with Mongols and the Golden Horde (XIV). However, we found some lines about this game in the Kyrgyz epic "*Manas*". The epic born out of the heroic efforts of Kyrgyz tribal lords in AD 840.

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Illustration of the hero "Sagymbai Orozbekov" from the epic "Manas" (Kyrgyzstan)



Sagymbai Orozbekov
1867-1930

Illustration of the hero "Sagymbai Orozbekov" from the epic "Manas" in Kyrgyz language in second part of epic "Manas"



Logo of the Toguz Korgool Center, established in 1993, promoting the game of Toguz Korgool.



Poster for the 'TOGUZ KORGOOL INTERNATIONAL CHESS AND GAMES FESTIVAL CZECH OPEN' in Prague, organized by the Toguz Korgool Center in 1999.

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