

*The biggest gas reserves and
largest reindeer herds in Russia.*



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Exploring coexistence in the Yamal Nenets Autonomous Okrug

- ~90% of the Russian gas extraction
- Gross regional product per capita of 34,000 USD
- 500,000 inhabitants
- 550,000 domestic reindeer
- ~15,000 nomads, most of them Nentsy
- \Rightarrow two ways of using the land

Soviet and post-Soviet

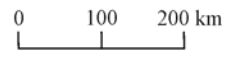
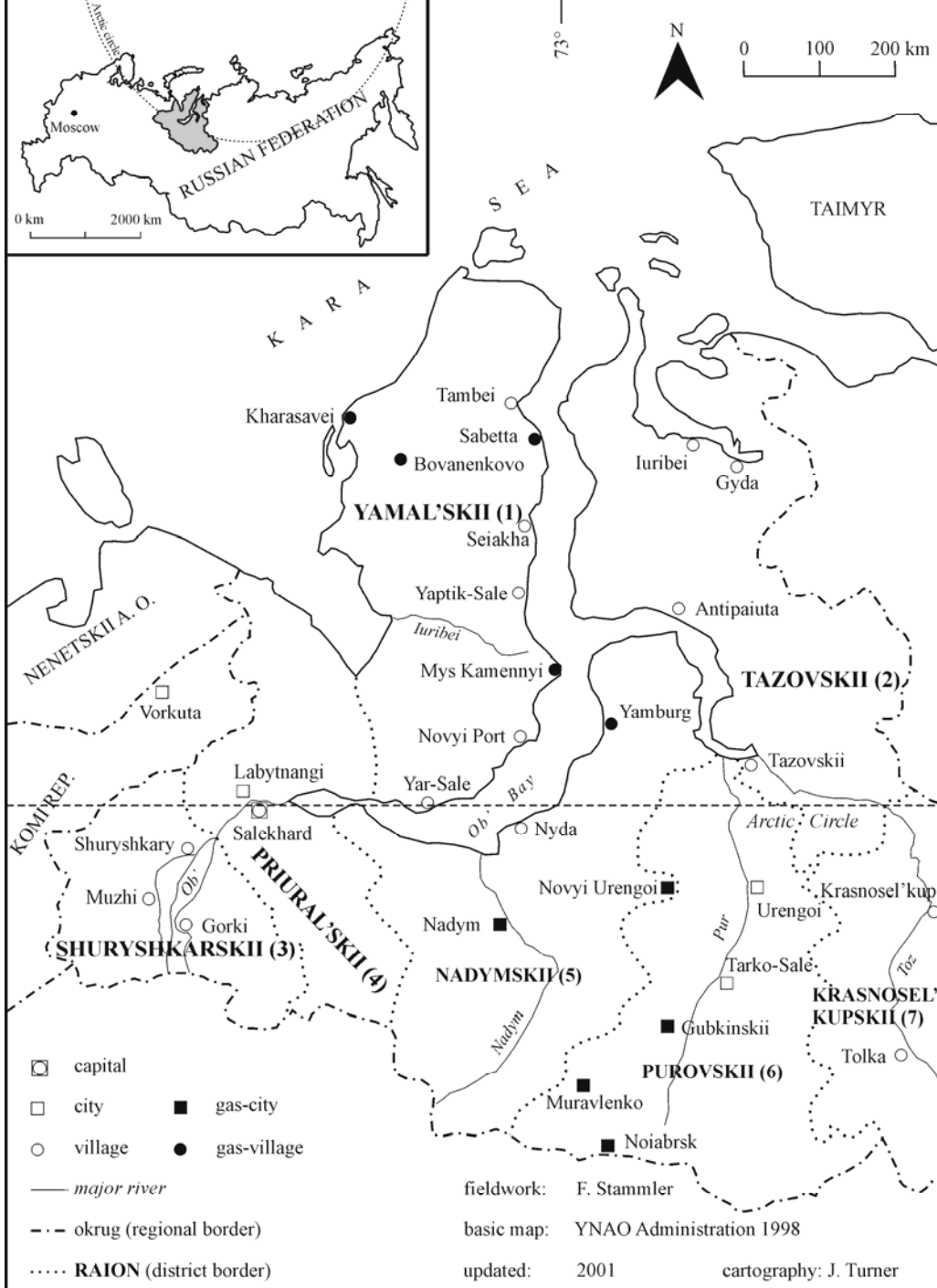
1970s - 1980s:

Main oil and gas extraction
in the south of the Yamal
Okrug

Main reindeer herding in
the north of the Yamal
Okrug

1990s – present

Both coming closer together, claiming the same areas



- ◻ capital
- ◻ city
- village
- major river
- - - okrug (regional border)
- ⋯ RAION (district border)
- gas-city
- gas-village

fieldwork: F. Stammer
 basic map: YNAO Administration 1998
 updated: 2001 cartography: J. Turner

Three main interest groups

Reindeer herders



Gas enterprises



*Венчав и чуден
день на буровой*

Regional Administration



⇒organise new relations at the dawn of a new era of industrial development:

Reindeer herding and gas identity



Official regulation: Laws

YNAO Law on Anthropological expert review

- Scientific research on the impacts of planned oil or gas development on the traditional livelihoods of the indigenous people
- An analysis of that traditional livelihood
- An assessment of ethnodemographic processes
- An assessment of sacred sites and other places of spiritual significance
- For which deposits is AER required ???

Thanks to Leonid Khudi, Yamal Potomkam, for informing on the first regional дума session on this law.

Regulation on the ground

Sabetta gas village and private reindeer herders



Terms of Trade between the gas enterprise and reindeer herders

Item	in roubles	in kg meat
Bread	3.5 /loaf	0.7
Ring crackers	10.27 /kg	2.05
Flour	3.9 /kg	0.78
Sugar	3.3 /kg	0.66
Tea India	15 /100g	3
Milk sweat	11.73 /can	2.34
Milk powder	27.65 /kg	5.53
Butter	23.38 /kg	4.67
Macaroni	6 /kg	1.2
Canned meat	8.50 /can	1.7
Soup	4.3 /can	0.86
Fuel	5 /litre	1

Shifting power relations

The biggest private slaughterhouse in Yamal





Cooperation



- 20 years personal continuity
- Development of trust
- Agreements without central authorities
- Since 2003: reindeer herders organised in *obshchina*, gas enterprise new owner
- Make cooperation to model for other cases within the YNAO

Conclusions

- Individual agreements „on the ground“ good for filling gap as long as official regulations are lacking
- Long term personal relationships between industrial workers and reindeer herders decisively influence „positive climate“ of coexistence.



⇒ Therefore it is worth investing in personal continuity