

1 **Narrator**

2 "Atom Lake", which appeared during the Semipalatinsk test site, is abandoned. In 1965, an
3 artificial lake was formed along the Shagan River as a result of a powerful explosion made under
4 the guise of industrial purposes. Scientists conducted various experiments there and studied the
5 place and water where the explosion took place. After the closure of the landfill, the poisoned
6 dangerous area remained open. My colleague Yerzhan Jakyp went to "Atom Lake" specially.

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8 **Erzhan Jakyp, reporter:**

9 Now we are about 1 kilometer away from the blast site. The power of the tested bomb was so
10 powerful that it destroyed an entire mountain with a radius of 1-2 kilometers.

11 According to scientists, heavy radioactive isotopes such as cobalt-60, cesium-137, europium-
12 152, 154 are spread in the area where the explosion occurred. It is very dangerous for human
13 body and animals.

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15 **Reporter Erzhan Jakyp:**

16 This is the atomic lake formed as a result of the test. There used to be a big mountain here. After
17 the explosion, a hole appeared and was filled with water. Now this place, poisoned by radiation,
18 lies in the open.

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20 **Narrator**

21 Since it is neglected, anyone can freely enter the territory of "Atom Lake". Even the local people
22 have always fished and turned it into a place to rest. A local fisherman says that I have been
23 fishing here for more than 4-5 years.

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Valery Petrov, fisherman:

It has been poor for 70 years. The whole place is poisoned. It is nonsense to say that this place is dangerous. The fish of this lake is delicious. I think it's a lie that you will get sick. In the evening, when many people come here, you won't find a place to stay.

Narrator

According to many, the caught fish is even being sold without restrictions. Scientists of the National Nuclear Center, who have been studying the territory of the test site for years, say that the lake and its surroundings are poisoned.

Erlan Batyrbekov, director of the National Nuclear Center of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

It is a big mistake that the area of the lake is currently neglected. That place is really bad. All of the debris from the blast contains radiation. "Atom Lake" is not our territory. The National Nuclear Center therefore cannot place restrictions there.

Narrator

It turned out that "Atom Lake" does not belong not only to the National Nuclear Center, but also to the administrative territory of any district or city. At one time it was considered the land of a testing ground, and then it was empty. Now scientists say that this neighborhood should be legalized and entry into the poisoned area should be strictly prohibited.

Erzhan Jakyp