

Wild horses return to Kazakh steppes

Przewalski's horses have returned to the steppes of Kazakhstan after nearly 200 years, as part of an ambitious scheme to reintroduce them to their ancestral homeland



PRZEWALSKI'S HORSE

- Last wild horse species named after Russian explorer **Nikolai Przewalski**, who first identifies it
- First domesticated 5,500 years ago – 2,000 years before first records of domesticated horses in Europe
- Once roamed vast steppe grasslands of central Asia, but driven close to extinction in 1960s
- Already reintroduced in China and western Mongolia, where population numbers around 1,000

Arkalyk: Six mares and one stallion flown from Prague and Berlin zoos – then released to *Altyn Dala*, Kazakh name for Golden Steppe

