

LATE PLEISTOCENE GLACIATIONS IN NORTHEASTERN RUSSIA

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Major features of morphology and paleography of two last Late Pleistocene glaciations in northeastern Russia were described. They were compared with northwestern Alaska.

The first late Pleistocene glaciation (75-60 Ka) in northeastern Russia was wide spread, covering about 40 % of the modern landscape. Glaciers formed not only in high and middle elevations mountain of ridges but also in the vast area of low elevation of massifs and plateaus to the east of the region, filling both valleys and intermontane basins. In Chukotka, foot glaciers of the Malaspina type formed within the Vankaremskaya basin and the Anadyr lowland. The largest glaciers were 75-100 km long.

The last glaciation of the Late Pleistocene (24.5-12.5 Ka) in most parts of the mountain regions had mainly cirque and cirque-valley character. Glaciers confined were to the high and medium elevations of the mountains. In continental regions, the height of ridges covered by glaciation was more than 1400-1600 m, and whereas the coastal regions it was 1000-1200 m. The glaciations were not continuous and differed by irregular distribution, separation of some centers and by the small average thickness of glaciers. We distinguish 7 local glacial regions. Depending on the peculiarities of the geomorphological composition of the basins, their lengths range from 5 to 10 km, up with some glacier lengths to 22-25 km. On average, glacial recession took place in 3-4 stages.

Geomorphological analysis and radiometric dates, made possible the comparison Late Pleistocene glacial assemblages of northeastern Russia and northwestern Alaska (Kigluaik Mountains, Brooks Range). As a result, relative synchronism of glacial events was established. In the same manner, absolute heights and

distances from sea coast indicate the development of glaciers of the same type and similar scale in both regions.