

## ABDULLA QADIRIY – THE FOUNDER OF UZBEKISTAN NOVELISM

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**Annotation.** The article discusses the role of Abdulla Qodiriy in new Uzbek literature and his participation in important socio-cultural and political processes, as well as the unjust government administration revived in the writer's works. In addition, information is provided about the first works written in the genre of novels in Uzbek literature.

**Key words.** Uzbek literature, novels, Days Gone By, The Scorpion from the Altar, Obid Ketmon, Julqinboy.

A major figure of Uzbek literature, an active participant in the political, social and cultural processes of the 1920s, and the founder of Uzbek novelism, Abdulla Qodiriy (pseudonyms: Qodiriy, Zhulqinboy) was born on April 4, 1894 in Tashkent. Most literature mentions that he was born into a gardener's family, but his father, Qodirbobo (1820-1924), served as a soldier under the khans and beks, and participated in the defense of Tashkent during the Russian invasion (1865). Abdulla Qodiriy is considered one of the founders of realistic novels in Uzbek literature. In his works, he covered historical events, social problems in society, and issues of national consciousness.

#### 1. Famous works

"Bygone Days" (1926) is the first novel in Uzbek literature, covering the life of Turkestan in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The tragic love of the main characters of the work - Otabek and Kumush - depicts the clash of the old and new eras.

"Mehrabdan shayon" (1929) - this novel is also based on historical events, and it highlights the problems of people's life, violence and injustice.

"Obid ketmon" (1934) - this story raises issues of rural life, peasant life and inequality in society.

#### 2. Literary style and themes

Realism - Kadiri truthfully depicted the reality of life in his works.

Historical themes - his novels reflect the era of the old Bukhara and Kokand Khanates.

Social criticism - the writer showed the problems of injustice, ignorance and domination in his works.

National consciousness and reforms - he considered enlightenment, education and development to be important for the prosperity of the nation.

#### 3. Qodiriy's role in literature

He introduced the novel genre to Uzbek literature and made a significant contribution to the formation of national consciousness. His works are still highly valued today and are taught in school and university textbooks.

Based on this information, we can say that Abdullah Qodiriy was born into a military family. It is precisely the adventures of his father that became the basis for the creation of a number of works and historical novels of our poet. Abdullah Qodiriy was educated at a Muslim school (1904-1906), a Russian-Tuzem school (1908-1912), and the Abulqasim Sheikh madrasa (1916-1917). He also studied at a literature course in Moscow in 1925-1926, studying Arabic, Persian, and Russian. This also aroused his interest in world literature. Along with his education, he worked independently from childhood to help his family. He mastered various professions and worked as a secretary for local merchants. The beginning of his creative activity dates back to the 1910s. The first publication of the future writer in the press was the book "New Mosque and School", printed under

his signature. Later, his poems "Wedding", "Our Situation", "To My Nation", the drama "Unhappy Groom", and the story "Juvonboz" were published. The first works of Abdulla Qodiriy were written in the spirit of patriotism and enlightenment. With these works of his pen, he wanted to open the eyes of the people and oppose injustice, at least partially.

In his works, Abdulla Qodiriy described the life of the people, national consciousness and problems in society, and promoted the following main ideas:

1. National consciousness and independence

He tried to awaken national pride by recalling the rich history and culture of the Uzbek people.

He promoted the people's awareness of their identity, the fight against foreign colonialism and oppression.

2. Justice and truthfulness

His heroes (for example, Otabek - "Bygone Days") fight for truth and justice.

The writer condemned corruption, hypocrisy and violence.

3. Enlightenment and development

Qodiriy emphasized the importance of science and enlightenment for the development of the nation.

In the works "Scorpion from the Altar" and "Bygone Days", it is shown that illiteracy and ignorance are the causes of the backwardness of the people.

4. Love and family values

In the novel "Bygone Days", love and loyalty are described as high values.

He emphasized that family loyalty and humanity play an important role in the development of society.

5. Freedom and social equality

In the story "Obid Ketmon", the hard life of peasants is described and their rights should be protected.

The writer advocated that there should be justice in society and that ordinary people should not be oppressed.

In general, Abdulla Qodiriy called in his works to awaken the people, to understand their national identity, to develop science and enlightenment, and to fight for justice. Along with his journalistic work, he created the first novel of Uzbek literature - "Bygone Days". This historical event falls on the years 1919-1920. Chapters from the novel were published in the journal "Inqilob" in 1922. In 1924-1926, each chapter was published as a separate book. This period was the first years of Soviet power. It was at this time that the people were suffering greatly. For this reason, Abdulla Qodiriy grieved for the fate of his homeland.

The writer wanted to awaken the people through the novel "Bygone Days". In these verses, he went to the gallows for the first time, after three or four admonishing poems. Abdulla Qodiriy realized at that time that society could not accommodate people who thought differently from him. The writer's feeling of loneliness in this society is also expressed in the novel "Bygone Days" In it, the main character, Otabek, is also not satisfied with the environment in which he lives. He emphasizes that a modern state cannot be built with today's beks and expects a change of opinion among the political elite. It is by shedding light on these events that the writer wants to convey his pain to the people. Qodiriy is not only a writer, but also a brilliant linguist and translator.

He skillfully translated the works of the Tatar physicist Abdulla Shunosy "Physics" (1928), Gogol's "Marriage" (1935), and Anton Chekhov's "Olchazor" (1936) into Uzbek. Abdulla Qodiriy's own works, especially his novels, quickly spread worldwide. "Bygone Days" was published in Azerbaijani in 1928, "Mehrobdan shayon" in Tajik in 1935, and "Obid ketmon" in Russian in 1935. Since then, these works have been repeatedly published in Russian, Kazakh,

Uyghur, Tatar, Arabic, Italian, German, and other languages. This person is not just a writer for us. Our culture, values, and religion are preserved. He is considered our hero who did not fear death for the sake of our people's well-being and freedom. Although he escaped the gallows three times, he was not afraid to demand justice and speak the truth. When Abdullah Qodiriy was imprisoned in 1937, his novel "Days Past" was banned. Those who kept this work in their homes, read it, or even read it to others were held accountable.

His works were considered "harmful" and burned, and his books were removed from libraries. After 9 months of interrogation, torture, and humiliation in prison, he was executed along with his colleagues such as Cholpon and Fitrat. This is a great loss for Turkestan. Abdullah Qodiriy fought against the higher authorities until his last breath. He bravely defended his honor in court. In addition, he laid the foundation of a patriotic government that recognized his religion for future generations. During his short life, he left us an extremely spiritual and invaluable legacy. Our people always bow before the figure of Qodiriy. No matter how much we admire the writer's talent and skill, his childhood, adolescence, professional activities, and even death are remembered with sad memories.

Abdulla Qodiriy was acquitted 100 years after he was accused of discrediting the government. This process was considered in an open court session with an appeal filed by the writer's grandson, Khondamir Qodiriy. After his acquittal, Abdulla Qodiriy was awarded the State Prize of the Republic of Uzbekistan named after Alisher Navoi (1991) and the Order of "Independence".

The State Prize of the Republic of Uzbekistan named after Abdulla Qodiriy was established. The Tashkent State Institute of Culture, the park of culture and recreation in Tashkent, various cities and streets of the republic, and many cultural institutions in our republic were named after him. In 2019, a creative school named after Abdulla Qodiriy was established in Tashkent. Films and many TV series were created based on the novels "Bygone Days" and "Mehrobdan Chayon". Most importantly, the way has been opened for Abdulla Qodiriy to tell the whole truth about his life and work, write, and publish his works in their original "unedited" form. His works, manuscripts, and creative products have been restored, and the names of those who, together with Abdulla Qodiriy, led the work of Jadidism have also been vindicated.

In conclusion, Abdulla Qodiriy fought with all his heart to ensure that the culture, religion, and traditions of our Uzbek people were preserved and passed on to future generations. With his works, he wanted to open the eyes of his contemporaries, guide them on the right path, and call for freedom from Soviet colonialism. Abdullah Qodiri and his comrades did not fit into either the old or the new era. Because it was as if he knew in advance what the government's intentions were. In each of the writer's works, it is felt that he was an enlightened reformer. It is clear to everyone that such individuals did not like those at the top of the government. The people's eyes were already blind. They did not even demand their rights. Of course, there were many who thought like Qodiri and wanted to be with him. However, due to unjust accusations, they were also forced to retreat. We say that there is no future without history. This idea is correct. If our writers like this had not left us their legacy, we would have become a people of despair. If our young people like Abdullah Qodiri had not fought for us and sought only justice, would we not have our current freedom and independence? That is why every young person I believe that the next generation should study, read, and feel the history of our ancestors, the hardships they endured for us. Only then will we grow up to be a generation worthy of them.

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