



# UZBEK CLASSICAL LITERATURE IN RUSSIAN SCIENCE

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## ABSTRACT

Central Asian-Turkic poetry in the Russian literary criticism of the first half of the XX century The Turkish history and culture is one of components of the world civilization which heritage still remains completely not lit owing to many socio-political reasons. Now, in the former Soviet Union there were independent states and it was absolutely new between them other relationship within the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The attention to that unvalued contribution which was made by the Russian scientists in general, philologists in particular in development of science was unreasonably weakened. In this article it is investigated a problem.

**Keywords:** Archive, manuscripts, Khoresm, the XX th century, Khiva, court book depository, the report, microcomparativistic, Uzbek literary , Navoi, Babur «Turkish etudes»

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Literature of every nation is an integral part of world thinking. Interest and reading of the people of the world is considered to be a basic measure of determining the importance of literature. Being famous of certain people over the world, first of all, largely depends on to what extent their culture, art and literature was spread and recognized. The period of independence and ideology of national independence enabled Uzbek literature to be investigated unbiased and have wide possibilities from scientific and theoretical points of view. Therefore Uzbek literary critics are focusing on new topics and one can feel the principles of innovation in scientific and literary thinking day by day. This case can be vividly seen in keen interest of Russian orientalists who studied Uzbek literature.

A tendency of co-operation of the people of the world at the direction of spiritual and cultural trends and trying to study each other's literature and art has already become a natural process. In the science of the West the need for being aware of socio-political and cultural and spiritual life of the East was one of the basic factors of developing of oriental science.

As is known, V.Radlov studied Yusuf Has Hajib, K.Zaleman, A.Pilev studied Ahmad Yassivi, Sulaiman Boqirghoni, M.Nikitinski N.Beryozin, E.Bertels, A.Volin studied Navoi, and the scientists such as N.Ilminski, V.Ostrovski, N.Pantusov, L.Vyatkin, M.Salye, S.Polyakov, I.Steblyova, and G.Blagova studied Bobur, L.S.Likoshin studied Mashrab, M.Gavrilov studied Khuvaido, N.Ostroumov Mukimi and A.N.Samoilovich studied a number of representatives of the Uzbek classical literature such as Atoi, Qutb, Lutfi, Navoi, Husaini, Bobur, Amiri, Komyob, Oqil



(Okil), Tabibi and Farruh. But these researchers' works had not been properly and studied and valued yet. Investigating these sources, in the first place, researching archive sources in the Russian Archive determines the topicality of the thesis.

Studying the research done by the Russian orientalists related to the Uzbek classical literature from comparative literature study point of view and evaluating along with enriching literary study with new information will enable to introduce scientists to some unknown sources and poets whose creative works have not been studied yet. Besides, scientific research done at the direction like this will serve to promote international literary relations as well.

At present Humboldt University (Germany), Indiana University (USA), Tokyo University (Japan), International Turkic Academy (Astana, Kazakhstan), the Institute of Oriental Studies under the Russian Academy (Moscow), the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts (St.Petersburg) and in many higher educational institutions and research institutes oriental departments function. Professor of University of Washington Ilse Laude Sirtautas, professor of USLA Andras Bodrogligeti, professor Fredrich Bressan and many other famous scientists contribute much to the world science development.<sup>1</sup>

Scientific works done by the Russian orientalist scientists were touched upon in some foreign research.<sup>2</sup>

## 2. SCOPE OF STUDY

Despite the fact that interest in the Uzbek classical literature has a 200 year long history and there is much information the present was not topic of special investigation in the form of monograph up to know yet. Especially, the materials available in the Russian Archive were not referred much. Some sources and literary-scientific viewpoints presented to the scientists by the Russian orientalists in its time were not introduced to science in full up to now.

Moreover, the topic of research had not been studied from the modern direction of comparative literature study – from microcomparativistic point of view. Microcomparativistics is based on comparative study of the scientists activities of the only under one scientific school. N.I.Prutskov underlined the role of such research in literature study. N.I.Konrad stressed the importance of comparative studies not only in comparative literature study but also in the history of national literature.

Initial information on Russian orientalists can be found in the works by N.Mallaev and E.Rustamov. In particular, in the introduction part of his monograph E.Rustamov dwelled upon the articles by A.N.Samoilovich on Atoi's, Lutfi's and Amri's tuyugs (verses consisting of four lines and based on pun) partially. Opinions advanced by the Russian scientist on people's art, on the period of new social-political and cultural Renaissance, his scientific-pedagogical activity were studied to certain extent, and some memoirs related to his life were also published.

A.Abdugafarov and F.N.Boinazarov in their articles studied N.P.Ostraukov's viewpoints related to people's art and to Komil Khorazmi's creative communication. Russian-Uzbek literary relations and issues of literary influence have been covered in some scientific works.

E.E.Bertels has been referred to for many times in his works related to the research on Navoi's creative work. Almost in all works by Navoi scholars some ideas of the scientist were depended on.

In covering the topic historical and genetic, historical-functional, comparative-historical and statistical methods have been based on. The research was carried out on the basis of chronological, historicity and system approaches principles.

## 3. THE RESEARCH RESULTS

The results of the research can be implemented in carrying out the research in literature study, comparativistics and literary realtions (ties). The thesis determines the future trend of science to certain extant, that is in future research on the topic "Navoi Studies in the World: Imagological Aspect" and "Russian-Uzbek Cultural Relations" can be carried out.

The practical importance of the thesis can be determined by the use of its conclusion in teaching "Comparative Literature Study", "Archive Oriental studies", "Uzbek Classical Literature", "Theory of Literature", "Literary Ties", "Source Study" and "Textual Study" and conducting special courses.



#### 4. THE BASIC PART

At the end of the XIX century and early XX century our people, despite being deprived of legal rights, being dependent and being pillaged both materially and spiritually, managed to preserve its identity, continue its traditional values and gain success in literature and art. It was vividly seen especially in developing of Uzbek enlightenment literature and in the formation of literary aesthetics of the Renaissance period. A new historical condition brought up such advanced Uzbek intelligentsia like Furkat, Kamil Khorezmi, Avaz Utar, Mukimi, Bayoni, Ibrat and Fitrat who understood the richness of our country in spiritual pearls and the importance of studying and propagating them was beneficial to either people.

It is appropriate to underline a special role of Iskhakkhan Ibrat, poet-educator and scholar and one of the early Uzbek printer, in the development of Russian-Uzbek literary relations. According to the information available in N.Ostroumov's personal fund, Ibrat was aware of newspapers, magazines and scientific works published in Russia.

One more factor which influenced positively on popularization of Uzbek classical literature among Russian people is determined by founding scientific societies and institutions in Russia. In propagating Uzbek pearls of spirituality the role of periodicals in early XX century was also of great importance. Covering of articles by Russian scholar devoted to the study of the problems of Uzbek classical literature in the newspapers and magazines like «The Oriental Collection», «Live Antiques», «Proceedings of the Oriental Department of the Imperial Archeological Society», «The Muslim World», «The Turkistan Gazette» served to increase the interest in our literature and to develop Russian Oriental studies.

Observations show that Russian orientalists were mostly interested in the manuscripts of the works by Navoi, Bobur and Khorezm literary condition of the XIX century. On the basis of compiling of a chronological index of the published research in the XX century on Russian Oriental studies and carrying out a statistical analysis allowed to define that out of 108 scientific works 35 (32%) were devoted to Navoi, 8 (7%) - to Bobur, 7 (7%) to the study of the representatives of Khorezm literary condition, 6 (6%) to Yusuf Has Khajib, 4 (4%) to Ahmad Yassavi, 3 (3%) to Mukimi, and 2 (2%) to Khuvaidi's creation. The analysis of the creation work of Mashrab, Atoi, Lutfi, Amiri, Furkat and other poets can be mainly found in the introductory part of their translation works or limited with an article; the classification of Turkic manuscripts, lyrical genres, aruz theory, Eastern (Oriental) culture and literature were covered in other scientific works.

Based on modern theoretical literature scientific activity of Russian orientalists' was proved to be the object of microcomparativistics and the present chapter touches upon this topical issue for comparative literature study and a new trend as well.

Comparativistics is divided into two major groups in terms of studying scientific activity. Microcomparativistics is based on studying scholars' research within one scientific school and macrocomparativistics is based to study the research of various schools. There are four typical states to compare, according to it, one can study creative works of the scholars who lived in one place and time, one place and different times, one time, different places, different place and different times.

The chapter entitled "Specificity of Turkological Research" reveals specificity of the Russian Philological School. As is known, any research is carried out on the basis of various approaches, principles and certain methods of analysis. Specificity of the literary research in Turkology is determined by edition research bases.

#### 5. CONCLUSION

To study Uzbek classical literature in the XX Russian literary study in comparison means to study the history of national perfection. This progress is important both to Russian and Uzbek people. On the basis of studying the sources relating to cultural, literary and social processes, we came to the following scientific and theoretical conclusion:

1.To investigate the problem of Uzbek classical literature in the Russian oriental studies of the XX century comparatively means to study the history of national perfection. This progress is important both for Russian and Uzbek people at the same level. The topic researched on the basis of a wide range of materials: monograph, article, scientific correspondence, report and relying on the archive materials it was studied in the form of a monograph. As a result of it



certain description and comparative analysis of Russian oriental studies of the XX century appeared. As the scientific work was of fundamental character the topic was researched in the prism of the history of literature, historiography and comparative literature study. In this respect research was studied in connection with cultural, literary and social processes.

2. At the end of the XIX century and at the end of the XX century historical-social factors played a great role in the interest and in the formation of scientific approach in Uzbek classical literature in the Russian oriental studies. The development of Uzbek educators' literature created wide possibilities for promotion of Russian-Uzbek cultural and literary ties, periodicals at the beginning of XX century, first translations, scientific establishments and societies' activities in intercultural communication.

3. At the beginning of the XX century there was a period of turn in the philological and historical-literary research. As a result of accumulation of many Turkic manuscripts in oriental studies centres of St.Petersburg, Moscow and Kazan orientalists the interest and necessity in investigating them increased. Although first investigations had some drawbacks and one-sidedness, they were of peculiar attempt in the period of historical contradictions and were a ground and subject of disputes for further researches. And in the second half of the XX century Russian oriental studies deep approach to the problem development and special attention were observed.

4. The last quarter of the XX century is determined by incomparable science and technical progress and development of the Internet sphere. Russian oriental studies are considered to be an integral object which can be studied from the social, cultural-literary and communicative aspects. Placing of the materials on the study of Uzbek classical literature in the Internet will facilitate the world scientific people and readers getting acquainted with this precious pearls, widening the possibility of exchanging of opinions. Observations in this respect will facilitate developing the existing sites on classical literature in future.

5. A.N.Samoilovich, E.E.Bertels and I.V.Steblyova are Russian orientalists who investigated Uzbek classical literature. Comparative researches done in the first and second half of the XX century allowed to define their specificity. V.V.Radlov, A.Falev, N.Likoshin, A.N.Samoilovich, N.P.Ostroumov, M.F.Gavrilov and G.Andreev's works which had syncretic, complex and dictionary-bibliographical character was to acquaint the readers with original sources and give general review of them. At that period the Russian orientalists had political tasks to fulfill for sure, therefore in some cases they investigated the sources based on their country's ideological interests. One can observe the development of profound scientific approach to the problems and to the analysis of literary texts in Russian oriental studies of the second half of the XX century.

Russian Navoi studies are the most basic branch of the oriental studies of the XX century and the research done in this field can be investigated in four directions. These are the works done of review character, poet's works investigated separately, description and reviews the works by Navoi and they were reflected in the research by the scholars such as V.V.Bartold, A.N.Samoilovich, A.K.Borovkov, S.L.Volin and A.A.Semyonov. Comparative analysis of literature of various people which have general value enabled E.E.Bertels to identify the degree of original character of Turkic literature. Scholar's mastery is determined by the use of a complex philological analysis in each research.

6. Besides published works on Uzbek classical literature the works which were not published due to various reasons mainly because of repression comprised majority of works in Russian oriental studies. The geography of the existing archive materials related to the topic is extremely wide and the thesis studied mainly archive of the Russian National Library, St.Petersburg branch of Archive at the Academy of Sciences of Russia, materials of the orientalists of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts and various scientific correspondence preserved in various funds. Russian Babur studies and Navoi studies, Khorezm literary atmosphere, literary-aesthetic views in epistolary sources is of special importance in researching scientific-literary atmosphere of that period.

7. On the basis of studying the researches on the topic from microcomparativistic point of view allowed us to study the influence of socio-cultural factors on science, on the approaching methods to literary texts, on the opinions related to the history of Uzbek classical literature theory, analysis and interpretation, translations and literary-aesthetic views presented in the publications and archive materials in Russian Turkology in comparison. Advantages and disadvantages of the Russian Philological School analysed on the basis of triad method. Working on the basis of the manuscripts (1), paying attention to the unstudied aspects (2), and translation provided Russian Turkology with success.



Incorrect translation and interpretation, and departure in the form of oriental thinking, and adjusting to time and one-sidedness were considered to be shortcomings of the research.

It was defined that on the basis of studying of the published and archive materials on Uzbek classical literature scholars were mostly interested in Navoi, Babur and the creative activities of the representatives of the XX century literary atmosphere in Khorezm in Russian oriental studies and in this respect A.N.Samoilovich, E.E.Bertels and I.V.Steblyova. On the basis of published and archive materials on Uzbek classical literature scholars were mostly interested in Navoi, Babur and the poems of the representatives of the literary atmosphere of Khorezm of the XX century in Russian oriental studies and in this respect A.N.Samoilovich, E.E.Bertels and I.V.Steblyova's works were studied in chronological order separately.

8. The present research had an attempt to include various aspects (edition research, Internet poetry, semiotic poetry, archive oriental studies, Russian Babur studies, etc.) in Russian oriental studies. In future each of them can be studied separately and create new research. To study archive materials that are preserved in Russian funds in full and value them appropriately requires further investigation.

Thus, in the process of researching of the study of Uzbek classical literature in the XX century Russian orientalism it was proved one more time that Uzbek literature as an integrated part of literature common to all people the literary-aesthetic value of Uzbek literature and what is the most important thing is that everlasting creative works by Alisher Navoi, Babur, Munis, Ogahi and other thinkers are not only Uzbek people's precious pearl but also belong to the world culture and literature.

## 6. ACKNOWLEDGMENT ( footnotes)

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<sup>2</sup> Zajaczkowski A. Studia nad stylisty i poetyka turckiej wersi Husrav i Sirin Qutba // Rocznik Orientalistyczny. Lwow-Krakow 1961. t. XXV; Ecmann J. Chagatai Manual. Bloomington,1966; Baldauf I. Schriftreform und Schriftwechsel bei den muslimischen Russland und Sowjetturken (1850-1937). Budapest,1993;

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