

ALISHER NAVOI'S CREATIVE PATH AND SCIENTIFIC HERITAGE

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Abstract:

The article discusses the life path of the great scholar Alisher Navoi, his contributions to the establishment of unique architectural monuments in Herat and other cities of the country at his own expense, as well as his scientific and journalistic works, historical and religious treatises. It emphasizes his lifelong dedication to wisdom, nobility, and service to the people, as well as the exceptional example of enlightenment he set. The article also explores the themes of justice, truthfulness, generosity, and nobility in his poetry, along with ethical, philosophical, and socio-political issues reflected in his creative works.

Keywords: Thinker, seal-keeper, poetics, waqf lands, madrasa, rabat, mosque, khanqah, bridge, pond, Turkic language, spiritual heritage, truthfulness, generosity, and nobility.

Introduction

ALISHER NAVOIY IJODIY YO'LI VA ILMIY MEROSSI

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Annotatsiya

Buyuk alloma Alisher Navoiy hayot yo‘li, o‘z mablag‘lari hisobidan Hirotda va mamlakatning boshqa shaharlarida noyob me’morlik yodgorliklariga asos solgani, ilmiy va publitsistik asarlar, tarixiy va diniy risolalar haqida, butun umri davomida

donolik va oljanoblik, xalqqa xizmat qilish va maorifning betakror namunasi ekanligi, uning she'riyatidaadolat va rostgo'ylik, saxovat va oljanoblik tarannum etilganligi, shoir ijodida axloqiy, falsafiy va ijtimoiy-siyosiy masalalar haqida to'xtalib o'tilgan.

Kalit so'zlar: Mutafakkir, muhrdor, poetika, vaqf yerlari, madrasa, rabot, masjid, xonaqoh, ko'prik, hovuz, turkiy til, ma'naviy meros, rostgo'ylik, saxovat va oljanoblik.

Introduction

Davlatkhona district of Herat, now part of Afghanistan. His father, Giyosiddin Kichkina, served at the Timurid court and was a highly respected figure of his time, dedicating great attention to his son's upbringing and education. His mother (whose name remains unknown) is believed to have been the daughter of Sheikh Abusaid Chang, a nobleman from Kabul. Little information is available about Navoi's parents, and he himself did not provide detailed accounts of his family in his works. However, some sources mention that he had a younger brother named Darvesh-Ali. From 1469 to 1472, Navoi held the position of muhrdor (seal-keeper), and from 1472 to 1476, he served as a vizier. In 1487-1488, he was appointed governor of Astarabad. Later, he became one of the most influential figures at the court of Husayn Bayqaro, his childhood friend, who appointed him as chief minister. Bayqaro highly valued Navoi's counsel, and his reign, influenced by Navoi's guidance, was marked by peace, urban development, and flourishing arts.

During his tenure as vizier, Herat experienced a period of prosperity. Navoi personally oversaw the construction of irrigation systems, bringing water to barren lands, restoring old canals, and digging new ones. He initiated the renovation of ancient structures and the construction of new ones, including numerous madrasas and khanqahs.

In his work "Vaqfiya," Navoi detailed waqf lands, their properties, regulations, and the functioning of madrasas and khanqahs funded by waqf endowments. He listed the charitable institutions, cultural and scientific buildings, and gardens he established with his own funds. This work serves as a significant historical source for understanding Navoi's role as a statesman and his relationship with Husayn Bayqaro.

Alisher Navoi's Legacy and Literary Contributions

According to Khondamir, during the 1480s, Alisher Navoi financed the construction and restoration of numerous architectural structures in Herat and other cities of the country. These included several madrasas, 40 caravanserais (rabots), 17 mosques, 10 khanqahs, 9 bathhouses, 9 bridges, and nearly 20 reservoirs. Among them were the "Ikhlosiya" and "Nizamiya" madrasas in Herat, the "Khalosiya" khanqah, the "Shifoiya" medical center, the "Dorul-huffoz" building for Quran recitation, the "Khusrawiya" madrasa in Merv, and the charitable "Dorul-huffoz" complex in Mashhad, along with other remarkable architectural monuments.

The great poet left behind an invaluable intellectual and spiritual heritage. Alisher Navoi's works promote kindness, express reflections on human existence and the order of the world, and include literary, scientific, and journalistic writings, as well as historical and religious treatises. His masterpieces feature love epics such as Layli and Majnun and Farhad and Shirin, the latter being a deeply touching and lyrical work that stirs emotions and ignites imagination.

Navoi's entire life was a testament to wisdom, nobility, and selfless service to the people and education. His poetry celebrates justice, truthfulness, generosity, and integrity, while also addressing ethical, philosophical, and socio-political issues.

Thanks to Navoi's lyrical contributions, Persian ceased to be the sole literary language, and his works not only demonstrated the boundless potential of the Uzbek literary language but also embodied progressive, humanistic ideals. As a reflection on his life's journey, he compiled a collection titled "The Treasury of Thoughts", encompassing four divans that represent different stages of life: "The Miracles of Childhood", "The Rarity of Youth", "The Wonders of Maturity", and "Useful Advice for Old Age".

Navoi himself described his collection as follows:

"Just as the sun illuminates the world in its orbit, and a year consists of four seasons, each with its own distinct name, so too does my collection contain four divans, each bearing its own title. Just as the movement of light across the sky influences the depths of the earth, the seas, and the richness of flora and fauna, so too can examples and evidence be drawn from these stages of life."

The collection consists of over 2,600 ghazals and more than 45,000 poetic lines, many of which have become widely known aphorisms. Navoi's wisdom captivates with its vivid imagery and beauty. One of his famous maxims states:

"A person's true beauty and greatness lie in the pursuit of pure knowledge and the ability to renounce worldly pleasures in the quest for a righteous path."

Mir Alisher Navoi's legacy has long been the focus of scholars from both the East and the West. The field of Navoi studies (navoishunoslik) has produced numerous academic works, and a distinguished school of Navoi scholars has emerged in Uzbekistan. Prominent figures in this field include Hamid Sulaymon, Alibek Rustamov, Natan Mallaev, Aziz Qayumov, Yoqubjon Ishoqov, and Ibrohim Xaqqul. Among them, Professor Botirkhon Akramov holds a special place as an esteemed interpreter of Navoi's poetry.

In his works, B. Akramov explores the theoretical and historical aspects of poetics, emphasizing the interpretation of imagery in Navoi's literary style. He substantiated the necessity of studying Navoi's poetry through the lens of Islam and Sufism, as Navoi's works—both lyrical and poetic—convey profound reflections on spiritual and worldly matters, deeply rooted in mystical traditions.

Alisher Navoi's Legacy in Literary Studies and National Recognition

In B. Akramov's scholarly research, a significant focus is placed on the in-depth analysis of Navoi's scientific works. Among them are "Muhakamat al-lug‘atayn" ("The Debate of Two Languages"), a comparative study of Persian and Turkic languages; "Majolis an-nafois" ("The Assembly of the Refined"), dedicated to literary criticism; "Mezon al-avzan" ("The Scales of Meters"), which examines the principles of aruz prosody; and "Mufradat", a treatise on the muamma (charade) genre. Akramov's research on classical poetics, lyrical genres, and Navoi's poetic style has made a valuable contribution to the development of modern literary criticism.

Independence has opened vast opportunities for the study of Alisher Navoi's heritage alongside all other national values. Today, his works can be examined in their original form, with a deeper understanding of their essence. In 1991, the 550th anniversary of Alisher Navoi's birth was solemnly celebrated. The Alisher Navoi State Prize of Uzbekistan was established, and the National Park of Uzbekistan

named after Alisher Navoi was created in Tashkent, where a grand monument to the poet stands. A comprehensive 20-volume collection of his works was published. In Uzbekistan, Navoi's memory is honored at the highest level. A province, a city, a university (Samarkand State University), the National Library of Uzbekistan in Tashkent, the Institute of Language and Literature of the Academy of Sciences, the Literature Museum, the Grand Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre, the Palace of Arts, a metro station, numerous streets, and collective farms bear his name.

Sculptors, painters, and composers have created works dedicated to Navoi's life and legacy. Each year, on February 9, a traditional scientific conference is held, summarizing the annual achievements in Navoi studies. The name of the great Alisher Navoi is proudly carried by cities and regions in Uzbekistan, as well as by libraries, streets, museums, and parks both within the country and abroad.

For modern generations, studying and preserving the invaluable legacy of this outstanding thinker—whose works represent the finest examples of Uzbek literary language and a great national treasure—is not only a privilege but also a duty.

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