

"THE DESCRIPTION OF THE PEOPLE'S ECONOMIC LIFE IN THE SATIRE "TANOBCHILAR"

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Matmuratova Nilufar

The student of Tashkent state university of economics

Nilufarmatmuratova@gmail.com

Abstract

This article provides descriptions of the life and work of Muhammad Aminxo'ja Muqimiy. It discusses the truths of life, his appreciation of knowledge, and the social and economic processes of his time, especially the level of justice in the society, using excerpts from his work "Tanobchilar". The importance of spreading Muqimiy's life and works not only in Uzbekistan but also worldwide is emphasized.

Keywords

Creativity, social, economic, spiritual, Tanob, justice, enlightenment, knowledge, respect, courage, ugliness, tax, criticism, justice, people-oriented.

Muhammad Aminxo'ja Muqimiy, the son of Mirzaxo'ja, was born on May 1, 1850, in the city of Kokand. Although Muqimiy came from a family of bakers, he showed a strong interest in poetry and literature from an early age. During his childhood, he was influenced by the works of great thinkers such as Alisher Navoi, Hofiz Khorazmi, and Abdurahman Jami.

The literary environment during Muqimiy's time was complex, and this had a significant impact on his creative work. In the early stages of his creativity, elements of formalism and artistic ornamentation were evident in his work, but he quickly rejected these tendencies, turning his attention to criticizing the social ills and outdated beliefs of his time. He studied the works of Navoi, Jami, Nizami, and Fuzuli and composed poems in the form of a "mukhammis" (a five-line poem) based on their ghazals. Jami became his mentor, and he continued the traditions of Uzbek and Persian classical poets.

Muqimiy is associated with the emergence and formation of democratic trends in Uzbek literature. Along with his like-minded poets Furqat, Zavqi, Avaz, and Komil, he opened a new chapter in the history of Uzbek literature. His poetry was characterized by deep optimism and realism, which were the defining features of his work.

Nearly all of Muqimiy's works are based on reality, and they stand out for their people-oriented approach, their focus on justice, and their critique of social issues. In particular, in his work "Tanobchilar," the Tanob, a measuring unit for land, is used as a metaphor for the oppressive land tax system. In the past, taxes were imposed based on the area of land occupied by people, and tax collectors, who were known as "Tanobchilar", often took advantage of this system, increasing tax rates by falsifying land measurements.

Muqimiy studied at the Moxlar Oyim madrasa in Kokand and later at Bukhara's madrasas between 1864 and 1876. Upon returning to Kokand in 1876, he worked as a clerk in the local land management office. During his time there, he became aware of the corruption of local officials and wrote his satire "Tanobchilar" to criticize the flawed tax system. Through this work, Muqimiy condemned the greed and dishonesty of local officials who used their positions to exploit the people, especially the poor peasants, for personal gain.

The satire begins with a complaint from a farmer who has suffered at the hands of tax collectors:

"Strange tales fill the air,
Let me write my grievances fair,
Listen, O justice, and hear my cry,
For the oppressors' cruelty is nigh.
Once a year, the Tanob comes by,
For others, it's ease; for me, it's a sigh."

In general, the word "Tanob" is derived from Arabic, meaning "rope" or "cord." First, Tanob was a unit of length used in Central Asia, particularly in Uzbekistan. In the 17th century, it was equivalent to 39.9 meters. Secondly, it was a unit of area used in the khanates of Central Asia, referring to a square with sides of 60 gaz. This was used for measuring agricultural land.

There are also opinions that it caused difficulties for the population due to its use, as it was measured once a year (every twelve months).

Sulton Ali Khoja and Hakimjon were together,
One was a woman, the other became a groom.
Both were united in such a pact,
It seemed like a dream, (without deceit).
When they ate, in the middle they were troubled,
Khoja had the oil for the lamp, Hakimjon had the pilaf.
They compared each other,
Kissing each other's lips, day and night.
On their heads were white hats,

Under the blanket, there were always three layers.
One was a trickster, with a sly look,
The other was a sluggard with a bad body.
Their mouths boasted of being fifteen years old,
But they spoke in small words, making a mess and confusion.

Muqimiy uses the relationship between two local officials, Sulton Ali and Hakimjon, to illustrate the corruption of the time. The two men, one of whom is a husband and the other a wife, are depicted as scheming partners who, despite their pretensions of civility, exploit the people for their benefit. Their relationship is portrayed humorously and satirically, with Muqimiy pointing out how they conspire against the people for personal gain.

The satire continues to highlight the cruel behavior of these officials, who, in their greed, manipulate the tax system to harm the peasants. They use various tactics, including bribery and falsifying land measurements, to exploit the people. Muqimiy criticizes their immoral actions and calls for justice, urging the people to rise against these corrupt officials.

From an economic perspective, the additional burden of unjust taxation was a serious blow to the already struggling peasantry, who were barely able to meet their basic needs. Muqimiy could not stand by idly in the face of these injustices and courageously wrote "Tanobchilar" to expose the corruption of the officials. Hakimjon, in particular, used his position to exploit the people, threatening them with punishment if they did not comply with his demands.

Through this critical and satirical work, Muqimiy was able to shed light on the social and economic injustices of his time, exposing the abuse of power by local officials and the oppressive tax system that caused immense suffering for the people. In "Tanobchilar," he created a vivid portrayal of the social inequalities and the tyranny of the ruling class, encouraging his readers to seek justice and challenge the corrupt system.

Conclusion: In his works, Muqimiy provided a detailed account of the social and economic conditions of his time. He was a passionate advocate for justice, always using his satirical writings to criticize the flaws in the system. His commitment to the well-being of the common people and his fight against unjust taxation make him a key figure in Uzbek literature. Muqimiy's life and works are not only important for Uzbekistan but also for the world, as they offer valuable insights into the struggles for justice and equality in any society.

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This translation aims to convey the core themes of the original text, focusing on the economic and social issues described in Muqimiy's satire "Tanobchilar".