

THE ROLE OF NIZOMIDDIN KHOJAYEV IN THE JADID MOVEMENT

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Annotation

This article provides an in-depth analysis of the role, activities, and influence of Nizomiddin Asomiddinovich Khojayev in the Jadid movement. It also highlights N. Khojayev's efforts in promoting national identity, advocating enlightenment ideas, and striving for social reforms during his time. Based on historical sources and scholarly literature, the article evaluates N. Khojayev's socio-political activism and his contribution to the development of society.

Keywords

Nizomiddin Khojayev, Jadidism, enlightenment, patriotism, national awakening, Turkestan, Jadid schools, press, reform, Turon, theater.

The independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as in all other spheres, placed great responsibilities on historians as well. After gaining independence, one of the main priorities became the truthful and objective study of history – free from distortions and ideological pressures that existed during the Soviet era. From the early years of independence, the study of Uzbekistan's history was elevated to the level of state policy. The agenda included creating an authentic account of history based on primary sources, interpreting it impartially, and restoring historical truth through scholarly debate and discussion.

As a result, in recent years, our Republic has actively worked to improve education based on national values and the legacy of enlightened figures, to cultivate patriotism among the younger generation, and to strengthen the sense of national pride. One of the significant historical periods when such enlightened figures lived and worked was the era of the Jadid movement.

It is well known that the late 19th and early 20th centuries occupy a special place in the history of our nation. During this period, a powerful movement known as Jadidism emerged, aimed at awakening the nation in social, political, spiritual, and educational aspects. The movement sought to implement reforms in education, culture, and politics based on the progressive ideas of its time. In Uzbek society, Jadidism became a crucial factor in awakening national consciousness and striving toward the establishment of a national state.

In recent years, the President of our country, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, has viewed the Jadid movement as a solid foundation for national development. Under the leadership of the President, the expanded historic session of the Republican Council for Spirituality and Enlightenment, held on December 22, 2023, became a symbolic event that illuminated the truth and spread enlightenment.

In his speech, the President passionately emphasized: “History shows that whenever the homeland and the fate of the nation faced serious threats, it was precisely the selfless patriots of the nation – intellectuals with awakened hearts, poets and writers, artists, and workers in the field of spirituality and enlightenment – who courageously stepped forward. As our country enters a new and higher stage of development, we need highly qualified specialists, educated both in the achievements of Western science and in the spirit of national values, just as our Jadid forefathers were.” [1, p.1]

Indeed, today we are in great need of such forward-thinking and highly educated individuals who can advance science and knowledge to new heights. To achieve this, it is essential to present the lives of our enlightened Jadid intellectuals as examples for the younger generation to follow.

One such prominent Jadid figure was Nizomiddin Khojayev, who, along with other reformers, played an active role in spreading and promoting national enlightenment. His life and activities became an important factor in advancing the educational, cultural, and political dimensions of the Jadid movement.

Nizomiddin Asomiddinovich Khojayev was born in 1885 in Tashkent. His pursuit of education and entry into public life were closely connected with national and global socio-political developments. At the beginning of the 20th century, various reforms, national liberation movements, and efforts to introduce new educational systems were taking place. Nizomiddin Khojayev took an active part in these processes and made a significant contribution to spreading the ideas of Jadidism.

In the newly established Jadid schools in Tashkent, he not only taught actively but also established cultural and political connections with the progressive circles of society. His passion for education and acquaintance with Jadid ideas strengthened his social role [2, p.12]. As an organizer of Jadid schools, Khojayev worked to introduce new teaching methods among the people. In his schools, both national and modern sciences were taught systematically. These educational institutions became a practical manifestation of Jadid ideas and served as a foundation for modernizing the national education system [3, p.45].

Nizomiddin Khojayev’s contribution to the Jadid movement lay in the fact that he did not limit himself to educational work alone, but also actively engaged in

cultural and political activities. He strived to develop national culture and to raise national consciousness within society. Moreover, Khojayevev stood out for his efforts to understand the importance of human rights, education, and culture in a modern society.

Khojayevev's involvement in the Jadid movement was multifaceted. In addition to organizing and managing Jadid schools, he also played an active role in Jadid journalism and cultural life. His socio-political activity, alongside other Jadid reformers, focused on promoting national ideas and values.

At one time, N. Khojayevev was a member of the "Turon" theatre troupe, where he contributed to the development of national drama and theatre. This institution became an important platform for promoting national enlightenment and consciousness [4, p.134].

In addition, Nizomiddin Khojayevev took an active part in political collaborations among the Jadids. He sought to advance the ideas of national independence, while emphasizing the significance of national culture and self-governance [5, p.99]. His political views contributed to the expansion of the national movement and the development of national statehood concepts.

Khojayevev's activities within the Jadid movement were closely connected with the development of education and culture, the promotion of social awareness, and the advancement of national statehood ideas. In addressing various socio-political issues of his time, he sought to implement the progressive theoretical principles of Jadidism, making his work an essential part of the intellectual awakening of the Uzbek nation.

Nizomiddin Khojayevev is recognized as an important figure in the Jadid movement for his contributions to educational reforms, the development of national culture, and the awakening of national consciousness. His activities were devoted to organizing Jadid schools, introducing new teaching methods, and promoting Jadid press and publications. In his work, Khojayevev paid great attention to modernizing the national education system and increasing public interest in learning. He believed that the main goal of national education was to preserve national identity while mastering modern sciences and technologies [6, p.57].

During the Soviet period, N. Khojayevev continued to promote the ideas of Jadidism; however, in 1937 he became a victim of political repression. This was one of the many difficulties faced by Jadid reformers during that era, as they were often persecuted for their views. Nevertheless, Khojayevev's activities marked an important stage in the history of national education and culture [7, p.120].

In conclusion, Nizomiddin Khojayevev deserves great respect and recognition as a statesman and public figure who played a significant role during the

transformative period of Uzbekistan's history. A comprehensive study of his life and work helps answer many questions about our country's past, contributes to the restoration of national identity and historical memory, and aids in shaping the historical awareness and thinking of future generations.

Moreover, exploring his activities provides valuable lessons in restoring historical justice and in the ongoing struggle to uphold human dignity and freedom, both today and in the future. Nizomiddin Khojayev occupies an important place in the reform of education and culture, and in the promotion of national consciousness and political ideas within the Jadid movement. His work made a substantial contribution to the development of national enlightenment and culture.

The study of Jadidism's broader history and Khojayev's personal legacy serves as an essential tool for deepening national awareness and defining future directions in the fields of education and culture.

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