

TATAR LITERATURE IN THE BEGINNING OF 20th CENTURY: THE EDUCATIONAL IDEAS OF KASIM BIKKULOV'S WORKS

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ABSTRACT

This article discusses the literary works of the famous in the early twentieth century writer and educator Kasim Bikkulov (from the position of identification in them of educational ideas and ideals of the author, as well as their educational potential). Like many well-known personalities of the beginning of the last century, he left behind a rich literary heritage, as well as works on local history, theology, education of the younger generation. K. Bikkulov worked actively in the compilation and publication of "Books to read" for schools and madrasah, where he included his works aimed to introduce to the school-children separate genres of literature, with world of nature and the morals of the Tatar people, surrounding a person. Like many educators, the writer believed in the power of the impact of poetry on readers and used it in his practical teaching activities the educational potential of the literary text. His numerous books were published several times in different national publishing houses, working in the early twentieth century. In Soviet times, K. Bikkulov was repressed, and his literary and methodological heritage was forgotten. This work is one of the first steps in the study of particular areas, *educational tradition and novelty in literature*

Keywords: Tatar literature, educational ideas, Kasim Bikkulov

INTRODUCTION

The second half of the XIX century is characterized by intensive development of the educational movement, which was directed towards the spread of education among the population, reforms in the system of education and bringing up. The enlightenment ideas, one way or another, were reflected in the Tatar literature of the last quarter of the XIX century. The traditions of creating the image of a progressive, educated person, thinking about the prosperity of his people, which began in this period were continued in the national literature of the early twentieth century and manifested in the practical solution of these problems in real life. Just during this period there was a large-scale renovation process in the Tatar society: the conditions for the publication of books, newspapers and magazines were created, a reform in the system of education was held, new-method schools and madrasahs were opened everywhere. Gradually a galaxy of national intelligentsia was formed – writers, publishers, translators, journalists, teachers of the new-method schools and madrasahs, making a huge effort in educating the Tatars and other Turkic peoples. At the same time, "The beginning of the 20th century is being defined as a period of emerging Tartar scientific thought, theory of literature, serious discourse about the literary terminology and concepts, as well as the time of achievements in this area". [Gilazov et al, 2015: 508-517]

"National literature is considered in the global literature process as a whole are unique and practical mental formations". [Yusupova et al., 2016: 213-222] It should be noted that, "European scientists have been interested in Tatar culture, folklore, ethnography since the XIX-th century" [Sayfulina, Karabulatova, 2014: 116-119]

One of the major tasks of the modern Tatar literary criticism is a scientific study of the activities of the writers who contributed to the development of literature, national education, but remained out of sight of researchers.

Kasim Bikkulov refers to those writers, whose names have been long and unjustly forgotten during the Soviet period. Creative heritage of the writer-educator and teacher, who has published until 1918 nearly two dozen of books to date remains poorly studied, that emphasizes the particular relevance of this work. He is the author of poetic works, as well as of a number of realistic stories, which reflect the historical events, the realities of life of the Tatar village of the early XX century. These works expect a serious investigation and critical evaluation.

Like many other personalities of that time, who has written their names on the pages of history, the activities of K. Bikkulov is also multifaceted. The village Mullah, a teacher-educator, no doubt, worried about the content of education and upbringing of children. In this work we are interested in his activities in this direction.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

The data for the study are books to read, compiled by Kasim Bikkulov, his literary works that disclose educational ideas and ideals of the author, incorporating educational potential.

The descriptive method is used in the study – consistent description of the selected material, its systematization in accordance with the set research objective, which forms the basis of this work.

Using the comparative research method in the study of creativity of K. Bikkulov in the context of the Tatar enlightening literature of the late XIX – early XX century, gives the possibility of revealing general and individual, traditional and innovative in his work.

RESULTS

The activity of Kasim Bikkulov is developed in the single course of development of the educational movement in the Tatar society in the late XIX – early XX century. Being a village Mullah, theologian, all his life he also engaged in literary activities, wrote poetry and prose, thereby enriching the national literature with realistic stories, images. The works of the author acquaint readers of the early twentieth century with a new spirit of the times. The writer turns his attention to the historical events of the Turko-Tatar people (novel “Turkistan”), introduces readers to a new country (the story “Hoja”, etc.). A literary scientist Farit Basirov, who devoted the monographic publication to the literary process of the early twentieth century, calls him the first novelist in the Tatar literature. [Basirov 2002: 175-176]

At the same time, the author has made a great contribution to the development of the Tatar children's literature, methods of teaching literature, as he is the author a dozen of books for readings, where his small prose is presented. These small stories and the texts of educational, scientific, informative and educational character are written on the basis of the psychology of children of preschool and school age. They introduce children to different genres of literature and nature, give the first scientific knowledge about various phenomena of nature, which was very important for the progress of all-round development of the child.

DISCUSSION

Teaching and educational activities of this personality starts from 1885, when a young graduate of one of the new-method madrasahs (some scientists believe that Kasim as his father Djamalutdin Bikkulov, was educated in the well-known in the neighborhood madrasah Marjani) is sent to work as a teacher in one of the madrasahs of the Astrakhan province in the village of Kilachi (in the suburbs of Astrakhan), where he worked for 20 years, until 1905. [Bikkulov brothers, 2016: 39] At the invitation of his father, in 1905, he returned home, in Simbirsk province, in the village of New Tinchali of Buinsky district, where he is assigned as Mullah to one of five mosques of his village, where he continues literary and educational activities.

It is mentioned of activities of K. Bikkulov at the first time in the book by M. Gusmanov "In the footsteps of manuscripts". In this work the scientist writes about this person, whose name was even

mentioned in the scientific circle very rarely "... a well-known educated man of his time, a mudarris and a writer". In this book M. Gusmanov for the first time publishes historical work by K. Bikkulov "New Tinchali and its history" and evaluates it as "a historical work that has a serious study of the issue." [Gusmanov 1994: 334-340]

As particularly valuable part of the literary heritage of the educator K. Bikkulov are the works devoted to the education and upbringing of children, which is reflected in the compiled books to read. An article by a literary critic L. I. Mingazova is devoted to the study of the Tatar children's literature of the early twentieth century. [Mingazova, 2011: 327-333] Some aspects of his activity are mentioned in the writings, dedicated to the development of the literary criticism of the early twentieth century. [Yusupov, Gilazov, 2016. – pp.344-347; Gimranova, D. R., Gilazov T. Sh. 2016 Special Edition.- pp. 2403-2408]

The first book, compiled by K. Bikkulov specially for reading in primary schools, is the book "Patterns of progress" (1904). [Bikkulov brothers, 2016: 82-141]. A village teacher, adhering to the new (gadetsky) views, places his works that are focused on education of children of primary school age, in this book. The educator is of the opinion that children from a young age need to see the world around them and to learn the crafts of their parents. For this, he creates the textbook "Reading and arable farming" (1909). [Bikkulov brothers, 2016: 82-141] This book is supposed for the third and the fourth grades of elementary school, introduces students to the nature, the world of birds, animals, plants, the author writes about their use, provides the basic ideas about celestial bodies, natural phenomena. In addition, a separate chapter of the book is devoted to the necessity of bringing up in oneself good qualities such as diligence, respect for parents, patience. The writer and educator writes about the necessity of getting along with education and scientific knowledge of some skills to such crafts as arable farming, horticulture, beekeeping, livestock rearing, which are useful to them in later life.

"Reading-book" (1910) by K. Bikkulov begins with explanations to children about the need of education. Here he directly refers to the child who will read this book: "Children, this book is written for you. Read it carefully! Keep in mind what you've read! Only then you will reach your goal and become successful students." [Bikkulov brothers, 2016: 82-141] Thus, the author encourages children to education, repeating again and again the truth that only an educated man can achieve success in life. An appeal directly to the reader, the moral, the call to knowledge is traditional for the educational literature. The short stories, united in a single collection, aimed at educational goals with academic oriented texts and acquaintance with the individual peculiarities of agricultural professions is a definite innovation in the preparation of books to read of this time.

With the aim of introducing them to practical work, to solve life's challenges wisely, to be inquisitive, the author includes small texts, in which he laughs at such qualities as stupidity, laziness, leaving the person in a difficult situation. The book contains many stories that speak about the character traits which are to fight with, for example, ignorance, stupidity, greed, laziness. In such texts, the author avoids moralizing, and educates children on the example of the hero of a story. Their characters are animals, forest dwellers familiar to the child from early age. By its content and aims this book continues the traditions of the famous Tatar scientist, educator Kayum Nasiri, which he started in the "Book of education."

Separate chapters of the analyzed books "go astray" from the main text, here the author writes about faith in the Almighty Allah and the surrounding world, created by him. This allows you to talk about the impact of Sufi ideas to the work of the writer, who is also a priest and a theologian. Like many writers and poets of the early twentieth century, K. Bikkulov in his works speaks of the necessity of faith, which is the main support in life, gives strength for further life. Poets of the Sufis take responsibility for the education of the people, and explanations of religious ideas. Sufi direction for many ages was enriching the literature with numerous poetic images, symbols, metaphors through which the poets of this direction expressed the relation of the individual soul to the Divine beginning. [Khusnutdinova et al., 2015: 207-211]

The language of stories is highlighted by emotions, an abundance of figurative expressions, similes, which is important to attract attention of a young reader. Some expressions remind folk sayings, proverbs and sayings and represent the wisdom, the life experience of the author. For example, such expressions as "For the child who does not understand what is said, the stick will not help," "Whoever protects himself from bad deeds, will have happiness in both worlds", "Don't flaunt with wealth but impress with knowledge", "Education should be learn from the bad-mannered", "Wealth left by the parents, will end quickly; get the education and learn the craft", aimed at disclosure of the whole essence of this book. In recent years, scientists are also interested in the interpenetration of folklore and literature and their educational potential. [Mingazova, Sulteev, 2014: 410-431]

Books aimed at the upbringing and education of students-children, let to talk about the fact that their author K. Nickolov (K. Bikkulov) continues the traditions of famous scholars and educators such as Kayum Nasiri, Rizautdin Fakhrutdinov. The content of the books suggests that its author was a man of progressive views, had a wide knowledge of the literary process of his time that is proved by the inter-textual connections.

The second part of the book under consideration, published in 1916 in the printing house of the Kazan Imperial University. It is interesting that the book has an inscription stating that it is the augmented third edition, which speaks about the popularity and usefulness of this work.

Here the author also writes about the need for education, expresses the belief that books such as this one, will help the child find the right path in life. The author of the textbook speaks on the need for new-method schools, on their role in the society. Being a religious figure, he says that school is more important even than the mosque, which once again proves enlightening views on the life of the author of the analyzed books. This idea is included also in the poem by K. Bikkulov "The school and the mosque".

Thus, in his books for reading the author shows himself as a man of secular views, he writes about the things, necessary for this life: the fact that you need to work, have a craft, learn about the world, with the aim of using them in the hereafter, while he does not reject the presence of the Almighty in everything , says that everything that surrounds us, the beauty of nature is created by Allah. Thus, the author combines moral education of the children with scientific knowledge about the world, gives elementary knowledge of astronomy, geography, chemistry. For example, here is the explanation for the origin of thunder, wind, rain and other natural phenomena, which is a proof that the author possessed wide scientific knowledge for his time.

In addition, the author gives some historical background, for example, about the philosophers of antiquity, about some states and statesmen, which also aims to expand the horizons of students-children.

The books are also interesting by the fact that they acquaint teenagers with examples of poetry and prose. The interesting examples of poetry are such poems as "Spring", "Rye", "Wheat", "Wake up, kids", etc., that create a poetic picture of nature. At the same time, the moral education of teenagers is always the center of attention of the author. In his poetry a symbol of "the Pen" is of special attention, which is found in the writings of many authors of the XIX - early XX century, such as Dardmend, Gabdulla Tukai, Sagit Suncheley etc. In this period the image of the pen has become a symbol of enlightenment, creativity and the future. In the poems "Tatar kyzy" ("the Girl-Tatar), "Bulgarians", "Chys Khan (Genghis Khan) the national motives are manifested and the principles of enlightenment aesthetics are also reflected. The 28-th Chapter of the analyzed book – "Morals" –is entirely devoted to wise sayings about moral education of the younger generation.

INSIGHTS

Thus, Kasim Bikkulov is one of the enlightenment writers, who made a significant contribution to the reform of school education.

Continuing the tradition started by the famous educators of the XIX century, in the new conditions he creates textbooks – books for reading, to enhance literary education, cognitive activity and outlook in children.

Moreover, he acquaints the younger generation with the literature, poetic word, presenting them in his collections of stories and poems, reflecting in them the surrounding world, close to children, describing the situations which are aimed at instilling moral values in the students of schools and madrasahs. For K. Bikkulov, religious education can not be separated from the educational process and all-round development of the child.

The aim of the author is, undoubtedly, education of a personality , who is widely educated and useful for the people and time.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The author confirms that this article content has no conflict of interests.

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