











# "Alisher Navoiy va XXI asr"

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# "Әлішер Науаи және XXI ғасыр"

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# "Alisher Navo'i and the 21st century"

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In *Muhakamat al-Lughatain*, Navoi argues for the superiority of Turkic over Persian in terms of vocabulary, grammatical structures, and expressive potential. This treatise not only reflects his linguistic pride but also underscores his broader cultural mission to assert the value of Turkic heritage within the Islamic world.

Navoi's poetry showcases the musicality and emotive power of Turkic. His skillful use of imagery, metaphors, and rhythmic patterns created a distinctive style that resonated with audiences across different regions and eras.

### **Cultural and Political Impact**

Navoi's influence extended beyond literature to encompass broader cultural and political spheres. As a statesman, he implemented policies aimed at improving the welfare of his people, advocating for social justice and equity. His writings often reflect these values, emphasizing the importance of compassion, humility, and service to others.

As a patron of the arts, Navoi fostered a flourishing cultural environment in Herat. He supported architects, painters, calligraphers, and musicians, contributing to the Timurid Renaissance. The architectural projects he commissioned, such as the Ikhlasiya Madrasa and the Khalasiya Complex, exemplify the harmonious blend of functionality and aesthetic beauty.

Navoi's legacy also includes his role in shaping the literary traditions of the broader Turkic and Islamic world. His works influenced later poets like Fuzuli, Babur, and Ahmad Yassawi, who drew inspiration from Navoi's themes and linguistic innovations. Moreover, Navoi's emphasis on moral and ethical values resonates with contemporary audiences, reaffirming his relevance in modern times.

Alisher Navoi's creative works represent a cornerstone of Turkic literary heritage, blending artistic brilliance with profound intellectual and ethical insights. His efforts to elevate Chagatai Turkic as a literary medium laid the groundwork for the development of modern Uzbek literature. By addressing universal themes through the lens of Turkic culture and language, Navoi created a body of work that transcends temporal and geographic boundaries.

The enduring relevance of Navoi's works underscores his status as a timeless cultural icon. His literary and cultural contributions continue to inspire scholars, writers, and artists, affirming his place as one of the most significant figures in the history of world literature.

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## "ALISHER NAVOI INTERNATIONAL AWARD": ESTABLISHMENT AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE TURKIC WORLD

### Iskandarov Fayzulla Mashrabovich

Associate Professor at the Alisher Navoi Tashkent State
University of Languages and Literature
mfayzullaiskandarov@gmail.com

### Tojiyev Dostonjon Beknazar o'g'li

Doctoral student at the "Department of Modern Issues of Foreign Eastern Countries", Al-Biruni Institute of Oriental Studies, Academy Sciences of Uzbekistan, dostonjontojiyev26@gmail.com

Abstract. This article examines the mutual cultural relations among Turkic nations, which share deep historical ties in language and religion, over the past three decades, emphasizing their significance in regional and global contexts. It explores the role of the Turkic Council as a unifying structure facilitating integration into the global community, with particular attention to the cultural and spiritual dimensions that underpin this process. A key focus of the study is the Alisher Navoi International Award, analyzing the factors that led to its establishment, its historical importance, and the sequential processes involved in attaining this prestigious recognition.

**Keywords.** Organization of Turkic States, Cooperation Council of Turkic-Speaking States, "Nakhichevan agreement", "Alisher Navai International Award", Shavkat Mirziyoyev, Chingiz Aitmatov.

## "ALISHER NAVOIY XALQARO MUKOFOTI": TA'SIS ETILISHI VA TURKIY DUNYO UCHUN TARIXIY AHAMIYATI

Annotatsiya. Ushbu maqolada tarixan til va din jihatidan qardosh bo'lgan turkiy mamlakatlarning so'nggi o'ttiz yillikdagi o'zaro madaniy aloqalari, ahamiyatlilik darajasi, Turkiy davlatlar tashkiloti nomi ostida mustahkamlangan tuzilmaning jahon hamjamiyatiga integratsiyalashayotgani va unda madaniy-ma'naviy aloqalarning o'rni beqiyos ekanligi xususida so'z boradi. Jumladan, maqolada "Alisher Navoiy xalqaro mukofoti" haqida batafsil tarzda ma'lumot berilgan. Mukofotning ta'sis etilishi omillari, tarixiy ahamiyati hamda ushbu unvonga erishishdagi ketma-ketlik jarayonlari ham yoritilgan.

Kalit soʻzlar. Turkiy davlatlar tashkiloti, Turkiy tilli davlatlar hamkorlik kengashi, "Naxichevan shartnomasi", "Alisher Navoiy" xalqaro mukofoti, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, Chingiz Aytmatov.

The Turkic Council, which plays a leading role in the unification of the independent states of the Turkic world, is currently at a stage of stable development both structurally and substantively over the last decade. This has increased the organization's integration into the global community and has led to a new level of cooperation and friendly relations with other international organizations. The most significant aspect is that the proximity of language and religion serves as a fundamental factor in uniting the peoples 2 Назарова, Халилов, 2010: 672.

Historically, starting from 1992, summits of the leaders of Turkic-speaking states began to be held. At the initiative of these states leaders, the International Organization of Turkic Culture (TURKSOY) was established in 1993 ②WDJ TC, 2020: 36-37②. In addition, structures such as the TurkPA (Turkic Council Parliamentary

Assembly), the Turkic Culture and Heritage Foundation, and the Turkic Academy, designed for scientific research, are also actively functioning in the cooperation among Turkic-speaking states. As a collaboration council of Turkic-speaking countries, this organization was established for the first time on October 3, 2009, in the city of Nakhchivan, Azerbaijan **WDJ TC, 2020:** 49②. Looking at the content of the "Nakhchivan Agreement", which consists of 22 articles that form the legal basis of the organization, it is clear that the focus is on entering into comprehensive cooperation based on the historical ties, common language, culture, and traditions among Turkic peoples, as well as deepening these relations. This document outlines various matters such as the organization's goals and objectives, structure, types of cooperation, councils and committees within the organization, budget, privileges, international relations, and conflict resolution ②Nakhichevan, 2009: 2②.

Initially, the founders and full members of this Council were the countries of Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan ②DDD TC, 2020: 104②. After ten years, Uzbekistan officially joined the organization as a member ②Uza.uz, 2019②, Turkmenistan, due to its neutrality status, has not become an official member but has become a permanent participant (gaining observer status in 2021). As a result, a process of unification among the independent Turkic states has emerged. The joining of Uzbekistan to the Turkic Council was positively received by member countries. Official figures and experts continuously acknowledge the role of Uzbeks in the history of Turkic peoples, as well as their current potential and significance ②Daryo.uz, 2022②.

The primary objective of this international organization is to strengthen historical fraternal ties among member countries, enhance political consultations on global and regional issues, and elevate cooperation in economic and technical fields, as well as in science, art, and culture. It also aims to preserve and further develop the material and spiritual culture of the Turkic-speaking world 2Жўраев, 2017: 52. Within the framework of the Turkic Council, relevant tasks are assigned and decisions are made regarding the commemoration of poets, philosophers, and statesmen who have made significant contributions to the development of Turkic literature, art, science, and culture, as well as organizing events to promote their heritage. As a practical expression of these processes, several anniversaries of notable figures from the Turkic world have been celebrated. For instance, 2016 was declared the "Year of Yusuf Khas Khajib", marking the 1,000th anniversary of his birth. In 2021, Azerbaijan declared the year as the "Year of Nizami Ganjavi", celebrating the 880th anniversary of his birth. A presidential decree in Uzbekistan marked the 580th anniversary of Alisher Navoi's birth, which was commemorated on a large scale in 2021. The 175th anniversary of Jambil Jabaev, the 155th anniversary of Alixan Bokeykhan, the 120th anniversary of Khusayn Karasaev, and the anniversary of Yunus Emre were also celebrated. The 30th anniversary of TURKSOY coincided with the 1,050th anniversary of Beruni's birth, the 540th anniversary of Zakhiriddin Mukhammad Babur's birth, and the 120th anniversary of Gafur Gulom's birth, which were significant events held at a high level in 2023.

Scientific and cultural cooperation within the Turkic world has seen considerable growth over the past five years. Decisions regarding the development of science and education, culture, and art are consistently adopted at each summit, contributing to the enhancement of cooperation levels. The role of historical figures is crucial in passing cultural heritage to future generations. Today, the "Alisher Navoi

International Prize" is one of the steps in this direction. November 12, 2021, is notable for the important decision made during this time. On that day, at the summit taking place in Turkey, a decision was made to establish an international prize named after Alisher Navoi ②Xabardor.uz, 2021②.

In February 2021, the holding of a two-day international conference titled "Alisher Navoi in the Interpretation of World Orientalists" on the occasion of the 580th anniversary of the great thinker Alisher Navoi also demonstrated the significant respect afforded to him in the Turkic world Turkicstates.org, 2021. At the international conference, specialists from over 60 universities in 15 countries, including Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Hungary, Tajikistan, India, Pakistan, Egypt, Iran, and Afghanistan, participated. The participants emphasized that Navoi's multifaceted work has uniquely influenced not only culture and literature but also politics, state governance, science, and education.

During the informal summit held via video conference on March 31, 2021, a proposal was made to establish an international award named after Alisher Navoi within the framework of the Turkic Council, taking into account the invaluable contribution of the great Uzbek poet, thinker, and statesman to the spiritual and educational life of the Turkic world. This initiative aimed to encourage achievements in science, education, literature, art, and social fields, as well as to bolster efforts towards the unity of the Turkic world. The proposal was supported by the summit participants at that time President.uz, 2021. It can also be concluded from the informal summit that the Organization, formed on the basis of strong historical ties, a common language, and cultural-spiritual values, is turning into an effective mechanism for regional cooperation.

The name of the Turkic Council was officially changed at the eighth summit held in Istanbul on November 12, 2021. According to the decision adopted during the summit meeting, the Organization of Turkic States was established.

In his speech at the 8th summit of the Turkic Council, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, particularly noted his gratitude for the adoption of the above decision. He stated: "I would like to once again express my gratitude to all of you for the decision to establish an international award named after the great thinker and statesman Mir Alisher Navoi, who made a significant contribution to the unity of the Turkic world at today's summit. It is known to all of us how greatly the prominent representatives of the Turkic world have contributed to the advancement of universal culture and civilization"  $\square$ President.uz, 2021 $\square$ .

In the Declaration signed by the heads of member states at the conclusion of the meeting, Article 74 states: "The Turkic States Cooperation Council will establish the Alisher Navoi International Award for his contributions to the Turkic world". The summit participants also expressed their satisfaction with this decision.

This international award was established to encourage achievements in science, education, literature, art, and social fields, as well as to strengthen efforts and aspirations towards the unity of the Turkic world.

In creating the Alisher Navoi International Award system, carefully considering the situations of renowned award systems around the world is undoubtedly essential for ensuring that the award holds a prestigious position on a global scale. For this reason, researchers suggest that during the preparation process for this award system, the awarding processes of globally recognized awards such as the Nobel and Pulitzer

should be taken into account ②Akalin, 2022: 365②. On the other hand, by awarding the Alisher Navoi International Award to individuals who present works in Turkic languages, conduct scientific research in Turkic states, and serve global peace, it is possible to encourage these studies while also creating opportunities for strengthening shared values in the Turkic language.

Over the past several centuries, the great scholar's works have reached us to this day. The name Navoi is considered a central symbol in the history of Uzbekistan, especially in literature. The existence of an award named after Alisher Navoi in the Turkic world highlights the significance of Uzbekistan and Alisher Navoi. The unanimous adoption of this decision by all member states also indicates that Alisher Navoi and his works are common values for the Turkic peoples.

The awarding of this prize will be as follows:

- The awards may be given in fields that are prominently associated with the activities of Amir Alisher Navoi, such as literature, poetry, music, and state governance. These may include the "Navoi Literature Award," "Navoi Poetry Award," "Navoi Music Award," and "Navoi Significant State Official Award," among others.
- Writers, academics, musicians, statesmen (public officials), or journalists who contribute to Turkic languages, regardless of whether they are Uzbek, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Turkmen, Uighur, Oghuz, or other Turkic-speaking individuals, may be honored.
- The award does not necessarily have to be given only to individuals who are citizens of Turkic states. It can also be awarded to people who create works in existing Turkic languages or foreign languages and contribute to the common values of humanity.
- An independent commission composed of Navoi scholars from various parts of the Turkic world may be established to fairly determine the award winners.
- Individuals deemed worthy of the award by the independent committee may be honored during a ceremonial event held on February 9 in Tashkent, at the Alisher Navoi Tashkent State University of Languages and Literature, in the city of Herat where Navoi was born, or in Uzbekistan's Navoi region (the location will be chosen according to circumstances).
- It may also be ensured that the works of the award winners are published in all Turkic languages.
- Winners of the international award may participate as guests in events held by organizations such as the Turkic States Organization and TURKSOY during the years they are honored 2 Sekizinci Zirve Bildirisi, 2022: 42.

The first recipient of the "Alisher Navoi International Award," established at the initiative of the President of Uzbekistan, is the great writer and public figure Chingiz Aitmatov for his contributions to the advancement of the Turkic world. "The great writer and public figure, a remarkable humanist, the late Chingiz Aitmatov was a true friend of all our peoples, an unparalleled creator who glorified Turkic history and culture to the whole world, and a thinker who managed to imprint our ancient traditions and noble values in the hearts of millions of people around the globe through his immortal works," stated Shavkat Mirziyoyev while presenting the "Alisher Navoi International Award" to the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, Sadyr Japarov ②Uzreport.news, 2022②.

It has been concluded that this award will be presented annually and that the contributions of deserving individuals to the advancement of the Turkic world are also