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Ishakhan Ibrat's scientific researches in the development of Uzbek linguistics

Annotation: In this scientific article highlights about the contributions of Ishakhan Ibrat to the advancement of Uzbek linguistics.

Keywords: Calligrapher, Turkic language, Namangan, Turakurgan, dictionary, linguistics, script, travel, school.



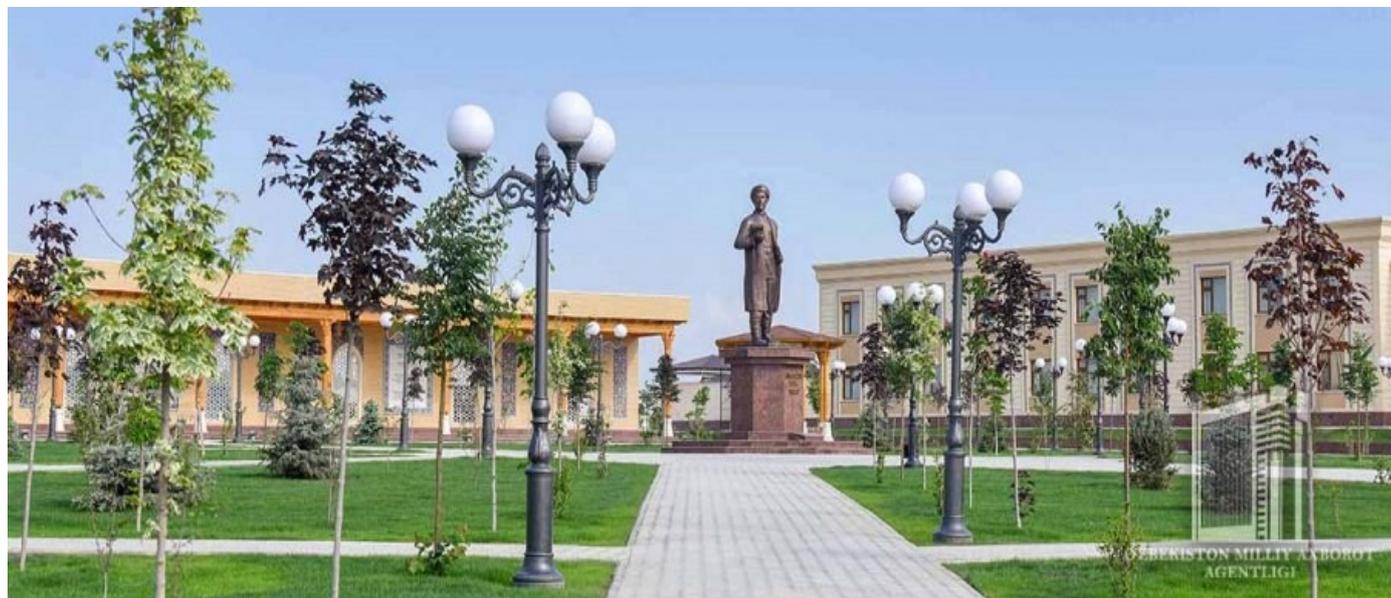
It is obvious that linguistics plays an important role in the development of world. An enlightened poet, powerful linguist, great scientist, historian, printer, educator, scholar, calligrapher, traveller and a multifaceted author Ishakhan Ibrat* devoted his entire life to the advancement of such scientific process, especially, in perfect formation of Turkic language.

During the years of independence of Uzbekistan, the creative activity of our great ancestor Ibrat is widely studied due to the great attention of our President Shavkat Mirziyoev. On the initiative of the head of the state, opening a school which is specialized in teaching foreign languages such as Russian, English, German, French, Arabic, Korean and Turkish provided a golden opportunity to explore Ibrat's creative wealth popular-scientifically. Likewise, the museum, a modern and large avenue and the printing house were established under his name in Turakurgan, the birthplace of our great-grandfather Ibrat. Nowadays, information about Ibrat is being published in popular-scientific publications, announced on radio broadcasts and telecasted on television. Almost all his historical works and scientific manuscripts have been published and famous scientists are doing research on them with strong interest.

Ibrat* – The pseudonym of Ishakhan. It means ‘Пример’ in Russian and ‘Example’ in English.

I am studying at boarding school named after Ibrat, at the eleventh grade to be exact and trying hard to learn the books that were written about Ibrat by scientists. Ibrat focused his attention on the progress of Uzbek linguistics during his activity.

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At the beginning of the twentieth century, diplomatic, commercial, scientific and cultural relations throughout the countries of the world reached its peak, so knowing language well was very vital to make Turkestan developed country.

At that time a person who did not know any language well or an uneducated one lagged behind worldly knowledge and even a century. For that reason, Ibrat started composing a dictionary for learning Uzbek and foreign languages, fortunately he managed it.

At the beginning of the twentieth century significant changes took place in the capitalist system of development around the world. Even in remote areas such as Turkestan, the local population made efforts for the social, economic and cultural growth. There was also a growing interest in the Russian language among the locals in Turkestan. "Russo-native" schools and "new method" schools of the country were operated in urban areas (Tashkent, Samarkand, Fergana) and then in rural areas. However, learning Russian was limited, since there were no Russian dictionaries, textbooks or manuals available. In this case, "Turkestanskiy Vedomosti"* ("Turkic Gazette") said, 'There is an increasing number of Russian-learning people in the city these days. It is important to emphasize that the indigenous inhabitants have a considerable ability to learn foreign languages'[1]. Indeed, 'Advanced intellectuals, traders and artisans had an interest in acquiring knowledge of Russian and other languages, but there were no manuals for learning and teaching languages, all of which were written in Cyrillic and Latin...'[3] Ishakhan Ibrat, who had detailed knowledge of Russian, the languages of the West, the Middle East and the Asian nations, dealt with that problem by writing six-language dictionary

*"Turkestanskiy Vedomosti" – the first daily Russian newspaper in Turkestan.

called 'Lug'ati sittati al-sina' ('A six-language dictionary'). The book contained translations of Arabic, Persian, Hindi, Turkish, Uzbek (Sartik) and Russian words. Before Ibrat, there were dictionaries that were in Turkic - Arabic languages written by Makhmud Kashghari and Makhmud Zamakhshari.[2].

A highly gifted Ibrat also used the Russian words in Arabic script to make it easier to understand for those who did not know Russian writing. Composing such kind of dictionary was extremely complex job, nonetheless it had positive results.

The man who familiarized himself with the manuscript of the book commented to the 'Turkiston viloyati gazetii' ('The Gazette of Turkestan region'): 'Although this book named 'Lug'ati sittati alsina' was small, there was no one in Turkestan region who had the ability to classify a language dictionary. Therefore, we wrote to the newspaper hoping that 'Six-language dictionary' which Mister Judge Ibrat sent to the publication would be allowed to be come out.

I read the dictionary with care and love,

Thus I gave opinions above'. [3].

Finally, after heavy censorship, the book was published in 1901. This data is confirmed by the documents stored in the personal archive of N.P. Ostroumov, the press secretary in Turkestan at that time. There are Uzbek words with their Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Hindi and Russian translations in the dictionary. It consists of two parts, the first part of the book is in alphabetical order. The dictionary contains more than thousand words and consists of 53 pages. There are separate chapters for each letter. The first Persian and then Arabic, Turkish, Uzbek, Hindi, Russian words are given in an infinitive and a future form of verbs. Ibrat gathered the most active words of the spoken language instead of the old archaic words.[3]. For example,

to give - дать	will give - даст	sugar - сахар
to find - находить	will find - находит	floor - мука
to run - бегать	will run - будет бегать	hungry - голод

The development of human speech plays a major role in the communication of nations. Ibrat's scientific work on the development of linguistics, his striving for progress to be found rarely from other linguists' activities. Worldwide travels and more researches broadened Ibrat's outlook, afterwards he wrote a valuable work named 'History of books' ("Jome ul-xutut"). The aforementioned book was devoted to the history of writings. It consists of 132 pages. Precious information on 41 world scripts was given in that historical book. The book was published in the printing house that Ibrat himself set up. He moved to Orenburg, situated in Russia and bought a lorry machine in 1901 with payment of ten years from publisher Kaufman.[7]

Ibrat said, 'When going to the pharmacy, Latin is needed, English is required to write letters to India, otherwise letters will not be accepted and writing in French is essential to Iran. Russian writing is what we need first of aim for Turkestan people. Let judges and teachers not to deny it'. [5]

Ishakhan Ibrat was a gifted poet. He wrote a poem titled 'Historical publishing' that dedicated to the history of printing, informing that the time of the publishing was one thousand three hundred and twenty six. [6]

Ibrahim Davron, a contemporary of Ibrat, wrote about him: 'Ibrat was a great calligrapher who had beautiful handwriting'. [4] It is clear that there were 'Russian-Sartik (Uzbek)', 'Sartik (Uzbek)-Russian' dictionaries of V. Nalivkin and his wife M. Nalivkin till 'Lug'atti sittati alsina'. The advantage of the dictionary of Ibrat is that it was written in Arabic script not in Cyrillic.

Ishakhan Ibrat is not dead, he is alive and he lives in our hearts forever. It is said that there is no grave of the best person who only did good deeds, because the best persons like Ibrat are buried in the hearts. Ibrat's great work is being pursued by his followers.

Our school aims to teach seven languages of the world, in other words, Russian, English, German, French, Arabic, Korean, Turkish and improve the art of translation.

Especially, our school has hosted an international conference cooperation with Russia. The Russian language room of our school has been converted into a smart-room with the help of 'Russian Humanitarian Mission' ("Русская Гуманитарная Миссия"). The up-to-date equipment has been delivered and the shelves were filled with the profound literary books of world literature. The director of 'Russian Humanitarian Mission' participated in the conference. On that day, our school had established a partnership with the prestigious Plekhanov University in Tashkent.



Also, after a partnership with the Republic of France, a student of Ibrat school who has completed 'Alliance Française' ("Французского Альянс") teaching club organized in our school will be admitted to universities in France without exams.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan gave instruction on admitting graduates, who finished school with excellent grades, to higher education institutions without examinations and teaching on a grant basis.

All these reforms are the fulfilment of the wishes of our grandfather Ibrat and the continuation of his scientific research. I am confident that our school will have a leading role in further improving our country's diplomatic, political, economic, social, cultural and scientific relations. We, the students of Ibrat school, will actively take part in the development of the world.

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