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# "MUNSHAOT" - A MASTERPIECE OF UZBEK EPISTOLARY **LITERATURE**

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#### **Abstract**

Examples of the epistolary genre based only on letters have also been created in modern Uzbek prose. Among these works, Alisher Navoi's work "Munshaot", Nizamiddin Alisher's justice, all his works society and raiyat, is fully reflected. "Munshaot" means essays, that is, letters. During the time of Timur and his followers, the correspondence between the society, the state and the citizens developed in a strange way due to the highly flourishing culture. With the exception of Alisher Navoi's work "Munshaot", all of the listed ones consist of letters or correspondence, as in Uzbek literature and world literature.

**Keywords**: letters, great, poet, deep lyricism, realistic power, novel, composition, element, "Vaqfiya", Navoi.

The only scientific way to study any language phenomenon from a historical and analytical point of view is to first of all rely on the original source, to compare the language of mature works, to determine the differences and commonalities between them. The language of Alisher Navoi's works is one of such invaluable sources. Navoi's struggle for the development of the literary language occupies an important place in the history of our culture. The poet was able to use the vocabulary of the Uzbek language not only in verse, but also in prose in a unique style. His prose works consist of scientific works on literature, linguistics, philosophy, ethics and history. In addition to artistic and scientific works, Navoi believes that state documents and letters can be written in Turkish (Uzbek) as well as in Persian, and he sets an example by writing his works such as "Munshaot" and "Vaqfiya" in his native language. The justice of Nizamiddin Alisher was fully reflected in all his works, all his works, all his relations with society and raiyat. Here, we would like to touch briefly on the



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work "Munshaot", where some of the invaluable aspects of Navoi's personality are shown very delicately.

Alisher Navoi's work "Munshaot" is included in the 14th volume of the thinker's last 20-volume works. The work consists of a prologue and 103 parts. The content of "Munshaot" shows that Navoi's multifaceted practical activities were based on the principles of philanthropy and peace-loving, and that he protected the interests of the country and the people. The work contains information on Navoi's biography, notes on his artistic work, and opinions related to his moral views.

According to the valuable researches of scientists like A. Tursunov and M. Hasanov, O'rinboey, Yu. who studied Navoi's period and Navoi's name and letters written by Navoi himself. Navoi had a lot of correspondence with his contemporaries in the second half of his life. Between 1485 and 1499, Timurid princes and kings collected letters written to their relatives and created a work called "Munshaot". The reason we call it a work is that Navoi removed the names of the addressees (persons to whom the letter was written) and where, when and in what context the letters were written. As a result, the letters sent to specific people have gone out of the scope of personal reality and turned into works of art with artistic and deep human value. "Munshaot" means essays, that is, letters. During the time of Timur and his followers, the correspondence between the society, the state and the citizens developed in a strange way due to the highly flourishing culture. In the times of the Timurid kings, and especially in the fifteenth century, collecting letters became a noble custom. During Navoi's time, many noteworthy facilities were created.

The first book written in the Uzbek language belongs to Navoi. In the badge issued by Sultan Husayn Boygaro Navoi's brother, Balkh governor Darvish Ali, in connection with the uprising in the nineties, Nizamiddin Amir Alisher is evaluated as "the pillar of the kingdom, the support of our state, the key of the khanate". Navoi's letters show that he was, indeed, literally the master of the khanate. In his letters to the princes and more to Badiuzzaman Mirza, Navoi teaches them how to govern the country. It constantly draws attention to the relationship between father and son, which is of special importance and essence for the Timurids. He strives to educate high moral qualities in princes on the basis of ancient Turkish and Islamic culture. At the same time, he records sensitive information about himself and some of his contemporaries...



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Alisher Navoi, in writing the work "Munshaot", made good use of the lively folk language, the colloquial lexicon that was actively used in the everyday life of his time. Go to the lexicon of the work so to speak, Navoi created unique examples of the letter style. As much as possible, Navoi tried to use the forms of the Turkish (Uzbek) lexicon typical of the speech of the people. Depending on the content of each letter to be written, its main purpose, and what the opinion consists of, he used the elements of the industry language.

«Va lekin ul bahori hayot suhbatidin ayru lola ahbob jonigʻa dogʻ oʻrtagʻali shu'lae va har qatra ashob hayoti sham'ini oʻchurgali...»[3]. If you pay attention to this text, there are many words that are equal for everyone and are in active use: va, lekin, ul, bahor, hayot, suhbat, ayru, lola, jonigʻa, dogʻ, oʻrtagʻali, har, qatra, hayot etc.

Navoi writes names in "turk alfozida[5]", paying attention to the simplicity and fluency of their language and style. Sentences and sentences in most of the letters are structured in the style of colloquial speech. While letters in the modern Uzbek language often begin with ordinal sentences, in Navoi's letters introductory phrases are used a lot: «G'araz bu kalimotdin va maqsad bu muqaddimotdin ulkim, bu faqiri xokisor va bu xokivashi bee'tiborkim, bu davlatlig' eshik ostonasig'a tufrog'dek tushub erdim...»[4]. While Navoi started the tradition of writing letters in Turkish, he found words to satisfy the the applicant, who is necessary in every way, pleasant, captivating, problem-solving, and before moving on to the main goal used long introductory words and phrases like the sentences above. This is evidence that the tradition of writing letters has fallen into a certain pattern as a specific order and rule. Introductory words and phrases to express different modal relations to the expressed thought actually began to be used in the Old Turkic Stone Age, although rarely. By the Old Turkic Stone Age, although such constructions were not common, they gradually began to be distinguished. Various forms can be found in the old Uzbek language, especially in the prose works of Alisher Navoi. For example:

«Qulluq duodin soʻngra arzadosht ulkim, bandanavozliq qilib yiborgan noma yetishti»[1]

In some of the letters of "Munshaot", introductory words and introductory phrases are often used repeatedly at the beginning of each main sentence. In the text "Munshaot" in most cases, the imperative form of the verb takes the main place. Because the content of each letter presented in the work is, of course, an order-



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request, desire is expressed in a unique way. As in the old Uzbek language, in Navoi's works, especially in "Munshaot", there are additional forms of command-desire in all three persons singular and plural. For example, the first-person singular form of the imperative is (a)yin - borayin, (e)yin - keltireyin, (arz) eteyin . Second person singular and plural forms - gʻil, -gil, -qil-kil; -gʻin, -gin, -qin, -kin; -ingiz, -ingiz, -ungiz, -nglar, -ngler;third person singular and plural forms are used in the form -sun, -barsun...

In the work, new words are created on the basis of Arabic words with the help of Uzbek additions. This serves to enrich the lexicon of the history of the Uzbek language at the expense of its own internal resources. For example: «Niyoz raf'idin so'ngra e'lom ulkim, bu uchurda ul soridin kelganlarning kalomlari fahvosidin va payomlari adosidin andoq ma'lum bo'ldikim, tab'ingizda davron havodisidin juz'iy za'f va ozore, mizojingizg'a zamon navoyibidin adno g'am va iztirore voqe' erkin bo'lg'ay»[2]. (Content: I will be informed after your prayer and supplication, at this time, from the content of the words and reports of those who came from that side, it became clear that there is some discomfort and pain in your nature due to the events of the period. (However, don't worry and don't hesitate.)

In the above mentioned text, raf'+i+din (from prayer), kalam+lar+i(words), fahva+si+din(content), mizoj+ing+in+g'a(in your body), navoyib+i+din (from events) Arabic words like Arabic words in the old Uzbek language -lar plural, -i possessive, -din accusative, -ingiz plural second person-number suffixes, -g'a accusative comes along with the suffix, and explains the content of Navoi's letter to the reader in a simple vernacular language.

Finally, Alisher Navoi promoted the development of his mother tongue among the people, communicated with the people face to face, directly through letters, and introduced the riches of the colloquial language into the norm of the literary language lexicon.

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