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«Kazakh romantic dastans in China: sources, plots, textology»

The dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the specialty «6D021400 – Literary studies»

ABSTRACT

General characteristics of the work. The epic is an ancient source, an inexhaustible treasure of centuries, which purifies the consciousness and spirit of the Kazakh nation. Through folk songs, we can see the history and language, culture and philosophy, traditions and customs that are national values of the Kazakh people. One of those spiritual values is love, that is, romantic folklore.

From the second half of the XIX century our folklore heritage, including epic poems, has been collected and published and became a subject of literary studies and folklore studies.

Foreign, domestic scientists who have studied Kazakh epics, who have contributed to the development of the national epic poetry and national folklore science are Sh.Sh.Valikhanov, V.V. Radlov, G.N. Potanin, V.V. Stasov, A.Divaev, I.E. Berezin, A.Bukeikhanov, A.Baitursynov, H.Dosmukhamedov, M.O. Auezov, A.Margulan, K.Zhumaliyev, M.Gabdullin, N.S.Smirnova, Y.Duisenbayev, A.Konyratbayev, R.Berdybaev, S.Sadyrbaev, S.A.Kaskabasov, Sh.Ybyrayev, B.U. Azibayeva, Z.Seytzhano, T.Konyratbayev, B.Rakimov, A.Turganbayev, M.Abduov and others.

The Kazakh people suffered from various difficulties, after various attacks and wars, they lost most of the pastures in Zhetisu and Tarbagatai regions. Despite the fact that the Kazakhs tried to return their indigenous pastures, the Chinese government did not accept such a requirement of the Kazakhs. As a result of the Sino-Dzungarian and Kazakh-Dzungarian wars, the Dzungarian state was lost from the scene of history. Thus, instead of the Dzungarian khanate in China, the Xinjiang territory was created. Kazakh rulers led by Abylai Khan have repeatedly held talks with Chinese authorities, and as a result, the Chinese government allowed the Kazakhs to move to Xinjiang in 1767. However, Kazakhs had to pay for 100 heads per one cattle per year for pasture use.

Lately there have been a few reasons why the Kazakhs on the Chinese border:

1. To get occupied the fertile lands of local people by the imperial authority in the 60-90 years of XIX century;
2. About 300 thousand Kazakhs, who could not stand the persecution of the imperial authority during the national uprising in 1916, moved to China;
3. The famine in the years 1928-1933;
4. The Stalin's repressions in 1937-1938.

Despite such suffering, the Kazakh people preserved their language, religion, history and culture, literature and traditions.

At the Fourth World Congress of Kazakhs held in Astana on May 25, 2011, the First President, President of the Association N.Nazarbayev (Our Brotherhood is open to all of us! // World Assembly of Kazakhs - Almaty: Atamura, 1993. - 280 b) in a report titled "Kazakhstan is an honorary phenomenon of every Kazakh in the world": *«We should never forget that the Kazakh child is a part of his whole nation, even though where ever he lives in this world,»* said distinctly, *«... we have to create conditions for the widespread popularization of national art in the countries where the tribesmen live қандастар тұрып жатқан елдерде ұлттық өнердің кеңінен таралуына жағдай жасауымыз керек. We are well aware that in the neighboring countries, where the Kazakhs have not been violated, the valuable spiritual heritage of the nation has been preserved. I entrust the Ministry of education and science and the Ministry of culture to organize expeditions and collect such a valuable heritage»* has set a great deal of responsibility.

The academician S. Kirabaev also wrote («White pages of our literature». - Almaty: Bilim, 1995. – 288 p.) «The spiritual heritage of the Kazakh people is not limited to the works of representatives of the nation in today's land of Kazakhstan. At the same time, the literature and culture of the Kazakhs, disintegrating by the will of fate in foreign countries and the countries of the former USSR, are an integral part of our national wealth» [2]. Today we have the opportunity to explore the history and rich heritage of our compatriots after independence.

The relevance of research.

As a result of scientific research conducted by scientists of Kazakhstan, it was found that our compatriots in China have preserved epic poems of universal importance, as well as created new unfamiliar works, epics in Kazakhstan. While articles devoted to this issue, the Kazakh romantic dastans in China were not monographed at all. In the dissertation Kazakh romantic dastans of China were taken for the first time as an object of monographic research.

The object of research was the selected samples of the love poems which were collected on the basis of expeditions organized by the Institute of M.O.Auezov and published texts of the 25-26 volumes, of scientific series "Babalar sozi".

The subject of research. Historical and typological study of the Kazakh love poems in China.

The purposes and the objectives of research. In the dissertation the aim of the study was to study the ways of transformation of the Kazakh love poems which were not studied in the systematic way, with a certain period of reality. In order to solve the main problems, the following objectives have been identified:

- 25-26 volumes of the series «Babalar sozi» texts and data collection, systematization, writing of scientific descriptions of materials collected during scientific expeditions organized by the M.O.Auezov Institute;
- To make historiography of Kazakh love poems in China due to research collection, publication;
- To analyze Kazakh and Chinese scientists' works who have studied the

Kazakh romantic dastans in China in genre terms;

- To make comparisons and analysis of genre nature of romantic dastans and its plot features;

- A comparative study of romantic dastans of our compatriots in China with domestic versions; identify differences/indifferences, to understand what transformations have undergone;

- To make a textology analysis of the epic texts.

The methods of research. In accordance with the aims and objectives of the research work, the methods of generalization, scientific systematization, historical and comparative, artistic analysis, system-complex, scientific description methods were used.

Theoretical and methodological significance basis of research. While doing the research, the foreign researchers, along with domestic scientists who conducted the most important research in the Kazakh folklore science, their theoretical findings are guided. Among them, Sh. Ualikhanov [3], N.A. Veselovsky [4], M.Auezov [5], K.Zhumaliyev [6], A.Konyratbayev [7], Y.Duysenbaev [8], R. Berdybaev [9], Sh.Ybyrayev [10], S. Kaskabasov [11], B. Azibayeva [12], Z.Seytzhannov [13], V.M. Zhirmunski [14], V.Y.Propp [15], B.N.Putilov [16], L.A.Astafieva [17], E. Meletinsky [18], K.I.Matyzhanov [19], S.M.Boura [20], K. Rayhl [21], N.D.John [22], Huang Zhongshiyuan [23] and others. Theoretical ideas and basic concepts of scientists were used.

M.O.Auezov's (The History of Literature, 1927), who spoke about the genre features of Kazakh poetry poems, B.M. Zhirmunskiy's (Turkic heroic epic, 1974), Y.Duysenbaev's (Kazakh lira-epos, 1973), R. Berdybayev's (Kazakh epos, 1982), S. Kaskabasov's (Selected collection of 5 volumes, 2014), the works of Sh.Ybraeva's (Epos World, 1993), B. Azibayeva's (Kazakhs national romantic epics, 1990, Kazakh epic poem, 1998) works are the basis for determining the direction of our research work.

M.O.Auezov's works in the poems «Kazakh epos and pre-revolutionary folklore», «Kozy Korpesh – Bayan Sulu», «Kyz Zhibek» were the first steps in the research of Kazakh romantic dastans. The scientist who classified romantic dastans «El poemalary», has taken the sized version of «Kozy Korpesh – Bayan Sulu», wrote his thoughts, comments and scientific passport from Uayis Shondybayuli. In the article «Kozy Korpesh – Bayan Sulu» he compared the psalms with the sixteen versions of the pseudonym and some poems in the Turkic people, and gave exhaustive comments on the essence and plot poems.

In the article «Kyz Zhibek» confirming the Kazakh heritage, and that it appeared in the XVII century, opens the main peculiarities of the poem.

Well, B. U.Azibaeva divided love poems in the power of the Genesis and features of the genre into two groups: 1. Traditional love epos. This group includes epics, epos that have been created in ancient times and have become a full-fledged parable in the Middle Ages and reached to our times in classical style. 2. Love epics. Here the scientist, since the XIX century, collects the most common poems in the country; classifies them into three groups depending on their origin and content.

As a scientific novelty of research, we can say that the first and deepest analysis of the Kazakh love poetry in China can be done.

- Traditional romantic epics and romantic dastans in China for the first time were considered on a systematic, monographic level. The Kazakh romantic dastans in China are systematized, most of which are first included in the scientific turnover, studied according to the requirements of today;

- The main stages of the collection, publication and research history of the Kazakh poetry in China have been identified and historiography has been made for the first time.

- The history of the collection of romantic dastans is political-social comparisons with the historical facts, and the fact that they are subjected to research - reflect the sophistication, importance and scale of the problem raised in scientific research.

- The plot peculiarities of the distant psalms were identified and the motifs used in it were compared with international figures.

- The plot features of the romantic dastans were determined, the motives used in them were compared with international motives.

- Romantic dastans are tested for textual analysis, the textology was studied.

The theoretical and practical significance of research. In the dissertation the results of the conclusions made by domestic scientists on the Kazakh epic have been differentiated and guided. Along with the general features of the epic heritage of our compatriots in China, have been identified, analyzed and analyzed by regional specifics and influences of other nations' folklore. Through this work, the interest in the spiritual heritage of Kazakhs living abroad is increasing. At the same time, the work is very important in comparison with other epos models as one branch of the Kazakh epos in the roman of the genres in China. The results of the research work can be widely used in conducting special courses and seminars on folklore for students of higher education institutions. The results of the research can also be presented as theoretical and practical aids for folklore students, teachers, students and undergraduates.

The main conclusions recommended for defense. According to the results of the research, the following conclusions are presented for defense:

1. In the XVIII-XIX centuries in China, the Kazakhs were under the control of Ezhen khanate, to use the tribal system for political purposes many genealogies and life of the people, traditions, folklore, etc. various data were collected. These data and chronicles are preserved to this day in the capital of China, in Beijing.

2. Even with different cultural pressures, many genre examples of folk heritage have been preserved almost to the full, and today are not forgotten.

3. The Kazakh romantic poetry in China have been added and expanded by adding a new motive, episode.

4. The romantic dastans of Kazakhs in China are one of the components of Kazakh folklore in our country.

5. The romantic dastans similar to domestic epics are based on regional folklore, as well as on the eastern plot and on the episode history of the country, and made regional versions of published works in Kazakhstan.

6. The Kazakh epic poets in China have been widely used in their folklore (apart from west) motifs and plots.

7. International script and motifs have played a vital role in creating the text of the poems.

8. The hero of the Kazakh epic of love, have been subjected to transformation on a certain level, that is, the development of historical legitimacy experienced stately.

The approbation of research. The dissertation was discussed at the faculty meeting of the extended Academic Council (Protocol №3 of 18 April 2019), was recommended for defense by the Institute of Literature and Art named after M.O. Auezov and Kazakh Literature and Literature Theory of the Kazakh National University named after Al-Farabi and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan of Science Committee. The main conclusions and the results of research: 9 articles were published, including 1 scientific article in foreign publications included in the Scopus database, 3 articles in philological publications recommended by the Committee for control in the field of education and science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, 2 international scientific conferences, including 2 articles in foreign conferences, 1 article in a collective monograph.

1. About the heritage of Kazakhs in China // III International Farabi readings. Materials of international scientific conference of students and young scientists «Farabi alemi» - Almaty, 2016. - April 4-15. - P. 170.

2. International motifs in epic stories (Kazakh epos in China) // XIV Auezov readings. International scientific-practical conference. – Almaty, 2016. – P. 157-164.

3. Kazakh eposes in China // Proceedings of the International scientific and practical conference «Aitmatov reading – 2016». – Bishkek, 2016. – P. 410-415.

4. Kazakh epic in China // Science and life of Kazakhstan - Science and life of Kazakhstan. – 2016. – №3. – B. 284-287.

5. Collection and study of the Kazakh epic in China // Science and life of Kazakhstan - Science and life of Kazakhstan. – 2017. – №3. – B. 61-65.

6. Aitys of Aktan and Akbala // KazNU named after al-Farabi, al-Farabi Bulletin. Series philological. – Almaty, Kazakh University, 2017. – № 2. – P. 114-117.

7. Plots of the Kazakh epic in China // Philological science: history, modernity, prospects. Materials of the International scientific and practical conference dedicated to the 80th anniversary of the birth of the famous Bashkir linguist Karim Isbayev. – Ufa, 2017. – P. 86-92.

8. Alikhan Bukeikhan // History of Kazakh folklore: XVII-beginning of XXI century // Collective monograph. – Almaty, 2017. P.177-184.

9. **Journal option Revista de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales** Volume 34, Issue 85, April 2018, Pages 20-43 //- ISSN 1012-1587. – 2018. International

motifs and plots in the Kazakh epics in China (on the materials of the Kazakh epics in China) (Article).

The structure of research. The dissertation consists of an introduction, two chapters, a conclusion and a list of used literatures.