

APPROACHES TO STUDYING THE SCIENTIFIC HERITAGE OF ALIKHANTORA SOGUNI

Zarifjon Arslonov Zokirjonugli*

*Basic Doctoral Student,
Department of IRCICA,
Islamic History and Source Studies,
International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan,
Tashkent, UZBEKISTAN
Email id: zarifjonarslonov@gmail.com

DOI: 10.5958/2278-4853.2022.00357.3

ABSTRACT

Alikhantara Saghuni's (1885–1976) scientific heritage consists of his works and books translated by him. In this article, Saghuni's works such as "Shifa al-Ilal", "Sorrow of Turkestan", and "History of Prophet Muhammad", their history of writing, content and specific aspects are studied and analytical conclusions are given. General information about the period in which the scientist lived and his personality is also presented.

KEYWORDS: *Alikhantura Saghuni, East Turkestan, Shifa Al-Ilal, Body Science, Sorrow Of Turkestan, History Of Prophet Muhammad.*

INTRODUCTION

There are different approaches to Alikhontora Soghuni's life path, activities and scientific heritage, which differ from each other according to space and time. For example, during the time of the former Soviet Union, there was almost no attention paid to the scientist's life activity and scientific heritage in its territories. The only reason for this is that Alikhontora resisted the Soviet regime by promoting national and religious identity. It is self-evident that such a view was not acceptable to the communist society promoting the slogan "religion is opium". Despite this, due to the realities that happened in the world and our region in the 40s of the 20th century, the political activities of Alikhontora were written by some Soviet researchers. For example, one of the Russian researchers Viktor Petrov in his "Myatezhnoe "serdtse" Azii. Sintsjian: short history of national history and memories"¹ (Rebellious Heart of Asia. Shinjong: A Brief History of People's Movements and Memories"), it can be observed that Soguni's activities were approached negatively through some incorrect information. However, despite this, V. Petrov personally participated in the battles against the national army of East Turkestan, so this work of his is considered important in the eyes of researchers.

Another Soviet researcher, famous for his military actions, Vadim Obukhov, "Shvatka shesti imperial. Battle for Xinjiang"²

There is also a work entitled ("The Fall of the Six Empires, the War of Shinjong"), which contains information about the population of Russian nationality who moved to East Turkestan

and their place in the Republic of East Turkestan. In addition, Soguni's political activities in East Turkestan were discussed.

In the 60s of the 20th century, a positive approach to the scientific heritage of Alikhontora Soghuni began to appear in the territory of the Uzbek SSR. This is due to the scientist's work "Tuzuklari Temur", translated by the scientist in 1962. This work was published in the first issue of "Guliston" magazine in 1967³. "Guliston" magazine journalist Rustam Rahmonni has a special role in the publication of this historical translation work. Because, during that autocratic regime, Amir Temur was included in the history books as a "blood thirsty who built a tower out of heads", "tyrant", "invader". R. Rahman was among those who tried to justify Amir Temur through this translation of Soghuni. The publication of this translated work was supposed to be completed in the September issue of this year. However, with the efforts of the communists, this work was stopped. The work has not yet been published. It can be concluded that in the 60s of the 20th century, that is, when Alikhantora Soghuni was still alive, there was individual interest in the scientist's scientific heritage in Uzbekistan under the Soviet regime. But on the other hand, it was seen as a threat to the scientific heritage by the communists.

After the independence of Uzbekistan, a number of scientific researches were conducted on the life path, activities and works of Alikhontora Soghuni. In all of them, Alikhontora is described as a nationalist, humanitarian, religious, mature scientist. The first research written in this way was carried out by his son Qutlug'khan Shokirov - Edikut. In 1992, he began to inform the general public about his father through an article entitled "Two Prides of Turkestan" published in the "Eastern Star" magazine⁴. In the first parts of the article, information is given that Soghuni translated works such as "Temur's Tuzuklari" by Amir Temur Taragai Bahadir's son, "Navodir al-vaqae" by Ahmad Donish, "Music Treatise" by Darveshali Changi into Uzbek. In the sequel, what Alikhantora was called by the people, the place and year of his birth, his parents and the strange events that happened to him during his childhood are given. Political and scientific activities of Alikhontora Soghuni, moments of imprisonment and oppression, as well as poems are described in a concise and understandable manner in the continuation of the article.

Another scientific work, which positively approached Alikhantora Soghuni's work, was carried out by her grandson Uvayskhan Shokirov. "Alikhontora Soguni" based on the memories of his father Asilkhontora⁵ the work named is finished. When Soghuni's work "Sorrow of Turkistan" was first published in Tashkent, it reflected the events that happened before 1938⁶. Asilkhantora memories are considered as a logical continuation of this work.

Yaqubjon Khojamberdiev's work entitled "Soguni: Three-Book Manoqib"⁷ intended for the general public is very important in terms of illuminating Alikhontora Soghuni's life path and scientific activity based on historical facts and memories. Because the author received the information in this work in the form of oral hearings and letters from Soghuni's children and people who knew him. When composing the sentences in the work, the author used the word "History" followed by historical information, and the author himself, his interlocutors, and most importantly, Soghuni, narrated the events. In this work, the events that took place in the world during the time of Alikhantora Soghuni's life were covered in connection with the policy of the Soviet state. Because there is a historical basis for this. In the 1930s and 1940s, the Xinjiang region, although obeying the government of Chang Kai-shi, actually had its own currency⁸. The stability of this currency was ensured by the former Soviet Union. Even in the city of Khami, an

aircraft factory was built, and the production of Il-16 military aircraft produced in the territory of the Soviets was started. The governor of Xinjiang, Sheng Shitsai, also operated under the constant support of the Soviets. This can be seen through his work with Allen S. Whiting⁹. In the course of his work, Yo. Khojamberdiev provided valuable information about Soguni's religious science, political activities, and the processes of creating his scientific heritage. For example, he gave the history of the writing and publication of all his works and translations, except for "History of Muhammadi".

There is also a work written by Shamil Almazbekov, which consists of memories about Soguni, and it is called "Benazir ustoz or A look at the medical heritage of Alikhantora Soguni"¹⁰ *is called. In his youth, the author Sh. Almazbekov personally received medical knowledge from Alikhantora Soghuni himself. From this point of view, this work is considered important in the study of Soghuni's legacy of medical science.*

Some aspects related to the subject of this research were also carried out by researchers from Europe, Russia, Turkey and China, and most of them gave information about Alikhantora Soghuni's political activities in East Turkestan. One of them is "Warlords and Muslims in Chinese Central Asia" published in 1986 by AD Forbes¹¹. "Military Leaders and Muslims in China's Central Asia" is a book that describes the political history of East Turkestan between 1911 and 1949. This work also covers aspects such as China's general policy and its influence on East Turkestan. But the main emphasis in it is on the life of the Turkic and Muslim population living in East Turkestan, their leaders and the republics formed by them. From this point of view, Alikhantora Soghuni's presidential period in the Republic of East Turkestan and the political processes that took place with it are addressed in seven places of the book. However, information about Soghuni's scientific activity and heritage is not included in this information.

One of the works that helps to understand the policy of the Soviet government in East Turkestan during Alikhantora Soghuni's life was written jointly by Allen S. Whiting and the Chinese general and governor of East Turkestan, Sheng Shitsai, which is called "Sinkiang: Pawn or Pivot?"¹² ("Shinjong: Infantry or Bullets?") is called. The work consists of two parts, the first part deals with the Soviet strategy in Xinjiang between 1933 and 1949. The second part consists of the memoirs of the Chinese general Sheng Shisai, who mediated between China and the Soviet state. It should also be noted that this work does not contain specific information about Alikhantora.

Several of the freedom fighters of East Turkestan published their memoirs in the form of a book, in which information was also given about Alikhantora Soguni. One of them was the Uyghur politician Mehmed Amin Bugro, one of the organizers of the Islamic Republic of East Turkestan, who wrote his memoirs in the book "East Turkestan: Tarihi, Geğrafıve Şimdiki Durumu" ("East Turkestan: History, Geography and Current Situation"). In it, the author gave information about the activities of Alikhantora, as well as the Russian intervention in the politics of East Turkestan. Iso Yusuf Alptegin, who served as the general secretary of the Republic of East Turkestan, also turned his memories into a book, which is called "EsirDoğuTürkistanının" ("For East Turkestan in Captivity"). This book contains valuable information about the general situation of East Turkestan and the political activities of Alikhantora Soghuni.

In Turkish, several scientific works on the life, political and scientific activities of Alikhontora Soguni have been carried out, the most famous of which is written by Yilmaz Polat "Şerqi Türkistanın Azadlığı Uğrunda Mübarizede Ali Xan Töre Saquninin Tarixi Rolu"¹³ ("The historical role of Alikhontora Soghuni in the struggle for the freedom of East Turkestan") is a work named. Within this topic, the author first completed his doctoral work at Azerbaijan Caucasus University¹⁴, and then published his scientific work in the form of a book in Istanbul. He is also considered the author of articles covering P. Yilmaz Soghuni's science and statesmanship and his activities as the president of the Republic of East Turkestan¹⁵.

The book from Chinese sources ("Xinjiang region of China: past and present situation") is important from the point of view of knowing how the Chinese side reacts to Alikhantora Soguni and his military-political activities in East Turkestan. This book is written based on the information of several Chinese historians. It is interesting to note that in this book, the terms "pan-Turkist" and "pan-Islamist" used in the territory of the former Soviet empire were used by China in relation to Ali Khantora. Some of his comrades were interpreted as heroes "شىنجاڭ تارىخ ماتېرىياللىرى"¹⁶ In the collection ("Shinjong History Materials"), the events of Alikhantora's life are covered based on today's Chinese ideology.

REFERENCES:

1. V.Petrov. Myatejnoye "serdse" Azii. Sinszyan: kratkayaistoriyanarodnyxdvijeniyivospominaniya. – Moskva: Kraft, 2003.
2. Polat Yılmaz. Şerqi Türkistanın Azadlığı Uğrunda Mübarizede Ali Xan Töre Saquninin Tarixi Rolu. – İstanbul: Sembol Group, 2013.
3. Allen S. Whiting, Sheng Shih-ts'ai. Sinkiang: Pawn or Pivot?. – East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 1958. 314 pp.
4. Polat Yılmaz. Ali Xan Töre ve Onun Şerqi Türküstan Azadlığı Uğrunda Mübarizesi. Doktora tezi. – Bakü, 2000.
5. Polat Yılmaz. Alihan Töre Sağuni Türkistanın son yüzyılda önde gelen mücadeleci, ilim ve devlet adamı // Altay Dünyası Beynelhalk Jurnalı, sayı 1-2. – Bakı, 1997. 105-115 s.; Doğu Türkistan İslam Cumhuriyeti Cumhurbaşkanı (1944-1949) Ali Han Töre Saguni // Journal of Qafqaz Universit, C III, sayı I. – Bakı, 2000. 57-68 s.
6. I.To'xtiyev. Tangalartilgakirganda. – Toshkent: Fan, 1989. – B. 28-29.
7. Sh.Almazbekov. Benazir ustozoxudAlixonto'raSog'unityibbiyotmerosigabirnazar. – Toshkent: Navruz, 2015.

8. شىنجاڭ تارىخ ماتېرىياللىرى. شىنجاڭ خەلق نەشىرىياتى. ئۈرۈمچى، 1996. 444 ب.