

THE ANALYSIS OF HAMIT YERGALIYEV POETRY

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Abstract

A poet, having left an original trace in the history of Kazakh literature is Hamit Yergaliyev. A real poet is the voice and spirit of the nation. The poet who did not manage to become the voice of the nation is just poems redactor.

Keywords: Kazakh poetry, Hamit Yergaliyev, Kazakh literature

Introduction

It is natural that every poet has its own nature, his own subject matter and his own world outlook. Not every poet can become a calling word and the voice of the nation. Somebody writes well about nature phenomena, another – about love and the third about interweaving of a human soul and the other about beauty. But nevertheless a real poet should find and recover the melody and character of the same nature phenomena and the same love and interweaving of a human soul and even the beauty. It is doubtless that poems of the poet Hamit Yergaliyev show and reveal the soul of Kazakh people. Kazakh mentality is present in all his poetry. Even the most elementary thing in the poet's poems is highly glorified.

Main Text

Hamit Yergaliyev (1916-1997) was born on the 14th of October 1916 in the region of Novobogat (Kamyskala) of Atyrau region. At the age of seven he learnt to read and write from a village teacher Sabyr Zhumashev. If to base on the writings made by himself a gifted boy Hamit from his early age could read such poems as “Kyz Zhibek”, “Shakir-Shakirat”, “Kula Mergen”, “Torehan”. He was reading them to his 90 year old grandmother Sarbi and mother Bagdagul in the manner that his grandfather Tama Doszhan and a singer story teller Aralbai did.

His ancestor Koiys Kaldaybayev was both a poet and a composer and a performer. He also learnt and executed the works in the manner of this person, who was distributed among the people as “Koiystyn konyry” (“Low pleasant one of Koiys”). As it is mentioned in the poet's recollections when he was nine years old his brother-in-law Smadiyar the thieves have stolen his only big Arabian camel and he has written a poem “Nardyn zary” (“The grief of an Arabian camel”) on behalf of offended master of the camel in a double rhyme half of the page. Judging from the fact that there were people who learnt it by heart it is felt that this verse was sharp and easy, in spite of the fact that it was written by a boy poet. Also at the age of nine he has written for his cousin Yesenzhan Nurgaliyev the words of love, addressed to his beloved and he was “praised” for that. This again stipulates the fact that the boy poet since his early childhood was close to poetic creative art. Unfortunately those verses were not preserved. Later when he was learning carpentry at Gurjyev department of part-time education he wrote poems that he had written down. But the poet does not evaluate those poems as the works that have revealed his poetic talent. Before the war he has written such dastans as “Duniye tenselgende” (“When the world worries”), “Shyndagy sulu” (“A beautiful girl at the top of the mountain”), “Akyrap” (“October”). In his recollections the poet writes:

“Many of the poems of those times, written for social-political themes were published by Ural and Gurjyev regional newspapers. It is possible that the first original voice of a future poet was traced in these words of somebody of the ancestors. But as a matter of fact the period that has opened my eyes was during the first years of Great Patriotic war. It was the time when the fate of the people had the most harsh ordeal and I wanted to express with the poetic language the sorrow and power, the faith in the victory of our heroic people. There were my poems that filled in a thick note-book when I was a troop commander at first and then a squadron commander of a horse army in the rear and then at the front” [1, 6]. This note-book full of poems was lost in the places of hot battles for Budapest, where he was wounded together with map-board where topographical map was. The poet wrote: “I think that the source of my poetic origin remained in this note-book. It looks like that all the warmest and full of deep thoughts, hot feelings, words about my dearest mother, about the hero warrior, about my beloved, about the baby, about the friends, about compatriots and finally about the Motherland, all this was in this notebook ...” [1, 7].

Of course there is no doubt that the poems written during the period of youth ardour, fervor were hot and flaming. The poems written by the poet later were also peculiar of the fact that they were full of feelings.

“In spite of the fact that I started writing long before Great Patriotic war, I agree with the specialists critics who state that my poetic way started during this period. It is true that I began to feel my responsibility in from of my people just during this very period. In this case the life of my people has made a poet of me, his sorrowful sighs and struggle, his wounds and the victory. All this that I outlived both by my mind and body was the reason of the fact that there are civil motives in my creative work” [1, 6].

After graduating from oil working department in 1939, he studied at Kazakh state university. He took part in Great Patriotic war. He also worked as an essayist in the newspaper “Socialist Kazakhstan”, the head of the editorial poetic department in the Union of Kazakhstan writers. He remembers the following things about the years of work in the newspaper “Socialist Kazakhstan”: I still remember. During those years working in the editorial office I met nearly all public figures of literature, science and art. This newspaper introduced me to my elder brothers and sisters of the artistic world, with such noble people Satbayev, Margulan, Kasteyev, Kazhymukan, Mariya Zhagorkyzy, Bazanova, Ilijyas Omarov, Nurmolda Aldarbergenova and has raised me to the level when you are recognized. It allowed me to travel all over the Republic and has introduced me to its economic, political and social life and has taught me to look deep into working farmer psychology. It has shown to me what is good and what is bad. It has taught me to tell the truth. All this has opened a poetic channel of my creative work. After all this I started to write my own poems one by one with great eagerness like a man who was thirsty for a long time and that has come to a transparent spring. Such works of the poet as “Father’s feelings”, “Young mother”, “On the great way”, “A girl from our village”, “Your river”, the first book “Kurmangazy”, translations of classic literature were written during the period of work in the editorial office of the newspaper “Socialist Kazakhstan”.

Since 1959 and till the end of his life he was busy with creative activity. His poems were first published in 1936. More than 40 books and collections of translations have been published since that time. The poet has also written in prose genre. His several stories, fiction essays and publicist articles were published in a separate book. He has written the following poems “Father’s feelings” (1947), “On the great way” (1949), “A girl from our village” (1959), “Kurmangazy” (1958), “The poem of melody” (1970), etc. Nearly all of his works are translated into Russian. His several books were published in Moscow.

As a translator he was able to inform the Kazakh reader the works of Pushkin and Lermontov, Shakespeare and Byron, Nauai and Mayakovskiy. He participated in the

translation into Kazakh Kyrgyz epos “Manas”, karakalpak epos “Forty girls”. He was awarded the title of the National Kazakhstan writer in 1986.

He is one of those who was holding a pen together with weapon during those hard days of war. Hamit Yergaliyev wrote his first works during the years of Great Patriotic war

Struggling in fire with cruel, ruthless and dangerous enemy our poets have created poems. These were new poems who did not exist in Kazakh literature before: they were new from the point of view of the theme, contents, rhythm and stress. Poems that have come from fighting holes became the news for Kazakh poetry. When we speak about new turns in the 40-s in our literature we mean them... Our researchers managed to recognize them precisely and write about it. Nowadays it is impossible to understand and dip in Kazakh poetry without Hamit and consider Hamit outside Kazakh poetry.

The themes of the poet’s poems are various. Having studied the contents of poems collections that were published in different years we can meet there love to the Motherland, native people, great human values, social-historic truth being outlives by those people and this land, love and youth, duty in front of the parents and civil duty, depicted with special artistic skill.

Many researchers, critics, poets and writers have devoted their works to H. Yergaliyev creative art. The poet Nurlan Orazalin said: “The further the mountains are, the higher their peaks become. The same happens to the creative work of every personality whose thinking and world outlook becomes wider with time and becomes more lively. Hamit Yergaliyev poetic world is a rich world of fruitful poems, many-sided and full of soulful feelings that become brighter with time” [2, 355]. T. Medetbekov evaluates him in the following way: “He is the poet of real truth who opens his soul and heart through the poems” [3, 365].

There are lines in his poems where you can see civil and poetic character and the essence of the poet. He impleaches his personal joy, grief, sorrow and happiness with joy, grief, sorrow and happiness of the whole humanity. Such lines can often be met in the poet’s poems. He managed to show his civil creed which is written with the capital letter.

If to speak about the peculiarities that H. Yergaliyev poems are characteristic of it is necessary to say that he evaluates the measures of life and time in his own special way. Flow of thought, feelings conflict, insult for transience of life in the poet’s poems attract special attention through the mood and thoughts of the lyric character, interweaving with masterful pictures, eloquent recollections.

H. Yergaliyev is one of the poets who has a special place in Kazakh poetry. Generally if to consider poetic peculiarity in the framework of the individual style Hamit is a writer who has formed his own personal style with his poetic and talented power. In H. Yergaliyev’s poems there is a view and breath of Kazakh steppe, the cell of our forefathers, the life of it is depicted with peculiar verbal patterns. The poet praises the picture of the steppe in a lively movement, in the framework of that steppe. One of the characteristics that H. Yergaliyev’s poems are peculiar of is to reflect about present day, sinking in the nation’s history.

T. Shapayev who conducted systemic analysis of Kazakh lyrics of the 1980-s speaking about the national character of Kazakh poetry has made the following conclusion: “If the steppe is a nation’s essence and the symbol of national spirit, then the village (aul) is its life, picture, full of contents and soul. Steppe is a village (aul). If to tell the truth then for our poetry this theme is the unique impartible notion. This steppe, this village have become the arsenal of poetic investigations” [4, 135]. This steppe and this village are praised in H. Yergaliyev’s poetry. But he did not just praised them, he praised them with great poetic talent and great skill. In poetic world of the poet we can see the integral picture of the national steppe. Steppe is depicted with in the unity with the nation in the poet’s poems.

Conclusion

In all the poet's poems we can see that he has participated in the war and experienced the grief of this historical period of his nation, lived out the strokes of fate. We would like also to point out that the leading direction of Hamit's lyrics is deep celebration by him civil subject. He is a poet realist, who is freely looking at the modern world.

H. Yergaliyev is able to submit every detail to the main objective in his poem. The form of his poems is in integral unity with the contents. The poet can choose the form, corresponding to the topic, chosen by him.

Every new book by Hamit is a new side of already familiar to us poetic pattern. Not only new poems, but the appearance, look, character and actions of the new characters show up with their own distinctness. We think that young generation of poets has a lot to derive from his poetic works. In this connection we consider it necessary to mention the opinion of a well-known poet G. Kaiyrbekov: "It is necessary to say that Hamit in his poetic activity is the trainer for the youth, their constant critic, adviser, giving instructions like an elder brother".

Poetry does not acknowledge ageing. Hamit Yergaliyev has given a lot to Kazakh poetry. In one word, if to take the whole work of the poet whatever them it is, it is a piece of art of high level from the point of view of artistic solution, variously covering the events of a definite period. The subject of poetic works of this outstanding poet, many-sided Hamit, turned out to be from the point of view of the author's thought deeply and truly studied and if possible completely executed and full of poetic beauty.

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