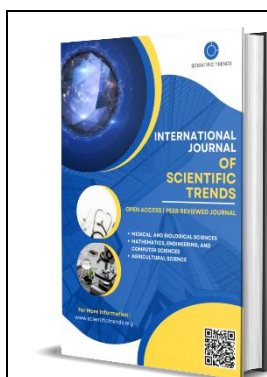


Rozii Galievna Mukminova and Her Contribution to The Development of Historical Science

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Abstract

This article reflects on the efforts of the great historian R. G. Mukminova on the path of science and her contribution to the development of historical science.

Keywords: Uzbekistan, craftsmen, academy, science, history, Samarkand, Waqf-noma.

Introduction

The famous historian and scientist Mukminova Rozii Galievna was born on December 31, 1922. In 1939, R.G. Mukminova graduated from high school with honors. Mukminova was admitted to the Faculty of History of the Central Asian State University. In this university, the young student got to know in detail the distant and recent periods of history, complex and fascinating stories for the first time. While studying at the university, she listened to meaningful lectures of many famous scientists like S.V. Bakhrushin, V.I. Belyaev, B.D. Grekov, M.V. Nechkina, I.P. Petrushevsky, E.M. Peshcherova, A. Yu. Yakubovsky and M.S. Andreev, Y.G. Ghulomov, A.A. Semenov, who was evacuated to Tashkent during the Second World War¹. R.G. Mukminova mastered all subjects during her student years. In 1944, Mukminova graduated from this faculty with an honors diploma, and with the recommendation of many qualified scientists who taught at the history faculty, she was also sent to graduate school. Thus, she became one of the graduate students of the newly established Institute of History of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan. In this period, a deeper and more detailed study of the history of ancient Central Asia was one of the most important and urgent issues of the science of history. This, in turn, required the training of mature specialists in the history of Central Asia. Based on this need, R.G. Mukminova was sent to Leningrad (St.

¹ Улфат Абдурасулов. МАРКАЗИЙ ОСИЁ ТАРИХИ ЗАМОНАВИЙ МЕДИЕВИСТИКА ТАЛҚИНИДА. Розия Галиевна Мукминова: штрихи к творческому портрету. Тошкент, 2013. Б. 21.

Petersburg), a major center of Oriental studies². Here she met the great scholar of the history of medieval society I.P. Petrushevsky. Under the leadership of Petrushevsky, she conducted scientific research and at the same time learnt the best practices of great Orientalists. Young researcher successfully defended her candidate's thesis on the topic "The Struggle between Timurids and Shaibanis for Movarounnahr" at the Institute of Oriental Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences (Leningrad). Official opponents A.Y. Yakubovsky and N.D. Miklukho-Maklay highly appreciated the scientist's research, in particular, they noted that in addition to Persian-Tajik language sources, old Uzbek language sources were also useful in the scientific work. These sources have previously been under-researched. A. Yu. Yakubovsky wrote: "Until now, this topic has not been covered so widely and comprehensively by anyone."

The high praise given to her work by these great scientists of their time and the major scholar of the history of Central Asia Y.G. Ghulamov's advice encouraged the scientist to comprehensively study the written sources of the Middle Ages. In this process, comparable to "digging a well with a needle", the scientist was able to collect concrete materials related to the life and activity of craftsmen, who were a large layer of the medieval society, and based on their critical study, she wrote her doctoral dissertation on the topic "Craftsmanship of Samarkand and Bukhara in the 16th century". This work was done by the scientist in 1972. It was successfully defended in the Joint Scientific Council of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan. During the following years, the scientist spent all her knowledge and energy on researching the unexplored pages of the history of Uzbekistan. A scientist who started her scientific career as a junior researcher at the Institute of History of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan, later worked as a senior researcher, head of the department, and head of the research group. In these years, R.G. Mukminova focused her attention on many problematic and urgent issues of the history of Uzbekistan. Professor Roziia Galieвна Mukminova, a great connoisseur of the history of the Middle Ages, conducted scientific research in various directions.

The scientist, who started working in the department that carried out research work under the leadership of famous historian, academic Y.G. Ghulomov, focused on researching the issues of political, social, partly ethnic history of the history of Uzbekistan, which were not well covered. Some historical terms such as tiyul, suyurgol, tagjoy, tamga, boj, rokhdari, forms of tenancy, social categories of the population (chukhra, etc.) were clarified by Mukminova³. The history of agrarian relations was one of the issues that has found its scientific description by the scientist. In 1966, the scholar's monograph "On the history of agrarian relations of Uzbekistan in XVI century, based on the materials of the "Waqf-noma"" was published. In it, the researcher was able to prove, based on documentary evidence, the characteristic features of the waqf institution, the gradual growth of the waqf economy, especially during the Shaibani and Ashtarkhani eras. Also studying showed cases of illegal acquisition of waqf lands by high-ranking persons during the period. In the work, on the example of Mrs. Mehr Sultan, the issues of waqf management and the role of women in their establishment were specifically addressed. In particular, Mrs. Mehr Sultan, who donated land and other material wealth to the foundation, participated in the process of establishing the foundation and took over the management of this farm, sent ambassadors to the Indian palace of

² Tangirova N. (2024) Attitude towards women in the Uzbekistan SSR and first female historians. World Bulletin of Social Sciences, Vol.35, 10-12.

³ ЎЗБЕКИСТОННИНГ МАЪРИФАТПАРВАР АЁЛЛАРИ. Toshkent, 2021. Б. 156.

Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur, and other similar examples that were rare in manuscript sources. It is shown that women of different classes actively participated not only in the economic but also in the political life of the society.

The history of the cities of Uzbekistan is one of the problems that played a major role in Mukminova's scientific activity. She made a significant contribution to the study of the history of Samarkand, Bukhara, Tashkent, which were a trade-economic and cultural centers based on the study of written sources, as well as archaeological and ethnographic materials, museum exhibits. The researcher was one of the main authors of such works as "History of Samarkand" (1969), "History of Bukhara" (1976), "History of Tashkent" (1988), which were warmly welcomed by the scientific community. In these works, the main issues such as the role of medieval Uzbek cities, their economy and socio-political life were highlighted in the parts written by the scholar. Also, in 1984, the scientist's work "Tashkent four centuries ago" was published. In the following years, the special problems of the scientist of the medieval cities of Uzbekistan were crafts and trade, markets and their role in not only economic, but also cultural life, types of markets and their characteristics, trade facilities and their variety, construction of new trade and craft facilities, a number of articles were published aimed at highlighting the issues of small producers and the realization of their products, local and transit trade. It was created in the cities of Central Asia during the Middle Ages many products were popular outside of it. In particular, there was a great demand for the products created by Samarkand and Bukhara artisans. In this regard, R.G. Mukminova conducted extensive research. In 1976, the historian-scientist's book "Scenes from the history of crafts of 16th century Samarkand and Bukhara" scientific work was brought to public attention⁴. In the book Samarkand and The economic life of Bukhara in the middle ages, and crafts in it role, main types, social- economic condition, types of products, raw materials used for them objects and a number of other issues have found their scientific interpretation. This work was highly appreciated by the scientific community, including famous orientalist scientist K.Z. Ashrafyan. She described this book as an important contribution to the science of history, citing the following points "This book not only enriches our imagination about the medieval city, but also shows the ways of future concrete research on the economic and social history of Eastern countries"⁵. In 1985, as a result of her continuing research into history of medieval cities "Differentiation of the population of the cities of Uzbekistan in the 15th-16th centuries" was out of print. In the work she distinguished different categories of residents of the cities of Uzbekistan-rulers, craftsmen, merchants, urban poor and other layers, revealed their characteristic features on the basis of factual materials. She showed not only the main characteristics and categories of city dwellers, but also the internal social stratification characteristic of each of them.

The work showed the general and some specific situations in the social stratification of the city dwellers based on materials related to different cities of Uzbekistan. In the work, special attention was paid to highlighting the useful activities of artisans and merchants in the economic life of society. Japanese scholar Hisao Komatsu considered this book to be the first of the works that fully revealed the historical situation of the inhabitants of Central Asian cities. Also, the Japanese researcher, whose name was mentioned above, praised the work "Scenes from the history of crafts

⁴ Russell Zanca. (2007). Roziiia Galieva Mukminova, 1922-2007. Central Eurasian Studies Review, Vol. 6. P. 66.

⁵ Ашрафян К.З. Рецензия на кн.: Мукминова Р.Г. "Очерки по истории ремесла в Самарканде и Бухаре". Ташкент, Фан, 1976 // ОНУ, 1987, № 1, с. 62.

of 16th century Samarkand and Bukhara " and called it the most famous book in this field⁶. As a scientist with a wide range of scientific interests, R.G. Mukminova created research on a number of other problems of medieval society. Among these were many articles on relations between urban and rural people, relations of settled peoples of Central Asia with Dashti Kipchak, China, India, Old Bulgar, Volga, Russia, Turkey, Iran and priests and their place in medieval society. She was also one of the authors of many volumes of "History of Uzbekistan". Mukminova's research materials were used by the main authors of "History of the Peoples of Uzbekistan" (1 volume, 1 book) published in 1955.

In 1967, among the authors of the first volume of the published four-volume "History of the Uzbek SSR" R.G. Mukminova was also there. The demands of the time, the innovations achieved in historical science, put on the agenda the rewriting of the detailed history of the peoples of Uzbekistan. In 1987, R.G. Mukminova actively participated in the work strengthened in this regard. He became one of the main authors and editor-in-chief of the magazine "History of Uzbekistan" (Volume III), published in 1993. After Uzbekistan gained independence, fundamental changes took place in the science of history. The scientist took an active part in this process, contributed to the restoration of real history, publication, and the study of unknown pages of our history⁷. During this period, R.G. Mukminova participated in the creation of fundamental research: "History of the Era of Timur and Ulugbek" (1996), "Amir Timur" (2000), "Amir Timur in World History" (1996 in Russian and English), "Essays on the History of Statehood of Uzbekistan" (2002), "History of Civilizations of Central Asia" (UNESCO publication, volume IV, 1998, volume V, 2002). In 2002, together with M.I. Filanovich, she published the brochure "Tashkent at the Crossroads of History (Essays on the Ancient and Medieval History of the City)".

R.G. Mukminova participated in many scientific conferences. In them, the historian gave scientific lectures on the genesis of medieval society, commodity-money relations, the emergence of elements of capitalism in economic life, the description of unknown and little-known sources, the meaning of various terms. In addition, she participated in conferences and symposia on the history of agriculture (Ashgabat, Batumi, Bishkek, Baku, Dushanbe, Kutaisi, St. Petersburg, Makhachkala, Minsk, Moscow, Alma-Ata). he is also a participant of the conference of Turkology (Ashkhabad, Bishkek, Kozon). With her important scientific research, R.G. Mukminova gained the attention of the scientific community outside the republic, and her scientific works are known to foreign scientists. They often referred to the scientific works of scientists in their works. She was also a participant of international conferences held in Canada (Toronto, 1989), Germany (Bamberg, 1991), France (Strasbourg, 1987), Turkey (Ankara, 1997), USA (Los Angeles-California, 1998; Madison-Wisconsin, 1998), Austria (Vienna, 2000), Iran (Tehran, 2001).

She promoted achievements in the study of medieval history and the rich history of the Uzbek people in her speeches at these conferences and in lectures to teachers and students at the Paris Institute of Foreign Languages, the University of Wisconsin in the USA, and Tokyo and Kyoto Universities in Japan. She worked in cooperation with higher schools of the Republic. For several years, she taught the history of medieval Uzbekistan at the Institute of Oriental Studies, the Faculty of History of the National University of Uzbekistan, and the Teacher Training Institute of the same university. She gave a lecture to the graduate students of the Faculty of History of the National

⁶ Komazu H. Central Asia// Historical survey of Islamik urban studies. Printed in Japan. 1991, p. 292.

⁷ ЎЗБЕКИСТОН ЎРТА АСРЛАРДА: ТАРИХ ВА МАДНИЯТ. ТОШКЕНТ, 2003. Б. 13.

University of Uzbekistan, Tashkent State Pedagogical University. For several years, Muqminova was a member of the specialized councils for the defense of doctoral dissertations at the Institute of History of the ASRU and the Institute of Oriental Studies, and actively participated in their activities. In addition, the scientist was a member of the Republican Coordination Council of Historical Research and the editorial board of the journal "History of Uzbekistan". Historian R.G. Mukminova created her own scientific school. Many students studied under his leadership. A number of doctoral students, postgraduate students and research associates conducted scientific research under the supervision of the scientist. Among them were foreign interns. He used the knowledge and skills accumulated over the years to develop historical science, shared his experience and skills with young scientists, and was a mentor to a new generation of historians.

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