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## **Problems of studying historical personalities and socio-political activities of Khairetdin Bolganbaev**

At the present stage, historians are actively discussing the problems of relationships and mutual influences of history and biography. In our opinion, this is explained by noticeable changes in historical science, which have caused significant reorientations of research interests, the discovery of new subjects and topics of biographical research, as well as new directions and methods. Taking these factors into account, this article attempts to consider some of the most frequently discussed theoretical and methodological problems, including the modern ideas of historians about biography, its goals and objectives, the role and significance of biographical research for historical science. If you look closely at the history of the twentieth century, the Kazakh intelligentsia has given birth to many outstanding, bright personalities, and one of them is Khairetdin Bolganbaev. In this regard, in the article, based on the biographical method, the authors identified the place and role of Kh. Bolganbaev in the reconstruction and development of Kazakh society at the beginning of the 20th century.

*Keywords:* historical personalistics, historical biography, Khairetdin Bolganbaev, history of Kazakhstan, intelligentsia, historical figure, national education.

### *Introduction*

At present, the issues related to the activities of personality in history and its role, affect one of the priority topics in the development of domestic historical science. Specifically, at the present stage of development of historical science, historians show great interest in the study of the role of personality in history, especially the life and creativity of historical figures, the problems of the relationship and influence of history and personality. This interest is now closely balanced with the advent of significant changes in historical science (reorientation of research interests), the discovery of new subjects and topics of research in biographical terms, as well as new directions and methods.

Certainly, the ideas, works and names of historical personalities that were relevant in their time have not lost their importance as a factor that enriches public consciousness at the current stage. This is due to the fact that it has a significant impact on the processes of formation of ethnic and national identity and contributes to the increase of patriotism and positive self-esteem of the population.

It is known that with the acquisition of independence by Kazakhstan, domestic historical science departed from the political principles of party ideology entrenched in the Soviet system. Such changes have created opportunities to reconsider the role and activities of individuals in the country's history.

The ideas, creations, and names of great individuals, relevant in their time, do not lose their significance in subsequent eras but rather serve as a factor enriching the collective consciousness in the modern period. They significantly influence the processes of forming ethnic and national identity, stirring patriotism, feelings of pride in one's country, contributing to the nation's adequate self-assessment. They serve as an inspiring example in individuals' self-assessment of their role in the country's everyday life and particularly during pivotal moments in its history. Therefore, for Kazakhstan, entering a new epoch of its historical development, it is extremely important to know and remember the great deeds of its outstanding historical figures, as well as contemporary individuals who contribute and have contributed a unique contribution to the prosperity of the country and global civilization.

As known, the history of Kazakhstan in the early 20th century was marked by complex social and socio-political contradictions. Domestic historical science still requires a comprehensive study of the life and activities, socio-political views, the role of state and public figures condemned by the Stalinist system as "nationalist" and "enemies of the people". Life and social-political activity of the representative of Kazakh intelligentsia of the beginning of the 20th century Khayretidin Bolganbayev is one of those who in the history

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of Kazakhstan has been considered superficially or historically has not been evaluated. His social and political activity for many years was evaluated only from the party point of view and was considered as a “prominent party figure”, “revolutionary”. Hence, the life and activities of Khayretdin Bolganbayev require new study and research, as they are intertwined with more complex historical processes and political events.

#### *Research methods*

The methodological basis of the article is formed by general scientific principles of cognition, including the principles of historicism and objectivity, which allow us to study the development of historical phenomena. When studying the topic the methods of chronological and historical comparison, as well as biography were used. The chronological method allowed to study the life, activity and occupied positions of Kh. Bolganbayev, and the method of historical comparison allowed to compare general features and peculiarities of historical phenomena in the territory of Kazakhstan during the period of existence of Kh. Bolganbayev. Biographical method allowed to study the life history of Kh. Bolganbayev, that is his life from birth to innocent slanderous execution. The retrospective method was of great importance in the study of the subject. This method is used to define the ratio of subjective factor and objective factor in historical development, which allows to show the regularities of development and cause-and-effect relationships of historical events.

#### *Results and discussion*

In recent times, the problem of the role of personality in history has become one of the priority topics in the development of historical science. In the historiography of historical biography it is also labelled as “personalism” [1; 17]: here “The scientist does not aim to illustrate history with hagiographies, but identifies types of people of the past, in whom he sees a real person and his historical role in society. He attaches great importance... to the moral and ethical image of an individual... E.V. Tarle sees his guidance in the study of a historical figure in the fact that one should try to take a completely objective approach to the personality and be interested not only and not so much in the motivations of actions, but in their historical significance from the point of view of how an outstanding figure fulfils his historical mission” [2].

The formula personal history is quite widespread in the literature. In recent English-language publications, four variants of this concept are distinguished to denote: 1) “personified history” (“history of a person”) — a more or less traditional biography of a historical person on a “large scale”, sometimes using the intuitive method of biographical reconstruction and psychoanalytical theories; 2) “personal history” as the study of an individual's life through the prism of his or her private relations — “private biography” as opposed to “public biography”; 3) personal history as “internal biography” (the development of a person's inner world) as opposed to “external” or “career” history; 4) handwritten personal histories — “intellectual autobiographies of historians”, or “autobiohistoriographical works”. In research practice, these so-called “pure types” have a diverse combination [3; 59].

The history knows many cases of fighting against the names of great people after their death — burning of their books and books about them, demolition of masterpieces of architecture created by them, official denial of scientific ideas with prohibition of their use, etc. For these and other reasons, the study of the greatness of outstanding personalities becomes an actual scientific problem, the development of which should not be limited to replication of well-known names of great people. It should be aimed at the revival of forgotten and discovery of new names. A particular role in this belongs to such a scientific direction of history as personalistics, the object of study of which are great people from the history and modernity of Kazakhstan. In this regard, there is a problem of attributing the figure of this or that historical or contemporary figure to the high status of the owner of a great name. In short, it is a question of defining, on a scientific-conventional level, the criteria for determining the significance of great people. Of course, in the initial approach, these criteria may be excessively general and, as a result, vague. These drawbacks can be eliminated in the course of subsequent research within the framework of the scientific direction — personalistics.

In this regard, approval should be given to the first attempt to justify such criteria. In February 2019, the Institute of History and Ethnology named after Ch.Ch. Valikhanov Institute of History and Ethnology named after Ch.Ch. Valikhanov developed and published the draft concept of educational Park — encyclopaedia “Great Names of the Great Steppe” [2]. It includes a special section: “Criteria for determining the great names of the Great Steppe for inclusion in the sculptural composition:

– compliance of the state, military, political, and cultural activities of the great personality with the national interests of the Kazakh people;

- the extent of the individual's involvement in determining the fate of the Kazakh people;
- selflessness in serving the nation;
- the contribution of the individual to the formation of the Kazakh national idea; – the presence of patriotic qualities;
- the degree of fame of the great personality in the history and culture of the Kazakh people”.

Presented in the most general form, upon first acquaintance, these criteria could serve as the basis for a more detailed interpretation, necessary for both scientific research and practical work in this direction [4].

On the basis of the aforementioned criteria, the study of the activities of the prominent publicist, social activist, and writer, one of the prominent figures of the national liberation movement “Alash” Kh. Bolganbayev, presents great interest.

Khayretdin Bolganbayev was born in 1893 in the Nura district of the Akmolinsky region. He was a teacher at a Soviet-party school, a poet, and a publicist who wrote about the life of the Kazakh people, their structure, and the consequences and sacrifices of colonial policies. He published his political poems and journalistic works under a pseudonym in newspapers and magazines such as “Qazaq”, “Saryarqa”, and “Aykap”.

According to materials from the State Archive of the South Kazakhstan Region, Khayretdin Bolganbayev's work history appears as follows: from 1918 to 1919, he worked as a teacher at pedagogical courses in the city of Tashkent, from 1919 to 1922, there is no information available about his place of work, from 1922 to 1924 he worked as deputy head of the department of public education, from 1924 to 1929 he worked as a teacher at a pedagogical technical school, later as deputy head of a Soviet party school, from 1930 to 1934, he was in exile under the resolution of the authorized representatives of the USPA (Unified State Political Administration), from 1934 to 1937 he worked as a teacher at the Kaplanbek Zooveterinary College [5]. Based on the archival documents provided above, we can see that Kh. Bolganbayev worked in the field of education.

In the early 20th century, Khayretdin Bolganbayev played an important role in the socio-political life of our country. In particular, Kh. Bolganbayev is an active member of the Alash movement, which continued the traditions of Kazakh statehood. We talk about this in the newspaper “Qazaq” (1913–1918), the newspapers “Birlik Tuy”, “Saryarka” (1917–1919). And also, in the articles of A. Bokeykhan, A. Baytursynov, M. Dulatovich, M. Shokay, in memoirs, and notes, the work and merits of Kh. Bolganbayev are emphasized. Moreover, there are grounds to consider Kh. Bolganbayev as a figure of international significance. As evidence of this, we can note his involvement in matters concerning the Turkestan Autonomy declared in Kokand for specific reasons, and his special role — active participation in the struggle of the peoples of Central Asia against Bolshevism [6; 171-172].

In addition, the role of Kh. Bolganbayev in the development of national journalism and press is emphasised. He was a regular author of the newspaper “Qazaq”, editor of the Turkestan national newspaper “Birlik Tuynyn” and constantly participated in the publication of this edition.

At the same time, Kh. Bolganbayev's contribution to the cause of national education is unique. He taught schoolchildren in Kyzylzhar, Akmolinsk, Tashkent, organized the educational sphere, and developed educational work headed by A. Baitursynov. Alash intelligentsia, who came on the stage of history in the early 20th century, knew that the way to bring the Kazakh people out of social crisis was science and enlightenment. In particular, after the defeat of the Alashorda government by the Bolsheviks, the Kazakhs began training at a new pace. In the 20s, the Kazakh press worked for this purpose. Newspapers and magazines published sharp, bitter articles by the Kazakh intelligentsia, which tried to awaken the minds of the people. As is known, for instance, a unique person from the Alash intelligentsia led by the spiritual leader of the Kazakh people Alikhan Bokeykhan — Khayretdin Bolganbayev published in the newspapers “Qazaq”, “Birlik Tuy”, “Saryarqa”, “Ushqyn”, “Aq Zhol”, “Enbekshi Qazaq” reflections on the art of reading, teaching science, textbooks.

In general, at the beginning of the 20th century, the Alash intelligentsia was not very concerned about their nation or the future of their country. Because in the hardships of life of the Kazakh people, gripped by the horror of the colonial reversal, there were three problems in the early twentieth century that made men peasants, noble sons who cared for their people, think. Without a final solution to these three issues, it is clear that the Kazakh people will not get rid of the poison of darkness and ignorance. These were, firstly, land issues; secondly, educational and enlightenment activities; and thirdly, governance of the country. Taking pen in hand and starting to write in the newspaper, Khayretdin also publicly expressed his thoughts on these three issues [7; 51]. Moreover, he advised experts who, under Soviet rule, made a significant

contribution to the determination of Kazakhstan's territory, directly dealing with this issue. Researcher D. Kamzabekovich considers Khayretdin's merit in receiving Akmola region from the Siberian Committee of the Revolution (Omsk) and joining Kazakhstan, defining Korgalzhyn district and educating and opening the eyes of children of this area.

After the fall of the Turkestan Autonomy, Kh. Bolganbayev, as a result of sharp criticism of the Bolsheviks' actions and political activity in 1928, was arrested as a member of a "counter-revolutionary organization" and exiled to Arkhangelsk and Syktyvkar. 1937 Having returned to his homeland, he came to Keles district, Saryagash village, South Kazakhstan region, where he worked as a teacher at the Kaplanbek Zooveterinary Technical College. In the spring of 1937 he was arrested and sentenced to execution in Tashkent [8].

In 2020, Kh. Bolganbayev's grandson D.T. Kamelov published his monograph entitled Khayretdin Bolganbayev — "the light of an unquenchable star" [9] and an article in the "Kazakhstanskaya Pravda" newspaper entitled "Your name and deeds are not forgotten" [10]. This monograph and article are valuable because they are written on the basis of archival documents and primary sources of the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs of the USSR. Judging by the archival documents presented in these publications, the transcript of the interrogation of the accused from 12 January 1929 states "I was dissatisfied with the Soviet power, because I did not believe in the construction of socialism, I did not believe in the durability of this power and looked at it as a transient temporary phenomenon, I did not imagine communism on the territory of Russia". And the investigation protocol states: "question": according to our information, in repeated conversations, you characterized the situation of Kazakhstan in the conditions of Soviet reality, argued that the path of socialist development of Kazakhstan is allegedly disastrous and leads to the extinction of the Kazakh people and that in Kazakhstan, as in backward outskirts, it is impossible to build socialism. You have spoken out against the measures of the Soviet authorities and the All-Union Communist Party (Bolsheviks) regarding the industrialization of the country. You argued that state loans are allegedly an unaffordable tax, and the tax policy of the Soviet authorities is aimed at excessive taxation of Kazakh households. As a result, you began to convince the population of the impossibility of building socialism in the USSR, and people fell under your influence. Do you admit it? Answer: "I do not admit it" [10].

In 1957, according to the decision of the Presidium of the Almaty Regional Court and based on the conclusion of the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Kazakhstan in 1997, Kh. Bolganbayev was rehabilitated.

Kh. Bolganbayev became an innocent victim of violence, violation of the law, which occurred in the thirties of the 20th century, was subjected to innocent punishment, and then became one of the greatest figures of the Kazakh intelligentsia. Therefore, assessment of activity and merits of Kh. Bolganbayev is crucial for spiritual and political education of the future younger generation. We hope that in the future, the study and exploration of the works performed by distinguished individuals for their people will continue.

### *Conclusion*

Contemporary biographical research is based on the transition from instrumental use of methods to the study of biography as a social component. Directions of development such as searching for the meaning and significance of biography, analyzing its functions and structure, constitute the spectrum of the modern biographical research method. This method in the contemporary world is based on analyzing the individual's personality in the context of history and the prospects for the development of their individual existence. The following conclusions can be drawn about Kh. Bolganbayev:

Firstly, Kh. Bolganbayev — an active member of the Alash movement, who continued the traditions of Kazakh statehood. About it we tell in the newspaper "Qazaq" (1913–1918), "Birliktuy", "Saryarqa" from newspapers (1917–1919). And also in the articles, memoirs, works are noted the merits and advantages of A. Bokeykhan, A. Baitursynov, M. Dulatuly, M. Shokay, Kh. Bolganbayev.

Secondly, Kh. Bolganbayev — actor of international level. He participated in the affairs concerning Turkestan autonomy, declared in Kokand for good reason. Such an unusual case is manifested in the active participation in the struggle of the peoples of Central Asia opposing Bolshevism. Bashkir intelligentsia, emigrant Zahi Walidi and Mustafa Shokay wrote about it in their memoirs. The first Turkestan autonomy was common to the Turkic people.

Thirdly, Kh. Bolganbayev was one of the founders of national journalism and the press. He was a regular contributor to the newspaper "Qazaq". Khayretdin also served as the editor of the Turkestan national

newspaper “flag of unity” for some time and continuously published this publication. These same newspapers attest to Khayretdin Bolganbayev's work.

Fourth, Kh. Bolganbayev was a citizen who made an invaluable contribution to the National Enlightenment. He taught pupils in Kyzylzhar, Akmolinsk, Tashkent, organised the teaching and educational sphere, developed enlightenment under the guidance of A. Baitursynov. Contemporaries discussed about it on the pages of newspapers and magazines.

Fifth, Kh. Bolganbayev is a supporter of his homeland. He made a great contribution to the determination of the territory of Kazakhstan under Soviet rule, and advised specialists directly involved in this issue.

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## Тарихи тұлғаны зерттеу мәселесі және Хайретдин Болғанбаевтың қоғамдық-саяси қызметі

Қазіргі кезеңде тарихшылар тарих пен биографияның өзара қатынасы мен өзара байланысы мәселелерін белсенді түрде талқылауда. Мұның себебі қазіргі тарих ғылымындағы зерттеу қызығушылықтарының қайта бағытталуымен және жаңа субъектілердің, биографиялық зерттеулерге қатысты тақырыптардың, сонымен қоса жаңа бағыттар мен әдістердің пайда болуына байланысты болып отыр. Мақалада қазіргі уақытта көптеп талқыланып жүрген теориялық-әдіснамалық мәселелер, соның ішінде тарихшылардың биографияға және оның мақсаты мен міндеттеріне қатысты заманауи көзқарастары, биографиялық зерттеулердің рөлі мен маңызын қарастыруға талпыныс жасалған. Егер ХХ ғасыр тарихына мұқият қарасақ, онда қазақ зиялылары көптеген көрнекті жарқын тұлғаларды дүниеге әкелді. Осындай көрнекті тұлғаның бірі Хайретдин Болғанбаев. Авторлар мақалада өмірбаяндық әдіс негізінде Х. Болғанбаевтың ХХ ғасырдың басындағы қазақ қоғамын қайта құру мен дамытудағы орны мен рөлін қарастырған және қоғамдық-саяси қызметіне баға берген.

*Кілт сөздер:* тарихи тұлғатану, тарихи биография, Хайретдин Болғанбаев, Қазақстан тарихы, зиялы қауым, тарихи тұлға, ұлттық ағарту.

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## Проблемы изучения исторической персоналии и общественно-политическая деятельность Хайретдина Болганбаева

На современном этапе историки активно обсуждают проблемы взаимоотношений и взаимовлияний истории и биографии. На наш взгляд, это объясняется заметными изменениями в исторической науке, вызвавшими существенные переориентации исследовательских интересов, открытием новых субъектов и тем биографических исследований, а также новых направлений и методов. Учитывая данные факторы, в статье предпринята попытка рассмотрения некоторых чаще всего обсуждаемых теоретико-методологических проблем, в том числе и современных представлений историков о биографии, ее целях и задачах, роли и значении биографических исследований для исторической науки. Если внимательно приглядеться к истории XX столетия, то казахская интеллигенция породила немало выдающихся ярких личностей, и одним из них является Хайретдин Болганбаев. В связи с этим авторами статьи на основе биографического метода выявлены место и роль Х. Болганбаева в переустройстве и развитии казахского общества начала XX века.

*Ключевые слова:* историческая персоналистика, историческая биография, Хайретдин Болганбаев, история Казахстана, интеллигенция, историческая личность, национальное просвещение.

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