ABSTRACT

to the dissertation of Oralbek Almas for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the educational program «8D02304 – Literary Studies» on the topic «Abdigali Sariev's litearary heritage, creation, poetic sphere, textual »

General description of the study. This dissertation is devoted to a comprehensive examination of the literary heritage of Abdygali Sariyev, a folk poet of the Zhetysu region, based on manuscript materials preserved in archival collections as well as various versions of his works published at different periods. The study offers an analysis of the genre system of the poet's works, their artistic and poetic features, their place within the tradition of aitys art, and the processes of textual formation, variant development, and textual divergence.

The creative heritage of Abdygali Sariyev is regarded as a distinctive artistic manifestation of a transitional stage in the development of Kazakh literature. His literary heritage is examined within the context of the convergence of traditional folk poetry and the written literary tradition. On the one hand, his poems, dastans, and aitys compositions represent a natural continuation of the folk poetic tradition; on the other hand, they reveal artistic innovation, authorial reworking, and textual features characteristic of written literature. From this perspective, the legacy of A. Sariyev should be viewed not only as a body of literary works but also as a complex literary phenomenon requiring dedicated textual and philological analysis.

To date, information on the creative legacy of Abdygali Sariyev has been presented primarily in individual articles and reference publications. Among the most notable contributions are K. Seidekhanov's research article "The Two Dastans of Abdygali Sariyev" published in the collective monograph Folk Poetry and Contemporary Life; the article "Recognized Through His Distinctive Path in Life" by the poet's daughter, Sh. Sariyeva, published in the newspaper Qazaq Adebieti; as well as brief biographical and literary entries included in the reference publications The Kazakh Soviet Encyclopedia and Aqyn-Zhyraular (Poets and Zhyraus).

However, these works do not provide a comprehensive account of the poet's life and literary legacy. The genre system of his works, the artistic nature of his aitys compositions, and the differences between manuscript and published versions have not yet been subjected to comprehensive scholarly investigation as independent objects of research.

Abdygali Sariyev was a poet who skillfully combined the traditions of oral improvisational poetry with the craft of written poetry. His artistic identity reflects a close interweaving of oral and written literary traditions. He performed his poems accompanied by the dombra and participated in aitys contests across the country, while simultaneously composing, recording, and publishing his works in

written form. This characteristic is consistent with M. Karataev's views on the convergence of folk poetry and written literature during the Soviet period. As the scholar noted, the "type of poet who both improvises orally and creates in writing" provides an important scholarly basis for understanding the creative personality of A. Sariyev (Karataev, M. Folk Poetry at a New Stage // Poets' Songs: Contemporary Folk Poetry. Almaty: Publishing House of the Academy of Sciences of the Kazakh SSR, 1963, pp. 149–153).

Relevance of the study. A profound understanding of a poet's creative individuality requires consideration of the historical period in which he lived and worked, the social and cultural environment that shaped his development, the literary milieu that influenced his intellectual and artistic formation, and the history of the transmission and preservation of his texts. From this perspective, a specialized study of the literary heritage of Abdygali Sariyev constitutes an important task of contemporary Kazakh literary scholarship.

Sariyev's literary activity developed during the Soviet period and evolved in close connection with the social, cultural, and literary processes of that era. His poetry reflects a wide range of themes, including the life of the people, the image of the working individual, national consciousness, devotion to the homeland, historical memory, and the realities of the era. At the same time, his works clearly exhibit artistic devices characteristic of the Zhetysu poetic tradition, rhetorical mastery, improvisational artistry, and a distinctly folk worldview. These features make it possible to assess A. Sariyev's poetry as a significant phenomenon within the broader development of Kazakh national literature.

The Zhetysu poetic school occupies a distinctive place in the history of Kazakh literature. The poets of this region not only preserved the traditions of folk poetry but also developed them in accordance with changing historical conditions. A. Sariyev likewise emerged from this literary milieu and, in his own distinctive manner, continued the artistic tradition established by such prominent poets as Zhambyl, Suyinbay, Umbetali, and Kenen. Therefore, the study of the poet's literary heritage within the context of the Zhetysu literary tradition provides a deeper understanding of his creative personality and artistic development.

Another important factor contributing to the relevance of this research is the textological nature of the poet's works. A portion of A. Sariyev's literary legacy has been preserved in manuscript collections, while another portion was published over different periods in periodicals and individual collections. These versions exhibit textual variations, including omissions, additions, lexical substitutions, and structural modifications. Consequently, an assessment of the poet's works based solely on the published versions cannot be considered sufficient. Only through a comparative analysis of manuscript and published texts is it possible to establish a reliable scholarly understanding of his literary heritage.

In this regard, the relevance of the present dissertation lies in the re-evaluation of Abdygali Sariyev's literary legacy in accordance with contemporary scholarly approaches, the systematization of his works, the identification of their

artistic characteristics, and the examination of the processes through which his texts were formed and transmitted. This constitutes the main relevance of the study.

The purpose of this study is to conduct a comprehensive examination of the literary heritage of Abdygali Sariyev, to provide a scholarly assessment of its genre-related, artistic-poetic, and textological characteristics, and to determine the poet's place in the history of Kazakh literature.

To achieve this aim, the following objectives were established:

– to collect and systematize scholarly works and source materials related to the life and literary heritage of Abdygali Sariyev;

– to examine the poet's life, literary milieu, and the formation of his creative personality;

– to identify the thematic and genre characteristics of the poet's works;

– to analyze the artistic and poetic features of his poems and dastans;

– to examine the thematic, artistic, and traditional characteristics of A. Sariyev's aitys compositions;

– to investigate the poet's works in relation to the Zhetysu poetic school and the literary heritage of his contemporary poets;

– to identify textual variations through a comparative analysis of manuscript and published versions of his works;

– to provide a scholarly assessment of the worldview, ideological orientations, and artistic aspirations reflected in the poet's literary heritage.

The object of the study comprises the versions of Abdygali Sariyev's works preserved in the holdings of the Central Scientific Library of the RSE Gylym Ordasy under the Science Committee of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the manuscript collections of the M. O. Auezov Institute of Literature and Art, the poet's personal family archive, as well as texts published in various printed editions over different periods.

The subject of the study is the literary heritage of Abdygali Sariyev, including its genre system, artistic and poetic characteristics, the nature of his aitys compositions, as well as the textological structure and variant forms of his works.

Research methods. Historical-comparative, textological, and systematic methods of analysis were employed in this study. In addition, the thematic and artistic features of the poet's works were examined using methods of generalization, comparison, description, and analytical interpretation. Through a comparative analysis of manuscript and published texts, the nature of textual variations and their impact on the content and artistic structure of the works were identified.

Theoretical and methodological foundations of the study. The theoretical foundation of the dissertation is based on fundamental studies addressing the problems of folk poetry, poetic tradition, the art of aitys, artistic systems, folklore studies, and textology within Kazakh literary scholarship. In this regard, the works

of M. Auezov, S. Mukanov, M. Gabdullin, K. Zhumaliyev, E. Ismailov, B. Kenzhebayev, Z. Kabdolov, Z. Akhmetov, S. Kaskabasov, S. Sadyrbayev, Z. Seitzhanov, A. Buldybay, S. Medeubekov, T. Albekov, S. Kosanov, and other researchers were used as the methodological framework. The conclusions of these scholars provide a foundation for evaluating the poet's literary heritage from historical-literary, artistic, and textological perspectives.

Scientific novelty of the study. In this dissertation, the literary heritage of Abdygali Sariyev is, for the first time, the subject of a comprehensive and systematic scholarly investigation. The genre system, artistic and poetic features, and textological characteristics of the poet's works have been scientifically systematized. Furthermore, A. Sariyev's place within the Zhetysu school of poetry, his distinctive synthesis of folk poetic and written literary traditions, and his individual style in the art of aitys have been clarified through detailed analysis.

The novelty of the study is also manifested in the comparative analysis of manuscript and published versions of the poet's works. This analysis has revealed lexical, structural, and content-related differences between the texts and assessed their impact on the artistic nature of the works. As a result, A. Sariyev's literary heritage is elevated from the level of fragmentary reference information and established as an independent object of scholarly research.

Theoretical and practical significance of the study. The results of the study may serve as a theoretical basis for research on the history of Kazakh literature, the creativity of folk poets, the Zhetysu school of poetry, and textological issues. In addition, the findings of the study may be applied in higher education in teaching the history of Kazakh literature, folk poetry, the art of aitys, folklore studies, and textology, including special courses and seminars. The data and analyses presented in the dissertation may also serve as a basis for further and more comprehensive research into the literary heritage of A. Sariev.

Main conclusions proposed for defense:

– Abdygali Sariev is an outstanding poet who occupies a unique position in Kazakh literature, simultaneously adhering to the traditions of both folk poetry and written literature;

– the poet's work was formed in close connection with the artistic tradition of the Zhetysu school of poetry;

– A. Sariev's poetry artistically reflects the folk worldview, historical memory, the image of the working individual, and the realities of his era;

– the poet's aitys are characterized by individuality in terms of content, poetics, and performance features;

– significant textual differences exist between the manuscript and printed versions of A. Sariev's works; therefore, his legacy requires specialized textological study;

– a comprehensive examination of the poet's literary heritage allows for a deeper understanding of the development of Kazakh folk poetry in the 20th century.

Thesis structure. The dissertation consists of an introduction, three main chapters, a conclusion, and a list of references. The introduction outlines the relevance of the research topic, its aims and objectives, the object and subject of the study, research methods, scientific novelty, theoretical and practical significance, as well as the main provisions submitted for defense.

The main chapters examine the life and literary environment of A. Sariev, the genre and artistic system of his works, as well as the features of his aitys compositions and the textological aspects of his literary heritage. The conclusion summarizes the research results and presents the principal scientific findings.

Publication and peer review of the dissertation. The main scientific results and conclusions of the dissertation were published in 6 articles in domestic and international scholarly journals. This includes 1 article indexed in the Scopus international database and 5 articles published in journals included in the list recommended by the Committee for Quality Assurance in Science and Higher Education of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan.