

MAQSUD SHAYKHZODA – OPINIONS OF CELEBRITIES

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Annotation: Maqʼsud Shaykhzoda was a great poet, and we inherited his remarkable works. Let us get acquainted with the warm opinions of famous figures about him.

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Shaykhzoda was a prolific creator, a lover of art and literature, and was deeply interested in history and philosophy. He worked with many poets, thinkers, scholars, and writers. They expressed very warm thoughts about Shaykhzoda. In particular, the well-known writer and poet Oybek said the following about him:

“...The form of Shaykhzoda’s poems is colorful. He uses the form of rubai, ballads, poetry and lyrical verse. His way of expressing thoughts resembles the artistic techniques of Mayakovsky. Like Mayakovsky, he created bright and unexpected images.”

The Uzbek poet, dramatist, literary scholar, and representative of twentieth-century classical Uzbek poetry Hamid Olimjon also said the following about the writer:

“Shaykhzoda is a poet of ideas. He is an artist who creates political poetry.”

Shaykhzoda passed away without fully enjoying this world. Yet he was still a happy person. Said Ahmad said about the poet:

“He was called the people’s poet, my brother Shaykh. Young people called him ‘my teacher.’ Young poets followed him in crowds. He was a scholar. He was a generous person who extended a helping hand to those in need. He sympathized with those in sorrow. He was a lively conversationalist. He did not know how to complain. He firmly resisted the blows of fate. In a word, he was a charming man.

I saw in Shaykhzoda that one person can indeed possess so many virtues. He was a scholar-poet. He was both a poet and a scholar. Such people are born rarely,” he said.

The talented poet, prose writer, and playwright Shukrullo Yusupov worked together with Maqsud Shaykhzada while serving as a literary consultant at the Writers' Union of Uzbekistan. He said the following about him:

“Loyalty to a friend, constant respect for a person, valuing someone not only after his death but also during his lifetime — these were not only the main qualities of the poet’s creativity, but Shaykh Aka himself followed them throughout his life. If I were to summarize Shaykhzada’s activity or appearance in even fewer words, I would say that Maqsud Shaykhzada is wisdom, kindness, and a smile.”

Ozod Sharafiddinov — literary scholar and critic — spoke frequently with Shaykhzada. He said:

“Shaykhzada was one of those people who, once you met him, you became fascinated by his charm, wanted to see him again, listen to his conversations, share your deep thoughts and passionate feelings through literary works. Shaykhzada was a beautiful personality who embodied numerous qualities. His spiritual world was extremely rich, and he was always ready to generously share that richness with people.”

Mirzo Ibrohimov, an Azerbaijani national writer and public figure, considered a contemporary of Shaykhzada, expressed the following thoughts:

“Maqsud Shaykhzada, who created alongside the great representatives of Uzbek literature — Gafur Gulom and Oybek — was a poet whose soul was intertwined with poetry. His works reflected great revolutionary ideals, passionate patriotic feelings, and the bright echo of a burning heart that lived with truly creative emotions.”

Maqsud Shaykhzada’s legacy demonstrates that true literary greatness is not measured solely by the number of works produced, but by the depth of thought, sincerity of emotion, and the cultural bridges an artist builds. Shaykhzada was one of those rare intellectuals whose poetry carried both national spirit and universal humanistic values. What makes him especially remarkable is the fact that writers, poets, and scholars from different generations and even different nations recognized his exceptional personality—his kindness, wisdom, and creative passion.

Today, Shaykhzada’s works continue to inspire young scholars and poets, offering them a model of integrity, intellectual courage, and artistic devotion. His life shows that literature can serve as a bridge between nations, a healer of human hearts, and a source of endless enlightenment. Shaykhzada remains a shining example of how one poet can influence not only his homeland, but also the broader cultural world.

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