



ACADEMICIAN KAMAL ABDULLA SHAIG OGLU TALYBZADE

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The 20-th century which is coming to the end is memorable in the history of our literature for the emergence of new ideas and tendencies, extraordinary development in the area of literary study and criticism, progress of the national-literary process, and awakening and strengthening of the national self-consciousness. This specific character of the modern study of literature is directly connected above all with the successive creative work of several generations of literature experts, who made considerable contributions to the study of the historical-literary process.

The academician Kamal Abdulla Shaig oglu Talybzade belongs to the generation of the Azerbaijan literary workers and literary critics that reached maturity in the middle of the century - after World War II. The comprehensive and many-sided creative activity of Kamal Talybzade in the literary study has been lasting continuously and constantly for more than half a century. His contribution to the study of history of Azerbaijan literature and literary criticism, as well as the theoretical-aesthetic problems of the modern literary process and literary relationships, is so significant that he can truly be recognized a classic of the literary study.

Kamal Talybzade was born in Baku on August 14, 1923. He grew and was brought up in the atmosphere of literature and art. His father, Abdulla Shaig, who was a famous classic of Azerbaijan literature (in particular, children's literature) and an outstanding teacher, promoted the rise, formation and development of the literary trend of romanticism in Azerbaijan literature and contributed to the strengthening of its conceptual-aesthetic principals on the eve of the 20-th century. An entire generation of Azerbaijan intelligentsia were successors of the Abdulla Shaig's "school", who set up very strong traditions as a writer, a teacher and a literary critic. He has deeply researched the works of Mirza Fatali Akhundov, Huseyn Javid etc., wrote a number of textbooks on literature and a book on the theory of literature and many articles on the history of Azerbaijan.

Kamal Talybzade went to a secondary school (at present - School N 132) in 1930 and finished it in 1940. His first teacher was Mashady Azer Buzovnaly, a famous poet-gazel writer, who kept warm reminiscences for his grateful students.

During the anniversary celebration in 1984 dedicated to the memory of the poet in the Buzovna Palace of Culture, Kamal Talybzade said as follows: "This day is very important for me... Above all, Mashady Azer



was my first teacher, the real teacher. Fifty four years ago in 1930, I came to school for the first time and saw him as my first teacher at school who taught me to write the sacred words "mother" and "motherland in Latin Azerbaijani"...

In 1945 Kamal Talybzade graduated from the Philology Department of the University successfully and ahead of time. He excellently defended his first independent research work as his graduate degree work on the topic "Mahammad Hadee and Azerbaijani Romanticism".

In 1945 Kamal Talybzade started his post-graduate studies at the Institute of Literature of the Azerbaijan Academy of Sciences with the recommendation of the director of the Institute Mamed Arif Dadashzade. Since then he has closely associated with this Institute. He has been working fifty five years in the Institute. In 1949 Kamal Talybzade successfully defended his first doctor dissertation on the topic "A. Sahhat. The life and activity", written under the supervision of the professor Mir Jalal Pashayev. So, his productive creative way in literature begins in the middle of the century.

The activity of Kamal Talybzade developed in close connection with the directions and problems set forth at the Institute of Literature. Solving the fundamental and daily problems of the study of literature, history and theory of Azerbaijani literature, real literary process and literary criticism, literary relations and translations etc., Kamal Talybzade always followed the principals of the history and succession of the literary thought and the method of a broad collective discussion of the main issues of the historical-literary process. The growth of the Institute in the 50's was harmonising with the growth and rise of Kamal Talybzade, who was appointed Head of the Department of the Azerbaijani Literature of the 19th-20th centuries.

In 1960 Kamal Talybzade became the Deputy Director of the Institute and worked at this post for more than 20 years. These years were the flourishing of the Azerbaijani philology. It is enough to mention that the important and fundamental volumes of the collective works, including three volumes of «History of Azerbaijani Literature» were prepared and published in the two decades and one of the main authors and editors was Kamal Talybzade. Along with general research leadership, Kamal Talybzade headed different departments of the Institute in various years.

In the 90's Kamal Talybzade, as an academic consultant, headed the group of experts from the Department of Azerbaijani Literature of the 19th - 20th centuries that were responsible for collecting and publishing of materials of Azerbaijani literary criticism.

Since 1991, he has been working as a director (since 1991) of the Home Museum of Abdulla Shaig.

Besides research work, Kamal Talybzade is also involved in teaching. In 1950-1952 he was invited to the Azerbaijan State University to give lectures on Azerbaijani literature of the 20-th century and on literary criticism. Even more than 30 years later he agreed to give lectures in the Azerbaijan State Pedagogical Institute, in spite of he was very busy. He is continuing his pedagogical activity even now: He is the head of the Literature and Language Department of the Higher Social and Political College, where he teaches the course on the History of Azerbaijani Literary-Aesthetic Thought.

The academician Kamal Talybzade likes to work and bears the responsibilities. Kamal Talybzade always keeps in touch with broad literary-scientific circles of society and representatives of intelligentsia. In

different years he was a deputy chief and the chief of the Republican Co-ordination Board on the world literature development principles, a member of several scientific and expert boards of the Republican Higher Certification Committee.

Kamal Talybzade takes an active part in the literary movement of Azerbaijan. In 1965-1976 he was a member of the Presidium of the Writers' Union. He was also involved in editorial work for several literary and scientific journals ("Azerbaijan", "Communist of Azerbaijan", "Proceedings of the Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan" etc.) and compilation of the Encyclopaedia of Azerbaijan.

Kamal Talybzade repeatedly made reports at various republican, regional and international forums, congresses, conferences and symposiums. He also organised and conducted various conferences within Azerbaijan devoted to the problems of literature.

Kamal Talybzade is a Doctor of Philology, professor, honoured scientist, State Prize winner and academician. Even now he is always in the centre of scientific, literary and public events. With the same enthusiasm and optimistic passion, he continues to lead and supervise research works, to provide consultations for persons working for doctor's degree and to conduct searches for the new materials on the history of literature and literary criticism in Azerbaijan. Any important event in the Republic holds with the practical and constructive participation of Kamal Talybzade. It is not only because he is a specialist, but also because he possesses a true humanistic nature, genuine devotion to work and deep respect to literary and spiritual treasures of Azerbaijan and other nations.

In one of his talks Kamal Talybzade said: "My experience in the area of literature has proven for me that to gain authority and to have a right to influence on the literary process is possible only when you have strength, stability of your thoughts and ideological inexorability.

Talent, erudition or diligence by itself does not often give the desired effect and results. Sometimes a spiritually rich and emotionally developed person, is not able to direct his talent at the satisfaction of the daily needs of the social life, needs of people and topics of the time. As a result, disharmony comes - without a beacon or a guiding star...

The ideas that a writer or a literary worker puts in his works has a magic force which directs creative activity..."