

Enlightened Prosecutor-Justice Through Compassion and Understanding

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Received: 15 February 2025; **Accepted:** 14 March 2025; **Published:** 12 April 2025

Abstract: One such devoted and people-oriented figure, a prominent representative of his time, and a significant contributor to 20th-century literature as a writer, translator, and legal defender, is Mirzo Kakanbay AbduKholikov.

Keywords: Law, history, prosecutor, lawyer, writer, translator, legal defender, Mirzo Kakanbay AbduKholikov, "JizsaKh Uprising", "Tog Kizi".

Introduction: History is a lesson. That is why looking back at the past is considered beneficial. A deeper study of the historical pages of the early 20th century continues to reveal new names in the field of prosecution—figures who courageously fought to protect public interests and upheld justice. One such devoted and people-oriented figure, a prominent representative of his time, and a significant contributor to 20th-century literature as a writer, translator, and legal defender, is Mirzo Kakanbay AbduKholikov.

Mirzo Kakanbay was born on September 10, 1869, in the city of Kokand. His real name was Abdulhak, but his family affectionately called him Kakanbay in reference to his birthplace. Over time, this name became so widely recognized that it was even recorded in official documents as Kakanbay AbduKholikov.

After completing his studies at a traditional school, he spent two to three years in a madrasa before graduating from the fourth grade of a Russian educational institution in the city. During his time at the madrasa, he diligently studied Arabic and Persian, while at the Russian school, he mastered the Russian language. Additionally, through independent study and various sources, he achieved fluency in Turkish.

Between 1891 and 1893, while living in Moscow, Kakanbay's proficiency in Russian was put to the test. During this period, he sought the release of his imprisoned relative, Mamadaminboy. Thanks to his persistence, he succeeded in securing his relative's

freedom and personally delivered the official letter to Samarkand. This marked his first appearance as a defender of justice.

Although he initially pursued a career as a translator, fate led him into the judicial and legal sphere. He began working as a translator in Samarkand's judicial and administrative institutions in 1893. Later, from August 12, 1908, until 1918, he served in the office of the chief of Samarkand Uyezd.

In 1916, he personally attended the trials of participants in the JizsaKh Uprising, where he openly exposed the colonial and inhumane nature of Tsarist Russia's policies. He documented these events in his memoir-novella JizsaKh Uprising, presenting vivid descriptions based on real-life incidents.

After the establishment of Soviet rule, figures like Kakanbay AbduKholikov—highly educated, experienced, and fluent in Russian—became invaluable to the Bolsheviks. As a result, he was initially employed as a translator and later appointed as an investigator in the Prosecutor's Office under the People's Commissariat of Justice of Uzbekistan.

According to documents from the National Archive of Uzbekistan, from 1920, Kakanbay served as the senior investigator of the Zarafshan district, and between 1924 and 1927, he worked as an investigator in the Bukhara Prosecutor's Office. On September 10, 1925, following the order of the Prosecutor of the People's Commissariat of Justice of the Uzbek SSR, he conducted

investigations against volost and village executive committees in Nurota Uyezd for illegally levying taxes.

Kakanbay AbduKholikov served in the Prosecutor's Office under the Ministry of Justice of the Uzbek SSR for nine years. He was closely acquainted with Uzbek Jadid intellectuals, particularly being a close friend of MahmudKhoja Behbudi, with whom he collaborated in the "Oyna" journal. Other sources indicate that in 1927, when the leader of the Tashkent Jadids, Munavvarkari AbdurashidKhonov, visited Samarkand, local intellectuals organized a bankuet in his honor at Kakanbay's home. Notable figures such as Vadud Mahmud, Chulpon, and Munavvarkari attended the gathering. Additionally, it was later discovered that Chulpon lived in Kakanbay's residence for some time. Due to these associations and contributions, scholars have recognized him as an enlightened Jadid intellectual.

Kakanbay AbduKholikov was arrested on November 18, 1931, due to his connections with the Jadids. However, demonstrating resilience and determination, he defended himself during the investigation, insisting on his innocence and rejecting all accusations as baseless. As a result, he was released on April 9, 1932. Nevertheless, those 77 days left him with lasting and terrifying memories. Among literature enthusiasts, Kakanbay AbduKholikov was renowned as a writer, translator, and educator. He is recognized as one of the pioneers of the novel and memoir genres in Central Asian literature. Throughout his life, he authored works such as "Namoz Shaykasi" (a novel depicting the struggle between reformist Jadids and conservative religious figures), "Tog Kizi" (a historical novel about a courageous mountain girl fighting for justice), "JizzaKh Uprising" (a memoir detailing the 1916 anti-colonial revolt against Tsarist Russia), "Istadjon" (a social novel eKhploring traditional customs and women's rights), and "Blood Drips from the Whip" (a short story exposing the brutality of colonial oppression), along with numerous journalistic and historical stories and essays. These works demonstrate his dedication to literary activity in his later years and his ability to achieve great artistic heights in a short period. Despite his literary contributions, many of his works remained unpublished, preserved as manuscripts in personal archives. In addition to his literary talents, Kakanbay AbduKholikov was a skilled translator, fluent in Arabic, Turkish, Persian, and Russian. In the mid-1920s, when translating Russian-language teKhtbooks and educational materials into local languages became a priority, he actively contributed by translating biology, anthropology, zoology, and botany teKhtbooks into Uzbek and Tajik. From 1928, he worked as a translator for the Central Office of the All-Union Construction

Workers' Trade Union in Uzbekistan. In 1932, he became a member of the Samarkand branch of the Uzbekistan Scientific Workers' Union. In 1934, he actively participated in the development of Tajik terminology. By 1941, he was accepted into the Tajik Writers' Union.

Mirzo Kakanbay's manuscripts were primarily written in three languages: Persian-Tajik, Uzbek, and Russian, utilizing Arabic, Cyrillic, and Latin scripts. There is also evidence indicating that the author had eKhceptionally beautiful handwriting. The title page, inscribed in Mirzo Kakanbay's elegant script, contains a poem titled "The Plot of the History of the Restoration of the Minaret of the Mirzo Ulugbek Madrasa", which most likely reflects his inclination toward poetry. He spent the final years of his life with his second wife, Anna Karpovna, in his house located in the Bogishamol district of Samarkand, which has been preserved to this day.

Kakanbay AbduKholikov had two sons and two daughters. According to official records, the writer passed away in 1948 and was buried in the Shohizinda Cemetery in Samarkand. Although Kakanbay AbduKholikov is no longer alive, his ideas endure. The successors of such an outstanding individual, who dedicated his life to the well-being of his people, have continued to contribute significantly to the development of the nation. Farid Abbasovich AbduKholikov, who worked for many years in Uzbekistan's prosecution system, inherited his grandfather Mirzo Kakanbay's legacy in the field of law. Farid Abbasovich AbduKholikov was born on May 27, 1935, in Samarkand. After graduating from the Tashkent State Law Institute in 1956, he began his career in the prosecution field as a trainee at the Samarkand City Prosecutor's Office. He was later appointed as an investigator in the same office. Between 1959 and 1983, he served as a prosecutor in the investigation department of the regional prosecutor's office and held various responsible positions in the Samarkand Regional Party Committee. He also worked as the Samarkand City Prosecutor and later as the Prosecutor of Samarkand Region. Additionally, he chaired the regional chess federation and contributed as a public correspondent for regional newspapers.

Another descendant who has inherited his grandfather's dedication to enlightenment is Firdavs Fridunovich AbduKholikov—a prominent public figure, Doctor of Philosophy in Art Studies, media manager, film and television producer, publisher, and author of books and academic articles. As the chairman of the World Society for the Study, Preservation, and Popularization of Uzbekistan's Cultural Heritage, he leads research on rare artifacts preserved in various

museums and private collections worldwide.

We would like to conclude our discussion on Mirzo Kakanbay AbduKholikov with the words of scholar and public figure Naim Karimov FotiKhovich—an Honored Scientist of Uzbekistan, a full member of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, and a Doctor of Philology:

“Mirzo Kakanbay AbduKholikov, whose life and creative work we are just beginning to explore, was one of the enlightened figures who lived in Samarkand at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. Unlike his fellow writers, he served as a translator in the offices of the Tsarist administration, where he personally witnessed the oppression of the local population and the violation of their rights under colonial rule. He vividly depicted the brutal consequences of this colonial policy in his literary and memoir works. This alone, in our opinion, rightfully places him among the ranks of Samarkand’s prominent enlighteners, alongside figures such as Mahmudhoja Behbudi, Sadriddin Ayni, Abdukodir Shakuri, Hoji Muin, and Said Rizo”.

(Taken from the newspaper “Hurriyat”, 2009.)

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