

Abai Kunanbaev

IWS

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1845 – 1904

Kazakh writer, poet, lyricist, social philosopher. Born in Kazakhstan in Semey province, Abai Kunanbaev was educated at home and then sent to a *medressa* where he learned Arabic and Persian and became acquainted with Eastern literature and poetry. In Semey he actively participated in the city's intellectual life, studied Russian and Western classics by Pushkin, Goethe, and Byron and translated many of them for the first time into Kazakh.

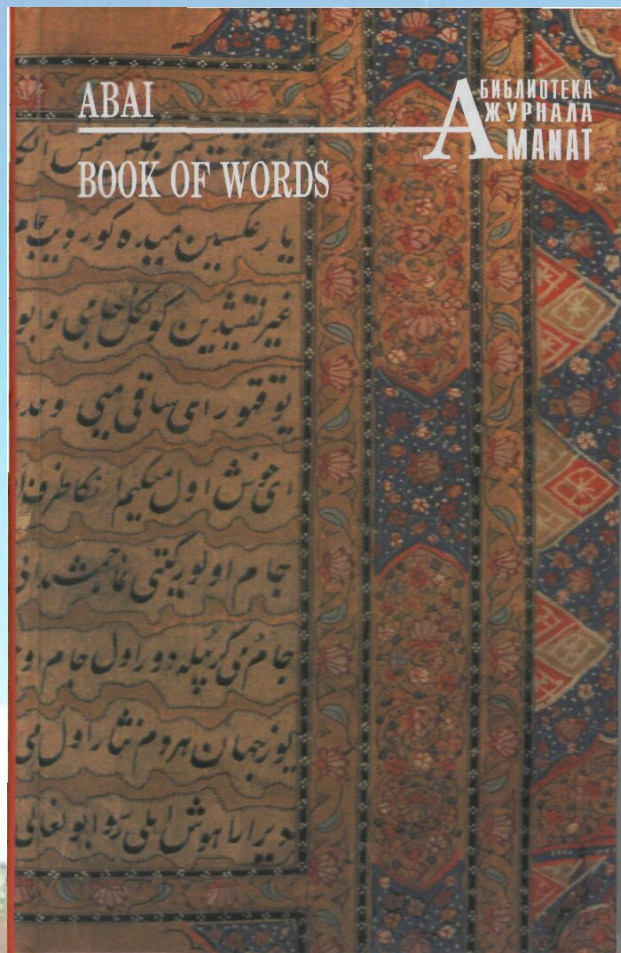
Writings



Abai devoted many of his works to the **violence** of Kazakh labour rights e.g. "Oh my Kazakh! My poor people!". Number of works were devoted to youth: "Our children", "Only youth - happy flower of life". And a real **treasure** is his poems expressing his feelings and love to the nature of his land: "Autumn", "Winter", "Fall" and etc.

As a gifted interpreter Abai gave Kazakh people to enjoy the **pearls** of Russian classic literature. During 15 years he translated more than 50 works of Russian writers like Pushkin, Lermontov, Krylov etc. Abai's literary legacy also includes a number of ballads dedicated to eastern and western themes. Among these fictional pieces like "Mas'ud" (1887) and "Alexander,"

Violence – зорлау, treasure – қазына, pearl – жемчужина,
legacy - сауаттылық



Kunanbaev's works were influenced by his belief in human reason. He was attracted to Western **Enlightenment** thinking and wove criticism of Kazakh culture into his works, most notably in his collection of poems called *Qarasozder* (often translated as the Book of Words).

Despite the fact that many years have passed, several **generations** have changed since Abai times, “Book of Words” is actual today as never before, it is our reference point in life. This book includes different topics – Kazakhstan history, love for fatherland, culture, people's psychology and philosophy of life.

Enlightenment –білім, білім беру, generation -үрпақ



In his amazing Book of Words the poet expressed his reflections over a period of years, his searching and discoveries, **anxiety** and despair, sorrows and joy of **revelations**, anger and **humility**. His Book of Words is a deeply meaningful way to truth. The poet tirelessly reminds that humans have the greatest value in the world, and that they should be beautiful and harmoniously perfect. Their souls should also be beautiful, as should their mind, body and feelings. Understanding of the real world and the personal responsibility of everyone in the world – this is what the great poet worked for his art and life. Abai explains that the world is **eternal**, united and harmonious. Discord, anguish, even death cannot destroy the harmony, for they are natural.

Anxiety- алаңдаушылық, **revelation** –Аян, **humility** –қарапайымдылық,
Eternal –шексіз, **discord** –келіспеушілік,

Word thirty-eight

Отыз жетінші қара сөзі

**While you are seeking happiness, everybody wishes you well;
But once you have attained it, your only well-wisher is yourself**

**Сен бақытқа қол жеткізген кезде, бәрі сен үшін жақсы, бірақ
сен мақсатқа жеткенде, тек қана сен ғана қаласың.**

**Who among us have not known trouble? Only the weak lose hope.
Nothing in this world is immutable, and misfortune cannot last for ever.
Does not the bountiful and blossoming spring follow the harsh winter?**

**Кімге қиындық туғызбады? Үмітімді жоғалту әлсіз. Дүниеде
өзгеріссіз ештеңе жоқ, бірақ зұлымдық мәңгілік де емес. Қатты
қыста болғаннан кейін толық гүлденген көктем келмейінше?**

Word Fifteen

If you wish to be counted among the intelligent, then ask yourself once a day, once a week, or at least once a month: “How do I live?” Have I done anything to improve my learning, my worldly life or my life hereafter? Will I have to swallow the bitter dregs of regret later on?

Он бесінші қара сөзі

Сіз ақылды адамдардың қатарында болғыңыз келсе, күніне бір рет, аптасына бір рет немесе айына бір рет өзіңізден сұраңыз: сіз қалай өмір сүресіз? Сіз өзіңіздің біліміңіз үшін, жердегі немесе әлемдегі өмір үшін пайдалы нәрсе жасадыңыз ба, сіз өкініш ащы ішу керек емес пе? Немесе сіз байқамайсыз, қалай және қалай өмір сүргеніңіз есіңізде емес пе?

Word Nineteen

A child is not born a reasonable being. It is only by listening and watching, examining everything by touching and tasting, that it learns what is good and what is bad. The more a child sees and hears, the more it knows.

Он тоғызыншы қара сөзі

Адам баласы ақылды болып туылмайды. Тек тыңдап, ойланып, бәрін қолмен сезіп дәміне қарай ажыратып, жақсы және жаман арасындағы айырмашылықты біле бастайды. Бала көп нәрсені көріп, естиді, соғұрлым ол біледі.

Word Four

Only the weak in spirit will withdraw into themselves abandon themselves to bitter thoughts, without finding the least consolation

Төртінші қара сөзі

Рухы әлсіз ғана өзінде жабылып, жұбаныш таба алмай, жабылуы мүмкін.

Word Thirty three

If you want to be rich, learn a trade. Wealth diminishes with time, but a skill does not.

Отыз үшінші қара сөзі

Егер бай болғыңыз келсе, қолөнерді үйреніңіз. Уақыт өте келе байлығымыз бітеді, бірақ дағдысы жоқ.



Абай мен Шәкерім кесенелерінің амфитеатрымен қоса бір қырынан түсірілгендегі көрінісі.

The great poet of the steppe, not understood by his own people, remained alone, face to face with God. All his powers were dedicated to the enlightenment of his people, but the people only appreciated the enchanting melodies of his songs, and did not comprehend the deep essence of his thoughts, did not follow his wise advice.

That was the beginning and the end of the tragedy of Abai. He is buried near his wintering in Zhidebai valley, not far from Chingiz mountains.



He is beautiful and great in his eternal yearning for the truth

Goethe

Thank
you

