

## IBRAHIM MOMINOV AS THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE FIRST UZBEK CYCLOPAEDIA

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**ABSTRACT:** This article analyzes the processes of the creation of the first Uzbek cyclopaedia, and the work of Ibrahim Mominov as its editor-in-chief regarding the creation of the cyclopaedia and his courage in founding the national school of cyclopaedia is highlighted.

**KEYWORDS:** Cyclopaedia, encyclopedia, editor-in-chief, article, glossary, ideological ban.

### INTRODUCTION

One of Ibrahim Mominov's great services to the Uzbek people, their science and culture, and perhaps the greatest, is the creation of the first Uzbek scientific community. As the editor-in-chief, Ibrahim Mominov formed a large team of lexicographers, leading scientists and specialists in Uzbekistan were involved in this work.

The cyclopaedia is a mirror of every nation, and it contains the nation's long past history and current state, economy, culture, education, science, national and spiritual values, famous figures and scholars, historical manifestations, monuments, customs, traditions, painting, their contribution to the material and spiritual treasure of the world is reflected. The creation of the first Uzbek cyclopaedia began in the 60s of the XX century. In 1968, a great event took place in the cultural and scientific life of the people of Uzbekistan: a decision was made to publish the 14-volume Encyclopedia of Uzbekistan [3.16]. Thus, 1968 went down in history as the birth date of Uzbek cyclopaedia.

### THE MAIN FINDINGS AND RESULTS

One of Ibrahim Mominov's great qualities was the ability to select talented young people and encourage them to research the most urgent, priority scientific problems and areas that have not yet been studied. He was also an extremely disciplined, demanding and even strict leader. For example, meetings, seminars, discussions, especially scientific councils, which he appointed, always started without delay. He demanded that everyone express their opinions in a short, concise manner, without deviating from the main issue, and not to take up the time of others with idle talk [4.60].

The Chief Editor of the Uzbek Soviet Encyclopedia was established as part of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan by the decision № 6 of January 8, 1968 [2.130-132].

The main tasks of the Chief Editor of the First Uzbek Cyclopaedia are as follows:

- Preparation of encyclopedic, etymological, phraseological, explanatory and other dictionaries for publication;
- Involvement of authors, editors and consultants in the organization of sectoral and task scientific editorial offices, approval of dictionaries, preparation of encyclopedia volumes;
- Carrying out the editing of the encyclopedia and taking full responsibility for its ideological direction and scientific content [1.100-102];

The UzSE team was entrusted with the responsible task of creating an Uzbek commune for the first time in the history of our republic. The UzSE team, determined to carry out this honorable work, achieved important achievements. In 1968, the preparation and publication of the 1st volume of UzSE was completed [1.1].

When preparing the Uzbek cyclopaedia, evaluating some events, actions, periods, and individuals reflected in it, the cyclopaedists witnessed the extremely complex and conflicting nature of that period.

It was necessary to give an article dedicated to Amir Temur in the first volume of the cyclopaedia. Every Uzbek cyclopaedia interested in history, historical figures, spiritual values, and cultural heritage was waiting for the publication of an article that would objectively present him. Ibrahim Mominov wrote an article about Amir Temur for the 1st volume. After repeated discussions and reviews, the article, which is about one printing plate in length, was submitted for publication. It has been proofread twice and Volume 1 is ready for printing.

However, this article was removed by the ideological prohibitions that prevailed at that time, primarily under the pressure of Moscow. A. Valiev recalls this process as follows: “These days, Ibrahim Mominov called me and asked me to remove the article “Amir Temur” from the 1st volume. This was no surprise. I tried to save the article, saying that removing this article would delay the publication of the cyclopaedia, and that readers would look for this very article in Volume 1. Then he said that this order came from very high levels, and even Moscow was involved in this matter. As a result, a very good and objectively written article consisting of 1 printed plate was removed and replaced with a reference to “Amir Temur” or “Temur”. The article “Amir Temur” was published under the name “Temur” in the 8th volume of cyclopaedia, with about 8,000 characters, i.e. 5 times smaller than the previous size [4.61].

## CONCLUSION

In the Soviet years, accusing local cadres - historians, scientists, writers and poets, with little reason, sometimes without reason, of deifying past history, culture, historical figures, nationalism, nationalism in general, thereby preventing intellectuals from fighting for national pride and spiritual values, erasing their historical memory. Under such circumstances, objectively and scientifically correct assessment of the aforementioned persons, events and actions in the cyclopaedia was one of the most difficult and responsible tasks. Each article included in the cyclopaedia was reviewed by one person and discussed over and over again. Some articles, for example, “Behbudi”, “Jadidchilik” and similar articles were rewritten several times. Ibrahim

Mominov was an excellent shield in preparing such articles objectively and based on science and defending them before higher organizations. Ibrahim Mominov created an indelible page and an eternal historical monument in the history of the Uzbek people with his services in creating the first Uzbek cyclopaedia.

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