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THE IMAGE OF OUR GREAT MILITARY JADID ANCESTORS LIVES ON!

Mirzaakbarov Bakrom Turamirzaevich
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Abstract: this article once again aims to study and promote the ideas of the military Jadid movement. It highlights the great efforts of our Jadid enlighteners in the region to develop science, education, and upbringing, as well as their activities in forming a national army, which played an important role in the policy of independent statehood, along with their tragic fates that ended in a sorrowful manner.

Keywords: jadid, military jadid, enlightener, national spirit, combat spirit, national army, commander, Uzbek general.

> "We should thoroughly study the Jadid movement and the legacy of our enlightened ancestors. The more deeply we explore this spiritual and intellectual treasure, the more accurate answers we will find to many of the questions that still concern us today. The more actively we promote this invaluable heritage, the better our people, especially our youth, will understand and appreciate the value of the peaceful and free life we enjoy today."
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> **Shavkat Mirziyoyev President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.**

It is well known to all of us that the representatives of the Jadid movement set noble and great goals before themselves, such as achieving independence, fostering national self-awareness, and introducing the nation to the world. The valuable legacy left by our Jadids naturally serves as a foundation for the legal democratic state and civil society we are building today. As our respected President Shavkat Mirziyoyev has emphasized, their ideas and programs are fully aligned and harmonious with the development strategy of New Uzbekistan.

Indeed, research conducted on the study and promotion of Jadid ideas shows that our Jadid enlighteners not only worked to advance science, education, and upbringing in the country, but also made significant efforts toward forming
a national army an essential element of independent statehood. They deeply studied the armies of foreign countries, the training of military personnel, the art of warfare, and systems of armaments. According to information examined by experts, there were around 100 military Jadids within the Jadid movement. Even in those times, they worked to create military units composed of local personnel, to introduce new approaches in the armed forces, and most importantly, to instill
a fighting spirit and a sense of national pride. They also participated in training participants of the national liberation movement in military matters. Unfortunately, like other Jadids, these national visionaries who aimed to establish an Uzbek army to protect the nation from external and internal enemies and to achieve the freedom of the homeland were removed from the country under various pretexts and later subjected to repression through false accusations and slander.

Today, special attention is being paid to immortalizing the memory of our ancestors who sacrificed their lives for the freedom of our people and the prosperity of our homeland, as well as to studying and promoting their activities and legacy with a new way of thinking. Thanks to the initiative of our respected President, these efforts have gained wide scope and are turning into a nationwide movement, which truly holds historic significance.

As a result of this particular attention, effective scientific research and practical work on political repression victims and Jadid studies are being carried out today. Consequently, the general public is only now beginning to learn about military Jadids. Among them are figures such as Mirkomil Mirsharapov — commander of the first Uzbek mountain cavalry division — Rizo Yoqubov, Nazir Sholikorov, Toshkentboy Azizov, Mamadali Aliev, Burhon Hamroqulov, Mirzaqir Rizqulov, Abdujalil Abdullaev, Xolmat Shukurov, Ubaydullo Tolipov, Turg‘unboy Qirg‘izboev, and Yunus Narimonov.

The study of historical documents reflecting the military views of the Jadids and valuable information about the most important aspects of their military activities is significantly enriching our understanding and perception of the Jadids.

At this point, let us briefly touch upon the achievements and tragic fates of some of these military Jadids during their service.

Mirkomil Mirsharapov, a military Jadid, was born on 25 December 1900 in the Beshog‘och district of Tashkent, in the first Arpapoya neighborhood. He joined the Red Army and was admitted to the V.I. Lenin Turkestan Military Instructors Higher School. In the mid-1920s, he became the Military Commissar of the Bukhara People’s Soviet Republic. On 15 September 1924, he was awarded the First Class Order of the Red Star.

In 1929, he was appointed commander of the newly formed separate Uzbek cavalry regiment in Samarkand. From November 1931, he served as commander and military commissar of the combined Uzbek brigade, and from 17 May 1932, as commander and military commissar of the 6th Uzbek Mountain Cavalry Division (later renamed the 19th Uzbek Mountain Cavalry Division in 1936).

Under his leadership, a division orchestra and a special newspaper called “Qizil Yulduz” were established. At solemn gatherings of the division, a hymn beginning with the lines “Mirsharopov Division, forward!” was sung. This “Mirsharopov March” became a favorite song not only among the division’s soldiers but also among all Uzbek youth.

On 17 January 1936, the USSR People’s Commissariat of Defense awarded him the military rank of Kombrig (Brigade Commander). He successfully fulfilled the tasks entrusted to him in a short time. Today, streets in Tashkent and Samarkand are named after this brave and courageous son of the Uzbek people.

However, fearing his achievements and the enthusiasm of the soldiers under his command, the government sent him away from Turkestan in 1935 by appointing him as military attaché to Mongolia. In 1936, he was appointed commander of the North Caucasus Military District. Under Mirsharapov’s leadership, this district quickly became one of the most exemplary combat districts in the Soviet Union, which further alarmed the oppressive regime.

Many talented national military personnel emerged from the division founded by Mirsharapov. This division was supposed to become the core of a future fully Uzbek national army. All the attributes of a modern army were developed within it, including artillery divisions, motorized-technical divisions, special air forces, infantry, cavalry, and communications squadrons.

Mirsharapov always lived with the dream of seeing his homeland free and his people prosperous. This dream never left him. Fearing this, the Soviet regime executed Mirsharapov and

hundreds of other officers and soldiers like him in 1938. At that time, Commander Mirsharapov had not yet reached the age of 38.

Rizo Abdullaevich Yoqubov (born 5 May 1898 in the Zominguzar village of Samarkand) served from 1924 to 1927 as head of the Central Asian Joint National Military School, which trained middle-ranking commanders for national military units. He later led the Konotop airfield and then served as commander of the 206th Light Bomber Aviation Brigade. From December 1933 to the end of 1936, he worked as head and military commissar of the No. 2 Military Technical School of the Workers' and Peasants' Red Army in Volsk. In 1935, he was awarded the rank of Kombrig. From 1936, he was appointed head of the Higher Military Council of the Central Asian Military District.

Despite all these achievements, the well-known commander Rizo Yoqubov was also among those subjected to repression. In 1938, he was arrested and exiled to Siberia.

Among the executed military Jadids was also **Mamadali Aliev**. He gained a reputation as an excellent specialist in teaching soldiers and officers horse riding, sword fighting techniques, and the training of professional military personnel. As commander of a platoon in the 41st Cavalry Regiment, he paid special attention to teaching national traditions to his personnel and promoted the ideas of creating national military units and turning them into the country's military stronghold. Naturally, this did not please the representatives of the Soviet regime. On
17 September 1937, Mamadali Aliev was arrested on charges of carrying out anti-nationalist activities within the units of the 19th Uzbek Mountain Cavalry Division. On 10 October 1938, the Military Collegium of the USSR Supreme Court found him guilty, stripped him of his military rank, and sentenced him to death. The sentence was carried out on the same day.

We can also include the first Uzbek general, **Sobir Rahimov**, among the military Jadids. There is evidence and sources confirming that S. Rahimov was actively involved in the Jadid movement. His military talent and skill caused concern among Soviet officials. In July 1938, he was discharged from the Red Army and handed over to the NKVD. However, because World War II began in September 1939, he was transferred to the reserve in October and later reinstated in military service in October 1940. The outbreak of the war saved him from becoming a victim of repression.

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