

From The History of the Attitude of "Chigatoy Gurungi" to Spelling Changes

Xurshid AHMADOV

Doctoral student of Bukhara State University

Article Information

Received: March 13, 2023

Accepted: April 14, 2023

Published: May 15, 2023

Keywords: "Chigatoy Gurungi", Abdurauf Fitrat, Elbek, Botu, language, spelling, writing, convention, alphabet, Arabic alphabet, national intellectuals, newspaper, education.

ABSTRACT

This article describes the activities of "Chigatoy Gurungi" and its spelling changes in the 20s of the 20th century. The contribution of Abdurauf Fitrat, Elbek and others to Uzbek writing and spelling was described. The article also provides information about the reform of the Arabic script, views on the early Latin alphabet, and the role of Batu in these reforms. The scientific heritage of linguists and historians was widely used in the article.

Enter. After the Bolsheviks came to power in Russia in 1917, national intellectuals in Turkestan, Bukhara and Khiva began to express their political views. But soon they were forced not to interfere in the political sphere. Among such national intellectuals, Elbek, Cholpon, Shorasul Zunnun, Shokirjon Rahimi, Qayum Ramazon, Gozi Olim Yunusov and others, under the leadership of Abdurauf Fitrat, in 1919, under the condition of "not interfering in the political sphere", a spiritual group named "Chigatoy Gurungi" was founded in Tashkent. - they organized an educational society. The role of Fitrat in the establishment and functioning of this society is very important [1]. In 1917-1918, Fitrat was the editor of the Hurriyat newspaper founded by Mahmudhoja Behbudi in Samarkand. He returned to Bukhara after the termination of the newspaper's activities, but the results of the rally organized by Fitrat and Fayzulla Khojayev in Bukhara in 1917 prompted Fitrat to come to Tashkent and planned They begin to form the "Chigatoy Gurungi" organization. When naming Chigatoy Gurung, Fitrat was named "Chigatoy Gurungi" in consideration of the fact that the old Uzbek language was called Chigatoy in the 14th-15th centuries. It follows that Fitrat's first goal in creating this society was to pay great attention to the old Uzbek language, besides, the development of culture, art, literature, history and other areas was included in the future programs of "Chigatoy Gurungi". Fitrat himself says about this organization: "Work was done under the slogan of uniting Turkish languages and Turkish literature. In schools, Ottoman language and Ottoman literature were accepted instead of the mother tongue. A little bit of Tatar was added to our press. In the schools opened in Tashkent, more hours of mother tongue lessons were taught in Ottoman. Mother tongue was not included in the first teacher's course opened in Samarkand. In 1918, at a meeting of the Maarif Council, it was decided: "In the first three years of our schools, the mother tongue should be

taught in Uzbek, and then the general literary Turkish language should be taught." The common literary Turkish language of these was Ottoman with Arabic participation [2]. According to the sources, at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, all modern and enlightened intellectuals in the territory of Uzbekistan were divided into two streams in the matter of language and spelling: right and left streams. Abdurauf Fitrat, considered the main leader of the left movement, opposed pan-Turkism and worked hard to create a national Uzbek alphabet by reforming the old Uzbek script. In this regard, the "Language and Spelling Gang" branch of the "Chigatoy Gurungi" organization has been very effective. Abdulhamid Cholpon was the head of this department, then Elbek (pseudonym, original name Yunusov Mashriq) was the head. In his article "Our Language", Fitrat mentioned how rich the Uzbek language is and that it should be further developed. In this article, the program goals of the "Language and Spelling" branch of the "Chigatoy Gurungi" organization were mentioned. In the article: "After the Arab invasion, new Muslims appeared in Asia, they considered it their duty to learn Arabic, they studied, learned, and loved it. After that, Persian and Turkish entered the Arabic syllable. The Persian language has completely deteriorated. The Persians lost their language. They began to write not only their books, but also their mutual notes in Arabic. But this work did not last long. The Persian language was able to save itself from the Arab stranglehold with one shake. This shake of the Persian language was the anti-Arabism of the Iranian poet Ferdowsi, an ardent Iranian nationalist. He worked hard for thirty years and published the book "Shahnama". Firdausi had two wishes for writing "Shahnama": to cool the Iranian people from Arabs and give them an Iranian feeling, and to push the Arabic language out of Iran" [3]. With this, Fitrat fought for their native language and cited the great Persian author Abul Qasim Firdaws as an example and said that his work "Shahnama" is a famous work that developed the Persian language and spelling.

"Chigatoy Gurungi" has the following tasks:

- our language has a complete, high and beautiful literary language. The literary quality of our language is not in Arabic, but in itself. This should be reawakened;
- we need to clean our language from foreign words;
- to raise the spiritual level of our literature by using the immortal and immortal works of the great scholars and poets of the past, and by adopting the positive innovations and rules in terms of language and spelling of developed countries and use them;
- the rules of our language should be taken from our language itself, not from Tatar or Ottoman Turkish books;
- it is necessary to check the words in the mouth of the people, the folk literature tales, proverbs, matals, lapar, and popularize the words in them;
- to write literature, it is necessary to change the language and spelling; [4]

Elbek, who effectively headed the "Language and Spelling Gang" branch of the "Chigatoy Gurungi" organization, rendered great service to Uzbek linguistics in the 20th century. Like almost all Uzbek poets who entered literature in the twenties of the last century, Elbek considered Abdurauf Fitrat to be his teacher. Fitrat also suggested the nickname "Elbek" to him. In 1918-1920, there was a lack of textbooks and study guides for newly opened Soviet schools. Before the October coup, the use of educational literature created by modern pedagogues was considered harmful. In this regard, Elbeck's first work, created as a guide for developers of new spelling rules, was published in 1920 under the name "Imlo Masali". In it, the author draws the attention of linguists-pedagogues to the following important issues: "Let's not be afraid. As much as possible, let's find foreign words suitable for our language and put them into circulation, as we write in Turkish. We learned words from a foreign language from the Arabs. As they write letters that are not in their language with their own letters ("j" instead of "g", "s" instead of "ch",

general - general, chin - sin). Until this time, foreign words were written in Arabic style, and lost their form: like "geography" was written instead of "geography". At that time, Elbek, like Fitrat and Cholponar, had a great influence on the activities of schools with his works on linguistics [5].

Elbeck's first textbook on the grammar of the mother tongue, "Writing Ways (Part One. A textbook for students of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th sections of elementary schools)" was published in 1921, and he died n contains one lesson. This textbook was the first step in creating a textbook of Uzbek grammar and Uzbek language [6].

Elbek's work "The Problem of Spelling" served as a theoretical basis for the development of new spelling rules and the creation of textbooks and study guides for schools in the native language. It should also be noted that even now, when we are transitioning to a new writing system, the importance of this work is incomparable in the development of new spelling rules. Elbek wanted the new spelling to be perfect and free of errors and defects, and invited critics and linguists to actively participate in the discussion.

On January 1-5, 1921, Abdurauf Fitrat made a speech at the first national congress of the Uzbek language and spelling in Tashkent, and emphasized the importance of spelling in the successful solution of the school problem. . The following reasonable points were presented in his report: "The most important column of the school issue is the issue of spelling. The more the school issue expands, the more it progresses, the spelling issue expands and progresses accordingly. All nations cannot understand the meaning without reading the writing. They read the text to understand the meaning. And we cannot read the writing if we cannot understand the meaning. Since there are some difficulties and distortions in our old writing, we cannot use the education program of our government along with other nations, we will remain behind them. If others teach literacy in a month and a half, we teach it in half a year, while others teach the literacy of the whole class in a month and a half, we cannot teach even one hundred and fifty children of a class in half a year. Here is the logic of our new spellers: these are the reasons that forced them to use a new spelling.

The intellectuals of Turkestan did not agree on writing and spelling changes until 1921 and even in these years.

- 1) Chigatai Turkish;
- 2) Southern Turkish;
- 3) Northern Turkish

Newspapers, magazines and books published in these years served all these streams, that is, whatever language something was in the hands of the people of that stream, it was printed in that language [7]. At the 1921 congress, more attention was paid to Chigatai Turkish and it was approved. Because this was the goal of the Bolsheviks to make every nation a socialist nation. For this reason, "Chigatoy Gurungi" was left alone for a while. In order to take advantage of such freedom, Abdurauf Fitrat and his colleagues decided to develop Chigatai Turkish spelling and reform Arabic and Persian words. In this struggle, they faced the resistance of the Southern Turks and the ancients. For example, if we pay attention to Botu's information, an "antiquarian" named Musa Jodulla shouted at the congress that "the opposition to Arabic and Persian words is harmful for the unity of the Islamic nation". It is known to everyone that they are in favor of reforms in the fields without breaking their ancient traditions, but we know well from history and from the realities of the present time that if all fields are not reformed in time, they will not only lag behind in development, but also face decline.

During the past centuries, clearly defined writing and spelling rules were not established throughout the country. Such a goal motivated national intellectuals and leaders to hold language

and spelling congresses at the beginning of the 20th century. Elbek writes that through the reform of the alphabet and spelling in 1921, the problems of the country and the nation that had not been solved for centuries were solved. , went the way he wanted, and behind that way, several different roadless inscriptions appeared on the surface. It was necessary to put these wrong writings on the right path and put them under a foundation. The members of "Chigatoy Gurungi" were the first to worry and understand this... Naturally, our writing was started with this. The children of El used it a lot... At the end of the Language and Spelling Congress held at the beginning of 1921, more innovations were added to our spelling" [8].

According to the information of Hasanboy Jamolkhanov, at the 1921 Congress of Language and Spelling, Botu proposed for the first time the conversion of Uzbek writing into Latin graphics. But Botu must not have expressed an opinion on behalf of "Chigatoy Gurung", because at that time Botu was not active in the "gurung", during 1921-1927 he studied at the Moscow State University of Economics. When the decision about Uzbek writing in the Latin alphabet was made, Botu was working as the Deputy Minister of Education of Uzbekistan. It can be seen that Botu's contribution to the adoption of the Latin alphabet was very great.

The Congress of Language and Spelling in 1921 was a revolution in the education sector of the country, because it gave a great impetus to the adaptation of the Arabic alphabet to the Uzbek script and the adoption of the Uzbek script in the Latin alphabet. However, as mentioned above, those who opposed the adoption of the new spelling at that time held another language and spelling congress in Fergana and Samarkand in 1922. At this conference, the issue of alphabet, spelling, orthography was discussed, but at the end of the conference, the participants could not reach a unanimous decision, and for this reason, the issue of alphabet and spelling was implemented at the level of the Turkestan ASSR, that is, at the next conference, the Bukhara People's Republic, It was agreed that the Khorezm People's Republic will be decided at the Central Asian Uzbek Conference, which will be attended by representatives of the Turkestan ASSR. Finally, on September 4, 1923, the First Congress of Uzbeks of Central Asia was held at the Kokaldosh madrasa in Bukhara with the participation of representatives of the USSR, USSR and Turkestan ASSR [9]. The participants of the meeting were:

- 1) Elbek (chairman of the Uzbek science society in Tashkent and teacher of Uzbek medicine);
- 2) Qayyum Ramazon (mother tongue teacher at the worker-peasant faculty in Tashkent);
- 3) Munavvar Qori (head of the Supreme Shura Branch of the Foundation);
- 4) Kamil Alimov (life member of the Commissariat of Education);
- 5) Shokirjon Rahimiy (supervisor of education in the Old City and member of the Uzbek Council of Education);
- 6) Dostmuhammadiyev (member of Turkestan scientific board);
- 7) Muhammad Keldiyev (member of Turkestan scientific board);
- 8) Professor Polvonov (specialist of Oriental languages at the Institute of Oriental Medicine in Tashkent);
- 9) Zehri (mother tongue teacher of the Samarkand State of Science);
- 10) Faktaruyevich (Head of Turkestan State Publishing House).

The following participated from the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic:

- 1) Musajon Saidjonov, Inspector of Education, 2) Ahror Sherzoda; 3) Muhammad Nazari; 4) Abdurahim Maghuri; 5) Ghulam Kadir Ghizoli; 6) Mulla Umar [10].

According to the decisions of this congress, 8 letters were removed from the current alphabet and the new alphabet was defined as 25 letters. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd congresses of Uzbeks of Central

Asia were held in September, and the next congresses were held in October.

On October 7, 1923, the 4th and 5th meetings of the Language and Spelling Council were held and the following decision was issued:

1. The Uzbek alphabet consists of 20 letters, 6 of which serve as connectors.
2. Uzbek spelling mainly consists of capital letters in one form: but when the letters re, ze, de come at the end of the others, put a tail (tail) at the end. Therefore, these letters have two forms.
3. In foreign words, the letters he (Hoyi Huttii), ayn should be omitted, and the letters se, zol, sod, zod, to (itqi), zo (izgi) should be removed from the Uzbek alphabet.
4. If necessary, the omitted letters should be taught in middle and high schools [11]

The final decisions of the 1st Congress of Central Asian Uzbeks were essentially the same as the ideas of "Chigatoy Gurungi". It can be seen from this that it is correct to say that "Chigatoy Gurungi" was the spiritual leader of spelling changes in the territory of Uzbekistan in 1917-1930.

The spelling reforms of 1917-1930 were widely covered by the press of that time. According to historian Murodova Dilrabo, in the 20s of the 20th century, the issue of changing the alphabet was the cause of sharp disputes among intellectuals. These controversial speeches were published in the column "Language, Terminology and Spelling Debates" under "Ishtirokyun", "Fergana", "Turkestan", "Kizil Bairak", "Red Uzbekistan", "Pravda Vostoka" newspapers, "Maarif va oqitguchi", "Alanga" magazines, enlightened intellectuals expressed the essence of the idea of "common Turkish alphabet" to the people in their views. revealed [12].

- **Literature review (Literature review).** At the beginning of the 20th century, we can learn about the views of "Chigatoy Gurungi" on national spelling issues from many sources. First of all, the works of national intellectuals of this period, the decisions of congresses held in the first half of the 20th century from periodical publications and documents stored in the archive can provide detailed information. Elbek's "Writing Paths" and Botu's Selected Works "Results of the Language and Spelling Conference" part of "Chigatoy Gurungi's" relation to spelling changes are explained in detail.
- **Research methodology (Research Methodology).** We all know that today historians and philologists are faced with urgent issues related to national orthography and language issues and history. Based on this, in this study, the works of philology scientists were studied by comparative analysis and adapted to historical processes. In the study, the sources were studied based on the methodological principle of the source analysis method.
- **Analysis and results (Analysis and results).** The above-mentioned sources show that the reaction to language and spelling changes in "Chigatoy Gurungi" was very intense. This organization established by Abdurauf Fitrat has a special place in the history of our national alphabet. It was recorded in history as a special stage in the development of the Uzbek alphabet. The national alphabet was formed as a result of the special approach of the national intellectuals within the "Chigatoy Gurungi" to the issues of the Uzbek national alphabet, and some letters of the old Arabic alphabet were removed and replaced by alternative letters.
- **Conclusion and recommendations (Conclusion/Recommendations).** So, at the beginning of the 20th century, one of the organizations that made great positive changes in the issue of Uzbek language and spelling was "Chigatoy Gurungi". The "Language and Spelling Gang", which operated as its branch, served as the main center for such creative activities. Also, in the first half of the 20th century, our national intellectuals showed a lot of zeal in the matter of Uzbek language and spelling. They tried to restore the former state of the Uzbek language by proving its uniqueness and greatness. In this regard, the services of Abdurauf Fitrat, Elbek, Botu, Cholpon and others, who wrote many articles, textbooks, manuals and lectures,

are incomparable. We can learn that Abdurauf Fitrat made an incomparable contribution to the Turkish language from his article "Our Language", "Sarf" and "Nahv". In these works, he highlighted the aspects of the classical Uzbek language and its possibilities, and showed many innovations related to the grammar of the Turkish language. At the same time, Fitrat left his mark as a scientist who made an effective contribution to Uzbek national linguistics of the 20th century.

References

1. Boltaboyev H. Jadidlar. Abdurauf Fitrat:risola.-Toshkent:Yoshlar nashriyoti uyi, 2022. – 8 bet(144 b).
2. Boltaboyev H. Jadidlar. Abdurauf Fitrat:risola.-Toshkent:Yoshlar nashriyoti uyi, 2022. – 8 bet(144 b).
3. Abdurauf Fitrat.Tilimiz. “Ishtirokiyun” ro`znomasi.1919-yil 12-iyun 32-soni.Ziyouz.com kutubxonasi.
4. Nurmonov A. O`zbek tilshunosligi tarixi.- Toshkent: “O`zbekiston” nashriyoti, 2002.- 119-120 bet. (232 b).
5. Elbek. Yozuv yo'llari // Tanlangan asarlar. –Toshkent: Sharq, 1999, 274-b.
6. O`zbekiston adabiyoti va san'ati” gazetasi,2021-yil 5-noyabr, 45 (4652)-son,“Jadidchilik harakati namoyandasi Elbek hayoti va faoliyatiga bir nazar” maqolasi. Dolimov U.
7. Botu. Til va imlo konferensiyasi yakunlari //Tanlangan asarlar. – Toshkent: Sharq, 2004, 126-b
8. Eltazarov J.D. O`zbekistonda XX asrda amalga oshirilgan yozuv va imlo islohotlari tarixidan (sotsiolingvistik tahlil). –Samarqand: SamDU nashri, 2017 . -120 bet.
9. Eltazarov J.D. O`zbekistonda XX asrda amalga oshirilgan yozuv va imlo islohotlari tarixidan (sotsiolingvistik tahlil). –Samarqand: SamDU nashri, 2017 . -120 bet
10. Rashidov O. O`zbekiston hududida milliy ziyolilar va bolsheviklarning mafkura maydonidagi kurashi (1917-1938 yy.).-Toshkent:Muharrir nashriyoti,2022.-280 b.(113 bet).
11. Rashidov O. O`zbekiston hududida milliy ziyolilar va bolsheviklarning mafkura maydonidagi kurashi (1917-1938 yy.).-Toshkent:Muharrir nashriyoti,2022.-280 b.(114 bet).
12. Murodova D. Buxoro viloyati davlat arxivi fondlarida lotinlashtirish masalalari. “Kazakhstan and the Turkic world: actual problems in the field of social sciences” xalqaro ilmiy simpozium anjumani.-Nur-Sultan,2021.-250 bet, (456 bet)