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THE ROLE OF THE MUTALLIBZADE BROTHERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S PRESS

This article examines the national children's press in Azerbaijan and the role of the Mutallibzade brothers in its development. It is noted that following the Tsarist censorship decree signed at the beginning of the 20th century, broad horizons in the field of education opened up for our intelligentsia. After a long struggle, our intellectuals laid the foundation for children's publications with pedagogical, methodological, and didactic focus. This article examines the formation and development of the national children's press in Azerbaijan in the early 20th century, and identifies the role of the Mutallibzade brothers in shaping its pedagogical, methodological, and educational focus. It establishes that the Mutallibzade brothers, representatives of public opinion working for the widespread progress of the nation's children, also played an important role in the development of the national children's press. This article analyzes the speeches of the brothers Alabbas Muznib Mutallibzade and Amin Abid Mutallibzade prior to their work in children's publications. This article discusses and analyzes in detail the materials the Mutallibzade brothers wrote about in their journal "Mekteb" / "School". It is demonstrated that the journal presents examples of their work in the intellectual and mental development of the younger generation, including both original and translated materials, poetry, and prose. This article analyzes the historical conditions for the development of the national children's press in Azerbaijan after the decree of tsarist censorship. The contribution of the Azerbaijani intelligentsia to the creation of children's publications with a pedagogical and didactic focus is established. The public education activities of the brothers Alabbas Muznib Mutallibzade and Amin Abid Mutallibzade are examined. The characteristics of their original and translated materials, as well as works of poetry and prose aimed at the intellectual and moral development of the younger generation, are identified. The significance of their work in the development of the national children's press and the formation of public opinion is highlighted.

Keywords: pedagogical press, journalism, transformation, instructive stories, pseudonym, translation.

Introduction. The upheavals that took place in the country at the beginning of the 20th century led to significant changes in the socio-political, socio-cultural life of the people. Thus, the revolutionary processes of 1905-1907 and the manifesto signed by Tsarist Russia at the end created favorable conditions for the realization of the goals of the people's intelligentsia. The leading intellectuals of the period were well aware of the power of the press, which acted as a public platform for the enlightenment and progress of the people. That is why, in this year alone, that is, in 1905-1907, eleven new press organizations were founded one after another. The progressive publications such as "Molla Nasreddin", "Füyuzat", "Hayat", "Irshad", "Tekamül", and their successors, which arose from the necessity caused by the enlightenment movement, played the role of a

school in the history of our national press and made a valuable contribution to our press heritage with their activities.

During these years, our intellectuals were working tirelessly to free the people from the environment of ignorance and to publish new publications for their social progress. But they understood well that it would take a long time to work on the progress of a society whose habits, beliefs and traditions had already been formed and which had been burdened with deep prejudice and ignorance for years. That is why they saw the work of enlightenment in encouraging young people to study and study, and they decided to start this process with them. Among the intellectuals of the time, Nariman Narimanov, Sultan Majid Ganizade, Habib bey Mahmudbeyov, Aliisgandar Jafarov, Gafur Rashad Mirzazadeh and other educators began



to create textbooks, teaching aids, extracurricular reading materials, lesson plans for classes, and examples of children's literature.

Task statement. The purpose of the article is to study the process of formation and development of the national children's press in Azerbaijan at the beginning of the 20th century, as well as to determine the role of the Mutallibzade brothers in the formation of its pedagogical, methodological and educational focus.

Analysis of recent research and publications. The founding of the magazines "Debistan", "Rahbar" and "Mekteb" laid the foundation for the emergence of children's literature, as well as children's literature writers and poets. Our progressive educators were already writing works for children, making translations, preparing textbooks and teaching aids to fill the gaps in this field. Active participants in the children's press such as Abdulla Shaig, Abbas Sahhat, Mirza Alakbar Sabir, Rashid bey Efendizade began to try their hand at this direction. The Transcaucasian Charter signed in 1829 began the establishment of new types of schools in the country. The first task in this direction was to increase the number of new-style "Usuli-jadid" (new-style) schools that replaced mosque schools. The second task was to print textbooks, teaching aids, and lesson plans appropriate for these schools. It is true that until then, although there were textbooks such as "Veten dili", "Kitabi-turki", "Rab'ul-atal", the Tsarist censorship did not allow their publication. Therefore, our intellectuals tried to create children's press organs that could play the role of additional teaching material according to the demands of the time and the necessity of the time. At the first and second congresses of teachers held in 1906-1907, the need to create children's press organs in accordance with the demands of the enlightenment movement was one of the issues on the agenda. Although our intellectuals made certain attempts to meet this demand, the Tsarist censorship prevented new publications with a thousand and one excuses. Finally, on April 17, 1906, "Debistan" was published by Aliisgandar Jafarzade and Mahammadhasan Afandizade, on September 24, 1906, "Rahbar" by Mahmud bey Mahmudbeyov, and in 1911, Gafur Rashad Mirzazade and Abdurrahman Efendizade founded the magazine "Mekteb".

Outline of the main material of the study. Since children's press was newly established and did not have any experience, they mainly benefited from examples of translated and oral folk literature at that time. Because, printing textbooks and teaching aids in accordance with the program of new-style schools was a time-consuming task. Examples of folk creati-

vity were not enough to fill the pages of magazines and promote positive ideas among children. Therefore, the intellectuals of the time stepped into the field of translation both to strengthen literary ties and to benefit from the literature of other peoples. Our intellectuals understood that this direction would play an important role in expanding children's worldviews in addition to getting acquainted with the literature of other peoples. The main reason why our intellectuals turned to translated literature was to understand the essence of how to write works for children who were new to them. At the same time, the literature, lifestyle, customs, and environment of other peoples influenced the worldview of children played a special role in its formation. After 1905, Azerbaijan expanded its cultural and economic relations with a number of countries, and the promotion of the cultural and spiritual heritage of other countries in our country accelerated. The activities of Abbas Sahhat, M.A.Sabir, R.Efandizadeh, M.Hadi, A.Shaig, A.Muznib, A.Mutaleebzadeh and other intellectuals in translation work are commendable. Using translation, transformation, quotation and adaptation in this field, they expanded the reading range of the people's children [2, p. 66].

The Mutallibzadeh brothers, intellectuals of the time, had a special role in the development of the history of the Azerbaijani press and enriched our printed pages with their wide and comprehensive creativity. Aliabbas Muznib Mutallibzadeh is a poet, writer, journalist, literary critic, scholar and translator who contributed to the Azerbaijani press. Throughout his 30-year career, he worked for the national identity of the people, the formation of national consciousness, and the future of the homeland. His short, tragic life and constant persecution did not extinguish his spirit of writing and creating. Due to his sharp speeches, he was exiled to Siberia for 8 years in 1937 and died in 1938. In his youth, he published poems in the national spirit in newspapers such as "Tazə hayat" and "Ittifaq". At the same time, A. Muznib also published critical poems in "Zanbur", a satirical press organ, a successor of Molla Nasreddin. Although the magazine "Zanbur" was a satirical magazine, A. Muznib appeared in the magazine with serious materials. In his poems published in magazines such as "Zanbur", "Molla Nasreddin", "Kelniyyat", "Babayi-Amir", "Mazali", Muznib defended women's freedom, opposed the arbitrariness of religious figures, and condemned the colonial policy of tsarism.

After "Zanbur" ceased its activities in 1910, he asked for permission to publish a newspaper called "Hilal" in the same year. A. Muznib made courageous speeches against the Tsarist tyranny in the newspa-

per "Hilal". Therefore, he was subjected to persecution, and after the publication of its second issue in the same year, the magazine's activities were stopped by police force. In 1911, the newspaper, which resumed its activities, published only 5 issues, and these issues were also rich in articles in the spirit of national freedom. In 1914, he obtained permission to publish the magazines "Dirilik" in the name of his younger brother, and in 1915, "Babayi-Amir". The creator and editor-in-chief of a number of publications, Aliabbas Muznib's creative path with his rich and comprehensive activity also passed through children's publications. Thus, he was an active employee of the "Mekteb" magazine, founded in 1911 by Gafur Rashad Mirzazade. He was an active employee of the magazine from 1911 to 1915. In his works, he mainly glorified noble humanist ideas such as justice and kindness. A. Muznib actively participated in the "Mekteb" magazine with interesting materials aimed at the formation of moral and spiritual values in children and the increase of their worldview.

Although the Mutallibzadeh brothers had different creative directions, they could not remain indifferent to the intellectual and spiritual development of the successors of the future generation. Because they considered the education and progress of the children of the people above all else. His younger brother Abid Mutallibzadeh, who grew up in the national spirit under the influence of Aliabbas Muznib, also contributed to the development of children's literature and the press with materials he wrote for young readers. Abid Mutallibzadeh appeared in "Hilal", "Zanbur", "Babayi-Amir", "Dirilik" and other magazines under pseudonyms such as "Gozqurab", "Gozqurab bey" and "Zeynalabidin". As we know, these signatures were intended to distract their identities from the attention of censorship at that time. His 30-year creative path also passed through the Turkish press, and in Turkish press organizations he mainly appeared with his poems with an independent spirit under the signature "Gültekin". A. Mutallibzadeh is also known in our literature as a folklorist, Gorgud scholar and Akhundov scholar with his multifaceted creativity. His book "History of the Literature of the Azerbaijani Turks" talks about the epic of "Kitabi Dede Gorgud". In 1918, A. Mutallibzadeh was sent to study in Istanbul with the support of the Azerbaijani People's Republic. In 1938, he was accused of espionage and killed. His activities in Turkey are mainly connected with the magazine "Yeni Qafqaziyya" published by M.A. Rasulzadeh in Istanbul. An outstanding folklorist and critic who played an exceptional role in the development of Azerbaijani

literature, "In his articles and official questionnaires, it is stated that the real name of the researcher who used the name "Amin Abid" was "Zeynalabdin". It is also stated that he used this name as an expression of respect for the leader of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic, M.A. Rasulzadeh" [3, p.4].

Abid Mutallibzadeh played an important role in the development of children's literature with his diverse and rich creativity and was an active contributor to the magazine "Mekteb". In 1912, he appeared in the magazine under pseudonyms such as Abid Mutallibzadeh and Abid. Thus, A. Mutallibzadeh participated in the magazine "Mektab" with short stories from 1911 to 1917. (It should be noted that Professor Aflatun Mammadov incorrectly presented Abid Mutallibzadeh as A. Matlabzadeh in his book "Azerbaijani Children's Literature ("Dabistan", "Rahbar" and "Mektab")"). It is a great respect for the Mutallibzadeh brothers to Akhundov's work that the majority of Abid Mutallibzadeh's research is dedicated to Akhundov's work. Thus, he wrote a large-scale article entitled "M. Akhundov in Turkish Literature" and is also the author of a monograph on M.F. Akhundzadeh. A. Muznib, on the other hand, appeared with a poem in the 2nd issue of the "Mekteb" magazine in 1911, dedicated to the life and work of M.F. Akhundzadeh. The issue included two articles about Akhundzadeh and a poem by Aliabbas Muznib entitled "To the Soul of Mirza Fatali Akhundov". It should be noted that this poem is not found in any source. For the first time, the research is the object:

*Ədiba! Etdilər keçmişdə gərçi zatını təkfir,
Sevinsin ruhun: indi millətin eylər səni təqdir.
Ən əvvəl məzhəkə yazdın, demək, ahı nida etdin,
Gözəl ovqatını millət yolunda sən fəda etdin.
Dözüb cahillərin təkfirinə kəsbi-cəfa etdin,
Əmin ol, kəndi təklifin əda etdin, vəfa etdin.
Ədiba! Etdilər keçmişdə gərçi zatını təkfir,
Sevinsin ruhun: indi millətin eylər səni təqdir* [6, 1911, №2, p. 19-21].

The poem describes how Akhundzadeh was once called an irreligious and faithless person, and how he ultimately found out that his path was actually the path of truth, that he worked for the progress of his people, that he saved them from darkness and led them to the light of knowledge. In A. Mutallibzadeh's translations such as "The Horse and the Ox", "The Dog and the Wolf" mainly adjectives such as injustice and injustice were condemned. He appeared in the magazine under the rubric "Scientific Stories" (1916, No. 2-3). At the same time, he organized scientific topics here. This scientific information was simpli-

fied and presented in an artistic language. It should be noted that these stories were quoted from the works of poets and writers of other nations. (Quote is an Arabic word, meaning taking a word, sentence, idea from someone else's work). A. Mutallibzadeh wrote small, entertaining stories that appealed to children's taste under a special rubric. Stories such as "The Stories of the Scientist Cat: The Golden Wolf Lady" (1916, No. 11), "The Stories of the Scientist Cat: "The Loyalty of the Lady Chick" (1917, No. 12) belong to this section. A. Muznib mainly used *tabdil* in his work in the children's press, and he translated his prose works into verse to make them more memorable and playful for children. (*Tabdil* is an Arabic word and means change, alteration).

In the collection of tales titled "Funny Tales" and "Terrible Tales", which were mainly taken from oral folk art, Abid Mutallibzadeh also published a tale called "Ahmak" (1915, No. 7). In the story "The Three Brave Children of the Homeland" (1914, No. 25), the dreams of two brothers and a sister and their lives in accordance with their dreams are described. These heroes named Servat, Necdet and Masrura express their future dreams to each other at the hearth. At the end, their service to the homeland is described.

During the period when A. Muznib actively participated in the "Mekteb" magazine, in 1914, he made speeches with "Divided Heritage", "Dog and Wolf", "Happy Holiday", "The Effect of Memory: Translation from Saadi", "Olive and Reed" and other materials. A. Muznib took care of the growth of children in national and spiritual education and the spirit of the future with his works and speeches. On March 6, 1914, he congratulated the children on the holiday of Nowruz, expressing his hopes and dreams for them, thinking about their future, and calling them to science and education:

Novruz uşaqları! Ay bizim gül qönçə iqbalmız!

Keçmiş keçənlər, sizdədir ümid istiqbalmız!

Qeyrət edin siz öylə kim, elm tamama söyləsin!

Bu bayramı hər an sizə Allah mübarək eyləsin! [7, p.65].

It should be noted that he also published satirical poems in the magazine that appealed to children. In the first issue of the magazine "School" in 1911, his poem "The Mullah's Hat" was a major criticism of the ignorance of the mullahs of the time. Thus, in the poem, the mullah's ignorance was conveyed to people with a sense of humor:

Söylədi molla etməyin hiddət

Var bu felimdə bir böyük hikmət

Ayrı ayrı soran adamlara mən

Deyirəm indi cümləyə birdən

Sıxmasınlar bəni soruşmaqla

Boğmasınlar dəxi o sıxmaqla [5, 1911, №1, p.13].

A. Mutallibzadeh also published instructive materials in the children's press, such as "The Punishment of Oppression", "The Result of Not Heeding the Word", "The Plague of Theft", "A Just Judge", etc. In these short stories, the hero finally draws conclusions from his actions and feels remorse. There was also a column titled "Small Story" in children's magazines, where Aliabbas Muznib published short stories. In the story "The Punishment of Oppression", children are instilled with human feelings such as humanism, justice, and mercy:

A big fish in the sea had been trying to catch and eat a small fish for a long time. The small fish was getting tired of it. One day, he chased the small fish so that he could catch and eat it. The poor fish was looking for a place to save his life from the hands of the oppressor. At that moment, he saw the fishermen's net and entered it. The big fish also followed him into the net. The small fish easily passed through the net. But the big fish got caught in the net and started struggling. Seeing this, another fish said: If you had not wronged and hurt that small fish, you would not have come to this trouble! (8, 1914, No. 7, p. 126)

In Aliabbas Muznib's story "Dividing the Inheritance" with the motto "worldly goods remain in the world", human qualities such as greed and justice were instilled in children. After the death of a wealthy man, his two sons cannot divide the inheritance left. They have a fight over the inheritance and ask their neighbor to help divide the inheritance. The neighbor also divides all the belongings and animals into two parts. All the animals perish, the dishes and utensils break. Finally, nothing is left of the inheritance for anyone. In A. Mutallibzadeh's story "A Patriotic Child", a poor Italian child is given money by rich people on a ship, and he hears their conversation criticizing the Italian nation. The child throws the money they gave him at them and says: "Take your money! I don't need the help of a man who insults my dear homeland and my beloved nation!" (11, 1916, No. 11, p. 172). In the story "The Servant and the Horse" [1912, No. 10] translated by A. Muznib, attributes such as theft and ignorance are criticized in the example of a man who steals and sells horse fodder. In the story "The Horse and the Ox" (No. 11) of 1914, the story ends with an instructive conclusion, such as the ox sleeping day and night, the horse galloping in blood and sweat during the day, and finally justice finding its place. In the poem "The Merciful Child" (1915, No. 5, pp. 69-70) by

A. Muznib, an orphan child with a downcast look sits outside while everyone is dressed beautifully and eating and drinking with his family on the day of Nowruz. In the example of the Merciful Child, a child named Mustafa is shown bringing him to their home, feeding him and buying him clothes. His help to an orphan child calls people to be kind, and ultimately directs them to draw conclusions from this instructive poem:

*Ağlayan gözləri sevindirdi
Yavrular! Siz dəxi alın ibrət
Böylə olmaqla edin qeyrət!* [9, p.69-70].

Abid Mutallibzadeh also published folk proverbs titled "Great Words" and "Beautiful Words" in the magazine "Mekteb". His proverbs of an advisory and didactic nature were also included in the magazine's 6th issue of 1915 under the title "Beautiful Words":

*Ruhun qidası həqiqət və ədalətdir.
Vətənə məhəbbət iman əsridir.*

*Fəqir və zərurət çalışqan adamın qapısından
baxsa da içəri girməz.*

*Diqqətli bir fikrin dağınıq iyirmi fikrin daha artıq
qiyməti vardır.*

Aqıl bildiyini söyləməz, dəli söylədiyini bilməz.

Şirin dilli olan adamın dostu çox olar.

Qovanın gücü varsa, qaçanın da Allahu vardır.

*Səndən fəqir olanlara baxıb olduğun hala şükür
elə.*

*Nə dövlətliyə borclu, nə də fəqirdən alacaqlı
olmalı.*

*İnsan üçün ən gözəl və ciddi oyun çalışmaqdan
ibarətdir.*

Addım addım sayəsində addım olur.

Öz xətasını unudan başqasının xətasını böyüdür.

Çox and içən çox da yalan deyər (10, 1915, №6, p.87-88).

Abid Mutallibzadeh's story "Good advice is better than everything" (1915, No. 8) shows the friendship between a tortoise and a goose, the tortoise's desire to fly with the geese in the sky, and the tortoise's failure to heed the advice, falling from the sky to the ground and breaking into pieces. A. Muznib's materials "Admonition to our children" (1914, No. 13) and "Advice: to my son Huseyn at the age of five" (1912, No. 22) are also of an admonitional nature, highlighting the moral and spiritual upbringing of children. In the poem "Advice: to my son Hasan at the age of five", he advised that the time was now to read and get an education, to listen to the advice of parents, and to spend his free time reading books instead of playing. 0, "study, write, and then compete," encouraged all children of the time to pursue knowledge, using the example of his son Hasan.

Thus, the Mutallibzadeh brothers, who were representatives of the public opinion front working for the mass progress of the children of the people at the beginning of the 20th century, played an important role in the development of the national children's press with their activities. They did their best in the intellectual and mental development of the growing generation with both original and translated materials and examples of poetry and prose. The Mutallibzadeh brothers took into account the age and perception characteristics of children in the materials they presented. It should be noted that A. Mutallibzadeh published 18 materials in the "Mekteb" magazine during the years 1911-1917, and A. Muznib published 16 materials from 1911 to 1915. The booklet "The Mutallibzadeh brothers and the Azerbaijani children's press" (4) only lists the names of their materials published in the "Mekteb" magazine over the years, and some of them are not mentioned.

Thus, in all their stories, poems and folklore examples in the national children's press, the Mutallibzadeh brothers presented selected materials for the formation of children's understanding habits, interests, their awareness of the environment and worldview. They presented both original and translated materials in the magazine for the growth of children's national spirit, national identity and national consciousness. The main purpose of the writers' appeal to translated materials was to increase the worldview of children with the literature, press and culture of other nations and at the same time to expand their creative directions by gaining extensive experience in this direction. The scope of creativity of both brothers was wide, and most of their translation activities were related to children's press.

Conclusion. As we have noted, the fact that secular schools were replacing mosque schools and the lack of publications in the new educational process forced the Mutallibzadeh brothers and other intellectuals to turn to translated materials. Small-scale stories, fables, and poetry samples translated from world literature nourished the souls of children. The activities of the Mutallibzadeh brothers in the national children's press were diverse, creative, and didactic in terms of themes and ideas. Taking all this into account, we can say that the magazines "Debistan", "Rahbar" and "Mekteb", which were published at the beginning of the 20th century, contributed to the development of the growing generation by praising positive moral values and ideas in the development of the growing generation with their pedagogical, methodological, and didactic orientation.

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Мелікова Ф. Г. РОЛЬ БРАТІВ МУТАЛІБЗАДІ У РОЗВИТКУ НАЦІОНАЛЬНОЇ ДИТЯЧОЇ ПРЕСІЄЮ

У статті розглядається національна дитяча преса в Азербайджані і роль братів Муталлібзаде в її розвитку. Відзначено, що після указу царської цензури, підписаного на початку ХХ століття, перед інтелігенцією відкрилися широкі горизонти у бік освіти. Після тривалої боротьби наші інтелектуали заклали основу для дитячих видань із педагогічною, методичною та дидактичною спрямованістю. Досліджено процес становлення та розвитку національної дитячої преси в Азербайджані початку ХХ століття, а також визначено роль братів Муталлібзаде у формуванні її педагогічної, методичної та просвітницької спрямованості. Встановлено, що брати Муталлібзаде, представники фронту громадської думки, які працювали на масовий прогрес дітей народу, також відіграли важливу роль у розвитку національної дитячої преси. У статті аналізуються виступи братів Алаббаса Музніба Муталлібзаде та Аміна Абіда Муталлібзаде у періоди до початку їхньої діяльності у дитячих виданнях. Тут детально обговорюються та аналізуються матеріали, про які брати Муталлібзаде писали у журналі «Школа». Доведено, що в журналі представлені приклади їхньої діяльності в інтелектуальному та розумовому розвитку підростаючого покоління, як оригінальні, так і перекладені матеріали, приклади поезії та прози. Проаналізовано історичні умови розвитку національної дитячої преси в Азербайджані після указу царської цензури. Встановлено внесок азербайджанської інтелігенції у створення дитячих видань з педагогічною та дидактичною спрямованістю. Вивчено громадсько-просвітницьку діяльність братів Алаббаса Музніба Муталлібзаде та Аміна Абіда Муталлібзаде. Визначено особливості їх оригінальних та перекладних матеріалів, а також творів поезії та прози, спрямованих на інтелектуальний та моральний розвиток підростаючого покоління. Встановлено значення їхньої діяльності у розвитку національної дитячої преси та формуванні громадської думки.

Ключові слова: педагогічна преса, журналістика, трансформація, повчальні історії, псевдонім, переклад.

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