

## Publication and review of Sadriddin Aini's works in Iran

Marjan Madani Garakani

**Abstract:** The history of literature of Persian speakers is a rich and informative part of the world literature, whose origin goes back to thousands of years. Rarely such literature is found in which thousand-year-old traditions and literary values and epic mythology have greatly improved during the change of religion and which has led to the emergence and spiritual evolution of new literature with its rich history in the fields of Islamic values in all sections of art, culture, and literature of the Orient. Undoubtedly, the most valuable spiritual wealth of Persian speakers is Persian language and literature, which in spite of all civil conflicts and foreigners invasion has still kept the spiritual unity of Aryan people – Iranian, Tajik, and Afghan through out the Far and Near East. Therefore, this paper is going to study and review his biography and his works and the publication of them in the press and media of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Marjan Madani Garakani. **Publication and review of Sadriddin Aini's works in Iran.** *Life Sci J* 2013;10(1):869-873] (ISSN:1097-8135). <http://www.lifesciencesite.com>. 137

**Keywords:** Sadriddin Aini; Iran; literature of Persian

### 1. Introduction

The history of literature of Persian speakers is a rich, extensive, and informative part of the world literature, whose origin goes back to thousands of years. Rarely such literature is found in which thousand-year-old traditions and literary values and epic mythology have greatly improved during the change of religion and which has led to the emergence and spiritual evolution of new literature with its rich history in the fields of Islamic values in all sections of art, culture, and literature of the Orient. Undoubtedly, the most valuable spiritual wealth of Persian speakers is Persian language and literature, which in spite of all civil conflicts and foreigners invasion has still kept the spiritual unity of Aryan people – Iranian, Tajik, and Afghan through out the Far and Near East. It is important to note that over time, brave and dedicated children of this land sacrificed their lives to protect and develop their ancestral culture and literature, Persian-Tajik language. One of them was certainly Sadriddin Aini. Therefore, this paper is going to study and review his biography and his works and the publication of them in the press and media of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Literary critics and experts, especially Komisarrov, Kamal Aini, and Shakarov have written interesting articles on this matter. But this paper is to review, criticize, and identify publication stages of Sadriddin Aini's works and articles. In our idea, the time of this familiarity can be divided to three stages. The first stage is the familiarity of Iranian readers with Sadriddin Aini's works and personality not only by his works but also by their review. When the complementary publishing S. Aini's story "Adine" was printed in 1927, literary critic Rahim Hashem wrote and printed a review on it titled "The first Tajik revolutionary story- "Adine". He expressed the story of "Adine" quite well specially the tough and bitter

and catastrophic life of the main heroes of this story, Bibi Aysha and Gol Bibi and called it "The first revolutionary story of Tajikistan and the East". This content review was so impressive which an Iranian lady named Shokooh Khavarian wrote about his impression and sent it to the magazine "knowledge leader". For example she had written: "I haven't seen this holy book yet which is reflecting the shouts and cries of the oppressed of the East. I wrote the review which you had written on this book, obviously it is one of the most impressive books for the oppressed of the East specially the injured women, I expect you to send a copy of it to Iran, because I am your hardworking sister". Also, in this period of time Iranian scientist and scholars got familiar with S. Aini's works. His valuable book, "Samples of Tajik Literature" which was published in Moscow in 1926 with Abolghasem Lahouti's foreword, was also of interest to Iranian readers. In one of his letters to Sadriddin Aini, Lahouti (December 4th, 1927) had written: "Iranian representatives, editors and parliament members were extremely pleased with the publication of "samples of Tajik literature" and talked repeatedly about this book and your contribution to Tajik literature improvement and said that everyone in Iran wished to see this book"<sup>4</sup>. The first person who studied this book was Professor Saeed Nafisi. He wrote his opinions about "Samples of Tajik Literature" and published them in "Red Twilight" newspaper. Saeed Nafisi has referred to the advantages of this book as: "This book is the bibliography and the selected words of two hundred and twenty male and female poets and writers of our ancestors' land, whose pioneer is Roudaki, the father of Persian poetry and the last of them are contemporary poets...". According to him, the main importance of Aini's book is that "it introduces a large number of recent poets to us, that

unfortunately , due to the revolutions and breaking off the literary relations with them , we didn't have any news about them , and their names weren't mention in recent biographies" . Therefore Saeed Nafisi has considered this book very important and has asked every Persian literature researcher to:

"... Have a copy of this book with them and it is necessary for each Iranian to read this precious book at least once..." Professor Saeed Nafisi has also written about the author of the book and his status and virtues : "The author of this book , contemporary great scholar , Sadriddin Aini is one of the broad-minded people of this land and is a famous scholar of his country and among the glories of our language in Tajikistan"<sup>9</sup> . Therefore it could be said that this article of Saeed Nafisi is one of the first reviews of Aini's works and a description of his knowledge and talent in Iranian Press. However, Nafisi criticized Aini's book when, according to Tajik scholars, the above mentioned book had been blamed by the enemies of the Tajik and their language due to their nationalism and king worshipping, and had caused some threats to the author and his work. Saeed Nafisi got help from Aini's scientific works while writing his precious thesis "The environment, status and poems of Roudaki". He stated that "During that time I started writing the book about Roudaki and I asked my friend who were in USSR to send me whatever prepared in this ground. They sent me a little book from Sadriddin Aini which was printed in Latin. I have brought all those new materials I found in that book in the book which I wrote about Roudaki... Gradually I got his other books about Sa'di and Avicenna and fro then he was one of my intimate acquaintances. What so many great people who warmly and spiritually get along with us without knowing us or seeing us before, as if we had been in touch with them for many years!" This appreciation, goodwill, and "spiritual bond" cause friendly relationships between these two great scientists. Thus, whatever has so far been said about the review of Sadrissin Aini's works and popularity is the first stage of knowing this great Tajik writer by Iranian scholars. The second stage and according to famous orientalist Komissarov "Real and accurate recognition of Tajik literature and works of S. Aini in Iran began in 1940s. According to him "In 1942, the head of Tajikistan academy of skills under the order of Tajik scientific institutions donated a bunch of books of Tajik publishers to academy of Persian language and literature" He has said that "academy servants were reading the books very enthusiastically. Aini's books drew many attentions to themselves. Newspapers and magazines were asked to send the Aini's works and translated materials, so that Iranians would become familiar with him. Therefore some

articles about Aini and some of his works were found in neighboring country". Studies and researches indicate that since the middle 1940s (from 1943-1944 onwards) the publication of Aini's works and the study and review of his books increased In Iran. Specially some magazines such as "New message" , "Speech" , "plunder" , and "Cluster" and some published materials such as " Aware" , Cultural heritage , tourism and handicrafts organization" had remarkable contribution. Iranian readers have become familiar with Aini's works and according to available information and references it is clear that Aini's most important works based on the time of their publication in Iran have been as the followings:

"Lahouti's heart". A five-some about Lahouti poem ( "New Message" magazine ; third year , 1947 , Vol. 12 ) ; "Adine" , firt part ( "Speech" magazine , second year , 1945 , Vol. 8 ) ; Regretting shoes of Hazrat Khaje Oban" . A chapter of "Bukhara" ( Notes ) ("New Message" , Sixth year , 1953 , Vol. 11 ) ; " a woman who changed into a man" a chapter of "Bukhara" ( "New Message" , Sixth year , 1953 , Vol. 12 ) , "Unsuccessful Girl" , a chapter of "Bukhara" ( "New Message" , first year , 19954 ) ; "From the story of Regretting Shoes of Hazrat Khaje Oban" ( Series 1000 years of Persian Prose , Fifth book" with the assistance of Karim Keshavarz , Tehran , ) . Finally the complementary form "Notes" with Saeed Sirjani assistance ( Negah publications , 1983) was printed and published. Sirjani , has written an article named " some points as preface" at the beginning of the work and then has added "Aini's Life" " A brief Translation of My Own Life" from the manuscript , and also " Dictionary of Tajik words" and "Some Grammatical Points" to the "Notes" . Various Iranian Publications have always cared about "Notes" . Iranian scholars have been aware of printing "Notes" in Persian alphabet, which had been published in Tajikistan (Stalin Abad, 1957-1959). For instance, one of the famous scholars of Iran Habib Yaghmaee stated: "I have neither traveled to Tajikistan nor I know Tajik language. Several books have been sent to the library of "Hoor" including "Notes" by Sadriddin Aini in 4 volumes ..." One of the first articles about the life of Sadriddin Aini and review of his works is written by A. Diyov which is printed in "New Message"<sup>18</sup> magazine. The writer has begun the article by mental expression of Aini's personality and people's respect towards him and emphasizes: "Whenever the topic of Tajik Soviet literature is raised, the first name that is reminded is his name". Aini generates ancient and classical traditions of Persian-Tajik literature in a new form which is affiliated with the nation and current life". Then he talks about his lifestyle, his activities until the Soviet revolution, which was devoted to "opening the eyes

of the nation and showing the way of freedom and prosperity to them” and “training people” and also refers to his attempts for freedom and his active participation in strengthening socialistic structure. The writer has written: “Sadriiddin Aini entered the highway of literature for ever. He chose an honorable destination; he decided to show the past life of Tajikistan to the nation, so that can see the current triumph brighter and the future clearer”. In this article the most important stages of Aini’s works have been briefly explained, which might be the first complementary information about Aini for Iranian readers. Also, it is obvious that the writer is aware of the details of the events of the soviet period in Tajikistan. Later, Parviz Khanlari published an article entitled “A Tajik Writer” in “Speech” magazine. Professor Khanlari has emphasized the necessity of knowing and teaching the literary works and lives of scholars outside of Iran and states: “ It’s worth opening a place in the history of our literature for Persian poets and writers , who are living in countries such as Afghanistan , India , and Tajikistan ... In ancient history of literature we have talked about Amir Khosrow , Khaje Hassan Dehlavi , Nezami Ganjavi , and khaghani Shervani ; thus , in contemporary history of literature we must talk about Mohammed Eghbal Hendi , and Sadriiddin Aini , Tajik writer” . The basic conclusion of this magazine is that: “The major difference of Tajik dialect with Persian literary language is in the pronunciation of some words”. Mohammed Shahid Nouraei published a magazine in honor of Sadriiddin Aini’s 75th birthday. He has written briefly about Aini’s life and his works. The care and respect of “New Message” magazine to S. Aini’s personality and literary position was such that even chairman of the board of Science Academy and management board reprinted the unity of the writers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on his demise. After Sadriiddin Aini’s death magazines and publications published many articles and reviews about him. For example, “Cluster” magazine (No. 30, September, 1968) published the article of Journalist Albert Kolouchi and “Plunder” (No. 8, October , 1972 ) published the article of professor Habib Yaghmaee. These two articles have been translated to Cyrillic alphabet and have attracted Tajik readers in “Voice of The East” magazine. Albert Kolouchi’s article “Sadriiddin Aini , the founder of Tajik Classic Literature” was printed in “literature” section of “Cluster” . This article briefly restates Sadriiddin Aini’s social and scientific and literary activities. The author writes: “Although he has passed youth many years ago, he has novel ideas and a young pen”. At the end of the article Kolouchi has stated: “Aini does not belong to the Tajik only, He belongs to all mankind!” Professor Habib Yaghmaee writes about

Aini’s “Notes” that while reading this book, “Its eloquent and sweet materials extremely charmed me so that I didn’t put it away before ending it”. Although many words and interpretations in this book are in Tajik, the consistency of the phrases is Persian, Smooth and familiar Persian so that nothing remains vague and moreover, such materials about the customs and traditions and the habits and the moods of people of that era, will revive the memories of the old generation of Iran (The generation that I belong to)”. And the results of these studies have become the content of Habib Yaghmaee’s speech at the third congress of Iranian research on “Sadriiddin Aini, writer and poet from Tajikistan, Soviet” (1973). In these articles, the writing of Hossein Lesan , the professor of Tehran University is also interesting which has been printed in “ the journal of the faculty of literature and humanities.<sup>30</sup> This writer has expressed his thoughts and ideas about Sadriiddin Aini’s “Notes” , historical position of Bukhara in growth of Persian culture and the development of Dari Persian language and its characteristics in this area . For everyone who is dealing with Iranian culture and civilization, “generally geographical and environmental boundaries are removed in studying its historical value”. Affection and emotion are looking for ancient acquaintances and are seeking for more new findings”. He briefly refers to turbulent land of Vera Rood and concludes that “Persian language is still an unrivalled language” and like Aini In Tajikistan “the greatest poets and writers and speakers represent their art and taste in the form of this language. Sadriiddin Aini’s “Notes” – A man from Bukhara who was born, lived, and grew up in this city is really interesting to read”. Specially that in this work, Aini has written “all his experiences very patiently in current Persian language of Bukhara”. Hossein Lesan after reading “Notes” declares that this work is a real seeking reference to the history of our past and ancestors “and I myself had such feeling by reading “Notes”. The old storyteller , suffered , experienced , and adorable told me the stories of very far past , very familiar tales whose every word was penetrating in my heart and soul and had some signs of familiarity and bond”<sup>33</sup> . Hossein Lesan has comprehended the status of Persian-Tajik language specially the language of Aini and believes that Aini’s style is similar to Bayhaghi’s : It is fair to say that the sweet Persian language is still popular there (In Bukhara ) and has not lost its ancient popularity yet. Aini’s writing reminds us of Bayhaghi’s attractive and impressive prose and other writings of that time. His approach in style of expression, and telling stories and various anecdotes and his proper explanations, are really very similar to those of Baihaghi”. He clearly expressed his purpose which

was studying the features of the language of Aini's "Notes": "... the purpose of this article is to talk about beautiful words, phrases, proverbs, idioms and interpretations, which have been used in this book and can improve Persian language". But it should be noted that Hossein Lesan expressed his thoughts while he was studying "Notes" which was published in Tajikistan in Persian alphabet. Therefore, "notes" has been noticed by Iranian scientists and scholars more than Aini's other works. And it can be said that "notes" was the first work which was completely published in Iran and delivered to Iranian readers, which was printed by means of Saeed Sirjani's attempts and assistance in "Agah" publications. (Tehran, 1983). One detailed article which is written about Sadriddin Aini's life, biography, and works is prepared by Saeed Sirjani entitled "Some points as introduction" for the above mentioned publishing of "Notes". Whatever Aini has written about "the miserable land" "with a ruler from Monghatian dynasty and equipments for arresting, killing, invading, and eating", in a land that everything is superficial and hypocrisy and deception". His conclusion from this miserable situation is also as follows: "... the force of history and people's ignorance and the greed of the rich and the tyranny of the government marked their inevitable fate and ruined their freedom and nationality and culture. ...". Sirjani believes that "the existence of a cruel murderer named Amir Bukhara" was the result of losing and breaking the boundaries of geography, tradition, culture and national language and also foreigner's invasion. Moreover, Sirjani has stated that: "This new perspective was my effective incentive to publish this work, so that it would be comprehensible for every Iranian reader especially Iranian Young readers". Aini is a writer who has illustrated the social conditions of that time very skillfully. Besides, Aini's fluent prose is very pleasant and attractive, and so is his familiarity with Tajik accent and culture". But the main purpose of the researcher is to emphasize that the concept of "Home" is associated with the concept of common language and Sirjani has correctly emphasized that all Persian speakers must understand this point and try to reach cultural and spiritual unity and understanding. Finally, the third stage of noticing Sadriddin Aini's works was during Tajikistan's achieving independence and the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Republic of Tajikistan. In this short period of time, dozens of books, and the works of Tajik contemporary scholars were published in Iran in Persian alphabet and script including Aini's works which indicates liberal thoughts, awareness of Transoxiana community and its entering

enlightenment movement (new education development). In this regard the work of S. Aini "The history of cultural revolution in Bukhara" was published in Persian script with a preface by Kamal Aini. By an Iranian publication "Soroush" it was published and distributed among Iranian and Tajik readers. One of the first books of Aini which was published in Iran was "The samples of Tajik Literature" and it seemed as if 80-year-old dream of Professor Saeed Nafisi was realized and Alasghar She'rdoost and Ali Ravaghi contributed to its introduction preparation. Tajik scientists Mohammed Jan Shakoori and Kamaloddin Aini have written several articles on introducing this book. This bilateral review (Tajik and Iranian scholars) of a sample literature of a nation can be considered as a new phenomenon in our scientific and literary relations, which happened during the development of cultural and scientific relations of our people. Present publication of this work owns an advantage so that in its margin a famous article of Professor Sadriddin Aini named "The Meaning of Tajik Word" has been added as a manuscript of the author which enhances the value of the book. Now at the end of this article, Aini's works have always been noticed in Iran and his works have been reviewed in this ground, as well. But the development of scientific and literary relations between Iran and Tajikistan on one hand, and the valuable works of Sadriddin Aini, on the other hand, require that we introduce most of his works to Iranian readers very soon. For example, his long novel "The pawnbroker's Death" which is a very precious and realistic work, is comparatively very similar to "haji Agha" written by Iranian famous writer Sadegh Hedayat in terms of content and theme and the image of the first character of the story, and is worth publishing and reviewing and studying. Novels (Long stories) such as "Adine", "Dakhoonde", "Slaves", "Ancient School", and theses dedicated to Roudaki, Ferdowsi, Sa'di, Avicenna, and etc. are necessary to be introduced to Iranian readers because they are top scientific and literary works in Persian language and are the embodiment of the life of a great Aryan nation in Tajik Transoxiana.

#### **Acknowledgements:**

Author is grateful to persons for financial support to carry out this work.

#### **Corresponding Author:**

Marjan Madani Garakani

**References**

1. Auerbach, Erich. 1953. *Mimesis: The Representation of Reality in Western Literature*. Trans. Willard R. Trask. Princeton: Princeton UP.
2. Bourdieu Cf. Pierre. 1996. *The Rules of Art: Genesis and Structure of the Literary Field*, trans. Susan Emanuel (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.), 20–21, 48–85
3. Bovand Shahriari A.A. 2007. Literary Relations Between Iran And Tajikistan Its Influence On Tajikistan's New Poetry. *Journal Of Human Sciences Summer*; -(54):119-138.
4. Browne E.G. 1951. *A Literary History of Persia*, vols II and III, Cambridge.
5. Browne, E.G. 1998. *Literary History of Persia*. ISBN 0-7007-0406-X.
6. Gilbert Lazard.1975. 'The Rise of the New Persian Language' in *Cambridge History of Iran*, vol. IV, Cambridge, pp. 595-632.
7. Hassan Kamshad.1996. *Modern Persian Prose Literature*, Ibex Publishers.
8. Homa Katouzian.2000. *Sadeq Hedayat: Life and legend of an Iranian writer*, I.B. Tauris.
9. Iiri Becka. Tradition in margi sudxur, the novel by Sadriddin Ayni, aror, 1967.
10. Iiri Becka. Two outstanding satires of modern tajik and Iranian literature // *Archive orientalni*, 38, 1970.
11. Айнӣ С. 1958. Мухтасари тарљумаи ӯли худам. – Сталинобод: Нашрдавтољ.
12. Айнӣ С. 1987. Таърихи инкилоби Бухоро. – Душанбе: Адиб.
13. Айнӣ С. 2010. Марги судхӯр. Матни илмӣ. Бо кӯшиш ва эътимомии А. Кӯчаров. – Душанбе: Адиб.
14. Айнӣ С. Куллиёт. 1961. Љилди 4. – Сталинобод: Нашриёти давлатии Тољикистон.
15. Айнӣ С. Марги судхӯр. 1939. Сталинобод: Нашриёти давлатии Тољикистон. Шӯъбаи адабиёти бачагона.
16. Айнӣ С. Марги судхӯр. 1953. Бо таърири иловаҳо. – Сталинобод: Нашриёти давлатии Тољикистон.
17. Бечка И. 1971. Трдиция в повести Садриддина Айнаи «Марги судхӯр» // Љашинномаи Айнӣ, љ. 1У. – Душанбе: Дониш. Tewari JC. Vegetational analysis along altitudinal gradients around Nainital, Ph. D. Thesis, Kumaun University, Nainital, 1982; 570.
18. Pielou EC. *Ecological Diversity*. Wiley, New York, 1975; 165.
19. Magurran AE. *Ecological Diversity and Its Measurement*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey, 1988; 179.
20. Набавӣ А. Љусторњо ва ибтикорот дар наср. – Душанбе: Адиб, 2009.
21. Наљмонов Ф. Пешгуфтор ба киссаи Содиќ Њидоят «Њољӣ оќо» // Садои Шарќ, 1980, № 2.
22. Хољимуродов О. Мушобињати ду симо // Садои Шарќ, 1988, № 4.
23. Шакурӣ М. Нигоње ба адабиёти садаи ХХ. – Душанбе, 2006.
24. Шокир Мухтор. Адабиёти тољик дар Фаронса. – Душанбе: Ирфон, 1975.
25. Шукуров М. Насри реалистӣ ва тањаввули шуури эстетикӣ. – Душанбе: Ирфон, 1987

12/20/2012