

ABDULLA  
QODIRIY

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*The Days  
Gone by*

NOVEL



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"The Days Gone by" is the main play of Abdulla Qodiriy. The reason of calling "The Days Gone by" is that the author aimed to demonstrate the original of spiritual life of the Uzbek people on the basis of expressing "black days" of nation's history.

The writer tried to describe beautiful decorum, great respect to other people, great spirituality in communication of people with each other, different systems of lifestyle of nation at that period.

This work is valuable for national culture of the Uzbek people was described as much as possible. You can see events devoted to thinking, saying and acting like Uzbek in communications between Otabek and his parents, between Mirzakarim praymaster, Oftoboyim and their groom, Otabek and Kumush. It gives great pleasure on national culture of the Uzbek people to readers.

**Translators:**

I.M. Tukhtasinov, O.M. Muminov, A.A. Khamidov

**Editor-in-Chief:**

U.R. Yoldoshev

**Editors:**

Elise Brittain (USA)

A. Alimbekov

**Reviewer:**

M.Iriskulov

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## FOREWORD

Abdulla Qodiriy (April 10, 1894 - October 4, 1938) was one of the famous Uzbek poets, translators and writers. Qodiriy was the most influential Uzbek writer of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He introduced realism to the Uzbek literature with his historical novels. His most famous works are the historical novels "The Days Gone By" (1922) and "Scorpion from the Altar" (1929). "Scorpion from the Altar" is the first full-length novel written by the Uzbek writer.

Becoming independent and promoting the integration of its culture into the world community the Republic of Uzbekistan needs more and more the Uzbek translators with the knowledge of foreign languages. Besides, nowadays huge opportunities have been created for the direct translation from Uzbek into foreign languages, particularly into the English language.

The development of direct translation from Uzbek into foreign languages especially into English was specified in a number of Decrees and Orders of the President. We think that the book in your hands will give you an opportunity to get acquainted with the history of traditions and customs, life style, the way of thinking and outlook of the Uzbek people as well.

The main purpose is to introduce the precious work, pearls of Uzbek literature to the people of English speaking countries, as well as those who comprehend English as a whole.

The group of highly qualified translators from Uzbekistan State World Languages University together with the International Relations and Literary-Translation Council of the Writer's Union of Uzbekistan has translated the book

“The Days Gone by” by Abdulla Qodiriy directly from original Uzbek into English.

We express our gratitude to Sh.Sirojiddionov, M.Iriskulov, E.Muratova, N.Kambarov, H.Hakimov and Elise Brittain, English language specialist, for their invaluable assistance in reviewing the translation of this book. We look forward to the readers’ comments on the quality of the translation.

We’ll greatly appreciate it if you contact us and share your opinion at: [ilhom\\_tuhtasinov@mail.ru](mailto:ilhom_tuhtasinov@mail.ru)

## **AUTHOR'S NOTE**

However we entered a new age, we should take after this new age novelties any way, and we are responsible for creating new types of works – novels and stories, not forgetting to introduce old masterpieces like “Tohir and Zuhra”, “Chor Derwesh” (Four Dervishes), “Farhod and Shirin” and “Bahromgor” to new generations of our people.

My intention to write “Otgan Kunlar” (The Days Gone By) was something like an experiment in the new manner of writing under the influence of romanticism. Actually, it was my wish to get acquainted with the new types of contemporary novels. It is natural that each work might come out with lots of drawbacks, given some primitivism in modern life. The creative work of most writers gradually progresses with growing intellect of men and gets fruitful results. My initiative was encouraged with my conviction that any person should try to start something new, and I wasn't afraid of being blamed for the mistakes readers might find in my new work.

They say: “It is better to make a new arrangement keeping in mind the history”. That's why I began the new stage in my work referring to the history of my people, to our recent past, darkest and filthy history after the “age of khans”.

**Adulla QODIRIY**  
**(Julqunboy)**

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