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М. Ё. Бацаев (Муњиб): Кудлиёт

Muhib: Kullijot (Collected works in 7 Vols.) Jerusalem 2006 (Vol. I-IV) 2007 (Vol. V-VII).

(containing all the works of the author in judeo-Tajik (Cyrillic and Latin script) and a few in Russian)

Kullijot – The Collected Works of the Bukharan Jewish writer and intellectual **Mordaxaj H. Bačaeв** is both a great example of and a unique introduction to the culture and literature of the Bukharan Jews (the term is used for all Persian-speaking Jews of Central Asia) of the 20th century. Iranist Jiří Bečka called Muhib (the penname of Bačaeв) the most prominent representative and continuator of Judeo-Persian literary tradition. Even in scholarly circles the works are scarcely known, since the rich cultural and literary heritage of this community is only published privately in very small editions and basically circulates only amongst the big Bukharan-Jewish communities in Israel and the United States.

The Collected Works of Muhib for the first time provides the opportunity to for a broader access to history, language, culture, and literature of this extraordinary community.

Biogramm:

Mordaxaj ben Hijo Bačaeв, penname Muhib; born 1911 in Marv (in today's Turkmenistan); Bukharan-Jewish writer, poet, publicist and translator; 1929-1938 editor of the Samarkand (later Tashkent) magazines „Rošnaji“ and „Bajroq-i mehnat“; first publication 1929; 1938 arrested for „Jewish bourgeois nationalisms“ and „anti-soviet agitation“; 1939-1945 soviet concentration camp and forced labour in Ural; 1945-1954 banned from Tashkent and Samarkand, job in the mining administration of the Uzbek SSR; 1957 complete rehabilitation; 1955-1972 translator (Russ.-Taj.) at the Institute for Marxism-Leninism in Dushanbe (Tajik SSR); since 1973 M. H. Bačaeв lives and works in Israel.

The volumes:

Bd. I: „Guldasta“ (Bouquet) poetry – with an introduction by Prof. Mikhael Zand

Bd. II: „Dostonho“ (Poems) – variations of stories from Tanakh (Old Testament) and the three books Podšoh Šlūmū (King Salomon)

Bd. III: Dar „ğuvol-i sangin“ – Joddoštho (Kitob 1) In a sack of stones – Memoirs (book 1) – from 1911 to his arrest 1938

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Bd. IV: Dar „ğuvol-i sangin“ – Joddoštho (Kitob 2) In a sack of stones – Memoirs (book 2) – from 1938 to 1944: imprisonment and concentration camp

Bd. V: „Vatan“ (home land) – features the poem of the same name as well as fragments from the notebook „folklore“, poetry, proverbs, and fairytales. The second part is a collection of works composed in Russian language.

Bd. VI: „Qadamho-i avvalin“ (first steps) Early partly unpublished poetry, prose, translations and letters from the 1920s and 30s (up to his arrest) in three scripts (Hebrew, Latin, Cyrillic).

Bd. VII: Luğatnoma (dictionary) consisting of two dictionaries compiled by Bačæev: Tafsir-i kalima va iboraho and a Tajik dictionary of biblical terms. Bačæev translated for the Institute for Bible Translation (IBT) the Old and New Testament from Russian to Tajik.

Another volume with miscellaneous works on the author and contributions to his work will be published in 2007, but not as a part of the Collected Works.

The Collected works will be probably available from late April.

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