

## **SABYR ADAY: “MY BROTHER, YOU ARE KAZAKH. REMEMBER IT”**

An extract from a letter of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Nursultan Abishevich Nazarbayev to participants of opening of the historical and cultural complex “Otpan tau” on October 25, 2007. “... names of our heroic ancestors are being revived from the bowels of history. While studying and restoring cultural heritage, we commenced treating our heroes with respect. Historical and cultural complex “Otpan tau”, located in ancient and sacred land Mangistau, has endured a lot in its lifetime and fire of unity has been ignited on its top more than once. Today the eternal flame will be lighted on Otpan tau. The mountain will become a symbol of veneration to the past and responsibility for the future. This complex will remind of history of Kazakh nation to the rising generation. It will turn into sacred place of veneration not only for Kazakhstanis, but for Mangistau guests as well...” Historic-educational ethno-cultural center “Otpan Tau” was established on the basis of Kazakh national culture by Sabyr Aday, the honored cultural worker of the Republic of Kazakhstan. He is an author of the song “Sen kazaksyn” which is popular among both the young and the old. Piercing and spiritual voice of Sabyr is the voice of Great boundless steppe; life of any of us, born here in our native land, is inconceivable without it.

- Sabyr aga, eleven years ago your article about construction of monument-mausoleum of Aday-ata was published in Republican press. People supported the idea; the monument’s inauguration was held in 2007. Today Otpan tau became a model of selfless devotion to Motherland for all Kazakhstan people. –Mangistau region is rich in oil and raw material. In order to validate historical essence of industrial region, mausoleum of Aday-ata was erected on the mountain Otpan. It was a necessary measure in the face of foreign political force, it was required for confirming our independence. All our acts were dictated by tradition, which had been set in people’s conscience. Our goal is making use of people’s ideas for organization and execution of national cultural events. Mausoleum is an illustrative example of urging people to find ways of consolidation and enhancement in order not to rise to the baits of external political games and reinforce nation’s solidarity. Government should instill significance into cultural events, executed on Otpan Mountain, especially in view of the fact that our neighbors are looking for a tasty morsel in this oil region. At the right time instigators would turn up. Mausoleum of Aday-Ata is a seal on Otpan Mountain, proving eternal native land of Kazakhs. Kazakh population decreased as a result of historical calamities and great perturbations; the qualitative composition suffered as well. The people had been gradually deviating from national traditions, forgetting about national pride. We should find ways of devoting ourselves to unity and consolidation. We should work out indisputable principles and wise advice on the basis of national customs and traditions, for example coming to someone’s home, greeting (korysu). The main goal of national traditions’ revival is awakening national spirit, self-conscience, and patriotism of Kazakhs. Organization and execution of cultural events should be entrusted to people. Our patriotism will flourish in case we are

entrusted with preservation of our inviolable values. I suggest assigning organization of three celebrations dedicated to three zhuz to elders and their assistants. Elders will be able to gather Turkic nations around common hearthstone. These pure intentions and wishes became my call to action. Government, above all, should comprehend significance of national events which are being conducted.

President Nursultan Nazarbayev and famous figures of the country expressed their wishes in relation to noble causes on Otpan tau. Annually, descendants of some tribes gratuitously construct cultural centers and contribute them to state balance. This is demonstration of patriotism. - Sabyr aga, awakening kin conscience of Kazakh nations is the means of praising customs and traditions. I agree with you, organization of national celebrations should be entrusted to people. - Yes, you are right. We can make following conclusion: national and social systems are to be brought closer to realities of these days and unity is to be turned into their bond, also we should prevent isolation and separation of peoples, living in different regions. We should retain national interests and provide a firm foothold for our leaders in the world political arena; it should be based on unity and integrity of the nation. Kazakh elders, gathering on the 13-14 of March, through letter to Nauryz, should appeal to people for unity and consolidation. Thus Kazakh nation will become a guarantee of accord. - What results of your activities are there? Under your guidance historical and cultural center Otpan Tau is known all over the country for its truly exalted ai ms... – Recently the Head of State expressed his opinion about global financial crisis. He asked us to preserve and save national wealth, not to spend it on national celebrations. Year after year we conduct celebrations on Otpan Tau with the help of the public. Such events possess spiritual value. The ruler, relying on nation, is glorious. In countries with developed cultures such historical moments are treated with due respect. We should be true to our traditions, customs and significant dates, which had been handed down by our ancestors. It is not about complications and obstacles for conduction of events, it is about importance of not losing historical sense and cheapening the essence of significant dates. That is why our elders annually hold event in accordance with strict rules. This is result in itself. Brothers, we shall meet on the path of common interests!

**Akbayan KOZHAMZHARKYZY**