

## **Nurpeyis Bayganin, “I WILL NOT DIE...”**

The honoured arts worker of Kazakh SSR, holder of the order of “Badge of Honour” Nurpeyis Bayganin is a true national pride. He was a poet, improviser, and performerzhyrau. His rich repertoire includes many epics, such as “Koblandy batyr”, “Kubygul”, “Torekhan”, “Forty heroes of Kyrym”. Ninetytwo versions of the epic “Koblandy batyr” have been preserved until our days, but the version performed by Nurpeyis Bayganin is considered to be the most picturesque, with the most detailed account of past events, richest in acts and big volume of 9300 lines. The poet knew it by heart! In his epic works Nurpeyis Bayganin sings of legendary women, his poem “Akkenzhe” and “Narkyz” may serve as an example. Heroic motifs dedicated to victory in the Great Patriotic war can be heard in his song “Captain Gastello”, works “Twenty-five”, “Songs about heroes”, dedicated to the Hero of the Soviet Union Tolegen Tokhtarov and to Nursutbay Yesbolatov, one of the twenty-eight Panflov’s Guardsmen. Over the years of the Great Patriotic war this famous poet-zhyrau had been calling Kazakhstanis for making proper contribution to bringing the Great Victory closer with his ardent songs. On May 19,1941 he performed in front of soldiers of the 101st rifle brigade, formed in Aktobe, calling them for defense of their Motherland. In spring 1942 as a result of his meeting with residents of Shalkarsky district, 3755 roubles, obligations to the amount of 604000, and 7929 clothes for soldiers of the Red Army were raised. A documentary sketch movie, based on the poet’s song “Kazakhstan for the front”, was filmed and shown on the screens of the USSR. The poet lived a long life, he saw and learned a lot, praising the life itself; he assimilated rich oral heritage of his nation and used it tenderly. Writer and academician Sabit Mukanov highly estimated his poetic and epic creativity. Dikhan Abilov, Kuandyk Shangytbayev, Abdilda Tazhibayev, Berkajy Amanshin made analysis of his creative works, wrote memoirs. Last song of Nurpeyis Bayganin “I shall not die, shall not die...”, is filled with desire to see the Victory Day, but heart of the great poet failed on April 9, 1945. He did not live only one month to see the Great Victory. Magnificent works of the poet, whose name is always mentioned alongside with the name of Zhambyl Zhabayev, found their proper place in the “gold reserve” of Kazakh poetry. New trends, new views on Kazakh history and literature had been brought together with the country’s independence. The star of akyn Nurpeyis Bayganin should shine on the horizon of Kazakh literature in a new fashion.

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