

# The Role of the Jadidism in Improving the Spirituality of the Nation

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**Abstract:** *This article highlights the role of Jadidism in improving the spirituality of the nation, the aims of Jadidism movement and the main ideas of Jadids. Furthermore, the relationship between Jadidism and enlightenment is explained and the three direction of the movement are clarified.*

**Keywords:** Jadidism, Enlightenment, Spirituality, Education, National Development.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The transition from one stage to the next in the development of human society begins with enlightenment, and mature, conscious, educated people of the time spread spirituality and enlightenment in their periods. As a result, enlightened people get rid of spiritual dependence, fear and greed, and become the owners of incomparable power and authority.

Enlightened people fight for the freedom of the nation and the Motherland, the enlightenment and education of the people. Our nation has always strived for enlightenment. Therefore, our great thinkers, such as Farabi, Ibn Sina, Khorezmi, Ahmad Farghani, Bukhari, Moturudi, Mirza Ulugbek and many other scholars have made a great contribution to world civilization by combining secular and religious sciences.

From this point of view, Turkestan School of Enlightenment has a rich past and a great heritage. Jadids Makhmudhuja Bekhbudi, Munavvar kori Abdurashidkhan o'gli, Abdukodir Shakuri, Ashurali Zakhiri, Saidrasul Said Azizi, Ahmad Donish, Chulpon, Avloni, Tavallo, Ainiy etc. tried to save the country from national oppression and backwardness in the second half of the 19th century. They understood that the only way for gaining independence was to help the people to achieve enlightenment and education, and in this way, they fought for freedom. They saw the countries of the world and understood that it is possible to be freed from colonial oppression only by knowledge and enlightenment. For this reason they did theoretical and practical work in new schools. These are called jadids. So, Jadidism is a movement of its time aimed at bringing the nation to enlightenment and spirituality.

Jadidism is an idea that promotes renewal, a new modern school and education, which frees Turkestan from feudal backwardness and superstitions, leads the nation and the Motherland to the path of modern development, and establishes a national state based on the Constitution, parliament and presidential rule. It consisted of goals such as establishing a free and prosperous society, giving Turkic languages a state status, and forming a national army. So, Jadidism in Turkestan entered history as a national-liberation movement, and in their worldview there were ideas of patriotism, nationalism, enlightenment and development. They emphasized that it is necessary to develop national consciousness and self-awareness in order to achieve freedom.

At the end of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century, the spiritual crisis deepened in the society of Turkestan, it was not possible to get the independence without raising the national culture, without enjoying the general values, without widening the educational work, and without achieving social and economic development. For this reason, the Jadids believed that the spiritual perfection of the nation lies in the attainment of enlightenment. For this, they emphasized the need to reform schools by imparting worldly knowledge and played an important role in national awakening and formation of national consciousness.

Jadidism is actually a manifestation of the Enlightenment movement. Therefore, we found it necessary to start the statement of the issue by explaining the concepts of enlightenment and education and its importance [1].

Enlightenment is an educational process aimed at increasing people's consciousness and culture. Enlightenment as a term means a complex of various knowledge and information about nature, society and human nature. Enlightened means educated, has knowledge in a certain field. At the present time, when the sciences are developing deeply and widely, every person who strives for knowledge and science, a student, a representative of science, can acquire only a



certain field of knowledge, that is, enlightenment. For example, they master a certain field of chemistry, as well as certain areas of mathematics, physics, biology, medicine, etc.

Enlightenment in life is carried out through the education system. So enlightenment is the joint content of knowledge and culture, and education is a tool and means of spreading this content.

Enlightenment is mainly distributed in schools and educational institutions providing general and secondary special education. The concept of enlightenment is broader than the concept of education and includes all types, forms and areas of spreading and improving knowledge and culture.

The transition of humanity from one society to another, from one historical period to another, begins with enlightenment. Enlightened people usually put forward important ideas for the present and future of the society, the country, the people, and fight for the implementation of these ideas.

It seems that Jadidism and Enlightenment are also great historical movements that came into existence with the aim of enlightening the nation and raising its spirituality.

Jadidism means renewal, new method. It is the general name of the supporters of the new modern school, printing press, methods and ways of national development.

The main ideas and goals of Jadidism: to liberate Turkestan from medievalism, feudal backwardness, superstitions, to lead the country, the people, the nation to the path of modern development, denying the "Ancient Method", to create a constitutional state, building a free and prosperous society in the form of parliament and the presidential office, giving Turkish languages the status of a state language, forming a national army, etc [2].

Jadidism in Turkestan is distinguished by the fact that it was a social movement that emerged in the process of the national-liberation struggle and started to open a new page in the history of the Uzbek people. Their worldview was dominated by ideas such as patriotism, nationalism, enlightenment, and progress. The Jadids prioritized the liberation of the country from colonial oppression. Modern intellectuals noticed the need to develop national consciousness in order to achieve freedom and independence. They wanted to create a national revival through this. They considered this to be education and training - enlightenment. That is why the Jadids worked tirelessly to establish a new system of education and training.

At the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, the historical significance of this movement was extremely great. During these times, the moral crisis of the society deepened, and it was impossible to create an opportunity for socio-political and economic development without raising the national culture and enjoying the general values. Jadids, that is, enlighteners, were devotees who were ready to mobilize all their strength and talent for the spiritual development of the nation.

While trying to bring the nation out of the quagmire of backwardness and superstition, the Jadids put forward the idea of reforming the education system in schools and madrasas based on imparting worldly knowledge through strict adherence to Sharia, and they took practical action in this regard.

Thus, Jadidism played a major role in the national revival and the rise of national consciousness in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Behbudi, Fitrat, Cholpon, Abdulla Qadiri, Abdulla Avloni, Munavvarqori, Fayzulla Khojayev, Sofizoda, Tavallo, Ishaqjon Ibrat tried to promote the ideas of Jadidism in extremely difficult conditions. They have done great things in terms of improving the maturity of the nation and preventing its dignity from falling to the ground. Enlightened modernists tried to create opportunities for the spiritual growth of the nation, despite severe material difficulties and ideological and political pressures. They undertook all the work in this regard because they realized that raising the national consciousness of the nation and strengthening the sense of national pride are among the first-level tasks in the difficult and responsible turning periods of history. Behbudi, Fitrat, Munavvarqori and other Jadids for the nation opened schools, taught in them, wrote and published textbooks, and showed zeal in this way. They didn't even spare their money. Such good deeds, such as generosity and charity, are extremely necessary for our current independent development. We dream and strive to build a free civil society. Solving these great tasks, first of all, goes back to the issue of education, upbringing, enlightenment. Public attention should be drawn to this issue. It is necessary to raise the ideas of enlightenment in people through the press and television, to strengthen the virtues such as patronage of school-education networks, generosity, and self-responsibility.



In the rich social-philosophical, religious-ethical, cultural development of the people of Turkestan, the period of the first quarter of the 19th century is distinguished by its extremely rich and revolutionary nature, diversity of ideological-theoretical and ideological movement forms. This situation was a unique direction of social development.

So, the emergence of the Jadidist movement in Turkestan was based on the ideology of national liberation, albeit slowly. This process began to affect the minds of the local people in the country. As a result, they succeeded in preparing the ground for the national liberation movement to fight for independence, national development, and the interests of the people in Turkestan. Enlightenment ideas against colonialism began to spread among indigenous peoples, new educational institutions, new schools, educational, cultural propaganda, and modernist movements developed. Many intellectuals have grown up in Turkestan under such conditions [3].

The Jadidist movement in Turkestan operated through three areas. These are education (opening new schools, updating the educational method), art (fiction, theater) and the press.

The main goal was, on the one hand, to make the nation more knowledgeable, and on the other hand, to raise its moral level and, as a result of the combination of these two aspects, to bring up an educated person who understands his own worth and integrity. The fighters of Turkestan have done a lot of work to achieve this goal.

Along with the historical conditions, the impact of enlightenment and enlightened views that arose in the last quarter of the 19th century had a great impact on the emergence of the Jadidism movement in Turkestan.

If we pay attention to the socio-political and cultural life of Turkestan in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, we can see that the ideology of enlightenment formed the ideological content of democratic and national-patriotic movements. The main reason for the emergence of the idea of enlightenment in our country is, firstly, the national liberation movements that arose as a result of the deepening of the Russian colonial policy, secondly, the suppression of the democratic movements coming from the west by the invaders, and thirdly, the nationalist - selfless people that were severely persecuted and even started to be executed.

On the one hand, the representatives of the Jadidism movement included in their ideology of enlightenment the democratic ideas that were relevant for that time: studying science, enjoying the achievements of science and technology, developing scientific and natural sciences, speech and introduction of freedom of thought, establishment of national statehood based on the establishment of a democratic state, formation of a layer of national ideas, development of modern genres of literature and art, and on the other hand, the Turkish language, which is losing its national image under the influence of colonial policy, restoration of national values, further strengthening of national spiritual and moral improvements, realization of national identity, strengthening of national consciousness, national thinking and religious beliefs. Of course, in the implementation of these tasks, they rely on the traditional religion of Islam, the principles of Sharia, hadiths, and the teachings that retain their influence.

Jadids tried to implement their progressive ideas by developing a national printing press, introducing a modern education system, sending local youth to study in advanced Western countries.

In conclusion, Jadidism is actually a manifestation of the Enlightenment movement. By the end of the 19th century, the local intellectuals, first of all, aimed at awakening the national consciousness and thinking by making the people scientific and enlightened, and secondly, at restoring national statehood, achieving the unity of the Turkish language, strengthening religious and spiritual values, thirdly, they try to bring the peoples of Central Asia to the path of modern and democratic development.

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