

Who was Makhtumkuli?

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Today (18th of May) Turkmenistan celebrate “Day of constitution, revival, unity and poet and philosopher of 18th century, Makhtumkuli Fragi.”

Turkmen poet and philosopher, funder of Turkmen state Makhtumkuli is very popular not only among turkmens in Turkmenistan, but all turkmen in world, count him the father of Turkmen literature and funder of current turkmen language.

On Sunday held 3th international conference in Golestan province of Iranina city of Gonbed Gabus.

Makhtumkuli- this name is welknown for every turkmen in the world. Because he described turkmen land and whished one day all uncoordinate turkmens gethered in one country. For this case turkmens count him as a spiritual father of nation.

Makhtumkuli was born in 1730 in Etrek wally-today belong to Iran and died 1790 in Songy dagy- near boarder with Turkmenistan.

Even today Iranian govrenmet honorly declerd Makhtumkuli is Iranian muslim poet but nor under Shah Pahlevi nor today no any attempt to know more about his poet officially, sepecially in school books. Even former president of Iran Muhammet Hatemi described Makhtumkuli belong to all humankinds, he is world's famous poet.

On Sunday in the city of Gonbed Gabus (Iran) held 3th international conference of Makhtumkuli. Officials of Iran and local authorities, scientists, lectures, poets from different county attened this ceremony, of course writers and poets from Turkmenistan.

According to Iranian Turkmen Students Internet site (www.students.com) Iranian president Mahmud Ahmedinejad send his message to this conference, as readied by governor of Golestan province. He underlined, Makhtumkuli was a big challenger for just and against every kind of oppression, tyranny. We learned many mankind's values of his poets and philosophic thinks" said Ahmadinejad.

One of main candidate for presentational election in 12th June in Iran is Mehdi Karrubi. He also sent his message to conference and mentioned Iranians must learn more about Makhtumkuli. Language of Makhtumkuli must be a subject in school books, as we approved to allowed to minorities non Persian language on 15th article of our constitution, said Karrubi.

Even Iranian officials repeat this kind of tone before election but more then 30 years this article of constitution not on power and it's practically prohibition.

One of Iranian Turkmen, who serve as a teacher, anonym condition told, turkmens in Iran no have any right to learn mother tongue in schools:

"We don't study in turkmen language, in schools, we must speak in Persian, all subjects ara in persian. If state allows us of course we can open turkmen school, but they don't allows."

Political activist, Juma Buresh originally from Iran. Just now he live in exile in Kalong Germany, studied as a jurist and now is a advocate. Buresh also agree with this teacher and said:

"According to 15th article of Iranian constitution all of non Persian ethnic groups have right to learn and study in their language, but Iranian government don't allows came to power this article. Even they don't allows to turkmens chose a turkmen name for new born children."

Every year in the third week of May beginning special ceremony for honor of Makhtumkuli's poet both in Turkmenistan, Iran and Afghanistan and turkmen diaspora in Europe and USA. This year turkmens celebrate 267th birthday of Makhtumkuli.

For honoring the Makhtumkuli, Iran recently printed a postal stamp with picture of turkmen poet. Iran also promised put the name of Makhtumkuli in one of Tehran's street and to dig Makhtumkuli's monument in capital, but still not any action. Meanwhile in 15th May it was The inauguration of a monument of Makhtumkuli in the center of Astrakhan. The monument has become the second in Russia, the first monument to Makhtumkuli was launched in May last year in the turkmen village of Edelbay in Blagodarnensk district of Stavropol region of Russia, according to Turkmen State News Agency.

Iranian turkmens hope that independent Turkmenistan give more attention for their culture and national heritage and help to support them from assimilation, like as Iran Islam Republic do in Turkmenistan for propaganda of Islam values and persian language.