

Firdaus Barievna Yunusova celebrates her 60th anniversary

Gulnur M. Nabiullina

Institute of History, Language and Literature, Ufa Federal Research Centre
of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Ufa, Russian Federation

✉ gulnurnabiullina@mail.ru

Firdaus Barievna Yunusova (Yulmukhametova) is celebrating her 60th anniversary. She is a Candidate of Philological Sciences, Senior Researcher at the Department of Literary Studies of the Order of the Badge of Honour Institute of History, Language and Literature – a separate structural unit of the Federal State Budgetary Scientific Institution Ufa Federal Research Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

The anniversarian was born in the famous village of Akkuzhino (Yuldashevo) in Uchalinsky District of the Republic of Bashkortostan. After graduating from Yuldashevo's eight-year school and Kunakbaev's secondary school, her passion for high art led the young woman to the Uchaly Music College. During her studies, the talented girl was noticed by the famous journalist and radio organizer Rafael Aysin, whose work was aimed at discovering the natural talents of his native region and introducing them to a wide audience. As a student, Firdaus was an active member of Rafael Glimyanovich's agitation brigade, which delighted the residents of the district with its creative talent. During her school years she sang for her fellow villagers at various events held in the village cultural center and at school. Now her talent was admired by her entire native district.

Firdaus Yunusova successfully graduated from the Uchaly Music College in 1987 and began her professional career as the leader of the first Bashkir children's choir at the House of Culture of the Uchaly Mining and Processing Plant. In addition to her main work, she actively participated in the cultural life of the district. She was an indispensable master of ceremonies for amateur art concerts, played leading roles in the Stroitel folk theater and participated in the republican Gaziz Almukhametov competition. Her work was repeatedly recognized with Certificates of Honor from the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Bashkortostan (1984 (2), 1985, 1986, 1988).

Inspired by the activities of an active journalist and educator Rafael Aysin, she entered the Bashkir State University, Faculty of Bashkir Philology and Journalism. During her university years (1989-1994), she was a member of the Yanguzel folklore ensemble and a host at its Student Spring concerts, which took place in Kazan (1989), Makhachkala, Pyatigorsk (1990), and cities of the Republic of Bashkortostan. Simultaneously, she worked at the Bashkortostan state television and radio company. She is the author of programs dedicated to such famous personalities as singers Nazir Abdiev and Rais Vagizov, artist Marat Salakhov, the Bashkir language and literature teacher at Kunakbaev Secondary School, Zukhra Alsynbaevna Bulyakova, as well as to the Ufa College of Arts. These programs are still preserved in the TV archives and are periodically broadcast.

Working at the Bashkortostan State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company provided Firdaus Barievna with experience in journalism. A self-motivated young woman does not rest on her laurels and intends to study journalistic activity from a scientific perspective. In 1999, she began working at the Institute of History, Language, and Literature of the Ufa Scientific Center (now the Ufa Federal Research Center) of the Russian Academy of Sciences. With the aim of deepening her knowledge, she enrolled in postgraduate studies and in 2009 defended her candidate dissertation on the topic "Genre Features of the Modern Bashkir Essay (1980s–1990s)".

Her scholarly interests include issues in the history and theory of Bashkir literature, folklore studies, and journalism. She has authored two monographs, over 300 academic

and popular science articles, five educational and methodological manuals on the works of famous Bashkir writers in the Bashkir and Russian languages, as well as numerous articles in VAK-indexed peer-reviewed journals, collections of scientific articles, and materials from republican, All-Russian, and international conferences. The main works of the literary scholar are “Genre Features of the Modern Bashkir Essay (1980s-1990s)” (2014), published in the Bashkir language, and “The Modern Bashkir Essay: Documentary and Artistic Features (1980s – 1990s)” (2017) in the Russian language. Both were published in 2014 and 2017 by Gilem publishing house.

In the monograph “The Modern Bashkir Essay: Documentary and Artistic Features (1980s – 1990s)”, the scholar studied the development of the essay genre in Bashkir literature and journalism during the 1980s and 1990s and theoretically generalized its artistic and journalistic features. Investigating the origin and development of the essay, the author utilizes rich folklore material, which helped to reveal the influence of oral folk art on the structural and compositional features of the Bashkir essay as a genre. Firdaus Yunusova meticulously and comprehensively analyzes the formation of the essay genre within the system of artistic and journalistic genres and the development paths of the Bashkir essay. The artistic nature of the genre comes to the forefront of the author's attention, where she provides her assessment of its modern forms and compositional diversity, and its main characteristics – artistry, documentary nature and journalistic style. Through the study of the Bashkir essay and an analytical review of historical figures, a holistic understanding has been gained of the experience of Bashkir authors who dedicated their works to the national hero of the Bashkir people, the legendary associate of Emelian Pugachev, the improvising poet Salavat Yulaev and one of the greatest Bashkir religious figures, a true titan of Muslim culture, Sheikh Zaynulla-ishan Rasulev, as well as other historical figures in the works of Gaisa Khusainov. Both well-known and little-known facts from the lives of victims of political repression have been convincingly and newly interpreted.

Firdaus Yunusova is the author of collective works within the Literature Studies Department, including “Samples of Bashkir Prose of the 19th – Early 20th Centuries” (2006, in Bashkir); “History of Bashkir Literature”, Vol. 1: From Ancient Times to the Early 20th Century (2012, in Russian); “History of Bashkir Literature, Vol. 2: Literature of 1917 – 1955” (2013, in Russian); «History of Bashkir Literature», Vol. 3: Literature of the Soviet Period (late 1950s – early 1990s) (2015, in Russian); and of «History of Bashkir Literature», Vol. 7: Contemporary Literature (1991-2015) (2019, in Bashkir), as well as Volumes III and IV of the «Anthology of Bashkir Literature». She is the compiler of Volume I of the academic edition of the complete works of the People's Poet of the Republic of Bashkortostan, Mustai Karim, «Poems, Poemas» (2009), and the work of scholar and the outstanding educator M. Kh. Mingazhetdinov, «Marat Mingazhetdinov. Selected Scientific Works» (2022, co-authored with R.V. Shagiev, in Bashkir).

Firdaus Yunusova actively participates in public life. For 25 years, she has been responsible for organizing the involvement of Republican media in covering the research activities of the Institute of History, Language, and Literature.

For her many years of scholarly work, achievements in research, and significant contribution to the development of the national culture of the Republic of Bashkortostan, she has been awarded Certificates of Honor from the Ufa Scientific Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences (2012, 2013), a Certificate of Honor from the Government of the Republic of Bashkortostan (2015), the Certificate of Honor of the Republic of Bashkortostan (2022), and other commendations.

We wish Firdaus Barievna good health and creative success!