

**THE REFLECTION OF SOCIO-POLITICAL ISSUES IN THE POEMS OF
ANBAR OTIN**

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Abstract. This article analyzes the reflection of socio-political issues, social inequality, and women's rights in the creative work of Anbar Otin, a prominent representative of late 19th and early 20th-century Uzbek classical literature. Operating within an era of significant social transformation and the rise of Enlightenment ideas in Central Asia, the poetess positioned her lyricism as a powerful social mirror. The study highlights how Anbar Otin criticized ignorance, illiteracy, and the oppression of Eastern women, while actively advocating for their right to education and freedom. Furthermore, the article explores her creative connections with contemporary reformist poets like Muqimi and Furqat, emphasizing the enduring literary and socio-spiritual value of her poetic legacy.

Keywords: Anbar Otin, Uzbek classical literature, social-political issues, enlightenment, women's rights, Turkestan women, social inequality, ignorance, 19th-20th century literature, Muqimi, Furqat.

The creative work of female poets holds a unique significance in the history of Uzbek classical literature. One such creator is Anbar Otin, who deeply reflected the social life of her era, social injustice, and the fate of women in her works. Along with its artistic beauty, the lyricism of the poetess is noteworthy for its profound social content. The second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century was a period of political and social transformation in the Central Asian society. Enlightenment ideas, calling the people to science and education, and fighting against ignorance and injustice occupied an important place in the literature of this period. Anbar Otin was also one of the creators inspired by this spirit, striving to artistically express social problems through her poems.

Themes such as human dignity, women's freedom, the importance of science and education, and ideas of justice hold a leading position in the works of the poetess. Through her lyrics, one can perceive the social environment of that time, the lifestyle of the people, and the problems of inequality in society. In particular, the difficult life of women and their role in society is considered one of the key topics in the poetess's creativity. Anbar Otin is recognized as one of the female poets who created socially charged lyrics in Uzbek literature. Her poems expose the problems of the society of that period, especially the hardships of women, injustice, and ignorance. The creative legacy of the poetess possesses not only artistic but also social value, accurately depicting the life of ordinary people and societal challenges.

One of the most frequently raised topics in Anbar Otin's work is the role of women in society. At the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, women were often deprived of educational opportunities, and their social rights were heavily restricted. The poetess criticizes this exact situation in her poems. For instance, in some of her verses, the illiteracy and unfree life of women are depicted with deep sorrow. She calls upon women to acquire knowledge and to become aware of their rights. Through this, she expresses her opposition to social inequality. Such ideas of Anbar Otin contributed to the strengthening of the enlightenment spirit in her era.

Ignorance, illiteracy, and social injustice are also sharply criticized in the poetess's work. Anbar Otin emphasizes that science and education are essential for the development of society. Her lyrical protagonist usually appears as a character seeking justice and glorifying humanity. According to historical sources, Anbar Otin maintained creative connections with famous enlightened poets of her time. For example, poets like Muqimi and Furqat also highlighted social problems in their works. This literary environment significantly influenced Anbar Otin's creativity as well. The daily life of the people, hardships in lifestyle, and human values also occupy an important place in the poems of

the poetess. Through her lyricism, one can visualize the social environment of that period. The poetess lived with the grief of the ordinary people and turned their hopes and dreams into poetry. Ideas of justice, compassion, and humanity hold a dominant place in Anbar Otin's works. For this reason, her creative legacy is valuable not only as an artistic heritage but also as a social mirror of the society of her time. In general, through the lyrics of Anbar Otin, the social life, inequality, the fate of women, and enlightenment ideas of the late 19th and early 20th centuries are vividly illustrated with artistic examples. The poetess's work is considered one of the important sources that shed light on social themes in Uzbek literature. The uniqueness of Anbar Otin's work lies in the fact that she brought the destiny of Turkestan women into poetry. In her poems, she rebels on behalf of the oppressed Eastern women whose rights were violated: "May fire strike those who say, 'Women have long hair but short brains,' And those who search through filth, possessing less sense than a hen... May fire strike those who claim, 'Women are sold like cattle property,' Failing to recognize the value of my Zulayho, Layli, and Shirin." The work of Anbar Otin stands out for its uniqueness because she expressed the fate of Turkestan women through poetry. The poetess shows the violation of women's rights and societal injustices in her poems, raising a rebellion on behalf of Eastern women. She reflects deeply on and analyzes the life of the people, striving to turn her thoughts into reality. As seen from her verses, the poetess's dreams and idealistic views had a great impact on her creativity. Although Anbar Otin's romantic ghazals are few in number, they are of high quality and leave a deep impression on the reader's heart. Due to these aspects, her work is of great literary as well as socio-spiritual importance.

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