

Legacy of Al-Farabi belongs to everyone

Authors: Serikkali Tynybekov, Olga Lozhnikova¹

February 2021

In 2020 the World celebrated the 1150th anniversary of Al-Farabi. The second Teacher of mankind, as he has been known, Al-Farabi was born on the territory of modern Kazakhstan in Otrar - the largest center of the ancient culture of Central Asia, which was once called Farab.

Despite the pandemic nowadays, Kazakh Farabi scholars and the scientific community have done a huge job to popularize and promote the legacy of the great scientist in the country and around the world.

The jubilee year of Al-Farabi provided our university with an opportunity to reveal the role of the Second Teacher of Humanity in the history of the World Civilization and to promote the image of al-Farabi as a national brand (<https://e-history.kz/ru/publications/view/5725>).

Rector of KazNU academician G.M. Mutanov constantly emphasizes that it was a great honor for the Al-Farabi Kazakh National University to be one of the main performers of the anniversary events both in Kazakhstan and worldwide. One of the significant areas of the anniversary events was the organization of international and republican scientific and practical platforms to discuss the creative heritage of Al-Farabi and its relevance in the modern world. KazNU organized more than 60 anniversary international and republican conferences, round tables, scientific webinars with the support of such authoritative international organizations as the UN, UNESCO, OIC, TURKSOY, as well as the embassies of Kazakhstan abroad. Leading foreign universities - Oxford, Istanbul, Sofia, Athens National Universities, as well as the Universities of Damascus, Egypt, Berlin, Zurich, Vienna and many others took an active part in these events (https://www.kazinform.kz/ru/planiruem_otkryt-filial-universiteta-v-damaske-rektor-kaznu_a3609006).

All anniversary events were attended by over 12 thousand people from more than 100 universities and other organizations in 50 countries of the world. International conferences dedicated to Al-Farabi were held in Switzerland, Italy, Germany, Austria, Washington, Islamabad, Istanbul, Damascus.

Al-Farabi International Center has been established and operates at KazNU. For the first time, a virtual portal was developed on the heritage of the great scientist, an interactive platform was

¹ Serikkali Tynybekov, Doctor of Law, Professor, Head of department of Civil Law, Civil Procedure and Labor Law of al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Almaty, Kazakhstan. Olga Lozhnikova, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Journalism, al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Almaty, Kazakhstan.

launched on non-institutional interaction of the world's Farabi scholars on the basis of the Invisible College principle. In collaboration with world scientific schools, the Al-Farabi center organized work to identify the modern content of Al-Farabi's principles and ideas in the context of world philosophy and science and interdisciplinary research.

Another important area of the work is the search and translation of previously unpublished manuscripts of Al-Farabi. The university scientists have translated from Arabic into Kazakh three treatises of Al-Farabi, which will be published in mass circulation in the near future. For the first time the encyclopedia "Al-Farabi" was published, which systematizes all the information about the great scientist. Within the framework of the meeting, the presentation of the world's first published encyclopedia "Al-Farabi" took place. The content of the encyclopedia includes historical facts, information, geographical objects, biographical data, life path and scientific heritage of the thinker (treatises and commentaries to them), concepts and terms, works of famous scientists of the Arab-Muslim Renaissance period. It contains bibliographic information about modern researchers, Kazakh Farabi scholars, all those who are engaged in the problems of Islamic philosophy, religion, culture, science and education. Undoubtedly, seven new monographs and textbooks on the legacy of Al-Farabi and two collections with aphorisms of the great thinker in Kazakh, Russian and English will be interesting for the reader.

Within the framework of the concept "AL-FARABI UNIVERSITY SMART CITY", infrastructural objects of scientific and socio-cultural significance have been created. Al-Farabi business school has been opened for MBA and DBA programs, which are already becoming attractive to foreign students.

On the basis of the Al-Farabi KazNU with the support of UNESCO and OIC, the Al-Farabi scientific and technological valley is being created, which will become a powerful platform for attracting international investment for the development of new technologies and innovations.

Popularization of the heritage and ideals of Al-Farabi among young people is the most important direction of the anniversary year. Therefore, on the national platform of open education of Kazakhstan, moocs.kz, an online course "Al-Farabi and the Present" is posted, which has already been attended by 5 thousand people.

The "Kayiryndy kogam" challenge was launched; the international subject Olympiad "Al-Farabi" took place, which covered 9.5 thousand schoolchildren from 10 countries of the world. Every year, the winners of the Olympiad are allocated 40 educational grants to study at KazNU.

A nationwide online lecture "Hour of Integrity" on the topic "Al-Farabi and a virtuous society" was held, which was broadcast on TV channels Khabar, Kazakhstan and 14 regional TVs. Posted on the YouTube channel, these video lectures have gained more than 100 thousand views.

Also on the YouTube channel Al Farabi TV, KazNU has opened a playlist # ALFARABI1150, which contains over 100 videos, plots, reports and animation films to popularize the heritage of Al-Farabi. A

series of three documentaries about Al-Farabi was created in cooperation with the media companies of the Netherlands and Turkey. At present, KazNU, with the participation of Kazakhstani filmmakers, has completed work on a new film project "The Return of the Teacher".

One of the main tasks of the anniversary year was the promotion of Al-Farabi's ideas on the role of science, virtue, ethical excellence through the implementation of specific scientific, educational and innovative projects. As time shows, the teaching of the great Al-Farabi about the virtuous city - al-Madina al-Fadil remains relevant and in demand for modern society. Al-Farabi gives one key answer to all the vices of mankind - spiritual and moral values, or virtues, which requires widespread dissemination of a new worldview as demanded by society.

Al-Farabi's teachings on the unity of the intellectual and moral improvement of the individual have today joined the Al-Farabi Centers in 12 leading universities in the world, on the basis of which work is underway to create branches of KazNU. The opening of the first such branch of KazNU is planned on the basis of the al-Farabi historical and cultural center in Damascus. Also, preliminary work was carried out to open branches on the basis of Al-Farabi centers in Istanbul, Delhi and other cities. Along with this, work was carried out to create new foreign centers for Al-Farabi in the USA, Russia, Greece, Romania, Albania, Malaysia, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and the Baltic countries.

The wide dissemination of Al-Farabi's key ideas not only constitutes the basis for national revival, but also contributes to the formation of new universal values that ensure the sustainable development of human civilization. This is a Kazakhstani contribution to the formation of a new worldview to ensure sustainable development of the modern world.

The opening of the first Al-Farabi Center in the "land of the rising sun" was a significant event in the development of cooperation between Japan and Kazakhstan in the framework of the celebration of the 1150th anniversary of the great thinker Al-Farabi. The ceremony was held with the support of the Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Japan at one of the most prestigious universities - the University of Tsukuba.

The center is intended to become a unique international platform for the implementation of joint scientific and educational projects in the humanities, social and natural sciences, the promotion of the encyclopedic heritage of the outstanding scientist and philosopher Abu Nasr al-Farabi, whose name the Kazakh National University bears worthy ([https:// www. kazinform.kz/ru/kak-budet-rabotat-centr-al-farabi-v-almaty_a3608860](https://www.kazinform.kz/ru/kak-budet-rabotat-centr-al-farabi-v-almaty_a3608860)).

The mission of the Al-Farabi center at one of the leading research universities in Japan, whose origins date back to the Meiji era (1872), is also aimed at increasing the recognition and promoting a positive image of Kazakhstan in the international arena. In addition, key partners expressed their readiness to combine the potential of the two universities to study and popularize the legacy of one of the greatest philosopher Al-Farabi, who played an invaluable role in the history of human civilization.

It should be noted that the opening of the Center became possible due to the long-term fruitful cooperation of the Al-Farabi KazNU and the University of Tsukuba - joint successful implementation of the Campus-in-Campus program.

The Scientific and Educational Center is being created in Maryland (the USA) by mutual agreement between the al-Farabi Kazakh National University and the American Foundation for the Exchange and Cooperation of Civilizations (FSCC).

Cultivating the ideas of Al-Farabi KazNU conducts purposeful work to widely disseminate the ideas of the great thinker through the centers and house-museums of Al-Farabi, opened in 10 leading universities in the world. In the jubilee year of Al-Farabi, an agreement was reached on the creation of new centers in the USA, Russia, Greece, Romania, Albania, Malaysia, Uzbekistan, the Republic of Korea, the Baltic countries (<https://www.kaznu.kz/kz/20931>).

©Ostinstitut Wismar, 2021
Alle Rechte vorbehalten
Der Beitrag gibt die Auffassung des Autors wieder

Redaktion:
Prof. Dr. Otto Luchterhandt,
Dimitri Olejnik,
Dr. Hans-Joachim Schramm
Prof. Dr. Andreas Steininger

Ostinstitut Wismar
Philipp-Müller-Straße 14
23966 Wismar
Tel +49 3841 753 75 17
Fax +49 3841 753 71 31
office@ostinstitut.de
www.ostinstitut.de

ISSN: 2366-2751