



d Ä f t Ä r e b e z

*Tatar Life and Culture – Tatar Tormışı Häm Mädäniyäte
(Supplement to the Newsletter - Bülletengä Kuşımta: 2010-01)*

American Turko-Tatar Association – ATTA - Amerikan Törki-Tatar Berleşmäse
(www.attasf.org) September, 2010

Happy Ramazan! Our childhood memories of holidays infuse our celebrations with magic throughout our lives. May the following memoir of a childhood Bayram in Old Kazan deepen your happiness at Bayram.

Ramazan in Old Kazan

When I was a little girl in Kazan, before the Revolution, the month of *Ramazan* was sheer magic. The night before the first *sahar*, *after dinner*, the children were sent to bed early. With the sounds and aromas of cooking floating up to my room, I was usually too excited to sleep, and kept peeking out the window. The city was lit up more brightly than on any other night. It was as if the stars had rained down on Kazan.

In the middle of the night my mother woke me up and took me to the dining room, where the table was laden with all of my favorite Tatar delicacies. The whole family was assembled for the pre-dawn meal preceding the first day of fasting. The *sahar* ended with grandfather reciting a Quranic verse and asking God to bless everyone. All of us joined in the prayer as dawn lit up the sky. The silver rays over Kazan's skyline, the songs of awakening birds . . . I knew we lived in an enchanted city.

I rose late the following morning to a very quiet day. Too young to fast, my brothers and I were the only ones to eat during the day. On some days, we would skip lunch to emulate the adults, only to break our "fast" a little later. Father and Grandfather spent the day praying, reading the Quran, and discussing how they will fulfill their religious obligation to help the poor during *Ramazan*. Mother and Grandmother would putter around the kitchen, pray, sew *Bayram* clothes for us, and prepare the food, clothing, and alms to be distributed to the poor. Everyone was fasting. The children were reminded to play quietly.

The *azan* (call to prayers) before sunset from Kazan's twenty-two mosques lifted the spell of the long, quiet day. The whole city stirred back to life. Stores opened. Boys carrying wooden boxes of *Ramazan* pastries around their necks, chanted their wares: "Come and get your delicious *kalawa*, how about buttery *pahlawa*!?" "Piping hot *kalawa*! Buttery *pahlawa*!" Everyone bought the diamond-shaped nut-encrusted cookies (*pahlawas*) and honey-and-sugar candies (*kalawas*) for the *iftar* tea.

The *iftar* (breaking of the fast) began at sunset with water and an appetizer of dates from the land of the

Bala vaktındağı bāyrām hatiräläre gömör buyı bāyrläuebezgä siherle güzällek birä. İske Kazanda Ramazan ayın bala vaktında yaşāğan apabızınñ hatiräsen tākdim itäbez. bāyramēezgä şadlık kiteresen!

İske Kazanda Ramazan

Min bala vaktında, Urıs ihtilalendän kadär, Kazanda yaşı idek. Ramazan ayında Kazanda siherle güzällek hām şadlık bula ide. Berençe sähär bigeräktä matur bula ide. Äwälge kiçne balalar yoklarga irtäräk cibärelä ide. Tämle sähär aşlarınıñ isläre añkıp tora, yokım kilmi ide. Täräzädän şähärne karap yata idem. Här ber öy yaktırılğan, äyterseñ kükdän yıldızlar yawğan şikelle ide.

Tön ortasında äniyem mine uyatırğa kilä, bergäläşep aş bülmäsena töşä idek. Anda östaldä in tämle bāyrām aşları tezelgän. Böten öy eçe, balası-çagası da, bergäläşep sähär östälänä utra idek. Tañ atır aldından babakayım sähärne niyätlärgä Kor'an ukıp doğa kılğanda bötenebez kul kütärep bergä doğa kila idek. Kömeş nurlar sızılıp kük yaktıra, koşlar sayrıy başliy ... Çınlap ta Kazan siherle şähär ikän dip hayran kala idem.

İrtän abıy-enelärem belän bergä bez soñ tora idek. Kön bik tınıç, uramlarda häräkät az bula ide. Bez balalar uraza tutmasak da ara-sirä açıkkançı "uraza" tota idek. Babakay hām äti Kor'an ukıp, täsbih tartıp, sadakalarıbızın hām zākätebezne kemgä hām niçek birerge dip söyläşälär ide. Äbekäy hām äniyebiz Kor'an ukıp doğa kılğandan soñ, bezneñ bāyrām kiyemlärebezne hām fäkiyrlärgä birergä dip aşlar, sadakalar häzerlilär ide. Balalarga mömkin kadär şau-şusız uynarga kuşalar ide.

İkende namazından soñ, kön buyı tıp-tın bulğan uramlar uyana, canlana ide. İftarga kiräkle aşlarını satıp alıp, halık öylärenä aşğa. Öydä, iftar aşın mömkin kadär tämle häzerlärgä dip hatınlar mutfaklarına ciyila. Böten uram buyınça malaylar muyınlarına tasma belän ağaç tartma asıp käläwa hām pähläwä satıp yörilär. Berse cırlap yöri: "Käläwä! Käläwä! Satam maylı pähläwä!" Aña karşı başka satuçı malay kıçkırta: "Käläwänñ kaynarı; ağıp tora mayları!" Tawışları böten Kazan uramlarında yağırıy. Şikär belän balı kaynatıp törle sıyfatta kattırğan käläwä bik tämle bula. Açı kamır, ak may, hām çikläwek belän yasagan pähläwäne dönyada in tämle peränik dip yarata idem. Kazanda böten keşe az bulsa da şul Ramazan tatlıların iftar çäyenä satıp ala ide.

Kazannñ yegerme-ike mäscidendän bik moñlı aqşam azanı yangırıy. Halık öylärenä aşğa. Awız açalar – su hām ber cimeş belän. İmkânı bulğanlar Hac hörmäse belän awız açä.



DÄFTÄR ebeZ

Prophet Muhammad. Every dinner was a celebration, with relatives and friends joining us. After dinner we would go to the mosque for prayers. When our mosque was too crowded to get in, we strolled from one mosque to another, enjoying the melodious prayers floating out to the streets lit up with the lanterns of pastry vendors and the holiday spirit.

Ramazan would end with a glorious *Bayram* Festival of gifts, parties and excursions. Each night I went to bed counting the days, -- among the stars that came down from heaven to light up *Ramazan* in Kazan.

by **Razia Daulet** (writer, teacher, and a pioneer ATTA member – as told to Naile Minay)



It's Bayram Today

The world is full of beauty and joy today;
I know why: it's *Bayram*. It's *Bayram* today!
Peace and goodness fill everyone's heart today;
My saz is playing joyously to the song
In our hearts: it's *Bayram*. It's *Bayram* today!
The sun is far brighter than usual today.
It's dressed up for Bayram; it's Bayram today!
Heavenly fragrances fill the air today.
Earth must have worn perfume for *Bayram* today.
I saw a wealthy man embrace a beggar.
Bayram has mellowed him; it's *Bayram* today.
I stood on the riverbank and heard the waves
Singing: it's *Bayram*. Yes, it's *Bayram* today!
And the breeze joined in the chorus, whispering:
Peace to all. It's *Bayram*. It's *Bayram* today!

- Abdullah Tukay**, 1908 (translated & ©2008 USA by Naile Minay)



Akşam namazından soñ ğailälär ciyılıp iftarga utıralar. İftardan soñ halık tarawih namazına yünälä ide. Uram tulı halık. Mäscid uramı buyında fänär yaktırtıp käläwä-pähläwä satuçılar tezelep tora, mäscidlär tulı bula ide. Bez mäscidgä kerä almasak, başkalar kebek moñlı tawışlar belän ukılğan Kor'anne tıñlap ber mäsciddän ikençe mäscidgä yöri idek. Tarawıhtan soñ dustlar ber-berseneñ öyenä çäygä bara ide.

Bäyräm könö bu siherle, matur Ramazan ayınıñ çäçäge. Bäyräm yakınlaşkaç, här kiç yokıga kitkänçe bäyrämgä kadär niçä kön kalgan dip sanıy idem -- cännättän yawıp töşkän yıldızlar arasında.

Raziyä Däulet (yazuçı, moğallimä, ATTA'nın iñ berençe aǵzalarıbızdan. Hörmätle Raziyä Apabız Nailä Minay'ğa söyläǵän ide)



Bäyräm Bügen

Bar küñellek böten dönyada, bar ber yäm bügen!
- Näsädän bu? Min beläm:
Bäyräm bügen. Bäyräm bügen!
Ber mökatdäs his belän här ber keşe hayran bügen.
Uynıy sazım da minem bäyräm köyen: bäyräm bügen!
Arttır, kürdem, koyaş ğadättägedän balkım.
“Ul kiyengänder!” - didem, bäyräm bügen, bäyräm bügen!
His itep her cirdä dä ber törle huş is añkuwın.
“İsle may sörtkän ikän dönya!” - didem, bäyräm bügen!
Ber telänçeneñ koçaklaşkanın körep ber bay belän,
“Küñele neçkärgän” - didem, bäyräm bügen! bäyräm bügen!
Yar başından tıñladım min ber sunıñ dulkınarın:
Söyläşälär üz ara: “Bäyräm bügen! bäyräm bügen!...”
Tıñladım äkren genä iskändä bäyräm kön cilen.
Ansıda söyli tagın: Bäyräm bügen! Bäyräm bügen!

- Abdullah Tukay (1908)



| Tatar letters in the Latin Alphabet ---- Tatarçağa Mahsus Latin Härfläre | | | (D. Çapanoğlu et al, Tatarça Räslemle Süzlek) | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---|-----------------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| a | AH as in Far. | e | EH as in Jet | i | EE, as in Sit and Feel | o | O as in For, Floor, So | ş | SH, as in Shell |
| ä | A as in Hat | g | G as in go, get | ı | I, as in Over | ö | Push in cheeks as you pronounce O | u | OO, as in Zoo, Put |
| c | J as in Jet | ğ | Soft “gh”. | j | Soft J, as in “Joie de Vivre” | | | ü | U, as in Cute |
| ç | CH as in child | h | H, as in hat, hot | ñ | NG, as in sing | | | | |

- See our website for the complete alphabet

**“Däftärebez” means “Our Notebook” **Tukay is the best-known and most beloved of all Tatar poets.
© Copyright 2010, USA, American Turko-Tatar Association – ATTA -/ Amerikan Törki-Tatar Berläşmäse
Published by / Basıp Taratuçı: ATTA, POBox 1728, Burlingame, California 94010 USA
For your comments and for permission to reprint material from this publication, please contact:
“Däftärebez” dän yazularını basarga yäki bezgä fikerläregezñizne jibäregä teläsägez,

attanewsletter@hotmail.com adresenä yazıgız

Newsletter Editor

Bülleten Redaktörü Turan Apakay



RAMAZAN BÄYRÄMEÑEZ MÖBÄRÄK BULSIN



DÄFTÄR e b e Z

Timur Abdikeyev Visits California

Timur Abdikeyev was born in Baku, Azerbaijan to a Tatar family. He learned to play accordion and guitar as a child, made appearances in “Tugan Tel” Society and entered Baku Musical Institute. After he won the first place award in “Arhipova Vocal Competition” Mariinsky Opera Theater in St. Petersburg, Russia offered him a position in 2002. Timur has traveled worldwide with Mariinsky Opera Theater, his latest performances being at the Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center in USA.

Timur came to California on his vacation in July, contacted American Turko-Tatar Association – ATTA (www.attasf.org) and ATTA organized a party for him and the Tatar Community. Timur sang Tatar, Azeri and Italian songs for the audience. Rustem Yahin’s romances (Poet, Last Song and Wild Geese) had a profound impact on the audience. The reception after the concert allowed Timur to meet and greet ATTA members.

ATTA has a close relationship with “SilkRoadHouse” (www.silkroadhouse.org) and the Azerbaijan Society (www.acsnc.org) and introduced Timur Abdikeyev to them. Their “meet and greet” events for Timur made it possible for him to introduce his Tatar roots to the audiences through his songs. He was accompanied by the famous Azeri artist-pianist Chingiz Sadykhov, who has also accompanied many well known artists including Bulbul, Rasit Beybutov and Muslim Magamaev.

Timur has given solo concerts in many countries and always included few Tatar songs to show the richness of Tatar soul to his audiences. His California concerts did uplift and enrich his audience’s spirit. How did he accomplish this? Of course, with his velvet-like voice, outgoing personality and his command of English language. His California trip facilitated meeting of Turkic peoples from separate geographic areas and proved the strength of common language, music and soul.

by **Dilare Capanoglu**



ATTA Tatarları Timur belän Azäri Cämğiyätendä

Timur Abdikeyev Kaliforniyaga Kilde

Timur Abdikeyev ber Tatar ğailädä Azärbäycannıñ Baku şähärendä dönyaga kilgän. Balalıktan akordiyon häm gitar uynarga öyrängän, “Tugan Tel” cämğiyätendä çığışlar yasagan häm Baku Müzik Institutında ukıgan. “Arhipova Tawış Konkurs” ında berençe urın algaç Rasiyadagı San Petersburg Mariinsky Opera Tiyatırı 2002 dä Timurnı eşkä çakırgan. Timur Mariinsky Opera Tiyatırı belän dönyanı gizzgän, iñ soñğı çığışları da Amerikanıñ Carnegie Hall häm Kennedy Center ında bulgan.

Timur Kaliforniyaga yal itärgä 7 ençe ayda kilde, ATTA - Amerikan Törki-Tatar Berläsmäse (www.attasf.org) belän elemtegä kerde häm ATTA aña ber “Kiçä” uzdırdı. Timur Tatar, Azeri häm İtalyan cırların takdim itte. Rüstäm Yahinnıñ Romansları (Şağıyr, Soñğı Cır, Kıyık Kazlar) tamaşuçılarga bik täsir itte. Konserttan soñ Timur halık belän tanıştı-dustlaştı.

ATTA, yakın mönäsäbäte bulgan, “SilkRoadHouse” (www.silkroadhouse.org) häm Azäri Cämğiyätenä (www.acsnc.org) Timurnı tanıştırdı. Alarnıñ “Küreşü-Tanışu” kiçälärendä Timur üzeneñ Tatar tamırların cırları belän halıkka tanıttı. Bu cır kiçälärendä Timurga räfäkät itkän mäşhur artist-pianist Çingız Sadıkov ide. Çingız, Bülbül, Raşit Bätevotov häm Muslim Magamaev kebek mäşhur artistlar belän eşlägän keşe.

Timur dönyanıñ küp illärendä konsertlar birgän, härber konsertına Tatar cırın – Tatar moñın keretep halıkka Tatarnıñ ruhi baylıgın tanıtkan. Anıñ Kaliforniyada birgän konsertları halıkıñ küñelen açtı, kütärde, bayıttı. Nindi sıfatlar belan ul anı cıtkerä? Älbättä matur hätfä-kebek tawışı belan, kürkäm keşelege belän häm İngliz telendä irekle söyläşüe belän. Timurnıñ Kaliforniya säyähäte Törki halıqlarını ber araga kiterde. Bu cıylışlar berberendän yırakta yaşägän halıqlarıbızınñ urtak telläre, cırları, häm moñları bulganın açık räweştä tagın ber tapkır kürsättä.

Dilarä Çapanoğlu



Prof. Izaly Zemtsovsky, Timur Abdikeyev, Çingız Sadıkov



DÄFTÄRebeZ

TATAR TELE ÖÇEN LATİN ÄLİFBASI THE LATIN ALPHABET FOR THE TATAR LANGUAGE

| Tatar letters | Sound in Tatar | As in the Word . . .English (Tatar) |
|---------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| A | AH | Far (Ak) |
| Ä | Rounded A | Fan, Can, Sand (Çäçäk) |
| B | B | Boy, Boat (Bala) |
| C | J | Jet, Jam (Cir) |
| Ç | CH | Child (Çäk-Çäk) |
| D | D | Daughter, Daisy (Dust, Deris) |
| E | Eh | Jet, Met (Ber, Elek) |
| F | F | Fan, Free (Fil) |
| G | GEH | Get, Go (Göl) |
| Ğ | Soft GEH | Very soft GEH (Ğäilä) |
| H | HEH | Hello, Hat, Hut (Hat, Hawa) |
| İ | Long and short EE | Fit, Feel (İke, ir) |
| I | UH | Fir, Fur, Sir (Indır) |
| J | Soft French J | Joie de Vivre, the second G in Garage (Jiraf) |
| K | Soft and Hard K | Key, Kite (Hard K before A, O, & U) (Kibet, Kaläm) |
| L | LEH | Light, Let, Lot (Läysän, Limon) |
| M | MEH | May, Men, Mill (Manara, Mäktäp) |
| N | NEH | No, Name, Nest (Narat, Nur) |
| Ñ | NF | Sing, Ring (Moñ) |
| O | OH | For, So, Floor (Orlık, Opera) |
| Ö | Soft O | Chauffeur (pronounced the French way) (Öç) |
| P | PEH | Piano, Pansy (Pesi, Poçmak) |
| Q | NONE (YUK) | See K (K'ga karagız) |
| R | REH, RIH, RAH | Roses, Ring (Räsem) |
| S | SHE | Sing, Sit (Su, Saban) |
| Ş | SH | Share, Shore (Şäkert, Şırpı) |
| T | THE | Tea, Tan (Tañ, Tamır) |
| U | OOH | Sugar, Lure, Zoo (Ut, Urman) |
| Ü | Soft OOH, almost YUH | Mature (Ülän, Ügez) |
| V | VEH | Vase, Violin (Divan) |
| W | WAH, WEH | We, Win, West (Wak, Wakıt) |
| X | NONE (YUK) | Use H (H härefen kullangız) |
| Y | YEH | Yes, Yell (Yaka, Yarma) |
| Z | ZEH | Zoo, Zebra (Zängär, Zur) |

* From D. Çapanoğlu, N. Pavlova, and N. Gabderahmanova, *Tatarça Räsımle Süzlek*, © 2010 USA by D. Çapanoğlu,