

НАМОЯНДАГИИ ДОИМИИ  
ЧУМҲУРИИ ТОҶИКИСТОН  
ДАР СОЗМОНИ  
МИЛАЛИ МУТТАҲИД



PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
TAJKISTAN  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**Statement by H. E. Mr. Sirodjidin Aslov  
Permanent Representative of Tajikistan  
to the United Nations  
at the celebration of the 1150<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
of the birth of Aby Abdullah Rudaki  
18 June 2008, UN Conference room 2, New York**

**Excellencies,  
Mr. Secretary General,  
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,**

On behalf of the government and the people of the Republic of Tajikistan] it is a great honor to welcome you to this joyous commemoration of the 1150<sup>th</sup> birth of the Persian-Tajik poet Rudaki.

I also take this opportunity to express our deepest appreciation to H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations, who has graced this meeting by his presence in spite of his busy schedule.

Permit me to focus only on three points that reflect how the poet Rudaki integrates his global vision with the commitment of our Persian-Afghan-Tajik tradition and the sacred task of the United Nations in service to humanity.

**Imagine** over 1100 years ago! **Imagine** the time when our poet Rudaki, who is also the Rudaki of Iranians, the Rudaki of the Afghans, and the Rudaki of the rest of the globe, founded Persian-Tajik poetry in ideas that integrate the wisdom of various cultures of the past. To this end, he demonstrates that a comprehension of the present and peace in the present world can be gained only by recognizing and integrating the cultures of all past civilizations.

The speakers in this panel will show that Rudaki's global vision focuses not only on tolerance- rather, it delights in, and encourages differences in cultures, religions, and ways of life. His musical poetry likens these differences among people to the symphony of shades of flowers, to the rainbow, to rich multi-dimensions of feelings of being in love and loving. His response is not to grieve but to open our hearts to the joys of life present in nature and to the human ability to transcend the temporal with the eternal and universal ideals.

His poetry and music is an invitation to humanity to seek harmony and to enrich their traditions by the grace of the gift of **love, knowledge and power**. The essence of love lies in the ability of the heart to receive the world like a pure mirror (safa); in this mode love becomes knowledge when it invades into the secrets of the world order; in this light it becomes power.

**Indeed**, Rudaki teaches that **true** power resides not in conflict; by contrast, power is in our submission (salama) to hearts. The heart, which has a desire to **receive** love – **ALSO NEEDS TO GIVE LOVE**, love to our parents, children, fellow human beings and the world; though love of others we reach a unity within ourselves.

The legacy of Rudaki is also the story of the heart of our countries which were situated in the vibrant Samanid state in the greater Khorawson province –this land was a crossroad at which a number of rich cultures met each other, the holders of rich antiquities of many historical periods. A symbolic icon of this diversity and a Jewel of the treasures in Tajikistan is the largest statue of Buddha, some 20 feet tall that will be safeguarded for generations to come. Embracing pluralism, multilingualism and diversity are the very foundation for tolerance.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen - I humbly present to you this message of global peace from the people of Tajikistan.

It is an honor to share with you their goal-which is the eternal message of unity, tolerance, peace, compassion and embracing pluralism — are the very principles of this sacred organization THE UNITED NATIONS.

Thank you for attention.