

Ilhomjon Inoghomjonov (1873 - 1938) - Uzbek hafiz and enlightener. Hafiz, popularly known as Ilhom the samovorchi, was born in 1873 in the family of a bandak weaver. He studied in an old school. But he learned various professions to support his family. He learned the secrets of hafiz and musicianship from famous artists of his time. Together with his son Ilyasjon, he gained fame as a hafiz and musician and participated in events held in various cities and villages of Bukhara Emirate and Turkestan. He learned the secret of taking photographs from a European photographer in exchange for transporting coal in winter, and in 1902 he opened a private photo studio in the old town teahouse he ran. In 1903, he applied to the governor-general of Turkestan and received permission to open a workshop for making seals, and turned it into a printing house and called it “Matbaai Ilhomiya”. Here, not only making seals, he is engaged in printing wedding invitations, announcements, and ceremonies. Ilhomjon Inoghomjanov transferred a certain part of his earned income to the “Jamiyati imdodiya” (charity society), which he founded in 1909 together with his comrades. Also, in 1902, he went to Warsaw and made contact with a gramophone and record factory. Establishing contact with the recording studio of the factory in Riga, he opens a branch of "Company singers and hafiz in Muslim countries" in Tashkent. Mulla Toychi Hafiz, Sodir Khan Hafiz Khojandi, Haji Abdulaziz Samarkandi, Levicha Hafiz, Hamraqul Qari, Nabi Qari, Mulla Islam Mirzahid's son, sister Mazodakhan, Netaykhan wrote and distributed the songs. The famous singer Adolchakhan recorded and popularized the song "Tanovvor" for the first time. He transferred a part of the income from the sale of these records to “Jamiyati imdodiya”. In 1913, he participated in the establishment of the "Nashriyot" company in cooperation with his comrades. In 1917-1925, he was the chairman of "Jamiyati Khairiya", a member of the Association for Helping the Hungry, and in 1918-1919, he was a member of the League of Left Workers, and headed the Old City branch of Tashkent. In 1919-1921, he severed ties with the Left Socialist-Revolutionaries and the newly joined Bolshevik faction. Until 1936, he continued his work at the seal making workshop. Ilhomjon Inogomjonov was imprisoned on January 23, 1938. He was sentenced to death on October 4, 1938, accused of being in contact with a secret organization and keeping a secret printing press.