

PROMINENT CENTRAL ASIAN PERSONALITIES

Al-Khwarizmi (783-847): mathematician, called “the Father of Algebra.”

Al-Bukhari (810-70): compiler of an important selection of Muslim “Hadith.”

Al-Farabi (878-950): called “the Second Aristotle.”

Al-Biruni (973-1048): philosopher, geographer, and mathematician.

Ibn Sina (Avicenna) (980-1037): philosopher, physician, and poet, called “the Prince of Philosophers.”

Najmuddin al-Kubra (1145-1221): founder of the Kubrawiya Sufi *tariqat*.

Chingiz Khan (1155/62/67-1227): Mongolian conqueror.

Khan Uzbek (1282-1342): khan under whom the Golden Horde converted to Islam.

Bahauddin Naqshband (1318-1389): founder of the Naqshbandiya Sufi *tariqat*.

Timur (Tamerlane) (1336-1405): Turkic conqueror.

Shah Rukh (1377-1447): Timur’s son and successor.

Ulugh Beg (1394-1449): Timur’s grandson, a famous astronomer and scholar.

Abu al-Khayr (1413-1469): First leader of the Uzbeks to lead them southward.

Abu Sa’id (1424-1469): Timurid ruler.

Husayn Bayqara (1438-1506): Timurid ruler.

Mir Ali Shir Nava’i (1441-1501): Chagatay poet.

Muhammad Shaybani Khan (1451-1510): Abu al-Khayr’s grandson and leader of the Uzbeks in their conquest of Transoxiana.

Zahiruddin Babur (1483-1530): founder of the Moghul Empire in India.

Abdullah Khan II (1533-98): khan of Bukhara.

Yaqub Beg (c. 1820-77): ruler of Kashgar during period of independence from China.

Shoqan Valikhanov (1835-65): Kazak intellectual and reformer.

Ibray Altynsarın (1841-89): Kazak intellectual and reformer.

Abay Qunanbayov (1845-1904): Kazak intellectual and reformer.

Ismail Bey Gaspirali (1854-1914): Crimean Tatar founder of the Jadid movement.

Muhammad Amin-Hoja Muqimi (1850-1903): Uzbek poet.

Zakirjan Furqat (1858-1909): Uzbek poet.

Sadriddin Aini (1878-1954): Tajik-Uzbek writer.

Munawwar Qari (1880-1933): Uzbek Jadid leader.

Mir Said Sultan Galiev (1880-1939?): Tatar Muslim Communist leader.

Abdalrauf Fitrat (1886-1938): Uzbek writer.

Hamza Hakimzadeh Niyazi (1889-1929): Uzbek Communist poet.

Mustafa Chokaiev (1890-1941): Kazak leader of Autonomous Government of Kokand.

Abdullah Qadiri (1894-1939): Uzbek poet.

Faizullah Khojaev (1896-1938): first president of Uzbek SSR.

Abdulhamid Cholpan (1898-c.1938): Uzbek poet.

Musa Aybek (1905-): Uzbek writer.

Hamid Alimjan (1909-44): Uzbek writer.

Dinmuhamed Kunayev (1911-): First Secretary of Kazakhstan (1960-62, 1964-86) and former member of the Politburo (1971-87).

Sharaf Rashidov (1917-83): First Secretary of Uzbekistan (1959-83) and former alternate member of the Politburo (1961-83).

Chingiz Aitmatov (1928-): Kirghiz novelist.