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Journal "Haqiqat" as a mirror of religious aspect in Jadids' ideology (Facsimile),

Introduction by B. M. Babajanov, Tokyo, 2007.

TIAS, the Islamic Area Studies Center at the University of Tokyo, was established in 2006 to undertake an empirical and comparative study of the dynamic relationship between modern thought and politics, with a focus on post-18th century Central Eurasia and the Middle East. Of the two research groups comprising this IAS Center, Research Group 1, "Islam and Politics in Central Eurasia," focuses on relatively new areas of Islamic research such as Central Asia, Caucasasia, and the Volga-Urals region, as well as Xinjiang in China. The Central Eurasian Research Series constitutes one of the main projects of Research Group 1.

The series aims to introduce source materials invaluable to the further development of Central Eurasian studies, which has made great progress since the mid-1980s when glasnost was introduced in the Soviet Union. We believe that among other things, it is important to make newly obtained rare sources available and known to all researchers in Central Eurasian studies.

The first issue of our new series introduces a unique Jadidist journal called *Haqiqat*, which saw only two issues published in Tashkent in 1922. At first glance it seems odd that a journal with the motto "There is neither religion without society nor society without religion" appeared in Turkestan under the official policy of atheism upheld by the Soviet authorities. However, political circumstances of those critical years following the October Revolution compelled the Bolsheviks to arrange a temporary compromise with Islam and with the Muslim intellectuals in the former Czarist colony. By assisting the Jadid intellectuals in expressing their views, Muslim Communists were able to advance some of their own objectives, which included enlightening the Muslim people.

In his detailed introduction, Dr. Bakhtiyar Babadjanov presents a summary of every article published in the two issues of the *Haqiqat*, and analyzes the articles in the religious context of Islamic reformism. Almost all of the articles revolve around the main issues discussed by pre-Revolution Jadids: the reasons for stagnation and decline in Islamic civilization, which at one time enjoyed a golden age; the recovery of pure Islam through the elimination of any *bid'a* and superstitions prevailing in Muslim society; the miserable condition of Muslim education in old-fashioned madrasas and maktabas; the immediate need for modern education, technology and sciences; reform in the administration of *waqf* (endowment) properties, and so on.