



**The Best Book for Readers**

**Gafur Gulom**

**A Naughty Boy**



# Gafur Gulom

## A Naughty Boy

STORY

  
YANGI ASR AVLODI  
TASHKENT  
2017

**UDK: 821.512.133-3**

**KBK: 84(50')6**

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**Gulom, Gafur**

A naughty Boy. Gafur Gulom / Translators: I.M. Tukhtasinov,  
U.R. Yoldoshev. – Tashkent: Yangi asr avlodi, 2017. – 128 pages.

ISBN 978-9943-20-274-0

Gafur Gulom (1903-1966) is one of great writers and poets in Uzbek literature. He was born in Tashkent city on May 10, 1903. His parents died when he was a teenager. The story "A Naughty Boy" is about his childhood. The writer described hard times of that period, the effect of the war in ordinary people's social life. Travelling through the villages by the main character of this story on the purpose of earning money gave the opportunity to feel the hard time in life at the period of the war. Gafur Gulom used the genre satire in describing these features of the story.

The story is translated with the aim to provide a unique opportunity for English speaking readers to get acquainted with the social life of the mid - XX century in the history of Uzbek people and for students who are eager to enhance their understanding and knowledge by comprehending Uzbek culture and humor. We hope that all the members of the world community will have a chance to admire the cultural heritage of Uzbek people.

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© Gafur Gulom, "A naughty Boy". "Yangi asr avlodi", 2017.

## FOREWORD

Gafur Gulom (1903-1966) was an Uzbek poet, writer, and literary translator. He was one of the great writers in Uzbek literature who had a great share in developing Uzbek satire, humor and comedy. He described different events in 20-30 years of the XIX century and at the period of World War II.

The genre of humor was the specific importance in Gafur Gulom's works. According to his character, Gafur Gulom was interested in humor, loved people's humor in his heart, and felt the social and aesthetic value of laughter. These features of the writer's character were expressed in his humorous works. Interesting words, stories like anecdotes reminded of people's wit, and Afandi<sup>1</sup> anecdotes express national humor.


Gafur Gulom wrote humorous stories, funny feuilletons and critical poems which were loved by people in the last years of the war. He wrote some prosaic stories: "My Robber Son" (1965), "The Most Scandalous Asr<sup>2</sup> Namoz<sup>3</sup>" (1965), "Pirmuhammad and His Grandchildren and Great-grandchildren" (1965); and poetic satiric and humorous words: "We Laugh" (1957), "What Happened to Whom" (1961), "There are Some People Among Us" (1964).

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<sup>1</sup> Main character of Uzbek national anecdotes

<sup>2</sup> The third prayer of Islam

<sup>3</sup> Islamic ritual pray



He is best remembered for his stories “A Naughty Boy” and “Yodgor”. The story “A Naughty Boy” is about hard times of the period of the war.

Gafur Gulom is also known for translating the works by many acknowledged foreign authors such as Alexander Pushkin, Vladimir Mayakovsky and William Shakespeare. He translated “Le Mariage de Figaro” by Pierre Beaumarchais, “Othello” by William Shakespeare and others into the Uzbek language. He is one of the most recognized Uzbek writers of the 20th century.

The translated book under the title of “A Naughty Boy” has a great role in Gafur Gulom’s creative work and in the history of Uzbek humorous literature. The main purpose is to introduce this precious work, the pearl of humorous stories of Uzbek literature to the people of English speaking countries, as well as those who comprehend English as a whole.

The group of highly qualified translators from Uzbekistan State World Languages University, together with the International Relations and Literary Translation Council of the Writers’ Union of Uzbekistan has translated the book “A Naughty Boy” by Gafur Gulom directly from original Uzbek into English.

The author’s group expresses its sincere gratitude to Elise Brittain, English Language Fellow, for her invaluable assistance in reviewing the translation of this book. We look forward to the readers’ comments on the quality of the translation.

We’ll greatly appreciate it if you contact us and share your opinion at: [ilhom\\_tuhtasinov@mail.ru](mailto:ilhom_tuhtasinov@mail.ru)

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