



ABOUT THE STORY "HOJIMUROD"

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Bravery doesn't always triumph, but there's no triumph without bravery.

The human mind possesses such immense power that it can, at one and the same time, or at some point, vividly recreate what it perceived through its senses. Often, it's not a specific person or object that's remembered, but rather situations. It is through these situations—emotions—that the main character is revived in one's memory. Lev Tolstoy's story is also structured upon such memories and imaginations.

The story presents such descriptions: "How wonderful and powerful life is, ----
- I recalled the hardship I endured when picking the flower, ----- it protected its life very fiercely and did not give up easily." With these sentences, the author recalls a Caucasian history that took place much earlier.

The protagonist of the story, Hojimurod, is indeed portrayed as both the central figure and a true hero. His name was known to young and old alike in Chechen villages and in invading Russia.

With his childlike innocent smile, this formidable man could evoke a completely warm response in those he met. His countenance was received as an extraordinary and unexpected surprise. The primary perception of him was: a stern, uniquely dignified, bloodthirsty armed, mighty mountain warrior. More than these aspects, Hojimurod lived as a person who instilled the idea of bravery in people's minds. We learn this from the feelings of Sado's five-year-old son, and even from Ivan Matveyevich, who didn't particularly like each other. Ivan Matveyevich simply describes his long and praiseworthy bravery by saying: "Whatever he was, he was



a brave man." And indeed, it's true. There are some personalities for whom even grand words of praise fall short. Words are a great power! Through words, Leo Tolstoy was able to evoke such a power, as if his contemporaries felt it. Of course, emotion was aroused by depicting the event. The situation was described, and we felt the situation. However, if the hero's delicate inner self had also been described in detail, contrary to his outward appearance, perhaps we would have formed an opinion not by imagining him in our minds as we do now and "seeing the situation with our own eyes," but by hearing about it. Hojimurod's sole thought was the safety of his family, his desire to see them again with him. His defection to the Russian side, at first glance, seems like betrayal to the reader. However, disagreements with Imam Shamil, whom he served as a naib, and Shamil's attempt to kill him, forced him to leave his village. Due to the broken relationship and the pressure on his family, he goes over to the Russian side to save their lives. When there's no answer about help, he finally plans to escape, raid the village, and take his family, but he fails to complete his task and bravely gives up his life.

Hojimurod is a freedom-loving person. He upholds his values, beliefs, and principles. Leo Tolstoy brought Hojimurod's vivid image to life not so much through his heroic deeds, but through his interactions and conversations with people. He was judged through the eyes of those around him.

The trampled thistle in the middle of a ploughed field reminds Tolstoy of Hojimurod's death. He remembers him thus: "What a great power! -- I thought, -- man has overcome everything, destroyed millions of plants, and yet this one still does not surrender." Through the "tartar thistle" plant, a wonderful and appropriate description is given to the main character, who reminded him of Caucasian history. Hojimurod ----- what a great power!