

REVIEW

of the official reviewer for dissertation work Tercan Nurfer on the theme “Al-Farabi’s Philosophy of Music” presented for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the specialty “8D02202 – Philosophy”

№	Criteria	Eligibility (one of the options must be checked)	Justification of the position of the official reviewer
1.	The topic of the thesis (as of the date of its approval) corresponds to the directions of development of science and/or state programs	1.1 Compliance with priority areas of science development or government programs:	The dissertation research and its results correspond to the priority areas of science development in several positions, these are 7. “Research in the social sciences and humanities”; 7.2 Fundamental, applied, interdisciplinary research in the humanities; 7.2.1 Great names and great eras: the legacy of Al-Farabi, Abai, Akhmet Baitursynov, the Golden Horde and the Alashordinians.
		1) The thesis was completed within the framework of a project or target program financed from the state budget (indicate the name and number of the project or program) 2) The thesis was completed within the framework of another state program (indicate the name of the program) 3) The dissertation corresponds to the priority direction of the development of science, approved by the Higher Scientific and Technical Commission under the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan (indicate the direction)	The dissertation has been prepared as part of the formal study for a doctoral dissertation (PhD) in the specialty “8D02202 – Philosophy” and was carried out at the Department of Religious and Cultural Studies at Al-Farabi Kazakh National University.
2.	Importance for science	The work makes /does not make a significant contribution to science, and its importance is well disclosed/not disclosed	The dissertation is relevant to cross-cultural studies of Western, Arab-Persian and Turkic philosophies, proving the multicultural originality and universalism of Al-Farabi’s creative heritage. The dissertator introduces his own

			commented translation of the original “Kitab al-Musika al-Kabir” into scholarly use, as there were no previously translated versions in English and Turkish. The dissertator introduces his own commented translation of the original Kitab al-Musika al-Kabir into scholarly use, as there were no previously translated versions in English and Turkish. Also, the researcher for the first time carries out a comparative analysis of the concept of aesthetic consciousness of European, Arabic, Turkish, Kazakh researchers to prove the paradigmatic integrity of theoretical and methodological components of Al-Farabi's “Kitab al-Musika al-Kabir”.
3.	The principle of independence	Self-reliance level: 1) High; 2) Medium; 3) Low; 4) No independence	The author's text manifests an individual, distinctive personal style, i.e., a high level of writing. In addition, the methodological means used to reveal the author's conceptual content of the work are compatible, the references in the text are appropriate. The author shows a high culture of the design of the scholarly text.
4.	The principle of inner unity	4.1 Justification of the relevance of the thesis: 1) <u>Justified;</u> 2) Partially justified; 3) Not justified.	The author's text manifests an individual, distinctive personal style, i.e., a high level of writing. In addition, the methodological means used to reveal the author's conceptual content of the work are compatible, and the references in the text are appropriate. The author shows a high culture of the design of the scientific

			text.
		4.2 The content of the thesis reflects the topic of the thesis: 1) Reflects; 2) Partially reflects; 3) Does not reflect	The content of the thesis reflects the topic of the research in detail; its aims and objectives; the main points of the thesis, results and conclusions are consistent with each other and correspond to the thesis topic.
		4.3. The purpose and objectives correspond to the topic of the thesis: 1) correspond; 2) partially correspond; 3) do not correspond	The goals and objectives of the dissertation work correspond to the research topic and reflect the content of the dissertation work.
		4.4 All sections and provisions of the thesis are logically interconnected: 1) <u>completely interconnected;</u> 2) the interconnection is partial; 3) there is no interconnection	Consider the relationship between philosophy, music, and aesthetics in ancient philosophy; Study music as a form of aesthetic consciousness; To reveal the essence and structure of the al-Farabi philosophy of music: To present the content of Farabi's work "Kitab Al-Musica Al-Kabir" and determine its role in world culture; To explore Al-Farabi's approach to music through the relationship of sensation, perception, emotion, thought, and reasoning.
		4.5 The new solutions (principles, methods) proposed by the author are reasoned and evaluated in comparison with the known solutions: 1) <u>there is a critical analysis;</u> 2) partial analysis; 3) the analysis does not represent one's own opinions, but quotes from other authors	There is a critical analysis. The author critically analyzes the approaches to the relationship between philosophy and music in classical Western, modern, and Kazakh Philosophy, using an extensive methodological toolkit. Contrary to the principle of Eurocentrism, an attempt is made to reveal the deep meanings of Al-

			Farabi's legacy in dealing with current problems of interdisciplinary nature. The author's translation of the Second master's work should be assessed as a manifestation of intellectual courage and innovation in the researcher's actions.
5.	Scientific novelty principle	5.1 Are the scientific results and provisions new? 1) completely new; <u>2) partially new (25-75% are new);</u> 3) not new (less than 25% are new)	The main achievement of this dissertation is the translation of Al-Farabi's "The Big Book of Music" into Turkish and English in co-authorship, as well as translations of other sources to achieve the goal and objectives of the study.
		5.2 Are the dissertation findings new? 1) completely new; <u>2) partially new (25-75% are new);</u> 3) not new (less than 25% are new)	The conclusions of the thesis are new. These conclusions are confirmed by the results of a detailed comparative analysis of the works of Al-Farabi and modern researchers.
		5.3 Technical, technological, economic or management decisions are new and reasonable: 1) completely new; <u>2) partially new (25-75% are new);</u> 3) not new (less than 25% are new)	Technical, technological, economic or management decisions are partially new and reasonable.
6.	The validity of the main findings	All main conclusions are/are not based on scientifically significant evidence or well-grounded (for qualitative research and areas of training in the arts and humanities)	It may be noted that the content of the text is adapted to the topic as much as possible, and scientific conclusions and results are based on extensive evidence. The thesis provides a deep and systematic analysis of the most significant aspects of Al-Farabi's music and science; the author's translation of Al-Farabi's "Kitab al-Musica al-Kabir" is made and its high role in world culture is defined. We think that shortly, the author will turn the

complex problems of social and cultural spheres into the subject of critical study in his creative practice.

7.1 The main points of the thesis are proven and scientifically consistent. In addition to philosophy, the author was able to use the methods of the general humanities at the interdisciplinary level in his work. It was concluded that each principle was “proven”.

7.2 The operating principles are trivial, that is, not superficial. This item is rated “no”. It was observed that the author presented each result after examining it from a theoretical point of view. At the same time, he is looking for ways to apply it to social and cultural practices.

7.3 The total number of scientific results and provisions is equal to five. The first provision is proven; a comparative analysis of the works of Plato, Aristotle, and other philosophers revealed the paradigmatic essence of Farabi’s theory and methodology, presented in the “Classification of Sciences”, which he later used to create the theory of music; The second position - the nature and essence of aesthetic perception and the role of the idea of experiencing music with the body was first analyzed on the basis of a detailed analysis of the works of contemporary scientists; The third principle - reveals the exclusive role of

7.	The main provisions for the defense	<p>It is necessary to answer the following questions for each provision separately: 7.1 Is the provision proven?</p> <p>1) proven; 2) rather proven; 3) rather not proven; 4) not proven</p> <p>7.2 Is it trivial?</p> <p>1) yes; 2) no</p> <p>7.3 Is it new?</p> <p>1) yes; 2) no</p> <p>7.4 Application level:</p> <p>1) narrow; 2) medium; 3) wide</p> <p>7.5 Is it proven in the article?</p> <p>1) yes; 2) no</p>

			<p>Al-Farabi as the founder of Islamic philosophy, which is to synthesize theory and practice in the substantiation of philosophy and music theory by comparing and analysing the works of Eastern philosophers, and interpreting the views of modern philosophers; The fourth provision - based on the analysis of the author's version of the translation of "Kitab al-Musika al-Kabir" shows the relationship and correlation of the methodology of music theory with the philosophy and logic of Al-Farabi; The fifth position - a detailed analysis of the works of Al-Farabi and their projection into modern studies of cognitive psychology demonstrates the logical structure of epistemological, aesthetic, and ontological components of the unity of philosophy and music through the justification of the concepts of "emotion" and "musical thinking".</p> <p>For the above reasons, this dissertation is rated "Yes".</p> <p>7.4 The application of the provisions in the development of modern education and science, in the social environment is assessed as "broad". The main scientific results of the thesis can be fully used in the field of social sciences and humanities, musicology, cognitive psychology. The dissertation is rated as "extensive". We believe that based on</p>
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			<p>this material it is possible to prepare a special scientific seminar or an online course in higher school, which are feasible in the future.</p> <p>7.5 The main provisions of the thesis are sufficiently substantiated at the level of domestic and some foreign publications, approbated as required. Articles were published in English. The author's article was published in journals listed in "Scopus". In this sense, the works meet the requirements. Therefore, this item was evaluated as "Yes".</p>
8.	<p>The principle of reliability Reliability of sources and information provided</p>	<p>8.1 Choice of methodology - is justified or the methodology is described in sufficient detail 1) yes; 2) no</p>	<p>The choice of methodology is justified. The dissertation compares the logic and methodology of scientific knowledge of Aristotle and Al-Farabi, presented in the classifications of sciences; actualizes the connection of the philosophical essence of aesthetic consciousness with modern approaches of cognitive psychology and cognitive musicology; proves the importance of the concept of "measure" in Al-Farabi's music theory, synthesizing the practical and theoretical aspects of scientific knowledge; puts forward the original concepts of "musical thinking" and "music as an encoding of emotions", confirming the reasonable foundations of emotions, for example, the modern concept of "emotional intelligence".</p>

		<p>8.2 The results of the thesis were obtained using modern methods of scientific research and methods of processing and interpreting data using computer technologies: 1) yes; 2) no</p>	<p>The results are derived from the reconstruction of the synthesis of Al-Farabi's works to update the interdisciplinary approach to solving the epistemological and methodological aspects of the interaction of physics and metaphysics in modern science.</p>
		<p>8.3 Theoretical conclusions, models, identified relationships and patterns have been proven and confirmed by experimental research (for areas of training in pedagogical sciences, the results have been proven on the basis of a pedagogical experiment): 1) yes; 2) no</p>	<p>The results are obtained based on updating the universal methods of Al-Farabi's philosophy with paradigmatic status. They are also supplemented by a comparative analysis of the works of modern researchers, translation, and commentary of the works of al-Farabi himself. In this regard, the results of the dissertation work are reliable and interpreted at a high level. In addition, the main results of the work have been published in peer-reviewed scientific articles with a good citation rate, which does not increase doubts about their reliability.</p>
		<p>8.4 Important statements are confirmed / partially confirmed / not confirmed by references to current and reliable scientific literature</p>	<p>The positions are confirmed, as the dissertator about philosophy and theory of music refers to the works of classical and modern authors, including Kazakhstani researchers. It is hoped that the analysis of materials by Kazakhstani researchers will occupy a prominent place in the author's future scientific works.</p>
		<p>8.5 Used literature sources are sufficient/not sufficient for a literature review</p>	<p>The list of literature used is sufficient for a review of the scientific literature on the</p>

			topic. The author has managed to collect scientific literature related to such concepts as aesthetic consciousness, and music theory in classical and modern Western, Eastern, and Kazakh philosophy, including authors and translators who researched Al-Farabi's legacy. The author managed to include her translations of Al-Farabi's works in the list of historical-cultural-philosophical works to achieve the purpose and objectives of the thesis.
9	Practical value principle	9.1 The thesis has theoretical value: 1) yes; 2) no	The dissertation has a high theoretical value. This is due to the fact that the author correlates music with other sciences and shows the relationship of emotion with mind and body, drawing on the methodology of Al-Farabi.
		9.2 The thesis is of practical importance and there is a high probability of applying the results obtained in practice: 1) yes; 2) no	The dissertator contributes to Kazakhstani farabiography, which is part of global farabiography. "The Big Book of Music" argues the dissertator has great prospects of influencing contemporary music theory, neurobiology, psychology. Based on the thesis, the development of a special course on music theory and the study of the "Big Book of Music" is necessary to popularize the scientific work of Al-Farabi within the development of liberal education and art in the Kazakhstani educational system.
		9.3 Are the practice suggestions new? 1) completely new;	The practical recommendations of the thesis can be described as "completely

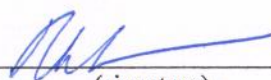
		2) partially new (25-75% are new); 3) not new (less than 25% are new)	new". Because the theoretical basis of the author's reflections is consistent with the models of creative thinking and emotional intelligence, which is the beginning of implementing the model of "spiritual man", "man completed" from a practical point of view in the upbringing and education of modern students and young people.
10.	The quality of writing and design	Academic writing quality: 1) high ; 2) average; 3) below average; 4) low.	The quality of academic writing in the text presented by the author can be described as "at a high level". This is due to the fact that the author uses methods and principles of historical-philosophical, culturological and socio-philosophical analysis that are widespread in academic circles, mainly in theoretical and methodological terms. It is noted in the work that philosophical research is logically interlinked with cultural and psychological research. Therefore, it is evident from the theoretical level of the thesis work that the academic nature predominates.

Decision of the official reviewer:

1) to award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) by specialty «8D02202 – Philosophy» Tercan Nurfer

Official Reviewer:

Candidate of Science (Philosophy),
Associate Professor, School of Politics and Law,
Almaty Management University
(place of work, academic title)


(signature)



Sholpan Ibzharova
(FULL NAME)

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