



Gulbazzm (Flower party)

Gulbazzm is a recital party in form of poetry challenge competition mainly taking place during the weddings by the young men and girls. During *gulbazzm* participants will hold a flower and when one participants challenges the other will go give him or her the flower. *Gulbazzm* is organized after when few songs have been sung during the wedding and the wedding Master of Ceremonies (MC) by taking a flower will recite the following line to launch *gulbazzm*.

*Gulbazzm muhabbatgahi yoron boshad,
Az yor ba yor she'rboron boshad.
Donandai abyotu sukhan burd kunad,
Maghlub shavad har on ki nodon boshad.*

(*Gulbazzm* is the the loveplace of the friends,

It is when friends pour poem to one and another.

Only those who know poems will win,
Those who don't face the defeat.)

Afterwards under the joyful music he takes the flower and gives it to any random girl in the

wedding. The young lady in her turn with dance comes forward and has to respond to the couplet recited by the young man. It can be any sort of poem or couplet dedicated to love, wedding or a simple well wish for the newly weds. Afterwards she takes the flower and goes to pas the flower to the next person, usually girls to boys and boys to girls. In this manner the recital event would go for 15 or 20 minutes when the flower will be passed from had to hand by those young ladies and gentlemen present. To call the end of the recital the MC will take the flower and read the following:

*Gula mondem boloi bom,
Gulbazzma kardem tamom.*

(We left the flower on the rooftop,
We call the *gulbazzm* finished.)

Given the romantic nature and context where the recital is performed it is believed this tradition was invented by people deeply in love, who otherwise could not engage in communication explicitly in public. And such event would allow them to express their feelings through poetry in public.

In *gulbazzm* event poetry pieces recited represent a wide range of genres from both classical poets as well a folklore compositions.