

## Almaty Toastmasters Spotlight Series: Begzod Hakimov

**Almaty Toastmasters Club - Member Spotlight Series** will be featuring all the current members of the Club. Stay tuned to learn more about our fellow Toastmasters, why joined the Club, what they like about it and what is their life like outside of the Club activities!

Today's "spotlight" features Begzod Hakimov, the founding member and Vice President of Education of the first official Toastmasters Club in Almaty, Kazakhstan, which was established in December 2013. We are delighted to present this interview.



Begzod Hakimov

### **1. What is your happiest childhood memory?**

When I made my first bicycle by various used spare parts at the age of 12.

### **2. When did you join Toastmasters? What made you join?**

I joined the club in 2012. I wanted to develop my communication and leadership skills. Moreover, I wanted to meet a lot of interesting and like-minded people and I was right!

### **3. Life outside Toastmasters or what do you do for a living?**

I am a Language School Director.

### **4. How do you use communication skills in your daily life?**

Communication skills are very useful in my daily life. I use them to get acquainted with new people. To attract new potential clients and strengthen my network. It also significantly helps me to communicate well with my wife and relatives.

### **What do you like best about our Club?**

The club is really a unique place to grow both personally and professionally. Well-structured self - development program makes the organization quite useful and attractive to many knowledge seekers.

### **What have you learnt since you joined? Do you feel that you had grown as a communicator or a leader since you joined Toastmasters?**

I strongly believe that I have benefited greatly by being a part of this wonderful club. I learnt how to work in a team, how to be a proactive person and how to be a good listener. In addition to it, I had a chance to feel how wonderful it is when you help other

people to grow and become more successful individuals. Certainly, I developed both communication and leadership skills which nowadays help in many ways in my daily life.

**What are your personal hobbies and interests?**

I like reading autobiographical books and playing table tennis.

**Can you share random or surprising facts from you biography?**

At the age of 4 I tried the first and last cigarette in my life. At the age of 9 I started making my first money. At the age of 10 I tried to drive the tractor.

**If you could have a lunch with anyone, who would that person be and why?**

It is really a good question. I think I would like to meet with my grandfather from my father's side. Since he was for a long time the Mayor of the city, I would like to ask many questions regarding his management style and secrets of being outstanding person.

**What is the most important thing you would tell your friends and family about Toastmasters?**

If you want to feel special, join the club and grasp the opportunity the club provides.

Begzod is the current Vice President of Education at Almaty Toastmasters Club and held this role since its establishment in December 2013. He remains the key member of our Leadership team, albeit, his role as VP of Education is wrapping up in July 2016 after our elections. Official members, guests and fellow Leadership teammates have always been acknowledging Begzod's excellent communication skills and appreciate his belief in Toastmasters programs and its benefits!

Thank you for this interview, Begzod! We appreciate your commitment to Almaty Toastmasters Club and your upcoming work as a Mentorship Program Lead within our Education Committee!