The article presents the facts of a creative biography of the famous Karachay-Balkar poet Magomet Khasuevich Mokaev. The relevance of the work lies in the need to study the heritage of Magomet Mokaev, since his literary experiments did not previously become fully the object of scientific understanding. The work traces the evolution of the writer's creative path, the poet's contribution to the formation of the Balkarian spiritual culture is noted, the main merits in improving the poetic syllable and updating the genre component of national literature are indicated.

**Keywords:** Magomet Mokaev, sonnet, Karachay-Balkar poetry, modern poetry.

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