

## TRADITION AND MODERNITY IN THE ART OF UZBEK PUPPET THEATER

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**Abstract:** This scientific article discusses the rich history of the art of Uzbek puppet theater, its stages of development and its creative activity today as the Uzbek National Puppet Theater.

**Keywords:** theater, puppet theater, performance, performance, puppet images, modern staging methods.

Uzbek puppet theater performances have lived in harmony with the worldview, aspirations and way of life of their people for centuries. Knowing the interests of the people, he protected them in his shows. The art of puppet theater never stopped. It has evolved from century to century with new experience, new tradition and new research. The establishment of the authoritarian Soviet regime in Turkestan did not fail to affect the art of puppet theater. During this period, the puppeteers remained faithful to their tradition and staged their next shows in the spirit of the new era.

Especially when young teachers realized that puppetry can play an important role in the education of children, the Commissariat of Public Education became the organizer of the first puppet theaters. In the past, puppet shows were held in markets and crowded places without choosing the audience, attracting people from seven to seventy years old with their shows. But the newly established puppet theater has turned into a wonderful place that creates works only for small audiences and makes its grateful contribution to their growth into a perfect person. The main task of the theater was to increase the aesthetic taste of young children, to develop their spiritual, educational and ideological outlook.

The heroes of the puppet games are the sharp clown, brave Polvon Kachal; his companion is the easy-going, hipchabel Bichekhanim, the impatient and quick-witted Yasovul, the monkey teacher, and various characters found in folklore, who laugh at the flaws in the society of that time, bravely cheated and humiliated people. protected. Puppeteers were able to skillfully use bitter humor and rude words in their performances, so their "plays" were always lively and impressive. "Puppet show is one of the oldest types of theater in Uzbekistan. The famous puppet hero Polvan Kachal used to gather thousands of spectators in cities and villages, on walks. His poisonous tongue caused a lot of inconvenience to a greedy usurer, a stupid gendarme, a jealous mullah, and an ignorant rich man. Often, some dolls were made to look like historical figures. For example, Ko'kan Khan had a doll that looked like Khudoyor Khan..." - writes D. Glinberg in his 1959 "Living Dolls" published in "Uzbekistan" newspaper. in the article. This ancient art has withstood the storms of times and times, sharpened, gained rich experience and found its reflection in the Republican Puppet Theater established in Tashkent in 1939 with high professional traditions.

In fact, 1939 is considered the official date, and in practice the puppet theater started its activity in 1928. A group of actors led by Semyon Eten will stage a play for children based on the book "Uncle Tom's Cabin" by Beecher Stowe in the Russian Theater of Young Audiences, which was established this year. The play in Russian, staged for children, will appeal to young audiences. Soon after that, another troupe will be formed within the team. The first actors of the troupe were folk puppeteers Polatjon Doniyorov and young artists Nurkhan Eshmuhamedov, Hamidulla



Abdullayev, M. Soliyev and Olim Kholimtoyev. Although this early puppet troupe worked in difficult conditions, it won the attention of many people with its cheerful art.

In fact, Polatjon Doniyorov founded the puppet show and concert program with his clown puppet. Usually, the concrete numbers of the master are meaningfully connected with each other, and they are good. On top of that, uncle Maskharaboz, who has a bright coat, a mock cap, and a longer face, in short, reminds Polvan Kachal with his appearance, did a great job. In addition to announcing the next numbers and introducing the puppet artists, he linked the performances together, and from time to time he also made fun and increased the fun and audience of the concert.

In 1947, Sh. Shonazar published an article about P. Doniyorov under the title "Children's Friend" in "Lenin Uchkuni" newspaper. In this article, it is emphasized that Polatjon Doniyorov is the most favorite person of children. The famous puppeteer often visited kindergartens and schools and talked to children for a long time to make his puppets come alive and believably. "There is not a single child who does not know Tashpolat Daniyrov. He is known and respected everywhere in Uzbekistan, from children to adults. There is hardly any school, orphanage, camp, collective farm, state farm and kindergarten where Doniyorov did not go and play with his dolls."

In the years after the war, new requirements and creative tasks were imposed on the theater team. The theater's repertoire includes Russian and world classics. The works of A.S. Pushkin, G.H. Andersen, S. Perrault, the Grimm brothers and many children's poets were presented to the young audience. By this time, the creative team worked tirelessly to create its own national dramaturgy. The epics "Farhad and Shirin" by A. Navoi, "Semurg", "Oygul and Bakhtiyor" by H. Olimjon were staged. "The Adventures of Fatima" by N. Habibullaev, "Rahim and the Beetle" by A. Qabulov, "The Bull with Sharp Horns" by R. Farhodi, "Who Stole the Moon?" such plays were born. For a quarter of a century, the artists of the Republic of Uzbekistan, I.R. Yakubov and V.G. Akudin, staged the best works in the theater in creative cooperation and raised its reputation to high levels. During many years of creative activity, the theater participated in national and international festivals. The State Puppet Theater of Uzbekistan is on creative tours in Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Burma, Afghanistan, India, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Egypt, South Korea, Turkey, USA introduced the Uzbek national art of puppetry to the world. In the early period of independence, directors, painters, composers and actors tried their strength on the theater stage with great enthusiasm. Honored artists of the Republic of Uzbekistan M.Igamnazarova, F.Khodjaev, K.Jabborova, actors A.Mirzagiyaev, Sh.Jabbarov, Y.Shibkov, directors honored artist of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.Yusupov, D. Yuldasheva, E.Aripova, Kh.Akhunov, artists M.Rozmetova, N.Fakhrutdinova, and composers A.Ikramov, A.Kim, L.Ugay and M.Tiora, artists of the Republic of Uzbekistan, created effectively. In the theater, works are staged not only for children, but also for older audiences. Director Sh.Yusupov's "Town of the Country Tomaris", "Bahrom and Dilorom", "Shirok", "Yana Andersen", "Karsildok", "Star Child", "Oh this Khoja Nasriddin", "Shadow" by D. Yuldasheva performances are proof of our opinion. On May 26, 2020, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures to further increase the role and influence of culture and art in the life of society" was announced. According to him, taking into account the rich history, the incomparable contribution to the formation and development of the Uzbek National Puppet Theater School, the State Puppet Theater of Uzbekistan was given the name - Uzbek National Puppet Theater.

In 2021, the performances "Bahrom and Dilorom" and "Legend of Shiroq" based on the epic "Sabai Sayyor" of "Khamsa" were staged by Sh. In 2022, the performance "Bahrom and Dilorom" was awarded with a first-class diploma at the 13th traditional festival of republican



puppet theaters of the Uzbek National Puppet Theater. In 2023, Sh. Yusupov staged “Hamlet”, a masterpiece of world dramaturgy, by Sh. Yusupov.

In 2024, he appeared on the stage at the Uzbek National Puppet Theater under the name “The Scarlet Flower or Beauty and the Beast”. The chief director of the theater, Shomurod Yusupov, an honored artist of the Republic of Uzbekistan, together with a strong creative team, attracted talented artists to his surroundings while staging this work. Dinara Yuldasheva worked side by side with the stage director on the play as assistant director. Motabar Rozmetova, winner of the State Prize named after Zulfia, created the appearance of the heroes of the work. Composer Mikhail Tiora composed special tunes for the play. Choreographer Olga Ostanina created beautiful dances and movements in the play. Actors in the performance include Y. Tiora, O. Isakov, Sh. Ishmuhamedova, Honored Artist of the Republic of Uzbekistan M. Igamnazarova, G. Sabirova, S. Ruzikulov, S. Jorayev, A. Mirzagiyaev, Sh. Jabborov. They showed all their skill in puppets.

As soon as the curtain opens, two leading girls in Russian folk costumes, which reflect the Russian culture live on the stage, lead the performance. During the telling of the events, their live, beautiful voiced songs based on Russian folk music give the performance a special spirit and mood. Magnificent, bright colors and unique costumes created for the show, perfectly crafted puppets act like live actors during the performance. Skilled actors were able to bring the puppets to life as well as give them character while controlling the puppets.

During the creation of scenography, the director was able to use modern technologies. In order to embody the place of events and in some places to increase the stage effect, video shows with the help of a projector were used. This also decorated the performance with bright colors. Every detail used in the performance, music, lights, video shows - served to increase the viewership of the performance.

This performance was presented on March 27 at a meeting dedicated to the analysis of the issues facing the theater art and their solutions, and the current tasks of the representatives of the field under the leadership of the First Deputy Minister of Culture Avazkhan Tadzhiqanov, Innovations in the theater art: unique and exciting theater It is not an exaggeration to say that the tasks specified, such as using new technologies, interactive formats and multimedia solutions to create works, were fulfilled.

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