



OUR NATIONAL MUSICAL HERITAGE

Zahiriddinova Nigina

Andijan State Pedagogical Institute,

Master's Department, 1st-year student of the "Music Education and Art" program

Abstract: The article explores the national musical heritage of the Uzbek people, its historical roots, and its spiritual significance. It discusses the role of national instruments such as the dutor, tanbur, nay, and doira in the life of the people, as well as the artistic value of classical music like "Shashmaqom." In addition, the article emphasizes the importance of preserving national music and passing it on to the younger generation.

Keywords: national music, ceremonies, traditions, national musical instruments, social relations, religious ceremony, folk songs, lapars, chants.

Every nation has its own unique culture, history, and art. Among these treasures, national music holds a special place. Music is not only a form of art but also a cultural heritage that expresses the spirit, history, and aspirations of a people. The national musical heritage of the Uzbek people also has a thousand-year history and reflects the rich spiritual world of our ancestors.

The roots of our national music go back to ancient ceremonies, customs, and folk oral creativity. National musical instruments such as the dutor, tanbur, nay, and doira are an inseparable part of our musical heritage. Through these instruments, our people have expressed their sorrows, joys, and dreams for centuries. For example, since ancient times, musical instruments have been used in various aspects of the daily life of the Uzbek people. Music also plays an important role in preserving the nation's history. Ceremonial songs, labor songs, and lyrical melodies reflect the way of life of our ancestors.



Today, our national music harmonizes with modern styles and is becoming widespread among young people. It has been not only a means of entertainment but also an important component of social relations, religious ceremonies, and spiritual life. Below are the main areas of its use:

Use in Ceremonies and Festivals: In traditional Uzbek events such as weddings, marriage ceremonies, circumcision celebrations, and mourning rituals, musical instruments have played an important role. For example:

At weddings: The surnay and doira are inseparable parts of Uzbek weddings. The loud and cheerful sound of the surnay accompanied the wedding procession (the groom's caravan or the ceremony of bringing the bride), while the doira accompanied dances and entertainment. Folk dances such as "Yalla" and "Lazgi" are performed to the sounds of the doira and qo'shnay.

In religious ceremonies: Instruments such as the chang and rubob have been widely used in zikr rituals, especially in Sufi music. The soothing and spiritual sounds of these instruments attracted people's attention and provided them with emotional and spiritual nourishment.

In mourning ceremonies: The sorrowful melodies of instruments such as the nay and ghijjak were used during mourning rituals. They served as important means of expressing the people's feelings of grief and loss.

2. In daily life: Musical instruments enriched the spiritual world of the people not only during special ceremonies but also in everyday life:

During labor: Uzbeks engaged in animal husbandry used instruments like the nay and sibizg'i to add melody to their work. For instance, shepherds played the nay while tending their flocks, and this music made their work more enjoyable.



At family gatherings: Instruments such as the dutor and tanbur were used during family gatherings and in homes to perform folk songs and epics. These instruments were a constant presence in Uzbek households and played an important role in developing the art of music among the people.

3. Spiritual and educational significance: Musical instruments have held an important place in the spiritual life of the Uzbek people. For example:

In epic storytelling: Epics such as “Alpomish” and “Go‘ro‘g‘li” were performed to the sounds of the dutor or rubob, preserving the historical memory of the people. These instruments have served as important tools for educating the younger generation in the spirit of patriotism, bravery, and compassion.

Educational influence:

Through music, the people have expressed their moral values and feelings such as love and loyalty. For example, the sharp and deep sound of the ghijjak has played an important role in conveying people’s inner emotions”¹

In addition, folk songs, lapars, ashulas, and the art of maqom form the main treasures of Uzbek music. In particular, Shashmaqom is considered one of the highest examples of our national music. It embodies elegance, spiritual richness, and the beauty of art. This musical genre is recognized not only in our country but also throughout the world.

We can say that the power and timelessness of our classical music lie in the depth of its spiritual and moral meaning and in the beauty of its melodies. Indeed, classical musical works, refined over the centuries and enriched with profound

¹ <https://dsmi.uz/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/23-06-2025-mag.pdf>



meaning and charming tunes, have come down to us as the most beloved and cherished creations of our people.

“The artistic power of classical musical works lies in their harmony with the people's dreams, emotions, virtues, and realities of life — in their ability to reflect the human soul and sorrow, while being equally pleasing to listeners through the unity of word and melody, instrument and tune”^{2/}

Our national musical heritage is the priceless treasure of the Uzbek people. Preserving it, passing it on to the younger generation, and developing it is our sacred duty. For national music is the heart of the people, the root of their culture, and an inseparable part of their history.

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² R.S.Abdullayev “O‘zbek mumtoz musiqasi” Toshkent “Yangi nashr” 2008