



FERGANA REGIONAL PUPPET THEATER: ITS DEVELOPMENT, RELEVANCE AND PLACE IN MODERN CULTURE

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Abstract

The article discusses the historical formation of the Fergana regional puppet theater, its role in the current theatrical space of Uzbekistan, and its current tasks based on a scientific approach. In particular, the role of theatrical art in the harmonious upbringing of the younger generation, its importance in promoting national culture, and its activity in international cooperation are analyzed.

Keywords: puppet theater, theatrical art, young generation, national culture, Fergana, current problem, international cooperation.

Introduction

In today's era of globalization and digital information, the formation of aesthetic taste, spiritual immunity and cultural thinking in the hearts of the younger generation is an urgent task. From this point of view, theatrical art, in particular puppet theaters for children, is becoming an important ideological and educational tool in this process.

As the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M.Mirziyoyev noted:

“Culture and art are the most effective means of developing the spirit, soul, honor, pride, self-awareness of the people, raising their spirituality, and educating young people as complete people.”

Based on this approach, special attention is paid to the development of theatrical art in our country. In particular, theater groups operating in the regions, including the Fergana Regional Puppet Theater, are gaining a strong position both in the republic and in the international arena with their activities.



The theater was founded in 1989 in Fergana and initially began its activities as a children's theater and cultural center. Founded by master artists B. Qorieva and I. Tursunov, the theater initially operated as a "theater-studio".

Graduates of the Tashkent Institute of Theater and Art K. Turdaliev, T. Sultanov, N. Maslova, N. Tursunov, I. Khatamov, A. Khomidjonov, T. Sivorotkina, S. Glazkova, R. Prilutsky began their creative career as the first actors of the theater. The theater studio was artistically directed by Kh. Khakimov. The theater studio team managed to stage a number of performances. In particular, such performances as O. Tolipov's "Mysterious Chest" (directed by M. Ashurova), Ye. Spiransky's "Strange Race" (directed by People's Artist of Uzbekistan M. Yusupov) brought aesthetic pleasure to children. These early explorations later paved the way for independent theater status and professional development.

In 1993, the status of the theater in the republic was strengthened by the granting of the status of the "Fergana Regional State Puppet Theater" in accordance with the orders of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 26 dated February 25 and the Department of Cultural Affairs of the Fergana Regional Khokimiyat dated March 1, 1993 No. 11. Between 1993 and 2023, the theater's creators; participated in more than 15 republican festivals and successfully performed on the stages of Uzbekistan, Russia, Kazakhstan, Germany, Tajikistan, Tatarstan,

won several nominations for the best performance, directing, acting, painting and musical arrangement with such performances as "Three Oranges", "Alpomish", "Leyli and Majnun", "Be Clean", "Musical Teahouse", "Toychok".

These achievements have served to recognize the theater as a relevant cultural center not only at the regional but also at the republican level.

Today, the excessive obsession with digital content and the decline in interest in physical theater among the youth of Uzbekistan are one of the important cultural and social problems. The Fergana Regional Puppet Theater is trying to bring traditional theater to a new level by working with modern forms, enriching performances with multimedia tools, and using interactive methods.

The fact that the cultural memorandums signed with Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, and Russia in 2022–2023 involve the theater in international cultural dialogue is a manifestation of today's relevant theater policy.

The Fergana Regional Puppet Theater is currently:



- It is one of the most active state theaters in the Fergana region;
- Over the 34 years of its existence, it has staged 86 performances, 17 of which are currently in the active repertoire;
- It is expanding the sphere of socio-spiritual influence for children, schoolchildren, college and university students, and parents;
- Actively participates in regional creative festivals, holiday programs within the region, such as "Debut", "My Preciousness - Uzbekistan".

This theater is not only an institution providing cultural services, but also a center for the aesthetic and moral education of the local community.

Conclusion

Over its 34 years of activity, the Fergana Regional Puppet Theater has become an important cultural center that actively participates not only in the development of professional theatrical art, but also in the education of the younger generation. Each work performed on the stage of this theater plays a major role in instilling in the minds of children not only artistic taste, but also such noble values as national thinking, patriotism, humanity, and hard work. Also, the stage of the theater has become an important platform for young people today to express themselves creatively, realize their potential, realize their identity through culture, and find a worthy place in society. Each performance is not only a work of art, but also a means of social impact on society. The Fergana Regional Puppet Theater is a stable platform for cultural and spiritual growth not only for children, but also for the entire society.

In the future, it is necessary to expand the theater's capabilities, introduce modern technologies, activate the exchange of creative experience and expand its sphere of influence by training a generation of young theater experts. This will undoubtedly turn the Fergana regional puppet theater into an important art center that has its say not only in the local, but also in the regional and international cultural space.

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