

# From the History of Higher Musical Education in Uzbekistan During the Period of Independence

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**Abstract:** This article delves into the exploration of the history of higher musical education in Uzbekistan since gaining independence. It reflects on the comprehensive reforms undertaken across various sectors, including education, with a focus on music education. It acknowledges the concerted efforts globally to study, promote, and preserve national cultures and traditions. Particularly emphasized is the significant role played by higher musical education in fostering cultural identity and heritage. The article scrutinizes the establishment of music education institutions such as the State Conservatory of Uzbekistan and various pedagogical institutes, along with their contributions and achievements. It discusses the evolution of music education curricula to meet contemporary demands, exemplified by the introduction of new subjects. Additionally, it highlights the progress made in training specialists in musical arts at universities and pedagogical institutions across the regions. Overall, the narrative underscores the elevation of Uzbekistan's cultural and musical landscape through strategic reforms and educational advancements since independence.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Over the years of independence, a wide range of works has been carried out in our country to educate young people who are spiritually mature and physically healthy, patriotic, and selfless, forming them as a harmonious, intellectually capable, perfect personality.

On March 19, 2019, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev put forward 5 important initiatives to establish work in the social, spiritual, and educational spheres based on the new system. These are, first of all: to increase the interest of young people in music, painting, literature, theater, and other types of art, to reveal their talent; secondly: to physical education of young people, creating the necessary conditions for them to demonstrate their abilities in the field of sports; thirdly: the organization of effective use of computer technology and the Internet among the population and youth Fourth: to raise the morale of young people, organize systematic work to widely promote reading among them; fifth: it

consists of current priority issues such as women's employment.

The first of these five important initiatives put forward by our president is dedicated specifically to increasing the interest of young people in music, painting, literature, theatre, and other types of art, identifying their talent, and in this regard, consistent reforms are being carried out in our country.

Today, the peoples of the world are making serious efforts to study and popularize their national culture, and spirituality, preserve and develop their rich traditions, establish creative cooperation, organize international festivals, and scientific and practical conferences, and conduct scientific research. The role of the International UNESCO is great in this. At the initiative of this organization, serious attention is paid to the issue of studying and researching objects of intangible, spiritual, and cultural heritage. Special mention should be made of events within the framework of the organization's projects "Silk Road - the way of communication", "Music for Peace", and "List of masterpieces of the 20th century".

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Also, at present, when forming young people as a spiritual, mature, perfect personality, special attention is paid primarily to the professional level of educational institutions and the teaching of educators. As our President Shavkat Mirziyoyev noted in this regard, "it is extremely important to solve another problem: This is the professional level of the teaching staff and their special knowledge. In this regard, it is necessary to create an environment that actively promotes the processes of education, issues of spiritual and educational maturation and the formation of real values" (Mirziyoyev, 2017).

The reforms that began in the early years of our country's independence came to the fore in subsequent years.

In this regard, the meeting of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyeva with representatives of the creative intelligentsia of Uzbekistan on August 3, 2017 "Literature and the art of cultural development – his speech on the topic "The foundation for strengthening the spiritual world of our people", August 15, 2017 "On the organization of the activities of the Union of Composers of Uzbekistan", August 8, 2017 "On measures for the further development and improvement of the activities of the State Conservatory of Uzbekistan", November 17, 2017 "On measures for the further development of the art of Uzbekistan, which has a national status", April 26, 2018 "on further development and improvement, decisions and decrees are of paramount importance for the development of the industry.

As in all areas, national musical traditions were revived, and special reforms were carried out in the field of music education. There are also wide opportunities for studying and preserving folk oral musical traditions.

The development of musical art largely depends on the education system in this area. The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan has established strict measures to establish musical education and strengthen the material and technical base of educational institutions at its various stages, the development of educational, educational, and methodological, research, concert performance and creative work.

It should also be noted that our national musical heritage and its history, the art of Bakhshiki began to be introduced into the system of culture and art education as a special range of subjects. Our national music has begun to occupy a worthy place not only in special educational institutions (higher and secondary specialized educational institutions of culture, art,

schools of music and fine arts), but also in the educational system of secondary schools.

At the same time, the research carried out by our scientists on classical music, published monographs, teaching aids and textbooks are also noted.

The development of musical art in Uzbekistan began in the early years of independence and was enriched by a rich spiritual heritage that has reached us to this day. Musical culture and education the life of the most recent period of independence relates to fundamental reforms in the spiritual, socio-economic, and political spheres carried out in our republic.

## 2 METHODOLOGY

Over the years of independence, Uzbekistan has also undergone several changes in the system of higher music education. Of particular importance for the development of the industry is the fact that various trends and genres have qualitatively entered a new stage of development in accordance with the requirements of the time.

The State Conservatory of Uzbekistan - the system of higher musical education has fulfilled its main function of effective organization of activities.

49 professors with professional potential, 70 lecturers, 69 honorary teachers worked at the conservatory, including people's artists of Uzbekistan, Zahid Khaknazarov, Farrukh Zokirov, Mansur Toshmatov, Ismail Jalilov, Munojot Yulchieva, Nasiba Abdullayeva, honored artists of Uzbekistan, Ofelia Yusupova, Feliks Yanov-Yanovsky, Tukhtasin Gafurbekov, Ravshan Yunusov, honored artists of Uzbekistan Kuvonch Usmanov, Bahodir Salikhov and others are there. Their skills and potential are spreading not only in our republic, but also on the stage of the whole world.

Specialists in the field of music are trained at 24 of the 6 faculties of the Uzbek State Conservatory. The Conservatory trains specialists in composition, musicology, choral and opera-symphonic conducting, European classical, national, and pop-oriented performance (types of vocals), modern technologies (musical sound engineering). In the 1992-1993 academic year, 144 students studied at the Faculty of Oriental Music of the Tashkent State Conservatory, 47 of whom were freshmen.

Over the years of independence, the conservatory has gained its place in the republic as a scientific and methodological center for educational institutions of musical education, as well as for musical creative communities. The faculty of the Conservatory continued to work on the preparation of textbooks,

teaching aids for students and classes of music education. For example, in the 1992-1993 academic year, Professor A.Odilov's textbook "History of Performing Arts" was published at the Faculty of Oriental Music, a methodological guide for primary classes of institutes of arts and Culture, an educational manual by Professor M.H.Toirov on flute class, a textbook by teacher A.M.Dadamukhamedov on rubob (musical instrument) classes were created.

Professors and teachers of the conservatory constantly collaborated with prestigious music educational institutions of neighboring countries, tirelessly improving their qualifications. For example, in the 1991-1992 academic year from piano department in Gnesiniks institute I.M.Benderskaya in Russia, N.F.Vasileva in Leningrad Conservatory, which named Rim-Korsakov, L.A.Vagapova in Moscow Conservatory, which named P.I.Chaykovskiy, L. K. Krilov completed an internship at the Tashkent Institute of Culture (Krilov, 1992). The students listened to valuable lectures on various genres of musical art and got acquainted with curricula, programs, methodological manuals in educational institutions.

The opening of the pop department at this conservatory in 1996 played an important role in the development of jazz art. Among the masters of spring art, such musicians as E. Jivaev, I. Pinkhasov, G. Borisov, Yu. Turaev, V. Saparov taught at the faculty. In 1998, Big Bend (a small jazz community), formed under the leadership of Bahodiy Murtazaev (Murtazaev, 1998). At the initiative of the faculty, conferences dedicated to jazz music were held in Uzbekistan. Concerts were organized at the Uzbek State Conservatory in collaboration with Jazz Orchestra, which named Botir Zokirov, in which, in addition to world musical works, great attention was paid to the performance of Uzbek national songs in the jazz direction.

In June 2015, the Uzbek State Conservatory hosted a festival dedicated to jazz music. As part of the festival, master classes by French jazz pianist Pierre de Batman were organized for students. As well as Jazz works were performed on the piano together with foreign musicians Sanjar Tursunov, a student of the Musical academic lyceum, attached to Conservatory of Uzbekistan. Students studying in the field of pop jazz have not only mastered professional skills in the learning process, but also improved their musical taste and performing skills. Jazz, as the most public form of musical art, requires integrity and extraordinary research.

Professors and teaching staff of the conservatory also participated in national music competitions as a

member of the jury and chairman. For example, on June 28-30, 1995 in Shakhrisabz, R.Gasimov, who associate professor of the department of "Traditional Performance" at the conservatory participated as chairman of the jury in the selection of amateur performers. Professors of the department Shorakhmetov Sh., Samadov R., Tashpulatova I., Azizbayev S., Ermatov M., Kodirov U., Israilova Kh., who actively participated in the organization of International Competition, which named Yunus Rajabiy.

In the decree "On the development of theatrical art of Uzbekistan", adopted on March 26, 1998, along with the development of theatrical art in the Republic, measures were established to strengthen and develop the educational system in this area. In particular, the Tashkent State Art Institute identified such tasks as expanding the range of specialist training, improving the teaching style to the level of world patterns (Rizaev, 2005). This document considered the needs of the theatrical communities of Uzbekistan for qualified playwrights and directors, and set tasks for organizing two-year higher training courses for playwrights and directors from talented youth with higher education. Among the young talented specialists who studied at this institute, E.Khushvaqto, S.Sirojiddinov, Ya.Khudoyberganov, R.Madiev, B.Kholmiraev, M.Otajonov made a significant contribution to the development of the theatrical art of the republic, bringing new works to the stage.

There was also a musical theatre studio at the conservatory. This studio organized 44 events, 28 concerts and performances during the 1999-2000 academic year. The management of the conservatory often received letters of thanks from the artists of the studio for their performances. For example, the administration of the Academic Lyceum at Tashkent State Technical University sent a letter of thanks to the Conservatory for the concert of symphonic and opera music on December 21, 1999.

In the years of independence, in connection with the requirements of the present time, the teaching of new subjects was established at various departments of the conservatory. Since 1999, the Department of Music Pedagogy has developed curricula and a program in such subjects as "modern problems of piano performance" and "Technique of piano writing by 20th century composers".

There are also a number of works on the training of musical art specialists at universities and higher educational institutions in the field of pedagogy operating in the regions of the republic. We can see this on the example of the music faculties of Navoi

State Pedagogical Institute and Bukhara State University and Karshi State University.

The direction of "Music education" and the department of music within the framework of the Navoi State Pedagogical Institute, the Faculty of Education were established in 1988 as part of the faculty of "Methods of Primary Education". From 1988 to 2012, Professor O. O. Fayziev worked at the department and took the post of manager.

1 professor, 1 candidate of arts, 5 senior teachers, 4 female teachers actively worked at the department, the scientific potential of the department was 18 percent. In total, 196 students studied in the direction of "Music education", of which 44 studied at stage 1, 51 studied at stage 2, 50 studied at stage 3, 51 studied at stage 4.

Since 2013, the master's degree in music education 5A-111101 has been established. In department, professors and teachers, such as O.O.Fayziev, O.T.Ashurova, U.O.Mirzaev, B.N.Umrzakov, Sh.M.Majidov, Sh.I.Jalilov, S.B.Saidiy, Z.S.Ochilov, O.A.Khayitov, A.K.Azimov, F.T.Buronov taught students in various fields of music.

Professors and teachers of the department have widely introduced new modern teaching technologies that meet the requirements of the modern higher education system, based on the main goals and objectives of the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan "National Program for Advanced Training" and "On Education". For this purpose, professors have developed many textbooks, teaching aids. During the period 1991-2013, 12 teaching manual books, more than 120 scientific and methodological articles were published.

Since 2003, the scientific circle "Music Theory" has been established at the department. Such teachers as Normurodova Lobar, Muhammadiyev Dadakhon, Sanatova Shoirra, Fayzieva Umida, Rustamov Jasur, Kahhorov Bakhtiyor played an important role in the activities of the circle.

As a special achievement of talented students, we can say the following: talented students successfully participated in the Republican Scientific Olympiad on "theory and history of music", which is held every year. In the 2013-2014 academic year, a 4th degree student from among talented students, Normuradova Lobar, was awarded the III place at the II stage of the Republican Scientific Olympiad of Schoolchildren on the subject "Theory and history of music".

The department also organized the folk singing and dancing ensemble "Layli". The artistic direction of the ensemble was carried out by professor O. O. Fayziev. Until these years, the ensemble performed

with its concert program at events in the Navoi region. The concert program of the ensemble included Uzbek-Tajik folk songs, Bukhara and other folk songs. The ensemble attracted talented students studying in the field of music education, who took part in the republican examination competition "Talantlarni izlaymiz" (Looking for talents), held in 2004-2006 among the teams of pedagogical institutes of the Ministry of Public Education, taking the higher place of the "Grand-Pri" in 2005. The winner of the competition – At the festival "Uzbek folklore-art and customs" in 2005, it took the honourable 1st place in the Republican review competition "Diyorim taronalar" (My homeland's music), held in Jizzakh between the laureates and pedagogical institutes of the Ministry of Public Education system in 2008.

The Music faculty of the Uzbek State University plays a special role in the development of music education in Uzbekistan and the training of mature musicologists. This department was founded in 1977, during these years the department was headed by associate professor Sami Aziz's son, associate professors M.Abdukarimov, R.Primov, M.Murodov. The department currently employs 1 candidate of pedagogical sciences, senior lecturer, 1 associate professor, 2 senior teachers, 1 honoured artist of Uzbekistan, 5 teachers. The scientific potential was 30%. The department taught music teaching methods and school repertoire, music history, music theory, solfeggio, vocal performance, traditional and folk singing, choir and choral studies, conducting, instrumental performance and ensemble, theory and methodology of music teaching, instrumental performance, instrumental ensemble, innovative technologies of music teaching, instrumentation, choral arrangement, Uzbek classical singing, children's musical literature.

In department R.T.Primov, M.E.Ismoilova, A.N.Rahmonkulov, O.T.Khalilova, K.Y.Kurbonov, M.Sh.Kurbonova, M.K.Murodov, S.N.Batasheva, L.K.Pirnazarov, F.S.Azizov, S.B.Murtozov taught students.

The department has always collaborated scientifically with the faculty of arts of TPU, the music faculties of SamSu, BukhSU, TermizSU. The department has a circle of young musicologists, which involves more than 30 talented students. In it, students conduct creative, scientific research.

Professors and teachers of the department participated with their creativity in such competitions as "My Homeland Uzbekistan", "pop art in Uzbekistan", "Uzbek Song Festival" and "Yagonasan, holy Homeland", which are held on a republican, regional, municipal scale. Professors and

teachers of the department have developed an electronic collection of children's songs for grades 1-7. The songs were arranged and recorded on DVDs and SD discs and magnetic tapes and were used in student practice.

The group "Ziyo Sadolari" (Brilliance music), organized at the department of music, successfully participated in the competition "You are the only one, Holy Motherland", organized on the 23rd anniversary of independence, and took first place at the regional and then the republican stage.

In Bukhara, the birthplace of shashmakom and classical music, a music department was opened at the faculty of Primary Education Methodology of the State Pedagogical Institute (now BukhSU) in 1962.

Experienced teachers, teachers of folk music Tura Juraev, Bokijon Ashurov, Mubinjon Azimov, Davron Karimov, Valentina Dashich, Nina Smirnova, Istat Kholova, Lidiya Presnyakova worked at the department.

From the first years of independence of the Republic, in order to develop national music and instill it in the minds of young people, through the efforts of the university rector's office and the dean's office, a new department of "Traditional Music" was created at the music faculty, to which an experienced musician was appointed, now at the same time people's artist and composer Ulmas Rasulov was appointed. As well as, Ari Boboxonov, Orif Atoev, Hikmat Nematov, Rahmatilla Inoyatov, Shodi Sharipov, Tolib Temirov, Obid Temirov, Shokir Sharipov was invited to work. Teachers of higher educational institutions Ahmad Bahriev and Said Saidiy started working at the same department. Later, the department of "Traditional Music" was headed by associate professor Fayzulla Turaev in 2000-2006.

Over the years, Professor M.Mahmudov, the head of the department, has grown the scientific potential of the staff of the music department, and specialists in this field have made significant progress in successfully defending research papers. With the moral support of a mentor who closely helped teachers with the ability to conduct scientific research in the selection of topics and scientific supervisors, dozens of candidates of sciences came out. Researchers of music pedagogy and methodology, such as B.Mustafayev, Z.Rakhimova, A.Bakhriev, B.Madrimov, one after another successfully defended their scientific works.

Professor M.H.Mahmudov also made a significant contribution to the emergence of research on musical culture and history, musicology, and the musical heritage of Bukhara. The scientists of the department have published 4 monographs, 1

textbook, more than 10 teaching aids, about 100 scientific articles and dissertations, and received a ministerial grant for scientific research.

In 2009, a folklorist, professor O.Safarov, O.Atoev, F.Turaev's work, "Bukhorcha and mavrigi", professor F.Turaev's work, "Bukhara's music", were published in 2011 "The History of Bukhara Shashmakomi" were published in 2011.

People's artist of Uzbekistan and Karakalpakstan Akhmadzhan Shukurov, honored artist of the Republic, composer Orif Atoev, honored artist of Turkmenistan Imamkul Yolliev, honored worker of culture of Uzbekistan Kadyrkul Zhurakulov, honored teacher of the Republic of Uzbekistan Fazliddin Bovorov, Professor Olimjon Fayziev, candidates of sciences, associate professor Bakhtiyor Mustafoev, Zebo Rakhimova, Bahrom Madrimov, singers Usman Inoyatov, Usman Jabborov, Sharif Sharipov, it was at this faculty that such former students as Shukhrat Tillaev, Feruza Asadova were educated.

In achieving the above-mentioned successes, great credit goes to such masters as Kamol Khairullaev, Ismat Shamsiddinov, Shamsiddin Raikhonov, Toshpolat Tursunov, Makhmudzhan Rakhmatov, Fayzullo Tooraev, Sanokul Dostov, Sattor Murodov, Akhtam Koshaev, Lidiya Presnyakova, Tamara Radjabova, Mardon Dostov, Ashraf Gafurov.

Professors-teachers of the department, based on their educational tasks, direct the scientific work of students in the process of conducting scientific research, as well as improve their professional skills and ensure their active participation in cultural and educational events of the republic and the region. to increase the cultural level of young people, to form their high spirituality. In particular, Salimova Hulkar, under the scientific guidance of associate professor Madrimov B.H., is the winner of the student grant competition, as well as the winner of the 1st place of the regional stage of the Zulfiya Prize, a participant in the republican stage competition; Eldosheva Iroda took 1st place at the regional stage of the competition "Yagonasan, mukaddas vatan" and 2nd place at the republican stage. Also, such students as Komilova Gulrukh, Asadova Feruza, Samieva Mehriniso took an active part in various regional and republican competitions. In 2012, a 4th grade student Samieva Mehriniso became the winner of the regional stage of the state prize competitions "Zulfiya" and "Nihol". Feruza Rakhmatova, a 3rd year student, took the honorable 3rd place at the Republican Scientific Olympiad held in Samarkand in May 2014 in the field of Music Theory.

So, since the first years of independence, our national identity, spiritual heritage, traditional values, our Uzbek national musical heritage, and attitude to music education and training have risen to a qualitative level. Several achievements have been achieved in the higher music education system. In the following years, large-scale reforms are being implemented aimed at presenting our rich spiritual heritage to the world at the international level. In this regard, special importance is attached to the training of professors and teaching staff of the higher music education system, talented personnel.

### 3 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, over the years of independence, the sphere of music education has literally risen to the top, and in the effective establishment of systemic activities, the formation of music education at the State Conservatory of Uzbekistan and state universities in different regions of the republic, the scale of the work carried out, educational and methodological, scientific work has reached a qualitative stage. In the following years, the focus on the development of the field, the conditions in which it is created, are the basis for achievements in this regard.

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