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METHODS OF USING NATIONAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS IN MUSIC CULTURE LESSONS

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Abstract:

This article explores the origins, development, and current significance of the Kashgar rubab, one of the national musical instruments. It also discusses presidential decrees related to the development of national music and instruments.

Keywords: Kashgar rubab, presidential decrees, 5 initiatives, national instruments, “Treatise on Music”.

National musical instruments are tools that express human spirituality through melodies. They are the product of folk creativity and have historically evolved among the people, created and refined by skilled craftsmen into expressive and marvelous instruments. That is why great attention is paid to music in our country today. Music and sports are among the best activities to help young people spend their free time meaningfully. For this reason, under the presidential decree starting from the 2022–2023 academic year, students in general secondary education institutions are to be taught to play at least one national musical instrument, and this skill is to be recorded in their certificates.

According to this decree, 10,130 schools, 323 children's music schools, and 826 cultural centers were to be provided with three sets of seven types of national instruments. A total of 205 billion Uzbek soums was allocated for this. Music teachers are now required to master at least one national instrument by the 2023–



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2024 academic year and three by the following year. Teachers must continuously study and research to improve students' musical knowledge.

These reforms aim to increase young people's musical skills and instill an appreciation for national music and instruments. Currently, national music and instruments are receiving significant attention. In fact, 92 billion soums were allocated in 2022 to organize practical workshops in national instruments, visual and applied arts, and crafts for students. Under the motto "The instrument accompanies my life," instrumental performance classes have been established.

The best investment is the investment made in knowledge, because a knowledgeable person will never be humiliated. An educated person has a broad worldview and critical thinking, and holds a respected place in society.

Our respected President Shavkat Mirziyoyev proposed five major initiatives in March 2019. These include: expanding youth participation in culture, arts, and sports; developing skills in modern information technologies; promoting reading culture; and ensuring employment for women. The first initiative focuses on increasing youth interest in music, painting, literature, theater, and other arts, developing their talents and creativity. Artistic activities help individuals become cultured and enlightened. A person engaged in music does not do evil because music purifies the soul and invites goodness.

National musical instruments, like national music, help us understand our identity. The timbre and structure of our national instruments are highly practical. Each has its unique role, complementing one another. For example, the rubab is one of the most convenient instruments in terms of sound and structure. It also holds a place in the Uzbek national orchestra.

The rubab is considered one of the most ancient and widespread instruments among Central Asian peoples, such as Uzbeks, Tajiks, and Uighurs. There is no exact information about the origin and time of the Kashgar rubab. However, historical sources mention it under names such as "rabab," "rebab," and "rubab." Notably, Darvish Ali Changgi, who lived and created in Bukhara in the 17th century, provided information about instruments and musicians of the 16th–17th centuries in his work "Treatise on Music." Instruments like the tanbur, oud, chang, qanun, rubab, qobiz, and ghijjak were widely used during that era. Through Uzbek composer M.



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Mirzayev and amateur musicians, the rubab spread widely in Uzbekistan and Afghanistan in the 1940s.

The Kashgar rubab is used as a solo instrument in orchestras. In the 1940s–50s, an experimental laboratory was established at the Tashkent State Conservatory under the direction of Professor A.I. Petrosyan to study and improve instruments. There, Uzbek national instruments were redesigned. Variants of the Kashgar rubab such as prima, alto, and mezzo-soprano were developed. As a result, the rubab can now perform not only Uzbek folk music but also melodies and compositions from other nations, making it increasingly widespread.

Due to its resonance and convenience, the Kashgar rubab is played in preschools, schools, and even higher education institutions. Its range is nearly three octaves. It has 24 frets made of metal, with each step representing a half tone. The rubab includes: tuning pegs, headstock, "shayton xarrak" (devil's bridge), frets, neck, skin membrane, first fret, second fret, third fret, bridge hooks, and body (bowl). It has five strings: the first is tuned to small octave G, the middle two to first octave E, and the last two to first octave A. The rubab is played with a plectrum (mediator). Its ease of use makes it a preferred teaching tool for many music educators, inspiring students with a sense of national pride.

In conclusion, the Kashgar rubab has maintained its significance in the past, present, and will continue to do so in the future due to its resonant sound and ease of performance.

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