



THE ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CHANG INSTRUMENT IN UZBEK FOLK MUSIC PERFORMANCE

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Abstract

This article discusses the role and importance of the chang instrument in the system of Uzbek folk music performance, its expressive capabilities, and its contribution to the preservation and development of national musical heritage. The study analyzes the chang's function within ensembles, its unique timbre, and distinctive performance techniques.

Keywords: Chang instrument, folk instruments, performance, national music, ensemble, style, cultural heritage.

Introduction

Uzbek folk instruments have long been an inseparable part of the nation's culture and artistic identity. Each instrument possesses its own sound color, performance technique, and expressive means. Among them, the chang instrument stands out for its delicate tone, wide range, and versatile performance potential. Today, the chang is not only used in folk ensembles but also occupies a worthy place on the professional stage, playing an important role in the promotion of national musical heritage.

Main Part

Origin and Development of the Chang Instrument

The historical roots of the chang instrument trace back to ancient Eastern civilizations. According to historical and ethnomusicological sources, the chang was widely used in Iran, China, and Central Asia, appearing in different shapes and names in various cultures. In Uzbek musical traditions, the chang has typically been performed alongside instruments such as the dutar, tanbur, rubab, and nay in ensemble settings.

Performance Technique and Style

The chang is distinguished by its intricate yet beautiful performance technique. The process of sound production—combining plucking, resonance, and precision of string tuning—requires a high level of mastery from the performer. In the Uzbek performance school, the chang is often used to express lyrical and delicate aspects of melodies, emphasizing emotional depth and artistic nuance.

The Role of the Chang in Folk Ensembles

Within folk instrument ensembles, the chang not only reinforces rhythmic structures but also enriches melodic texture. It adds brilliance, tonal diversity, and emotional expressiveness to musical

compositions. In particular, during the performance of maqom works, the chang plays an irreplaceable role, enhancing the spiritual and artistic essence of the music.

The Chang on the Modern Stage

In the modern era, the chang instrument is actively utilized not only in traditional music but also in contemporary compositions. Young composers are creating new works for the chang, expanding its expressive and technical possibilities on an international scale. Moreover, the chang's role within folk orchestras continues to evolve, with innovative performance styles and modern interpretations emerging.

Conclusion

The chang instrument holds a significant position within the system of Uzbek folk music performance. It represents an integral part of the national musical heritage, reflecting the aesthetic worldview, spiritual essence, and creative potential of the Uzbek people. Today, chang performance continues to develop, enriched by the efforts of a new generation of performers. Therefore, the promotion of chang art, its teaching to young musicians, and its popularization at the international level are among the most important scientific and practical objectives.

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