PROSPECTS OF CULTURAL REFORMS IN KASHKADARYA REGION

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Abstract

This article analyzes the reforms implemented in the cultural sphere in the Kashkadarya region during the years of independence and their impact on the lifestyle and spirituality of the population. The article examines the state policy aimed at developing culture and art, the construction of new cultural institutions, the modernization of existing ones, as well as initiatives aimed at increasing youth activity in the field of art and culture, using the example of the city of Karshi. Through these, the successes and difficulties in preserving and developing cultural heritage, restoring national values, and forming mass culture in the region are covered in detail.

Keywords: Kashkadarya region, cultural reforms, years of independence, cultural heritage, culture and education, cultural institutions, the city of Karshi.

Introduction

During the years of independence, large-scale work was carried out in the Kashkadarya region for the future of the younger generation. In particular, during 1999, 724 thousand square meters of housing and 105 household service facilities were commissioned in the region. These statistics are a vivid example of the development of the social sphere and infrastructure in our country during the years of independence[1].

Independent Uzbekistan's efforts to restore and develop national values are becoming increasingly evident, and the reforms implemented in this regard serve to further improve the system of mahalla governance, which is considered the foundation of society. In particular, as one of the main directions of state policy, a number of reforms have been implemented aimed at increasing the role and prestige of the mahalla institution in the life of the country. Among them, the "Mahalla" charity fund, established in September 1992 at the initiative of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, is of particular importance. Through this fund, national customs and traditions are preserved and developed, and assistance is provided to low-income families, disabled people, orphans and lonely elderly people on the basis of humanity and compassion. In addition, the fund has also taken on the task of promoting the socio-economic and cultural development of mahallas in a market economy.





The "Makhalla" Foundation, successfully fulfilling its main tasks, plays an important role in improving the living standards of the population of Uzbekistan. In this process, the Law "On Citizens' Self-Government Bodies", signed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in September 1993, was a key step, and in April 1999 this Law was adopted in a new edition. Within the framework of the updated law, the election term of the chairman of the citizens' assembly was set at 2.5 years.

According to 2007 statistics, there were a total of 437 makhallas and 151 village citizens'

assemblies operating in the Kashkadarya region[2]. As part of the work carried out in the region, active activities are being carried out in such areas as forming a spirit of national pride and loyalty to independence among the makhalla population, especially young people, directing them to a profession, and increasing their legal and moral literacy. In addition, special attention is paid to ensuring socio-political stability and reviving young people's interest in sports[3].

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In today's complex world, it is necessary to find sound scientific answers to the urgent problems of each era, to enrich the world of spirituality with new meaning and content. As the President of Uzbekistan noted, "Every scientific innovation or discovery serves as an impetus for the formation of new ideas and worldviews and has a unique impact on the development of spirituality." Therefore, local spiritual and educational institutions play an important role in the spiritual and educational formation of the country.

Special attention is being paid to the development of cultural and spiritual life in the Kashkadarya region. In particular, in the city of Karshi, the Museum of Local Lore has been moved to a modern and spacious building, which plays an important role in preserving and promoting cultural heritage. Also, new theater studios have been established next to existing theaters in the region, which will allow supporting new talents in the field of art.

The establishment of regional branches of republican creative associations such as "Uzbeknavo" and "Uzbekraqs", as well as the activities of the artists' association, are further enriching the cultural life of the region's residents. Various exhibitions and art events create opportunities for local residents to get acquainted with various aspects of culture and art.

One of the important tasks is to educate young people capable of living in a society based on market relations and national values. In this regard, it is necessary to restore historical memory, deeply study and teach the history of statehood, study the ethnic history of the Uzbek people, as well as widely promote the contribution of our ancestors to world civilization. Studying the lives and scientific heritage of scholars and thinkers who lived and worked in the region, holding anniversary events in historical cities such as Karshi and Shahrisabz are noted as important events in the cultural and educational life of the region.

As a result of these events, the place of the Uzbek people in world history is objectively highlighted, and the activities carried out by the intellectuals and creative people of the region serve to develop intercultural dialogue and interethnic integration. The city of Karshi, as noted at the 32nd session of the UNESCO General Conference, occupies a special place in world history and culture, and major celebrations such as the city's 2700th anniversary once again confirm this fact.

In accordance with a special resolution of the First President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov, a number of events were held on the occasion of the 2700th anniversary of the city of Karshi. Under the care of the President, the ancient city of Karshi became even more prosperous and vibrant. Large-scale work was carried out in the city to repair and restore historical monuments, as well as to preserve its historical and architectural appearance and transform it into a developed modern city.

Results and Discussion:

In recent years, historical architectural monuments in and around Karshi, including the 15thcentury Kokgumbaz and Khoja Ubayd Jarroh mosques, the Karshi bridge, and the Abdulaziz



and Bekmir madrasas, have been renovated and their historical significance has been restored. These monuments are of interest not only locally but also internationally as part of the region's cultural heritage[4].

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Historical cities such as Shahrisabz and Karshi, due to their rich historical and cultural heritage, play an important role in the development of international and local tourism. Pilgrimage sites around these cities, including the Kitab Ketlik Station, the Khazrati Bashir, Sultan Mirkhaydar, Isak Ota, and Langar Ota shrines, also play a key role in the development of scientific and religious tourism.

As part of the consistent social policy implemented in our country, more than 40 percent of the budget funds are allocated for the social needs of the population of Karshi. These funds mainly cover expenses directed to the areas of education, healthcare, culture, science, as well as to mothers and children, the elderly, the disabled, and low-income groups.

In Kashkadarya region, extensive work has been carried out to provide the population with natural gas and clean drinking water. According to 1991 data, the level of natural gas supply of the population in the region was 25.4 percent, and the level of clean drinking water supply was 53 percent. However, by 2004, these indicators had increased significantly, and the level of natural gas supply reached 72.9 percent, and the level of drinking water supply reached 80.8 percent. These changes reflect the improvement of the living conditions of the population of the region and serve as an important step in strengthening social infrastructure.

Today, there are 556 large enterprises, 44 joint-stock companies, and 761 consumer service enterprises operating in various sectors of the economy in the city of Karshi. There are also many enterprises in the trade and catering sectors in the city.

In the field of education, the city has 7 higher educational institutions, 3 modern academic lyceums, and 16 vocational colleges, with a total of 33 doctors of science and more than 300 candidates of science. These educational institutions play an important role in providing quality education to students[5].

To meet the cultural and educational needs of the population, the city operates 52 secondary schools, 2 museums, 2 parks, 4 theaters, 1 philharmonic hall, and 13 public libraries.

Great attention is paid to the quality of medical services. The city has 22 hospitals, including a 270-bed branch of the Republican Emergency Medical Center, the "Mother and Child Screening" center, a branch of the Scientific Research Institute of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and a branch of the Republican Institute of "Health".

In recent years, more than 30,000 square meters of housing, an Olympic Reserve Sports College, a modern 20,000-seat stadium, a 1,200-seat sports arena, and an indoor swimming pool have been built and commissioned in the city of Karshi. These projects have contributed to the social and economic development of the city and are improving the living standards of the population. A number of organizations that play an important role in the field of information and communication technologies operate in the city of Karshi. In particular, the city has 2 television studios, 2 radio stations, 15 newspapers and 1 magazine editorial office[6]. Modern technologies have also been introduced in the field of education. Higher education institutions such as Karshi State University and Karshi Institute of Engineering and Economics are striving to make the educational process more effective by using distance learning technologies. The libraries of some higher education institutions are connected to other educational institutions via electronic



communication.

Conclusion

The regional institute for retraining and advanced training of teachers also offers distance learning opportunities, which plays an important role in improving the professional skills of teachers. Most of the city's schools are connected to the Internet, which allows students to stay up to date with world news, create their own websites, and communicate with their foreign peers. Dozens of Internet cafes operating in the city also provide residents with access to modern information technologies.

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