The Role of Fine Art in the Development of Ethnic Culture of the Uzbek People

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Abstract – This article is devoted to the role of fine art in the development of the ethnic culture of the Uzbek people, which is based on the manifestation of ethnic culture in traditions and values, works of folklore, art, especially fine art. The article also pays special attention to the influence of fine art on the human psyche, its features, the history of painting on cliffs and stones in Uzbekistan.


I. INTRODUCTION

It is known that ethnic culture, as an important category, has always been a very principal topic in the life of a nation, and its relevance will continue to grow. Since the ethnic culture is a basis of peoples’ existence, it plays a vital role in the modernization and development of the nation’s language, culture, customs, and values, at the same time ethnic culture ensures its spiritual wealth. In other words, ethnic culture represents an inexhaustible source of national and universal human values and cultural, spiritual, moral, and aesthetic traditions. The existence and development of ethnic culture are ensured through inheritance.

However, this inheritance is constituted not through in heredity, but in the process of social development, through the assimilation and transmission of cultural traditions from the older generation to the younger one. Ethnic culture is reflected in ethnic stereotypes, traditions, values, and folklore.

Ethnic self-understanding occurs on the basis of ethnic culture. This is an indication of the important role of ethnic culture in the development of people and nations.

Ethnic culture is the material and spiritual wealth created by people, nation in the process of long socio-historical development, way of life, language, customs, assimilation, and change of the external world, ways of self-realization, understanding of the nation, history, social reality that indicates that it has not left.

According to a Russian researcher M.O. Shavaeva, ethnic culture requires, to look at this as a set of cultural elements and structures with ethnic characteristics. Among these elements, the fine arts consider plays a particular role, for this reason it would be impossible to imagine the advancement of ethnic culture without the development of this type of art. (Shavaeva M. (2004)

Since the visual arts are aimed to understand and to feel aesthetical; people’s feelings, human feelings, events, all other fantasies through the line or space, bright and black, and white colors, via different forms.
In order to create the original image, that is necessary, first, the ability to think, to feel the true beauty. Furthermore, as a professional artist, this is important to express your thoughts in detail.

Sometimes a creator can come up with great, unusual ideas, but if you do not have professional skills, you will be unable to show them to the audience. When you convey what you imagine to people through a variety of symbols, the work becomes easier to understand. As might be expected, the intellectual potential of the audience also plays a leading role in this. To my way of thinking, that a spectator who is anticipating something new in each work, trying to understand what is hidden in it, and at the same time can see himself in the work, is a real spectator. Only then will there be a unique dialogue between the creator and the fan. Fine art, like science, serves to know the world, life, nature, the history of nations.

The appearance of the visual arts is connected with the period of primeval society. During this time, people captured images of events, individuals, and animals on stones, cut them out, and made sculptures of various shapes and sizes.

From ancient times people believed that art was a natural phenomenon and had a positive effect on human relations, activities, and behavior. These works of fine art also have the potential to have a profound effect on humans. By looking at the beauty expressed in the visual arts people are able to bring such beauty into their lives. When they see an illustration of heroic movements human beings try being a hero just like these idols. Meanwhile, seeing the horrible scenes in these paintings makes people feel disgusting about these events that are shown in this works. Especially, when people see the illustration of historical movements in fine arts, they can obtain information about nature, things, buildings, different types of weapons, people’s life, clothe. People also get acquainted with the traditions of those times.

In their works, artists prefer to show the main characters that demonstrate the most vivid scenes in it, not paying attention to an unnecessary secondary scene, artists emphasize the most important details.

Through exaggeration, artists are able to effectively influence things and events on people's minds and emotions. An artist is a person who knows everything, and who has a rich fantasy and ability to think. In his work, the artist relies on the essence of the creation, he also invents and weaves something based on his imaginations. The most important works of art reflect the richness of their content, they also express and enrich the artist's ideas. Simultaneously, such works have the power to sustain an emotional impact on the audience.

In fact, the emergence of fine arts is associated with the people’s desire to understand nature, to describe thoughts. It is also called “Queen of Arts” because of its closeness to the human heart.

The signs created by the ancient artists correspond to their interests and needs, that is the real events depicted on the rocks, can be seen in the aesthetics of life. It is only in the emerging forms of art that one can see healthy emotions, clarity and perception, and the alertness of observation.

It reveals the initial forms of man's strong aspiration to create the image of the world around him. Fine art has gradually become a specialized form of artistic activity, free from the domination of useful and practical purposes, and this process has lasted for many centuries.

As the fine arts became more delicate and aesthetically pleasing, certain types and genres began to emerge. Artists’ paintings, sculptures, line drawings, and genres gradually began acquiring an independent image and descriptive means. Fine art, sculpture, and line painting are interrelated, and this connection is sometimes open. The differences between the types of fine arts are marked by the fact that each of them reflects the real picture, but in the end, they merge into one system. The boundaries between the means of expression in painting, sculpture, and line drawing are variously described and expressed, and have both conditionality and relativity. In every art form, the image and the expression are intertwined. Expressiveness, that is the artist's attitude to reality, is also an important feature of fine arts. The common features of painting, sculpture, and line drawing are that they are all expressed through images. Painting, sculpture, and line painting, spatial forms of the art indeed reflect the reality. The events described in them have the character of moderation and have the power to show the whole complexity and richness of life in motion and development by selectively describing a single event or moment. They express spatial phenomena directly, and time-dimensional ones through the formation of imagination in the indirect spectacle. While the arts give way to literature and music in their depiction of emotional and mental processes that are directly unexpressed in life, art excels in revealing the unchangeable stability of life, its immortal and enduring values. The artist reproduces and depicts the plain in the material and creative imagination of the eye. Using paints, lines, and a mixture of them, it reflects all the landscapes of the world, and in its center is a
man. In painting, a person's image is expressed directly and in relation to the material world around him.

In painting, the visible richness of the world is reflected with a specific sensitivity and freedom. If sculpture reflects the relative stability and clarity of events, the painting depicts changes in the world, the flow of life. In the fine artworks, you can notice eye-catching images are created with the help of a unique “language” of art. Through color the artist expresses the balance of colors, its material essence, human emotions, willpower, and movements in various forms. In fine arts, the medium of light and shadow is created by the combination of light and shadow in reality. Color is characteristic of all things and events in reality.

The artist does not copy the richness of the light and shadow of the world, but selects it carefully, describing the value of people and things, the beauty of nature, the clarity of the air, and in fact the most delicate of light and shadow. The main purpose of the usage of the light and shadow are to demonstrate the artist's plan, attitude, and reality. The picture depicts the spine, the shape of the body, the surrounding lines, the artistic structure, the furniture, and the people, each of them has its own place, and the main features. The fact that a number of great artists created their works without original charcoal and pencil drawings does not distract from the importance of painting in the art of painting. In the process of creating these works, artists use their brushes so skillfully that they both painted at the same time.

According to sources, paintings on cave and rocks in Uzbekistan appeared in the Mesolithic period. By the Neolithic period, it had risen to a more modern stage. Various examples of primitive art have been observed in the monuments of Kaltaminor, Gissar, and especially in the Joytun culture. Two types of rock paintings are widespread in the mountainous regions of Central Asia. Some of them are painted (ocher), and the others are carved (petroglyphs). (Masson M. (1984.)

The rarest examples of rock paintings in Uzbekistan are Zarautsoy, Sarmishsay, Bironsay, Koksaray, Takatash, Teraklisoy, and there are more than a hundred of them. Here on the rocks you can see pictures of ancient and modern fauna of Uzbekistan. They are primitive bulls, lions and tigers, foxes and wolves, deer, and gazelles. Among the paintings are arrows, long swords, daggers, drums, and traps.

The oldest paintings are the Zarautsoy (Surkhandarya), which date back to the Mesolithic-Neolithic, i.e. BC. It is about VIII-IV millennia. Through rock paintings we can learn about the hunting, labor, and fighting weapons of the people of that time. Rock paintings are equally important in the study of the ideological views and religious beliefs of the ancient Uzbek generation.

It should be noted that the most developed stage of primitive art dates back to the Neolithic period. During this period, many examples of primitive art were found in the monuments of the Joytun, Kaltaminor, and Gissar cultures. Neolithic humans painted pottery in various colors, depicting various patterns, images of people, and animals. At the same moment, clay figurines and baked figurines are rare examples of Neolithic art.

The oldest place for fine arts found in the Surkhandarya oasis is Zarautsoy. These paintings are a valuable heritage of the nation as a spiritual treasure, a valuable archeological, historical, and artistic monument.

These primitive rock carvings depict humans, animals, like bulls, mountain goats, giraffes, dogs, and other animals, as well as arrows and bows, mainly in the hunting scene.

In one of the pictures, people used to wear masks a look similar to birds. Scholars have different opinions in this view. One approached the animals in the form of a common Tuvalu bird, another suggested entering the hunt in special clothing to scare off wild animals.

It is natural the question arises as to the purpose for which these images are drawn, what is their meaning and content, what are their ideas and imagination?

As a result of research and studies conducted by many experts who have studied the image, the pictures on the rocks and the depicted landscapes have a magical meaning, based on the daily life of primitive and ancient people, associated with religious beliefs.

It is believed that the paintings were a sacred place for primitive people. If they conducted religious ceremonies, then the pictures on this rock may have served them as some kind of spiritual strength and nourishment. They believed that if one of the mysteries was to draw a picture of a sheep, it would give them some divine imagination and power.

J. Kabirov said that "primitive ancestral rock paintings protected persons from all sorts of misfortunes and hoped to bring happiness to people.” B. F. Zbkoves said that “examples of Stone Age art have nothing to do with religious concepts and magic. They are centers that aimed to educate young people. (Kabirov J. (1976).

The paintings were designed to nurture young people and provide practical activities with them.” Regardless of
which of the above ideas it belongs to, these paintings are a unique stage in the development of art in Central Asia.

Fine art is based on human labor activities, beliefs, and religious views. We can say that the rock paintings in Zarautsoy are simple and ordinary scenes, based on the labor activity of primitive people, i.e. hunting, primitive beliefs, and religious beliefs. Pictures were also important in shaping the social consciousness of primitive people in knowing the world, as well as in expressing their dreams and hopes. In the early days, the artist focused all the spiritual forces of the hunter on learning the laws of nature. After all, the life and prosperity of the hunter-gatherer community depended on it. The artist describes how hunters chase together, showing the ability to cooperate, unity, and solidarity. The dangers and strong resistance of animals activate cooperation skills.

The hunter’s feelings are subdued and connected to the harmony of the community. From the above, we can conclude that history has shown that the Uzbek people have always been interested in science, art, aspirations, and ethnic culture. The handicrafts in Sopollitepa and Jarkutan, jewelry in Bactria, sculpture in the high art of the Greco-Bactrian and Kushan monuments, murals in Afrosiab, can provide us with information about the cultural life in the Samanids period, the Khorezmian and the Timurids empires.

REFERENCES