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<https://doi.org/10.61796/ejlhss.v1i7.791>**FESTIVALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
CRAFTSMANSHIP IN SOUTHERN UZBEKISTAN****Mamarajabov Gairat Abdulkhakimovich**

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Abstract: This article provides information about the development of handicrafts in the Southern regions and the holding of handicraft festivals, their description and the training of artisans and master-apprentice issues

Keywords: crafts, craftsman training, master-apprentice, construction, domestic service, plumbing, engineering, craft festivals, "Quality Mark".

This is an open-access article under the [CC-BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license**Introduction**

As handicrafts are developed in Uzbekistan, each region will have its own characteristics. Craftsmen carry out their activities based on the natural conditions of the areas where they live, the base of cheap raw materials, existing technical capabilities, the demands and needs of the population, and the prices in the domestic and foreign markets. Based on this, crafts in each region specialize in the production of certain goods and deliver them to the market. As a result, forgotten or forgotten types of crafts in our country will be revived and an opportunity will be created for further development.

In recent years, the issues of forming craftsmen have become an urgent task in our country. For this purpose, special attention is paid to assigning apprentices to experienced artisans working in every district, city and village, and organizing classes for people who are passionate about handicrafts. In this regard, the national craft lyceums established in the southern regions in the early years of independence played an important role.

It should be said that the severe economic crisis that occurred in our country in 1991-1993 had a negative impact on the condition of the existing SPTU (vocational and technical educational institution) and technical schools. Because such educational institutions mainly train specialists in the fields of construction and household services, state-level constructions were reduced during the crisis, and construction organizations were closing. In such a situation, providing employment to graduates of secondary specialized educational institutions specializing in the delivery of personnel to the fields of construction and household services, and accepting new students for the 1993-1994 academic year caused serious difficulties. The interest among school graduates to study more in banking, auditing, tax, finance, and law-enforcement fields has increased sharply. The prestige of professions such as construction, domestic service, plumbing, and engineering has fallen.

At the same time, efforts aimed at restoring national values and developing our traditions were bearing fruit. All initiatives aimed at preserving and developing ancient crafts began to be supported by the population. Ways out of the difficult situation in educational institutions were

studied, and the specialization of vocational and technical educational institutions into national craft and construction lyceums began. In particular, SPTUs in Boysun and Sherabad were turned into national craft schools, and SPTUs №. 2 in Termiz and Sariosia were turned into construction lyceums.

In 1995, there were 25,579 students in secondary special vocational schools of Surkhandarya region, of which 9,384 were graduates, and it is planned to accept 9,685 students. 202 of the graduates went to Sariosia Vocational Lyceum, 180 to Sherabad, 121 to Boysun National Vocational Vocational Lyceum [1].

In order to provide craft lyceums with qualified masters, short-term courses on teaching national crafts were organized in the cities of Bukhara and Karshi. Production masters of vocational lyceums in Sherabad and Boysun were sent to study these courses.

In 1994, Risolat Rahmatova from Sherabad went to Karshi to study goldsmithing. Gulchehra Pirimkulova, who established a goldsmith's shop there and worked there, returned from studying for a month. After that, he headed the goldsmith's workshop established under the Sherabad National Vocational Lyceum. In the 1995-1996 academic year, a goldsmith's group was opened at the high school. Risolat Rahmatova was appointed as a production master. Risolat Rahmatova successfully participated in various events with her and her students. In particular, their products were awarded first place at the "Tashabbus-97" exhibition held in the district. In 1996, Risolat Rahmatova successfully participated in the regional pedagogical training, and in 1997 in the regional competition "Teacher of the Year". In both events, his knowledge and professional skills were duly evaluated as the second place [2].

In 1994, Sanobar Oripova, a production master of the craft lyceum in Boysun, was sent to Bukhara to study a one-month embroidery course. Did not embroider together with his mother since he was young, he immediately mastered it. After finishing his studies, he returned to Boysun. She started embroidery training for 20 girls at the lyceum. Future embroiderers grew up among his students. Among them we can mention Feruza Khalikova, Nilufar Jorayeva [3].

On January 27, 1998, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted the Decision "On the state program of measures to be implemented in 1998 to ensure the interests of the family" expansion and at least 1,000 from low-income families, and at least 500 teenagers from childhood with disabilities were set to be trained in trades. In addition, a lot of attention was paid to the development of handicrafts, the involvement of women engaged in the upbringing of young children, as well as the disabled [4].

Methods

Special attention was paid to the training of craftsmen based on the "master-apprentice" principle in the colleges of Uzbekistan. In particular, special attention was paid to the preparation of specialists based on regional conditions in secondary vocational colleges of Shahrisabz, Kitab, Guzor, Dehkanabad, Mubarak, Kasbi districts of Kashkadarya region. Taking into account the needs of enterprises and organizations, in 2000-2005, 3 thousand people studied traditional craft courses [5.21].

According to the data of 2016, about 20 thousand artisans worked in our republic. The number of people learning a trade in "Master-Apprentice" schools was 4,000 [6.61]. In 2017, 1,326 "Master-Apprentice" schools were established in regional divisions, where 3,846 young people were taught trades. In the first quarter of 2018, the number of master-apprentice schools increased by 2,000. The number of students was 7356 [7].

Cooperation with international organizations in vocational training of the population in Uzbekistan is expanding. Among them, the International Cooperation Agency of the Republic of Korea (KOICA) played an important role. KOICA pays special attention to the development of the field of professional education. To date, this agency has built and launched three professional training centers in Uzbekistan. The first was opened in Tashkent in 2012, and by 2017, 2,800

people had received quality education. The second one was opened in Samarkand in October 2016, and the third one was opened in Shahrizabz on July 7, 2018, and they are operating steadily [8].

As national handicrafts are being developed in Uzbekistan, there is an urgent task of popularizing the work of famous craftsmen, exporting their products to foreign countries, and teaching the secrets of the profession to the younger generation. The basis for solving this issue was to preserve the rich material heritage and ancient traditions of our country, to ensure employment of the unemployed population, especially young people, women and poor families, by attracting them to handicrafts. Taking this into account, the government of the Republic took necessary measures.

In this regard, the cooperation of Uzbekistan's artisans with UNESCO has deepened more and more. In particular, receiving the "Quality Mark" of UNESCO is of great importance for Uzbek artisans. Because this program works continuously and helps craftsmen enter the world market and enrich the culture of the peoples of Western and Central Asia. In particular, in 2006, "janda" fabric and a wide white carpet were awarded the "Quality Mark" of UNESCO and placed on the site of bank offices in Beijing, Delhi and Almaty. This event was implemented on the basis of UNESCO and Japan's "Mysterious Ceramics of Uzbekistan" project [9.71].

In the conditions of the increase in the flow of tourists to our country, selling the products of Uzbek artisans, advertising the "brand" goods of artisans, attracting tourists to handicraft centers has become an important task. For this, it was necessary to create a register of masters working in the field of tourism and a National catalog of famous masters. In this regard, the decision PQ-4539 adopted by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on November 28, 2019 became important. In accordance with the decision, it was decided to introduce the "National Catalog of Masters of Applied Folk Art", to maintain the "Register of Craftsmen Working in the Tourism Sector" and to create a council for the selection of candidates to be included in the National Catalog [10].

As of January 1, 2023, 326 craftsmen were included in the National Catalog of Craftsmen of Uzbekistan. 14 of them fell to Kashkadarya region, 26 to Surkhandarya region. 102 artisans from Surhondarya were included in the tourism register.

Various contests and festivals play an incomparable role in the development of handicrafts. In Uzbekistan, it has become a tradition to organize craft exhibitions on various state and national holidays before holding real craft festivals. Especially during Nowruz holidays, this process became more popular. For the first time, examples of folk art were widely exhibited throughout Uzbekistan during the Nowruz holiday of 1990. After that, handicraft exhibitions were held at annual holiday events. In particular, the Navruz holiday of 2017-2022 (with the exception of 2020, when the pandemic occurred) was held in Surkhandarya and Kashkadarya regions in a completely different spirit. The reason is that artisans not only participated in the exhibition with their products, but also had the opportunity to sell their products directly during the holiday.

Various contests held in our country also played an important role in the wide promotion of national handicrafts. In particular, the role of events such as "Initiative", "Voice of the Future", "Innovation" should be specially recognized

Result and Discussion

"Boysun Spring", which has been held since 2002, occupies a special place in the promotion of national handicraft products and its introduction on the world scale. It should be said that Boisund folk art, ancient traditions, holidays, ceremonies, knowledge of nature and the sky, handicraft traditions are well preserved [11.107]. Taking this into account, "Boysun cultural environment" was the first to be included in the "List of Masterpieces of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity" announced by UNESCO in 2001. There were 19 other candidates for this status. In 2008, it was transferred to UNESCO's "Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity" [12.8].

Between 2002 and 2022, the open folklore festival "Boysun Spring" was held in Boysun district 6 times. On February 7, 2022, by the Decision No. 59 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan on measures to organize and hold the "Boysun Bahori" international folklore festival, it was granted the status of an international festival [13]. On May 7, 2022, the International Folklore Festival "Boysun Spring" was accepted by UNESCO. After that, the international folklore festival "Boysun Bahori" was decided to be held once every two years under the auspices of this prestigious organization [14].

The role of the Liberal Democratic Party of Uzbekistan in promoting handicrafts in Uzbekistan should also be highlighted. The "Business Woman" republican competition, which has been held since 2016 on the initiative of the "Women's Wing" of this party, has discovered many business women. Exhibitions and projects dedicated to the development and support of entrepreneurship, farming, creating additional jobs and further increasing the activity of women in society were held during the selection process.

However, many such contests, celebrations and exhibitions in Uzbekistan showed the need to hold large-scale festivals in the field of handicrafts. For this purpose, on November 27, 2018, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted Resolution No. 960 "On organizational measures for holding the International Crafts Festival". According to this decision, starting from 2019, an international craft festival will be held every two years in September in the city of Kokhan, Fergana region [15].

Serious preparations were made for the holding of the international festival. More than 370 representatives from 78 countries of the world took part in the "International Handicrafts Festival" held in Kokan on September 10-15, 2019. During the festival, the city of Kokhan was awarded the status of "City of World Craftsmen". This title was introduced in 2014, and so far 36 cities of the world have been able to achieve it. Kokan city was the first among the CIS countries [16].

The popularization of craft activities demanded the specialization of the held festivals. Taking this into account, specialized crafts festivals are held in different cities of our country. They are:

Traditional International Festival "Silk and Spices";
"Atlas Bayram" festival;
"World of Proverbs" international festival of humor;
"Jewellery and jewelry" festival;
"Young craftsmen" festival..

Conclusion

Competitions, exhibitions, holidays and festivals held in our country help to widely promote handicrafts. After all, the events that are being held serve the purpose of cultural exchange between craftsmen. This is the reason for raising the quality of handicrafts to a new level.

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