

NEW PERSPECTIVES OF MUSEUMS IN KARAKALPAKSTAN

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Article history:

Received: 10th December., 2021

Accepted: 15th December., 2021

Published: 19th December., 2021

Abstract: *This article deals with the information about museums of Karakalpakstan.*

Keywords: *Museum, Karakalpakstan, Nukus, Turtkul, ecological museum, history, culture, museum marketing.*

The Republic of Karakalpakstan carefully preserves its history, originality and traditions.

On the basis of the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On approval of the Program of measures to improve the activities and comprehensive strengthening of the material and technical base of state museums for 2017-2027" dated December 11, 2017, the Karakalpak State Museum of Local Lore was transformed into the State Museum of History and Culture of the Republic of Karakalpakstan. On the basis of this resolution, the Museum of Ecology in the Muynak region and the Museum of Archeology in the Ellikkala region were transformed into branches of the museum.

The State Museum of History and Culture of the Republic of Karakalpakstan is one of the oldest scientific and educational institutions not only in the Aral Sea region, but also in Central Asia. The museum was established in 1929 in Turtkul, the former capital of Karakalpakstan. In 1944, due to the flooding in Turtkul, the museum was transferred to the city of Nukus, the new capital.

The Department of Nature begins with showing dioramas of the landscapes of the Ustyurt Plateau, Kyzyl Kum and the Aral Sea basin. The flora and fauna of Karakalpakstan is represented by the diorama of the Badaytugay reserve. In the halls of ethnography, the national dress of the Karakalpak people is widely exhibited. The exposition of women's clothing and jewelry is especially rich: saukele, kok-koylek, zhegde and other attributes of women's clothing of the 18th - 19th centuries.

One of the most unique exhibits of the museum is the capital, found in 1966 in the Sultanuizdag mountains. It is a lying animal with bent legs, framing an abacus, with the heads of

bearded men, of which only one has survived. Similar capitals first appear in Iran since the time of Darius in the form of two fused lions, bulls, griffins, and they are known in Persopol, Nakhshirustem.

The collection of the museum, originally numbering 20 exhibits, now includes 80 754. In 2007, the museum won in the nomination "Museum of exemplary storage of cultural values", in 2008 it presented the exhibition "On barmagy onerli karakalpagym" and creative works of young artisans at the festival, dedicated to the 2200th anniversary of the city of Tashkent, and was awarded the "Certificate of Honor" [1; 29].

The Museum of Ecology previously operated in the village of Uchsay, Muynak region. Its visitors will be able to get acquainted with the local history and modernity, everyday life and applied arts, as well as the flora and fauna of the Aral Sea, which was once rich in fish. But some of the most poignant exhibits are paintings by artists Rafael Matevosyan and Faim Madgazin, who lived here in the 1960s. They also caught the port period in the life of Muynak and at the same time captured on their canvases the beginning of the process that radically changed the face of the city.

Today, many young people do not know what the Aral Sea looked like. A series of paintings by Matevosyan is the only one in the world and is unique, it tells about the transformation of the blue and rich Aral Sea into a lifeless desert, often called today "Aral Kumy".

In 1962 R.T. Matevosyan made a creative trip to Karakalpakstan, where he first got acquainted with the Aral Sea. In 1967, the master of the brush R. Matevosyan saw the beginning of the retreat of the sea. He captured it on the canvases written from life "The sea is gone", "The ships in the sands". And thus, a new cycle of works about the dying Aral begins with these pictures. It includes the canvases "Berth in the Sands", "Eternally Tricked", "Aground", "Hope" [2].

The State Museum of Arts of the Republic of Karakalpakstan named after I.V. Savitsky was founded in 1966 in the city of Nukus. The museum is known all over the world and has more than 100 thousand exhibits. Many world-renowned experts highly appreciate the exhibits of the Nukus Museum: "Your collection is simply stunning - even after the Louvre, the British Museum, the Tate Gallery, the Hermitage, most of the largest American museums and the Russian Museum" (A. Verdi Farmanfarmayan, Rutgers University); "Exhibiting at least part of Savitsky's collection will cause a sensation. This will give art lovers the opportunity to see for the first time the artistic panorama, which is a kind of reserve created outside the framework of the classical avant-garde ..." (Dr. Aage A. Hansen-Leve, professor at the University of Munich) [3].

The House Museum of the spouses Amet and Ayimkhan Shamuratov is one of the first private museums in Uzbekistan. The museum was organized in 1998 in the city of Nukus, which has received visitors since October 1999. Shamuratov Amet (1912-1953) - a prominent Karakalpak writer, translator, public and statesman. Ayimkhan Shamuratova (1917-1993) is one of the first Karakalpak artists who dreamed of a theatrical career from childhood and realized her dream on the stage of the Berdakh Theatre of Music and Drama.

In 1997, in connection with the 170th anniversary of the Karakalpak poet-thinker Berdakh, it was decided to create a museum named after Berdakh. The Berdakh National Museum was opened on March 1, 2002. By the decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated April 13, 2021 No. 206, the museum was reorganized as the State Museum of the History of Karakalpak Literature named after Berdakh.

Of particular interest to visitors is the hall of manuscripts, where written monuments in Arabic, Persian and Turkic languages are kept, which have survived to this day. A unique exhibit of the museum is a silk robe (shapan) that belonged to Berdakh himself.

The famous archaeologist S.P. Tolstov called Berdakh not only a poet, but also a historian who created the history of his people through poetry [4; 6]. Berdakh's work "Shezhire" is not only the genealogy of an entire people, but also information about the Turkic peoples. It contains the names of about 300 characters who are historical figures who played a role in history. The poet's works dedicated to national heroes, such as "Amangeldi", "Yernazar biy" and others, are kept in the memory of the people to this day. In addition to the gift of poetry, Berdakh also possessed the talent of "bakhshy", was famous not only among the Karakalpaks, but also among neighboring peoples.

Today, the museum has every opportunity to become a center for the restoration, conservation and study of written monuments in Karakalpakstan, thereby incorporating a scientific and educational function.

The museum in memory of the repressed victims, whose expositions highlight the horrors of Stalin's repressions, was opened in 2018 at the Berdakh Karakalpak State University. There are displays, which reflect periods of great violence connected with Stalin repression, collectivization and the period when people and their entire families were deported from the places where they lived.

By the decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated 26.08.2018 No. PP-3920 "On measures for the innovative development of the sphere of culture and art in the Republic of Uzbekistan", as an experiment, the implementation of the Renovation Program was planned to be carried out in three museums, including the State Museum of Arts of the Republic Karakalpakstan named after I.V. Savitsky.

In order to implement events, renovate museums and introduce into practice, attracting employees to managerial positions in museums of Uzbekistan, provided for in the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated August 28, 2018 "On measures for the innovative development of the sphere of culture and art in the Republic of Uzbekistan" No. PP 3920, Fund development of culture and art under the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan organized and held an open international competition for the position of director of the State Museum of Arts of the Republic of Karakalpakstan named after I.V. Savitsky. The competition was held among citizens of Uzbekistan and foreign countries. The main requirements for the candidate were: a degree in art history, museum business, archeology and museum anthropology, or in another relevant field, at least four years of experience in an administrative and managerial position in a cultural institution.

According to the results of the first stage of the Competition, 6 candidates from Germany, Russia, Kazakhstan and Karakalpakstan passed. At the end of the second round, Tigran Mkrtcheyev, director of the Museum of the Roerichs in Moscow (a branch of the State Museum of Oriental Art), was declared the winner.

In conjunction with the possibilities of tourism, the museum develops not so much its traditional goals and objectives as transforms them towards enhancing leisure and communicative functions. Museums have a duty to collect, preserve and protect cultural heritage, thus preventing the destruction of cultural identity. At the same time, curators are responsible for displaying and interpreting these collections in such a way that it contributes to the education of visitors, their understanding and appreciation of the culture or cultures represented in the museum [5].

The Foundation for the Development of Culture and Arts under the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan, together with the British Council and Goldsmiths University (UK), launched a long-term program on museum management, which opened with a five-day course at the State Institute of Arts and Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan from December 17 to 21, 2018. The course was developed with an emphasis on improving the administrative structure of museums in Uzbekistan and improving the quality of services for visitors.

The second cycle of this program, which took place in February 2019, addressed such main topics as: Reasons for visiting museums; Expectations of visitors; Development of audience perception; Identifying and understanding potential audience and creating a strategy focused on audience growth; The importance of computer technology, events, interpretation, marketing, communication. Among the participants in these courses were representatives of the State Museum of Art named after I.V. Savitsky.

Relevant is the adoption of the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan on May 23, 2020 No. 325 "On increasing the efficiency of the marketing activities of museums and theaters in the Republic of Uzbekistan."

Today, in the museums of Karakalpakstan, a huge work is being done to improve the activities of museums, enhance their importance in the education and upbringing of the young generation, increase the knowledge and skills of their workers, and provide museums with modern technologies.

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