

THE SOUND OF THE DOIRA — THE NATIONAL SPIRIT AND THE HEART OF MUSIC

Anvar Samadov

Teacher at Children's Music and Art
School No. 7, Sho'rchi District

The doira is a percussion instrument that holds a special place in Uzbek musical culture. Its sound not only sets the musical rhythm, but also breathes life into songs and dances, expressing the national spirit. For centuries, the sound of the doira has been closely connected with the daily life, rituals, and celebrations of the people.

The main sound of the doira is produced by strikes on its skin. In addition, the metal rings (jingling rings) attached around its frame give the sound a distinctive shimmering and slightly rustling character. These two elements—the main beat and the resonance of the rings—make the doira's sound rich, lively, and expressive. At times it can be soft and calm, while at other moments it becomes energetic and dynamic.



The uniqueness of the doira's sound also depends on the performer's skill. Master doira players use various finger, palm, and hand techniques to produce a wide range of sounds from a single instrument. As a result, the doira's sound can sometimes flow smoothly like a heartbeat, and at other times take on a powerful, dance-inviting intensity.

In national dances, the doira plays a leading role. Every movement of the dancer aligns with the rhythm of the doira, creating a strong emotional impact on the audience. Especially during traditional festivals, wedding ceremonies, and folk celebrations, music is considered incomplete without the sound of the doira.

As a doira class teacher, I am convinced every day of the unique instrument's not only musical but also educational value. The doira is not just a simple percussion instrument; through it, a student's inner feelings, discipline, and sense of national identity are formed.

During lessons, I first teach students to feel the sound of the doira. This is because the doira's sound resembles a heartbeat: steady, balanced, and alive. From the very first day they hold the doira, children learn to feel rhythm, focus their attention, and perform in harmony with a group. This contributes not only to their musical development, but also to their personal growth.

In the doira class, every beat has its place and meaning. The various sounds produced through finger, palm, and hand movements teach students the importance of patience and regular practice. At the same time, through exercises connected with national melodies, songs, and dances, respect and love for Uzbek cultural heritage are strengthened in young people.

Seeing my students play the doira on stage for the first time is my greatest happiness. The confidence in their eyes, the determination in their hands, and the energy in the sound clearly reflect the results of my efforts. Through the doira, children learn to express their thoughts through sound and to carry themselves confidently in front of an audience.



As a doira class teacher, my main goal is not simply to train skilled performers, but to raise a generation that understands national values, feels rhythm deeply, and loves art with all its heart. The doira is the most faithful and sincere companion on this path. Indeed, the sound of the doira is not just a musical tone—it is the expression of a people’s history, emotions, and cultural memory. It inspires, uplifts the spirit, and helps one feel national identity more profoundly.