THE QASHQAR RUBOB — THE WORDLESS VOICE OF NATIONAL MUSIC

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

The Qashqar rubob is one of the oldest and most prestigious stringed instruments in Uzbek folk music. Its history has developed over centuries, closely intertwined with the music and culture of the people. The rubob serves not only as a musical instrument but also as an expression of national spirituality and emotions.

The instrument typically consists of strings stretched over a stable membrane and a specially crafted body, producing a sound that directly touches the heart. Its tone is delicate and requires careful attention, with every note connected to history and the life of the people.

The Qashqar rubob is mainly used in traditional songs, folk melodies, and maqom performances. Its sound supports the singer's voice and enriches

the music with depth and spiritual flow. Through the rubob, performers can convey their emotions and national aspirations to young audiences.

The uniqueness of the Qashqar rubob lies in the technique of producing sound. Through the movements of fingers and palms, performers create a variety of rhythms and dynamics, allowing each piece to be performed fully and vividly. The master-apprentice tradition is also crucial in rubob education. Experienced teachers guide students in proper handling of the instrument and in producing beautiful, expressive tones.

The Qashqar rubob is not only a musical instrument but also an integral part of national cultural heritage. It reflects the history, lifestyle, hopes, and emotions of the people. Therefore, preserving it, teaching it to the younger generation, and developing performers' skills is an important responsibility for our society.

In my classes, I focus first on helping students feel the sound of the rubob and understand its characteristics. The rubob's tone is produced by strings on the membrane and the body of the instrument. Through finger and palm movements, students learn to produce different dynamics and rhythms. This allows them to experience not only musical, but also spiritual richness from the very beginning.

The master-apprentice tradition is central to the Qashqar rubob class. Experienced teachers instruct students in proper handling and expressive performance of the instrument. I conduct every lesson with this spirit, teaching students not only to perform accurately and deeply but also to appreciate and respect the values of our national music.

During rubob lessons, students also develop essential skills such as feeling rhythm, focusing attention, and performing in harmony with others. Moreover, through the rubob, they learn traditional songs, maqoms, and other musical forms, cultivating respect and love for their national culture.

My goal is to nurture students not just as skilled performers, but as individuals who understand national values, feel music with their hearts, and love art sincerely. The Qashqar rubob is the most faithful and sincere companion on this path. Its sound carries not only musical value but also the history, emotions, and cultural memory of the people.

Therefore, preserving the Qashqar rubob, teaching its performance to young generations, and passing on the rich heritage of our national music is my most sacred and important responsibility. Indeed, the Qashqar rubob is one of the most beautiful and complex instruments in national music, embodying the spirit of the people and the subtle, elevated facets of our cultural heritage. Preserving and promoting it is a sacred duty for every musician and lover of national culture.