

DOI:10.29013/EJA-25-3-142-146



## ANALYSIS OF THE ACTIVITIES OF CULTURAL CENTERS IN THE REPUBLIC OF KARAKALPAKSTAN

*Saparbaeva Gulshira Abatbaevna*<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Nukus branch of the Institute of Arts and Culture of Uzbekistan, Uzbekistan, Nukus

---

**Cite:** Saparbaeva G.A. (2025). *Analysis of The Activities of Cultural Centers in The Republic Of Karakalpakstan*. *European Journal of Arts* 2025, No 3. <https://doi.org/10.29013/EJA-25-3-142-146>

---

### Abstract

**Purpose of the study:** a systematic analysis of the activities of cultural centers in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, an analysis of reforms in their activities and the determination of their socio-spiritual significance. At the same time, an analysis of development prospects.

**Methods:** source analysis, scientific-practical, historical analysis.

**Results:** As a result of the analysis, the main areas of activity of cultural centers of Karakalpakstan were identified. The need for further development of cultural centers, involvement of young people in creative activities and expansion of international cooperation was identified. It was revealed that the infrastructure and financial support of cultural centers are insufficient, as well as insufficient human resources.

**Scientific novelty:** This study is the first comprehensive analysis of the activities of cultural centers of Karakalpakstan, clearly defining their place in the modern socio-spiritual environment. Also, conceptual proposals were developed regarding the possibilities and prospects for wide involvement of young people through the digitalization of cultural centers, which laid the foundation for practical research in this area.

**Practical application:** It serves to provide specific practical recommendations on increasing the efficiency of cultural centers in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, improving their infrastructure, and attracting people to cultural centers. The study consists of a detailed analysis of cultural centers and conclusions.

**Keywords:** *cultural centers, activity analysis, cultural and creative development, public engagement, reforms*

### Introduction

The activities of cultural centers are an important component of the modern socio-cultural system in order to develop national culture among the population and ensure its sustainability. Cultural centers located in the region are spiritual centers that are engaged

not only in preserving amateur art and national traditions, but also in the spiritual education of the younger generation, realizing their creative potential, and combining national values with modernity. At the same time, globalization processes and technological innovations are creating new challenges and opportunities

in the field of culture, which requires improving the activities of cultural centers. In such conditions, there is a pressing need for a comprehensive study and analysis of the current activities of cultural centers in Karakalpakstan, their socio-spiritual significance, problems, and promising development directions. Based on this need, this study aims to develop scientifically based recommendations aimed at increasing the efficiency of cultural centers. This article provides a detailed analysis of the current activities of cultural centers in the region, their human resources, material and technical condition, economic aspects, and innovative approaches, and highlights their role and importance in society. It is true that cultural centers have been neglected for many years. For some time, no significant changes have been observed in the field. Since 2017, special attention has been paid to this issue. A number of regulatory documents were adopted on the fundamental reform of the culture and arts sector. In particular, the 2018 Concept for the Development of Our National Culture included issues of capital reconstruction of cultural centers and construction of new buildings. This included reviewing and developing the basis of cultural centers, that is, their documents – functions, passport, and charter. In addition to the concept, 30 percent of cultural centers that needed repair were repaired within the framework of the “Prosperous Village” and “Prosperous Neighborhood” programs. At that time, a total of 80 percent of the centers needed repair. Currently, there are 837 cultural centers in our republic, half of which need repair.

There are also issues such as equipping them in accordance with the times, providing them with educational literature, and supplying musical instruments. Work in the field was slightly delayed. This was due to the pandemic. That is, until 2022, the repair of cultural centers was not carried out. By the decree of our President dated February 2, 2022 “On additional measures for the further development of the sphere of culture and art”, the material and technical base of previously reconstructed cultural centers was strengthened. Last year, an initiative was put forward stating that people do not want to enter the dilapidated buildings, they need to be repaired. As a result, in addition to the repair, all cul-

tural centers were provided with 7 types of national musical instruments and complete methodological manuals. Also, to ease their burden, one “Damas” car was allocated from the state budget to 208 district and city cultural centers. This solved the transportation problem that had plagued the centers until now, especially when entering the neighborhoods. Only 13 state-owned cultural centers hold all events in the district and provide free service. One group leader can lead, sing, and play music. If we take into account that an average of 15 to 20 events are held in the districts per month, this is real dedication.

Now it is necessary to continue the work that has been started and create all the conditions for them. In total, more than 7 thousand employees work in the system. Among them are those who preserve and promote intangible cultural heritage. In this regard, cultural centers play an important role in preserving our folk oral creativity. After all, folklore and ethnographic, song and dance, exemplary children’s groups have been widely promoting our *olan*, *lapar*, and ritual songs. Currently, there are 597 groups with the status of “People’s Amateur Team”. It is gratifying that these groups have also begun to perform abroad. For example, the Surkhandarya and Khorezm folklore groups were sent to the Days of Uzbek Culture in Qatar, while the Bukhara regional folklore and ethnographic group participated in an international event in Belarus.

Many more events in foreign countries are ahead. Groups are sent depending on the performance repertoire and the content of the event being organized in a foreign country (Mominova M., 2024).

### **Materials and methods**

There are 837 cultural centers operating in the system of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan, of which 684 have their own buildings and 153 are cultural centers that do not have their own buildings, are in a state of emergency and are built of raw bricks. 3,519 circles, studios and amateur art groups operate in these centers, of which 2,762 circles, 97 studios (increased by 4), 36 clubs of enthusiasts, 54 training courses, 1,167 amateur art groups (increased by 237) operate. (For information: Due to the optimi-

zation of staffing levels by the joint order of the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, and the Ministry of Poverty Reduction and Employment No. 241 dated May 2, 2024, the number of these clubs, studios, and amateur art groups decreased by 750 compared to the third quarter.) Of these amateur art groups, 597 have the title of “People’s Amateur Group” and “Children’s Model Group”. The total number of organized clubs, studios, and amateur art groups is 48,884 thousand people (an increase of 5,198), of which 18,076 thousand people are covered by amateur art groups. These institutions organized 37,278 (an increase of 7,822) cultural and educational events in 2024, of which only 1,499 (an increase of 58) were held on a contractual basis. 10 million 640 thousand 498 people were involved in them. A total of 10 billion 100 million soums were earned from these events (an increase of 5 billion 674 thousand soums). Each cultural center received an average of 6 million 600 thousand soums during the current year (an average of 557 thousand soums per month).

For example, cultural centers in Samarkand region earned 323 million soums from concert and entertainment events in the 3rd quarter of this year, but this figure increased to 895 million soums in the 4th quarter (an additional 572 million soums were earned). Cultural centers in Jizzakh region earned 473 million soums from concert and entertainment events in the 3rd quarter of this year, but this figure increased to 703 million soums in the 4th quarter (an additional 230 million soums were earned). While cultural centers in Tashkent earned 130 million soums from concert and performance events in the third quarter of this year, this figure only reached 170 million soums in the fourth quarter (an increase of 40 million soums).

Cultural centers in Namangan region earned 660 million soums from concert and performance events in the 3rd quarter of this year, but this figure was only increased to 700 million soums in the 4th quarter (an additional 40 million soums were earned). Cultural centers in Navoi region earned 108 million 700 thousand soums in the 3rd quarter of this year, but this figure was only increased to 143 million 400 thousand soums in the 4th quarter (an increase of 34 million

soums). If cultural centers in the Bukhara region earned 183 million 500 thousand soums in the 3rd quarter of this year, this figure was only increased to 209 million soums in the 4th quarter (an increase of 25 million 500 thousand soums). We will also analyze the activities of folk amateur groups. Calendar plans were approved, which provide for the regular holding of concert and performance programs of art groups in state institutions, organizations and enterprises, in alleys and parks, parks, and cultural centers. Parameters were developed to double the paid income of art groups. The republican television competition “Motherland Melodies” was held among amateur art groups. The “Bulbuligoyo” and “Urgench Navolari” folk and ethnographic groups operating in the Surkhandarya and Khorezm regions organized creative tours to the state of Qatar, and the “Orazibon” folk and ethnographic group of the Khorezm region to the city of Paris, France, and London, England. The “Bogdon” folk and ethnographic folk ensemble operating in the Department of Culture of the Forish district of the Jizzakh region actively participated with its performance programs in the 5th World Nomad Games Festival, which was held in Astana, the Republic of Kazakhstan, on September 8–13, 2024, and was awarded certificates from the Organizing Committee for the Preparation and Holding of the 5th World Nomad Games.

The time and frequency of the organization of theatrical performances and concert programs by artistic groups at tourism facilities and their staging were determined. Concert and performance programs of artistic groups were organized in state institutions, organizations and enterprises, in boulevards and parks, parks, and cultural centers. 4 amateur artistic groups were sent on foreign tours.

### **Result and discussion**

Currently, there are a total of 103 cultural and art institutions in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, including 60 cultural centers, 24 children’s music and art schools, 2 specialized art and culture schools, 3 theaters, 1 branch of the Karakalpakstan Republic branch of the “Uzbekkonsert” state institution, 1 special library for the blind and its 9 branches, the Karakalpakstan Republic

branch of the Uzbekistan State Philharmonic, and the “Aykulash” Karakalpak State National Folklore Ensemble, 1 exemplary Maqom ensemble. Over the past years, a number of organizations have been established and are providing cultural services. Of these, 251 circles and 61 folk groups in 60 cultural centers in the Republic of New Karakalpakstan are sincerely serving the population. Among them, there are 61 artistic groups with the title of “People’s Amateur Team” and “Exemplary Children’s Team” under cultural centers, of which: 11 are folk theaters, 2 puppet theaters, 21 song and dance ensembles, 13 folklore and ethnographic folk ensembles, 2 pop folk ensembles, 6 dance folk ensembles, 2 national instrument ensembles, 3 vocal instrumental folk ensembles, 2 dutar folk ensembles, 1 traditional circus folk ensemble and 1 darvoz group are operating. At the same time, in 2018, the Karakalpakstan branch of the State Philharmonic of Uzbekistan, the Model Makom Ensemble of the Republic of Karakalpakstan were established, and in 2019, the “Aykulash” Karakalpak State National Folklore Ensemble was reorganized. In 2021, the Nukus branch of the State Conservatory of Uzbekistan and a boarding school specializing in Opera and Bakhshi art were established in our capital, and in 2022, the Karakalpakstan Palace of Arts was established. Over the past five years, a number of construction and repair works have been carried out to strengthen the material and technical base of cultural institutions and create favorable conditions for them.

In particular, a new building was built for the Karakalpak State Theater of Young Spectators, and repair work was carried out in the building of the Karakalpak State Puppet Theater. At the same time, reconstruction and major repairs were carried out at the expense of the local budget within the framework of the “Prosperous Village” and “Prosperous Mahalla”, “Initiative Budget” and local programs in the city of Nukus, the cultural centers of the Amudarya, Tortkol, Moynaq, Qongiro, Beruniy, Ellikkal’a, Takhtakopir, Karaozak, Chimboy, Nukus, Kegeyli districts, in the children’s music and art schools of Takhtakopir, Karaozak and Bozatov districts, as well as in the cultural centers in the centers of the Shomanoy, Amudarya, Tortkol districts based on state programs.

In addition, new cultural centers were built and put into operation in the Qonlikul, Karaozak, and Beruni districts, children’s music and art schools in the Moynaq, Ellikkal, Khojaly, and Chimboy districts, the Republican Library for the Blind in the city of Nukus, and new amphitheater buildings in the Bozatov, Moynaq, and Chimboy districts (Qolqanatov A., 2025). The activities of cultural centers are also being systematically analyzed and studied in our republic. At a meeting held on December 22, 2023 under the leadership of our Honorable President, an instruction was given to establish 1 model cultural center in each district (city), according to which 159 cultural centers were repaired and put into operation in 2023–2024, and an instruction was given to complete the repair work and put 49 into operation in 2025. Based on the President’s Resolution No. 406, issues such as the implementation of concert programs at the facilities of 53 amateur artistic groups were considered, and appropriate instructions were given to those responsible (URL: <https://gov.uz/oz/madaniyat/news/view/53478>).

The low human resource capacity in cultural centers of Karakalpakstan negatively affects the development of this sector in several main areas. The lack of qualified personnel leads to poor-quality organization of events, circles, seminars and creative activities held in cultural centers. This weakens the interest of the population, especially young people, in such centers. The lack of personnel, first of all, prevents cultural centers from fully fulfilling their main functions.

We must never forget that the quality of creative circles, national art schools and mass events directly depends on qualified specialists. Cultural centers in the Republic of Karakalpakstan are an important resource for the development of not only regional, but also national culture. However, the full use of this resource depends, first of all, on the human resource potential. Low qualifications of personnel lead to poor quality of cultural services, low youth participation, and limitations of modern approaches. Therefore, raising personnel policy to a strategic level is the main key to a fundamental reform of the sector.

### References

- Mominova M. Let's allow cultural centers to fulfill their function, not just organizations that hold events // gaz. New Uzbekistan, August 25, 2024. – issue 171. – Tashkent: Kolorpak. – 6 p.
- Qolqanatov A. New cultural centers in the new Karakalpakstan // International Journal of Intellectual and Cultural Heritage – Vol. 5. – Issue: 03 | 2025.  
URL: <https://gov.uz/oz/madaniyat/news/view/53478>
- Saparbaeva G. A. The Importance of Management in Theater Activities // Inter education & global study. 2025. – No. 3. – P. 122–131.
- Abatbaevna, Saparbaeva Gulshira, and Qolqanatov Asilbek Nazarbaevich. “History of the Development of Spiritual and Educational Processes in Karakalpakstan”. (2023).
- Saparbaeva G. Stages and Prospects for the Development of Cultural Centers in Karakalpakstan. *JournalNX*, – Vol. 7. – No. 07. 2021. – P. 137–141. Doi:10.17605/OSF.IO/7WTBM.

submitted 15.07.2025;  
accepted for publication 31.07.2025;  
published 31.08.2025  
© Saparbaeva G. A.  
Contact: qolqanatov9518@gmail.com