

## **Nique Carpets of Chirakchi**

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**ABSTRACT:** This article provides information about the carpet weaving history in Uzbekistan, its significance and appearance. Carpet weaving of Kashkadarya region, a unique technique of carpet weaving, passed down from generation to generation in Chirakchi region. Information about the of this profession successors is given today.

### **INTRODUCTION**

There are many areas of art – painting, poetry, literature... Carpet weaving is also an art form no less important than other forms.

The carpet is a symbol. At a time when fine art was still in the rock paintings form, there was carpet weaving, there was a carpet. It looked like an amulet, and the carpet was believed to protect the house from prying eyes. The carpet served as a worship place. The carpet was a place for a person, as well as is also a footpath leading to the last road and a covering for the last journey. (1)

Carpet weaving is a field of artistic craftsmanship. It is a type of applied art inherited from our ancestors. This craft was common among nomadic tribes engaged in livestock in ancient times. It is made of plant fiber (cotton, flax, jute i.e.canopy) and mainly wool (sheep, goat, camel). It is difficult to know when the carpet weaving art came into being. Because wool is durable, carpets were not preserved in ancient times. The oldest carpets date back to the 6th-5th centuries BC was found in the Altai Mountains, well preserved because it is permafrost. Carpets have long been developed in Central Asia, especially in Uzbekistan. Women mostly made the carpet. They kept its patterns in their memory. Apple ornaments, tiger necks, camel necks, and ram's teeth are often used in the decoration, especially the image of an animal's horn.

The precision, beauty, and pattern colors harmony, which is the Central Asian carpets characteristic, increased their artistic value. The image was created with skillful use of colors. Variety and charm are achieved by having a pattern pieces in different looks.

The color, decoration and carpets types vary in different regions of Uzbekistan. This diversity is closely linked to the nature and our regions traditions. In Khorezm, Bukhara, Surkhandarya, Jizzakh, Kashkadarya regions, carpet weaving techniques, technologies and decorations are unique. Currently, carpet weaving was developed in Fergana Valley, Kashkadarya, Surkhandarya, Syrdarya regions, Karakalpakstan. Samarkand, Urgut, Kokand and Khorezm are also carpet-weaving centers. Traditional carpet weaving is developing as a handicraft type (home weaving). Silk carpets of Samarkand and Bukhara are also widespread. The “Usto” and the “Khunarmand” associations make a worthy contribution to the traditional carpet weaving development. (2) (Elmira Gul. wikipedia)

Kashkadarya, famous for its ancient and rich history and unique culture, has several types, directions and styles of carpet weaving. In particular, Shakhrisabz carpets, which have a long history, are distinguished by the use of unique patterns. This art, which has a centuries-old tradition, retains its place and significance. (3) (info@ qashqadaryo.uz)

Let us look at Kashkadarya oasis, which still preserves this applied art type. Ancient patterns of carpets can be found among the common people, and women in the remote villages continue the craft. For example, Kuldisheva Saltanat, a sole proprietor living in Chirakchi district, kept the carpet weaving secrets in her house and by creating new patterns, she not only taught rural women the craft, but also sold ready-made carpets. Saltanat opa learned this profession from her mother-in-law Koldosheva Chinnigul, Chinnigul momo learned from her mother-in-law Dono momo and Saltanat opa is teaching the this art secrets to her daughter Dinara today. So Saltanat opa is the third generation representative.

Sheep wool and natural cotton fiber are mainly used for carpet weaving. Sheep wool is washed and cleaned to weave the carpet and combed on an iron comb. The yarn is spun from the combed wool, and the spun yarn is washed again. The dried yarns are dyed only in natural colors (made from pomegranate, walnut, onion peels, tumor, tulip leaves), without dyeing, and the carpet is woven from the dried finished product. The carpet does not lose its color and quality even when washed, as it is dyed with natural dyes. Some carpets are made of natural wool. These carpets are woven from white, black, yellow, brown, and other yarns in patterns, and they are renewed every time they are washed. That is, when the wool is washed, the color becomes beautiful and shiny.

The carpet is woven on horizontally and vertically mounted looms. There, learners will be taught gradually all carpets types, such as Arabic carpets, national carpets, ghajari carpets, girls' carpets, fluffy and julkhur.

Weaving carpets by hand is an extremely laborious work. It requires perseverance, taste and skill from the weaver. The fluffy carpet is especially perfect. In this case, the carpet feather, the pattern sculpture is created by forming bands from yarns of other colors on the main thread. The end of the knot is pulled out to the surface side of the fabric and knitted in a row. Each row is fastened to the previous row by passing a ribbon over it and beating it with a special iron comb. The threads protruding from the surface are cut into a straight line using scissors. These carpets are decorated with patterns such as jugs, hornbills, beauties, vines, spruces, peppers, and sparrows. The artisan woman who mentors the village women is not limited to carpets. It also started weaving other items based on the type of carpet weaving, such as various bags, prayers, saddlebags, home wall decorations, small carpets placed on chairs, custom-made carpets. Tourists visiting from different countries answer questions about the history of carpets, weaving techniques, techniques over a cup of tea, view the woven and ready-made carpets. They can buy it if they like.

This type of applied art is also a factor in the development of rural traditions. In village traditionally weaves a dowry for the bride, whose mother weaves a carpet called a ghajari, sews it into a rectangle, and at one end it is decorated with string beads and similar knots. The finished carpet is called a bogjama. The patterns and flowers in the bogjama are the best, the most beautiful and at the same time not to be repeated. The purpose of this is to make the girl's life beautiful, meaningful and, most importantly, happy.

Saltanat opa participates in many exhibitions and competitions of the Republic with her carpets. In particular, the national handicrafts development, folk arts and crafts, including our historical traditions, the silk and wool hand-made carpets development, which are inherited from our ancestors and passed down from generation to generation, on September 10-15, 2019, she took part in the "Crafts Festival" in Kokand. In order to develop this handicraft type, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on November 28, 2019 RD-4539 adopted a Decree "On additional measures for further development of crafts and support of craftsmen" and June 26, 2020 PD-4759 "On measures to develop the hand-made carpet industry in the country". These decisions, of course, will greatly contribute to the further development of our craft.

It should be noted that the proposal of the "Uzbekpaksanoat" association to hold an international festival of "Hand-made Oriental Carpets" in Tashkent every two years from 2021, i.e. in October, is approved.

Dinara, who is currently studying fine arts with her sister, who is learning the secrets of the profession from Saltanat opa and setting ambitious goals for the future, says: - “There are many opportunities. All this is aimed at us young people, and we must use them effectively. Personally, I take this opportunity to study Uzbek carpet weaving art in the future, pass it on from generation to generation, and introduce it to the world. I will use all my strength and knowledge for these purposes.”

Creating the artwork that attracts people is a multi-step process that requires patience and perseverance. It is not surprising that the weaver fulfills the noble intentions and weaver wishes in the beautiful patterns creation due to the work of his hands and the light of his eyes.

### **References**

1. People's Word newspaper. 03 October 2019
2. Elmira Gul. Wikipedia material.
3. info@ qashqadaryo.uz sayti