THE DEVELOPMENT DYNAMICS OF KARAKALPAK RADIO DURING THE PERIOD OF INDEPENDENCE

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Summary. Over the years, Karakalpak Radio has experienced numerous significant events, achievements, and transformations. Its development has been closely associated with the cultural, social, and spiritual life of the Karakalpak people. Radio remains one of the most valuable means of preserving and transmitting the national cultural heritage, including traditional musical works and compositions created by local composers. During the period of independence, Karakalpak Radio underwent substantial changes in its organizational structure, broadcasting capacity, technical infrastructure, and creative activities. The expansion of broadcasting hours, the introduction of modern recording equipment, the establishment of new programmes, and the development of live broadcasting contributed to the modernization of radio services.

Keywords: Karakalpak Radio, independence, broadcasting, radio journalism, media development, radio programmes, digital technologies, national culture, broadcasting technology, cultural heritage.

Radio has achieved a high level of development and established a firm position in the spiritual and cultural life of humanity. Almost every developed country in the world has its own radio broadcasting institutions. International broadcasters such as Voice of America in the United States, Radio Liberty, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), and Deutsche Welle in Germany have played significant roles in disseminating information to audiences around the world. Uzbekistan also has a developed radio broadcasting system. Among its principal broadcasting services, Tashkent Radio, operating under the Uzbekistan National Television and Radio Company, occupies an important position. The programmes of the national radio broadcasting system have traditionally covered several major areas. The first channel, *Uzbekistan*, focuses primarily on social and political, economic, and material and spiritual issues. The second channel, *Yoshlar* (Youth), is intended mainly for young audiences. The third, *Mash'al*, broadcasts informational and musical programmes. The fourth, *Dostlik* (Friendship), provides programmes in Russian, Kazakh, Uyghur, Tatar, and Crimean Tatar.

An important stage in the institutional development of Uzbekistan's broadcasting system was the establishment of the state organization known as the Republican Television and Radio Centre. In accordance with the relevant presidential resolution of 8 November 2005, No. PP-3678, concerning measures to reform and develop independent television and radio channels, the organization was established on the basis of the Republican Television Centre, the Republican Radio Broadcasting and Sound Recording House, and the Nukus Television and Radio Centre [1].

The structure of the Republican Television and Radio Centre included the Tashkent Television Centre, the Tashkent Radio Broadcasting House, and the Nukus Television and Radio Centre as a branch. Its responsibilities included providing technical, technological, service, and other support to television and radio organizations in Uzbekistan, regardless of their ownership structure. These services were provided on a contractual basis for the production and preparation of television and radio programmes for broadcast.

The organization was also responsible for introducing modern information, computer, and media technologies to improve the artistic quality and technical standards of broadcasting products. Its functions included maintaining and modernizing the material and technical infrastructure of television and radio production, transmission equipment, buildings, and antenna facilities, as well as ensuring their continuous energy supply.

In addition, the organization was responsible for providing broadcasting institutions with the necessary production equipment and for generating and transmitting technical, informational, television, and radio signals. The principal responsibility of the Nukus branch was to prepare, film, and broadcast television programmes and radio transmissions produced by the Karakalpakstan Television and Radio Company. Following the independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan, significant changes took place in the activities of the Karakalpakstan Television and Radio Company. Greater attention was paid to the production of programmes with substantial content and high professional quality. Radio broadcasting became an important means of presenting the achievements and progress of the republic to a wider audience.

The leadership of the Republic of Karakalpakstan supported efforts to improve the quality and artistic standards of television programmes. A modern television studio meeting European technical standards was constructed and commissioned in Nukus. The Uzbekistan National Television and Radio Company equipped

the new studio with modern technology and equipment supplied by the German company Siemens. At the same time, structural changes were implemented within the television channel. Editorial departments were consolidated, requirements for chief editors were strengthened, and qualified personnel were recruited to the editorial teams. As a result of these measures and the considerable efforts of creative professionals, the quality of broadcasting improved, while the content and thematic diversity of programmes continued to expand. The professional development of specialists, their commitment to continuous improvement, and their responsible approach to their work became important factors contributing to these achievements. Most importantly, the aspirations of the people, pressing contemporary issues, and problems requiring practical solutions increasingly found expression in television programmes within a relatively short period.

The development of Karakalpak Radio was another important aspect of the transformation of the regional media system during independence. Since the early years of independence, the daily broadcasting volume of Karakalpak Radio has increased considerably. Before 1991, the total daily broadcasting time amounted to approximately three and a half hours. From 1993 onwards, this figure increased to six and a half hours per day. This expansion placed greater responsibilities on the radio station's creative staff and required improvements in programme planning, production, and broadcasting practices.

The creative team of Karakalpak Radio carried out a range of activities aimed at communicating and explaining the policies implemented by Islam Karimov, the first President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Government of Uzbekistan, the Supreme Council of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, and the Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan. Their work included informing the public about government decisions, promoting their implementation, and explaining the objectives of ongoing reforms.

Radio programmes also addressed the deepening of economic reforms, the development of market relations, and the implementation of legislation intended to resolve social problems. Through these broadcasts, radio served as a channel for communicating public policies and discussing issues affecting everyday life. In subsequent years, Karakalpak Radio improved its organizational and creative activities and introduced a number of new programmes. For example, the Social and Political Editorial Department produced more than twenty programmes addressing contemporary issues, emerging social problems, and the implementation of newly adopted laws. Particular attention was given to monitoring the implementation of legislation and discussing matters of public concern.

Programmes such as *Qaraqalpaqstan Radio Programme*, *Man and Law*, *A Healthy Generation Is the Future of Our Nation*, *Concerns of Everyday Life*, *On Saturday Waves*, and *Nature and Humanity* discussed issues relevant to contemporary society and problems encountered in people's daily lives.

Other radio programmes were also developed in response to current social issues. Letters and complaints received from listeners served as an important basis for preparing broadcasts that reflected the concerns and interests of the public. This approach helped strengthen communication between the radio station and its audience.

Radio presenters also made a significant contribution to the development of broadcasting. Their professional skills, expressive delivery, and creative work played an important role in shaping the identity and quality of radio programmes.

Several directors and other creative professionals made notable contributions to Karakalpak Radio during the independence period. Ulbosyn Qartbayeva and Ziyada Qurbaniyazova presented lunchtime programmes, including the *Agriculture* programme, and worked on musical compositions.

Mirzabay Otemisov wrote scripts for the satirical programme *Tikenek*. Kaljan Dosjanova, a director in the Social and Political Editorial Department, directed live broadcasts in later years and contributed significantly to the production of radio programmes, radio plays, and news reports on a wide range of subjects.

Qatiysha Otewliyeva worked as a director in the music and conversation editorial department and also participated in radio productions. Aynadur Otewliyev worked as both a playwright and a director. She was also one of the founders of the ensemble associated with the *Bes Qala* Kazakh Language Centre in the theatre sector. Together with this ensemble, she produced radio dramas and musical compositions for radio audiences.

Elmurat Esemuratov joined the radio station as an editor in 1991 and edited numerous programmes. Beginning in 1993, he also worked as a director and developed his own broadcasts. His programmes covered sports news from around the world and the republic, highlighting the participation of national athletes in international competitions and their achievements in representing the country's flag on the world stage.

References

1. Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PP-3678, dated 8 November 2005, concerning measures for the reform and development of independent television and radio channels. Available at: https://lex.uz/docs/-902646
2. Bilim Publishing House. (2002). p. 18.

Rezyume. O‘tgan yillar davomida Qoraqalpoq radiosi ko‘plab muhim voqealarni, yutuqlarni va o‘zgarishlarni boshdan kechirdi. Uning rivojlanishi qoraqalpoq xalqining madaniy, ijtimoiy va ma’naviy hayoti bilan chambarchas bog‘liq bo‘lgan. Radio milliy madaniy merosni, jumladan, an’anaviy musiqa asarlari va mahalliy bastakorlar tomonidan yaratilgan asarlarni saqlash hamda uzatishning eng qimmatli vositalaridan biri bo‘lib qolmoqda. Mustaqillik davrida Qoraqalpoq radiosining tashkiliy tuzilmasi, eshittirish quvvati, texnik bazasi va ijodiy faoliyatida jiddiy o‘zgarishlar yuz berdi. Radioeshittirish soatlarining kengayishi, zamonaviy ovoz yozish uskunalarining joriy etilishi, yangi dasturlarning yo‘lga qo‘yilishi va jonli efirning rivojlanishi radioeshittirish xizmatlarini modernizatsiya qilishga yordam berdi.

Резюме. За эти годы Каракалпакское радио пережило множество значимых событий, достижений и преобразований. Его развитие было тесно связано с культурной, социальной и духовной жизнью каракалпакского народа. Радио остается одним из самых ценных средств сохранения и передачи национального культурного наследия, включая традиционные музыкальные произведения и композиции, созданные местными композиторами. В период независимости Каракалпакское радио претерпело существенные изменения в своей организационной структуре, пропускной способности, технической инфраструктуре и творческой деятельности. Расширение часов вещания, внедрение современной звукозаписывающей техники, налаживание новых программ и развитие прямого эфира способствовали модернизации радиовещания.

Kalit so‘zlar: Qoraqalpoq radiosi, mustaqillik, radioeshittirish, radiojurnalistika, OAVni rivojlantirish, radiodasturlar, raqamli texnologiyalar, milliy madaniyat, radioeshittirish texnologiyasi, madaniy meros.

Ключевые слова: Каракалпакское радио, независимость, вещание, радиожурналистика, развитие СМИ, радиопрограммы, цифровые технологии, национальная культура, технологии вещания, культурное наследие.