

DANCES OF THE FERGANA VALLEY (TANOVAR)

The roots of Fergana dance need to be looked for in “Kattaoyin” (“Big dance”) and “Kichikoyin” (“Small dance”). “Kattaoyin” consists of movements suitable to more than 280 drum styles and it was mainly performed in big arenas. “Kichikoyin” was performed in households. People danced under the national songs (yallas and lapars) with accompaniment of national musical instruments.

Women wear dresses made of khon atlas and beqasam fabrics (types of local fabric) or more often — dresses made of Chinese silk of white colour with a collar; elegant sleeveless jackets, brocade waistcoats, silk trousers, kerchiefs, headscarfs, (parang, durra), shoes on small hills and various adornments and accessories. Men dance by wearing camisole made from coarse calico and silk, light robes, wide trousers, waist belts, beautiful skullcaps and colorful boots.

“Tanovar” has a significant place in Fergana-Tashkent dance style. “Tanovar” is performed by women only and tenderness, sadness, abstemiousness, modesty connected with local people’s character and mentality found their reflection in this art of dancing.

“Tanovar” (in Persian language – “brave”, “strong”) — means “tan” – “body”, or “soul” and “ovar” — “delight”, and can be read as “a delight of soul”. “Tanovar” was created based on people’s song and classical music and people’s classical poetry and was become widespread as a dancing style as well. Dance movements express Uzbek girl’s meeting with her beloved one and their getting together.

People’s sayings versions of Tanovar, such as “Qorasoch”, “Sumbula” (folk texts) and “Endi

sendek” (poems of Mukimi) are performed in the accompaniment of dutar. Subsequently its directions such as classical song, *katta ashula* (great song) and instrumental directions were formed. Local versions (more than 20) such as “Tanovar”, “Adolat tanovari”, “Yovvoyi tanovar”, “Farghonacha Shahnoz”, “Qoqoncha tanovar”, “Marghilon tanovari”, “Namangan tanovari”, “Yangi Tanovar”, etc.), song groups, such as “Tanovar I–V”, composed songs, such as “Ulkunjonon” (M. Mirzayev), “Yovvoyiy Tanovar” (J. Sultonov), “Tanovarni Tinglab” (A. Ismoilov); instrumental directions, such as “Qoqon Tanovari” (dutar), “Turghun tanovari” (dutar, tambour and sato), “Gulbahor and Tanovar” (chang) were performed and became widespread among people.

“Tanovar” is also a well-known Uzbek dance, which was performed onstage for the first time by Mukarram Turghunboeva in the 40s of the XX century and which became a symbol of woman’s dance in the dancing art of Uzbekistan.



