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Makoms of the Eastern Peoples

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A B S T R A C T
This article provides information about the maqom art of Eastern peoples. Maqoms are an integral part of Eastern culture, reflecting the musical traditions of each nation. The maqom systems of various peoples possess unique characteristics, and their musical heritage has made a significant contribution to world culture. This article extensively explores the origins, development, similarities, and distinctiveness of the maqoms of different peoples.

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Over millennia, the musical culture of Eastern peoples has accumulated a vast heritage. One of the significant components of this culture is the maqom art, which reflects not only music but also the historical, cultural, and philosophical views of the peoples. Each nation's maqoms distinguish them through their unique musical systems. At the same time, there are common features among the maqoms of various peoples, demonstrating the universality and international significance of music. This article provides a comprehensive study of the maqom art of Eastern peoples, its diversity, and development.

Origins and Historical Roots of Maqoms: The maqom art has held a significant place in the musical culture of Eastern peoples since ancient times. The maqoms of each nation are closely linked to their historical conditions and culture.

Central Asian Maqoms: The Shashmaqom art of the Uzbek and Tajik peoples stands out with its philosophical content and complex structure. Developed in Bukhara and Samarkand, these maqoms reflect not only the performance aspects of music but also its theoretical aspects.

Uzbek and Tajik Maqoms – Shashmaqom: Shashmaqom reflects the spiritual wealth of the people through its poetic content, rhythmic characteristics, frame drum techniques, and melodiousness. These maqoms are closely related to numerous literary and music tradition

- In ancient times, Uzbek maqoms were primarily transmitted orally from generation to generation. They are expressed through customs, epics, and stories.
- In the middle Ages, Uzbek maqoms developed in cities like Bukhara and Samarkand. During this period, many famous poets and musicians emerged, such as Alisher Navoi and Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur. Maqoms harmonized with literature and art, leading to the emergence of unique forms.
- By the 20th century, numerous efforts were made to preserve and develop Uzbek maqoms. They were enriched with various styles and genres.

History of Tajik Maqom:

- In ancient times, Tajik maqoms were also transmitted orally and expressed through folk traditions and epics.

- In the middle Ages, Tajik maqoms primarily developed in regions like Shahrisabz and Dushanbe, where the fusion of poetry and music became a part of Central Asian culture.
- By the 20th century, Tajik maqoms continued folk traditions and underwent continuous development, incorporating influences from Uzbek maqoms and giving rise to new musical forms.

Uzbek and Tajik maqoms share many similarities due to their development in the same cultural region. Both musical traditions utilized folk epics and traditions.

Persian Maqoms: The Persian people's dastgah art is considered an ancient example of Eastern musical heritage. This maqom system is renowned for its rich musical scales and melodiousness, expressed through unique melodies and styles.

History of Persian Maqoms:

- In ancient times, the history of Persian maqoms dates back to pre-Christian eras. During the ancient Persian civilization, the primary forms and rhythms of music were simple and natural.
- The Sassanid period (3rd to 7th centuries) saw the renewal of musical culture, with maqoms becoming more complex and systematic, and professional musicians becoming widespread.
- The Islamic period introduced new influences into Persian music culture. During this era, maqoms were enriched with new melodic and rhythmic elements, and musical theories developed, refining existing maqoms.
- The Safavid period (16th to 18th centuries) witnessed the flourishing of Persian maqoms, with music and art being supported by the government, and many famous musicians and poets emerging.
- In the modern era (20th century), Persian maqoms underwent various changes and continue to hold a place in global music.

Arab Maqoms: The Arab people's maqamat system is one of the most refined and ancient forms of Eastern music. They encompass various rhythmic structures and melodies.

Development of Arab Maqoms:

- In the early period, the foundation of Arab maqoms was based on ancient Arab music. During this time, the music of desert and rural cultures had unique melodies and rhythms.
- The Islamic period brought changes to the characteristics of music, with the Qur'an and Hadiths defining how music should be expressed. During this era, maqoms and their classification began.
- The Golden Age (8th to 10th centuries) saw the continued growth of Arab music, with strengthened social connections among poets, musicians, and scholars. During this period, the first theories based on the maqom system were developed.
- In the phase of maqom system formation (13th century), maqoms were organized into a defined system. Arab maqoms consisted of several main maqoms (e.g., Rast, Saba, Hijaz) and their various alterations.
- In the fusion of ancient and modern music (19th and 20th centuries), Arab maqoms merged with contemporary musical directions, and information about maqoms and Naks (theatrical music) methods expanded.
- Today, Arab maqoms continue to convey emotions to listeners worldwide.

Turkish Maqoms: The Turkish people's maqom system is a harmonious blend of Eastern and Western musical heritage. These maqoms stand out with their complex compositions and dynamic rhythms.

History of Turkish Maqoms:

- In ancient times, the foundations of Turkish maqoms were based on ancient tribal music and traditions, expressed through oral stories, epics, and folk songs.
- In the Middle Ages, maqoms further developed, blending with the cultures of various peoples, and were strongly influenced by Persian and Arab music.

- In the 16th century, during the Ottoman Empire period, maqoms primarily developed as court music, becoming a part of classical music, and many famous musicians and poets emerged.
- By the 19th and early 20th centuries, with the development of modern Turkish music, maqoms began to differ from traditional music, giving rise to new genres and styles.
- Today, Turkish maqoms are being renewed and preserved by new-generation musicians as part of traditional music.

Interrelations and Commonalities of Maqoms: The maqoms of Eastern peoples influence each other, leading to the harmonization of musical cultures over time. Historical connections enriched the musical cultures of Eastern peoples through the Silk Road, resulting in the formation of new maqom systems.

Contemporary Interpretations and Role of Maqoms: Today, maqom art is not only preserved but also developed through modern musical performance and technological advancements.

Conclusion: The maqom art of Eastern peoples is a vivid example of their cultural richness and musical heritage. Maqoms reflect the uniqueness of various peoples and unite their cultural traditions. Today, maqom art is being promoted internationally and plays a significant role

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