

Views on the Epochs in Karakalpak Documentaries

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Summary. The “Karakalpak Film” studio, which has a half-century history, has produced and screened films of various genres. Every produced film product reflects the image of that era. It propagates the ideology of that era. The most important thing is that if there were scientific researches on the role of documentaries and their specific features distinguishing them from other media outlets it would be a new step in the development of modern Karakalpak cinema.

The article provides a brief history of documentary film in Karakalpakstan and an overview of the shortcomings, as well as the success of the desired documentaries in recent years.

Key words: documentary film, newsreel “Karakalpakstan”, film operator, film director, film portrait, film journalism, journalistic scene

Karakalpak documentary film has a history of more than 50 years. If we take a look at the original history of the documentary film studio in Karakalpakstan, its name and structure have been changed.

According to the Order of the State Committee for Cinematography of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (“GoskinoUzSSR”) dated to February 19, 1970 No. 45, the Karakalpak Branch of the Uzbek Scientific-Mass and Documentary Film Studio was established in Nukus and began its work in April 1970.

In the early years, the film studio translated into Karakalpak4 (four) films a year, shot 4 issues of the news reel “Karakalpakstan” and 2 documentaries. The first director of the film studio was a well-known writer of the Karakalpak people Jolmurza Aymurzaev, the first producer was Satbay Allanazarov, the cinematographer was Nagmet Daukarayev.

The first cinematographer of Karakalpakstan Nagmet Daukaraev in his short films filmed the social and political life of the people of our Republic.

Over the years, the “Karakalpak Film” film studio has produced and screened films of various genres. Every film product reflects the image of that era.

“The progressive development of documentary film, its types and genres are of great importance in the implementation of propaganda, cultural and educational work. No other sphere can propagate as a film, so the power of cinema has a profound effect.”¹

Documentary films produced by the “Karakalpak Film” film studio provide information on the epochs, political views and people’s lives.

“Aulad”, shot in 2003 (scriptwriter M.Nyzanov, producer T.Kalimbetov), “El Abad” (scriptwriter M.Nyzanov, producer D.Abdimuratov), “Tikleniou” (scriptwriter K.Davleturmatov, producer D.Abdimuratov) documentary films show the original changes in Karakalpakstan from the point of view of that time. The films include political and social elements.

Human life, character, and the destiny of human beings have always been in the focus of documentary filmmakers. That is why we can see that film-portraits are one of the most popular and leading genres of screen journalism.

In the history of the development of Karakalpak documentary cinema in recent years, a number of films dedicated to famous people have been made. Here we can watch films about celebrities in the issues of the newsreel “Karakalpakstan”. In 2001, the film “Monologue” by screenwriter and director T.Kalimbetov was dedicated to the creative life of the famous ballerina Zamira Davletmuradova.

A portrait film can be a movie or a video about only one person, that is, a real person. At the same time, due to the creative efforts of the creators of documentaries, the analysis of the fate of the person who was taken as

¹Cinema: an encyclopedic dictionary. Chief Editor S.I.Yutkevich. – M.: Soviet Encyclopedia, 1986. - pp. 129-130.

an object in a completely different direction forces the spectator to think. This is one of the most important aspects of film journalism.

The “Karakalpak Film” studio has a number of successful documentaries by Toreniyaz Kalimbetov, a well-known film director who has worked for many years and has participated in world festivals.

The film is the result of three creators: a screenwriter, a director and a cameraman. And sometimes we see films made by one person. The scriptwriter and director of one of the documentaries in the 2009 issue of “Karakalpakstan” newsreel was the sole creator, and the film had shortcomings due to the lack of “three units”. In the narrative text of the documentary the connection of words is low. There are lots of repetitions and it is very boring. The film tells the story of the protagonist, a well-known person. During the film, he goes to several schools. The 80th anniversary of the Berdakh Academic Musical Theater was celebrated in a solemn atmosphere, and these plots have also been presented. The actions of the protagonist of the film are narrated in the form of a text. Here is an excerpt from the text:

“He came to Nukus State Pedagogical Institute to meet with young people. The students met him with flowers”, he describes each activity of the personage. Also in the film it is clearly shown how he is meeting with students. Also, at the 80th anniversary of the theater, the names and titles of all those who spoke at the event were mentioned. The information about speakers is also provided in the form of messages.

There is no point in introducing his name as the mayor of the district mentioned in the documentary. It is tedious to describe every movement in the text while the frame is speaking. In addition to that the style of the language structure does not meet the requirements. In fact the life of the protagonist of the film is an example for young people. However, in the film, the impact of the protagonist’s exemplary life on a person is not so noticeable.

There are a lot of films in the Karakalpak national cinema which are shown in world screens. However, they are realized only in festivals. Though the “Karakalpak Film” studio has produced a number of films, they are not yet available to foreigners.

It is worth noting that it would be expedient to develop versions of the documentaries translated into English, which are in demand today. For example, a number of our historical documentaries and documentaries that show the development of our country today are limited to our own screens.

If conclusions will be drawn from short comings in time, the film, which is the result of so much creative work, will be able to spread not only on our screens, but all over the world.

“The emergence of documentaries is, of course, closely linked to the emergence of cinema. The first film (1895) was made by the Lumiere brothers, the inventors of the film. The spectacle is not limited to animated paintings. The most important thing is that the viewers have the opportunity to see the events, even if they are not witnesses. Cinema steals time and space, creates people and events, and controls time and space indiscriminately. It’s a good idea that it could be diverted.”²

By the two-part documentary film “The diligent people” (scriptwriter and director T.Kalimbetov, cameraman R.Galiev), the film-goers will witness what the common villagers are doing to improve the ecological situation. The film was shot in 2005. The film tells about the problem of the Aral Sea and the selfless people who work to save it from drought. They don’t have any equipment, they come from far away and plant saxaul. The film begins with the recitation of the Koran by a man who boarded a ship stranded in the sand and prayed to God saying “Give water to my Aral”. In fact, during the years when the film was made, there was no technology, only dedicated people sought ways to avoid drought to improve the living conditions of their fellow villagers. The film shows real life.

By watching this documentary, the audience will be able to see the difficult ecological situation of the Karakalpak people and living conditions.

The film is silent and tells the story of two characters. It looks as if the earth is covered with white snow. Two men are planting saxaul in the salty air. Then he gets tired, leans on the sand and dreams.

This film is one of the most successful films, which has won awards at international festivals.

The documentary films made by the “Karakalpak Film” studio have not been fully studied, and it is an important requirement to study them today.

²Cinema: an encyclopedic dictionary. Chief Editor S.I.Yutkevich. – M.: Soviet Encyclopedia, 1986. - pp. 128-130.

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