



The History of the Formation of the Genre of Journalistic Investigation on Uzbek Television

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Abstract

Despite the fact that this genre has been developing in the media sphere of Uzbekistan for many years, there has been a significant slowdown in its development due to shortcomings made in the period before and after independence. Thanks to the qualifications left over from the views and experience of scientists, essence and role of the genre of investigative journalism have not been lost. This article provides sufficient information about the place, position, trends in the development of investigative journalism in the field of television, about the contribution of journalists and investors (investigators) to the development of the genre and its aspects, about permissible shortcomings and achievements.

Keywords: *Investigator; Cassation Protest; Photo Accusation; Caricature; Satire; Non-Specialized; Problematic Report; Censorship*

Introduction

While articles about investigative journalism appeared in the Uzbek press in the 1980s and 1990s, there are suggestions on television that they developed during the same period. In particular, “Journalistic investigations in the Uzbek press were formed and developed mainly in the eighties of the last century and the first 10–15 years of independence. Interesting requests from each other were published in print and electronic media. In this regard, the newspaper “Literature and Art of Uzbekistan” and the editorial office of the Uzbek television “Akhborot” attracted the attention of a wide range of readers and viewers. At that time, the circulation of the newspaper “Literature and Art of Uzbekistan” in our country with a population of 20–25 million people reached 700–800 thousand copies. “People will stop all work on the information program that starts at 20:30” [1].

In particular, is “Yazex” a reliable partner in the form of such investigative journalism? In an analytical report titled “Cooperation established on the basis of an illegally forged document that violates equality of interests”, the author fully disclosed. According to the report, a contract was signed between

the Turkish company “Yazex” and “Pakhtasanoatsotish” in the Fergana region. According to the terms of the agreement, it is necessary to collect the surplus of cotton specified in the agreement in the Fergana regions and sell a total of 14.5 thousand tons of raw fiber to the partner.

The Main Part

The Yazeks paid for the purchase of spinning, weaving and clothing industries. Previously, the topic was covered by the author as an important project. Soon the author receives an unknown document. In fact, one of the Pakhtasanoatsotish leaders handed the document over to the journalist, saying that there were some interests in the document and that he could not comment on it.

The journalist reads the contract, program, shipping lists, compares the figures and calculates the benefits and harms. Among them is an illegal document indicating that the Ferghana Pakhtasanoatsotish Association is obliged to pay insurance costs for the delivery of cotton fiber to the country indicated by the Yazeks. This does not comply with the terms of the contract and the interests of the state.

“Finally, the topic will be included in the agenda. The journalist who appeared on the air opens his topic with the following phrases: So, after the events that you just saw, can we say that Yazex is a reliable partner? What are the explanations of those who flagrantly violated the terms of the treaty?” [1].

After this film, there will also be accusations and threats against the journalist. But the journalist gets out of these difficulties only with a document in his hands. Following the incident, the Yazex leadership fled. They are said to have fraudulently imported 64,000 tons of fiber from various provinces. The company turns out to be a fake. “It happened in late 1995 or early 1996,” he said. So far, no one has been able to send an ideal solution, which is not strange. The people of Ferghana have invested a lot of money” [2].

“For the first time in the history of Uzbek television, the transmission of television materials is associated with the creation of the Uzbek television studio on November 5, 1956” [3]. “The advent of portable television stations in 1958 made it possible to work outside the studio” [4].

This indicates that the television created the conditions for filming and broadcasting the first problematic reports in the world. Anvar Karimov said: “Reports of problems are at the highest level among reports. It is a sophisticated form of documentary television. The studio’s creative team began producing problematic reports in 1960.

The first TV reports were prepared from workshops, factories “Tashkentkabel”, “Tashkentselmash”, as well as sewing workshops “Yulduz”. By 1965, with request of the government, a number of genres of satire were developed and aired, including openness, critical material, including caricatures, caricatures, photographs, critical films, television series.

Initially, the materials of this genre were firstly published in 1957 in the Mushtum magazine. It was during these years that satirical and humorous genre programs began to appear on television. The show “Satire and Humor” is one of them. Aired in June 1962, the Fire Satire show was based on about 40 cartoons. “In front of the audience, the martial arts of Soviet artists were demonstrated, denouncing fascism and slavery” [4].

Shortly thereafter, in 1965, the Uzbek and Russian versions of “Human and the Law” and “People’s Control in Action” began to air. Identifies socio-political and legislative shortcomings in society and seeks solutions.

According to the editor-in-chief of educational and information programs of the Uzbek TV and radio channel Jura Boborakhmat, the program “Man and Law” was prepared by Shukhrat Kasymov in 1986–1987. In addition, on behalf of the editor-in-chief Muattar Askarova, Mamura Muhammadjanova and Khabibullo Olimjanov, Yura Boborakhmatlar. The program was broadcast as clips or as a whole show. After independence, the program was renamed life and law.

Results and Discussion

In the first years of independence of Uzbekistan in the field of television, cases of screening of genre television products, cutting out some evidence, sources or removing the program altogether began to be observed. In addition, there were cases when the information was broadcast incompletely or its meaning was changed.

Such cases were observed not only on television, but also in the press. Mukhammadjon Obidov assesses this period as follows: “Although censorship in Uzbekistan has been abolished, since 2005 internal censorship of high-ranking officials and chief editors has sharply increased. The genre of critical, analytical articles and journalistic investigations in the press was gradually reduced. During these years, when journalists began to beware of leaders in publishing articles on sensitive topics, they themselves began to avoid problems” [1].

On this occasion, the first President Islam Karimov expressed the following opinion: “Why are newspapers are so passive, “silent”, as if “peace is blooming” everywhere? Why don’t we write sharp feuilletons in our press? Why are incompetent businessmen and corrupt employees not exposed? After all, if they see their crooked faces in the press and on TV, and they are hated by the people, is this not an example?” [6].

Especially, the free and rapid development of the media, information ensure the efficient operation of the industry the development of nearby legislation spurred the development of this genre. Among them are the media “Principles and guarantees of freedom of information”, “On the protection of journalism”, “On guarantees and freedom of information”, “Copyright and related rights”, “Dissemination of legal information and other examples are the laws”, “On ensuring the use” and “On informatization” [7].

For the first time on a Tashkent TV channel, the program “Within the framework of the law”, which began broadcasting in 2007, prepared various critical and analytical materials in the context of illegal actions, problems and measures taken against them.

Also, since 2012, at the request of citizens “Planet camera”, now “Murosai madora”, “Open dialogue”, “Quality control”, “On the roads of the capital” and “Through the eyes of a journalist” to the Mahalla TV channel, designed to study social problems and illegal situations, animated videos have been prepared. In addition, among the most popular programs on television are the program of the Uzbek TV and radio channel “Justice”, which raises issues of social and administrative crimes in society, and the program “Priority of law” in 2016, aimed at preventing juvenile delinquency and protecting their rights. products in a row.

While all these TV programs explore cases of mayhem in society, full-fledged investigative journalism does not correspond to the essence of the genre. The October 23, 2018 episode of Justice shows signs of investigative journalism. He called for a journalistic investigation against Urishali Shodmonov from Gulistan in connection with the unfair decisions taken by the investigative and judicial authorities over the past 15 years.

Here a question may arise. Do all journalists have the right to conduct investigative journalism on a topic that seems unfounded but questionable?

Typically, letters requesting investigative journalism on Uzbek state television are provided by the editor-in-chief, and are reviewed and broadcast by board members or the editor-in-chief after the journalist has done in-depth research on the topic and prepared the program. In the letter of appeal, first of all, it will be indicated whether there are elements of injustice or written for selfish purposes, as well as an instruction to the TV channel to objectively and correctly study on the advice and guidance of a lawyer.

Of course, this takes into account the potential, experience and worldview of a journalist. The reason is that any problem with the execution of the letter affects the reputation of the TV channel.

“Independent, freelance (bloggers, retired or non-working journalists) journalists often deal with the perception of illegal activity without any complaints and are responsible for the accuracy of their materials” [5].

According to the program, on March 6, 2002, Urishali Shodmonov will be transferred from the post of chairman of Khovosdon to the post of chairman of Akoltindon JSC. And at the new workplace, there are 14 thousand tons of grain in the state reserve only on paper, but in reality there is nothing in the granary. Reporting a shortage to the appropriate organizations will not lead. All efforts and means will be directed to close Orishali Shodmonov’s mouth and silence him.

CEO of the Syrdaryadonmakhsulot production and joint-stock company are talking about Orishali Shomonov to cover the shortage of 4,774 tons of grain during his stay at Khovosdon. And he is accused under article 167 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation, i.e. embezzlement and plunder of state property.

Due to the lack of grounds and evidence in court, all charges are dropped. Soon, Urishali Shodmonov learned during the trial that he had been fired without his knowledge or consent. The author explains: “Here is a wedding for you. The victim Urishali Shodmonov 19 times applied to the civil court in civil proceedings with a request to be reinstated in his previous position only as a dismissed person by order of Okoltindon JSC.

Finally, on February 4, 2018, the prosecutor’s office of the Boyovut district of the Syrdarya region ordered the plaintiff Urishali Shodmonov to cancel illegal entries in the work book in relation to Uzdonmakhsulot JSC, Okoltindon JSC and the Saykhunabad district financial department, to continue activities, material and moral damage filed a cassation complaint to the ruling of the Boyovut Interdistrict Civil Court dated May 23, 2017” [8].

However, the case of Urishali Shodmonov unfolded and reached the Jizzakh regional court. Jamshid Kushilov, head of the Jizzakh regional prosecutor’s office, said: “I support the cassation protest. However, the Jizzakh regional court for civil cases refused to reinstate him at work, ignoring the protests of the Syrdarya and Jizzakh regional prosecutor’s offices.

In the interests of O. Shodmonov, the author informs Shukhrat Mustafaev, head of the Department of the Prosecutor General’s Office. He says: “This requires an investigation of the case, so that justice will prevail”. After that, the author will visit Uzdonmakhsulot JSC.

According to Article 111 of the Labor Code, in the event of illegal termination of an employment contract or transfer of an employee to another job, the employer must be reinstated by the court or other

competent authority if the court decides to reinstate him Orishali Shodmonov said that he could be hired if he would choose to do so.

In this edition of the program, it turned out that a journalistic investigation was carried out on the identified violations, evidence was collected, compared and studied. However, it is noted that the issue has become more complicated and again fell into the hands of the prosecutor's office and will be considered again. This indicates that the applicant's case was not fully resolved. Again, the question arises, is the author's goal to bring to the end of the story the result based on the genre, or to cover the story as it is?

“A journalist has to cover the whole story depending on the genre, but the result is not always as expected,” he said. Such cases, of course, are connected with the use of “familiar” invisible forces by officials, their actions on the principle of “let the closed pot remain closed” [5].

On this occasion, Nazira Toshpulatova stated: “The purpose of a journalistic investigation is, first of all, the core that caused the negative event, its causes, is hidden is determined by finding the secret and ultimately achieving a clear result” [9].

The peculiarity of this genre is that journalists working in it, as well as researchers, must conduct investigations freely and without time limits. “A journalist who interrogates a journalist is different for a long time,” he said. can't work. Because in this process the journalist is the first what attracts local curiosity and the result is unexpected likely to happen” [9].

According to Mukhammadjon Obidov, significant changes began in the media and on television in 2017. According to him, “Political reforms in the field of freedom of speech and press, television, radio, print media, first of all, after several appeals and critical remarks of the President of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev in the media, including dozens of topical issues in the genre of journalistic investigation. Reality, events and relationships that were still behind the scenes began to emerge [1].

We see this, first of all, in analytical and critical programs on various problematic topics, which are broadcast in the news programs of various state and private TV channels. In particular, “Akhborot 24” of the TV channel “Uzbekiston 24”, “Yangi davr” of the TV and radio channel “Yoshlar”, “Poytakht” of the TV and radio channel “Tashkent”, as well as the information program “Zamon” of the TV channel “Sevimli”, “Bugun” Zo'r TV, “Uzreport TV” channel “Uzreport”, “Milliy TV”. The news programs of the Millar TV channel studied in detail the appeals of our compatriots, and there are a lot of TV products in the heading “journalistic requests”.

Not all materials of information programs in the heading “journalistic request” correspond to the essence of the genre. In the editorial office, such problems are usually studied for 1–2 days. It is difficult to convey to the audience the essence of the entire event in 2–3 minutes. It also depends on the time of placing the program on the network, the budget of the TV channel and the capabilities of the journalist.

The program “In the wake of the crime”, which has been broadcast on television and radio of Uzbekistan since 2002, has been investigating various injustices, lawlessness and violations of the law in cooperation with the Republican Prosecutor's Office and the Ministry of Internal Affairs for almost 21 years and regional branches. The October 15, 2019 episode of this show reveals details of the brutal death of Uzbek actress Nilufar Sultanova.

According to him, the editorial office of the television and radio channel “Uzbekistan” received a letter from Nazira Turatova from the Syrdarya. It says: “The purpose of my application is to participate in the trial of my daughter, my only child, Sultanova Nilufar, who was brutally murdered”. Based on the

letter, the author notifies the Tashkent City Criminal Court of his participation in the court session on the basis of a citizen's letter and applies to the city prosecutor's office to investigate the written appeals.

According to the certificates, "On January 6, 2018, the Yunusabad District Department of Internal Affairs will receive an application from citizen Nodira Akhmadkulova. In a statement, her niece Nilufar Sobirova stated that she would meet her friend on January 2, 2018 at approximately 12:30 p.m., left home in her Spark car and reported missing. During the investigation, it was established that Nilufar met with Pulatjon Turgunbaev for the last time" [10].

The positive aspects of the author's work with criminal organizations are:

- allows you to cover the topic without pressure and obstacles;
- it will be possible to cover the topic in a wide range and in full;
- there will be no problems with shooting videos, written appeals and photos due to illegal actions.

On the other hand:

- involvement of partner organizations in the coverage of the topic, i.e. the need to make changes to the topic raised by the journalist, or to delete some lines.
- usually such work demands long studying and checks. "It took the author 1 year and 9 months to fully disclose the above topic" [5].

Obstacles and circumstances, such as the length of a court sentence, a change in the course of events, or the denial of information provided by the defendant, may require months or even years of investigation.

The question arises, does not the study of an event over a long period of time lead to obsolescence of the material? No. The only reason left is to present the incident to the public on the basis of accurate, impartial and reliable sources. This is the difference between the genre of investigative journalism and other genres. No matter how long the investigation takes, it is important to report the event objectively and fairly. This requires carefulness from the journalist.

The author describes this event as follows. "The investigation team carefully studied all the information about Nilufar Sultanova, as well as pictures from surveillance cameras on the night of January 2–3 on the route Tashkent – Gulistan. Yes, as they say, the beauty will fall deeply in love. One by one, questions were asked with the numbers of young people stored in the memory of Nilufar's phone. Those who left SMS were involved in the investigation. However, according to the conclusion of the forensic medical examination 101, the death of the deceased Sultanova Nilufar occurred as a result of mechanical asphyxia caused by compression of the neck organs with a splint. The forensic medical examination of the body of Nilufar Sultanova also showed that before her death she had been stabbed in the right wrist and that her virginity had not been violated" [10].

It became known that Polat will meet with Nilufar on January 2 at around 16:00. He told him that he should take his friend Bobur Umarov to his home in Gazalkent and take Nilufar with him. They hit the road in Steele's Epica car. When the road is paved, Polat stops the car on a narrower section of the Tashkent–Gazalkent road. When Bobur, who was sitting in the back seat, tried to put a noose around Nilufar's neck, the girl felt it and tried to get out of the car and run away.

The girl is again forcibly taken into the car – the resisting Nilufar is stabbed in the area of the right wrist. "Boyfriend Nilufar looks at Polat and asks him for help. The young man, who pretended not to know anything, promised to take the girl to the hospital. Babur, who was sitting in the back seat, threw

a noose around Nilufar's neck, which was weakening as a result of blood loss. The helpless girl is unable to resist him. Her lover Polat is holding her hand", the source said.

According to the author Jora Boborakhmat, "with an unbiased coverage of the issue, there are cases when the accused and the victims try to distort various slanders or situations. In this episode of the program, Polat's father tried in various ways to distract his son from the topic, since he served in the Ministry of Internal Affairs. But only Nilufar Sultanova's text messages on her mobile phone showed that this was slander. The real goal of Polat, who pretended to be in love, was to pay for a rented car by Nilufar. In the end, he was left with nothing and ruined his life" [5].

The two accomplices then put the corpse in the trunk of the car and head back to where Nilufar Spark's car was left. The body is taken from Epic and placed in Spark's trunk. Spark is then taken to Steele's house. Around 11:30 pm on the same day, Nilufar's body, along with a knife, rope and other materials used in the crime, was thrown into the Damarik Canal, which flows through the Tashkent region. The body of Nilufar was discovered on January 12 in the part of Damaryk, which flows through the territory of Kuksaroy, Tashkent district, Tashkent region.

Needless to say, the above case and material is fully consistent with the essence of the genre. The author has studied the story in detail, with a deep approach to the topic, evidence and comparisons. The show has not been commented on. Only educational, spiritual stories and articles were used. This helps viewers to draw conclusions for themselves in a short period of time, "contribute to the story" and point them in the right direction. But today it is recommended not to use various quotes and accusatory words in critical journalistic interviews.

The reason is that in many cases, after the justification of the protagonist, portrayed by the author in a negative light, there are objections from television or radio channels. To protect himself from such cases, the author refrains from closing the program on television and radio channels or changing the nature of the transmission, leaving the conclusion to the viewer or giving a clear assessment to someone using various narratives. This in itself limits the essence and development of the genre.

This topic has been studied in depth and the following conclusions have been drawn:

1. In the field of television, programs characteristic of the genre of journalistic investigation were broadcast in 1962 on the Uzbek television and radio channel of the Central Television. Prior to this, programs based on the Mushtum magazine since 1957 raised sharp questions in the genre of humor and satire. Problem reports were also prepared in information programs.
2. At the fastest pace of the investigative journalism genre underdeveloped, internal censorship in editorial offices, leader Personnel restrictions are still cited as the reason, as well as the fact that journalists do not have a firm point of view.
3. The genre of investigative journalism plays a key role in preventing violations, injustices and similar illegal actions in the state and society by exposing them.
4. Not all so-called journalistic investigations on television can be named by genre. It is inappropriate to give the topics of this genre to both non-specialists and inexperienced journalists. In addition to knowledge and skills, investigative journalism requires professional skill and creativity from the editor.
5. Over time, modern views, sequences of ideas, knowledge and points of view are constantly updated. In turn, legal documents are being updated, and in practice the essence and content of genres is expanding even more. Therefore, it is important to constantly improve the skills of journalists in broadening the horizons of journalists, raising the level of opportunities and preparing materials in accordance with modern requirements.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Based on the conclusions made, the following proposals should be made to improve the quality of television materials in the genre of investigative journalism on Uzbek television.

1. First of all, the development of television technologies for investigative journalism and the retraining of journalists specializing in this genre. Broadcasting of various television products on problematic, critical and journalistic television materials (films, reports, programs, photos) with the correct name under the title. It is expedient to work on the formation of a new thinking among the leadership and journalists.
2. Formation of a separate scientific and educational department for television and the formation of various scientific works on the development and formation of television, as well as television genres. Maintaining a large library of scientific dissertations with him.
3. Creation of special funds for the development of the genre of investigative journalism, encouragement of qualified personnel and protection of the law. This creates the basis for the development of the genre and the constant search by each specialized journalist for himself and the expansion of the scope of new creativity.
4. Pressure from the authorities to oppose or criticize a journalistic investigation legal formation of protection against. Do not allow outside interference in the work of television and products.
5. The study of foreign experience in order to achieve the efficiency of journalistic investigation and adapt it to the criteria of domestic journalism.

Today, a lot of work is being done in the field of media, more precisely, on the structure, content of programs in the genre of journalistic investigation, but there are a lot of works should be done. However, it should be born in mind that, firstly, if there are no additional proposals about the identity of the journalist and his rights, the variety of television materials on journalistic investigations on television will not be visible. This requires, first of all, the activity of the journalist himself and organizations related to his field, as well as senior officials.

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