

Karnay making

The *karnay* is a long trumpet made of copper or bronze. It consists of the following parts: mouthpiece (*dahana*), the middle part (*torsak*), middle joining tube (*nil*), central air part (*miyonajo*), lower part of the end-piece (*kaba*), faucet (*qubba*) decorative piece (*jiyaki oroishi*). *Karnay* is 190-210 cm long with the central and middle pipe having 3,3 cm diameter and weights 1 kg. For example, mouthpiece and middle joining part is 85-90 cm, central air part 55 cm and lower end piece including faucet 57-63 cm long.

Karnay is made from a bronze sheet where all constitutive parts are first drawn on the sheet by incision, then these are cut, assembled and brazed together. Each part of *karnay* is assembled separately and then joined together. After the assembling process the instrument will be thoroughly cleaned by various safe acids to give it polish, shine and remove any roughness it got during the assembling process. Afterwards, it is tested by the chief master to ensure the sound and workmanship quality.

The craft of *karnay* making was widespread in major cities of Central Asia, but from the



second part of the 20th century it has gradually demised. In contemporary Tajikistan there is one master in Istaravshan region, Mirzo Mansurov who still holds the skill of making of at least 8 variety of *karnays*, such as *kajkarnay*, *shikasta*, *govdum* etc.

Playing *karnay* has become popular in wedding and alike ceremonies in Tajikistan.

