

RESTORATION OF THE NATIONAL CULTURE AND HISTORICAL  
HERITAGE OF UZBEKISTAN

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ABSTRACT	KEYWORDS
After the independence of Uzbekistan, several reforms were carried out to restore our national spiritual and cultural heritage in our country. This article focuses on the analysis of the issues on the development of the spiritual and cultural sphere carried out in Uzbekistan during the years of independence and research on the intensification of cooperation relations with UNESCO.	Republic of Uzbekistan, UNESCO, Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva, cultural monuments, ancient cities.

Introduction

While cultural monuments give a sense of pride in their historical past to one Taman, to each of our countrymen, the second Taman shows the need for us to responsibly approach the preservation of these monuments as eyebrows. On the eve of the independence of Uzbekistan, it was known that the restoration of cultural heritage and historical reality, the development of national customs and traditions was an objective necessity. After Independence, Uzbekistan, as a sovereign state, further strengthened its independence by implementing a process of spiritual renewal in socio-political life.

Uzbekistan is considered a worthy contribution to the world economy with its ancient history and culture of statehood. In turn, it is also asking for its proposals and initiatives in this direction earlier. Uzbekistan is a land with a rich ancient culture, national values and historical heritage. As early as the first years of independence, the restoration, preservation of national culture and historical heritage, national values, the opportunity to enjoy them by the world public, and the entire transmission to future generations were brought to the level of Public Policy.

President of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyayev also expressed views on these issues “including”...preserving, studying and leaving historical heritage from generation to generation is one of the most important priorities of our state policy ...”<sup>1</sup> that it is.

Since the first years of independence, a national legislative system for the protection of cultural and historical monuments has also been created in our country, and measures have been carried out to integrate into international legal norms. Uzbekistan 1993 UNESCO ‘on the protection of universal cultural and natural heritage’(1972)<sup>2</sup>, 1996 "on the protection of cultural property in the face of armed

<sup>1</sup> Mirziyoyev Sh.M. “ Tinchlik, ma’rifat va bunyodkorlik yo’lida hamkorlik.” Islom hamkorlik tashkiloti Tashqi ishlar vazirlari kengashi 43-sessiyasining ochilish marosimidagi nutq // Xalq so’zi. – 2016. – 19 okt.

<sup>2</sup> Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage. Adopted by the General Conference at its seventeenth session Paris, 16 November 1972. - Paris. P. 16

conflict" (1954<sup>3</sup>, In 1997, "to ban the illegal importation and exit of cultural heritage assets, the transfer of title to them".<sup>4</sup> has ratified conventions such as the gi.

On December 3, 1993, B.Lane, E.D.Erico, R.Luke, I.Vassalo, M.Representatives of UNDP, UNESCO and WTO within Erdik visited Uzbekistan for the first time<sup>5</sup>, got acquainted with the work on the protection, repair, use of cultural monuments, development of Tourism, made their proposals for cooperation in these areas. 22 historical monuments in Uzbekistan in June 1996 to include historical and cultural monuments in the regions of the Republic in the Unesco list of " world historical monuments<sup>6</sup>, In August 1999, there were 3 historical-cultural monuments in Andijan region, 23 in Bukhara Region, 10 in Kashkadarya Region, 6 in Namangan Region, 4 in Navoi Region, 16 in Samarkand region, 6 in Surkhandarya Region, 5 in Tashkent Region, 5 in Fergana Region, 20 in Khorezm region and 3 in the Republic of Karakolpoghistan<sup>7</sup> it was sent to the UNESCO organization as a candidate. 30 of them were included in the list of 'world historical monuments' by UNESCO in different years as an initial candidate<sup>8</sup>.

Uzbekistan is a country rich in historical cities. Among the cities of high importance in each period of history and with its own ancient and rich history, we should highlight the city of Khiva. Considered a pearl of the Khorezm region, it is one of the cities of significance not only in history, but also today for Uzbekistan. Every year, thousands of tourists come to see the masterpieces of this city and get information about the rich history.

Khiva is historically known to have been an important centre linking China and Rome, two powerful countries located on the Great Silk Road in ancient times. In 1991, Ichan Castle, located in this city, was included in the World Cultural Heritage List, by a special decision of UNESCO International Organization.

In 1997, the 2500th anniversary of the cities of Khiva and Bukhara was celebrated internationally with the cooperation of UNESCO, in connection with which historical monuments in Khiva and Bukhara were restored. The restoration of historical and cultural monuments in these cities has been carried out in the amount of Rs 259.1 crore. 74 million of these were spent on restoration of historical monuments in Khiva and 185.1 million in Bukhara<sup>9</sup>.

In November 1999, at the 30th session of the UNESCO General Conference, it was decided to celebrate the 2,500 th anniversary of Termez internationally extensively. Based on this decision, on December 27, 1999, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted a resolution 'on preparation for the celebration of the 2500th anniversary of the city of Termez and its holding'. On the occasion of the 2,500 th anniversary of Termez, the city's Qirgizqal'a, Sultansodat complex, Kokildorota khanaqohi, Fayoztepa, Qoratepa archaeological monuments and Abu Isa at-Termiziy mausoleum underwent a renovation and restoration of Rs 270 crore<sup>10</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> The 1954 Hague Convention for the protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two(1954 and 1999) Protocols. - agree. 1954. 142.

<sup>4</sup> UNESCO Convention on the means of prohibiting and preventing te illicit import, export and transfer of ownership of cultural property. Adopted by the General Conference at its sixteenth session Paris, 14 November 1970. - Paris. P. 23.

<sup>5</sup> Abriev r. O'zbekiston mustaqilligi yillarida tarixiy-me'moriy obidalarni ta'mirlash va qayta tiklash jarayonlari (Zarafshon vohasi misolidada). - Toshkent: Fan. 2015. - B. 129.

<sup>6</sup> O'zR MDA M-7-fond, 1-ro'yxat, 369-yig'ma jild, 81-varaq.

<sup>7</sup> O'zR MDA M-7-fond, 1-ro'yxat, 343-yig'ma jild, 26-29 -varaq.

<sup>8</sup> [http://whc.unesco.org/en/staateparties/uz\(17.08.2012\)](http://whc.unesco.org/en/staateparties/uz(17.08.2012))

<sup>9</sup> Rasulov M. Mustaqillik yillarida O'zbekistonda tarixiy va madaniy yodgorliklarning muhofaza qilinishi va tiklanishi.// O'zbekiston tarixining dolzarb masalalari: asosiy yo'nalishlari va yondashuvlar. - Toshkent: 2009. - B. 309.

<sup>10</sup> [http://lex.uz/pages/getpage.aspx?lact\\_id=1592417&twolang=true](http://lex.uz/pages/getpage.aspx?lact_id=1592417&twolang=true) (14.07.2016)

2002-The 2700TH anniversary of the city of Shahrisabz, another ancient city in our country, was widely celebrated with the cooperation of UNESCO in 2002. Accordingly, on March 29, 2002, the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan ‘on preparation for the celebration of the 2700th anniversary of the city of Shahrisabz’ was adopted. To Appendix 3 of this decision<sup>11</sup> 980.5 crore for the repair and restoration of historical and cultural monuments in this city. Conservation, restoration, strengthening and improvement works have been carried out in the ancient and historical centers of the city, such as Oqsaroy, Doruttilovat, Dorussaodat complexes, Chorsu shopping center, Chubiya madrasa. However, in this regard, it is also worth noting that in some cases there has been some confusion over the issue of a correct and unbiased assessment of the state of historical cities and monuments in Uzbekistan after the Independent years. For example, at the 49th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in Istanbul on May 13, 2016, the historical center of the city of Shahrisabz was included in the list of World Heritage at risk<sup>12</sup>. As a basis, the members of the committee indicated the excessive development of modern buildings and structures, including hotel construction and tourist infrastructure, near the historical center of the city. However, not all committee members supported this decision, and the World Heritage Center under UNESCO and the International Council for historic monuments and urban conservation (ICOMOS) proposed a joint mission.

It is worth noting that as of 2017, this list includes 54 World Monuments<sup>13</sup> included. And the historical center of the city of Shahrisabz remains the only historical-cultural heritage in Central Asia included in this list.

2007 was a fruitful year between UNESCO and Uzbekistan on the preservation of historical heritage, the celebration of the anniversary dates of ancient cities. In 2007, the 2000th anniversary of the city of Margilon, two ancient cities of Uzbekistan, and the 2750th anniversary of the city of Samarkand were widely celebrated in the international circle at the UNESCO level. On November 9, 2005, the decree of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan ‘on the celebration of the 2000th anniversary of the city of Margilon’ was issued<sup>14</sup> received. After that, restoration and repair work was carried out on 35 historical-cultural monuments and monuments, including the Pirsiddiq complex in Marghilan, the Ulughmazor shrine, the mausoleum and Museum of Jahan otin Uwaysiy<sup>15</sup>.

On July 25, 2006, the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan decided to ‘prepare and hold the 2750th anniversary of the city of Samarkand’. In this regard, large-scale restoration work was also carried out on historical and cultural sites in the city of Samarkand. Also, on May 7, 2007, a scientific and practical conference on ‘the role of Margilon and Samarkand in World Tobacco’ was held at the Unesco representative office in Paris, attended by outstanding Uzbek and World Scientists<sup>16</sup>.

2009, in cooperation with UNESCO, the 2200th anniversary of Tashkent, another ancient city of our country, recognized as the ‘gateway to the East’, was widely celebrated internationally. It was decided at the 34th Session of the UNESCO General Conference on 2 November 2007. On April 2, 2008, the resolution of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan ‘on preparation for the celebration of the

<sup>11</sup> [http://lex.uz/pages/getpage.aspx?lact\\_id=1677083&twolang=true](http://lex.uz/pages/getpage.aspx?lact_id=1677083&twolang=true) (25.07.2016)

<sup>12</sup> [http://www.unesco.org/new/en/media-services/single-view/news/historic\\_centre\\_of\\_shahrisabz\\_uzbekistan\\_added\\_to\\_list\\_o/#.V4aSUPmLQol](http://www.unesco.org/new/en/media-services/single-view/news/historic_centre_of_shahrisabz_uzbekistan_added_to_list_o/#.V4aSUPmLQol) (14.07.2016)

<sup>13</sup> <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/?&danger=1> (02.07.2017)

<sup>14</sup> Xalq so'zi, 2005-yil 11-noyabr

<sup>15</sup> Rasulov M. Mustaqillik yillarida O'zbekistonda tarixiy va madaniy yodgorliklarning muhofaza qilinishi va tiklanishi.// O'zbekiston tarixining dolzarb masalalari: asosiy yo'nalishlari va yondashuvlar. - Toshkent: 2009. - B. 310.

<sup>16</sup> Xalq so'zi, 2006-yil 26-iyul

2200th anniversary of the city of Tashkent and its transfer' was adopted. In this regard, events dedicated to the 2200th anniversary date of the city of Tashkent were held at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. At these events, the then general director of the organization K. Matsuura took part and highly appreciated the historical and cultural heritage of Uzbekistan, the work on the restoration of national values and their interaction with the organization in this regard<sup>17</sup>.

Each ancient city of Uzbekistan was considered the 'cradle of human civilization', as the former Director General of UNESCO Federico Mayor noted. The international celebration of these cities is a huge historical achievement of cooperation of Uzbekistan and UN specialized institutions with UNESCO in particular<sup>18</sup>.

In conclusion, the preservation of customs, traditions and customs of mankind, which have been going on for thousands of years, the celebration of the anniversaries of historical figures and cities, is an important process for the present day.

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