

**THE INTEREST OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES IN THE CULTURAL
HERITAGE SITES OF THE ZARAFSHAN OASIS**

Tuyev Fazliddin Erkinovich

Associate Professor, Bukhara State Pedagogical Institute

<https://orcid.org/0009-0008-9582-2598>

E-mail: fazli1820bek@gmail.com

Abstract: *The article analyzes the work carried out in connection with the declaration of the city of Bukhara as the “Capital of Islamic World Culture” in 2020 and the inclusion of 7 historical monuments in the list of Islamic World Heritage by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (ICESCO) in 2021. It also examines major projects in cultural cooperation with countries such as Japan, South Korea, France and Russia, exchange of experiences between museums, and successful experiences in protecting and promoting cultural heritage through digital technologies - in particular, 3D scanning and “Digital Twin” modeling capabilities.*

Keywords: *Bukhara, Islamic World Heritage, ICESCO, UNESCO, digital heritage, 3D scanner, Digital Twin, museum cooperation, Louvre, Arab World Institute, Japan-Uzbek relations, Korean technologies, cultural diplomacy, historical monuments, Afrasiab, panel, Buddha statue.*

In connection with the declaration of Bukhara as the "Cultural Capital of the Islamic World" in 2020, on June 29, 2021, at the ninth online meeting of the Islamic World Heritage Committee, 7 sites in Bukhara - the Ismail Somoni Mausoleum, the Char Bakr, Bahauddin Naqshband complexes, the Magoki Attar Mosque, the Poyi-Kalon ensemble, the remains of the ancient city of Poykent, and the Toshsaroy madrasahs (ICESCO) - were included in the Islamic World Heritage List. At the online meeting, monuments located in Jordan (1), Iran (5), Bangladesh (3), Algeria (1), Iraq (5), Palestine (7), Qatar (3), Cameroon (1), Libya (16), Egypt (3), and Morocco (6) were also included in the Islamic World Heritage List. Information on the World Heritage Sites on the UNESCO List as of August 2021 is provided in the table below, with a breakdown by country.

Japan was one of the first countries to recognize the independence of Uzbekistan, officially recognizing it on December 28, 1991. After that, diplomatic relations were established between the two countries on January 26, 1992. The Japanese embassy in Tashkent was opened in 1993, and the Uzbek embassy in Tokyo in 1997. In connection with the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Uzbekistan and Japan, it is planned to introduce Japanese technologies and experience in the preservation of cultural heritage objects and items in Uzbekistan, and the Cultural Heritage Agency, the State Museum of History of Uzbekistan and the Termez Archaeological Museum were equipped with the necessary equipment for the

preservation of collections and exhibits, as well as digital archiving, including 3D scanners and 360-degree cameras.

Modern digital technologies were introduced to create 3D copies of World Heritage sites. As a result, the work on creating a one-to-one digital copy (twin) of the Ismail Somoni Mausoleum using “Digital Twin”, 3D technologies and geographic data, and linking it to the “Google Maps” system was carried out under a grand project of the National Information Technology Development Agency of the Republic of Korea with a total cost of 150 thousand US dollars. In order to create a "twin" of the mausoleum, a delegation consisting of representatives of the South Korean companies "New Layer Co., Ltd", "EGIS Co., Ltd", "J-TOD Co., Ltd", and "LX" Corporation, Lee Kwang Se, Kang Seokchan, Park Choondong, Dongho Lee, Lim Seong Ha, Kim Jeungsoo, Jung Inhye, arrived in Bukhara and held seminars and training sessions on this project based on their experience. As a result of the implementation of these trainings in practice, an increase in the number of tourists visiting the region was noted. Based on these projects, 3D copies of historical parts of the cities of Khiva, Samarkand and Shakhrisabz, fortresses in the Republic of Karakalpakstan and the Khorezm region, and archaeological finds were also created. In particular, during scientific expeditions conducted by LUT specialists within the framework of the "3D Digital Silk Road" project of the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA), 3D models of objects from the Samarkand Museum (50 pieces) were prepared. By 2021, a total of 24 items were prepared for the collection of archaeological objects from the museums of Samarkand (exhibits from the 2nd century BC - 14th century AD), and during 2022, 26 exhibits were prepared for the collection of archaeological objects from the museums of Samarkand.

On October 7, 2021, the first forum of museum directors of the SCO member states was held in Tula, the Russian Federation, and on October 9, in the Samara region. It was attended by the directors of the Bukhara State Museum-Reserve, the Ichan-Kala State Museum-Reserve, and the Samarkand State Museum-Reserve. Representatives of the Uzbek delegation promoted the museums and cultural heritage sites of the Bukhara, Ichan-Kala, and Samarkand State Museum-Reserves at the forum. An agreement was reached with the Hermitage to hold an exhibition as part of the visit of the working group led by the rector of Bukhara State University, Obidjon Hamidov, to St. Petersburg in 2023. It was also agreed to organize an internship for students studying museology. These initiatives were aimed at expanding cultural ties between the countries and opened up opportunities for museum staff to exchange experiences. As a result of the above-mentioned forums and events, on April 11, 2023, employees of the Sarisina (Sarisino) Museum-Reserve of the Russian Federation visited the Samarkand State Museum-Reserve in order to visit historical monuments in the regions and further develop international cooperation.

On November 23, 2022, an exhibition was organized at the Institute of the Arab World in Paris, showcasing unique works of folk applied art of Uzbekistan created from the

mid-19th to the early 20th centuries. For the first time in France, more than 300 objects from 9 major museums of the republic, including exquisite collections of textiles, costumes, shoes, hats, jewelry, as well as 24 brush works related to the Turkestan and Russian avant-garde from the largest museums of Nukus, Samarkand and Bukhara, were presented to the attention of the international community. In addition, in November of this year, an important cultural event took place for Europe and Uzbekistan - an exhibition of ancient artifacts found and restored in Uzbekistan opened at the Louvre. This exhibition was a great opportunity to showcase the cultural heritage and rich history of Uzbekistan to the world. During three years of joint work, Uzbek and French scientists managed to restore 70 historical exhibits. These include an ancient panel found in Samarkand, pages of the Great Langar Quran, a statue of Buddha "wearing a garland" and other treasures of the regions.

Thus, the place of Uzbekistan, and in particular the city of Bukhara, in the Islamic world and world cultural heritage has been further strengthened internationally in recent years. The work on the protection and digitization of cultural heritage, carried out in cooperation with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, UNESCO and other international organizations, has yielded effective results. Projects implemented with countries such as South Korea, Japan and France have created the basis not only for the preservation of historical monuments, but also for their presentation to a wide international community. Through 3D digital technologies, "twins" of the Ismail Somoni Mausoleum, monuments in Samarkand and Khiva have been created, and exhibitions organized in the Louvre and other prestigious museums have served to increase the global reputation of Uzbekistan's cultural heritage. Continued international cooperation in the fields of cultural diplomacy, digital innovations and museology will further strengthen Uzbekistan's place in world civilization.

REFERENCES

1. O'zbekiston Milliy Arxivi. M-7-fond, 1-ro'yxat, 332-yig'ma jild, 103-108 varaqlar.
2. O'zbekiston Milliy Arxivi. M-38-fond, 1-ro'yxat, 222-yig'ma jild, 1-30 varaqlar.
3. O'zbekiston Milliy Arxivi. M-38-fond, 1-ro'yxat, 224-yig'ma jild, 1-8 varaqlar.
4. Buxoro viloyat davlat arxivi. M-1459-fond, 1-ro'yxat, 1713-yig'ma jild, 152-156, 182-186-varaqlar.
5. Samarqand viloyat davlat arxivi. 2119-fond, 1-ro'yxat, 82-yig'ma jild, 11-varaq.
6. Buxoro davlat muzey-qo'riqxonasining ilmiy fond, Ma'naviy-ma'rifiy va xo'jalik faoliyati bo'yicha 2025-yil yarim yillik hisoboti.
7. Madaniy myros agentligi 2023-yil aprel hsoboti.
8. Sobirovich, T. B. (2021). Philosophical Dialectics of National and Universal Cultural Development. Irish Interdisciplinary Journal of Science & Research (IIJSR).
9. Turdiev, B. (2024). Building A Future: The Role Of Culture In New Uzbekistan'S Ideosphere. Академические исследования в современной науке, 3(31), 171-176.