



STUDY AND PRESERVATION OF THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE TURKIC WORLD FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF UNESCO

Baku, 14-15 March 2024

Organized by the Turkic Academy, the Turkic Culture and Heritage Foundation, the National Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan for UNESCO, and the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Organization of Turkic States, the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA), and the Institute for Development and Diplomacy of the ADA University.

CONCEPT NOTE

Objectives:

The Turkic World encompasses a vast region with a rich cultural and historical heritage that deserves greater recognition and protection on a global scale. From the establishment of powerful empires in the Middle Ages to advancements in science, literature, architecture, and music, the Turkic World has left an indelible mark on human civilization's development. Studying this heritage allows for recognizing these contributions and understanding their impact on various aspects of modern Turkic societies.

The conference is anticipated to bring together representatives of Turkic Cooperation Organizations, Turkic countries' National Commissions for UNESCO, the cultural heritage departments under the Turkic countries' ministries of culture, other national institutions, and experts to facilitate knowledge sharing, address challenges, and propose strategies for studying and preserving the cultural heritage of the Turkic World, including urgent intervention works.

More specifically, the conference aims to promote collaboration among participants regarding the protection, rehabilitation, promotion, management, and more effective utilization of historical and cultural monuments and sites of heritage, which hold immense value for the local communities and Turkic World as a whole, following UNESCO's principles and standards. The ultimate objective is to contribute to broadening the protection of the common Turkic historical and cultural heritage under UNESCO's umbrella by working together and raising awareness of the significance of its tangible and intangible components.

Conference format and topics:

The conference will feature welcome and opening remarks, thematic sessions, and roundtable discussions. Participants will have the opportunity to present their activities, share

experiences, exchange ideas, and engage in fruitful discussions on various aspects related to UNESCO's role in studying and preserving the historical and cultural heritage of the Turkic World.

The conference will cover a wide range of topics related to the study and preservation of the historical and cultural heritage of the Turkic world, including but not limited to:

- The challenges and opportunities in the study and preservation of Turkic cultural heritage.
- Case studies of successful preservation and conservation efforts in the Turkic World.
- Successful case studies, methodologies, and approaches employed by UNESCO in safeguarding cultural heritage.
- The use of technology and innovative approaches in preserving and promoting cultural heritage.
- Raising awareness, fostering cultural tourism, and engaging local communities in preserving and promoting cultural heritage.
- UNESCO's initiatives, projects, and research activities related to studying the historical and cultural heritage of the Turkic World.
- Working together and forming partnerships with UNESCO to add new Turkic sites to the World Heritage List and intangible cultural heritage practices and expressions to the Intangible Cultural Heritage List.
- Celebrating the 950th Anniversary of the Dīwān Lughāt al-Turk, a compendium of the Turkic dialects included in UNESCO's Anniversaries Program for 2024-2025 and discussing the possible events, projects and exhibitions in the framework of UNESCO's Anniversaries Program.

Participants:

Preserving the historical and cultural heritage of the Turkic World requires concerted efforts from various stakeholders. Therefore, the following participants will be invited to participate actively in the conference:

1. **Representatives of Turkic Cooperation Organizations** shall explore modalities of joint actions to preserve the shared Turkic heritage.
2. **Representatives of Turkic States' National Commissions for UNESCO** shall share UNESCO's heritage preservation experience and discuss possibilities for working together to preserve and promote common Turkic cultural heritage.
3. **Representatives of cultural heritage departments under the Turkic countries' ministries of culture** will provide insights into their conservation efforts, exhibition strategies, and other programs to raise awareness about the Turkic heritage.
4. **Representatives of other national institutions** shall share the experience by presenting initiatives to safeguard tangible and intangible heritage.
5. **Experts** specializing in Turkic cultural heritage shall present their works and propose methodologies for studying and preserving common Turkic cultural and historical heritage.

They will elaborate on preservation techniques, restoration methods, and preventive conservation measures.

Expected Outcomes:

1. Identify challenges Turkic countries face in their efforts to preserve the historical and cultural heritage.
2. Recognize the best practices, methodologies, and approaches in safeguarding Turkic cultural heritage.
3. Strengthen collaboration among conference participants in studying and preserving Turkic cultural heritage.
4. Enhance understanding of UNESCO's role in preserving the historical and cultural heritage of the Turkic World.
5. Develop recommendations for collaboration of Turkic Cooperation Organizations and Turkic countries' National Commissions for UNESCO in preserving and promoting the historical and cultural heritage of the Turkic World.
6. Propose the first steps to jointly identify the physical and intangible cultural assets in the Turkic World that have exceptional universal value and suggest concrete approaches for a cooperative effort to add them to the UNESCO World Heritage List and the Intangible Cultural Heritage List.

Language of the conference: Azerbaijani Language, Turkish, English and Russian. Simultaneous translation will be provided for these languages.



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Venue: ADA University

PROGRAM

13 March 2024	
Arrival of participants to Baku Accommodation: Baku Marriott Hotel Boulevard www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/gymb-baku-marriott-hotel-boulevard/overview	
19:00	Dinner
14 March 2024	
9:00 – 9:30	Registration
9:30 – 10:30	Welcome and Opening Remarks Moderator: Dr. Fariz ISMAYILZADE, Vice-Rector of ADA University H.E. Mr. Adil KARIMLI, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan H.E. Amb. Kubanychbek OMURALIEV, Secretary General of the Organization of Turkic States H.E. Amb. Simona-Mirela MICULESCU, President of the General Conference of UNESCO (in video format) Prof. Dr. Shahin MUSTAFAYEV, President of the Turkic Academy H.E. Amb. Derya ÖRS, President of the Atatürk Supreme Council for Culture, Language and History Mr. Fuad NAGHIYEV, Chairman of the State Tourism Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan Prof. Dr. M. Öcal OĞUZ, President of the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO Prof. Dr. Aktoty RAIMKULOVA, President of the Turkic Culture and Heritage Foundation Mr. Sultan RAEV, Secretary General of the International Organization of Turkic Culture Mr. Shahin SEYIDZADE, Chairman of the Board, Administration of State Historical-Architectural Reserve “Icherisheher”
10:30 – 10:40	Group Photo

10:40 – 11:10	<p>Exhibition of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences dedicated to the 950th Anniversary of the Dīwān Lughāt al-Turk</p> <p>Speakers: Prof. Dr. Isa HABIBBAYLI, <i>President of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (ANAS)</i> Prof. Dr. Muzaffer ŞEKER, <i>President of the Turkish Academy of Sciences</i></p>
11:10 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 13:00	<p>Session 1: National Strategies and Approaches for Preserving the Cultural Heritage of the Turkic World</p> <p>Moderator: Prof. Dr. Shahin MUSTAFAYEV, <i>President of the Turkic Academy</i></p> <p>Mr. Farid JAFAROV, <i>Deputy Minister of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan</i> Ms. Ainura ASKAROVA, <i>Deputy Minister of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy of the Kyrgyz Republic</i> Ms. Kumis SEITOVA, <i>Chairperson of the Committee of Culture, Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Kazakhstan</i> Mr. Selim TERZİ, <i>General Director of Research and Training of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Türkiye</i> Mr. Bakhodir ABDIKARIMOV, <i>Director of the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan</i> Mr. Muhametdurdy MAMEDOV, <i>Head of the National Department of Turkmenistan for the Protection, Study and Restoration of Historical and Cultural Monuments</i></p>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:50	<p>Session 2: Collaboration of Turkic Cooperation Organizations for the Preservation, Documentation, and Promotion of Cultural Heritage</p> <p>Moderator: Prof. Dr. Aktoty RAIMKULOVA, <i>President of the Turkic Culture and Heritage Foundation</i></p> <p>Mr. Sultan RAEV, <i>Secretary General of the International Organization of Turkic Culture</i> Mr. Hayrettin ÖZÇELİK, <i>Coordinator of the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA)</i> Prof. Dr. Yüksel ÖZGEN, <i>President of the Turkish Historical Society</i> Prof. Dr. Osman MERT, <i>President of the Turkish Language Association</i> Dr. Sanubar BAGHIROVA, <i>Honored Art Worker of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Architecture and Arts</i> Mr. Saky SADYKOV, <i>Acting Deputy Secretary General of TURKPA, Representative of the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic</i> Mr. Nuri AKSU, <i>Turkic Culture and Heritage Foundation</i> Mr. Rashad ALLAHVERDIYEV, <i>National Focal Point for the UNESCO World Heritage Convention of the Republic of Azerbaijan</i></p>

	<p>Ms. Sadagat DAVUDOVA, <i>President of the ICOMOS Azerbaijan National Committee</i></p> <p>Mr. Rinat BAKEEV, <i>Head of Department of Conservation and Development of Cultural Heritage at the Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy of the Kyrgyz Republic</i></p>
15:50 – 16:10	Coffee Break
16:10 – 18:00	<p>Session 3: Innovative Approaches and Necessary Works for Preserving and Promoting Cultural Heritage</p> <p>Moderator: Prof. Dr. Osman MERT, <i>President of the Turkish Language Association</i></p> <p>Mr. Kyrym ALTYNBEKOV, <i>Kazakhstani restorer, founder and Head of the Scientific and Restoration Laboratory “Kyrym Island,” Honored Worker of the Republic of Kazakhstan</i></p> <p>Prof. Dr. Zainolla SAMASHEV, <i>Alkei Margulan Institute of Archeology</i></p> <p>Ms. Aidai SULAIMANOVA, <i>Archaeologist and Researcher at the Institute of History, Archeology, Ethnology named after B. Dzhangerchinov of the National Academy of Sciences of the Kyrgyz Republic</i></p> <p>Mr. Farhod MAKSUDOV, <i>Director of the National Center of Archeology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan</i></p> <p>Dr. Farhad GULIYEV, <i>Director of the Institute of Archeology and Antropology of ANAS</i></p> <p>Ms. Aysulu ISKANDEROVA, <i>Senior Researcher of Samarkand Institute of Archeology named after. Y. Gulyamova, Head of Department at the Karakalpak Research Institute of Humanities</i></p> <p>Ms. Ayşe Ebru ÇORBACI, <i>Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Türkiye, General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums, Gaziantep Restoration and Conservation Regional Laboratory Directorate</i></p> <p>Mr. Han-Durdy GURBANOV, <i>Deputy Director of the Institute of History and Archeology of the Academy of Sciences of Turkmenistan</i></p>
19:00	Dinner (at Shirvanshah Museum Restaurant)

15 March 2024	
9:30 – 11:00	<p>Session 4: Projects-Based Cooperation of National Commissions in the Protection/Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Collaboration in preparing multinational nomination files</i> ▪ <i>Discussing the possible events, projects and exhibitions related to the 950th Anniversary of the Dīwān Lughāt al-Turk, a compendium of the Turkic dialects included UNESCO’s Anniversaries Program for 2024-2025</i> <p>Moderator: Dr. Seymur FATALIYEV, <i>Ambassador-at-large, Secretary General of the National Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan for UNESCO</i></p>

	<p>Ms. Zhanar SHAIMENOVA, <i>Secretary General of the National Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan for UNESCO and ISESCO</i></p> <p>Ms. Sabira SOLTONGELDIEVA, <i>Secretary General of the National Commission of the Kyrgyz Republic for UNESCO</i></p> <p>Ms. Selenay YAKICI, <i>Secretary General of the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO</i></p> <p>Ms. Chinar RUSTAMOVA, <i>Executive Secretary of the National Commission of the Republic of Turkmenistan for UNESCO</i></p> <p>Prof. Dr. Nadir MAMMADLI, <i>Director of the Institute of Linguistics named after Nasimi of ANAS</i></p>
11:00 – 11:20	Coffee Break
11:20 – 12:40	<p>Roundtable Discussion: Future Strategies for the Preservation of Turkic Cultural Heritage</p> <p>Moderator: Prof. Dr. M. Öcal OĞUZ, <i>President of the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">All participants</p>
12:40 – 13:00	<p>Closing Remarks and Adoption of Conference Declaration</p> <p>Moderator: Prof. Dr. Shahin MUSTAFAYEV, <i>President of the Turkic Academy</i></p>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 14:40	<p>Cultural Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Visiting Exhibition: “Culture of Clothing and Jewellery of Turkic People” dedicated to the Novruz Festival (at Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum) ▪ Visiting World Heritage Site – “Icherisheher”
14:40 – 16:30	
19:00	Dinner <i>(at Shur Restaurant)</i>

16 March 2024

Departure of participants from Baku