



UOT: 631.816

**PRESERVATION, RESEARCH AND PROMOTION OF HISTORICAL
MONUMENTS OF THE TURKISH PEOPLES: MODERN STRATEGIES**

Aygul Mustafa Mammadova

*Head teacher Azerbaijan State Agrarian University Public Legal Entity, Ganja
aygul.mamadova.2018@gmail.com <https://orcid.org/0009-0006-8118-0577>*

Azer Jabrayil Allahverdiyev

*Head teacher Azerbaijan State Agrarian University Public Legal Entity, Ganja
azar.allahverdiyev.73@gmail.com <https://orcid.org/0009-0003-4664-3108>*

Zahid Gurban Khalilov

*Head teacher Azerbaijan State Agrarian University Public Legal Entity, Ganja
zahidxalilov1968@gmail.com <https://orcid.org/0009-0002-0518-7655>*

Abstract: *This article provides a thorough analysis of contemporary strategies for the preservation, scholarly study, and international promotion of the tangible cultural heritage that constitutes the shared historical memory of the Turkic peoples. In the context of globalization, rapid urbanization, regional conflicts, and environmental challenges, safeguarding historical monuments is regarded not only as a national responsibility but also as a collective cultural obligation of the entire Turkic world.*

Keywords: *Turkic world, cultural heritage, historical monuments, TURKSOY, restoration, digital heritage, integration*

The study examines initiatives undertaken within the frameworks of the Organization of Turkic States and TURKSOY, highlighting their contribution to the systematic protection of shared heritage, promotion of intercultural cooperation, and presentation of Turkic culture on the international stage. Particular attention is given to the use of modern technological methods, including digital documentation, three-dimensional visualization, virtual exhibitions, geographic information systems, and the creation of unified heritage databases. These approaches not only enhance the accuracy and reliability of scholarly research but also ensure wider public access to cultural monuments.

The inventory, conservation, and restoration of historical and architectural monuments in territories (Figure 1.) liberated from occupation are emphasized as strategic priorities, reflecting both cultural and political significance. Moreover, the establishment of coordinated monitoring systems and the reinforcement of legal and institutional frameworks among Turkic states are considered essential for the long-term protection of shared heritage.



"INNOVATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS IN SCIENCE 2026"



Figure 1. Historical Monuments

Educational programs aimed at raising awareness among younger generations, integrating heritage topics into curricula, and strengthening cultural diplomacy are identified as critical components for sustaining collective identity.

In conclusion, the implementation of innovative, integrative strategies for the preservation and promotion of historical monuments among Turkic peoples represents a key factor in reinforcing pan-Turkic cultural solidarity and ensuring the sustainable continuity of shared cultural heritage.

Introduction: Throughout history, Turkic peoples have settled in a wide area in Eurasia, forming a rich and multi-layered cultural environment. This geography, stretching from the Altai Mountains to the Balkans, is a large civilizational map where various state traditions, urban culture, architectural schools and spiritual values have formed. Ancient settlements, fortresses, tombs, mosques, caravanserais, stone inscriptions and other examples of material culture are living sources reflecting the historical development of the Turkic peoples. This heritage represents not only the past of a particular ethnos, but also an integral part of the history of universal culture.

In modern times, along with technological progress and globalization processes, armed conflicts, natural disasters and urbanization have a serious impact on the physical condition of monuments. The destruction or deliberate alteration of historical heritage leads to the weakening of cultural memory. In this regard, the protection of cultural heritage is no longer just a field of scientific and cultural activity, but also acts as a direction of strategic and legal importance. The restoration and documentation of monuments located in occupation and conflict zones, in particular, should be considered a historical responsibility towards future generations.

Cultural cooperation occupies a special place within the framework of the goals set for deepening integration in the Turkic world. In this context, strategic documents adopted by the Organization of Turkic States consider it important to establish a coordinated action mechanism in the field of preserving common heritage. The formation of unified databases, the organization of joint scientific expeditions, the implementation



"INNOVATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS IN SCIENCE 2026 "

of restoration and conservation projects, as well as the creation of digital archives are among the main priorities in this direction.

Cultural cooperation occupies a special place within the framework of the goals set for deepening integration in the Turkic world. In this context, strategic documents adopted by the Organization of Turkic States consider it important to establish a coordinated action mechanism in the field of preserving common heritage. The formation of unified databases, the organization of joint scientific expeditions, the implementation of restoration and conservation projects, as well as the creation of digital archives are among the main priorities in this direction.

Thus, the issue of protecting and promoting the historical monuments of the Turkic peoples is of strategic importance in terms of preserving cultural identity, strengthening regional solidarity, and ensuring a contribution to the universal heritage, and requires a systematic approach at the modern stage.

Main part: The preservation of the material and cultural heritage of the Turkic peoples at the modern stage is not only a matter of preserving historical memory, but also of ensuring national security and spiritual inheritance. Historical monuments are a strategic resource reflecting the identity of the people, statehood traditions and the development of civilization. In this regard, their protection has become an integral part of systematic state policy. The protection process is carried out on the basis of the unity of legal, scientific, technical and institutional mechanisms.

In the Republic of Azerbaijan, the protection of historical and cultural monuments is regulated by legislation, their registration, passporting and determination of protection zones are carried out under state control. These mechanisms, in addition to ensuring the inviolability of monuments, also condition their restoration on a scientific basis. Large-scale inventory and conservation measures carried out in the liberated territories indicate the beginning of a new stage in the restoration of cultural heritage. In particular, the reference to archival materials, historical photographs and traditional construction technologies during the restoration of historical and architectural examples such as the Yukhari Govhar Agha Mosque and the Vagif Mausoleum in Shusha is an example of the successful application of the principle of scientific restoration (Figure 2.3.).





“INNOVATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS IN SCIENCE 2026 ”

Figure 2. Yukhari Govhar Agha Mosque Figure 3. Vagif Mausoleum in Shusha

Modern Turkological and archaeological research is now closely connected with innovative technologies. Laser scanning (LiDAR), satellite images and geographic information systems are widely used to detect monuments located in difficult-to-reach areas and buried under layers of soil. These methods allow for initial mapping of objects without the need for destructive excavations. At the same time, genetic analyses of ancient human remains in scientific projects implemented within the framework of the Turkic Academy form a new perspective on the study of ethnogenesis and migration processes.

In addition, virtual reconstruction and 3D modeling methods allow for the reconstruction of damaged or completely destroyed monuments in a digital environment. This approach creates a visual basis for scientific research, as well as the opportunity for presentation to a wide audience on museum and educational platforms. Thus, the synthesis of modern technologies with legal mechanisms forms an effective and sustainable model for the protection of the cultural heritage of the Turkic peoples.

Discussion: One of the main problems encountered in the process of studying and preserving the common cultural heritage of the Turkic peoples is the application of different restoration and conservation methodologies in different countries. Since the materials, scientific approaches and technical standards used during the restoration of historical monuments vary from country to country, the need to formulate uniform principles and criteria arises. This difference sometimes leads to disputes over the preservation of the authenticity of monuments and complicates the systematic management of the common heritage. It is from this perspective that the creation of a coordination mechanism on a pan-Turkic scale is considered an urgent scientific and practical issue.

The idea of creating a “Register of Monuments of the Turkic World” (Figure 4.) proposed by researchers, could allow for the collection of common heritage in a single database and the implementation of systematic monitoring.



Figure 4. Restoration of monuments



"INNOVATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS IN SCIENCE 2026 "

Such a register should not only carry an inventory function, but should also include information on the legal status of monuments, their technical condition and the restoration work carried out. This mechanism would also facilitate the planning of joint scientific projects and the efficient allocation of resources in the future.

Another important direction is the promotion of cultural heritage on an international scale. In this area, the "Capital of Culture" program implemented by TURKSOY is of particular importance. The fact that a city receives this status every year increases attention to the historical monuments of that region, stimulates the organization of scientific conferences, exhibitions and cultural events. As a result, monuments act not only as historical objects, but also as an effective "soft power" tool for the development of cultural diplomacy and tourism.

At the same time, it is also important to take into account the international legal framework. The conventions adopted by UNESCO set global standards in the field of cultural heritage protection. Harmonization of the internal strategic programs of the Turkic world with these principles can ensure that monuments are included in international lists and benefit from broader protection mechanisms.

Thus, the creation of a single register, the formation of a common methodological approach and harmonization with international legal mechanisms can be considered as the main directions serving more effective protection and promotion of historical monuments of the Turkic peoples

Conclusion: The preservation and scientific study of the historical and cultural monuments of the Turkic peoples is not only an expression of respect for the tangible heritage of the past, but also a strategic investment aimed at strengthening the identity consciousness of future generations. The tangible and cultural heritage acts as the main source that keeps alive the historical memory of the people, statehood traditions and spiritual values. In this regard, the issue of the preservation of monuments is not only one of the priority directions of cultural policy, but also an important component of regional cooperation and integration processes.

The analysis shows that the application of modern digital technologies - 3D modeling, digital archiving, geographic information systems and virtual reconstruction methods - significantly expands the possibilities of documenting and monitoring monuments. This approach both increases the quality of scientific and creates a real basis for the future preservation of damaged specimens. At the same time, the formation of common legal mechanisms and a coordinated action plan allows for the management research of cultural heritage in the Turkic world on the basis of unified principles. In this direction, deepening cooperation within the framework of the Organization of Turkic States is of particular importance.

One of the main priorities for 2026 and beyond is the wider promotion of the historical monuments of the Turkic peoples at the international level. For this purpose, strengthening the tools of cultural diplomacy, active participation in international



"INNOVATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS IN SCIENCE 2026 "

projects and presenting heritage on global platforms play an important role. At the same time, educating the younger generation on the basis of common cultural values and forming a sense of pan-Turkic identity are the main guarantees of sustainable development. Thus, the protection and promotion of historical monuments constitute a stable basis for both the spiritual unity of the Turkic world and its future strategic development.

LITERATURE LIST:

1. Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments". Baku. Law, 1998.
2. Strategy document "Turkic World 2040 Vision". Organization of Turkic States. Istanbul, 2021.
3. Methodological Tool "On the Protection of the Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Turkic World" TURKSOY Ankara, 2023.
4. Kasımlı, M. "Common Historical and Cultural Monuments of the Turkic Peoples: Research Problems" Baku. Elm, 2022.
5. UNESCO. "Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage". Paris, 1972.