

## COOPERATION OF UZBEKISTAN AND INTERNATIONAL MUSEUMS

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**Annotatsiya:** *Mazkur maqolada O'zbekiston mustaqillikka erishgandan so'ng muzey sohasida xalqaro hamkorlikning rivojlanish jarayonlari tahlil qilinadi. Xususan, YUNESKO va Muzeylar Xalqaro Kengashi (IKOM) bilan o'rnatilgan aloqalarning milliy muzey ishini modernizatsiya qilish, madaniy va nomoddiy merosni muhofaza etish hamda uni jahon hamjamiyatiga targ'ib etishdagi ahamiyati yoritiladi. Shuningdek, MDH davlatlari, Markaziy Osiyo mamlakatlari va yetakchi xorijiy muzeylar bilan amalga oshirilayotgan hamkorlik loyihalari, ularning muzeylar faoliyatiga ta'siri va istiqbollari ko'rib chiqiladi.*

**Kalit so'zlar:** *muzey, xalqaro hamkorlik, YUNESKO, IKOM, madaniy meros, nomoddiy madaniy meros, O'zbekiston muzeylari*

**Аннотация:** *В статье анализируются процессы развития международного сотрудничества музеев Узбекистана в период независимости. Особое внимание уделяется взаимодействию с ЮНЕСКО и Международным советом музеев (ICOM), их роли в сохранении культурного и нематериального наследия, внедрении современных музейных стандартов и популяризации национального культурного наследия на международном уровне. Также рассматривается сотрудничество музеев Узбекистана со странами СНГ, Центральной Азии и ведущими зарубежными музейными учреждениями, а также его значение для повышения профессионального потенциала музейных работников.*

**Ключевые слова:** *музеи, международное сотрудничество, ЮНЕСКО, ИКОМ, культурное наследие, нематериальное наследие, музеи Узбекистана*

**Abstract:** *This article examines the development of international cooperation of museums in Uzbekistan since independence. Particular attention is paid to collaboration with UNESCO and the International Council of Museums (ICOM) and their role in preserving cultural and intangible heritage, introducing modern museum standards, and promoting national heritage at the global level. The article also analyzes cooperation with museums of the CIS countries, Central Asia, and leading international institutions, highlighting its impact on museum management, professional development, and cultural exchange.*

**Keywords:** *museum, international cooperation, UNESCO, ICOM, cultural heritage, intangible cultural heritage, museums of Uzbekistan*





After gaining independence, the Republic of Uzbekistan gained new opportunities for the preservation of national culture and historical heritage, as well as its promotion to the world community. In this process, international museum cooperation has become an important factor in the development of the museum sector in the country, the introduction of advanced foreign experience, and the promotion of national cultural heritage internationally. In particular, the established ties with UNESCO and the International Council of Museums (ICM) have played an important role in the development of Uzbek museums[1].

Uzbekistan's accession to UNESCO in 1993 was an important milestone in the path of international cooperation for the country's museums. The opening of the UNESCO Office in Tashkent in 1996 serves as an important center for the protection of cultural heritage, the development of museum work, and the coordination of scientific projects. As part of cooperation with UNESCO, many historical cities and monuments in Uzbekistan have been included in the World Cultural Heritage List. The recognition of historical centers in cities such as Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva, and Shahrisabz has significantly increased international attention to museums and historical and cultural sites[2].

Cooperation between Uzbekistan and UNESCO in the field of intangible cultural heritage has also yielded fruitful results. The inclusion of national values such as Navruz, Shashmaqom, Katta ashula, the art of askiya, and the culture and traditions of pilaf on the UNESCO lists has created an opportunity to preserve, research, and widely promote this heritage in museum activities. This process has served to enrich the exhibition and educational programs of museums[3].

The establishment of the Museum Council of Uzbekistan in 1997 and its recognition by ICOM as an equal member were important steps in the integration of the country's museums into the international museum community. Within the framework of this cooperation, museum employees regularly participate in international conferences, seminars and trainings, mastering advanced practices in the field of modern museum management, curatorship and restoration[4].

Cooperation of Uzbek museums with CIS countries is also developing steadily. Projects implemented within the framework of the CIS Interstate Humanitarian Cooperation Fund covered areas such as advanced training of museum specialists, standardization of archive, library and museum work, and introduction of information technologies. In particular, seminar-trainings held in St. Petersburg, Samarkand and Tashkent within the framework of the “Museum Management in the 21st Century” project have become an important school of experience for Uzbek museum employees.

The MUSEUMstan program within the Central Asian region also serves to strengthen cooperation between museum workers in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and





Tajikistan. Through this program, seminars, competitions, and cultural projects are organized, and new ideas and innovative approaches in the museum sector are encouraged[5].

Museums of Uzbekistan have established cooperative relations with leading museums and cultural institutions in countries such as Germany, France, the United States, Russia, China, and Korea. As a result of this cooperation, international exhibitions, joint scientific research, restoration projects, and expert exchanges are being implemented. This process serves to strengthen the material and technical base of the country's museums and increase their scientific potential.

In conclusion, Uzbekistan and international museum cooperation is playing an important role in the development of national museum work, the preservation of cultural heritage and its promotion on a global scale. Through international relations, Uzbekistan's museums are adapting to modern standards and taking a worthy place in the global cultural space.

In conclusion, international relations are of great strategic importance in the development of the museum sector. In the context of globalization, museums are no longer institutions operating only within the national framework, but are becoming an integral part of the world cultural space. In this regard, cooperation with UNESCO and the International Council of Museums (ICM) is a decisive factor in improving museum work in accordance with modern requirements, preserving cultural and natural heritage and passing it on to future generations.

International conventions and programs developed by UNESCO determine the legal, organizational and scientific foundations of the protection of cultural heritage. These documents serve to conduct museum activities in accordance with international standards, combat the illicit trafficking of cultural property, and develop intercultural dialogue. ICOM, on the other hand, supports these processes in a practical way by strengthening professional cooperation between museums, introducing ethical standards, and increasing the professional capacity of museum employees[6,126].

The positive results of international museum cooperation are clearly demonstrated in the case of Uzbekistan. The inclusion of many historical cities and cultural monuments in our country in cooperation with UNESCO on the World Heritage List, and the international recognition of examples of intangible cultural heritage have increased the prestige of our national culture on the world stage. This process has further enriched the scientific, educational, and promotional aspects of museum activities.

In addition, through international seminars, trainings, exhibitions, and joint projects, the knowledge and experience of Uzbek museum employees have increased,





New approaches are being introduced in the fields of modern museum management, digitization, inclusive services and cultural heritage protection. This strengthens the role of museums in society, turning them not only into places where exhibits are stored, but also into active cultural and educational centers. In general, the development of international relations in the museum sector is one of the most effective ways to preserve the national cultural heritage, introduce it to the world community and strengthen intercultural dialogue.

In the future, further expansion of cooperation with UNESCO, ICOM and other international organizations, in-depth study of international experience and its implementation in national museum practice will remain an important factor in ensuring the sustainable development of museums in Uzbekistan.

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