Abstract of the dissertation prepared for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) entitled «PRESERVATION AND MUSEUMIFICATION OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE (COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF HOMELAND AND FOREIGN EXPERIENCE)» a doctoral student of the educational program "8D02207 – Museum studies and monuments protection" Ashimova Saltanat Aliyakparkizi

The dissertation work is investigated a comparative analysis of the activities and the role of Kazakhstan in relation to the protection of heritage by the International Organization UNESCO, the formation and prerequisites of the concept of intangible cultural heritage (ICH), the activities of international and domestic organizations in the protection of the ICH, and the practices of preservation, protection and musealization.

The dissertation research work was carried out at the department of Archeology, Ethnology and Museology of the faculty of History of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University and the Centre for the rapprochement of cultures under the auspices of UNESCO.

Relevance of the research topic. Alongside the UNESCO convention for the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage, the convention for the protection of the ICH – is the most important document in international cooperation, which has formed a high activity of the participating states. The inclusion of 6 monuments from Kazakhstan in the UNESCO world cultural and natural heritage list, 14 in the list of intangible cultural heritage, 15 in the network of biosphere reserves, 4 in the register of documentary heritage "Memory of the world", 27 proposals in the calendar of significant anniversaries testifies to the great political and cultural cooperation of our state between the countries of the world.

Kazakhstan's membership in the UNESCO Intergovernmental committee on World Heritage for 2013-2017 and 2023-2027, the Intergovernmental committee of the ICH for 2018-2022 will determine the role and reputation of Kazakhstan among the UNESCO member states. In general, the main reason for the initiative to protect the ICH was the fact that the cultural heritage formed by each nation over centuries is undergoing transformations in the era of globalization, technology, and faces an increasing threat of extinction. It is very significant to ensure legal regulation by increasing interstate cooperation in the preservation, protection, musealization, and promotion of the ICH. The main goal of the UNESCO is – to ensure that cultural heritage not to disappear under the influence of globalization or political conflicts, and to pass it on to future generations through the veneration, protection and preservation of the heritage. Participation in the normative regulation of the sphere of preservation of cultural property at the conferences and sessions of the UN General Assembly and UNESCO General Assembly, and the formation of peaceful relations through cultural integration are the main activities of Kazakhstan in the cultural and political arena. Kazakhstan's activity in the world arena as an equal member of the international organizations as ICOMAS, IICAS, ICHAP is also increasing every year. Despite the fact that the UNESCO convention on the

protection of the ICH, adopted on October 17, 2003, was ratified by the Republic of Kazakhstan after 8 years in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 514-IV of December 21, 2011, after most countries in the world, the fact that our country has included 14 heritage sites in the UNESCO list under ICH in 14 years of its membership in the convention justifies the relevance of a comparative study of Kazakhstan's experience.

Scientific novelty of the dissertation: development of a scientific and methodological basis for conducting and studying the UNESCO convention on the protection of the ICH in Kazakhstan, based on international regulatory legal acts; and comparative study with foreign practices; laying the foundation for the applied scientific direction of "Museum of ICH"; becoming the first dissertation work in the direction of "Museum of ICH" as a research work for comparative analysis based on the UNESCO world heritage conventions and the convention on the protection of the ICH; the work equally covers the applied and scientific direction of Museum studies and Monument studies.

The connection of the dissertation work with other scientific works is formed by theoretical, methodological publications that entered into scientific circulation in connection with the ratification of the UNESCO conventions, the protection of heritage protected by UNESCO.

Object of research work. Taking the UNESCO conventions on the protection of world as a prerequisite for the convention of the protection of the ICH, the study investigates the documentation, preservation, protection, promotion and enhancement of the role of the ICH, taking measures to ensure its viability, support and assistance, and the revitalization of various aspects through the implementation of museum and tourist institutions.

The significance of the research work. The study provides a comparative analysis of the protection, preservation, promotion and musealization of the ICH on the basis of domestic and international experience, examines the interaction of cooperation between UNESCO and Kazakhstan aimed at preserving the ICH.

The purpose of the dissertation. Analysis of the historical prerequisites for the formation of the UNESCO convention for the protection of the ICH, demonstrates role of Kazakhstan in the activities of UNESCO for the protection of cultural heritage, analysis of the interaction, experience of Kazakhstan and foreign countries in the activities of protection, preservation of the ICH within the framework of the UNESCO.

Objectives of the research work. To implement the ways to achieve the set goal, the following tasks are assigned:

1) analysis of the World cultural heritage and Natural heritage protection conventions and world-oriented documents aimed at protecting monuments as a prerequisite for the formation of the UNESCO ICH convention, demonstrating the historical place of Kazakhstan in the UNESCO International Organization;

2) analysis of the significance of Kazakhstan`s and countries of the world on ratification of the UNESCO ICH convention, membership in the Intergovernmental Committee of the ICH;

3) differentiation of the basics of ensuring the development of the ICH through international legal acts, the participation of countries of the world in the international work of the ICH protection, and the principles of legal and documentary regulation of the countries participating in the convention;

4) analysis of the directions of ensuring interstate integration and sustainable development through the protection and preservation of UNESCO's ICH;

5) analysis of ways of record, registration, documentation and categories of ICH, formation of a national list, submission for international protection;

6) analysis of the preservation and presentation of the ICH to the public in the museum service system and in the community environment;

7) stabilization tourists through ICH, demonstrating their role and place in tourist destinations.

The chronological framework of the topic. The study covers the period from the time of the adoption of the UNESCO convention on the protection of world cultural and natural heritage in 1972 to 2025. Within this chronological framework, the research includes the time of the adoption of the "Convention on the Protection of the Intangible Cultural Heritage" on October 17, 2003, including the years of Kazakhstan's participation in it.

Geographical scope of the dissertation. The object of the study`s analysis of domestic experience covers the entire Republic of Kazakhstan. The object of comparative analysis of foreign experience includes countries that divided into five regions according to the UNESCO convention on the Protection of the ICH as Africa, the United Arab Emirates, Asia and the Pacific Ocean, Europe and South America, Latin America and the Caribbean, and states that have formed an "interstate common heritage" with Kazakhstan.

The data base of the dissertation is organized as follows:

– legal documents and regulatory materials guiding the UN, UNESCO in the protection of world heritage, including conventions, resolutions, conditions for obtaining, inclusion, acceptance of heritage onto the world heritage list;

– laws of the participating countries on the protection and use of cultural and natural monuments, lists of cultural and natural monuments of international and national significance;

– ratification documents of the conventions of the participating countries, laws and concepts on the protection of the ICH of the participating countries;

– scientific books, catalogs, articles based on scientific research and cognitive analysis related to the implementation of practices for the protection, preservation, listing, documentation, presentation, and recognition of the ICH;

– educational and scientific books, articles, special publications, interactive materials, audio and video materials, museographic publications that have entered into scientific circulation and present the best practices of the participating countries in the protection of their ICH;

– materials collected on the basis of the author's practical (field) research: specialized museums, ethno-villages, special museums, museum halls of the

participating countries aimed at promoting ICH; database of individuals who are carriers of the ICH.

Conclusions recommended for defense:

1) The UNESCO convention on the protection of world cultural heritage and natural heritage and world-oriented documents aimed at the protection of monuments, adopted in 1972, became a historical prerequisite for the formation of the ICH convention, Kazakhstan's ratification of the UNESCO conventions, inclusion of national heritage in the international list of the ICH, biosphere reserve, memory of the world, as well as participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee testify to the great historical place of Kazakhstan in the international arena;

2) Development of a statistical base for the ratification of the UNESCO ICH convention by the countries of the world, the accession of the countries of the world to this convention, analysis of the perception of the ICH as an international direction by the countries of the world, membership in the Intergovernmental committee of ICH testifies to the activity of the countries participating in the convention in UNESCO and international cultural integration;

3) The development of the ICH of the states participating to the convention is regulated by regulatory and legal documents. In general, international legal acts formed by the UNESCO are the basis for the sustainable development of culture. Currently, the inclusion in the UNESCO list of 849 ICH from 157 participating states of the convention testifies to the intensive ratification of the Convention and the activity of the countries of the world in its protection and preservation;

4) UNESCO ensures interstate integration, intercultural dialogue, sustainable development and peace preservation through the protection and preservation of the ICH;

5) Consideration of the ICH as a "living monument", consideration of the type, category, directions of the main components of the concept, analysis of ways of accounting, registration, documentation, formation of a national list, submission for international protection testifies the importance of cultural heritage for society;

6) Integration of the modeling function of the ICH into the system of museum activities, preservation through the museum, analysis of presentation as a "monument", methodological model of ways to preserve, protect the ICH as a "living heritage" among foreign and domestic communities, and its presentation to the public, ensuring the preservation of cultural diversity of heritage in the creative environment, scientific and cognitive environment demonstrates the complexity of museum activities;

7) Emphasizing the role and place of the ICH in a tourist destination provides the stabilization of domestic and foreign tourists and make ethnotourism competitive.

Methods. The study was guided by the conclusions and positions of foreign and domestic researchers, experts on the topic. In the comparative study of the ICH, the study relies on the methods of "monument studies", "cultural heritage", "natural

heritage", "historical and cultural tourism", "ethnotourism", "museum ethnography" and interdisciplinary research.

The structure of the dissertation. The dissertation work consists of normative references, notations and abbreviations, definitions, an introduction, three main chapters, a conclusion, list of used literature, appendices.

The first chapter of the dissertation provides a comprehensive analysis of UNESCO's activities in the field of cultural heritage protection, the process of formation of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, the development of international legal instruments aimed at safeguarding cultural property, and the prerequisites that led to the adoption of the Convention. Particular attention is paid to Kazakhstan's role within the framework of the UNESCO World Heritage List, as well as to the establishment, historical significance, and structural framework of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention. Additionally, the chapter examines the criteria and procedures for membership in the Intergovernmental Committee for states that have ratified the Convention.

The second chapter analyzes the international and national systems for the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH). It provides a detailed examination of the interaction of international organizations in the development of ICH and the relevant documentation framework. A comparative analysis is conducted of UNESCO's mechanisms for ICH safeguarding, including the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, and the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices.

One of the key advantages of inscribing ICH elements on international lists is their recognition at the global level. International support for ICH contributes significantly to the strengthening of national identity. UNESCO began implementing measures for the safeguarding of ICH in 2008. In that year, 90 heritage elements from states that had recognized the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage were inscribed on the Representative List.

Beginning in 2009, UNESCO introduced and approved the safeguarding of ICH through three distinct lists. The number of inscribed elements by year is as follows: 90 in 2008; 82 in 2009; 47 in 2010; 31 in 2011; 31 in 2012; 30 in 2013; 36 in 2014; 27 in 2015; 39 in 2016; 42 in 2017; 38 in 2018; 40 in 2019; 32 in 2020; 47 in 2021; 47 in 2022; 55 in 2023; 66 in 2024; and 69 in 2025. In total, 849 heritage elements from 157 states have been inscribed. Among them, 90 elements are included in the List of ICH in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, 716 elements in the Representative List of the ICH of Humanity, and 43 elements in the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices.

From Kazakhstan, 14 heritage elements have been inscribed on the Representative List of the ICH of Humanity, including 8 multinational (interstate, jointly nominated with other countries) elements and 6 national (individually nominated) elements. At present, Kazakhstan ranks among the top 25 countries in terms of activity in nominating its intangible cultural heritage to UNESCO.

The significance of promoting heritage that constitutes the national value of countries worldwide through its nomination to UNESCO lists and networks and its inclusion in international databases, thereby elevating such heritage to the global level, is thoroughly analyzed. In the processes of safeguarding, protecting, and developing Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH), the interaction between international organizations such as ICOMOS and ISESCO and the National Commission for ICH is of particular importance. In studying the dissemination and development of the international mechanisms of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the ICH among participating states, the role of the International Institute for Central Asian Studies (IICAS) is especially significant.

The third section, devoted to the analysis of the role of museums and tourist destinations in the development of ICH, examines in detail the cooperation between the National Museum and the National Committee in the formation of the National ICH Inventory of the Republic of Kazakhstan. It also explores the social significance of the museification of ICH, curatorial and exhibition design solutions, the application of ICH in tourism and recreational activities, issues related to promotion and development through museums, as well as domestic and international best practices in museum exhibition. In addition, the methods of applying information technologies in the museification of ICH are analyzed.