

STUDY OF THE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN TURKEY

Turkey is called "the cradle of civilization," as it has been home to a rich variety of tribes and nations of people since at least 10,000 B.C. Anatolia is the Part of the Fertile Crescent which is situated between Europe and Asia, and is the home to some of the earliest civilizations in the world. Early urban society began in Anatolia during the Neolithic Age (10th-5th century, BC). The first settlements are Göbelitepe,Çatalhöyük and İstanbul. So,Turkey has a richness and variety in cultural and natural resource. Because many civilizations were settled beginning from the earliest ages of humanity, signs of which are spread all around the country. There are 2700 historical ruins, and some dating back to prehistoric age.

The preservation and development of these cultural and natural resources have been stipulated by law. Ministry of Tourism and culture, municipal outority and many organizations have been set up in connection with this subject and preservation has now become a subject that concerns many organizations, institutions and people.

Cultural heritage is separeted in two parts. One of them is tangible cultural heritage another is intangible cultural heritage. Tangible cultural heritage is separeted movable and immovable cultural heritage.

Immovable cultural heritage are; I

- 1- Archaeological sites and reserves: theaters, cities, war areas, underground cities.
- 2- Protected area: Natural, historical, Archaeological and mixed areas
- 3-Natural values : Geoparks, caves, spring waterfall, natural wonders, gardens, forests, National parks, watershade area.
- 4- Cultural landscape; Historical cities, buildings, mosques, social complex, public house
- 5 -The ethnographic complexes

Movable cultural heritage are;

- 1- Traditional Hand crafts
- 2-Books
- 3-Statues
- 4-Ceramics objects
- 5-Glassess objects,
- 6-Leather objects

Intangible Cultural heritage are

1-Legendary, stories, cradle songs, weeping, folk music

2-Culinary

3-Proverbs, wisdomsaying, rhymes.

4-traditional medicine

5-Visual arts

6-Custom wedding

7-The rituel of send of military

In Turkey, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Ministry, the High Council for the Protection of Cultural and Natural Assets, the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization, the Ministry of Interior, the General Directorate of Foundations, are studied on the preservation of cultural heritage. In addition, local managements, non-governmental organizations such as Chamber of Architects, Historical Cities Association, Historical Turkish Houses Association, Association of Protection and Restoration Experts carry out studies on the protection of cultural heritage.

In Turkey, conservation studies are separate 3 stage. The first stage is the identification and registration of cultural heritage. In this stage, there are an archaeologist, art historian and architect in an expert team. And they determined the values of cultural heritage and structures and kept inventory. The primary purpose of the inventory is to make the registration and to create a regular archive about on cultural heritage. During this operations; cultural heritage is examined by architecturally, artistic and aesthetic.

In the second stage, it is chosen the selection of the type of intervention. And In The third stage of cultural heritage is conservation and using studies in contemporary life.

In the same time Turkey is signed the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (World Heritage Convention) in 1983 and through the work carried out under the responsibility of the General Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Museums.

Now, There are 18 heritage sites in the UNESCO "World Cultural Heritage List" as of July 2018 16 of them are "cultural" heritage sites, others are "mixed" sites which are; Göreme and Pamukkale. But, In the same time there is 77 properties from Turkey in UNESCO's Tentative List (as of July 2018).

In Turkey, UNESCO "World Cultural Heritage List"

- 1- Historic Areas of Istanbul,
- 2-City of Safranbolu,
- 3-Hattusha: the Hittite Capital,
- 4-Nemrut Mountain (Adiyaman)
- 5- Xanthos - Letoon, (Antalya)
- 6-Great Mosque and Hospital of Divriği,
- 7- Archeological Site of Troy
- 8- Selimiye Mosque and its Social Complex are listed as cultural, heritage.
- 9- Hierapolis - Pamukkale
- 10- Göreme National Park and the Rock Sites of Cappadocia are listed both as cultural and natural site (mixed site).
- 11-Çatalhöyük in Konya
- 12-Bursa and Cumalıkızık Village
- 13-Pergamon
- 14-City walls and Hevsel Garden
- 15-Ephesus
- 16-Archaeological site of Ani
- 17-Aphodisias site
- 18-Göbeklitepe Site

Elements On The Representative List Of Intangible Cultural Heritage:

- 1-Mevlevi Sema Ceremony
- 2-Arts of Meddah
- 3-Kragöz and Hacivat shadow Theatre
- 4-Aşıklik(Minstrelly) Tradition
- 5-Kirpınar Oil Wrestling
- 5-Traditional Conservation Meeting
- 6-Semah, Alevi Bektasi Rituel
- 7-Ceremonial Keşkek Tradition
- 8-Mesir Paste Festival
- 9-Turkish Cafe Culture

- 10- Ebru, Turkish Art of Marbling
- 11-Navruz Spring Festival
- 12-Flatbread Making and sharing culture
- 13-Traditional craftsmanship of çini making
- 14-Hıdırellez spring Celebration
- 15-Whistle (Bird)Language
- 16-Heritage of Dede Korkut
- 17-Epic Culture,folk tales, and music

Cultural heritage has some characteristic, in Turkey, these are;

- *They are product that belong to creative human genius
- *They are witness the exchange of human values on important developments in the fields of architecture or technology, monumental arts, urban planning or landscape design in a cultural region or period.
- *The are representative of a cultural tradition or civilization that is living or destroying.
- *They are an exceptional example of an architectural or technological which are a type of building that represents an important stage or stages of human history
- *They are an exceptional example of traditional human habitation, land use or sea use.
- *To be directly or indirectly concerned with artistic or literary works of exceptional universal importance, beliefs, ideas, living traditions and events.
- *They are Includes natural areas or areas of unique natural beauty and aesthetic importance.
- * They are the existence of exceptional examples representing the important stages of world history, including the recording of life, important geological processes in the formation of landforms or important geomorphic or physiographic features.
- *They are exemplary examples of significant ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of land, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems, and animal and plant communities.

*They are includes the most important and remarkable natural habitats for the in the conservation of biodiversity, including places that include endangered species with exceptional universal value for science or protection.

Tangible Cultural Heritage in Turkey

1. Göreme National Park and the Rock Sites of Cappadocia:



This area is located in the central Anatolian. It is known the existence of a plenty of fairy-chimneys, formed by the wind and the rain water. The columbaries on the high slopes of Soğanlı, Zelve and Üzengi Canyon Valleys, and the monk cells carved in the depths of the valleys add value to the site. Uchisar is a historical region in Central Anatolia, known for its distinctive "fairy chimneys" tall, cone-shaped rock formations clustered in Monks Valley. Göreme National Park and Cappadocia were inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1985 as 7 parts. it is accepted both natural and cultural heritage it means mixed area. Göreme National Park, Derinkuyu and Kaymaklı Underground City, Karlık Church, Theodore Church, Karain Columbaries and Soğanlı Archaeological Site.

2-Nemrut Mountain

It is situated in **Adıyaman** province which is in the city of Kahta. It is described as the sacred place of Commagene Kingdom with its enchanting statues standing ten metres high and inscriptions that are several metres long, it was inscribed on the World Heritage List as a cultural asset in 1987.



Nemrut Mountain houses the most majestic places of worship belonging to the Hellenistic Era in ancient Anatolia. According to the inscriptions, Antiochus I had a monumental tomb, a tumulus of cut stones over the tomb, and terraces along the three edges of the tumulus built in order to show his gratitude to the gods and his ancestors.

3- Hattusha: the Hittite Capital



It has been founded about 1650 BC. And has been on the World Heritage List as a cultural asset since 1986. Hattusha was the capital of the Hittite Empire and became the focus of the arts and architecture of that time.

Hattusha is an open-air archaeological museum consisting of two sites, the Lower City and the Upper City. Visible at the Lower City are the remains associated with civic life. The Great Temple is the principal cult building of the city. Due to its two cult rooms, this temple is believed to have been devoted to the Storm God Teşup and the Sun Goddess of Arinna City, which are the greatest gods of the Empire.

3. Xanthos-Letoon



Xanthos, which was the **capital of Lycian** dating back to 3000s BC, is known to be the largest administrative centre of Lycia during antiquity. **Letoon**, which was inscribed on the World Heritage List together with Xanthos in 1988, was one of the most prominent religious centres in antiquity. The archaeological value of Xanthos and Letoon make them very important parts of world heritage. The sites are about 4 km apart and they include the stone inscriptions on which the longest and the most important scripts in Lycian language are written.

4-HierapolisPamukkale

The ancient city of Hierapolis is believed to have been founded by Eumenies II, the King of Pergamum, in the 2nd century BC, and to have been named after Hieria, the beautiful wife of Telephos, the legendary founder of Pergamon. The city was attached to the Asia province of Roman Empire in 129 BC and administrated by proconsuls. The city saw its most brilliant years between 96 and 162 AD and it was attached to Pisidia Pacatiana in the 3rd century AD. Hierapolis of Phrygia was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1988.



5. Historic Areas of Istanbul (1985)

Istanbul is the only city situated on two continents in the world. It is located both Europe and Asia. İstanbul Bosphorus divides it in two part. In the same time it is situated on a peninsula surrounded by the Sea of Marmara, Boğaziçi (Bosphorus), and Haliç (Golden Horn), The Historic Areas of İstanbul are represented by four main areas: Sultanahmet Archaeological Park, Süleymaniye Conservation Area, Zeyrek Conservation Area



and **Land Walls Conservation Area**. Istanbul was a capital both Ottoman Empire and Byzantine empire. These areas area characteristics of the cultural properties that they house, and they display the urban history of İstanbul. They were inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1985.

6. Great Mosque and Hospital of Divriği

The first Turkish buildings inscribed on the World Heritage List are the Ulu (Great) Mosque and Hospital of Divriği. This building complex was commissioned in the 13th century by Ahmet Shahand and his wife Melike Turan who are from the Principality of Mengüceklî. Renowned for its monumental architecture and traditional stone carving decorations of Anatolia, this masterpiece, with its two-domed mosque, hospital and tomb, was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1985



7- City of Safranbolu

The city's history dates back to 3000 BC. It is located in a region which was ruled by the Hittites, the Phrygians, the Lydians, Persians, Hellenistic Kingdoms (Ponds), Romans, Seljuks, principalities of Çobanoğlu and Candaroğlu, and the Ottomans respectively. Safranbolu, a unique Anatolian city that brings history to life through its mosques, market, neighbourhoods, streets and historic houses, was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1994. The city is represented as three parts in the World Heritage They are Çukur, Kıranköy and Bağlar.



8. Archaeological Site of Troy

The Ancient City of Troy, history dating back to 3000 BC, it is one of the most famous archaeological sites of the world.



It is located within the boundaries of Çanakkale province. According to the foundation legend of Troy, the sea goddess Tethys and the titan of Atlantic Sea, Oceanus, had a daughter called Electra. Electra would become Zeus's wife and would give birth to Dardanus. Dardanus' son Tros would found the city called Truad, and his son Ilus would found the city of Troy. It is famous for being the site of Trojan War that Homer described in his epic poem The Iliad, was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1998.

9-. Selimiye Mosque and its Social Complex

The Selimiye Mosque and Complex are located in Edirne, the capital of Ottoman Empire before the conquest of İstanbul, and were inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2011.

The mosque is visible from all parts of the city with its entire splendour. With its monumental dome and four slender minarets, the mosque was designed and built by Mimar Sinan, the world renowned royal architect. The construction of the mosque started in 1568, lasted seven years and was completed in 1575. Thousands were employed during the construction. Considered as the most important masterpiece of Ottoman art, the royal architect Mimar Sinan regarded the mosque as his "masterwork".



10-Neolithic Site of Çatalhöyük

Çatalhöyük is located in Çumra city which is belongs to Konya province.it was discovered in 1958.



Çatalhöyük is one of the earliest settlements of the Neolithic Era, and sheds light on the dawn of human settlement with unique examples of the earliest domestic architecture and landscape painting as well as the sacred objects of mother-goddess cult.

The Neolithic "city" of Çatalhöyük was renowned for its extraordinary arts and crafts, and the earliest finds were from 7,400 BC. The settlement was an international key to unlocking the basis of civilisation and agriculture. Neolithic Site of Çatalhöyük was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2012.

11. Pergamon and its Multi-Layered Cultural Landscape

"Pergamon and Its Multi-layered Cultural Landscape", the only capital city from the **Hellenistic** period, inholding the layers of Hellenistic, Roman, Eastern Roman and Ottoman periods. It has been inscribed to the World Heritage List of UNESCO in 2014.

The Areas, inscribed to the World Heritage List consist of nine components; Pergamon City (multi-layered city), Kybele Sanctuary, Ilyas Tepe, Yigma Tepe, ikili Tumuli, Tavşan Tepe, X Tepe, A Tepe and Maltepe Tumulus. Ancient Pergamon settlement at the top of the Kale Hill, the capital of Hellenistic Attalid Dynasty, represents the outstanding example of urban planning of the Hellenistic period with its monumental architecture. Temple of Athena, , the steepest theater of the Hellenistic period, library, Great Altar of Pergamon, Dionysus Temple, agora, gymnasiums and high pressured water pipe-line system are the most outstanding examples of this planning system and architecture in the period.



Great Altar of Pergamon and many other works produced by Pergamon School of Sculpture represent the climax in the art of sculpture in Hellenistic period.

12. Bursa and Cumalıkızık: the Birth of the Ottoman Empire

Bursa, as the first capital of Ottoman Empire located in the Marmara region on the slopes of Uludağ Mountain. They been inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2014.

"Bursa and Cumalıkızık which are The World Heritage Site that The Birth of Ottoman Empire" consists of six components including Khans Area involving Orhan Ghazi Kulliye and its environs, Hüdavendigâr (Murad I) Kulliye, Yıldırım (Bayezid I) Kulliye, Yeşil (Mehmed I) Kulliye, Muradiye (Murad II) Kulliye and Cumalıkızık Village. The significant commercial role of Bursa throughout history, which was created as the first capital of Ottoman Empire and shaped by kulliyes and villages, in the context of waqf system formed according to early Ottoman architectural traditions, has been revealed with large khans, bedesten, bazaars in the city.



13. Diyarbakır Fortress and Hevsel Gardens Cultural Landscape

Located on an escarpment of the Upper Tigris River Basin that is part of the so-called Fertile Crescent, the fortified city of Diyarbakır and the landscape around has been an important centre since the Hellenistic period, through the Roman, Sassanid, Byzantine, Islamic and Ottoman times to the present. The site encompasses the Amida Mound, known as İçkale (inner castle), the 5.8 km-long city walls of Diyarbakır with their numerous

towers, gates, buttresses, and 63 inscriptions from different periods, as well as Hevsel Gardens, a green link between the city and the Tigris that supplied the city with food and water.



14. Ephesus

Located within what was once the estuary of the River Kaystros, Ephesus comprises successive Hellenistic and Roman settlements founded on new locations, which followed the coastline as it retreated westward. Excavations have revealed grand monuments of the Roman Imperial period including the Library of Celsus and the Great Theatre. Little remains of the famous Temple of Artemis, one of the "Seven Wonders of the World", which drew pilgrims from all around the Mediterranean. Since the 5th century, the House of the Virgin Mary, a domed cruciform chapel seven kilometres from Ephesus, became a major place of Christian pilgrimage. The Ancient City of Ephesus is an outstanding example of a Roman port city, with sea channel and harbour basin.



16 Archaeological Site of Ani

This medieval city combines residential, religious and military structures, characteristic of a medieval urbanism built up over the centuries by Christian and then Muslim dynasties. The city flourished in the 10th and 11th centuries CE when it became the capital of the medieval Armenian kingdom of the Bagratides and profited from control of one branch of the Silk Road. Later, under Byzantine, Seljuk and Georgian sovereignty, it maintained its status as an important crossroads for merchant caravans.



Archaeological Site of Ani was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2016.

17. Aphrodisias

Located in southwestern Turkey, the site consists of two components: the archaeological site of Aphrodisias and the marble quarries northeast of the city. The temple of Aphrodite



dates from the 3rd century BCE and the city was built one century later. The wealth of Aphrodisias came from the marble quarries and the art produced by its sculptors.

18. Göbeklitepe

There are substantial grounds to claim that the most significant archaeological discovery of the 21st century is the Göbeklitepe (Potbelly Hill). First of all, it dates back to 12 thousand years ago. In other words, it's 4 thousand years older than the pyramids and 7 thousand years older than the Stonehenge. Furthermore, it is even older than the human transition to settled life. Therefore, contrary to the widely held view, it proves existence of religious beliefs prior to the establishment of the first cities.

Findings of researchers at Göbeklitepe shows that a religious class existed even at such early ages, division of society into social classes took place well before the widely assumed dates and perhaps the first agricultural activity may have been conducted in the region. As a result, all this new information has been added to the collective knowledge of the humanity and into the history books. On the merits of its contribution to the human history, Göbeklitepe was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2018.



INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

1. Arts of the Meddah, public storytellers (2008)

The Art of the Meddah (Public Storytelling) may be described as the art of telling stories for the purpose of entertaining an audience with impersonations and animation. Those who practice this art are called meddah from metheden, the Arabic word for "one who praises"

2. Mevlevi Sema ceremony (2008)

The Mevlevi Sema Ceremony is a Sufi ceremony that symbolizes stages on the path to

accessing God and contains religious elements and themes with detailed rules and characteristics.

3. Karagöz (2009)

Karagöz is a shadow play performed by an artist and is based on the funny dialogues and squabbles between Karagöz and Hacivat. The comical effect is achieved by the plays on words, dances and movements.

4. Âşıklık (minstrelsy) tradition (2009)

The Minstrelsy tradition is not only the cultural memory of Anatolia, but it is also an important expression of its cultural diversity and richness. It is a multi-faceted art that includes poetic, musical and narrative expressions filtered and shaped through centuries of experience. The most important characteristic of the minstrelsy tradition with its unique performance and convention is its appeal to broad segments of society because it reflects the lifestyles, worldviews, ethics and aesthetic values of the age.

5. Kırkpınar oil wrestling festival (2010)

The Kırkpınar Oil Wrestling annual tournament (the oldest wrestling tournament of the world) started when Edirne was conquered by the Ottomans in 1361. The tradition continued with the participation of hundreds of wrestlers every year and will have been held 654 times in 2015.

6. Traditional Sohbet meetings (2010)

Traditional sohbet meetings have different names in different areas, including: sıra gezmeleri, sıra name, barana sohbetleri, yaran, sırayarenler, kürsübaşı sohbetleri, velime geceleri, cümbüş, delikanlıteşkilatı, gençler kurulu, gezek, keyf/kef, muhabbet, oda teşkilatı, oturmah, sohbet, and erfane.

7. Semah, Alevi-Bektaşî ritual (2010)

The semah performed during the service (cem) as required by Alevi and Bektaşî belief is a means of reaching God through mystical and aesthetic movements executed in harmony with the rhythm of music and song accompanied by a saz (Turkish stringed instrument) played by the zakir who conducts the service

8. Ceremonial Keşkek tradition (2011)

The ceremonial meal where groups of men and women all work together cooking wheat and meat in large cauldrons over an open fire is called "keşkek", and the rituals that accompany the meal are called the Ceremonial Keşkek Tradition. The keşkek tradition is a social practice of solidarity performed on the basis of joint labor and sharing in ceremonies where community participation is high. Symbolic aspects of the tradition include beating the wheat and meat for a long time before the keşkek is cooked, and stirring the food with

a shared rhythm while it is boiling

9. Mesir Macunu festival (2012)

The Mesir Macunu Festival celebrated during the week of Nevruz (March 21-24), which is recognized as the beginning of spring, includes various cultural and traditional practices. It has been organized in Manisa for approximately 400 years

10. Turkish coffee culture and tradition (2013)

European countries developed their coffee brewing methods after deriving coffee drinking habit from the Turks; however, the method of brewing Turkish coffee has remained almost unchanged.

11. Ebru, Turkish art of marbling (2014)

Ebru is the traditional art of creating colorful patterns by sprinkling and brushing color pigments on a pan of oily water and then transforming this pattern to a special paper. It has been a traditional art of book enriching calligraphy and binding books for many centuries. In the 13th century, the first forms of Ebru emerged in Central Asia and spread to Anatolia through. During the Ottoman period, Turkish calligraphers and artists created new forms and perfected techniques.

12. Flatbread making and sharing culture: Lavash, Katyrma, Jupka, Yufka (2016)

Lavash, Katyrma, Jupka and Yufka being varieties of round- or oval-shaped thin breads that take shape by rolling dough by hand or using a dough roller, called "oklava" symbolizes not only a consumption element but also a common making and sharing culture inherited from the past in the involving regions of Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey.

13. Nawrouz or Navruz (2016)

Nevruz is widely celebrated in the northern hemisphere, particularly in societies that speak Turkish and Persian. Nevruz comes from the Persian words nev and ruz. It actually means "new day" and is a celebration of spring that is regarded as the first day of the year in many societies. According to the Gregorian calendar, Nevruz begins on March 21st.

14. Traditional craftsmanship of Çini-making (2016)

Glazed tile and ceramic household stuffs or wallboards of several colours and motifs made by firing the pulped clay soil are called "çini". Çini-making means the craftsmanship shaped around traditional Turkish art of çini since 12th century with its own specific production and adornment techniques like "minai", "luster", "polishing", "underglaze"

