

MEMORY OF THE WORLD REGISTER

NOMINATION FORM

Tajikistan – Manuscript (XIV century)

PART A – ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

1 SUMMARY

This is a rare manuscript (XIV century), a great example of Tajik-Persian Classic Literature, which is considered a brilliant achievement of the world's cultural heritage. The role of spiritual heritage of Tajik literature proves the richness of ancient and modern literature.

It is known that western Europeans and Americans became acquainted with this literature only in 16th century while eastern peoples –Indians, Arabs, Armenians, Georgians and Turks were aware of it from the very beginning.

This unique combination manuscript consists of two parts: the complete works ("Kulliyat") of Ubayd Zakoni (the famous Tajik -Persian writer) and well-known poet Hafiz Sherozi "Gazalliyt". This is the most ancient version of the Manuscript of Ubayd Zakoni and Hafiz Sherozi in the world, the only one of its kind, which was re-written only 35 years after the death of Ubayd Zakoni and 9 years after the death of Hafiz Sherozi. The manuscript has a special design with Hafiz' poems located around Ubaid Zakoni's text.

2 DETAILS OF THE NOMINATOR

2.1 Name (person or organisation)

Institute of Oriental Studies and Written Heritage of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan.

This is a scientific research institute with a large collection (more than 7, 500) of old and famous manuscripts. The institute has high caliber of staff and specialists in the domain of the written world and national heritage. The Manuscripts are located in a special building with condition for the safeguard of Manuscripts.

Director of Institute - Dr. Jurabek Nazriev

2.2 Relationship to the documentary heritage nominated

Dr. J. Nazriev - the Director of the Institute of Oriental Studies and Written Heritage and main Custodian. He is a member of the Tajikistan Memory of the World Committee

2.3 Contact person (s)

Dr. Alla Aslitdinova, Member of Tajikistan MOW committee,
Director of the Central Scientific Library of the Academy of Sciences of Republic of Tajikistan

2.4 Contact details

Central Scientific Library, 734025,
Rudaki Ave.33,
Dushanbe,
Tajikistan
(992372) 214302
e-mail: asl@ac.tajik.net

3 IDENTITY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE DOCUMENTARY HERITAGE

3.1 Name and identification details of the items being nominated

A notable example of famous classic Tajik-Persian literature and oriental culture, in the general, it is a wonderful model of the written heritage, historical pattern of old Tajik, Persian and Asian, North Africa, and southern Europe culture and art.

This, the most ancient manuscript of Ubayd Zakoni "Kulliyat", was written in 740 year by Khijra, in 1339-1340 A. D., and re-written in 807 by Khijra, in 1405 A.D., and at the same time this is the oldest in the world Hofiz Sherozi "Gazalliyt" (special style of poem) was re-written in 897 by Khijra, in 1405 A.D.

This Manuscript is in the Institute of the Written Heritage of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan.
734025, Khusynzoda st., 3,
Dushanbe,
Tajikistan

3.2 Description

The Manuscript, considered as the oldest version of Ubayd Zakoni's novels and Hafiz Sherozi's poems in the world, was presented in:

The Catalogue of Oriental Manuscripts of the Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan, Dushanbe, 1968, p.172.

G.Galimova. Oldest Manuscript of Khafiz poems // Problems of Orient Studies, 1959, # 4, p.103-112.

C. Mullojonov. Oldest Manuscript of Ubayd Zakoni// " Sharki Surkh", 1948, # 1, p. 30-33.

M.Rajabov. Ubayd Zaloni outlook// Stalinabad, 1953, p. 288-294.

The Manuscript was written on Central Asian paper (brown color) , in Tajik, by Divani handwriting, re-writer is Ibn Maymun Abdallah Abarkuchi.

4 JUSTIFICATION FOR INCLUSION/ ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA

4.1 Authenticity was corroborated during research work in the Academy of Sciences, and in the process of comparison with the Manuscript of Hafiz poems, which was written in 1424 A. D. and was published with comments in Tehran in 1941. This comparison demonstrated that the Manuscript in Dushanbe is the oldest Khafiz manuscript. The investigation of the paper and the style of the handwriting confirmed this conclusion.

4.2 Is world significance, uniqueness and irreplaceability established?

The Tajik are descendants of the branch of Indo-European family of nations who for thousands of years peacefully inhabited the fertile oases of Central Asia. They have an ancient

and one of the richest cultures. Works of ancestors of Tajik literature Rudaki, great Avicenna's works, names of Firdavsi, Omar Khayam, Rumi, Saadi, Zakoni, Khafiz, Jami, and many others Tajik classics sparkle with bright stars on the sky of the world civilization. Studies and analyses of historical processes demonstrate that the Tajik people during the close contacts with different peoples have achieved huge successes in socio –economic and cultural life.

Bibliography:

- Bartold V.V. Collected Works// Moscow, 1963.
- Bertels E.A. History of the Persian-Tajik Literature// Moscow, 1960.
- Braginskiy I.S. Essay of the History of Tajik Literature// Stalinobod, 1956.
- Contribution of Iranian People in the Development of the World Civilisation// Dushanbe, 1992.
- Sattorzoda A. The role of Tajik- Persian literature in the Development of the World //Dushanbe, 2002

4.3 The combined Manuscript of the XIV century includes the most ancient examples of Tajik-Persian great literature figure works as a world written heritage.

Central Asia and the Middle East is a place of historical meeting and intellectual interaction between East and West.

The Manuscripts and written heritage in general, play a special role in the history of the Tajik people. The Tajiks are one of the most ancient and native populations of Central Asia and Afghanistan. The process of formation of the environment of the modern Tajik people occurred in first century of our era within the limits of Sasanide's in the beginning and Samanid's state in the end.

The national cultural and spiritual heritage of Tajik-Persian Literature has international significance and Tajik literary heritage had an influence on world history and literature.

Beginning from the 18th century there are few outstanding authors who did not use this heritage in their work. So Goethe's, « East – Western Divan », Hugos's « Eastern motives », Montesquieu's « Persian letters », Heine's « Poet Firdausi », Essenin's « Persian motives » and etc.

This manuscript was indicated as unique and rare. Research work and investigation confirm the rare value. The manuscript is of high quality and has an extraordinary degree of integrity. It is in a special storage, but during last eight centuries, the original binding was lost, and must be reconstituted. Some problems are in the list of Manuscript; the edges of the pages are destroyed. This Manuscript is in need of serious restoration.

5 LEGAL INFORMATION

5.1. Owner of the documentary heritage (name and contact details)

Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan
President of the Academy of Sciences - Academician Ulmas Mirsaidov,
734025, Rudaki ave., 33, Academy of Sciences
e-mail: academy@ac.tajik.net

5.2 Custodian of the documentary heritage (name and contact details, if different to owner)

Dr. J. Nazriev - the Director of the Institute of Orient Studies and Written Heritage and main Custodian.

734025, Khusynzoda st., 3, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

5.3 Legal status:

(a) Category of ownership

State public property

(b) Accessibility

The origin Manuscript is located in special storage in the Institute of Oriental Studies and Written Heritage and can be used with special permission.

(c) Copyright status

The Copyright holder is the Academy of Sciences

(c) Responsible administration

Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan, the Scientific board.

(d) Other factors

6. MANAGEMENT PLAN

6.1 A special plan and financial budget for restoration doesn't exist. Public access can destroy this manuscript, therefore digitization and reproduction on CD necessary. At the same time, the Manuscript needs restoration of the lost fragments along with publication of the Facsimile edition with research comments and translation of all texts into English and possibly into other languages.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 Consultation about this nomination were with:

- Dr. J. Nazriev - the Director of the Institute of Orient Studies and Written Heritage and main Custodian, a member of Tajikistan Memory of the World Committee
- Dr. L.Dodkhudoeva - member of Tajikistan MOW committee, Senior researcher of the Institute of History, Ethnography and Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences
- Dr. A. Alimardonov - Senior researcher the Institute of Orient Studies and Written Heritage
- Iso Rakhmatulloh - researcher of the Institute of Orient Studies and Written Heritage

PART B – SUBSIDIARY INFORMATION

8 ASSESSMENT OF RISK

8.1 A Manuscript like this can't be seen in other libraries and archives. The quality of the Central Asia medieval paper is very good, Thanks to this, the Manuscript has normal image and didn't lose the general elements, and can be identified as an original and unique pattern of the word written heritage.

9. ASSESSMENT OF PRESERVATION

9.1 The original binding of the Manuscript was lost, and must be reconstituted. Some problems are in the list of Manuscript; the edges of the pages are destroyed. This Manuscript is in need of serious restoration.

At the same time, the Manuscript needs restoration of the lost fragments along with publication of the Facsimile edition with research comments and translation of all texts into English and possibly into other languages

PART C - LODGEMENT

This nomination is lodged by:

(Please print name) **Alla Aslitdinova**.....

(Signature)..... (Date)...**01/20/03**.....