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Lamiya ALIYEVA
Institute of Architecture and Art of ANAS
(Azerbaijan)
lamiye.aliyeva.1983@mail.ru

ACTIVITY OF THE AZERBAIJAN NATIONAL CARPET MUSEUM DURING THE PANDEMIC

Abstract. The cultural activity of the planet has significantly decreased in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, which began last December in the Chinese city of Wuhan and soon spread around the world. Millions of people all over the world are forced to live in special isolation and social isolation. All mass cultural events, concerts and theatrical performances, exhibitions postponed their activities indefinitely. At the same time, international electronic networks and many Internet platforms help cultural institutions conduct cultural events for people. Since the announcement of the pandemic in March, the Carpet Museum has been working on virtually many online resources. In this article, we will provide information on the activities of the National Carpet Museum during a pandemic.

Key words: National Carpet Museum, pandemic, exhibition, carpet weaving, cultural events.

Introduction. The art of carpet weaving has a special significance and meaning for the people of Azerbaijan since ancient times. Carpet isn't just a house item, but a kind of mythical character with a deep philosophical and mental value, which plays an irreplaceable role in our history and culture. From this point of view, the art of carpet weaving has always been protected and guarded by both ordinary Azerbaijanis and official state bodies. Several state programs on protection and development of Azerbaijani art of carpet weaving were approved, various orders were signed. Generally, a number of serious measures have been taken for the successful development of carpet weaving in Azerbaijan in recent years. Thanks to the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev's

efforts, a legislative base for the development of carpet weaving was created. The Law “On protection and development of Azerbaijani carpet art” was adopted on December 7, 2004 and an order was issued to approve this law on February 7, 2005. Then, a decree on the establishment of “Azerkhalcha” Open Joint Stock Company was signed on May 5, 2016 [1]. The President Ilham Aliyev’s order on the approval of the “State Program for the Protection and Development of Carpet Art in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2018-2022” is also of special importance for the art of carpet weaving.

It should be noted that the First Vice-President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, President of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation Mehriban Aliyeva’s activity is very valuable in the development of the art of carpet weaving.

The interpretation of the main material. Undoubtedly, the activity of the Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum that plays an important role in preserving the art of carpet weaving, which is a kind of passport of our national culture, should be especially appreciated. The Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum organizes regularly exhibitions in the museum building, which is considered a pearl of world architecture, and acquaints visitors with the mysterious carpet samples.

Exhibitions organized by the Carpet Museum aren’t limited to the interior of the country and the museum building, but are exhibited abroad. Of course, it is impossible to cover completely exhibition activities of the museum in one article. In this regard, we will provide information about the activities of the National Carpet Museum during the pandemic in the article. It is clear that the cultural activity of the planet has significantly decreased during the period of the Covid-19 pandemic, which swept the world since December last year. Millions of people around the world have been forced to live in special quarantine and social isolation. Almost all mass cultural events, concerts and theater spectacles, exhibitions have postponed their activities indefinitely. Of course, millions of people forced to stay in their homes under the rules of a special quarantine regime couldn’t be kept out of cultural events. At the same time, international electronic networks and many Internet platforms help cultural institutions to deliver cultural events to people.

It should be noted that almost at the same time, the Carpet Museum continues to work virtually on many Internet resources since the announcement of the pandemic in March.

So, as we have already mentioned, we will investigate the exhibition activities of the Carpet Museum in 2020 and especially during the pandemic in this article.

The State Museum of Oriental Art and the Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum presented a joint exhibition “Echo of Soviet Azerbaijan. Carpet. Embroidery. Poster” with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the Russian Federation and the Marjani Foundation in the mentioned museum in Moscow on February 4 of this year. The exposition spoke about the influence of historical cataclysms on decorative-applied art, a total of 40 exhibits, including woven carpets during 1920–1970 from the collection of the Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum, carpets of 1920–1930 from the collection of the State Museum of Oriental Art, embroidery and sketches on the revolution, posters from the collection of “Marjani” Foundation were exhibited in the exhibition. For the first time, the collection of campaign textiles of the State Museum of Oriental Art was completely exhibited during the exhibition [2]. All the exhibited works were an effective means of political propaganda in their time, but now these works of art have lost their meaning at that time, became an ideological precedent and are embodied in the samples of ancient art - carpet weaving and embroidery. The director of the museum Shirin Malikova emphasized at the opening ceremony of the event that the exhibition is dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the inclusion of Azerbaijani art of carpet weaving in the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity [3]. The exhibition roused great interest in the media, creative and intellectual people.

It is already known that all public events in museums have been suspended due to the threat of a coronavirus pandemic. But, the Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum didn't postpone the planned exhibition “Our Rich Treasure” and brought the exhibition virtually to the audience and online visitors through various Internet resources. For the first time in Azerbaijan, the opening was held online on March 5 at 12:00 and everyone had the opportunity to visit the exhibition in real time from anywhere in the world without leaving their homes or offices. As we mentioned, they had a chance to watch the online opening on the Facebook page and youtube channel of the Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum. As the museums continued to work normally in early March, it was possible to visit the museum to see the exhibition.

Let's noted that pile and non-pile carpets, carpet samples, jewelry samples and clothes of historical, artistic, scientific significance obtained for the purpose of enriching the collections since 2017 to present were presented at the exhibition "Our enriching treasure". These new items were donated to the museum by various organizations and individuals or purchased from private collections and famous auction houses on the expense of the state budget [4].

An exhibition "Azerbaijani carpets from the collection of the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Works" and a presentation of a book-catalog of the same name were held in Istanbul on March 13. The exhibition was organized at the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Works and the project was held in initiative of the Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum. The organizers of the project were the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the Republic of Turkey, the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Works, the Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum and the State Oil Company of the Republic of Azerbaijan (SOCAR).

The event was dedicated to the 53rd anniversary of the Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum and the 10th anniversary of the inclusion of Azerbaijani art of carpet weaving in the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. It should be noted that the project "Azerbaijani carpets from the collection of the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Works" was implemented within the "State Program for the Protection and Development of Carpet Art in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2018–2022" of the Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum [5]. The main purpose of the project, which has been held since 2018, was to carry out researches in the field of scientific attribution of Azerbaijani carpets preserved in the collection of the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Works, to prepare a catalog based on them and to organize an exhibition of rare carpet samples.

Conclusion. It should be noted that detailed information about all the above-mentioned exhibitions and events is published on the official website of the museum. All the above-mentioned events and exhibitions are important for the history and present of the art of Azerbaijani carpet weaving and are considered an important means of propaganda. We think that the activity of the National Carpet Museum during the pandemic can be considered satisfactory. The museum acquaints audience and visitors with the exhibits

preserved in the museum's collections with the help of Internet resources and various electronic platforms, social networks and shares various information. In this regard, the museum has tried to continue its activities faultlessly and succeeded in it during the pandemic.

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Lamiyyə Əliyeva (Azərbaycan)

PANDEMIYA DÖVRÜNDƏ AZƏRBAYCAN MİLLİ XALÇA MUZEYİNİN FƏALİYYƏTİ

Ötən ilin dekabr ayından etibarən Çinin Uhan şəhərində başlayan və tezliklə bütün dünyanı bürümüş Covid-19 pandemiyası şəraitində planetin mədəni aktivliyi əhəmiyyətli dərəcədə azalmışdır. Dünyada milyonlarla insan xüsusi karantin və sosial təcrid rejimində yaşamağa məcbur olmuşdur. Bütün kütləvi mədəni tədbirlər, konsert və teatr tamaşaları, sərgilər öz fəaliyyətlərini naməlum zamana qədər təxirə salmışlar. Belə bir zamanda mədəni tədbirlərin insanlara çatdırılmasında beynəlxalq elektron şəbəkə və bir çox internet platformalar mədəniyyət qurumlarına kömək olurlar. Mart ayından etibarən pandemiya elan olunmaqla demək olar ki, eyni zamanda Xalça muzeyi bir çox internet resurslarda fəaliyyətini virtual olaraq davam etdirir. Təqdim etdiyimiz məqalədə Milli Xalça Muzeyinin pandemiya dövründəki fəaliyyəti haqqında məlumat verəcəyik.

Açar sözlər: Milli Xalça muzeyi, pandemiya, sərgi, xalçaçılıq, mədəni tədbirlər.

Ламия Алиева (Азербайджан)

ДЕЯТЕЛЬНОСТЬ НАЦИОНАЛЬНОГО МУЗЕЯ КОВРОВ АЗЕРБАЙДЖАНА В ПЕРИОД ПАНДЕМИИ

Культурная активность планеты значительно снизилась в контексте пандемии Covid-19, которая началась в декабре прошлого года в китайском городе Ухань и вскоре распространилась по всему миру. Миллионы людей во всем мире вынуждены жить в особой изоляции и социальной изоляции. Все массовые культурные мероприятия, концерты и театральные представления, выставки отложили их деятельность на неопределенное время. В то же время международные электронные сети и многие интернет-платформы помогают учреждениям культуры проводить культурные мероприятия для людей. Со времени объявления о пандемии в марте Музей ковров работает практически на многих интернет-ресурсах. В этой статье мы предоставим информацию о деятельности Национального музея ковров во время пандемии.

Ключевые слова: Национальный Музей Ковра, пандемия, выставка, ковроткачество, культурные мероприятия.