

ABSTRACT

to the dissertation work of Yermekbayeva Ainur Shokanovna on the topic “Ethnographic collections of museums of Kazakhstan: structure, typology and scientific-educational significance” prepared for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the educational program "8D02205 – Archaeology and Ethnology"

Description of the dissertation work. The dissertation explores the composition, history, and process of formation of ethnographic collections related to the Kazakhs, their typology, and scientific and cognitive significance. The source base of the research consists of ethnographic collections from domestic museums, including materials from the National Museum of the Republic of Kazakhstan (National Museum), the Central State Museum of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Central Museum), as well as regional historical and local history museums.

Relevance of the topic. Historical valuables stored in museums, including ethnographic artifacts and other items of museum significance, not only represent the process of their preservation and popularization, but also serve as a tangible "tool" and a source base for museum studies and ethnological science. They provide crucial information as a historical source. Museum collections are a complex of highly diverse information. Therefore, the preservation of historical and cultural (ethnographic) values, their scientific attribution and cataloging, as well as the identification of cognitive information based on them and their introduction into scientific circulation according to thematic and problem-based principles, is one of the fundamental and applied research directions in domestic historiography. Given that the values of traditional culture, including items presented in museums as artifacts, are no longer part of the daily life of the population, their significance has increased even more than before.

The object of the research is the collections of ethnographic artifacts in the holdings of Kazakhstan museums, displayed for the general public and studied in the academic community.

The subject of the research is the history of the formation, composition, typology, scientific and cognitive, as well as scientific and applied significance of ethnographic items that comprehensively characterize the history and culture of the Kazakh ethnic group. These items are stored in the collections of museums in Kazakhstan, including the Central Museum, the National Museum, and regional historical and local history museums.

Purpose and objectives of the research. The purpose of the dissertation is to analyze the process of formation, composition, scope, condition, degree of popularization, and the level of study of ethnographic collections in museums of Kazakhstan, with the identification of the significance of preserving and studying the ethno-cultural heritage at present.

To achieve the stated purpose, the following specific tasks were identified:

– study the scope, composition, and process of formation of the ethnographic collections' holdings;

- analyze the features of the formation of domestic museum holdings and the historical and socio-cultural prerequisites (context) for their development;
- examine the scope and composition of ethnographic collections, as well as the process of their formation according to a thematic and problem-based principle;
- study the historical stages of displaying ethnographic collections, their popularization at international and national exhibitions, as well as their current state;
- conduct a comparative study of the scientific attribution, cataloging, and classification of ethnographic artifacts.

The territorial scope of the dissertation work. The dissertation research includes museums located in the territory of Kazakhstan.

Chronological framework of the dissertation covers the period from the emergence of the first museums in the territory of Kazakhstan, that is, from the 1830s to the present day.

Methods and methodology of research. Since the dissertation research is based on historical ethnography, cultural anthropology, and museum ethnography, methodological principles are used that form the foundation for revealing the topic of the work. Given that ethnographic collections in museums are extremely comprehensive, numerous, and have a complex typology, the dissertation adopts a representative method, meaning that a specific historical-ethnographic artifact, regardless of whether it is housed in one museum or several, is selected for the purpose of understanding its museum significance. Unique specimens (or a specimen, if necessary) are chosen as the object of study.

Furthermore, it is worth noting that the structural and functional methods, which are in mutual cause-and-effect relation, allow for an understanding of the connections between historical-ethnographic artifacts and the system of livelihood of the ethnic group, as well as other components. Through the contextual or context-based method, it is possible to objectively study a specific historical phenomenon within social time and social space from the perspective of various factors (both direct and indirect). Additionally, as a methodological prerequisite for the effective application of the aforementioned approaches, typological and comparative-typological methods are employed.

Scientific novelty of the work.

- the stages and geography of collecting ethnographic collections, as well as the objective and subjective factors of this process, have been studied;
- the features of the formation and development of domestic museum holdings have been studied in historical and socio-cultural contexts;
- the composition of ethnographic collections and the process of their formation have been studied according to regional, chronological, and thematic-principled approaches;
- the conditions of the desk processing of museum artifacts at present, their display, preservation, use in exhibitions, scientific attribution, cataloging, and study have been examined;
- attention has been given to the level of popularization of museum items, based on which the issues of displaying ethnographic objects have been studied. The historical stages of their popularization at international and national exhibitions have

been highlighted, and their current state has been analyzed in light of domestic experience.

Conclusions recommended for defense:

1. At the initial stage of accumulating ethnographic collections, alongside government officials of the Russian authorities, the Kazakh intelligentsia played a significant role in their collection. As with historical and cultural values, the organization of various all-Russian and international exhibitions in the pre-revolutionary period was of great importance in the process of collecting, researching, and promoting ethno-artifacts. Moreover, the creation of the Russian Geographical Society and the Statistical Committee led to the systematic study of the Kazakh region and the formation of the ethnographic collections fund during ethnographic expeditions.

2. Since the geography of collecting domestic ethnographic collections and its history begins with the Central Museum, the history of the acquisition of the first ethnographic collections is considered in a unified context with the creation of the Central Museum. Moreover, as our research clearly shows, the Central Museum played a lasting role in the process of creating other museums in the country. In particular, our dissertation research clearly highlighted the immeasurable role of the Central Museum in the creation and improvement of other museums in the republic, especially from an organizational standpoint.

3. A comprehensive study of the current state of museum artifacts allows for providing a material-technical, technological, and scientific justification for their preservation and transfer from generation to generation.

4. Historical valuables in museums, including ethnographic artifacts, like other items of museum significance, play a significant role. On the one hand, they serve as objects and tangible "tools" for preservation and popularization, and on the other hand, from the perspective of museum studies and the source base of ethnological science, they represent a special category of concreteness and visibility.

5. It would not be an exaggeration to say that, with the exception of the fact that in domestic historiography, to this day, museum items, including, of course, ethno-artifacts, are considered only as illustrative material in relevant historical and ethnological studies, the level of their full utilization is quite low. In this regard, based on the practices of social anthropology and cultural anthropology, any museum artifacts are analyzed in their concreteness and visibility.

6. Currently, due to the processes of globalization, national values are increasingly weakening and are even under threat of disappearing. In this regard, while studying museum values is the most effective method for preserving national consciousness, and consequently national existence, this is only one side of the issue. It is also necessary for this study to become a fundamental direction of cultural work in our country, aimed at popularizing these values among the masses, especially with regard to the younger generation.

The data base of the research can be divided into the following groups:

1. First of all, the complex of ethnographic artifacts of Russian museums as an object of research is the most important source base and foundation, including a)

clothing; b) housing; c) weapons; d) saddlery; f) household goods; g) applied products; h) musical instruments.

2. Museum ethnographic information in scientific and journalistic works of Russian researchers of the pre-revolutionary period;

3. Materials from the collections of the Central State Museum of the Republic of Kazakhstan;

4. The journal of receipts of museum objects, scientific passports of museum valuables, published scientific catalogues of museum collections, booklets with information about the country and major museum events and memorable dates; as well as, of course, programs (guides) on museum exhibitions.

The complex of data obtained directly from museums became the basis for understanding the content of museum work, its directions, results at each stage, as well as collecting museum ethnographic objects, their scientific certification, attribution of passports and collecting information about the funds in which they are stored. He also opened up huge opportunities to explore the human resources potential of Russian museums.

Scientific and practice of study. The full text of the dissertation research, together with the appendix, can be used as a scientific and methodological basis by the teaching staff of higher educational institutions that train specialists in the fields of "History", "Art", "Culture", in the educational process during lectures and practical exercises, educational and production practices, preparation of textbooks, methodological guidelines. It can be used to develop a methodological base of disciplines in higher education institutions in bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs in the field of Ethnology and Anthropology, as well as subjects taught so far only as special courses in Cultural Anthropology and Museum Management and Monument Protection.

Approbation of work results. 10 scientific articles have been published on the topic of the dissertation, 3 of which are in publications recommended by the Committee for Quality Assurance in Science and Higher Education of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan, 6 articles in collections of materials from international scientific conferences and 1 article in the journal from the Scopus database.

The structure of the dissertation work. The dissertation consists of an introduction, four chapters, a conclusion, a list of references and an appendix. The application presents unique samples of little-studied artifacts, which reflect regional peculiarities.