ISSUES OF FORMING A DATABASE OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OBJECTS FOR COMPILING TOURIST MAPS

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Abstract*. This article examines the preservation of natural and cultural heritage objects, the transmission of these objects to future generations, and the organization of their protection and mapping. It further presents the system of regularly updated data and documentation concerning the geographic location, legal status, quantitative and qualitative characteristics, and valuation of cultural heritage objects.*

Keywords: *dendrological park, archaeological monument, architectural monument, state biosphere reserve, national park, nature park, state game reserve, natural monument.*

Introduction

The use of maps developed on the basis of modern methods occupies a leading role in the development of tourism processes worldwide and across its various regions. Given the growing global demand for accurate, data-rich tourist maps, it becomes necessary to introduce new methods of compiling systematic tourist maps based on geographic databases, using modern technologies. In this regard, it is of great importance to introduce cartographic methods that provide complete, reliable and readily accessible information on tourist resources and infrastructure objects for tourism purposes.

In many countries, measures have been implemented to preserve natural and cultural heritage objects, to transmit them to future generations, and to ensure their protection and mapping. In the Republic of Uzbekistan as well, a number of measures are being carried out to preserve historical, cultural and architectural monuments, to hand them down to future generations in their original condition, and to ensure their state protection. For instance, the procedure for the protection and use of cultural heritage objects on the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan is established in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the Protection and Use of Cultural Heritage Objects" of 30 August 2001, while the Law "On State Cadastres" implements the main directions of state policy in the field of maintaining the state cadastre of cultural heritage objects [1]. Resolution No. 269 of the Cabinet of Ministers of 29 July 2002, "On Measures to Further Improve the Protection and Use of Cultural

Heritage Objects," together with the "Regulation on the Interdepartmental Commission for Coordinating Issues of Protection and Use of Cultural Heritage Objects," the "Regulation on Maintaining the State Cadastre of Cultural Heritage Objects of the Republic of Uzbekistan," and the minutes of the Cabinet of Ministers' session "On Measures to Further Improve Services for the Population and Tourists at Historical Monuments, Shrines and Places of Pilgrimage," are among the relevant regulatory acts [1, 2].

Main Part

The state cadastre of cultural heritage objects is maintained in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the Protection and Use of Cultural Heritage Objects," the Law "On State Cadastres," and other regulatory legal acts, with the aim of ensuring state protection of cultural heritage objects and their rational use.

The state cadastre of cultural heritage objects (hereinafter "the State Cadastre") represents a regularly updated system of data and documents on the geographic location, legal status, quantitative and qualitative characteristics, and valuation of cultural heritage objects [1, 3, 4].

Maintaining the State Cadastre includes the state registration of ownership and other rights to cultural heritage objects, recording their quantitative and qualitative characteristics, assessing cultural heritage objects in terms of quality and value, classifying, storing and updating cadastral information, compiling reports on the condition of cultural heritage objects, submitting relevant information for inclusion in the unified system of state cadastres, and providing users with cadastral information. Organizing cadastral work on cultural heritage objects — including the passports, documents, materials and cadastral survey records required to establish and register rights to a cadastral object, technical surveys and passportization, special inspections and searches, and the determination of the qualitative and value assessment of a cadastral object — and defining the responsibilities of authorized state organizations in this regard, constitutes a pressing issue in the field of protecting and using cultural heritage objects, which represent the common national wealth of the people of Uzbekistan. This underlies the relevance of the topic addressed in this article.

Natural and cultural heritage objects are depicted on all types of maps, particularly tourist maps. However, most domestic and foreign tourist maps differ in the extent to which they present places of interest as a collection of various monuments within a territory without assessing their specific order and status, and in whether they have developed a precise information system on heritage together with clearly defined legislative and regulatory documents. Below is the information system used to depict tangible cultural heritage objects on tourist maps (Tables 1–2).

In accordance with the UNESCO Convention (1975), laws defining the concepts of natural and cultural heritage have been adopted and are in force across the countries of the world [5]. An example is the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the Protection and Use of Cultural Heritage Objects." Laws on natural heritage objects set out a complete list of specially protected territories within the relevant system, together with information on individual monuments and exceptional natural phenomena identified in the course of mapping each specific region.

Table 1.

Information system for depicting natural and cultural heritage objects

1. Natural heritage	**2. Cultural heritage**
Specially protected natural territories (existing and planned): state reserves and their branches/sections; state biosphere reserves; national parks; nature parks; state game reserves; natural monuments; dendrological parks; botanical gardens; health resorts and spas; forests of scientific importance (forest reserves); wetlands of international importance; buffer (protection) zones; unique natural monuments and phenomena (geological, hydrological, botanical, etc.). The list of objects is compiled during the mapping of each individual district.	Monuments of history, archaeology, urban planning and architecture: compact objects (buildings, fortresses, burial sites, parks, gardens, boulevards, etc.); linear objects (streets, riverside promenades, roads, canals, defensive structures); area-based objects with defined boundaries (citadels, inner forts, quarters, monasteries, etc.); off-site forms of heritage (paintings, sculptures, books, etc.) held in museums, exhibition halls, archives and libraries; natural-historical-cultural territories and places of interest; historic towns and other settlements.
Significance (status)	**Significance (status)**
World / State / Regional / Local	World (UNESCO List) / Specially protected / State / Regional / Local

Table 2.

Information system for depicting tangible cultural heritage objects

Tangible cultural heritage objects in Samarkand region						
No.	**District (city)**	**Archaeological heritage objects**	**Architectural heritage objects**	**Monumental art monuments**	**Places of interest (shrines)**	**Total**
1	Samarkand city	14	417	36	23	490
2	Bulungur district	19	6	—	—	25
3	Jomboy district	39	6	—	—	45
4	Ishtikhon district	62	8	—	—	70
5	Kattaqorgon city	—	23	—	—	23
6	Kattaqorgon district	42	8	—	—	50
7	Qoshrabod district	54	3	—	—	57
8	Narpay district	46	10	—	—	56
9	Nurobod district	50	5	—	—	55
10	Oqdaryo district	105	8	—	1	114
11	Pastdargom district	144	3	—	1	148

12	Payariq district	91	6	—	—	97
13	Paxtachi district	32	9	—	—	41
14	Samarkand district	102	34	—	4	140
15	Tayloq district	58	13	—	—	71
16	Urgut district	117	22	—	5	144
TOTAL		**975**	**581**	**36**	**34**	**1626**

Cultural heritage encompasses monuments of history, archaeology, urban planning and architecture; ensembles (palaces, parks, gardens, etc.); off-site forms of heritage concentrated in specific locations (museums, archives, exhibition halls, and similar institutions); natural-historical-cultural territories; and historic towns and other settlements. Each heritage object is depicted in accordance with the decision establishing its protection regime by specialization, and its significance — whether world (per the UNESCO List), state, regional or local (according to the relevant level of documentation) — is indicated.

Conclusion

The continuous growth in the popularity of tourism, together with the heightened interest in places and monuments of universal significance, gives rise to the challenge of organizing and directing tourist flows. UNESCO's "Flourishing Tourism" strategy — a programme covering natural, cultural and ecological tourism, aimed at seeking measures to support the high-level preservation of monuments and at improving their management — is of considerable importance for introducing and developing tourism programmes. One of the ways to raise public understanding of the significance of world heritage is to provide cartographic products related to natural and cultural tourism that offer clear advantages over other forms of information.

References

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