

**TEREZA HEJZLAROVÁ, ZDENKA KLIMTOVÁ,
DAGMAR POSPÍŠILOVÁ ET AL.**

Ўзбекистоннинг маданий мероси/ The Cultural Legacy of Uzbekistan/ Культурное наследие Узбекистана. Чехия Республикаси тўнламлари/ The Collections of the Czech Republic/ Собрания Чешской республики, Vol. XVI.

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The project 'Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan in the Collections of the World' includes the compilation, study, and publication of the objects of material and artistic cultures originating from the territory of Uzbekistan, but currently stored in different countries of the world.

One of the book-albums 'Collections of the Czech Republic' from the series of 'Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan in the Collections of the World', published in 2019, provides a brief analysis and classification of the monuments of art related to the cultural heritage of Uzbekistan.

The authors of this valuable publication are highly qualified specialists in the history of material culture and art, T. Hejzlarová, Z. Klimtová, D. Pospíšilová, D. Mach, A. Císařová Smítková, J. Panenková. The volume reflects a serious research work on compiling and summarizing the best artifacts stored in the museum collections and cultural institutions of the Czech Republic. Uzbekistan's largest collection of applied artworks is stored in the Náprstek Museum of Asian, African and American Cultures in Prague. It includes a wide range of objects: textiles (traditional fabrics, clothing, embroidery), metal products (dishes and jewelry), ceramics, and musical instruments. Interesting is the collection of Uzbek embroidery from the National Gallery Prague. Other institutions with Uzbek artifacts in their collections are the West Bohemian Museum in Pilsen, the Červená Lhota Castle, and the National Library in Prague.

The collections of Czech museums feature material objects from different regions of Uzbekistan: Samarkand, Bukhara, the Fergana Valley, Khorezm, Nurata etc. According to the researchers, the compilation of collections began in the 19th century and was connected with the cultural activity of officials, diplomats, travelers of Czech origin, who bought various artifacts in Central Asia, which then were often given to the museums in the Czech Republic as a gift. Researchers classified objects of material culture and art originating from different regions of modern Uzbekistan. They highlighted categories such as clothing and accessories, fabrics, embroidery, gold embroidery, jewelry, artistic metal, ceramics, musical instruments, household items. Many of these objects refer to the 19th–20th centuries. The book includes a catalogue of objects stored in the Czech

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museums and a separately compiled glossary of local terms, which helps to understand their meaning and essence. The book is richly illustrated and gives an excellent insight into the masterpieces of Uzbekistan's cultural heritage, which are kept in various cultural institutions of the Czech Republic. In writing the book, the authors used archival materials and a number of publications by Soviet, Uzbek, and Czech authors.

There are minor technical errors in writing the individual Central Asian names and terms in the text. However, a great deal of scientific work has been done to generalize, classify, and analyze the historical objects of material culture of Uzbekistan stored in the museums of the Czech Republic.

The publication is aimed not only at the representatives of scientific and research circles, but also for a wide audience interested in the rich cultural heritage of Uzbekistan. The publication of collections significantly expands the world scientific knowledge, draws the attention of the scientific community to the found materials, and strengthens the scientific ties of the Czech Republic with Uzbekistan.