# INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

# WHAT IS IT?

Intangible cultural heritage includes practices, representations, expressions, knowledge and know-how that communities recognize as part of their cultural heritage. Passed down from generation to generation, it is constantly recreated by communities in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, providing them with a sense of identity and continuity.

# WHY DOES IT MATTER?

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) strives to cooperate with countries around the world for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage. This heritage, which is both traditional and modern, nourishes cultural diversity and human creativity. It can help to meet many contemporary challenges of sustainable development such as social cohesion, education, food security, health and the sustainable management of natural resources. It is also a significant source of income and job creation. For the purposes of the Convention, consideration will be given solely to such intangible cultural heritage as is compatible with existing international human rights instruments, as well as with the requirements of sustainable development and mutual respect among communities.

# **UNESCO'S ROLE**

Since its adoption by the 32nd session of the General Conference in 2003, the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage has experienced an extremely rapid ratification, with over 150 States Parties in the less than 10 years of its existence. In line with the Convention's primary objective - to safeguard intangible cultural heritage - the UNESCO Secretariat has devised a global capacitybuilding strategy that helps states worldwide, first, to create institutional and professional environments that encourage the sustainable safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage and, second, to promote broad public knowledge and support for the Convention's concepts and objectives. This strategy entails a long-term, multifaceted approach that involves many different stakeholders. UNESCO provides assistance in revising policies and legislation, redesigning institutional infrastructures, developing inventory methods and systems and fostering the technical skills required to safeguard intangible cultural heritage.

## THE INSCRIPTIONS

The Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage has several systems for safeguarding at the international level. The List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding has 31 elements, following the seventh session of the Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, held in Paris, France, in December 2012. There are also 257 elements on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity as well as 10 programmes included in the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices.

#### INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE FUND

The Fund for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage can contribute financially and technically to State safeguarding measures. If you would like to participate, please send a contribution.

#### Donations in US\$ should be made to: UNESCO account:

949-1-191558 CHASE JP MORGAN BANK International Money Transfer Division 4 Metrotech Center, Brooklyn New York, NY 11245 United States of America Swift code: CHASUS 33-ABA: 0210-0002-1

## Donations in EUR should be made to:

UNESCO account: 30003-03301-00037291909-97 SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE Paris Seine Amont 10, rue Thénard 75005 Paris, France Swift code: SOGEFRPPAFS

Please indicate that the contribution is a donation to the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund.

#### **SECRETARIAT** OF THE CONVENTION

The List of elements of intangible cultural heritage is updated every year by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Section. If you would like to receive more information about the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, please contact:

#### Intangible Cultural Heritage Section UNESCO

7, place de Fontenoy 75352 Paris 07 SP, France Tel.: + 33 (0)1 45 68 43 43 Fax: +33 (0)1 45 68 57 52

Email: ich\_com@unesco.org Website: www.unesco.org/culture/ich

Published in 2013 by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France Printed in France by UNESCO

Cover photo: © 2011, Centre for Research and Development of

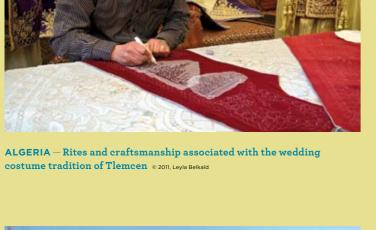
Culture, Indonesia. Photographer: Dede Priana

WWW.UNESCO.ORG/CULTURE/ICH





ALGERIA – Rites and craftsmanship associated with the wedding



ARMENIA — Performance of the Armenian epic of 'Daredevils

of Sassoun' or 'David of Sassoun' @ 2004, "House of Sassoun" NGO. Photographer: Avag Avagyar



 ${\bf BRAZIL-Frevo,\,performing\,arts\,of\,the\,Carnival\,of\,Recife}$ 



CHINA — Strategy for training coming generations of Fujian puppetry practitioners



INDIA – Buddhist chanting of Ladakh: recitation of sacred Buddhist texts in the trans-Himalayan Ladakh region, Jammu and Kashmir, India



the people of Papua © 2011, Centre for Research and Development of Culture. Photographer: Dede Priana



MALI, BURKINA FASO AND CÔTE D'IVOIRE — Cultural practices and expressions linked to the balafon of the Senufo communities of Mali, Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire



 ${\sf TURKEY-Mesir\ Macunu\ festival\ }$   ${\scriptstyle (\!\circ\!)}$  Information and Documentation Centre of Folk Culture/



AUSTRIA — Schemenlaufen, the carnival of Imst, Austria © 2004, Melitta Abber



COLOMBIA — Festival of Saint Francis of Assisi, Quibdó © 2007, León Dario Peláez



IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF) — Qālišuyān rituals of Mašhad-e Ārdehāl in Kāšān © 2010, ICHHTO Research Centre. Photographer: Abbas Torabzadeh



 ${f MEXICO-Xtaxkgakget\ Makgkaxtlawana: the\ Centre\ for\ Indigenous}$ Arts and its contribution to safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage of the Totonac people of Veracruz, Mexico



 ${\bf UGANDA-Bigwala, gourd\ trumpet\ music\ and\ dance\ of\ the\ Busoga}$ Kingdom in Uganda © 2011, James Isabirye



AZERBAIJAN - Craftsmanship and performance art of the Tar, a long-necked string musical instrument



CROATIA — Klapa multipart singing of Dalmatia, southern Croatia



ITALY — Traditional violin craftsmanship in Cremona



 $\textbf{MOROCCO} - \textbf{Cherry festival in Sefrou} \ @ \ 2010, \ Sefrou \ Town \ Council$ 



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, CZECH REPUBLIC, FRANCE, HUNGARY, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, MONGOLIA, MOROCCO, QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA, SPAIN AND SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC - Falconry, a living human heritage



**BELGIUM** — Marches of Entre-Sambre-et-Meuse



ECUADOR – Traditional weaving of the Ecuadorian toquilla straw hat



JAPAN – Nachi no Dengaku, a religious performing art held at the Nachi fire festival © 2009, Cultural Heritage Division, Wakayama Prefectural Board of Education



 ${\sf OMAN-Al}$  'azi, elegy, processional march and poetry



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND OMAN – Al-Taghrooda, traditional Bedouin chanted poetry in the United Arab Emirates and the Sultanate



**BOLIVIA** (PLURINATIONAL STATE OF) — **Ichapekene Piesta, the biggest** festival of San Ignacio de Moxos © 2010, Fama Producciones. Photographer: Christian M

BOTSWANA — Earthenware pottery-making skills in Botswana's

Kgatleng District © 2011, Bakgatla ba Kgafela. Photographer: S.O. Rampete



 ${f HUNGARY}-{f Folk}$  art of the Matyó, embroidery of a traditional community © 2012, Péter Kohalmi



 ${\bf KYRGYZSTAN-Ala-kiyiz\ and\ Shyrdak,\ art\ of\ Kyrgyz\ traditional}$ 

felt carpets © 2009, Urmat Osmoev



REPUBLIC OF KOREA - Arirang, lyrical folk song in the Republic



**ROMANIA** — Craftsmanship of Horezu ceramics © 2011, National Centre for the Preservation and Promotion of Trad Photographer: Corina Mihāescu





VIET NAM – Worship of Hùng kings in Phú Thọ

# LIST OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN NEED OF URGENT SAFEGUARDING

The List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding aims to enhance global awareness and mobilize international cooperation in order to safeguard intangible cultural heritage whose viability is at risk despite the best efforts of the communities or States Parties. It records the safeguarding measures drawn up by the State Party, with the widest participation of the communities, that may then be given priority for financial support from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund. Four elements of intangible cultural heritage were inscribed on this List in 2012 by the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

## **BOTSWANA** Earthenware pottery-making skills in Botswana's Kgatleng District

Women of the Bakgatla ba Kgafela community of Botswana practise earthenware pottery-making skills, using clay, weathered sandstone and other materials to make pots of different forms, designs and styles that relate to the traditional rituals and beliefs of the community. The pots are used for storing beer, fermenting sorghum meal, fetching water, cooking, ancestor worship and traditional healing rituals. The practice is in danger of dying out because of the decreasing number of highly skilled potters, the low prices for finished goods and the increasing use of mass-produced containers.

#### **INDONESIA** Noken multifunctional knotted or woven bag, handcraft of the people of Papua

A Noken is a knotted net or woven bag that is handmade from wood fibre or leaves by communities in the Papua and West Papua provinces of Indonesia. It is used for carrying produce, the catch brought back by hunters, firewood, babies or small animals as well as for shopping and storing things in the home. Nokens may also be worn or given as peace offerings. The number of people making and using Nokens is decreasing, however, in the face of competition from factory-made bags and the problems involved in obtaining raw materials.

REGISTER OF BEST

SAFEGUARDING PRACTICES

The Register of Best Safeguarding Practices includes

programmes, projects and activities that the Intergovernmental

Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural

Heritage considers best reflect the principles and objectives

of the Convention. It aims to promote international exchange

and cooperation for programmes with proven success in

safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Two programmes

were selected for the Register in 2012 by the Committee.

foremost arts of the Kyrgyz people. The knowledge, skills, diversity, ornamentation and ceremonies involved provide the Kyrgyz with a sense of identity and continuity. The making of these carpets is a communal enterprise, led by older women in rural, mountainous areas, but the tradition is in danger of disappearing. The number of practitioners is decreasing and the absence of government safeguarding measures, the lack of interest shown by the younger generation, the dominance of cheap synthetic carpets and the poor quality and low availability of raw materials are all exacerbating the situation.

Ala-kiyiz and Shyrdak, art of Kyrgyz

**KYRGYZSTAN** 

traditional felt carpets

Traditional felt carpets are one of the

#### **UGANDA** Bigwala, gourd trumpet music and dance of the Busoga Kingdom in Uganda

The Basoga people of Uganda traditionally practise Bigwala music and dance during royal celebrations and on social occasions. A set of five or more monotone gourd trumpets is accompanied by drums, singers and dancers. The lyrics narrate the history of the Basoga people, focusing in particular on their king. At present, there are only four elderly master bearers with skills in Bigwala performance. As a result, Bigwala is performed infrequently and faces a real threat to its survival.

# REPRESENTATIVE LIST OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF HUMANITY

The Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity aims to ensure better visibility of the intangible cultural heritage and to raise awareness of its importance while encouraging dialogue that respects cultural diversity. Twenty-seven elements of intangible cultural heritage were inscribed on this List in 2012 by the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Short poems are improvised and exchanged

between two groups of riders, often in the

form of antiphonal singing. The most

important aspect is the social bonding

during the oral exchange of verses. Al-

Taghrooda is also chanted at weddings and

other festivities, particularly camel races. Its

themes range from romantic love, friendship,

Rites and craftsmanship associated

with the wedding costume tradition

During the wedding ritual of Tlemcen in

north-western Algeria, the bride is dressed

in a traditionally woven golden silk dress,

applied to her hands and an older woman

helps her don an embroidered velvet caftan,

jewellery and a conical hat. Girls in Tlemcen

are initiated into the costume tradition at an

early age, while the craftsmanship involved

in making the precious wedding costume is

handed down from generation to generation.

Performance of the Armenian epic

of 'Daredevils of Sassoun' or 'David

'Daredevils of Sassoun', tells the story of

David of Sassoun, a youth who defends his

homeland in an unequal duel against evil.

Passages from sections of this heroic epic

style. It is usually performed seated, to the

musical accompaniment of a duduk, at

weddings, birthdays, christenings and

160 variants and performances may

last up to two hours.

**MEXICO** 

Xtaxkgakget Makgkaxtlawana:

contribution to safeguarding the

intangible cultural heritage of the

as a response to the Totonac people's

house-schools', with each 'house'

Totonac people of Veracruz, Mexico

The Centre for Indigenous Arts was designed

long-standing desire to create an educational

recreates a traditional settlement comprising

specializing in one of the Totonac arts, such

as pottery, textiles, painting or traditional

healing. The method used to hand down

institution to transmit their teachings, art,

values and culture. The centre's structure

the Centre for Indigenous Arts and its

major national cultural events. There are

are recounted and sung in a lyrical, rhythmic

The traditional Armenian epic, the

**ARMENIA** 

of Sassoun'

female relations; symbolic henna designs are

surrounded by her friends and married

aspirations and praise of tribal ties to the

settlement of disputes and contemporary

ELEMENTS INSCRIBED

ON A NATIONAL BASIS

#### ELEMENTS INSCRIBED ON A MULTINATIONAL BASIS

MALI, BURKINA FASO AND CÔTE D'IVOIRE Cultural practices and expressions linked to the balafon of the Senufo communities of Mali, Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire

The balafon of the Senufo communities of Mali, Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire is a pentatonic xylophone composed of eleven to twenty-one keys of different lengths arranged on a trapezoidal frame with gourd resonators of varying sizes beneath the keys. Under the instruction of a teacher, the student first learns to play a children's balafon before advancing to full-sized ones. Played solo or as part of an ensemble during festivities, prayers, work, funerals and other occasions, the balafon is a symbol of community identity.

#### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, **AUSTRIA, BELGIUM,** CZECH REPUBLIC, FRANCE, **HUNGARY, REPUBLIC OF** KOREA, MONGOLIA, MOROCCO, QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA, SPAIN AND SYRIAN **ARAB REPUBLIC**

Falconry, a living human heritage

Falconry is the traditional activity of keeping and training falcons to take quarry in its natural state. It is practised in many countries worldwide. Originally a way of obtaining food, falconry is today identified with camaraderie and sharing. It is mainly found along migration flyways and corridors and is practised by amateurs and professionals of all ages, both men and women. Falconers develop a strong relationship and a spiritual bond with their birds and great commitment is required to

## **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND OMAN** Al-Taghrooda, traditional Bedouin chanted poetry in the United Arab

breed, train, handle and fly the falcons.

Al-Taghrooda traditional Bedouin chanted poetry is composed and recited by men travelling on camelback through desert areas of the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

Strategy for training coming

practitioners

generations of Fujian puppetry

Fujian puppetry is a Chinese performing art

consisting of string and hand puppets. Faced

Practitioners. The strategy involves the wide

and educational institutions in an attempt to

enhance the sustainability of this performing

participation of practitioners, local people

art. The initiatives include: providing

professional training; preparing teaching

materials; setting up performance venues,

training institutes and exhibition halls;

awareness-raising through formal and

international cooperation; and artistic

BOTSWANA

BRAZIL

in Botswana's Kgatleng District

• Frevo, performing arts of the

Carnival of Recife (2012)

■ Call for projects of the National

Programme of Intangible Heritage

■ Fandango's Living Museum (2011)

people's ritual for the maintena

of social and cosmic order (2011)

▲ Yaokwa, the Enawene Nawe

Oral and graphic expressions

• Samba de Roda of the Recôncavo

• Nestinarstvo, messages from the

in the village of Bulgari (2009)

Bistritsa Babi, archaic polyphony,

• Royal Ballet of Cambodia (2008)

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Pygmies of Central Africa (2008)

• Polyphonic singing of the Aka

■ Strategy for training coming

practitioners (2012)

▲ Meshrep (2010)

Peking opera (2010)

of Chinese junks (2010)

generations of Fujian puppetry

• Chinese shadow puppetry (2011)

▲ Hezhen Yimakan storytelling (2011)

Acupuncture and moxibustion of

▲ Watertight-bulkhead technology

past: the Panagyr of Saints

Constantine and Helena

dances and rituals from

the Shoplouk region (2008)

of the Wajapi (2008)

of Bahia (2008)

BULGARIA

CAMBODIA

CHINA

non-formal education; regional and

exchanges.

ON A NATIONAL

ALGERIA

ARMENIA

AUSTRIA

AZERBAIJAN

of Tlemcen (2012)

of Sassoun' (2012)

Khachkars (2010)

Armenian cross-stones art.

Duduk and its music (2008)

• Schemenlaufen, the carnival of

• Craftsmanship and performance

musical instrument (2012)

Traditional art of Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan (2010)

BANGLADESH

BELARUS

Baul songs (2008)

art of the Tar, a long-necked string

carpet weaving in the Republic of

• Art of Azerbaijani Ashiq (2009)

• Azerbaijani Mugham (2008)

Imst, Austria (2012)

• Ahellil of Gourara (2008)

• Albanian folk iso-polyphony (2008

• Rites and craftsmanship associated

• Performance of the Armenian epic

Symbolism and craftsmanship of

of 'Daredevils of Sassoun' or 'David

with the wedding costume tradition

by recent threats to its transmission, local

communities drew up the 2008-2020

Strategy for the Training of Coming

Generations of Fujian Puppetry

Emirates and the Sultanate of Oman

# before the Christian season of Lent. The

**AUSTRIA** 

central festivity is Schemenlaufen, a procession of masked dancers in costume. The main characters wear bells and perform a special dance that involves leaping and bowing. Masked chimney-sweeps climb houses, witches shout at the audience accompanied by a band playing dissonant melodies, and bears demonstrate their strength. The carnival unites the whole population of Imst in a common goal: organizing the Fasnacht in accordance with long-standing tradition.

Schemenlaufen, the carnival of Imst,

The city of Imst celebrates its Fasnacht

carnival every four years on the Sunday

#### **AZERBAIJAN** Craftsmanship and performance art of the Tar, a long-necked string musical

The Tar, a long-necked plucked lute, is crafted and played throughout Azerbaijan. It features in numerous traditional musical genres and is played at weddings, social gatherings, festive events and concerts. The hollow body, made of mulberry wood, is shaped in the form of a figure eight and is held horizontally, while the eleven metal strings are plucked with a plectrum. Craftspeople pass on their knowledge to their apprentices, and players transmit their skills both orally and by demonstration to young people within their community.

#### **BELGIUM** Marches of Entre-Sambre-et-Meuse

The Marches of Entre-Sambre-et-Meuse are of great importance to the cultural identity of Entre-Sambre-et-Meuse in Wallonia, Belgium. These military marches commemorate the dedication of the village church and involve the entire village. The escorted processions consist of several companies, formed of tens, even hundreds of marchers. The participants, all dressed in military uniforms, escort the religious procession, to the accompaniment of drums fifes and song. Young people march alongside their parents in companies such as the Young Guard.

#### **BOLIVIA** (PLURINATIONAL STATE OF) Ichapekene Piesta, the biggest festival of San Ignacio de Moxos

The Ichapekene Piesta festival combines the legend of the victory of Saint Ignatius of Lovola with Moxeño indigenous beliefs. The festivities involve fireworks, singing, the celebration of masses, funeral wakes, alms-giving and feasts. The main rituals are a re-enactment of Saint Ignatius's victory and a choreographed procession of participants disguised as masked ancestors and animals. They reinforce the importance of a respect for nature and allow the Moxeños to be reborn into the Christian tradition in the presence of their ancestral spirits.

#### **BRAZIL** Frevo, performing arts of the Carnival of Recife

Frevo is a Brazilian artistic expression comprising music and dance and is performed mainly during the Carnival of Recife. Its frenetic, vigorous rhythm draws upon a fusion of musical genres such as marches, Brazilian tango, square dance, polka and pieces from the classical repertoire, all performed by martial bands and accompanied by fanfares. The music is essentially urban, and like its accompanying dance, the Passo, is vigorous and subversive. The dance revolves around the skill and agility of capoeira fighters, who improvise leaps to the electrifying sound of steel orchestras and bands.

# **COLOMBIA** Festival of Saint Francis of Assisi,

Every September and October the twelve Franciscan districts of Quibdó hold the Fiesta de San Pacho, a religious celebration of the community's African-Colombian Chocó identity. It begins with a Catholic 'inaugural mass' that incorporates traditional dances and music on the chirimía an oboe-like instrument. A carnival parade follows, with floats, costumes, dances and chirimía. Masses are celebrated in the

#### morning, with floats and carnival groups in the afternoon. Towards the end, the patron saint travels down the Atrato River and people celebrate the dawn with devotional hymns and perform the Grand Procession of

the Saint.

**CROATIA** Klapa multipart singing of Dalmatia, southern Croatia The Dalmatian multipart vocal tradition known as Klapa is characterized by  $\alpha$  cappella homophonic singing and simple musical forms and is transmitted orally. Each group is led by its first tenor, followed by the other tenors, baritones and basses. When performing, the singers stand in a tight semicircle; the first tenor starts off the singing, followed by the others. The aim is to

achieve the most harmonious blend of

situations and the local environment.

toquilla straw hat

voices. Klapa songs deal with love, real-life

# **ECUADOR** Traditional weaving of the Ecuadorian

The toquilla straw hat is woven from the fibres of a palm tree found on the Ecuadorian coast. Farmers cultivate the fields and harvest the stems before separating the fibre from the outer skin. The fibre is then boiled to remove the chlorophyll and dried for bleaching. Using this fibre, weavers produce the pattern, the crown and the brim of the hat. Finally, the hat is washed and bleached before being ironed and shaped over a wooden mould. Weaving a hat can take from one day to eight months, depending on its quality and the fineness of the work

#### FRANCE Fest-Noz, festive gathering based on

the collective practice of traditional dances of Brittany Fest-Noz is a festive gathering that features traditional Breton dances, accompanied by singing or instrumental music. The Breton

cultural movement has preserved this expression of a living and constantly renewed practice of inherited dance repertoires with several hundred variations and thousands of tunes. Fest-Noz is characterized by an intense camaraderie among singers, musicians and dancers, significant social and intergenerational diversity, and openness to others. It is at the centre of an intense ferment of musical experiences and has spawned a veritable cultural economy.

#### HUNGARY Folk art of the Matyó, embroidery of a traditional community

The folk art of the Roman Catholic Matyó community in and around the town of Mezőkövesd, in north-eastern Hungary, is characterized by floral motifs that are found in flat-stitch embroidery, interior decoration and architecture. The national popularity of Matyó embroidery has turned it into a form of supplementary income, enabling women to buy the fine fabrics and supplies needed to make elaborate costumes. Usually practised as a communal activity, embroidery strengthens interpersonal relationships and community cohesion while allowing for individual artistic expression

### **Buddhist chanting of Ladakh:** recitation of sacred Buddhist texts in the trans-Himalayan Ladakh region,

Jammu and Kashmir, India

In the monasteries and villages of the Ladakh region of India, Buddhist lamas chant sacred texts containing the spirit, philosophy and teachings of the Buddha. The monks wear ritual clothing and use hand gestures and various musical instruments while praying for the spiritual and moral well-being of the people, for purification and peace of mind, to appease the wrath of evil spirits or to invoke the blessing of various Buddhas, bodhisattvas, deities and Rinpoches. Acolytes learn under the rigorous

supervision of senior monks.

#### IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF) Qālišuyān rituals of Mašhad-e Ardehāl in Kāšān

to the ritual.

**ITALY** 

in Cremona

**JAPAN** 

fire festival

Traditional violin craftsmanship

Cremonese violin craftsmanship is

renowned for the traditional process of

contrabasses. Each violin-maker produces

between three and six instruments a year,

hand-shaping and assembling more than

seventy pieces of wood around an inner

mould. Each part is made from a specific

wood that has been carefully selected and

techniques and personal knowledge to create

unique instruments: no two violins are alike.

naturally seasoned. The highly skilled

Nachi no Dengaku, a religious

Nachi no Dengaku is a Japanese folk

of flutes and percussion to ensure an

of the Binzasara (a string of wooden or

formations. There are twenty-two

Cherry festival in Sefrou

minutes to perform.

**MOROCCO** 

achievements.

and poetry

historical events.

bamboo clappers). Between eight and ten

repertoires, each of which takes forty-five

For three days in June each year, the local

population of Sefrou celebrates the region's

natural and cultural beauty, symbolized by

Cherry Queen. The highlight of the festival

and urban music, majorettes and bands, and

floats featuring local producers. The cherry

is a parade with performing troupes, rural

festival provides an opportunity for the

Al 'azi, elegy, processional march

Al 'azi is a genre of sung poetry that takes

the form of a contest punctuated by sword

between a singer-poet and a choir. The poet,

who recites both improvised and memorized

participants. They must pay attention to

his movements and recitation and respond

with the appropriate replies and movements

The poems express pride of belonging and

eulogize the tribe, important figures or

**REPUBLIC OF KOREA** 

Republic of Korea

Arirang, lyrical folk song in the

Arirang is a popular form of Korean folk

contributions. Essentially a simple song, it

arariyo' and two lines that differ from region

composition invites improvisation, imitation

universal themes, the musical and literary

and singing in unison. A great virtue is its

of expression and empathy. Everyone can

regional, historical and genre variations and

song, the outcome of many collective

consists of the refrain 'Arirang, arirang

to region. While dealing with various

respect for human creativity, freedom

create new lyrics, adding to the song's

encouraging cultural diversity.

■ Xtaxkgakget Makgkaxtlawana:

safeguarding the intangible

Mariachi, string music, song

Parachicos in the traditiona

January feast of Chiapa

Pirekua, traditional song

of the P'urhépecha (2010)

Traditional Mexican cuisine

Places of memory and living

traditions of the Otomí-

- ancestral, ongoing community

culture, the Michoacán paradigm

Chichimecas people of Tolimán:

the Peña de Bernal, guardian

Ritual ceremony of the Voladores

Indigenous festivity dedicated

▲ Folk long song performance

circular breathing (2011)

Mongolian traditional art

of Khöömei (2010)

Khuur (2008)

NICARAGUA

NIGERIA

• El Güegüense (2008)

• Ijele masquerade (2009)

• Ifa divination system (2008)

technique of Limbe performance

to the dead (2008)

MONGOLIA

of a sacred territory (2009)

and its contribution to

and trumpet (2011)

de Corzo (2010)

the Centre for Indigenous Arts

cultural heritage of the Totonac

MEXICO

flourishes, steps and poetic exchanges

poems in Arabic, guides the other

entire city to display its activities and

the cherry and that year's newly chosen

performing art held at the Nachi

performing art danced at the Kumano Nachi

shrine during the annual Nachi fire festival.

This key component of the festival takes the

form of ritual dancing to the accompaniment

abundant rice harvest. It is performed by one

flute player, four drummers and four players

performers dance to the music in a variety of

violin-makers use their individual

fashioning violins, violas, cellos and

Horezu ceramics are a unique traditional The Qālišuyān rituals commemorate Soltān craft, handmade in Vâlcea County, Romania Ali, a holy martyr among the people of Kāšān The potters select and extract the earth, and Fin. According to legend, his body was which is then cleaned, cut, watered, kneaded, trampled and mixed - transforming it into a found and carried in a carpet to a stream where it was purified. Qālišuyān takes place clay body from which they produce redware. at the Soltan Ali mausoleum, where a carpet Each object is shaped with a special finger technique, decorated with traditional motifs is washed in a holy stream by a huge gathering. The people of Xāve sprinkle in vivid colours and then fired. The potters rely on traditional tools: mixers, potter's rosewater on the carpet, which is then delivered to the people of Fin, who rinse it in wheels, combs, tools for decoration and running water and use decorated wooden wood-burning stoves. sticks to sprinkle it with rosewater. The people of Kāšān contribute a prayer-carpet

**ROMANIA** 

Craftsmanship of Horezu ceramics

#### **SPAIN** Fiesta of the patios in Cordova

For twelve days in May, the city of Cordova celebrates the fiesta of the patios. The patio houses are a characteristic communal cultural space located in the city's historic centre and they boast an abundant array of plants. During the fiesta, the inhabitants welcome visitors and invite them to enjoy the patio gardens and appreciate the skill involved in their creation. The patios host traditional flamenco singing, guitar-playing and dancing, and ancestral practices of sustainable communal coexistence are shared with visitors through the offering of food and drink.

#### **TURKEY** Mesir Macunu festival

The Mesir Macunu festival of Manisa commemorates the recovery of Suleiman the Magnificent's mother from an illness after being treated by a paste known as *mesir* macunu. Every March, the paste is prepared, wrapped, blessed and scattered from the domes of the Sultan Mosque. Thousands of people come from different regions of Turkey to try and catch the pieces as they fall. Many believe that by doing so, their dreams of marriage, work and children will come true within the year.

#### **VENEZUELA** (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF) Venezuela's Dancing Devils of Corpus Christi

During the annual celebrations of the feast of Corpus Christi in the small communities of the central coast of Venezuela, dancers disguised as masked devils dance backwards as a sign of penitence while an official of the Catholic Church carries forth the Blessed Sacrament. At the climax of the celebration, the devils surrender to the Sacrament, symbolizing the triumph of good over evil. The dancers, or promeseros (promisekeepers), are lifelong members of a confraternity that transmits the historical communities

#### **VIET NAM** Worship of Hùng kings in Phú Thọ

Every year, pilgrims converge on the Hùng temple at Nghĩa Lĩnh mountain in Phú Thọ Province to commemorate their ancestors and pray for good weather, abundant harvests, good luck and good health. The important festival is celebrated for one week during the third lunar month. Local villagers dress in splendid costumes and compete to provide the best palanquin and the most highly valued objects of worship. Communities make rice-based delicacies and engage in verbal and folk arts performances, bronze drum beating, Xoan singing, prayers

# **CUMULATIVE LIST** ELEMENTS INSCRIBED

The cumulative list below shows the 298 elements inscribed between 2008 and 2012 on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices. The 90 elements formerly proclaimed Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity were all incorporated into the Representative List in 2008, as provided by Article 31 of the Convention. The 16 elements inscribed on a multinational basis are shown at the beginning to highlight the importance of international cooperation.

For more information, consult the following link: www.unesco.org/culture/ich/en/lists/

Element inscribed on the List of Intangible **Cultural Heritage** in Need of Urgent Safeguarding

Element inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

2008 - 2012

Programme, project and activity selected for the Register of Best Safeguarding Practices

ELEMENTS INSCRIBED ON A MULTINATIONAL

> **ARGENTINA AND URUGUAY** Tango (2009) AZERBAIJAN, INDIA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF) AND CÔTE D'IVOIRE KYRGYZSTAN, PAKISTAN **TURKEY AND UZBEKISTAN** Cultural practices and expression

Novruz, Nowrouz, Nooruz, Navru linked to the balafon of the Senufo Nauroz, Nevruz (2009) communities of Mali, Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire (2012) **BELGIUM AND FRANCE** MONGOLIA AND CHINA Processional giants and dragons

 Urtiin Duu, traditional folk long in Belgium and France (2008) song (2008) BELIZE, GUATEMALA, SPAIN, GREECE, ITALY **HONDURAS AND NICARAGUA** AND MOROCCO Language, dance and music of the Garifuna (2008) Mediterranean diet (2010)

BENIN. NIGERIA AND TOGO UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, CZECH Oral heritage of Gelede (2008) REPUBLIC, FRANCE, HUNGARY, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, MONGOLIA, MOROCCO, QATAR, **BOLIVIA** (PLURINATIONAL STATE OF). SAUDI ARABIA, SPAIN AND **CHILE AND PERU SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC** ■ Safequarding intangible cultura

**ECUADOR AND PERU UNITED ARAB EMIRATES** Oral heritage and cultural AND OMAN • Al-Taghrooda, traditional Bedouin manifestations of the Zápara chanted poetry in the United Arab people (2008)

heritage of Aymara communitie

in Bolivia, Chile and Peru (2009)

Emirates and the Sultanate of Oman (2012) ESTONIA, LATVIA AND LITHUANIA UZBEKISTAN AND TAJIKISTAN • Baltic song and dance celebrations (2008) Shashmagom music (2008)

GAMBIA AND SENEGAL Kankurang, Manding initiatory rite (2008) MALAWI, MOZAMBIQUE

AND ZAMBIA • Gule Wamkulu (2008) MALI, BURKINA FASO

Falconry, a living human heritage

▲ Rite of the Kalyady Tsars (Christmas Tsars) (2009) BELGIUM • Marches of Entre-Sambre-et-Meuse (2012) Leuven age set ritual repertoire ■ A programme of cultivating 'ludodiversity': safeguarding

(2011) • Aalst carnival (2010) Houtem Jaarmarkt, annual winter fair and livestock market at Sint-Lievens-Houtem (2010) Krakelingen and Tonnekensbrand end-of-winter bread and fire feast at Geraardsbergen (2010) • Procession of the Holy Blood in Bruges (2009) • Carnival of Binche (2008)

Drametse (2008) **BOLIVIA** (PLURINATIONAL STATE OF) • Ichapekene Piesta, the biggest festival of San Ignacio de Moxos (2012) Andean cosmovision of the Kallawaya (2008) Carnival of Oruro (2008)

BHUTAN

▲ Wooden movable-type printing of China (2010) • Art of Chinese seal engraving (2009) • China engraved block printing traditional games in Flanders technique (2009) • Chinese calligraphy (2009) • Chinese paper-cut (2009) • Chinese traditional architectura craftsmanship for timber-framed structures (2009) Craftsmanship of Nanjing Yunjing brocade (2009) • Dragon Boat festival (2009) • Farmers' dance of China's Korean ethnic group (2009) • Gesar epic tradition (2009) • Grand song of the Dong ethnic group (2009) • Mask dance of the drums from • Hua'er (2009) Manas (2009) • Mazu belief and customs (2009) • Mongolian art of singing, Khööme (2009) Nanyin (2009) ▲ Qiang New Year festival (2009)

• Regong arts (2009)

of China (2009)

bridges (2009)

• Tibetan opera (2009)

• Sericulture and silk craftsmanship

▲ Traditional design and practices for

building Chinese wooden arch

knowledge to apprentices at the houseschools is integral and holistic

> • Traditional firing technology of Longquan celadon (2009) Traditional handicrafts

▲ Earthenware pottery-making skills of making Xuan paper (2009) ▲ Traditional Li textile techniques spinning, dyeing, weaving and embroidering (2009) Xi'an wind and percus ensemble (2009) Yueju opera (2009)

• Gugin and its music (2008) Kun Qu opera (2008) Uygur Muqam of Xinjiang (2008) COLOMBIA

• Festival of Saint Francis of Assisi, Quibdó (2012) Traditional knowledge of the jaguar shamans of Yuruparí (2011) Marimba music and traditional chants from Colombia's South

Pacific region (2010) Wayuu normative system, applied by the Pütchipü'üi (palabrero) Carnaval de Negros y Blancos Holy Week process in Popayán (2009)

de San Basilio (2008) • Sbek Thom, Khmer shadow theatr COSTA RICA • Oxherding and oxcart traditions in

> **CÔTE D'IVOIRE**  Gbofe of Afounkaha, the music of the transverse trumps of the Tagbana community (2008)

CROATIA Klapa multipart singing of Dalmatia, southern Croatia (2012) Bećarac singing and playing from traditional Chinese medicine (2010) Eastern Croatia (2011) Nijemo Kolo, silent circle dance o the Dalmatian hinterland (2011) • Gingerbread craft from Northern Croatia (2010) ▲ Ojkanje singing (2010)

> • Festivity of Saint Blaise, the patron of Dubrovnik (2009) Lacemaking in Croatia (2009) • Procession Za Krizen ('following the cross') on the island of Hvar • Spring procession of Ljelje/Kraljice (queens) from Gorjani (2009) Traditional manufacturing of children's wooden toys in Hrvatsko Zagorje (2009) Two-part singing and playing

CUBA • La Tumba Francesa (2008) CYPRUS

in the Istrian scale (2009)

• Tsiattista poetic duelling (2011) • Lefkara laces or Lefkaritika

CZECH REPUBLIC Ride of the Kings in the south-east of the Czech Republic (2011) Shrovetide door-to-door processions and masks in the

villages of the Hlinecko area • Slovácko Verbuňk, recruit dances (2008)

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC Cocolo dance drama tradition (2008) • Cultural space of the Brotherhood of the Holy Spirit of the Congos of Villa Mella (2008)

knowledge and identities (2010)

ECUADOR • Traditional weaving of the Ecuadorian toquilla straw hat (2012)

ESTONIA • Seto Leelo, Seto polyphonic singing • Carnival of Barranquilla (2008) tradition (2009) Cultural space of Palenque • Kihnu cultural space (2008)

FRANCE • Fest-Noz, festive gathering based on the collective practice of Costa Rica (2008)

traditional dances of Brittany Equitation in the French tradition (2011) Compagnonnage, network for on-the-job transmission of

 Craftsmanship of Alençon needle lace-making (2010) • Gastronomic meal of the French • Aubusson tapestry (2009) ▲ Cantu in paghjella, a secular and liturgical oral tradition of Corsica (2009) Maloya (2009) Scribing tradition in French timber framing (2009)

 Sinjska Alka, a knights' tournament GEORGIA in Sinj (2010) Annual carnival bell ringers' Georgian polyphonic singing pageant from the Kastav area GUATEMALA Rabinal Achí dance drama traditi (2008)GUINEA

> ■ Táncház method: a Hungarian model for the transr of intangible cultural heritage Busó festivities at Mohács: masked end-of-winter carnival custom (2009)

HUNGARY

INDIA

India (2012)

• Folk art of the Matyó, embroidery

Buddhist chanting of Ladakh:

recitation of sacred Buddhist texts

in the trans-Himalayan Ladakh

region, Jammu and Kashmir,

of a traditional community (2012)

• Chhau dance (2010)

 Kalbelia folk songs and dances of Rajasthan (2010) Mudiyettu, ritual theatre and dance drama of Kerala (2010) Ramman, religious festival and ritual theatre of the Garhwal Himalayas, India (2009) • Kutiyattam, Sanskrit theatre

• Ramlila, the traditional performance of the Ramavana (2008) • Tradition of Vedic chanting (2008) INDONESIA ▲ Noken multifunctional knotted

or woven bag, handcraft of the people of Papua (2012) ▲ Saman dance (2011) • Indonesian Angklung (2010) Education and training in

Indonesian Batik intangible cultural heritage for elementary junior, senior, vocational school and polytechnic students, • Al-Sirah Al-Hilaliyyah epic (2008) in collaboration with the Batik Museum in Pekalongan (2009) Indonesian Batik (2009) Indonesian Kris (2008)

> IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF) • Qālišuyān rituals of Mašhad-e Ardehāl in Kāšān (2012) ▲ Naggāli, Iranian dramatic story-telling (2011) in the Persian Gulf (2011)

▲ Traditional skills of building and sailing Iranian Lenj boats Music of the Bakhshis of Khorasan (2010) • Pahlevani and Zoorkhanei rituals (2010) • Ritual dramatic art of Ta'zīye • Traditional skills of carpet weaving in Fars (2010)

Wayang puppet theatre (2008)

• Traditional skills of carpet weaving in Kashan (2010) • Radif of Iranian music (2009) • Iraqi Maqam (2008)

ITALY

JAMAICA

 Traditional violin craftsmanship in Cremona (2012) Canto a tenore, Sardinian pastoral songs (2008) Opera dei Pupi, Sicilian puppet theatre (2008)

• Maroon heritage of Moore Town

 Cultural space of Sosso-Bala (2008) (2008) • Nachi no Dengaku, a religious performing art held at the Nachi fire festival (2012) • Mibu no Hana Taue, ritual

of transplanting rice in Mibu.

 Sada Shin Noh, sacred dancing at Sada shrine, Shimane (2011) • Kumiodori, traditional Okinawan musical theatre (2010) Yuki-tsumugi, silk fabric production technique (2010) • Akiu no Taue Odori (2009) • Chakkirako (2009) Daimokutate (2009)

Hiroshima (2011)

• Dainichido Bugaku (2009) • Gagaku (2009) • Hayachine Kagura (2009) • Hitachi Furyumono (2009) • Koshikijima no Toshidon (2009) Ojiya-chijimi, Echigo-jofu:

techniques of making ramie fabric in Uonuma region, Niigata Prefecture (2009) Oku-noto no Aenokoto (2009) • Sekishu-Banshi, papermaking in the Iwami region of Shimane Prefecture (2009) • Traditional Ainu dance (2009) Yamahoko, the float ceremony

• Kabuki theatre (2008) Ningyo Johruri Bunraku puppe theatre (2008) Nôgaku theatre (2008) JORDAN Cultural space of the Bedu

of the Kyoto Gion festival (2009

in Petra and Wadi Rum (2008) KENYA

▲ Traditions and practices associated with the Kayas in the sacred forests of the Mijikenda (2009) KYRGYZSTAN ▲ Ala-kiyiz and Shyrdak, art of

 Naadam, Mongolian traditiona Kyrgyz traditional felt carpets festival (2010) ▲ Mongol Bivelgee, Mongolian • Art of Akyns, Kyrgyz epic tellers (2008) traditional folk dance (2009) ▲ Mongol Tuuli, Mongolian epic LATVIA ▲ Traditional music of the Tsuu

▲ Suiti cultural space (2009) • Traditional music of the Morin LITHUANIA Sutartinės, Lithuanian multipart MOROCCO songs (2010) • Cross-crafting and its symbolism • Cherry festival in Sefrou (2012)

• Cultural space of Jemaa el-Fna (2008)Square (2008) Moussem of Tan-Tan (2008) LUXEMBOURG Hopping procession of Echternach MOZAMBIQUE Chopi Timbila (2008)

MADAGASCAR Woodcrafting knowledge of the Zafimaniry (2008) MALAWI Vimbuza healing dance (2008)

MALAYSIA

MALI

Mak Yong theatre (2008)

▲ Secret society of the Kôrêdugaw,

the rite of wisdom in Mali (2011)

Sanké mon, collective fishing rite

Septennial re-roofing ceremony

Cultural space of the Yaaral

▲ Moorish epic T'heydinn (2011)

of the Kamablon, sacred house

Manden Charter, proclaimed

in Kurukan Fuga (2009)

of the Sanké (2009)

of Kangaba (2009)

and Degal (2008)

MAURITANIA

OMAN Al 'azi, elegy, processional march and poetry (2012) Al-Bar'ah, music and dance of Oman Dhofari valleys (2010) PALESTINE

• Palestinian Hikaye (2008)

of Valencia (2009) • Whistled language of the island of La Gomera (Canary Islands), the ▲ Eshuva, Harákmbut sung prayers Silbo Gomero (2009) of Peru's Huachipaire people (2011) Mystery play of Elche (2008) Pilgrimage to the sanctuary Patum of Berga (2008) of the Lord of Qoyllurit'i (2011) Huaconada, ritual dance of Mito • Scissors dance (2010) Lakalaka, dances and sung

• Taquile and its textile art (2008)

**PHILIPPINES**  Darangen epic of the Maranao people of Lake Lanao (2008) Hudhud chants of the Ifugao

people of Veracruz, Mexico (2012 **PORTUGAL** • Fado, urban popular sono of Portugal (2011)

• Ganggangsullae (2009)

Namsadang Nori (2009)

• Pansori epic chant (2008)

shrine and its music (2008)

Craftsmanship of Horezu ceramic

Jeju Chilmeoridang

Yeongsanjae (2009)

(2008)

ROMANIA

(2012)

Doina (2009)

SLOVAKIA

• Căluş ritual (2008)

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION** 

of the Semeiskie (2008)

Olonkho, Yakut heroic epos

• Fujara and its music (2008)

• Fiesta of the patios in Cordova

Morón de la Frontera, Seville,

• Chant of the Sybil on Majorca

- School Museum of Pusol

pedagogic project (2009)

speeches of Tonga (2008)

Andalusia (2011)

• Flamenco (2010)

• Human towers (2010)

(2010)

• Festivity of 'la Mare de Déu

• Cultural space and oral culture

• Arts of the Meddah, public storytellers (2008) • Mevlevi Sema ceremony (2008) REPUBLIC OF KOREA • Arirang, lyrical folk song in the Republic of Korea (2012) UGANDA Jultagi, tightrope walking (2011 ▲ Bigwala, gourd trumpet music • Taekkyeon, a traditional Korean and dance of the Busoga Kingdom martial art (2011)

in Uganda (2012) Barkcloth making in Uganda • Weaving of Mosi (fine ramie) in the Hansan region (2011) (2008) Daemokjang, traditional woode architecture (2010) UNITED ARAB EMIRATES Gagok, lyric song cycles ▲ Al Sadu, traditional weaving skills accompanied by an orchestra in the United Arab Emirates (2011) • Cheoyongmu (2009)

URUGUAY Candombe and its socio-cultural space: a community practice (2009) Gangneung Danoje festiva

TURKEY

Karagöz (2009)

• Mesir Macunu festival (2012)

• Kırkpınar oil wrestling festival

• Ceremonial Keşkek tradition (2011)

• Semah, Alevi-Bektaşi ritual (2010)

• Traditional Sohbet meetings (2010)

• Âşıklık (minstrelsy) tradition (2009)

UZBEKISTAN • Katta Ashula (2009) • Royal ancestral ritual in the Jongs Cultural space of Boysun District

> VANUATU Vanuatu sand drawings (2008) VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF) Venezuela's Dancing Devils of

Corpus Christi (2012) VIET NAM • Worship of Hùng kings in Phú Thọ

▲ Xoan singing of Phú Tho Province Gióng festival of Phù Đông and Sóc temples (2010) ▲ Ca trù singing (2009) Quan Ho Băc Ninh folk songs • Nha Nhac, Vietnamese court music

• Space of gong culture (2008) YEMEN ZAMBIA

de la Salut' of Algemesí (2011) ■ Revitalization of the traditional craftsmanship of lime-making in • Song of Sana'a (2008) • Makishi masquerade (2008) ■ Centre for Traditional Culture ZIMBABWE Mbende Jerusarema dance (2008) Irrigators' tribunals of the Spanis Mediterranean coast: the Council of Wise Men of the plain of Murcia and the Water Tribunal of the plain