Intangible Cultural Heritage

National inventories

- Folklore Arts
- Traditions and Norms
- Folklore tales
- Traditional cuisines
- Traditional Crafts

National inventories

National Lists were created in 2010 with participation of governmental establishments concerned with heritage, The Public Authority for Craft Industries, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Sport Affairs, Sultan Qaboos University and civil society establishments such as Omani Lady Association, Cultural Union and heritage practitioners. The lists included many categories such as folklore arts, traditional crafts, traditions and norms, traditional cuisines, and other elements of intangible Omani heritage. The lists were taken from the fields of Omani society through information that provided by the concern communities, groups and individuals.
Oman National Lists were created in 2010 with participation of governmental establishments concerned with heritage, The Public Authority for Craft Industries, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Sport Affairs, Sultan Qaboos University and civil society establishments such as Omani Lady Association, Cultural club and heritage practitioners. The lists included many categories such as folklore arts, traditional crafts, traditions and norms, traditional cuisines and other elements of intangible Omani heritage. The lists were taken from the fields of Omani society.

Firstly: Objectives of Oman National Lists:

1- Enlisting and classifying Omani intangible cultural heritage in order to preserve it and to put in place mechanism to protect each element.

2- Documenting all information relating to each element of intangible cultural heritage separately.

3- Review all what is published or written about each element of intangible cultural heritage.

4- Maintaining electronic data base that include all that was collected about intangible cultural heritage.

Secondly: Participation of local community in carrying out Oman inventory lists:

Thirdly: Local community participation represented by follows:

A- A group of researchers, fans and practitioners from various governmental and private bodies collected information relating to national inventory lists.
B- Carrying out direct interviews with practitioners of intangible cultural heritage in order to collect information.

C- Review of collected information by researchers, fans and practitioners before putting them in the final registry.

D- Presenting information and details in the Lists to scientific and academic establishments and civil society organizations such as sport and cultural unions, public libraries, Omani Lady Association, and Omani Authors Association and others.

Fourthly: Method and form of enlisting:

A form for enlisting intangible cultural heritage by was prepared by following the UNESCO criteria in preparing national lists in accordance to article no. 11 and 12 of the International convention for safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage. The form included information about the heritage element, its geographical scope, its practitioners and its status regarding its sustainability in addition to names of information and copies of the heritage element, if possible.

The researchers and participants in the lists’ preparation works received training programmes in how to collect information relating to the form and how to carry out interviews and how to fill details.

- Lists’ Update:
In 2013, National Lists saw new phase of update and development. A team of researchers was assigned to review these Lists and this process covered two phases:

The first phase includes presentation of what was collected on practitioners and fans in the society of these elements of heritage and to verify each item or information about elements of the lists.

Second phase: in this phase interviews with practitioners were carried out with Omanis about the elements they wish to add to the lists. Through this phase, many Omani intangible heritage elements were collected directly from practitioners and added to the lists.

Students from Sultan Qaboos University, academics, researchers and practitioners took part in the updating process of the Lists.

-Enlisting & Documentation Section at Ministry of Heritage & Culture:

In August 2016, Oman National Lists has been witness essential development as a government unit was formed in the name of Intangible Cultural Heritage Department at the Ministry of Heritage & Culture. This Department consisted of three sections: traffic history, preservation of intangible heritage and documentation. By this way, the National Lists section became independent and is concerned to prepare programmes and plans of colleting intangible heritage, and organizing workshops of lists. The section also supervises phases of updating the list in daily basis in addition to the direct supervision on website of the Omani Lists which are currently being linked to internet.
### General Categories

Of

The National Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(1) Folklore arts</th>
<th>(2) Traditions &amp; Norms</th>
<th>(3) Traditional crafts</th>
<th>(4) Cuisine</th>
<th>(5) Folklore tales</th>
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Website: www.mhc.gov.om
HANDCRAFT INDUSTRIES FORM

1- Name of element as used:
Hedaa Al_Ibel / Al-Nahim / Al-Hobal / Al-Tahweed

*Short title of intangible cultural heritage element (containing a reference to the domain or areas of intangible cultural heritage to which it belongs):
A type of practice, skill, or art associated with breeding camels and communicating with them

*Practitioners and supporting groups:
Breeders of camels in the desert areas and call them tananifs (shepherds), in the governorates of Al-Wusta and Dhofar with and those who are bored are considered to be practitioners, so that Al-Hedaa are used in dealing with camels.

*Geographical location and range of element:
Hedaa Al_Ibel is practiced in the various governorates of the Sultanate, where it is related to the Omani human being, as camel breeding is linked to the Omani cultural environment. Therefore, it is practiced in the governorates of the south and north-east and the governorates of the north and south of Al-Batinah, in addition to the central governorate where the desert life and its association with camels as it is practiced in the governorates of the Al-Dakhliyah, Al-Buraimi, Al-Dhahirah, Dhofar, and Muscat.

*Short description of element:
Hedaa Al_Ibel is an element of intangible cultural heritage that is practiced through camel breeders when dealing with camels in many aspects, such as transportation, feeding, watering, and grazing, as well as bringing them to sleep and separating them from each other in case they interfere with other camels.
As this element is one of the cultural heritage elements that are widely spread among the people of the desert and the Bedouins, in particular, because they are breeders of camels, where the element is characterized by being the primary language in which the camel owner deals with his camels, and therefore there is an understandable dialogue between them.
2- Description of element:

* Practitioners / performers directly concerned with the performance and exercise of the intangible cultural heritage element (including age, gender, professional category, etc.):

Camel Owners: Who owns these camels, whether institutions, individuals or groups.
Camel Shepherds (AL-Tananif): those who graze camels and care for them.
Al-Mothamer: camel trainers for racing

* Other participants whose work relates to the element:

Folklore teams.
Traditional craft owners.
The farmers

* Language(s) used in the element:

Arabic

* Physical elements related to the exercise and movement of the element (tools / equipment / fashion / ritual instruments (if any):

The stick that is used to induce came
Al-Ezab camel breeding
Special pastures for camels
Camel food and drink

* Other intangible elements (if any) associated with the exercise and movement of the element:

Lyrical and melodic performance of Al-Hedaa

* Customary practices governing access to the element or any of its manifestations:

There are no customary practices, but most of the data is available to the public, the media, researchers and those interested in of Al-Hedaa
Al-Hedaa Practitioners and its associated knowledge and information are available by them and they have no objection to making it available to the interested and interested parties, as the practices associated with the element are not related to any kind of confidentiality that contributes to accessing the data and information of the element or the manifestations of its practice.

* Methods of transferring the element to other members of the group:

The transfer of the element takes place directly from one generation to another, through practice, whether by teaching generations the communication art with camels through camel footwear and all the methods used in raising camels.

The sponsors of this element also work to promote and market the element through publications, magazines and social media for events and related programs, for the purposes of transferring knowledge of the element across generations and other groups and societies.

* Relevant organizations (associations, civil society organizations, and others, if any:

Omani Camel Federation
The Royal camel corps
Owners of camels and camel breeding places.
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Al-Basha’er camel corps
Royal Oman Police camel corps

3- Condition of component: viability and sustainability

* Threats to the exercise of the element in the context of the relevant community/groups concerned:

There are no direct threats to camel footwear for several reasons, the most important of which is that breeding camel is witnessing increased interest by different groups of society as it represents part of the cultural identity of the community, in addition to that camels represent an economic lifestyle and a source of income upon which society depends.
4- Data: Restrictions on their collection and access

* Community / group approval and involvement in data collection:

Through direct interviews with camel breeders and researchers in this field.
Through the sources and references on this element, as researchers and interested books.

* Restrictions on access to and use of data:

There are no restrictions as it is available in a manner that allows the taking of information and data.

*Experts (narrators and informants) (their names, statuses, and affiliations):

Hamid Al-Zeraei, Director General of the Royal camel corps.
Hamad Al-Saeedi, owner and breeder of camels.
Ghaleb Al-Sinani is an expert in camel's dressing.
Saeed Al-Farisi is an expert in camel racing.
Muhammad Hammoud Saud Al-Sinani
Shams Salem Hamad Al-Sinani
Salem Hamad Hamid Al-Fununi
Hamad Abdullah Saeed Al-Saeedi
Abdullah Salem Abdullah Al-Balushi
Ahmed Rashid Matar Al-Saeedi
Rashid Ali Saeed Al-Saeedi
Hassan Abdullah Rashid Al-Qattiti
Hasel Abdullah Al-Quraini
Khaled Swaidan Saeed Al-Saeedi
Ali Rashid Al-Fazari
Hamad Saeed Al Oud Al Sinani
Hamid bin Khamis Al Badi
Saeed Al-Jabri
Sheikh Abdullah Yahya Al Jabri
Sultan Salem Al-Maqbali
Nasser Mohammed Al-Badrani
Saeed Hamid Al-Juhafi
Sultan Yaqoub Abdullah Al-Saeedi
Ali Rashid Al-Gharibi
Mohammed Abdullah Al-Saadi
Yasser Mohammed Al-Saadi
Saif Rashid Al-Rashidi
Sheikh Saeed Khalfan Al-Rashidi
Hamad Mohammed Al-Wahaibi
Ali Salem Al-Daham Al-Wehaibi
Ghalib Saeed Al-Rashidi
Hamad Khalfan Al Mawali
Ghalib Khamis Salem Al-Sinani
Rashid Khalfan Al-Saeedi
Saeed Humaid Saeed Al Hosani
Nayef Mohammed Amer Al-Saeedi
Sheikh Fahd Sultan Saif Al Hosani
Ghanem Obaid Ghanem Al-Badi
Obaid Khamis Al Badi
Muhammad Shams Al Badi

*Date and location of data collection:

March 2018, North and Central Governorate
May 2018, Al Batinah South and North Governorate
April 2019, Al Dhahirah Governorate

5- References on intangible heritage element, if any

* Literature (books, articles, etc.):

- The world of camel magazine
- Asayel Magazine
- The Book of Badia
- Omani Encyclopedia
- Book

*Audiovisual materials, recordings, archives, museums and special collections (if any):

Video Recording - Photos
6- Data on the inventory process

* Person(s) who have compiled, collected, and entered the inventory:

Nasser bin Salem Al-Sawafi - Director of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Department.
Ibrahim bin Saif Bani Orabeh - Head of the Section for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage
Waleed bin Said Al Busaidi - Head of the Survey and Documentation Department
Udi bin Ahmed Al-Harthi - Head of the Meroitic History Department

* Evidence of the consent of the community and the groups concerned to (a) take inventory of the element and (b) their consent to provide information for inventory:

Request documentation for item documentation in the national inventory
No objection letters to provide the necessary data about the item

* Date of entry of information into the inventory:

June 2019

References:

Book of horse and camel researcher Ali Al-Harty
The book of camels through time, by the researcher Khamis Al Mowiti
The Hedaa of sari for a researcher, Muhammad bin Hamad Al Masroori