National inventories of Oman

The Ministry of Oman Heritage and culture along with various Governmental Organizations and institutions have developed 'National Inventories of Oman' in 2010. The Institutions involved in this are Public Authority for Craft Industries, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Sport Affairs and Sultan Qaboos University. In addition to that, the civil like the Association of Omani Women, the Cultural Club and the practitioners have also involved in this Inventory database creation. The inventory has covered a list of various sections, including folk arts, crafts, lifestyle and traditions, popular dishes, popular games, musical instruments and other vocabulary of the intangible cultural heritage of Oman. Where, this list was collected practically from the Omani society.

1) The objectives of the national list of Oman

1. Inventory and classification of all components of the intangible cultural heritage of Oman to preserve this heritage and to develop an appropriate protection mechanism to each term.
2. Individual and separate Documentation of all data and information related to each term of intangible cultural heritage.
3. Review of all that has been distributed or written about the elements of intangible cultural heritage.
4. Develop an electronic database that includes all the elements which have been collected about intangible cultural heritage.

2) Community participation in the implementation of Omani inventories.

A. Collecting information and data related to the national inventory by a group of researchers and practitioners from various government and private agencies.
B. Conducting interviews with practitioners of the elements of intangible cultural heritage in order to provide data about the element.

C. Review of the collected data by a group of researchers, practitioners and interested people before entering the data in the final record.

4) The methodology and the form of vocabulary inventories:

The form of vocabulary of intangible cultural heritage was made through the methodology of UNESCO in making national inventories. This methodology was mentioned in article 11 and article 12 of the International Convention for the Safeguarding of 'Intangible Cultural Heritage'. The form of vocabulary included information about the item, its geographical scope, its carriers and its condition in terms of survival and continuity. In addition to that, the form included names of carriers of the element, names of data collectors and pictures of the item, if possible.

The researchers and participants in the process of preparing the national inventory have undergone training programs. These programs were in the process of collecting data and information related to the form and the method of conducting interviews and filling in the data.

Updating the inventory:

Every 3 years, the concern part in The Sultanate update the inventory with the same procedures of building it to ensure the participation of the community in its all process.
SECTION TITLE AND NUMBER
CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS (8.93)

1- Identification and definition of the element
• Official name of the element that will appear in published material
  
  8.93 Palm Tree: customs associated with palm tree

• Short title of intangible cultural heritage element (containing a reference to the domain(s) of the intangible cultural heritage to which it belongs):
  
  Palm, Al-Fasayel, Al-Sarm, and Al-Kharayef

• Bearers and practitioners of the element:
  
  - Groups, individuals and NGOs.
  - Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.
  - Diwan of Royal Court.
  - Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
  - Ministry of Regional Municipalities and Water Resources.
  - Public Authority for Craft Industries.

• Geographical location and range of the element:
  
  The customs and rituals associated with palm trees are practiced in most governorates of the Sultanate.

• Brief description of the element:
  
  The palm tree is one of the most important agricultural elements that Omanis are keen to grow, maintain and spread throughout the Sultanate. Palm cultivation has also been associated with many customs, rites and traditional industries, which have enhanced the importance of palm trees for Omanis as well as governmental and private institutions.

2- Features of the element
• Practitioners / performers directly concerned with the performance and exercise of the intangible cultural heritage element (including name, sex, professional category, etc.):
  
  Practitioners of customs and traditions associated with this element are men and women in various agricultural areas in the Sultanate.
- Other participants whose work relates to the element:
  Traditional crafts manufacturers
  Dates factories

- Language(s) used (in element):
  Arabic – English

- Physical elements associated with the exercise and movement of the element
  (such as tools/equipment/costumes/spaces/ritual instruments (if any):

  **Amwal:** The suburbs and farms where palm trees grow.
  **Wilayats and agricultural villages in various governorates of the Sultanate.**
  **Hanqari:** Owner of Amwal/palm farms
  **Baidar:** Worker entrusted with the task of taking care of palms.
  **Qafir/Zabail/Makhraja:** Tools for collecting dates.
  **Haboul:** The rope used to climb the palm tree.
  **Mirad:** The rope used to remove date fruits from the palm tree.
  **Faghour:** A bowl in which unripe dates are boiled.
  **Mistah:** Place of date drying.
  **Jidad:** Cutting palm fruits.
  **Kinaz:** Placing dried dates in a dish in a traditional way.

- Other non-material elements (if any) associated with the exercise and movement of the element concerned:

  **Tanbeet:** Pollination of palm fruits.
  **Hidar:** Bending palm fruit to facilitate collection thereof.
  **Khira:** Harvesting palm fruits.

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

  There are no specific practices to access data and information related to the customs associated with palm trees. Palm owners and stakeholders provide all facilities for that.

- Methods of transfer to other members of the community:

  Practitioners of palm-related customs are keen to transfer these customs and rites to their children by involving them directly in palm-related works, such as taking...
them to farms and other places to teach them issues that can contribute to enhancing their knowledge of the palm tree.

- Relevant bodies (organizations / associations / civil society organizations, etc.) (if any):

The customs associated with the palm tree are widespread in the various governorates of Oman, whether at the social or national level. Therefore, it cannot be linked to an organization or association. However, there is the Oman Farmers Association, which is one of the most important associations dealing with palm trees and agriculture in general.

3- Element status: viability and sustainability
- Threats to the practice of the element in the context of the relevant community / groups:

The palm tree is one of the most important agricultural elements in the Sultanate, and is maintained by society and government institutions in large measure because it represents a social, economic and food source.

4- Data: restrictions, special permissions (collection and access)
- Community / group approval and involvement in data collection:

- The practitioners and those interested in the palm tree welcome giving information.
- Owners of farms, palm trees and associated artisans provided important information serving the element.
- They also testified on the importance of the element and the associated information and details.

- Restrictions on access and use of data:

Elements associated with the palm tree respect cultural diversity and human rights, so there is nothing to prevent the access to and use of its data for any purpose.

- Expert (s) (narrators / providers of information) (name, position, and affiliation):

The members of the Committee for the Preparation of the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Sultanate and locals who practice different types of related aspects of palm tree.
• Data collection dates and locations:

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5- **Data on the inventory process**

• The person(s) who categorized, collected and entered the inventory:
  
  Committee for the Preparation of the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Sultanate.

• Evidence of the consent of the community and groups concerned to (a) taking inventory of the element (b) their consent to provide information for inventory:
  
  Many letters of consent to provide information on "palm-related customs"

• Date of adding information to the inventory list:

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التراث الثقافي غير المادي
قوانين الحصر الوطنية

- الدور الهندي
- النطق والكلام
- الأملاك والرسوم
- المساحات والملايين النسخة
- التكنولوجيا الجديدة
- الإنترنت
- العملات

قيمة التراث الوطني

تم إطلاقها في يوم 3 م وjual بانيكرنة مركز المؤسسات الحكومية متروكة هذا المكان وزارة التراث والثقافة والهيئة العامة للثقافة والثروة الاجتماعية ووزارة الثروة الثقافية وحاجة إلى تنفيذ مشروع لإعادة إحياء المؤسسات المجتمعية ك yetiştir وثقافة بين الجمهور والذين يتراوح بين الجمهور وبين الجمهور بين الجمهور وتشمل القيم الثقافية والفنون المعاصرة والكشفية والفنون المعاصرة والإعلام والإعلام الإخباري والإعلام الراديوي والإعلام التلفزيوني. وتشمل هذه القيم الثقافية مهارات ومهارات التراث الثقافي الموسيقي من المجتمع.

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