Heritage Information

Unique Id:

BGD-30.26.2023.00096

Section-1: Identification of the element

Heritage Location

Division

Dhaka

District

Dhaka

Upazila

Shahbag

Details Address

Geolocation(Latitude)

24.918353

Geolocation(Longitude)

91.987513

Community Category

Artists

Community

Urban

Name of the Heritage, (as used by the community or group concerned)

Mangal Shobhajatra

Short title of the Heritage, (preferably within 200 words)

Mangal Shobhajatra is a mass procession that takes place at the first day of the Bengali New Year in Bangladesh.

Concerned Community(ies)/Group(s), (who recognize the element as part of their cultural heritage)

All Bangladeshi are involved with this celebration. Specially Institution of Fine art, university of Dhaka's teacher & student are closely related with this processions.

Physical location(s) of the element/how often it is practiced

N/A

Short description of the Heritage, (preferably within 350 words)

Mangal Shobhajatra is a mass procession that takes place at the first day of the Bengali New Year in Bangladesh. The procession is organised by the teachers and students of the Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka. This celebration is considered an expression of the secular uniqueness of the Bangladeshi people. It was declared an Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO in 2016. The procession was first started in Jashore on Pohela Boishak in 1985. The aim was that to unite all the people by presenting the folk culture of the country. It was initiated by Artist Mahbub Jamal Shamim. The

procession of the festival was first observed in 1989 from Charukala in Dhaka on Pohela Boishak. In the beginning, It was called 'Ananda Shovajatra'. Later it came to be known as 'Mangal Shobhajatra'. Every year, thousands of people take part in the procession that features gigantic replicas of birds, fish, animals, folk tale and other motifs. The rally symbolizes unity, peace, and the driving away of evil to allow progress of country and humanity. In 2014, the Bangla Academy compiled a nomination file that was approved by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs of Bangladesh and submitted to UNESCO.

Domains of the Heritage (applicable fields)

- [ ] Oral Traditions and Expressions
- [ ] Performing Arts
- [x] Social Customs and Traditions
- [ ] Knowledge and Practices related to Nature and Universe
- [ ] Traditional Craftsmanship
- [ ] Food

Section-2: Characteristics of the element

Practitioners(s)/performer(s) directly involved in the representation or practice of the Heritage (including roles, name, age, gender, social status, and/or professional category etc.)

Prof. Nisar Hosain, Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka. 2. Farhana Ferdausi, Assistant Professor, Department of Craft, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka.

Other tradition bearers (individuals/groups and their roles))

N/A

Language(s), register(s), speech level(s) involved

Bengali

Associated tangible elements used (if any)

Different animal-shaped carnival floats, large colourful masks, replicas of birds, butterflies, traditional dolls and other motifs of Bangladeshi culture that highlight the traditional folklore of Bangladesh.

How are women and people of other genders associated with this Heritage?

Both male and female are involve in this procession.

Division of labour during the practice of this Heritage

Both male and female are equally involved in this element.

Elements to which other customary practices or practices may be connected or accessed in any respect of the heritage (if any)

N/A

Modes of transmission to others in the community

Community to Community

Organizations concerned (non-governmental organizations and others)

Bangla Academy, Shilpakala Academy, Bangladesh National Museum

Section-3: State of the element (viability)

Threats to the enactment

Resistance from Religious Parties and Other Organizations

Enactment Threats Description

N/A

Threats to the transmission (if any)

N/A

Threat to associated tangible elements and resources (if any)

N/A

Viability of associated intangible elements (if any)

N/A

Have been taken any safeguarding measures to preserve this Heritage practices? (if any)

On 30 November 2016 the Mangal Shobhajatra festival was selected as an intangible cultural heritage by the Inter-governmental Committee on Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO at its 11th session, which was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Moreover teachers and students of Fine Arts organized this procession in every year with a huge number of peoples.

Section-4: Data gathering/documentation, Consent and preparation of inventory entries

Consent of community/group/individuals concerned for data collection with a view to inventorying

All Bangladeshi are involved with this celebration. Specially Institution of Fine art, university of Dhaka's teacher & student are closely related with this processions.

Restrictions on use of collected data, (if any)

No

Section-5: Resource Person

Data provider/Resource person (persons/groups, community representatives)

Farhana Ferdausi, Assistant Professor, Department of Craft, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka.

Date of data collection

09-02-2023

Place(s) of data collection

Section-6: Safeguarding techniques

Existing safeguarding techniques adopted by the community for the safeguarding of the Heritage

Teachers and students of Fine Arts organized this procession in every year with a huge number of peoples.

Suggestions for safeguarding of the Heritage from the community

Publicity and awareness.

Section-7: References to literature, discography, audiovisual materials or archives

References to/in literature

UNESCO recognises Mangal Shobhajatra as cultural heritage. UNESCO. 30 November 2016. Retrieved 21 January 2023. 2. "UNESCO Deems Belgium's Beer Culture A Treasure of Humanity". NPR. Retrieved 21 January 2023. 3. "Unesco lists Mangal Shobhajatra as cultural heritage". The Daily Star. Dhaka, Bangladesh. 1 December 2016. Retrieved 21 January 2023. 4. Hossain, Nisar, 2013.

Audiovisual materials or archives

Mangal Shobhajatra: An Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, The Daily Star, 13 April 2018; Unesco lists Mangal Shobhajatra as cultural heritagehe, Daily Star, 1 December 2016; Mangal Shobhajatra to be brought out in festive mood in 2022, Dhaka Tribune, 13 April 2022.

Discography or archives

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-3LLDLJ9Fg; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=anBigl2fMsk

Section-8: Modalities for updating the information contained in the inventory entry

Data Compiler (persons/groups, including community representatives, who compiled the information)

Dr. Sumona Afroz, Deputy Keeper, Bangladesh National Museum, Shahbag, Dhaka.

Date of Community Consent

13-04-2023

Consent of community/group/individuals concerned for data collection with a view to inventorying

Uploaded as attachment

Present Condition of Heritage

Becoming less

Brief description of Present condition of the Heritage, (if any)

Section-9: Community suggestions

Brief description of suggestions for safeguarding of the element by community members/experts/holders, (if any)

Awareness of our community about this element.

Restrictions on use of collected data, (if any).

No

Section-10: Upload Document