Heritage as an alternative driver for sustainable development and economic recovery in South East Europe

**Historical and cultural heritage and region's economic: case study central and eastern Russia**

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**Abstract**

Current trends of protection and use of history and culture monuments testify to increasing attention to studying of historical and cultural heritage. The special attention is drawn by idea of formation of protected historical and cultural territories which can become historical cities, farmstead and monastic complexes, fields of historical battles, historical ways and roads, historical production territories and so forth. Such territories are already created in the shape of either memorial estates, or other spatial formations, including even specific administrative and territorial units. In some cases their activity is capable to define future economic specialization of the region, prospect of its social and economic development. In this work questions of the European-Russian cooperation on development of monuments of cultural and historical heritage and their promoting among the population for the purpose of spiritual and material development of society are made actual.

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1. Introduction

Current trends of protection and use of monuments of history and culture testify to the increasing attention to studying of historical and cultural heritage. The special attention is drawn by the idea of formation of protected historical and cultural territories which can become the historical cities, farmstead and monastic complexes, fields of historical battles, historical ways and roads, historical production territories and so forth. Such territories are already created in shape either memorial estates, or other spatial formations, including even specific administrative and territorial units. In some cases their activity is capable to define future economic specialization of the region, prospect of its social and economic development. The historical and cultural heritage is gradually realized as a specific resource of the territory, acts as the new active phenomenon of economic life.

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The culture in modern Russia endures difficult and inconsistent period. On the one hand, its financial situation continues to remain very unenviable – there are no funds for restoration of history and culture monuments, on implementation of interesting projects, on maintenance of activity of cultural institutions. It's sad that many offers on the cultural development, formulated in the late eighties – the beginning of the 1990th years and finished to a stage of the feasibility study or design decisions, remained unrealized due to the lack of financing. Tourism development plans in the revived historical cities and ancient estates, development of the forgotten historical places, and restoration of culture monuments failed.

On the other hand, for the modern period the appeal to earlier hidden layers of the past, the new directions of cultural life of the country is characteristic. There is a revaluation of national heritage, the forgotten names and events come back from a non-existence, religious monuments and shrines are restored. Emergence of a set of editions on history, study of local lore, studying of the nature of the native land (it and reprints of old editions, and the publication of unpublished manuscripts, and new local history works) became the noticeable phenomenon in life of regions of Russia. The concept "heritage", which almost was not used one and a half decades ago got the special importance. Therefore it is important to reveal and understand the main tendencies with which features of cultural development of the country in the next years and possibly decades are connected.

First of all is the outlined transition from protection of separate monuments to preservation of all historical and cultural heritage in its integrity and variety, including as objects of heritage, environment in which they exist, and the person as the heritage carrier. Thus detection of all set of heritage covers not only outstanding monuments of history and culture, but also other elements – national culture, traditions, crafts and useful arts, historical urban environment, rural building and moving system, ethno-culture, natural environment and so forth. They are not only necessary background or condition of preservation of a monument, but also are considered as direct and essential part of national property, as the singular elements defining identity of culture of the country or its region.

The similar tendency gained active development also in search of history and culture monuments. Their inventory in various regions of the country added many new objects to already available lists. They included both outstanding monuments of history and monumental art, and architectural constructions of the end of XIX – the beginnings of the XX century, standard building of the historical cities, factory unique buildings, objects of the industry, houses, economic constructions in rural areas, etc. The special attention was paid on unity of architectural or historical shape, when, for example, it is necessary to protect not only the central monument of ensemble, but also surrounding it inhabited or economic constructions, constructions of later time. Such approach gave chance to begin works on preservation of the general cultural and landscape shape of the territory and the historical environment, instead of a separate monument.

The treatment of many historical events needs reconsideration and in this regard new approach to identification of monuments of history is necessary. Here it is required not only to depart from widespread earlier ideological preference, to show tolerance concerning religious outlook, but also to understand the importance of any historical figure. Very important thing is the restoration of forgotten or biasedly concealed earlier historical events and names, and not only outstanding persons, but also ordinary peasants and citizens, handicraftsmen and merchants, teachers and doctors who have remained in archives or in memory of people.

Preservation of historical technologies – the most important condition of revival of traditional schools of painting, national crafts (pottery, weaving, art of cabinetmakers, etc.). The majority of technologies (for example, use of vegetable dyes for coloring of fabrics) is environmentally friendly and possesses an antiseptic property, that's why their revival is also important. Thus, an important tendency of modern cultural development – formation of system of historical and cultural territories. This new direction in cultural policy assumes heritage preservation first of all by the territorial principle.

The necessity of allocation of territories of this sort is caused by that they "dropped out" of existing system of protected objects (actually monuments, zones of protection of monuments, reserves, national parks and so forth). At the same time it becomes clear that protection and use of single (point) objects can't be effective out of historical and natural space surrounding them. It is necessary not only from the point of view of perception of a monument, but also its viability, whether it be natural system or an architectural complex. Not used (dead)
monument for a long time (and in many respects still) was the most widespread object. However each monument was before a live organism and his modern life is impossible out of the surrounding territory, and not as security zone, but as genuine, traditional natural and historical environment. Therefore specially protected historical and cultural territories give the chance to resolve at the same time issues of protection and rational use of monuments of history, culture and the nature. Creation of system of unique territories will allow to have sated with historical and natural memory space which becomes object of heritage. It is also necessary to add that protection of natural or historical and cultural objects in the conditions of vigorous economic activity is impossible without preservation of their habitat.

2. Historical and cultural territories: approaches to definition and tipologization

The historical and cultural territory can be defined as special complete spatial formation where objects of exclusive value and importance remain in traditional natural and sociocultural environment. It is created by association of monuments and territories, objectively related owing to ethnic, economic, historical and geographical factors in a uniform complex. Its uniqueness is defined by existence and combination of memorial, architectural and archaeological objects, monuments of science, engineering constructions, historical building, traditions of national crafts and economic activity, folklore and ceremonial national culture, natural sights and the historical forms of environmental management which are of exclusive historical and cultural value of the people of our country and a world cultural heritage. The conducted researches allowed allocating the following main types of historical and cultural territories: historical cities; historical rural settlements and territories; monastic and farmstead complexes; ethnoecological areas of residence of the small-numbered peoples; fields of battles; historical production territories, ways and roads; archaeological territories. The historical city, undoubtedly, represents the territory in which safety of monuments of architecture, stories and cultures, historical planning, archaeological occupation layer and a genuine natural and cultural landscape is important. The official status of the historical city is caused by a harmonious combination of these elements, i.e. their allocation, association and preservation in the form of complete structure. Only small or average city or its small part can become specially protected historical and cultural territory. Usually the complex of architectural and historical monuments, especially in borders of the small city, has very close associativity to its natural environment (a valley of the river flowing through the city, neighboring fields, forests and so forth). The remained natural relief emphasizes picturesqueness and an originality of planning structure, opens special points of perception of architectural monuments. City suburbs closely approach to a field, the river, the wood, can merge with the neighboring villages. Natural green massifs together with homestead gardens form a special unique landscape.

Underdevelopment of industrial base of a number of small cities turned into preservation of their internal shape and surrounding environment. This integrity gives special new quality to all spatial complex of the historical city distinguishing it, for example, from preserved historical quarter. It is possible to carry some tens large cities of Russia which preserved historical shape in special type of similar territories, however their allocation as the historical is in certain cases rather problematic. As a rule, development of their historical places is more subordinated to the general problems of a development of the city; labor and household migrations considerably prevail over trips with the cultural purposes. Involved in city structure, they lose internal integrity and unity, join a city organism. But there is always a possibility of sufficient isolation of the historical center or other area, development of its sociocultural specialization. Historical rural settlements preserved their planning and architectural shape, traditional types of land use, and elements of national culture in everyday life and creativity of people.

3. Historical and cultural territories: administrative and legal status

The concept "ecological framework" is accepted by the European community and used in Russia for a long time. This concept includes natural areas (both especially valuable, and the most typical for this country) in which it is necessary to provide ecological purity of woods, rivers, air pool and to keep natural heritage. The
similar understanding of historical and cultural framework of the country needs to be extended, in our opinion, to domestic cultural heritage. It is also important because now there is almost no uniform representation of historical territories as complete spatial objects and furthermore objects of economic and legal regulation. A certain step in this direction is already taken. The system of protected natural territories in which structure the extensive network of national and natural parks with monuments of architecture and archeology plays a key role, ancient villages with the living population continues to develop.

At the same time practice of activity of national parks in Russia – narrow departmental (as nature protection organizations) when the accurate program of preservation and use of cultural heritage with rare exception almost isn't traced. It is necessary to consider that many monuments of culture are in the active economic environment. Therefore the most important aspect of preservation and use of national heritage is formation of such economic education in which all problems are solved in complex. Economic, historical and cultural and natural capacity of the territory, certainly, positively influences development of the recreational sphere, information, scientific and educational complexes, reconstruction of national crafts and productions, and on this basis activation of other interfaced economic structures, introduction of modern mechanisms of use of heritage. It is necessary to emphasize that the similar way finds expression in the regional policy and is most often shown in particular specialization, preservation and use of an available natural and cultural heritage.

The historical and cultural reserved zone "Old-Tatar Settlement" is created in Kazan. This decision is based on the organization of the Kazan national historical and cultural park "Old-Tatar Settlement". This part of an urban area was created as a town-planning historical and cultural monument of the Tatar people. Its total area makes 88 hectares; an executive administrative organ is the prefecture. It possesses the rights of the legal entity and carries out performance of powers of the local administration provided by the Law of the Republic of Tatarstan "About local state governing bodies". The same type of the historical and cultural territory "City faubourg" arose on historically populated Russian of part of Kazan.

4. Historical and cultural heritage of regions – social and economic resource of Russia

Realities of the last decade make historical and cultural heritage more and more noticeable and significant phenomenon in economic life. It is possible to tell that for many years this phenomenon has being mentioned almost neither in statistical economic information, nor in analytical reports. The separate indicators given in the analysis of the cultural and educational sphere (number of the museums or attendance of cultural actions), couldn't characterize national cultural heritage systemically let alone to give an assessment to its potential. At the same time it is necessary to recognize that complex use of this potential is extremely important for development of the country both in social, and in economic sense; it allows to submit the unique valuable characteristic of the country within development of a world civilization. At the same time it makes special part of potential of its resource.

In this sense heritage is a part of national wealth of the state (in economic treatment of this term) – sets of material benefits which society has and which finally define its subsequent development and influence on the world scene. It is undoubted that the social importance of historical and cultural heritage is understood and is admitted rather widely. The role of heritage in cultural development and educations is invaluable, it is predominating in definition of national identity of the country and it’s certain regions. It is important to note also that exactly in the 1990th years Russia came out with presentation and the nomination of the separate unique noteworthy objects as parts of the world cultural and natural heritage. The international community is for a long time anxious with condition of cultural heritage and preservation of unique sites of natural environment. Besides adoption of national lists of the most valuable and protected objects in the second half of the XX century the task of preservation and assistance to monuments of culture and to natural territories within interstate programs was set. The list of objects of the world heritage, made within the international convention of UNESCO on protection of the world cultural and natural heritage became some kind of register of heritage of universal value since 1972. Russia is adequately presented in this list. By 2003 it included 17 objects having universal value, including 11– on the nomination "cultural heritage" and 6 – on the nomination "natural heritage".
Among them, in particular, unique monuments of the historical cities of Russia – Moscow, St.-Petersburg, Novgorod, Vladimir, Kazan, monastic complexes of the Solovetsky Islands, Trinity-Sergius Lavra, Ferapontov monastery, the Lake Baikal, volcanoes of Kamchatka, etc. Since 1991 the national list of especially valuable objects of a cultural heritage of the people of the Russian Federation which totals now more than 60 objects is formed in the country. In recent years all of us realize national heritage as very important and still insufficiently estimated economic factor of development of the country and regions. The heritage is a part of national wealth which has real value terms. Its resource potential is quite comparable with other resources of the country. Detailed estimations of cost of historical and cultural heritage as a whole, as well as separate monuments of history and culture, practically weren't carried out, the conventional technique of an assessment of monuments isn't developed, and separate offers cause more disputes, than a consent.

At the same time, making use of the Russian and foreign experience, it is possible to estimate at least approximately the potential of heritage and to compare it with other economic indicators. Now more than 86 thousand monuments of history and culture (this term is understood as monuments of archeology, architecture, history and monumental art) consist on the state account and protection in the Russian Federation. The roughest estimate of their cost which is based on recovery expenses and not considering adequately art value and uniqueness of objects, makes about 230 bln. dollars.

If take these factors into account, general resource assessment of historical and cultural heritage considerably increases. Predesigns show that at the fullest accounting of value of objects of heritage and real cost of lands of historical and cultural designation the assessment given above can be increased almost by two orders and will make 12-15 trillion dollars. Undoubtedly, it is very rough estimates and, besides, estimates of a potential resource. Only developed market which will be able to declare a heritage demand as special type of resource for economic development of the territory, tourism, city infrastructure, educational and social programs is capable to give a real economic assessment of national heritage.

In recent years of the XX century national economy started forming the market in the sphere of historical and cultural heritage that is possible to call one of the new economic events. It tells not only on demand for something ancient, but also on many other tendencies. First of all on significant increase in cost quotations of real estate objects and the land plots which have been directly connected with historical centers of cities and historical places as a whole (and often this excess directly doesn't correspond to infrastructure of the area of historical building or modern economic development of a historical place).

5. Conclusion

Thus, heritage is the important factor of modern sociocultural and economic development providing use of specific historical and cultural and natural resource, instead of dictated from above industrial and agricultural
technologies. For a number of areas which don't have considerable industrial or agrarian potential, orientation to cultural heritage becomes one of real opportunities of social lifting. And opportunity which doesn't bear threats to ecology or social environment, and on the contrary, allowing to restore traditional forms of environmental management, human relations, culture. Such approach fully corresponds to the Art. 5 Conventions of UNESCO on the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage recommending to the participating states "to pursue the general policy directed on giving to cultural and natural heritage certain functions in public life and on inclusion of protection of this heritage in programs of the general planning". It also predetermines need of development of special status of territories, probably, even change of their administrative-territorial status.

Such strategy assumes preservation of the historical city and the region in its variety, providing a unique landscape, a reconstruction of traditional environmental management and historical productions with their organic entry into modern social and economic processes. Active development of the recreational sphere and tourism, museum activity, scientific and educational complex, activation of other interfaced economic structures on this basis is planned. Such way of development even more often meets in regional policy, being shown in particular specialization of a number of regions on preservation and use of a natural and cultural heritage. So, the national heritage acts as important factor of social and economic development of the certain cities and regions. It can provide development on the basis of this specific resource of a number of territories, historical and cultural natural wealth of which becomes one of real opportunities of economic and social recovery. In other words, in recent years the historical and cultural heritage acts as a new factor of social and economic life of many territories and as a special indicator of development of regional economy.

References