



## TRADITIONS WITH A THOUSAND-YEAR HISTORY THAT INFLUENCE THE CULTURE OF THE TURKIC PEOPLES

**Submission Date:** May 12, 2024, **Accepted Date:** May 17, 2024,

**Published Date:** May 22, 2024

**Crossref doi:** <https://doi.org/10.37547/philological-crjps-05-05-12>

**Journal Website:**  
<https://masterjournals.com/index.php/crjps>

**Copyright:** Original content from this work may be used under the terms of the creative commons attributes 4.0 licence.

**Isamutdinova Ra'no Nizamutdinovna**

**A Teacher At The Uzbek Language And Literature University Named After Alisher Navoi, Uzbekistan**

### ABSTRACT

The Turkic peoples, with their diverse and rich culture, represent a world of amazing traditions, art and wisdom stretching back thousands of years and influencing world history and culture. Known for their nomadic lifestyle, the ancient Turks left behind not only traces in history, but also a legacy that inspires and excites the minds and hearts of people around the world to this day. Turkic statehood with a single ruler, institutions of power, and economy already delighted the Chinese two thousand years ago.

This article invites the reader on a fascinating journey into the history and culture of the Turkic peoples to immerse themselves in the majestic world of their traditions, unique art and spiritual values. Unraveling the secrets of ancient myths, studying arts and crafts, plunging into the wisdom and philosophy of the Turkic peoples, we will explore the depths of time and penetrate into the hidden corners of culture left by generations.

With the help of this article, you can feel the pulsation of the life of the ancient Turks and try to uncover the secrets of their cultural heritage, which is so precious for our understanding and respect for the diversity of world culture, which has become an integral part of the cultural canon of humanity.

### KEYWORDS

History, mythology, art, language and writing, traditions and customs, rituals.

### INTRODUCTION



The topic of the cultural heritage of the Turkic peoples is important and relevant in the context of preserving cultural diversity, sustainable development, cultural dialogue, tourism and economic development, as well as introducing innovations in the preservation and study of their unique culture.

The history of the Turkic peoples extends over thousands of years and covers a wide range of events, including migrations, the formation of state-political entities, cultural achievements, conquests, etc. For centuries, the Eurasian steppes and deserts have been the cradle of many peoples, among which the Turks occupy a special place. Their history is a fascinating tale of nomadic empires, great conquests, rich culture and unique traditions. From the first Turkic tribes to modern states, the Turkic peoples have come a long way, leaving their indelible mark on the history of mankind. Immersion in the history of the Turks begins with solving the mystery of their origin. The ancient roots of this people go to the depths of Central Asia, where the first Turkic tribes were formed. The Turkic peoples were not only skilled cattle breeders, but also talented warriors. Their cavalry was considered one of the best in the world, which allowed them to create vast empires that stretched from China to Europe. Turkic tribes had a significant influence on the formation and development of other cultures and peoples, such as the Mongols and Khazars.

Immersion in the history of the Turks begins with solving the mystery of their origin. The ancient roots of this people go to the depths of Central Asia, where the first Turkic tribes were formed.

The Turkic peoples were not only skilled cattle breeders, but also talented warriors. Their cavalry was considered one of the best in the world, which allowed them to create vast empires that stretched from China to Europe. Turkic tribes had a significant influence on the formation and development of other cultures and peoples, such as the Mongols and Khazars.

Turkic culture is a unique fusion of nomadic traditions, the influence of neighboring peoples and its own achievements. Turkic society was built on tribal relations, where customs, traditions and respect for elders played an important role. The Turks are one of the oldest ethnic groups in the world. In ancient times, Turkic tribes lived in Siberia, Central Asia, Mongolia, Eastern Europe and other regions. They led a nomadic lifestyle, engaged in cattle breeding, hunting and fishing. One of the important moments in the history of the Turkic peoples was the collapse of the Xiongnu empire in the 4th-5th centuries AD, as a result of which the Turkic tribes began to form their own states and political associations. This period was characterized by mobility and a nomadic lifestyle. L. Pavlinskaya claims that the first mention of the cult of the sun and moon and the rituals associated with them were recorded in the culture of the Huns (according to Chinese sources; it is also said that, having their own state here and having been defeated by the Chinese, the Turks for 50 years were dependent on them, and some princes, having accepted the titles of Chinese during this period, ceased to be Turkic. In the VI-VIII centuries, the first Turkic Khaganates and empires were formed, such as the Gokturk Khaganate, the



Uyghur Khaganate, the Karakhanid state, the Kokand Khanate and others. These states played an important role in the history of Central Asia and the Middle East.

During the Middle Ages, Turkic peoples came into contact with Islam and founded numerous khanates and khanates in the region. They took an active part in the political events of Asia, participating in trade, cultural exchange and wars. In the modern era, Turkic peoples form sovereign states such as Turkey, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, etc. They continue to develop their culture, while maintaining unique traditions and responsibilities, occupy vast territories of Eurasia, from the shores of the Mediterranean Sea to Siberia. Finding the ancestral homeland of the Turks is a complex task and does not have a clear answer. Linguists, analyzing the similarities and differences of the Turkic languages, suggest that their ancestral home was somewhere in Central Asia, perhaps in the region of the Altai Mountains or the steppes of Mongolia.

Archaeological finds also confirm this hypothesis. The Bronze and Iron Age cultures found in these regions share a number of common features that link them to the early Turks. The history of the Turkic peoples can be traced back to ancient times. The first mention of them refers to the Xiongnu, a nomadic people who created a powerful empire in Central Asia in the 3rd century BC. The Xiongnu may not have been Turkic in the full sense of the word, but their culture and political organization had a significant influence on the formation of Turkic identity. The next

important stage was the emergence of the Turkic Khaganate in the 6th century AD, which united the disparate Turkic tribes and created an empire stretching from Manchuria to the Black Sea. He played a key role in the development of trade on the Silk Road and contributed to the spread of Turkic culture and language. At this time, such administrative and political centers of the Turkic Kaganate as Suyab and Taraz, located on the Great Silk Road and connecting Asia and Europe, East and West, settled regions and the nomadic world, began to stand out for their special architecture and construction. There is a lot of information about one of these cultural centers - the city of Otrar, which also has another name – Tarban. Over the following centuries, Turkic peoples continued to migrate and settle throughout Eurasia. The reasons for these migrations were various: the search for new pastures, political conflicts, trade relations. As a result, the Turks found themselves in different parts of the continent, from Anatolia and the Balkans to the Volga region and Siberia. During the process of settlement, the Turks actively interacted with other peoples, adopting and passing on elements of culture, language and religion. They played an important role in the formation of Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, etc.

Despite geographical fragmentation and differences in culture and language, the Turkic peoples retain a sense of community and historical connection, manifested in the general features of culture, folklore, traditions and language.



The structure of the Turkic Khaganate was based on nomadic traditions and military organization. The head of the state was the Kagan - the supreme ruler who had absolute power. His closest assistants were representatives of noble families who governed the regions Khaganate The Kaganate occupied a strategic position on the Silk Road - the main trade artery connecting East and West. The Turks controlled most of this route, which ensured influence over trade. They actively participated in the political life of Eurasia, concluding alliances. One of the most important achievements of the Kaganate was the creation of the first Turkic Orkhon-Yenisei writing system. Numerous monuments were created in this writing, telling about the life and history of the Turks. Arts, crafts and architecture also developed. Archaeological finds indicate a high level of skill of Turkic craftsmen in metal processing, creating jewelry and sculpture. At the end of the 6th – beginning of the 7th century, the Turkic Khaganate split into two parts: the Eastern Turkic and Western Turkic Khaganates (the Western Turkic Khaganate was located on the territory of the “ancient Usuns”). This was caused by internal contradictions and external pressure from neighboring countries.

Studying the history of the Turkic Khaganate is not only an immersion in the past, but also the key to understanding the modern Turkic world. He left us a rich legacy that continues to influence the lives of millions of people. In the 13th century, the Golden Horde arose in the vast territories of Eurasia, a powerful state created by the descendants of Genghis Khan. The Golden Horde

united many Turkic and other peoples under its rule, controlling trade routes and influencing the politics of the region. It played an important role in the development of trade and cultural exchange between East and West. During this period, there was active interaction between the Turkic peoples and the Russian principalities, which had a mutual influence on culture and language. In the 14th century, the Timurid Empire arose in Central Asia, founded by Tamerlane, an outstanding commander and statesman. It became the center of science, culture, and art. During this period, magnificent architectural structures were built, literature, painting and calligraphy developed.

The Timurids actively supported the development of trade and crafts, which contributed to the prosperity of cities and the growth of the well-being of the population. The Ottoman Empire, which arose in the 14th century in Anatolia, became one of the most powerful empires in history. The Empire played an important role in world politics and trade, controlling key trade routes and participating in wars with European powers. The Ottomans, who came from Oghuz Turkic tribes, created a multinational state and also made a significant contribution to the development of Islamic culture and architecture. In addition to large empires, there were other Turkic states in Central Asia, such as Khorezm, Bukhara, and the Khanate of Kokand. These states played an important role in the development of trade, culture and science in the region. Turkic languages and culture spread across vast territories of Eurasia, influencing the formation of many modern states and peoples. Turkic peoples



have led a predominantly nomadic lifestyle for centuries, which has shaped unique social structures and traditions. These structures, based on tribal organization, played an important role in ensuring order, security and survival in the harsh conditions of the steppes and deserts. The basis of Turkic society was the tribal organization. People united into clans based on blood relationships, and the clans, in turn, formed tribes. Each clan and tribe had its own territory, customs and leaders. An important element of the social structure was the system of patronymy, when a person determined his clan membership by the name of his ancestor. This system helped preserve historical memory and strengthen ties between members of the clan. Social stratification and the management system contributed to the fact that at the top of the social ladder there was a kagan or khan - the supreme ruler who had absolute power. Next came representatives of noble families, military leaders, religious leaders and ordinary community members. The management system in Turkic societies was based on a combination of the power of the khan and the council of elders, representing various clans and tribes. The Council of Elders played an important role in making decisions affecting the life of society and served as a mechanism for resolving conflicts. Turkic societies had a system of customary law based on unwritten laws and traditions passed down from generation to generation. These laws regulated various aspects of society: property, marriage, inheritance, dispute resolution, etc. Customs played an important role in maintaining order and social harmony, determining rules of behavior,

rituals, holidays and other aspects of life. Religion also played an important role in the life of the Turkic peoples. Before the adoption of Islam, the Turks professed Tengrism, a religion based on the veneration of heaven (Tengri), earth and the spirits of ancestors. Shamanism was also common among the Turkic peoples. With the spread of Islam, it began to play a dominant role in the life of Turkic societies, influencing culture, law and social norms. With the transition to a sedentary lifestyle and the formation of states, Turkic social structures underwent changes. Tribal ties weakened, and the role of the central government increased. However, many elements of traditional social structures, such as patronymy, customary law and religious traditions, continue to exist and influence the lives of modern Turkic peoples.

Studying the history and ethnography of the Turkic peoples opens up to us a wonderful world of nomadic empires, rich cultural traditions and complex social structures. From the majestic Turkic Khaganate to the modern Turkic states, these peoples have come a long way, leaving their mark on the history of Eurasia and the whole world. However, despite their diversity, the Turkic peoples are united by a common history, linguistic affinity and cultural heritage. The idea of Turkic unity plays an important role in the formation of the national identity of modern Turkic peoples. It recalls common roots, historical past and cultural affinity. This idea contributes to the development of cooperation between Turkic states in various fields, such as economics, culture, and education. The study of the history and culture of the Turkic peoples is of great importance for understanding



the complex processes of formation of the modern world. The Turkic peoples played an important role in the development of trade, the spread of religions, and cultural exchange between East and West.

Modern Turkic states are playing an increasingly active role on the world stage. They strive for economic development, strengthening their position in international relations and preserving their cultural identity. In general, the cultural heritage of the Turkic peoples is of great importance not only for the peoples themselves, but also for the world cultural heritage as a whole. The preservation, study and promotion of this heritage contributes to the preservation of cultural diversity and the enrichment of cultural dialogue on the world stage. The study and preservation of the cultural heritage of the Turks helps to strengthen cultural diversity, bring peoples closer together, develop tourism and education, which makes it an important element not only for the peoples within the Turkic group, but also for the world community as a whole. Only by uniting economically, technologically and spiritually into a self-sufficient super-ethnic civilization will the Turks be able to rise from their knees and become a modern nation capable of adequately responding to the challenges of globalization. Turkic cultural heritage gives us the opportunity to immerse ourselves in centuries-old history, enriching our cultural memory and inspiring new connections and exploration of the cultural heritage of the world.

1. Adji M. Europe, Turks. Great steppe. – M.: Mysl, 1998. M. Asian Europe. – M.: AST: Astrel, 2011.
2. States of the Great Steppe. – Almaty: “Adamar”, 2007.
3. Zholdasbekov M., Sartkozhauly K. Orkhon eskertkishteri tolyk Atlases. – Astana: “Kultegin”, 2007.
4. Zuev Yu. A. Early Turks: essays on history and ideology. – Almaty: “Dyke-Press” 2002.
5. Taizhan A. T., Kumyspaev S. S. Kazakhstan as part of the Turkic world in the context of globalization // Professor N. F. Katanov and problems of Turkic studies. Sat. articles of the international scientific-theoretical conference on May 30-31, 2012. – Oral, 2012.

## REFERENCES