



Press Release
30 June 2005



Special Exhibition at the UN Pavilion at the Expo 2005 Aichi

LIVING HERITAGE

Organized by the Culture Sector of UNESCO

The exhibition entitled "Living Heritage" will be launched on **3 July 2005 at 16h00**. It is organized by the **Culture Sector of UNESCO** and sponsored by **Samsung** and **Asia/Pacific Cultural Center for UNESCO (ACCU)**.

Living Heritage means the intangible elements of cultural heritage. Intangible cultural heritage manifests itself as oral traditions, including languages, performing arts (dance, music and theatre), social practices, rituals and festive events, among others. It consists of practices, underlying skills and values, which communities recognize as part of their cultural heritage and cultural identity. Through its various programmes, UNESCO has acquired extensive experience in the identification and the safeguarding of intangible heritage over the past decades. UNESCO's efforts resulted in the adoption of the *Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage* by its Member States in 2003, which promotes and ensures the safeguarding on an international level. Through its support, the Japanese government has highly contributed to the success of UNESCO's Proclamation of Masterpieces of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.

The exhibition will display several objects and audio-visual recordings related to the Masterpieces, such as the Ningyo Johruri Bunraku puppet theatre (Japan), the Carnival de Binche (Belgium), the *tar-* a musical instrument from Azerbaijan and the Zafimaniry woodcraft (Madagascar). There will also be a traditional music corner and computers where visitors can listen to a selection of the UNESCO Collection of Traditional Music of the World and learn more about UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage related activities and ACCU's databank of the Asian performing arts.

Title: Living Heritage
Period: 3 July to 23 July 2005
Venue: United Nations Pavilion
Global Commons 2
Hours: 9h00-21h30 (last entry 30 minutes before closing)

Organizer: Culture Sector of UNESCO
Sponsors: Samsung and Asia/Pacific Cultural Center for UNESCO (ACCU)