

**REGIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE
MUSEUMS OF WORLD COUNTRIES**

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Abstract

Today, the increase in the number of scientific studies in the field of theory and practice of museum work is determined by the increase in the interest of state bodies, public and cultural organizations, and the problems of museumization, restoration, preservation and systematization of ethnic and religious heritage. The scientific works of many scientists are devoted to the study of theoretical and practical aspects of the development of museum organizations of world countries. However, until now, there has not been a detailed comprehensive geographical analysis of the specific aspects of the development of the world's museum organizations on separate continents, countries and regions. The scope of these issues is studied in this article.

Keywords: regional museums, status of world museums, museum property, manuscript, pinocateque, living exhibit, dilettante, colonial museums, open-air museums, natural science museums.

Introduction

Each region of the world has its own unique conditions for the development of museum work. They are mainly the best developed in Europe, where Hellenic, ancient and medieval civilizations were formed, destructive military campaigns took place in the north of Africa, Asia Minor and Central America. That is why European museums have rich collections of exhibits of the ancient civilizations of the Ancient East and the Mediterranean, the top of the Andes, the Indian tribes of Panama and the Yucatan, as well as European art, architecture, sculpture and has a unique collection of graphic works. In Europe, museums in the field of history and art dominate, mainly based on the collections of monarchs, monasteries, religious units and academies. The number of museums with a technical profile is not very large, such museums are mainly located in Germany, the Netherlands, and Great Britain. Many institutions are dedicated to individuals, great writers, figures of culture and art.

Museums of Asian countries differ from European ones by their deep historical, cultural and religious content based on the spiritual culture of the East. Most of them are dedicated to traditional (in the south and east) and Christian (Asia Minor) faiths and are located in former temples, mosques and monasteries. The religious riches of Asia are displayed in the expositions of ancient Christian, Sanskrit, Shinto and Buddhist libraries, places of worship



and religious relics. The number of natural sciences and scientific and technical museums is not so large, most of them are located in Japan and partly in China.¹

In the Asian countries of the former Soviet Union, most of the museums of military and revolutionary history have been preserved, and today they are changing their profile. The peculiarity of the Asian region is that there are very few memorial museums dedicated to great historical figures and personalities. However, the demand of the population of the country for very few museums of this profile is very high. Museums of political leaders (China), religious leaders (India), military commanders (Mongolia, Iraq, Afghanistan) dominate.

North American museums are distinguished by the high level of modernity of expositions. Formed on the basis of former industrial exhibitions, they offer visitors an introduction to the development and modern strength of various industrial enterprises and corporations, thus highlighting only the commercial side of the business. In terms of content, North American museums are reminiscent of exhibitions of historical and modern machinery and equipment, opened for advertising or commercial purposes. It is a high-tech conglomerate that aims to capture and surprise visitors with a unique approach and state-of-the-art equipment. There are few historical museums in this region, because the large-scale coverage of these lands by Europeans began only in the 16th and 17th centuries. Thus, you can find museums dedicated to the events of the Civil War of the North and the South (1861-1865), as well as the history of the colonization of America (expositions of the life and lifestyle of Indian tribes are shown). There are also museums of historical figures, but these are not people in the field of science or art, but, first of all, political figures and businessmen. South American museums, unlike the North, are mainly historical and historical-architectural. In the countries of the Andes, there are many museums of the history and life of Indian tribes, and in Brazil, Argentina, and Venezuela there are museums of the history of the opening and colonization of America. Separate museums of a technical profile are located in Brazil, mainly based on the expositions of multinational corporations operating there. Also, there are many religious museums (both Catholic and local non-Christian) in the region, which display works of European art (Spain, Portugal, etc.) brought to America during the colonial period. There are also museums of individual persons mainly related to the European stage of the development of the continent.

Australian and Oceanian museums have a relatively similar profile. Almost all of them are devoted to the history of European land acquisition and exploration, as well as to the first explorers and sailors. However, a small part is made up of museums of local livelihood and culture, natural heritage and mineral resources. Although the number of museums of Oceania is quite large (about 2 thousand), the information about their funds and profile directions is very different and incomplete.²

¹ Турскова, Т. А. Музеи мира / Т. А. Турскова. – М. : ТЕППА – книжный клуб, 2001. – 351 с. – ISBN 5-275-00376-5.

² Сотникова, С. И. Музеология : пособие для вузов / С. И. Сотникова. – М. : Дрофа, 2004. – 192 с. – ISBN 5-7107-7436-7.



There are not many African museums. In this region, there are many countries with only one museum. If we look back at history, all the museums of Africa are clearly distributed across the continent in terms of their profile. The border of distribution is a natural barrier - the Sahara desert, in the northern part of which is the land known to the Romans and Europeans, and in the southern part - the tropics, in the imagination of the ancient Greeks, there are areas that are not suitable for human habitation. North of the Sahara desert, there are museums of the ancient Egyptian civilization, the Hellenistic period of development, the Roman colonies and the later Muslim state of the Maghreb. Going south of the Sahara, there are colonial (colonial) museums of totem worship or former metropolises (France, Great Britain, Portugal). The unique aspect of Africa is that there are many museums dedicated to the independence of individual countries and the stages of the struggle for it. It is characteristic of the southern and central parts of the continent. There are very few memorial and technical museums, religious museums (except in the Muslim north). However, there are many exhibitions-museums of precious objects and precious minerals³ European museums occupy a very high place in the world. As we mentioned, their number is more than 60% of the world's museums, including many material valuables of ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome, European fine arts, architecture, science, technology, and large collections of world classics. 'plays. However, the total number of museums in individual European countries varies significantly. More museum organizations are located in Germany and Great Britain (more than 4000), relatively less in Italy (3.5 thousand), Russia (1478), France (1300) and Spain (1054 institutions). Small European countries have an average of 200 to 700 museums, the largest number of them among the countries included in this group are in the Netherlands (732), Austria (712), Switzerland (776) and others. Small European countries and "deaf countries" have relatively few museums. Thus, there are 5 museums in Liechtenstein, 6 in Monaco and Andorra, 7 in San Marino, and one in Luxembourg and Gibraltar. It should be noted that the largest number of museum organizations belong not only to highly developed European countries, but also to the countries of the former Soviet Union. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, museum work in the region was one of the priority areas of culture, so the role of these countries in the world museum heritage is significantly higher. That is why the Russian Federation ranks first among European countries in terms of the total number of museums (more than 1,478). This indicator is at the level of countries like France, Spain, and Italy.

According to UNESCO, the Eiffel Tower receives an average of 6 million dollars a year. person, to the British Museum - 4 mln.; 4 million to the Hermitage Museum, 4 million to the Orsay Museum, 3 million to the Louvre, 2 million to the Palace of Versailles. a person visits. Recently, two museum objects have recorded a record number of visitors from around the world. These are - Center of Modern Art named after J. Pompidou (Paris) - 6.3 million. man and the British Museum (London) - 7 million. man However, in terms of the level of

³ Турскова, Т. А. Музеи мира / Т. А. Турскова. – М. : ТЕППА – книжный клуб, 2001. – 351 с. – ISBN 5-275-00376-5.



provision of museums per 100,000 people, a completely different situation is observed in European countries.

"Deaf countries" and countries with a small population (San Marino, Iceland, Monaco, Liechtenstein, Andorra, Norway), as well as developed countries and countries with ancient traditions of collecting (Switzerland, Austria, Great Britain, Germany, Italy, Denmark, Hungary), the level of provision of museums is the highest.

The group of countries with a high level of museum supply is very diverse in terms of quality. They, like the majority of museum organizations, are represented by countries of different socio-economic types with a small population (Finland, the Netherlands, Portugal, Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, Croatia, Slovenia, Latvia, etc.).

France, Spain, Greece, the Czech Republic, Bulgaria, and Romania have a medium supply of museums due to their large population. The museums of these countries are famous all over the world, they are visited annually by the majority of tourists from European countries, America, and Asia. The first three of them form the basis of the European museum treasure.

The low level of provision of museums is characteristic of Ireland, Yugoslavia, Poland, Slovakia, Lithuania, Belarus and other countries. Most of them, with the exception of Ireland, were part of the social camp, which left a mark on the uniqueness of the development of museum work.

The lowest level of provision of museums per 100,000 inhabitants in Europe is in the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Bosnia and Herzegovina. In these countries, there is less than one museum per 100,000 inhabitants. The efforts of authorities, public cultural organizations, patrons and individual citizens should be focused on the formation of new trends in preserving and restoring the cultural and historical heritage of these countries, developing the cultural and educational environment of museum work, and providing people with free access to museum organizations in all regions of the country.

Asian museums rightfully belong to the examples of world cultural heritage. They have historically unique monuments of rich and still not fully discovered eastern thought, religion and philosophy, architecture, book printing, and art. Their fund contains not only the incomparable material wealth of the East, but also, above all, the traditional culture of the Asian countries, unmatched in its beauty and full of spirituality.

That is why they are the most "museum" countries of Asia, they are the hotbeds of ancient civilizations that appeared very long ago and have collected a large number of historical and cultural monuments. Thus, today there are more than a thousand museums in China, 762 in Japan, 462 in India, about 180 in Turkey, Thailand, Kazakhstan and Korea, and about a hundred in Israel, Indonesia, Azerbaijan. The number of museums in countries that do not have a history of individual traditions and are not the center of ancient civilizations is very small. Such countries include Myanmar, Bhutan, Pakistan, Indochina, as well as the countries of the east of the Arabian Peninsula. There are also many countries in Asia that have only one museum. These are: Yemen, Taiwan, Maldives and Bhutan. The countries of Central Asia and the Caucasus are exceptions to the general rule.



Museum work in them developed significantly during the period of the Union of Soviet Socialist Countries, which had a priority for the development of the sphere of culture and art. Therefore, the above-mentioned countries have higher indicators of the number of museums than other Asian countries of the second type. The countries of Central Asia and the Trans-Caucasus maintain absolute leadership in terms of the level of provision of the population with museum organizations. Thus, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, as well as the countries of Asia Minor, rich in history and religious events: Israel, Lebanon, Brunei, Bahrain, are the leaders in terms of the number of museums per 100,000 inhabitants in Asia. Medium level of provision of museums, which had a certain level of development, but remained mainly on the side of Asian civilization processes: Georgia, Jordan, Mongolia, Korea, Laos, Thailand, Malaysia, Oman, Typical of countries like UAE, Syria, etc. Japan and Turkey stand out from this group. They have a large number of museum organizations (762 and 184, respectively), but due to the large population of these countries, the level of provision remains low.⁴

Low rates of provision of museums per 100,000 people, a densely populated country with a population approaching or exceeding a billion (China, India), as well as a number of culturally poor and underdeveloped countries: Saudi Arabia, Iran, Afghanistan corresponds to Asia, Bangladesh, Philippines, Indonesia.

Some of these countries have a high level of GDP due to oil extraction (Saudi Arabia, Iran) or foreign multinational companies (Indonesia), but the level of development of the system of cultural and artistic institutions remains very low. In the first case, the example of China is exemplary. It occupies the first place in Asia in terms of the total number of museums (1085), and occupies the lowest place in the level of provision of them to the population of the country. The lowest indicators of provision of museums are characteristic of the poorest countries of Asia: Yemen, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Vietnam, Sri Lanka.

The Asian region has many unique cities that are actually called open-air museums: Sana, Old City (Yemen), Damascus (Syria), Istanbul (Turkey), Samarkand (Uzbekistan), Isfahan (Iran), It has Baghdad (Iraq), Lahore (Pakistan), Goa (India), Mahabali-puram (India), Kathmandu (Nepal), Borobudur temple complex (Indonesia) and others.

The African continent remains the poorest region in terms of the number of museums. Despite the fact that it has a unique natural heritage and is rich in historical events and personalities, its riches are not preserved at the state level and remain unknown to tourists. However, according to archaeologists, almost the first collections of objects of culture and livelihood of ancient peoples, which should be kept in museums, were found in Africa (as well as in Oceania).

As mentioned above, culturally, African countries can be divided into two regions. In the northern part of the continent, known as the Arab Maghreb, museum organizations based on the history of the Hellenes and ancient Egypt, as well as the events of the Roman period, prevail. This country is quite rich in museums, the largest number of them in Africa is

⁴ Юренева, Т. Ю. Музеи мира : История и коллекции, шедевры и раритеты / Т. Ю. Юренева. – М. : ЭКСМО, 2011. – 496 с. – ISBN 978-5-699- 39333-6.



located here, in Egypt (50), Tunisia (35), Algeria (32), Libya (26), Morocco (15). All of them attract the majority of European tourists due to the relatively short journey, low prices and decent service (Egypt). The sub-Saharan region, which serves as a natural border between different cultural regions of Africa, is home to some of the world's poorest countries. Most of them are limited by the number of museums. The only developed country on the continent with the highest number is the Republic of South Africa (more than 30). Nigeria (12), Zambia (10), Cameroon (12), Zimbabwe (18), Sierra Leone (19) and others also have high rates. But most of the countries are limited to 5-7 museums. There are only a few countries with only one museum in this part of the continent: Equatorial Guinea, Swaziland, Sao Tome and Principe, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Namibia, Botswana, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Somalia, Cote d'Ivoire. There are regions where there is no museum (Western Sahara, Comoros Islands).

If we consider the level of provision of museums per 100,000 inhabitants, in Africa, this indicator depends not on the level of development of the cultural sector, but primarily on the number of the country's population. Thus, the first places were occupied by small countries with a population of only a few tens of thousands of people. These are Djibouti and Seychelles. In addition, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe, which are not very large in terms of territory and population, and a number of developed countries of the Maghreb (Libya, Tunisia, Mauritania) occupy the first places in terms of wealth), as well as the Central African Republic, Gabon, Togo, Equatorial Guinea and others. The average indicators of provision of museums are formed in countries rich in personal history. These are Algeria, Angola, Eritrea, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Guinea. The fact that most of them, except for Guinea and Eritrea, have much larger museum collections, determined the significantly higher status of these countries in the cultural life of Africa. Countries with a large population (USA, Namibia, Botswana, Tanzania, Mozambique, Madagascar), as well as poor countries of the region (Chad, Niger, Mali, Ghana, Senegal) have low indicators of museum provision. Finally, the countries with the least supply of museum organizations belong to the Saharan and South African countries: Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Nigeria, Western Sahara. These countries lag far behind in the development of the social complex due to constant military conflicts, hunger and poverty.

The peculiarity of the region is that, first of all, its territory and the majority of its population belong to only three countries: the USA, Canada and Mexico. The rest of the countries located in Central America occupy a small area along the coast of Panama, or are considered islands. Therefore, two of the three largest countries have the largest number of museums, respectively. 94% of all North and Central American museums are located in the United States and Canada. There are more than 4,600 of them in the US, and 1,342 in Canada. But Mexico has fewer museum organizations than its neighbors. (14). This situation is explained by the fact that it belongs to countries that are still developing and do not have enough resources for the appropriate development of the social complex. Therefore, in terms of the number of museums, the third country of North and Central America is Cuba (216). This is quite understandable considering the socialist way of the country's development, in which



the development of various cultural and art organizations is provided with broad support by the state. Also, the majority of museums were formed in countries such as: Costa Rica (38), El Salvador (20), Panama (11), Guatemala (18). However, in many countries of Western India, there are very few museums, their number does not exceed 6-7. These include Haiti, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Barbados, Bahamas, Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Lucia, etc. s are included. In North and Central America, there are countries with only one museum: Puerto Rico, Martinique, Belize, Grenada, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Kitts and Nevis. There are also countries that do not have a single museum: Aruba, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Dominica, etc.

Thus, the museums of North and Central America are mainly located in the areas of the continents (continents), where historically certain Indians and other tribes of the great prairies and plains lived. This is what has determined their profile in Canada and Mexico. US museums have a much wider spectrum, covering different layers of civilization from ancient times to Indian culture and our modern, post-industrial society today. In addition to museum organizations of a technical profile, formed on the basis of former large industrial exhibitions, the USA also has unique museums in the artistic direction. Among them are the world-famous Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Guggenheim Museum, the Metropolitan Museum, the National Gallery of Art, etc.

The distribution of museums in individual countries of North and Central America varies according to their number and the level of provision of museums per 100,000 people. Thus, the level of supply is the highest in the United States, Canada, Cuba, as well as in countries with a small population (Costa Rica, Belize, Panama, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados). The average level of provision of museums per 100,000 people belongs to the less developed countries of Panama (Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala), including Jamaica and Haiti. The lowest level of museum provision is in the Antilles of the Caribbean Sea. Small countries such as St. Kitts and Nevis, Barbados, Dominica, Aruba pay almost no attention to the development of museum work. However, the level of provision of museums in Mexico is the lowest. In fact, 14 museums for a country of more than eighty million people is a very low figure. Thus, the situation in the country is completely unacceptable, where powerful ancient civilizations lived, today archaeologists and tourists are interested in their beauty and greatness. Mexico should create an effective museum development program and improve the work of museum organizations.

South American countries belong to the region that is insufficiently provided with museum organizations. There are only 1340 museums in its territory. This indicator is much lower than in other regions of the world, except for Africa. Thus, South America ranks second to last among the continents in terms of the number of museums. Countries with large territories and large populations, such as North America, have the largest number of museums. For example, there are 778 museums in Brazil, 230 in Argentina, and 165 in Venezuela. These countries are rightfully considered the leaders of the continent, therefore, the development of the social complex and museum business is placed on them at a high level. In the rest of the countries, the number of museum organizations is less than a hundred. Among them: Colombia (74), Chile (26), Ecuador (15), Peru (12), Uruguay (11).



In the territories of these countries, the villages of the ancient tribes of the Incas, silver mines, and ancient caves with drawings of prehistoric man were found, which are interesting for the museum. There are only 1-2 museums in the rest of the countries. These are Suriname, Guyana, French Guiana, Trinidad and Tobago, Falkland (Malvinas) Islands. The low level of socio-economic development conditions these countries to pay little attention to the development of culture and, in particular, the field of museum work.

Museums of historical, ethnographic and natural profile prevail in South America. The first of them is mainly devoted to the history of the opening and colonization of America, the second - to the Indian tribes, especially the tribes of the Andes mountain ranges, and the third - to the rich natural heritage of America, its mineral, forest, and water resources.

If we consider the level of provision of museums per 100,000 inhabitants of South American countries, then the number of inhabitants was the lowest: in Suriname and French Guiana, these indicators are very high. However, the museums of these countries are not of international importance and are mainly intended for local visitors. Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Venezuela are in second place. These countries maintain leadership because their museum organizations are widely known, as well as because their collections and exhibits are unique and valuable. Colombia, Uruguay and Guyana are at an average level. Despite the fact that they have more museum organizations compared to the first two countries, their level of provision is still not sufficient for a population of 100,000. The remaining countries: Chile, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago have a low level of provision of museums. The level of development of these countries does not allow them to hold significant museum expositions.

The countries of Oceania belong to a very specific region of the world, where only two bright leaders - Australia and New Zealand - have formed. The rest of the countries are not so big in terms of their territory and population. Therefore, the leadership of the two listed countries differs sharply against the background of other countries of Oceania. And, indeed, there are 1,893 museum organizations in Australia alone. This is more than all South American countries combined. Oceania ranks fourth among other regions of the world in terms of the number of museums, thanks to Australia and, in part, New Zealand. However, there are very few museum organizations in other countries of Oceania. Only New Zealand is distinguished by the large number of them (98), and among the island countries of the region, New Caledonia has 4 museums on its territory. The remaining countries have only one museum (Fiji, Solomon (Solomon) Islands, Western Samoa, Vanuatu, Micronesia, Niue), or none at all (Papua New Guinea, Palau, Tuvalu, Tonga, Nauru, Northern Mariana Islands, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Guam, French Polynesia, Cook Islands). However, it should be noted that Oceania has an ancient tradition of collecting. Thus, according to the results of the latest archaeological excavations, almost the first collections of objects of religion, weapons, utensils of the world, which have museum value according to the opinion of scientists, were found in Oceania.

Three types of museum organizations have been formed in the region. First of all, these are colonial museums (colonial museums), which contain expositions of the history of the discovery and development of Australia and Oceania, and also have collections of European



art samples brought by the colonists. Secondly, these are museums of the culture and life of the local population (indigenous people), which are mainly formed on the basis of private collections. Finally, and thirdly, these are natural museums that talk about endemic plants and animals of Australia and Oceania.

If we consider the level of provision of museums per 100,000 people of the Oceania countries, then Australia, New Zealand and New Caledonia have a sharp advantage. But Australia is far ahead of its neighbors. There are 10.7 museums per 100,000 inhabitants, while in the other countries listed above - only 2.8 and 2.4 museums, respectively. The second place is occupied by island countries with more than one museum. In particular, these are Micronesia, Vanuatu, Western Samoa, Solomon Islands and Fiji. Finally, countries in the region with very few museums include countries with only one museum or none at all. Oceania's museums remain little known to this day. The level of foreign tourists visiting these museums is very low. In fact, only a few museums in Australia and New Zealand are of international importance, but information about them is incomplete and scarce.

Thus, the regional analysis of the development of museum organizations in the countries of the world revealed a serious disparity in the location of museums and their operation in the regional aspect. The maximum concentration of museum organizations is observed in the countries of Western Europe, South-East Asia, and North America. The rest of the world's countries and regions are characterized by an insufficient number of museum organizations and a low level of provision of museums per 100,000 inhabitants.

World organizations under the auspices of the United Nations, which are engaged in the preservation and restoration of natural, cultural, historical and national-ethnic heritage, have to optimize the identified imbalances, as well as a new development of museum tourism in the leading regions in terms of the provision of museum organizations. should pay more attention to the formation of promising trends. As can be seen from the materials of our research, museum tourism has significant unrealized institutional, resource and infrastructural potential to increase its development indicators and optimize tourist flows between some countries and regions of the world.

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