

Festival “SHEBER-2015”

Sept 18-20,2015

On September 18,2015, Almaty, Kazakhstan, The Museum of Folk Musical Instruments hosted the Annual Crafts Festival “SHEBER 2015 – Our Heritage”. Different categories of awards were handed to the winners of the **Seventh Republican Contest among Kazakhstan artisans “Sheber-2015”**. The festival was organized by the Union of Artisans of Kazakhstan under the auspices program “Development of Crafts and Rebirth of Traditional Applied Arts in Kazakhstan”. The Union of Artisans is supported by Chevron Corporation, UNESCO and the Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia (EFCA).

Guests of the festival got acquainted with the works of the finalists and winners of the contest, a collection of Kazakhs ethnic clothes by Kazakhstan designers, Aizhan Bekkulova and Aues Saginaevoy, as well as an exhibition of archival photographs “Kazakhs at the turn of 19-20 centuries”. The festival is annually supported by “Chevron” company.

The festival and contest had several features:

- a. The large participation of young artists, which was an indication of the revival of traditional crafts.
- b. WCC-APR President, Dr.Ghada Hijjawi-Qaddumi, was invited for awarding the International Certificates of Quality Mark.

The festival presented, for the first time, the award “Khas Sheber” (Grand Master). Henceforth, whoever is awarded the title of “Best Masters” of the year will become a member of the Union of Artisans of Kazakhstan. All winners were awarded an educational tour to Malaysia to participate in the international exhibition and craft fair. Diplomas for remarkable contributions to the development of crafts were awarded.

A Press Conference was organized to highlight the importance of the occasion.

Photos of the Festival SHEBER-2015 has been uploaded in the APR Website under “Photos Gallery” – “WCC-APR Events” – “Festival Sheber-2015, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 18-20 Sept, 2015”.