



**Supreme Judiciary Council
of the Chashah Parliament**

CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT

PREAMBLE AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSE

WHEREAS, recognizing that cultural heritage constitutes the fundamental essence of human civilization, embodying the collective memory, traditions, and achievements of peoples across generations; and

WHEREAS, acknowledging our solemn responsibility as custodians of both tangible and intangible cultural heritage for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, affirming the principles set forth in international conventions, including but not limited to the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003), and other relevant international instruments; and

WHEREAS, understanding that cultural heritage faces unprecedented threats from urbanization, environmental degradation, armed conflicts, illicit trafficking, and natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the intrinsic connection between cultural heritage and the identity, dignity, and self-determination of communities and nations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED that this Cultural Heritage Protection Act shall serve to:

1. Establish comprehensive legal frameworks for the identification, documentation, protection, preservation, and management of cultural heritage assets;
2. Safeguard the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities to maintain, control, protect, and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions;
3. Create mechanisms for the prevention of destruction, degradation, or unauthorized alteration of cultural heritage sites, artifacts, and practices;
4. Promote educational initiatives and public awareness about the significance of cultural heritage preservation;
5. Foster international cooperation in the protection and preservation of cultural heritage;
6. Implement effective enforcement measures against violations of cultural heritage protection laws;
7. Ensure the transmission of cultural heritage to future generations through sustainable conservation practices;
8. Facilitate the integration of cultural heritage protection into national development planning and economic policies;



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9. Support research, documentation, and professional development in the field of cultural heritage preservation;
10. Establish funding mechanisms and incentives for cultural heritage protection initiatives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Act shall be interpreted and applied in accordance with:

- (a) The principle of respect for cultural diversity and the pluralistic nature of heritage;
- (b) The recognition of both tangible and intangible aspects of cultural heritage;
- (c) The need for sustainable development that preserves cultural heritage;
- (d) The rights of traditional custodians and knowledge holders; (e) The public interest in accessing and experiencing cultural heritage.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Cultural Heritage Protection Act is hereby proclaimed as a fundamental instrument for the preservation of our collective cultural legacy, entering into force upon its adoption by

Supreme Judiciary Council on this 12th of June, 2023.



Menelik IV, Sobrahnah of the UPKY / SJC
Chief Officiate: Supreme Judiciary Council
DID#0Z90Q-01SJC - Berhan Sen' Aya

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Note: This Preamble serves as the foundational declaration for the Cultural Heritage Protection Act and should be interpreted in conjunction with all subsequent provisions and regulations established under this Act.