

## VI. Living Human Treasures System (LHTS)

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Several Iranian governmental and non-governmental bodies and organizations keep inventories and lists of practitioners of different classes on ICH (cf. II for some examples). These include, among others, inventories of "practitioners in Iranian Music", "Iranian traditional artists and craftsmen", "practitioners in Iranian traditional games", "Iranian traditional dramatic story-tellers", "Iranian traditional theatre practitioners", and "Iranian Ta'ziye practitioners".

To the lists above, such newly devised inventories as "Inventory of Iranian Contemporary Prominent Figures", updated by IRIB, and "Inventory of Iranian Prominent Figures in Science, Literature, and Culture", kept and supervised by Iranian National Commission for UNESCO, can be added.

Although aware of the considerable attention having been directed, worldwide, to the Living Human Treasure Systems of prominent Asian countries, the Islamic Republic of Iran has not, yet, introduced the concept into its national cultural safeguarding system. To this end, the country is, for the time being, busy preparing the ground. Some advice from the countries active in the field, regarding the basics of the system and its related methodology, will foster the process. Such collaboration could be achieved through signing MOU's in this regard, which the cultural authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran are now considering.