

## **Open Access: Museums's Collections**

The Khazar University four Museums (Carpet Museum, Jewelry, The Cener Of National Costumes, Nailekhanum Museum) are proud to be an open access institution, offering the public the ability to download, share, collaborate, remix, and reuse images of public-domain artworks from the museum's collection, as well as metadata for the entire collection—all without asking permission.

## **Why Open Access?**

Open access is a logical and exciting outgrowth of the Khazar University's inclusive mission "to create transformative experiences through art, for the benefit of all the people forever." The time is right to firmly bring our mission into the 21st century. With this move to open access, we have transformed not only access to the collection but also its usability inside and outside the walls of our museums. By expanding access to the collection, we proudly contribute to the best practices, both in the quality of images and the wealth of data we will release.

The Khazar University introduced its Open Access Initiative which makes all images of public-domain artworks and basic data on all accessioned works in its collection available for unrestricted use. Now anyone can download, share, and remix images and data about artworks in The Met collection.

The Open Access initiative represents an incredible body of ongoing work by curators, conservators, photographers, librarians, cataloguers, interns, and technologists over the past years of the institution's history—new images and data are added each year. It is also an important statement about The Khazar's commitment to increasing access to the collection in a digital age.

If our goal is to make the museum's great comprehensive collections — of art from every period and from every corner of the globe — universally accessible and free of charge to audiences of all ages, regardless of where they live; if our objective is to facilitate the dissemination of new knowledge; if we are committed to transparency, to fostering creativity, to engaging communities within and far beyond our region, then there is almost nothing we can do that would have greater impact. With this move to Open Access, we have transformed not only access to the Khazar's museum collection but also its usability inside and outside the walls of our museum. Whenever, wherever, and however the public wishes to use, reuse, remix, or reinvent the objects that we hold, our collection is available — as it should be — for we are but caretakers of these objects, which belong to the artistic legacy of humankind.

