

Commemorative coin

THE ORNEK. A CRIMEAN TATAR ORNAMENT

The Ornek is a traditional ornament of an indigenous people of Ukraine, the Crimean Tatars. It is a living heritage which, despite being centuries old, still preserves the uniqueness and deep meaning embodied in decorative and applied arts.

The ornament reached its peak during the Crimean Khanate from the second half of the fifteenth century to the end of the eighteenth century. Magnificent palaces, mosques, national clothes, accessories, jewelry, and household items were all decorated with these exquisite ornaments, with their deep meanings. These patterns symbolized the value of family, harmony in relationships, the importance of procreation, and respect for elders.

The Ornek consists of various elements of floral and geometric ornaments, arranged in a system of signs. The first, the floral one, is characteristic of embroidery, stone carving, and jewelry. The second, which is dominated by geometric motifs, is found in weaving and carpet making. The ornament's peculiar language of visual symbols can convey a whole story or a wish. Knowledge of the meaning of every detail and the ability to "read" them is a living phenomenon of Crimean Tatar culture.



Despite many trials, harassment, and deportation, the Crimean Tatar people have managed to preserve their language, rich culture, and distinctive traditions, and the Ornek is a vivid example of this. It is thanks to their careful treatment of their heritage that the Crimean Tatars were not absorbed by other peoples, and preserved their ethnic identity even during their 45-year exile in Central Asia (1944–1989).

In 2021, the Ornek was recognized by UNESCO and officially included in the organization's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. This confirms the global value of the ornament and knowledge about it – a living culture that continues to enchant us with its elegance, coming to life in the hands of talented artists.

Each embroidered or painted pattern is a kind of message that crosses time and space, connects the past with the present, and passes on the people's heritage to future generations.

Designed by Esma Adzhiieva.
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NATIONAL BANK OF UKRAINE



legend "Ukraine"
legend "Örneк / Орьнек"
Ukraine's small coat of arms



face value and graphic symbol of the hryvnia



issue year

Crimean Tatar embroiderer leaning over an embroidery machine and creating exquisite Ornek patterns on the canvas

mint mark of the NBU's Banknote Printing and Minting Works

ornament symbolizing familial values, unity and harmony

ornamental shoots symbolizing the continuity of the tradition and its unceasing continuation by talented descendants

Issue date	Metal, face value	Diameter	Quality	Edge	Mintage
23 May 2024	nickel silver 5 hryvnias	35.0 mm	special uncirculated	grooved	up to 75,000
	silver 10 hryvnias	38.6 mm	proof	smooth with incised inscriptions	up to 7,500