



### **The I Republican Festival of National Cultures**

**The I Republican Festival of National Cultures** was held in 1996. 11 national Diasporas - Koreans, Tatars, Germans, Jews, Ukrainians, Poles, Armenians, Russians, Azerbaijanis, Moldovans and Lithuanians - took part in the I Republican Festival of National Cultures.

**The II festival** was held in 1998 & coincided with the 870th anniversary of Grodno and the 600th anniversary of the settlement of the Tatars in the lands of Belarus. There were 15 national Diasporas. The main event was the round dance of national households.

**The III festival** received an honorary status - All-Belarusian was held in 2000. In a good memory of the holiday in Grodno, there are two symbols: a panel-graffiti with festival symbols on the wall of a building at Sovetskaya Street and the Friendship Square Park by representatives of national associations.

**The IV All-Belarusian Festival of National Cultures** was held in 2002 & replenished with up to two dozen national Diasporas: Belarusian Uzbeks, Turkmen, Mari, Chuvash, Dagestans, Afghans joined the festival movement. At the closing events in Grodno, there was a dance festival "In a circle dance of friends". A novelty was the performances of creative teams of Diasporas in the villages of Grodno region.

At the **V All-Belarusian Festival of National Cultures** (in 2004), the jubilee, at the closing events, 25 national associations were already represented. The new members of the festival family are the international public association "Belarusian-Palestinian community", the association of Kazakhs.

**The VI All-Belarusian Festival of National Cultures** was held in 2006 & dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War. At the closing events, a competition of young performers of the national song was held.

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### **The VII Republican Festival of National Cultures**

**The VII Republican Festival of National Cultures** was held in 2008. Representatives of 27 nationalities were replenished with new members - Belarusian Bulgarians, Indians, Palestinians, Kabardins, Balkars joined the festival movement. A memorable episode was: "One day and 27 weddings." Traditional weddings according to all customs and rituals have become a "highlight" at every courtyard.

**The VIII festival** was held in 2010 dedicated to the 65th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War. On the reconstructed embankment of the Neman, the fountain of friendship of the peoples of Belarus was opened, the basis of which was a capsule with an appeal to the descendants.

The official opening of **the IX Republican Festival of National Cultures** was held in 2012 in Belarusian capital Minsk. The participants of this festival were 27 national Diasporas.

**The X Republican Festival of National Cultures** started in Grodno in 2014. 36 nationalities took part in the festive events.

**The XI Republican Festival of National Cultures** was held in 2016. The main theme of the festival is "Belarusians are a uniting nation", the idea of the festival is "We are for PEACE, the WORLD is for us!" New nationalities joined the festival: Syrians, Sri Lankans, Americans (USA) and Nigerians. In their honor, they planted a tree in the Friendship Park, which was founded at the festival in 2014. The final events were held under the patronage of UNESCO.

**The XII Republican Festival of National Cultures** was held in 2018. The culmination of this festival was the 3D-mapping-show and the fireworks.

**The XIII Festival of National Cultures**, which would be held in 2020, did not take place, due to the coronavirus, but was postponed to 2021.

**Don't miss the chance to join the festival!**

# *Belarusian*

## *Festivals and*

## *Holidays*



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