

Heritage Interpretation, Conservation and Revitalization

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Abstract – These research defines many legacy categories, such as cultural, natural, undersea, contemporary, and urban heritage. It offers instances of famous modern heritage structures in India as well as definitions of tangible and intangible cultural heritage. The definition of urban heritage and its significance for the preservation and revitalization of a community are also covered in the text. The text also describes what an interpretation Centre is and how it helps tourists learn about a region's natural or cultural assets. The phrases conservation, preservation, renovation, restoration, and revitalization are all defined in the papers. And the need for the person who knows the phrases mentioned above in relation to the heritage.

Key Words: heritage ,cultural heritage ,tangible heritage ,intangible heritage ,natural heritage ,modern heritage, interpretation, heritage interpretation ,conservation ,preservation ,renovation ,restoration ,revitalization etc.

INTRODUCTION

1. Heritage - a) Heritage is the cultural legacy which we receive from the past, which we live in the present and which we will pass on to future generations. b) Heritage is the full range of our inherited traditions, monuments, objects, and culture. c) Most importantly, it is the range of contemporary activities, meanings, and behavior's that we draw from them.

2. Cultural heritage: Left over from earlier generations, cultural heritage is the legacy of tangible artefacts and intangible characteristics of a group or culture. Cultural legacy consists of both tangible and intangible elements. Groups of buildings: groups of separate or connected buildings that, due to their architecture, homogeneity, or location in the landscape, are of outstanding value from the point of view of history, art, or science.

Tangible heritage - monuments: architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings, and combinations of features.



Intangible cultural heritage -

A community, group, or, in some cases, an individual may recognise certain practises, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills, as well as the tools, objects, artefacts, and cultural spaces associated with them, as a part of their cultural heritage. This is referred to as intangible cultural heritage. They show up in the following fields:

Performing arts: a).oral traditions and expressions, including language as a means of preserving intangible cultural heritage, b) Social customs, rituals, and celebrations, c) knowledge of nature and the cosmos, d) ancient methods of manufacture.

3. Natural Heritage: It Refers to: a) Natural features, geological and physiographic formations, and designated areas that serve as the habitat for animals and plants that are in danger of extinction, as well as other natural sites that are valuable from the perspectives of science, conservation, or aesthetics. Natural sites that are privately or publicly protected, zoos, aquariums, botanical gardens, marine ecosystems, sanctuaries, reservoirs, etc. are all included. c) geological and physiographical formations and precisely delineated areas that are of outstanding value from the point of view of science or conservation; d) natural features made up of physical and biological formations, or groups of such formations, that are of outstanding value from an aesthetic or scientific point of view.

4. Underwater cultural and natural heritage: This category includes "all traces of human existence with a cultural, historical, or archaeological character that have been partially or completely under water, periodically or continuously, for at least 100 years, such as: a) sites, structures, buildings, artefacts, and human remains, together with their archaeological and

natural context; b) vessels, aircraft, other vehicles, or any part thereof, their cargo or other contents, together with their archaeological and natural context."

5. Modern heritage: Modern heritage is defined as "architecture, urban planning, and landscape design of the 19th and 20th centuries" in UNESCO's Identification and Documentation of Modern Heritage (2003). These buildings serve as a reminder of an era characterised by unmatched technological and socioeconomic development that occurred quickly. It is challenging to connect a modern structure with legacy because heritage is typically associated with ageing, severely damaged structures composed of materials like stone or brick. The proliferation of concrete and steel buildings in our surroundings can make it difficult to judge the significance of a structure; this is seen in the underrepresentation of such structures in the Global Listing for Modern and Industrial heritage.

Some Iconic modern heritage buildings in India with their architects and their year of construction are as follows:

- St Stephens College, Delhi l Walter S George 1 1938
- Gandhi Ghat, Bankipore l Habib Rahman l 1949 Jehangir Art gallery, Mumbai l G. M. Bhuta and Associates l 1952
- Textile Mill Owners Association Building, Ahmedabad 1 Le Corbusier 1 1956
- Azad Bhavan, New Delhi l Achyut Kanvinde l 1959
- Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur l Kanvinde & Rai l 1966
- National Centre for Performing Arts, Mumbai l Phillip Johnson & Patel Batliwala l 1969
- Hall of Nations, New Delhi l Raj Rewal Associates l 1971
- Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad l Louis I. Kahn l 1974
- Kanchanjunga Apartments, Mumbai l Charles Correa & Pravina Mehta l 1983
- Kala Academy, Goa l Charles Correa l 1983
- India Habitat Centre, New Delhi l Joseph A. Stein 1 1993
- Amdavad ni Gufa, Ahmedabad l Vastu Shilpa Consultants l 1995
- The Architectural works of Le Corbusier in Chandigarh, India in the 20th Century

Urban legacy/heritage - The physical, cultural, and social components of a city or town that represent its historical, architectural, and cultural value are referred to as urban heritage. These can include landmarks that have been molded by a location's particular history, traditions, and cultural identity, such as historic buildings, public areas, neighborhoods, parks, and monuments. Urban heritage serves as a community's collective memory and can provide locals a sense of place, continuity, and identity. It is frequently seen as a crucial element in the preservation and revitalization of metropolitan areas as well as a great resource for economic and cultural development.

6. Interpretation: A facility for disseminating information about a region's natural or cultural heritage is known as an interpretation Centre, interpretive Centre, or visitor interpretive Centre. Interpretation centers are a type of contemporary museum that are frequently connected to visitor centers or Eco museums and situated near cultural, historic, or natural landmarks.

Heritage interpretation: Through evoking emotions, improving experiences, and deepening understanding of people, places, events, and things from the past and present, interpretation enriches our lives.

Criteria for location - Heritage interpretation can be done in special centers for interpretation or historical places, parks, zoos, aquariums, wildlife centers, and museums a variety of other cultural monuments, such as botanical gardens and nature preserves.

The Interpretation Of The Points Includes)- Its methods might be highly diverse and may consist of guided walking, speaking, acting, and staffed

stationsdisplays, signs, labels, artwork, brochures, interactives , audio-guides and audiographical media .Those who use this kind of interpretation might rangers, tour guides, naturalists, actors (who may dress in period attire, curators of museums, interpreters of the natural and cultural .A specialist, an interpreter, a heritage communicator, a docent, an educator, employees in visitor services, interpreters, and a variety of other positions. The evaluative new technology, like visualisation, are frequently used to speed up processes, techniques.

7. Conservation: The process of conserving, maintaining, or repairing from loss, damage, or neglect is known as conservation. The careful use of resources to avoid depletion, as well as any act or practice used to increase durability. Architectural conservation is the practice of carefully thoughtout interventions that extend the material, historical, and design integrity of any built legacy. It is the act of preserving or protecting against alteration, loss, harm, etc. General methods of building conservation -



Principal methods of architectural heritage conservation



Preservation: Preservation involves keeping an object from destruction and seeing to it that the object is not irredeemably altered or changed.

Three 'R' terms in heritage: 1) Renovation 2) Restoration 3) Revitalization. These three terms has its own different works which helps to elaborate any old structure.

- 1) <u>Renovation:</u> The term "renovation" simply refers to making something appear new.
- 2) <u>Restoration:</u> Restoration aims to return a piece of art to the way it was originally.
- 3) <u>Revitalization:</u> The concept of revitalization was introduced as a method for transforming a lifesustaining environment in the context of maintaining and enhancing the cultural value of historic structures. destroyed in several ways, such as The term "revitalization" encompasses a wide range of activities such as revitalization, restoration, reconstruction, modernization, and initiatives aimed at





Adaptation: The process of adjusting to changes in the environment, conditions, or situations in order to live or prosper is referred to as adaptation. The process of adjusting to changes in the cultural, social, economic, or environmental context of a heritage site or resource is referred to as adaptation in the context of heritage conservation or management in order to ensure its ongoing relevance and sustainability.

The significance of adaptation as a fundamental principle for guaranteeing the long-term survival of heritage resources is becoming more widely acknowledged in heritage conservation or management strategies. This is especially important in light of issues like climate change, urbanization, and socioeconomic shifts, all of which have the potential to significantly affect historic places. Adaptation can take many forms in heritage conservation or management, such as:

Physical adaptations - This entails altering the actual buildings or structures to make sure they can survive the effects of environmental changes like sea level rise, earthquakes, or flooding.

Cultural adaptations entail modifying a heritage site's cultural customs or traditions to keep them meaningful and pertinent in the face of shifting social or economic conditions.

Economic adaptations - To ensure the financial sustainability of heritage sites or resources, new revenue-generating strategies must be found, such as through tourism or other commercial endeavours.

Making adjustments to guarantee the long-term viability of a heritage resource in the face of changing circumstances, such as environmental or socio-economic changes, is known as adaptation in heritage conservation or management. This can entail altering physical infrastructure, changing cultural norms, or figuring out new revenue streams.

The rejuvenation / revitalization of heritage and the role of adaptation in heritage conservation or management are linked but distinct processes.

Although some tactics or approaches used in adaptation and revitalization may be comparable, such as changing physical structures or reviving cultural activities, their objectives and



focal points differ. Whereas revitalization focuses on bringing a legacy resource back to life and strengthening its cultural and social worth, adaptation focuses on guaranteeing the longterm viability of a heritage resource.

Both adaptation and revitalization are crucial procedures in heritage management and conservation, and they can cooperate to guarantee the resources' ongoing viability and sustainability. We can guarantee that cultural resources will be valued and significant for other generations by adjusting to changing conditions and rejuvenating legacy treasures.

8. The connection between architecture and heritage-

Because architecture is one of the main ways that heritage is conveyed and conserved, the two ideas are inextricably linked.

While heritage refers to a variety of tangible and intangible components that define a community or culture's identity, architecture refers to the design and construction of buildings and other physical structures. These components include historical sites, cultural traditions, language, and customs.

Hence, architectural legacy includes any physical constructions or establishments deemed to be of cultural worth because of their age, architectural style, or historical relevance. These buildings can act as concrete reminders of a community's history and culture and can be crucial in safeguarding and passing along that heritage to succeeding generations.

A thorough awareness of the cultural and historical settings that shaped these structures, as well as an appreciation for the distinctive architectural qualities that identify them, are both necessary for the process of preserving and repairing architectural heritage. This calls for a delicate strategy that strikes a balance between the necessity of preservation and the practical concerns of maintaining and modifying these structures to fit the needs of modern society.

As a result, there is a complicated and dynamic link between history and architecture. While architecture is essential to the preservation and transmission of heritage, heritage also influences how we think about and approach architecture.

9. Necessity: There are numerous inscriptions, and historical and contemporary resources are being destroyed as a result of inadequate education.

Some people attempt to preserve constructed or unbuilt heritage, but since they are unaware of correct techniques, many things of significant importance are neglected and allowed to deteriorate.

A great number of historic sites are in danger of disappearing because of unsustainable growth and environmental pollution.

Because people are unaware of natural heritage places, biodiversity is declining.

Conclusion - The study discusses several legacy categories, such as cultural, natural, contemporary, urban, and aquatic heritage. Cultural legacy includes both material and immaterial aspects that have been passed down through the generations, such as collections of structures, monuments, oral traditions, social practices, and knowledge of the natural world and the cosmos. Natural heritage includes regions that have been set aside as habitats for species that are in risk of extinction, as well as geological and physiographic formations and other places that are significant for science, conservation, or aesthetics. Urban heritage includes the physical, cultural, and social aspects of cities and towns that reflect their historical, architectural, and cultural worth. Modern heritage is made up of architectural, urban planning, and landscape design from the 19th and 20th centuries.

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