



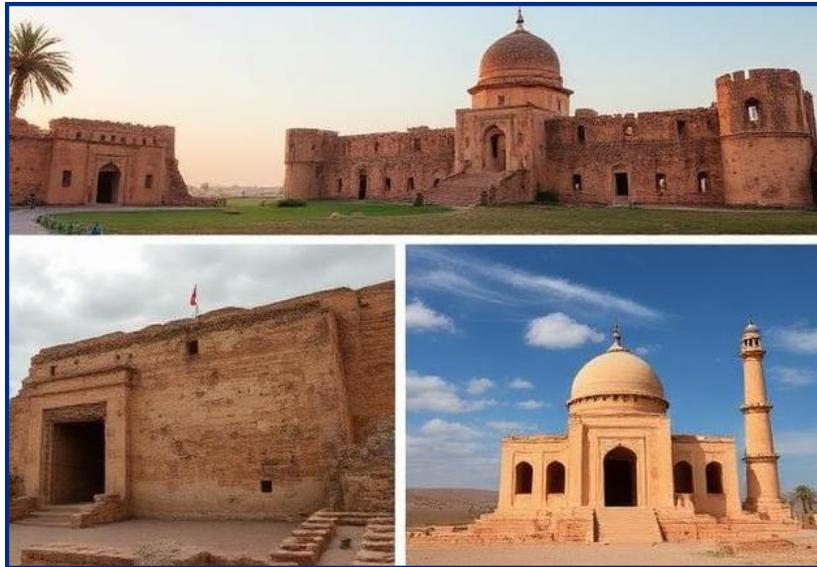
LINGAYA'S VIDYAPEETH

(Deemed-to-be University) u/s 3 of UGC Act 1956

FARIDABAD

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

INDIAN COUNCIL OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH



ORGANIZING
TWO-DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON
HERITAGE, HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY
IN THE 21ST CENTURY

27-28 February, 2026

INTRODUCTION

The foundation of human civilization and cultural identity is made up of heritage, history, and archaeology. They offer important insights on historical social, political, economic, and cultural processes while also conserving the heritage of earlier communities. The 21st century's rapid globalization, technological advancement, urbanization, and environmental issues have made cultural heritage study and preservation more crucial. The preservation and interpretation of historical and archaeological resources now face both opportunities and risks as a result of these advances.

Monuments, archaeological sites, manuscripts, customs, and ongoing cultural practices all serve as examples of India's rich and varied cultural legacy. To preserve cultural continuity and advance historical understanding, these materials must be preserved and studied scientifically. Heritage studies are now more active and approachable thanks to modern techniques like digital documentation, scientific conservation techniques, and multidisciplinary research that have revolutionized the fields of history and archaeology.

The National Conference on Heritage, History, and Archaeology in the 21st Century seeks to give academics, researchers, educators, and students a forum to talk about new advancements, pressing issues, and creative methods in historical research and heritage protection. The conference aims to foster research that supports the promotion and protection of cultural heritage in the modern world as well as relevant scholarly discourse.

ABOUT THE LINGAYA'S VIDYAPEETH

Lingaya's Vidyapeeth is a renowned educational institution dedicated to nurturing young minds and empowering them with knowledge, skills, and values. Established in the year 1998, our institution has a rich history of academic excellence and a commitment to fostering holistic development in students. Also ranked as top university in Haryana, offering various courses: BTech Electronic & Communication Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Mechanical & Automobile Engineering, Electronic & Communication Engineering, MTech Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, PhD in CSE, ECE, ME & CE, BTech CSE, Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning, Data Science, BSc Artificial intelligence, Blockchain, Data Science, BCA, MCA, BBA, BCom, MCom, MBA, MBA in Business Analytic, MBA in Operations Management, MBA in Human Resource Management, MBA in Marketing Management, Financial Management, MBA Integrated (BBA-MBA)"

CONCEPT NOTE

Centuries of social norms, creative accomplishments, and historical development are all reflected in India's vast and varied cultural legacy. Cultural identity and collective memory are based on heritage, history, and archaeology. The preservation and protection of cultural heritage are facing significant problems in the twenty-first century due to increased urbanization, environmental degradation, climate change, tourism pressures, and developmental activities. Innovative opportunities for research, documentation, and conservation are also being made possible by new scientific methods, digital technologies, and interdisciplinary approaches.

The National Conference on Heritage, History and Archaeology in the 21st Century aims to bring together academicians, researchers, historians, archaeologists, conservationists, museum professionals, and students on a common platform to deliberate upon emerging trends and challenges in the study and preservation of cultural heritage. The conference will encourage discussions on both tangible and intangible heritage, archaeological discoveries, historical interpretations, conservation practices, and heritage management strategies in the modern era.

The conference seeks to highlight the importance of integrating traditional knowledge systems with modern scientific methods for sustainable heritage conservation. It will also focus on the role of heritage education, public awareness, and policy frameworks in safeguarding historical monuments and cultural traditions for future generations. Special emphasis will be given to innovative research methodologies, digital documentation, community participation, and sustainable tourism practices.

This conference will provide an academic forum for presenting original research papers and sharing knowledge on recent developments in the fields of heritage studies, history, and archaeology. The deliberations and discussions are expected to contribute to a better understanding of India's cultural legacy and to strengthen efforts for its protection and promotion in the contemporary world.

The conference will also promote academic networking and collaboration among universities, research institutions, museums, and heritage organizations. The selected research papers will be published in the conference proceedings, contributing to the advancement of knowledge in the areas of heritage, history, and archaeology.

Overall, the conference aims to create a meaningful dialogue between the past and the present by examining how historical and archaeological knowledge can

OBJECTIVES

- To promote interdisciplinary research and dialogue on heritage, history, and archaeology in the contemporary era.
- To examine emerging challenges to cultural heritage in the 21st century.
- To explore innovative technologies and scientific methods in archaeological research and conservation.
- To highlight the role of indigenous knowledge systems in heritage preservation.
- To strengthen awareness and responsibility toward safeguarding tangible and intangible heritage.
- To deliberate on heritage laws, policies, and sustainable management practices.
- To provide a platform for scholars, researchers, and students to present original research.
- To encourage documentation and dissemination of new findings in history and archaeology.
- To foster academic collaboration among institutions and heritage organizations.
- To reinforce the importance of cultural heritage in shaping national identity and global understanding.

THEMES

- Technological Innovations in Historical and Archaeological Research
- Heritage Conservation, Preservation Policies and Sustainable Management
- Reinterpreting the Past: New Perspectives in Indian History and Archaeology
- Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Challenges
- Community Engagement, Education and Heritage Awareness

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Between Memory and Modernity: Cultural Landscapes as Living Systems in a Rapidly Changing World

Abstract

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In an era defined by relentless environmental upheaval, unchecked urbanization, and intensifying climate crises, cultural landscapes endure profound fragmentation of their ecological and cultural tapestries. These vibrant living systems, forged through millennia of intertwined human-place-ecology bonds, pulse with layered memories, ancestral traditions, and adaptive ingenuity, yet they teeter under the shadow of modernist development paradigms that dismantle indigenous wisdom and communal stewardship. This paper challenges the antiquated view of cultural landscapes as frozen relics demanding mere preservation, reconceptualizing them instead as dynamic, living entities that weave past legacies into present exigencies and future aspirations, nurturing identity, sustainable livelihoods, and ecological equilibrium. Employing an interdisciplinary lens, drawing from cultural geography, environmental anthropology, and sustainability sciences, the study dissects existential threats: sprawling infrastructure, land-use conversions, and policy silos that sever memory from modernity. Yet, amid this flux, cultural landscapes reveal inherent adaptability, as seen in resilient practices where communities hybridize traditional rituals with contemporary innovations. To counter these erosions, the paper advances adaptive governance frameworks that fuse indigenous knowledge systems with cutting-edge sustainable planning tools, fostering co-management models that empower local actors. Such paradigms prioritize "structures of feeling," processual entanglements of experience, memory, and place-making, to navigate rapid transformations without sacrificing heritage. Ultimately, this research calls for bold policy innovations that harness the latent resilience of cultural landscapes, catalyzing a paradigm shift from exploitative modernity to holistic stewardship. By honoring these living bridges between memory and progress, societies can forge pathways to enduring harmony in a world in perpetual churn.

Keywords: Cultural Landscapes, Living systems, Environmental Upheaval, Ecological equilibrium, Heritage preservation

**Artificial Intelligence Based Defect Detection and Property Prediction
Software for Enhancing Teacher Education in Surface Coating
Technology**

Abstract

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The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into technical teacher education offers transformative potential for connecting theoretical knowledge with industrial practice. This study presents the design, development, and educational impact of an AI-based software system for automated surface coating defect detection and coating property prediction, with the aim of improving teacher education in surface coating technology. The developed system uses intelligent algorithms to analyze coating surface data and accurately identify critical defects, including cracks, pinholes, uneven thickness and surface irregularities, as well as predict key coating performance characteristics. When embedded in teacher training programs, the software acts as an AI-enabled virtual laboratory, allowing trainees to interact with real-world industrial scenarios, visualize process-property relationships, and develop data-driven analytical skills. The platform supports active and experience-based learning through immediate feedback, adaptive learning paths and objective assessment of occupancy quality. Beyond technical skills, this tool strengthens problem-solving skills, interpretive reasoning and industry readiness among future teachers. This study addresses ethical considerations related to data integrity, algorithmic transparency and responsible AI use in educational environments. The findings show that AI-powered occupancy analysis tools do not replace teachers, but significantly improve their teaching effectiveness. Incorporating such AI-based software into teacher education curricula can foster innovation, improve teaching quality, and prepare teachers for AI-integrated surface coating and materials engineering education.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence in Teacher Education, Surface Coating Defect Detection, Coating Property Prediction, AI-Enabled Virtual Laboratory, Data-Driven Learning.

Historical significance of the environment of Chorapur Hobli, Sandur Taluk

Abstract

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India is a land of profound historical heritage, shaped by numerous dynasties from ancient times to the modern era. Among its 29 states, Karnataka holds a significant place, and within it, Ballari (Bellary) district stands out for its continuous cultural history from the Stone Age onwards. Sandur taluk, one of the ten taluks of Ballari, covers an area of 1,258 square kilometers at an elevation of 489 meters above sea level. Within Sandur, Chorapur hobli and its surrounding villages, including Gouripur and Kurekappa, reflect deep-rooted traditions and agrarian development supported by irrigation tanks and lakes. Chorapur is particularly notable for its temples, and ancient inscriptions. According to local legend, the region was once ruled by the Cholas and was earlier known as Cholur. The Anjaneya Temple near the village lake is architecturally significant, featuring a raised platform, pillared navaranga, and a striking nine-foot monolithic idol of Anjaneya. Nearby are Pushkarani (temple tank), Veeragallu, and Veerasathigallu stones, indicating valor and sacrifice in earlier times. Several Vijayanagara period inscriptions discovered in nearby villages such as Chikkakereyagnihalli and Tumbaraguddi record donations, lake constructions, and temple endowments. A 1539 CE inscription mentions Bayakara Ramappayya, who built numerous lakes and supported temple worship. These records highlight the region's contribution to water management, religion, and cultural development. Overall, Chorapur hobli represents a rich blend of temple architecture, epigraphy, and regional history, offering vast potential for further archaeological and historical research.

Keywords: Historical Heritage, Sandur Taluk, Chorapur Hobli, Vijayanagara Inscriptions, Temple Architecture, Veeragallu.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence in Teacher Education, Surface Coating Defect Detection, Coating Property Prediction, AI-Enabled Virtual Laboratory, Data-Driven Learning.

Revisiting Roots: Linking Cultural Heritage and Cultural Identity

Abstract

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India is a land of profound historical heritage, shaped by numerous dynasties from ancient times to the modern era. Among its 29 states, Karnataka holds a significant place, and within it, Ballari (Bellary) district stands out for its continuous cultural history from the Stone Age onwards. Sandur taluk, one of the ten taluks of Ballari, covers an area of 1,258 square kilometers at an elevation of 489 meters above sea level. Within Sandur, Choranur hobli and its surrounding villages, including Gouripur and Kurekuppa, reflect deep-rooted traditions and agrarian development supported by irrigation tanks and lakes. Choranur is particularly notable for its temples, and ancient inscriptions. According to local legend, the region was once ruled by the Cholas and was earlier known as Cholur. The Anjaneya Temple near the village lake is architecturally significant, featuring a raised platform, pillared navaranga, and a striking nine-foot monolithic idol of Anjaneya. Nearby are Pushkarani (temple tank), Veeragallu, and Veerasathigallu stones, indicating valor and sacrifice in earlier times. Several Vijayanagara period inscriptions discovered in nearby villages such as Chikkakereyagnihalli and Tumbaraguddi record donations, lake constructions, and temple endowments. A 1539 CE inscription mentions Bayakara Ramappayya, who built numerous lakes and supported temple worship. These records highlight the region's contribution to water management, religion, and cultural development. Overall, Choranur hobli represents a rich blend of temple architecture, epigraphy, and regional history, offering vast potential for further archaeological and historical research.

Keywords: Historical Heritage, Sandur Taluk, Choranur Hobli, Vijayanagara Inscriptions, Temple Architecture, Veeragallu.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence in Teacher Education, Surface Coating Defect Detection, Coating Property Prediction, AI-Enabled Virtual Laboratory, Data-Driven Learning.

Digital Media and Cultural Transformation: A Review of Contemporary Perspectives

Abstract

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Digital media has become a central force in shaping cultural dynamics in the 21st century, altering how cultural meanings are created, shared, and transformed across social contexts. This review synthesizes existing literature on the influence of digital media on cultural transformation by examining theoretical frameworks, empirical findings, and interdisciplinary perspectives published between 2010 and 2025. Utilizing a systematic review methodology, sources were selected from major academic databases including Scopus, JSTOR, and Google Scholar based on relevance to digital media's impact on cultural values, identity formation, social interactions, and globalization. The synthesis reveals that digital media fosters cultural hybridization, reshapes social norms, and facilitates global cultural exchange while also posing challenges such as cultural homogenization, erosion of traditional practices, and digital inequalities. From a psychological perspective, digital media influences individual identity processes and collective cultural narratives, underscoring its dual role as both transformative and disruptive. The review highlights the need for further research bridging cultural psychology and media studies to understand the long-term implications of digital culture on social behavior and well-being.

Keywords: digital media, cultural transformation, identity formation, globalization

Caste Without Archives: Reading Marginality in Oral Traditions of Kumaun

Abstract

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In this paper, we discuss the challenges associated with writing caste historiography in a region where marginalized sections are fringe phenomena in official historical records, taking “Kumaun in the Central Himalayas” as an example. In fact, traditional Kumaun historiography, based on genealogies of ruling dynasties, Brahmanical literature, and colonial ethnography, consistently erases, involuntarily or by design, the voices of service castes, artisans, or communities that find themselves at the tail end of Indian social hierarchy. In a situation where there are no documents that are indigenous, therefore self-authored, there is a compelling case, in this paper, for the importance of oral traditions in acting as alternative historical documents. Based on folktales from Kumauni society, jagars, songs, origin myths, and social memory, it interrogates how caste marginality is embodied, mediated, or even subverted in these orally transmitted storytelling genres. These genres of knowledge do not merely construct a reality of exclusion, toil, or disciplinary practices but also enshrine subaltern histories of dignity, authority, or symbolism. In a reading of these practices of social memory alongside elite histories or colonial archives, it is possible to discern how subaltern caste selves were constituted in their engagements with land, ritual economies, or local power. Conceptually situated at the intersection of subaltern studies, oral history, and Himalayan historiography, this paper treats folklore not merely as cultural expression but as a repository of historical consciousness. It highlights both the possibilities and limitations of oral sources, emphasising issues of mediation, performance, and memory. Ultimately, the study contributes to broader debates on caste, archive, and historical method by foregrounding marginalised voices that challenge dominant representations of Kumaun’s past.

Keywords: Caste history; Kumaun; Oral traditions; Marginalised communities; Folklore as archive; Subaltern studies; Himalayan historiography; Jagars and folk narratives

भोजपुर मंदिर: स्थापत्य, इतिहास और सांस्कृतिक भव्यता का अध्ययन

Abstract

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यह शोध 11वीं शताब्दी में निर्मित भोजपुर मंदिर का ऐतिहासिक, स्थापत्य तथा सांस्कृतिक विश्लेषण प्रस्तुत करता है, जिसे परमार वंश के महान शासक भोज से संबद्ध माना जाता है। मध्य प्रदेश के रायसेन जिले में स्थित यह मंदिर अपनी विशालता, अधूरी संरचना और विश्व के सबसे बड़े एकात्म शिवलिंग के कारण विशिष्ट स्थान रखता है। यद्यपि मंदिर में समर्पण-शिलालेख का अभाव है, तथापि मूर्तिशैली, शिल्प-चिह्न, समकालीन ताम्रपत्र, अभिलेख तथा साहित्यिक साक्ष्य इसके निर्माण को भोज के शासनकाल से जोड़ते हैं। इस अध्ययन में प्राथमिक स्रोतों के रूप में मंदिर परिसर में उपलब्ध स्थापत्य रेखाचित्र, शिल्प-चिह्न, मूर्तिकला, पुरातात्विक अवशेष तथा भोजकालीन अभिलेखों का विश्लेषण किया गया है। साथ ही, भोजकृत वास्तुशास्त्रीय ग्रंथ समरांगणसूत्रधार को भी एक प्रमुख प्राथमिक वैचारिक स्रोत के रूप में ग्रहण किया गया है, जिसमें नागर, द्रविड़ और भूमिज शैलियों का विस्तृत वर्णन है। द्वितीयक स्रोतों में आधुनिक इतिहासकारों, पुरातत्वविदों और कला-इतिहासकारों के शोधग्रंथ, व्याख्यात्मक लेख तथा तुलनात्मक स्थापत्य अध्ययन सम्मिलित हैं, जिनके आधार पर मंदिर की संरचना, अभिप्राय और सांस्कृतिक संदर्भ को समझा गया है। अध्ययन यह दर्शाता है कि भोजपुर मंदिर केवल धार्मिक आस्था का केंद्र नहीं, बल्कि मध्यकालीन भारतीय अभियांत्रिकी, जल-प्रबंधन और स्थापत्य नवाचार का उत्कृष्ट उदाहरण है। भविष्य की दृष्टि से, यह शोध डिजिटल प्रलेखन, 3D पुनर्निर्माण, संरचनात्मक संरक्षण तकनीकों तथा अंतर्विषयक अध्ययन (इतिहास, पुरातत्व, वास्तु और पर्यावरण) के लिए व्यापक संभावनाएँ प्रस्तुत करता है। इस प्रकार, भोजपुर मंदिर भारतीय सांस्कृतिक विरासत के संरक्षण और वैश्विक स्थापत्य विमर्श में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दे सकता है।

मुख्य शब्द :- मंदिर, भोज, समरांगणसूत्रधार, स्थापत्य, वास्तुकला

The Aravalli-Yamuna Corridor: Archaeology, Deep-Time Ecology, and the Crisis of a Sustainable Heritage Future

Abstract

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In this paper, we discuss the challenges associated with writing caste historiography in a region where marginalized sections are fringe phenomena in official historical records, taking “Kumaun in the Central Himalayas” as an example. In fact, traditional Kumaun historiography, based on genealogies of ruling dynasties, Brahmanical literature, and colonial ethnography, consistently erases, involuntarily or by design, the voices of service castes, artisans, or communities that find themselves at the tail end of Indian social hierarchy. In a situation where there are no documents that are indigenous, therefore self-authored, there is a compelling case, in this paper, for the importance of oral traditions in acting as alternative historical documents. Based on folktales from Kumauni society, jagars, songs, origin myths, and social memory, it interrogates how caste marginality is embodied, mediated, or even subverted in these orally transmitted storytelling genres. These genres of knowledge do not merely construct a reality of exclusion, toil, or disciplinary practices but also enshrine subaltern histories of dignity, authority, or symbolism. In a reading of these practices of social memory alongside elite histories or colonial archives, it is possible to discern how subaltern caste selves were constituted in their engagements with land, ritual economies, or local power. Conceptually situated at the intersection of subaltern studies, oral history, and Himalayan historiography, this paper treats folklore not merely as cultural expression but as a repository of historical consciousness. It highlights both the possibilities and limitations of oral sources, emphasising issues of mediation, performance, and memory. Ultimately, the study contributes to broader debates on caste, archive, and historical method by foregrounding marginalised voices that challenge dominant representations of Kumaun’s past.

Keywords: Caste history; Kumaun; Oral traditions; Marginalised communities; Folklore as archive; Subaltern studies; Himalayan historiography; Jagars and folk narratives

Digital Heritage and Public History: Challenges of Interpretation and Awareness

Abstract

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Digital history refers to the use of modern technologies to digitize archives, cultural materials, and facilitate new forms of research, visualization, and public engagement. Over time, digital history technologies evolved to create a multidisciplinary field encompassing history, heritage studies, and digital humanities, which fundamentally transformed the way people engage with cultural heritage and history in the 21st century. Digital platforms are often celebrated for making historical knowledge more accessible, but the assumption that digital availability ensures equal representation and total accessibility is not sufficiently examined. Despite the growing presence of online heritage spaces, there seems to be an imbalance in the representation of communities, narratives, and types of heritage, and digitization often threatens to reduce heritage to tourist attractions. The paper discusses the opportunities and limitations of digital public history. It addresses issues such as digital elitism, the digital divide, the loss of historical context and nuance, commodification, and misinformation, while also examining the role of digital history in the preservation of tangible and intangible heritage. There is no doubt that Digital heritage spaces foster heritage awareness. Here, we critically assess their potential to shape public understanding, appreciation, and responsibility toward cultural heritage. By studying scholarship in history, digital humanities, and heritage studies, this paper provides a critical and interpretative analysis of museum websites, virtual exhibitions, and online heritage initiatives, particularly in India, to understand how historical narratives are mediated and consumed in digital spaces. This paper argues that while digital history has the potential to enhance heritage awareness, its effectiveness depends on critical interpretation, ethical responsibility, and pedagogical purpose, rather than technological innovation.

Keywords: Digital history, heritage awareness, accessibility, digital elitism, digital humanities, digital archives, preservation

Teaching the Past to Design the Future: Heritage Education as Curriculum Strategy

Abstract

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In this study, I establish heritage education as an intended curriculum structure that would attempt to match technological advancement with the culturally based knowledge systems in engineering and artificial intelligence education. Relying on comparative curriculum analysis, which compares the patterns of higher education with the Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS)-based frameworks, the paper critically evaluates the extent to which the heritage-based epistemology is enrolled in the modern learning outcomes. The results indicate the presence of perceivable imbalance related to the curricula: less than a third of the studied TV programs impart systematic heritage-aware skills, especially those relating to ethical, sustainability, or situational literacy. The study promotes the integrative curriculum model that syntactically aligns the heritage knowledge to STEM learning outcomes, hence showing statistically significant increases in interdisciplinary abilities clusters, especially in ethical reasoning and systems thinking. The study emphasizes that heritage can be used to strengthen cognitive diversity and social-technical responsibility through the transformation of the conceptual heritage into a dynamically charged pedagogical tool. The paper therefore defines heritage integration as a scalable tool of creating curricula in the future, which strike a healthy balance between innovation and the continuity of civilizations in AI-enabled education systems.

Keywords: Heritage education, Curriculum integration, Indian knowledge systems, AI ethics, Interdisciplinary pedagogy

Digital Platforms and Media for Heritage Awareness

Abstract

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Digital platforms and media have emerged as powerful instruments for creating awareness about cultural heritage in the contemporary digital age. Rapid advancements in information and communication technologies have significantly transformed the ways in which cultural heritage is preserved, presented, and experienced by society. Traditional methods of heritage dissemination, which were often limited by geography and accessibility, are now complemented by digital tools that allow global reach and continuous engagement. As a result, heritage has become more inclusive, interactive, and accessible to diverse audiences across the world. Digital media such as social networking sites, virtual museums, mobile applications, and immersive technologies play a crucial role in promoting both tangible and intangible cultural heritage. Social media platforms enable heritage institutions and individuals to share historical narratives, images, and videos, thereby encouraging public participation and dialogue. Virtual museums and digital archives provide opportunities to explore heritage collections remotely, while mobile applications offer location-based information, interactive guides, and multilingual content. Immersive technologies such as virtual reality and augmented reality further enhance heritage experiences by recreating historical environments and enabling users to engage with cultural spaces in innovative ways. This research paper examines the significance of digital platforms in enhancing heritage awareness and cultural education. It explores various digital tools used for heritage promotion and evaluates their effectiveness in increasing public engagement, learning, and preservation. The study also discusses the benefits of digital heritage initiatives, including improved accessibility, long-term preservation of cultural resources, and support for sustainable cultural tourism. At the same time, it highlights key challenges such as the digital divide, issues of authenticity, technological limitations, and ethical concerns. Finally, the paper emphasizes the need for strategic, inclusive, and community-oriented digital approaches to ensure meaningful and sustainable heritage awareness in the digital era.

Keywords: Digital platforms, media, cultural heritage, heritage awareness, virtual reality, social media, preservation

The Influence of Nyingma Buddhist Monasteries on Community Dynamics in Sikkim

Abstract

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Buddhist monasteries in the Eastern Himalayan region have historically functioned as pivotal institutions for the generation, preservation, and transmission of Tibetan cultural traditions. They played a crucial role in integrating dispersed communities while offering psychological assurance, moral guidance, and social stability. Within this broader monastic framework, Nyingma monasteries occupied a distinctive position by actively shaping the cultural and socio-economic lives of their followers and surrounding tribal communities. This study examines the multifaceted role of Nyingma monasteries in Sikkim, with particular emphasis on Pemayangtse Monastery as a central institutional node. While the primary objective of Buddhist monasteries has traditionally been spiritual realization, the Nyingma monasteries demonstrate a notable convergence of religious, social, and cultural objectives. Pemayangtse Monastery, through its religious authority and administrative reach, facilitated the formation of an interconnected monastic network that fostered cultural continuity, social cohesion, and regional integration. These monasteries addressed social challenges by regulating resources, mediating disputes, and contributing to the overall well-being of local communities. The study further highlights how Pemayangtse and its affiliated branch monasteries stimulated local economic activities in pre-independence Sikkim by influencing patterns of labour organization, land use, artisanal production, and trade. Monasteries functioned as centres of redistribution and economic coordination, thereby reinforcing their role as agents of both spiritual leadership and material governance. By understanding the historical socio-economic functions of monasteries, this research offers insights into how traditional religious institutions can contribute to modern frameworks of sustainable tourism, cultural preservation, and local governance. It also opens avenues for interdisciplinary studies linking religious history with development studies, environmental management, and policy planning in fragile mountain ecosystems. The research is based on a critical examination of primary and secondary sources, including archival records, government documents, newspapers, published scholarship, and unpublished materials.

Keywords—Nyingmapa, Pemayangtse, Monasticism, Socioeconomic, Himalaya

Heritage from Below: Community-Led Conservation in the Urban and Peri-Urban Landscapes of Delhi-Haryana

Abstract

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Heritage preservation in India has traditionally been led by state agencies and expert-centric models, often sidelining local communities whose everyday experiences and cultural traditions are deeply connected to heritage sites and customs. In recent years, though, there has been a noticeable change from simply considering communities as stakeholders to acknowledging them as engaged custodians of heritage. This paper explores this shift through the lens of community driven heritage projects in Delhi Haryana, a region marked by rapid urban development, ecological pressures, and the coexistence of both tangible and intangible heritage. This study examines how grassroots organizations and citizen collectives participate in heritage conservation through initiatives like Astitva Heritage, Vanyaravali and Dilli Dehat, moving beyond conventional monument-focused approaches. Astitva Heritage promotes public involvement with the iconic Harappan site in Haryana through community walks and educational programs about heritage, encouraging local ownership and awareness. Vanyaravali is an initiative led by a young scholar that emphasizes the prehistoric and ecological aspects of heritage by involving local communities in conservation and preservation discourse and practices. Dilli Dhaat operates at the crossroads of exploring the roots of rural Delhi, its cultural identity, and urban heritage, which have been significantly altered due to colonial and post-colonial growth in the area. Through qualitative exploration of outreach strategies, participatory approaches, and community engagements, this paper contends that such initiatives confront top-down conservation and heritage management frameworks by prioritizing inclusiveness, dialogue, and everyday heritage, illustrate how community-driven efforts can connect the gaps among policy, action, and collective memory, especially in areas where heritage constantly faces threats from developmental activities. The research highlights the necessity of redefining heritage management in India by acknowledging communities as not just beneficiaries or advisors, but as stewards and co-creators of heritage knowledge

Keywords: Community-driven heritage, participatory governance, inclusive conservation, grassroots initiatives, urban heritage in Delhi-Haryana, and sustainable heritage management.

Text-Material Culture Interface

Abstract

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Heritage preservation in India has traditionally been led by state agencies and expert-centric models, often sidelining local communities whose everyday experiences and cultural traditions are deeply connected to heritage sites and customs. In recent years, though, there has been a noticeable change from simply considering communities as stakeholders to acknowledging them as engaged custodians of heritage. This paper explores this shift through the lens of community driven heritage projects in Delhi Haryana, a region marked by rapid urban development, ecological pressures, and the coexistence of both tangible and intangible heritage. This study examines how grassroots organizations and citizen collectives participate in heritage conservation through initiatives like Astitva Heritage, Vanyaravali and Dilli Dehat, moving beyond conventional monument-focused approaches. Astitva Heritage promotes public involvement with the iconic Harappan site in Haryana through community walks and educational programs about heritage, encouraging local ownership and awareness. Vanyaravali is an initiative led by a young scholar that emphasizes the prehistoric and ecological aspects of heritage by involving local communities in conservation and preservation discourse and practices. Dilli Dhaat operates at the crossroads of exploring the roots of rural Delhi, its cultural identity, and urban heritage, which have been significantly altered due to colonial and post-colonial growth in the area. Through qualitative exploration of outreach strategies, participatory approaches, and community engagements, this paper contends that such initiatives confront top-down conservation and heritage management frameworks by prioritizing inclusiveness, dialogue, and everyday heritage, illustrate how community-driven efforts can connect the gaps among policy, action, and collective memory, especially in areas where heritage constantly faces threats from developmental activities. The research highlights the necessity of redefining heritage management in India by acknowledging communities as not just beneficiaries or advisors, but as stewards and co-creators of heritage knowledge

Keywords: Community-driven heritage, participatory governance, inclusive conservation, grassroots initiatives, urban heritage in Delhi-Haryana, and sustainable heritage management.

Pharmaceutical Heritage: Tracing the Evolution of Drug Discovery, Production, and Regulation Through History

Abstract

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The evolution of pharmaceutical science is deeply intertwined with global human history, reflecting shifts in cultural paradigms, scientific thought, and healthcare practices across civilizations. This paper investigates how historical developments in medicine and materia medica—from ancient therapeutic systems to early modern apothecaries and colonial drug markets—have shaped contemporary pharmaceutical principles including drug discovery, formulation, and regulation. By examining key historical milestones such as the transition of medicine to a distinct pharmaceutical discipline, pre-industrial compounding practices, and the socio-economic forces that influenced the standardization of medicines, this study illuminates the multifaceted heritage of pharmaceutical sciences. Furthermore, it explores how archaeological findings and historical documentation contribute to our understanding of early drug substances, manufacturing techniques, and preservation of medicinal knowledge, offering valuable insights for modern research and policy. Through a multidisciplinary lens that integrates history, archaeology, and pharmaceutical science, this work demonstrates the significance of historical perspectives in enriching current and future directions of pharmaceutical innovation and education.

Keywords: pharmaceutical history, drug discovery, materia medica, standardization, heritage, regulation

Exploring the antioxidant and hepatoprotective activity of garden croton (*Codiaeum virgatum*): Potential for oxidative stress management

Abstract

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Croton leaves may offer a natural source of novel compounds with hepatoprotective activity, supporting their traditional use in managing hepatic disorders. These results suggest that ornamental plants also contain a higher concentration of bioactive compounds capable of neutralizing free radicals and show hepatoprotective activity at very low doses. However, further research is recommended to isolate and characterize the specific phytoconstituents responsible for the activity and to elucidate their mechanisms of action in greater detail. The different method revealed that the antioxidant potential increased with higher concentrations of polyphenols in the sample. The IC₅₀ values ranged from 99.28 to 115.22 µg/mL with three different methods. Pre-treatment of the mice with the crude extract of Croton significantly reduced ALP (p<0.05), ALT (p<0.05), and AST (p<0.05) levels at all the administered doses compared to the toxic control group.

Key words: Antioxidant, croton, ornamental plants, hepatoprotective

The Past in Practice: Heritage History and Archaeology as Living Disciplines in the 21st Century

Abstract

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In the twenty-first century, heritage history and archaeology have transitioned from custodial sciences into socially embedded practices that actively shape cultural understanding and public decision-making. No longer confined to excavation reports or archival preservation, these fields now engage with urgent global concerns such as environmental degradation, displacement, and cultural inequality. Archaeology operates within complex cultural landscapes where material remains intersect with living traditions, legal frameworks, and economic interests. Heritage history, in turn, critically examines how narratives of the past are selected, institutionalized, and mobilized in the present. Emerging approaches—ranging from community-led research and digital interpretation to policy-oriented heritage management—reflect a growing emphasis on inclusivity and accountability. This paper explores how contemporary heritage practices function as processes rather than products, emphasizing dialogue over authority and adaptability over permanence. It argues that archaeology and heritage history in the twenty-first century are best understood as living disciplines, continuously reshaped by social values and global challenges, and essential for fostering cultural continuity, ethical stewardship, and informed engagement with the past.

Keywords: Living heritage; Archaeological practice; Heritage interpretation; Cultural stewardship; Community engagement

Beyond Preservation: Rethinking Heritage History and Archaeology in the Twenty-First Century

Abstract

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Heritage history and archaeology in the twenty-first century are increasingly defined by their engagement with contemporary social, environmental, and ethical challenges. As cultural landscapes face accelerating threats from climate change, urban development, and globalization, the role of archaeology has expanded from documentation to active heritage management and advocacy. Heritage history now emphasizes critical interpretation over chronological narration, examining how collective memory is constructed, contested, and reshaped across time. Advances in digital documentation and interdisciplinary research have transformed access to the past, enabling broader public participation while raising new questions of authenticity and authority. At the same time, heritage practices are being re-evaluated through frameworks of sustainability, inclusivity, and social justice, particularly in postcolonial and multicultural contexts. This paper argues that contemporary archaeology and heritage history function not merely as academic disciplines but as responsive systems that link material evidence with present-day values and future responsibilities. By situating heritage within global conversations on identity, resilience, and cultural continuity, the study highlights the evolving relevance of the past in shaping sustainable and inclusive futures.

Keywords: Critical heritage; Archaeology and society; Cultural resilience; Sustainability; Collective memory

Sustainable Pharmaceutical Manufacturing and Green Pharmacy Practices

Abstract

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The pharmaceutical industry plays a critical role in global healthcare delivery; however, conventional pharmaceutical manufacturing processes are often associated with high energy consumption, extensive use of hazardous solvents, and significant environmental burden. Sustainable pharmaceutical manufacturing and green pharmacy practices have emerged as essential strategies to minimize ecological impact while maintaining product quality, safety, and therapeutic efficacy. This paper explores the principles of green pharmacy, including the application of green chemistry, waste minimization, solvent optimization, energy-efficient processes, and lifecycle assessment of pharmaceutical products. Emphasis is placed on sustainable synthesis routes, process intensification, biodegradable excipients, and environmentally benign packaging materials. Additionally, the role of regulatory frameworks, industry-academia collaboration, and education of future pharmacists in promoting sustainability is highlighted. Adoption of green pharmacy practices not only reduces environmental pollution and occupational hazards but also enhances economic efficiency and regulatory compliance. The integration of sustainability into pharmaceutical manufacturing represents a paradigm shift toward responsible healthcare production, aligning pharmaceutical innovation with environmental stewardship and public health objectives.

Keywords: Sustainable pharmaceutical manufacturing, Green pharmacy, Green chemistry, Environmental sustainability, Pharmaceutical education

Archaeology of Agriculture: Evolution of Farming Practices from Prehistory to the Modern Era

Abstract

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The transition from hunting-gathering to agriculture marks a defining moment in human history, shaping social organization, settlement patterns, and economic development. Archaeological evidence such as farming tools, plant remains, irrigation structures, and settlement layouts provides critical insights into the evolution of agricultural practices over time. This paper traces the development of agriculture from early subsistence farming to complex agrarian systems and examines how ancient innovations continue to influence modern agricultural practices. The study is based on secondary data derived from archaeological excavation reports, archaeobotanical studies, and historical records, analyzed using a chronological and comparative framework. The findings highlight key developments such as crop domestication, technological innovation, and landscape modification as central to agricultural transformation. By linking archaeological evidence with contemporary agricultural systems, the paper emphasizes the continuity of farming knowledge and the long-term processes underlying agricultural sustainability. The study further argues that archaeological perspectives offer a valuable long-term view essential for understanding present-day challenges related to resource management, environmental degradation, and food security. Recognizing the historical roots of agriculture can help inform sustainable agricultural planning and promote resilient food systems in the 21st century.

Keywords: Agricultural archaeology, Crop domestication, Farming tools, Historical agriculture, Sustainability

Heritage Crops and Agrobiodiversity: Historical and Archaeological Perspectives

Abstract

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Heritage crops are traditional crop varieties cultivated and conserved over generations, representing both cultural heritage and genetic diversity. Archaeological and historical evidence demonstrates the long-standing relationship between human societies and crop domestication, selection, and adaptation to local environments. This paper explores the significance of heritage crops from historical and archaeological perspectives and assesses their role in sustaining agrobiodiversity in the contemporary agricultural landscape. The study is based on qualitative analysis of archaeobotanical findings, historical records, and agricultural literature, employing descriptive and comparative methods. The analysis reveals that heritage crops exhibit resilience to local climatic conditions, pests, and diseases, making them valuable resources in the context of climate change and biodiversity loss. In contrast to modern monoculture systems, heritage crops contribute to ecological stability, nutritional diversity, and food security. The paper argues that conserving and revitalizing heritage crops can enhance sustainable agriculture by promoting genetic diversity and reducing dependency on external inputs. Integrating heritage crop cultivation with modern agricultural practices can strengthen climate resilience and support sustainable food systems in the 21st century. The study emphasizes the need for policy support and awareness to preserve these culturally and agriculturally significant resources for future generations.

Keywords: Heritage crops, Agrobiodiversity, Archaeobotany, Traditional agriculture, Food security

Agricultural Heritage Systems in the 21st Century: Insights from Ancient Farming Practices

Abstract

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Agricultural heritage systems represent cumulative knowledge developed through centuries of interaction between human societies and their environments and are documented through archaeological remains, historical texts, and traditional agrarian practices. In the 21st century, agriculture faces complex challenges including climate change, soil degradation, water scarcity, and food insecurity, necessitating sustainable and resilient approaches to food production. This paper examines ancient farming practices related to crop diversification, soil conservation, and water management and evaluates their relevance to contemporary agricultural systems. The study is based on qualitative analysis of secondary data collected from archaeological reports, historical agrarian literature, inscriptions, and ethnographic documentation. A comparative approach is adopted to assess similarities between traditional agricultural systems and modern sustainability frameworks. The analysis reveals that agricultural heritage systems emphasize efficient resource use, ecological balance, biodiversity conservation, and climate adaptability. These principles remain highly relevant for addressing present agricultural challenges. The paper argues that integrating heritage-based agricultural knowledge with modern scientific and technological innovations can contribute significantly to sustainable agricultural development, climate resilience, and policy formulation. By revisiting and reinterpreting ancient farming practices, agricultural heritage systems can provide valuable insights for designing environmentally responsible and socially inclusive agricultural strategies in the 21st century while preserving cultural identity and traditional knowledge for future generations.

Keywords: Agricultural heritage, ancient farming, Sustainability, Indigenous knowledge, Climate resilience

Preserving Agricultural Heritage for Future Food Security: An Interdisciplinary Approach

Abstract

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Preserving agricultural heritage is essential for ensuring long-term food security and sustainable development in the face of environmental and socio-economic challenges. Traditional farming systems embody ecological wisdom and cultural values that remain relevant today. This paper adopts an interdisciplinary approach combining history, archaeology, and agricultural science to examine the role of agricultural heritage in contemporary food systems. The study is based on qualitative analysis of secondary literature, policy documents, and selected case studies. The findings emphasize that integrating heritage-based agricultural knowledge with modern scientific practices can enhance sustainability, resilience, and productivity. The paper argues that agricultural heritage preservation should be recognized as a strategic component of sustainable development and food security planning in the 21st century.

Keywords: Agricultural heritage, Food security, Interdisciplinary research, Sustainability

Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Student Learning Processes and Adaptability Levels in Higher Education Institutions of Delhi NCR

Abstract

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Traditional teaching-learning methods have been drastically altered by the quick adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) in higher education. In colleges in the Delhi National Capital Region (NCR), this study investigates how AI-based tools and technologies affect students' learning processes and degrees of adaptability. The study examines the effects of AI-enabled platforms on student engagement, personalised learning, and technological adaptability. These platforms include virtual tutors, adaptive learning systems, and data-driven assessment tools. Students and faculty were interviewed and given structured questionnaires as part of a descriptive and analytical research methodology. The findings show that integrating AI improves learning effectiveness, encourages self-paced learning, and strengthens students' capacity to adjust to new digital learning environments. However, issues with infrastructure, digital literacy, and ethics were also noted. The study comes to the conclusion that although AI greatly enhances learning outcomes and adaptability, institutional support, faculty training, and inclusive digital policies are necessary for its successful implementation.

Keywords: Delhi NCR, Higher Education, Artificial Intelligence, Student Learning, Adaptability

Indigenous Agricultural Knowledge as Intangible Cultural Heritage in the 21st Century

Abstract

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Indigenous agricultural knowledge represents generations of experiential learning and adaptation to local environments and is increasingly recognized as intangible cultural heritage. This paper examines indigenous farming practices documented through historical and archaeological sources and evaluates their relevance for sustainable agriculture in the 21st century. The study is based on qualitative analysis of secondary data drawn from historical texts, archaeological studies, and ethnographic literature. The findings highlight that indigenous agricultural systems emphasize ecological balance, biodiversity conservation, and efficient resource use. The paper argues that integrating indigenous knowledge with modern agricultural science can enhance sustainability, resilience, and rural livelihoods. Recognizing and preserving indigenous agricultural knowledge is essential not only for cultural conservation but also for addressing contemporary challenges related to climate change and food security.

Keywords: Indigenous knowledge, Intangible heritage, Traditional farming, Sustainability

Examining the Influence of Socioeconomic Status, Caste, and Geography on Access to Quality Education of Faridabad for class 3 to 5.

Abstract

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This study investigates how socioeconomic status (SES), caste, and geography affect access to quality education among children in Faridabad, India. Using data from 100 students in classes 3 to 5, the research identifies disparities in test performance, school attendance, and digital access. Findings indicate that students from low SES, Scheduled Caste (SC) households, and distant or marginalized neighborhoods face consistent educational disadvantages. The study emphasizes the urgent need for targeted interventions, including resource allocation, teacher training, and community-based initiatives, to bridge these inequities and ensure equal opportunities for all students. This paper examines how socioeconomic status (SES), race, and geographic location shape access to quality education and student outcomes. Using existing research and international reports, the paper highlights mechanisms by which poverty, racial segregation, and place-based inequalities affect school resources, teacher quality, curriculum breadth, and student support. This study finds key objectives, discusses likely impacts, notes methodological and practical challenges, and points to opportunities for policy and research to reduce educational inequities. Recommendations emphasize cross-sector policies that target resource allocation, community supports, and data-driven interventions.

Keywords: Education inequality, Socioeconomic status, Caste, Geography, Faridabad, Primary education, India, Student access

Psychological Significance of Archaeological Sites in Rural Communities: A Case Study of Faridabad Region

Abstract

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Rural archaeological sites are more than just historical artifacts; they have a significant psychological impact on how local communities live. Using the Faridabad district of Haryana as a case study, this study investigates the psychological relevance of archaeological sites in rural communities. Based on psychology and heritage perspectives, the study investigates how rural dwellers' collective memory, place attachment, cultural identity, emotional connection, and sense of community belongingness are affected by their proximity to ancient sites. For the study, a qualitative research design was chosen. Purposive sampling was used to pick 50 participants from specific villages in the Faridabad region, ensuring that a range of age groups and genders were represented in the sample. Semi-structured interviews, oral history accounts, and field observations were used to gather data, enabling participants to share their own interpretations and sentimental connections to neighbouring archaeological sites. To find recurrent psychological patterns and common experiences throughout the community, thematic analysis was utilized. The results show that archaeological sites provide a strong feeling of identity and social cohesiveness in rural communities by acting as symbols of ancestral continuity and cultural pride. Indicating sentiments of loss and cultural alienation, participants also reported psychological discomfort in relation to the commercialization, deterioration, and neglect of heritage sites. The study emphasizes how crucial it is to acknowledge archaeological legacy as a social and psychological resource rather than just a tangible or historical one. By combining psychology, archaeology, and rural studies, this research advances interdisciplinary scholarship and emphasizes the necessity for community-centered heritage conservation policies that take into account the psychological health of rural communities in the twenty-first century.

Keywords: Psychological significance, archaeological sites, qualitative study, rural communities, collective memory, Faridabad region

Technology, Digital Media, and Cultural Transformation

Abstract

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Technology and digital media have become an important part of our everyday lives. From smartphones and social media to online learning and digital payments, technology has changed the way people think, communicate, and live. This transformation is not only technical but also cultural, as it influences our values, habits, relationships, and identity.

Digital media allows people to share ideas, express opinions, and connect with others across the world within seconds. It has made information more accessible and has given a voice to individuals and communities who were earlier unheard.

However, this cultural transformation also brings challenges. Overuse of digital media can reduce face-to-face interaction, affect mental health, and spread misinformation. Traditional cultures and practices may change or weaken as digital lifestyles grow stronger. At the same time, technology helps preserve culture through digital archives, online storytelling, and global cultural exchange. This study explores how technology and digital media shape modern culture, both positively and negatively. It highlights the need for balanced and responsible use of digital tools so that cultural values, human connections, and ethical practices are not lost.

Keywords: Technology, Digital Media, Cultural Transformation, Social Communication, Responsible Digital Use.

Role of Digital Media Platforms in Enhancing Heritage Awareness: A Psychological Perspective

Abstract

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In recent years, digital platforms and media technologies have emerged as powerful tools for promoting cultural heritage awareness, particularly among younger populations. From a psychological standpoint, digital media significantly influences how individuals perceive, understand, and emotionally connect with heritage. This paper explores the role of digital platforms such as social networking sites, virtual exhibitions, multimedia archives, and online storytelling in shaping heritage awareness through psychological processes. The study draws upon key concepts from cognitive psychology, social psychology, and media psychology to explain how digital content affects attention, learning, attitude formation, and emotional engagement. Interactive visuals, immersive media experiences, and narrative-based content enhance memory and understanding, while simultaneously fostering emotional attachment to cultural heritage. Through mechanisms like social learning, peer influence, and online participation, digital platforms encourage users to develop a shared sense of cultural identity and responsibility toward heritage preservation. Additionally, the paper examines how psychological factors such as motivation, persuasion, and emotional involvement increase public interest and participation in heritage-related activities. Digital media reduces barriers of time and space, making heritage more accessible and personally meaningful to diverse audiences. However, the paper also addresses psychological concerns, including limited depth of engagement, passive consumption of content, and the possibility of distorted cultural representation in digital spaces. The study highlights the need for psychologically informed digital strategies in heritage communication. By understanding audience behaviour, emotional response, and cognitive engagement, digital platforms can be more effectively used for heritage education and awareness. The paper concludes that integrating psychological principles with digital media practices can strengthen heritage consciousness and promote long-term public engagement in cultural conservation.

Keywords: Digital Platforms, Heritage Awareness, Psychology, Cultural Identity, Media Engagement

Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, and Computational Methods in Drug Discovery and Clinical Decision-Making

Abstract

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Drug discovery and clinical decision-making are being transformed with artificial intelligence (AI), big data analytics and computational methods which will empower quicker, more precise, less expensive and dependable biomedical innovation. The chapter discusses the incorporation of machine learning, deep learning, and data-driven computational models into each major step in pharmaceutical research, such as the target identification step, the lead optimization step, the toxicity prediction step, and the clinical trial design step. It is critically evaluated how big-data biomedical datasets—genomics, electronic health records, and real-world evidence—can be used to improve predictive efficacy and personalized medicine. Within the clinical context, the chapter explains AI-enabled decision support systems that can guide clinicians in diagnosing, prognosing, and selecting a treatment option and solve issues associated with data quality, interpretability, bias, and regulatory adherence. Ethics, validation criteria, and new regulations of AI-based medical technologies are also mentioned. This chapter highlights how AI and big data can expedite drug development and enhance patient outcomes and evidence-based healthcare but points out that it requires transparent, robust, and ethically responsible execution in the 21st-century pharmaceutical environment.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence; Big data analytics; Drug discovery; Computational methods; Clinical decision support; Precision medicine

Climate Change and Emerging Health Threats: Lessons from Historical and Traditional Knowledge Systems

Abstract

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Climate change is being cited as a significant cause of health threats that are emerging, such as outbreaks of infectious diseases, nutritional insecurity, and climate-related morbidity and mortality. The chapter discusses the health effects of climate variability and environmental change in an interdisciplinary approach that incorporates the past and traditional knowledge systems. Based on the inferences of the history of medicine, epidemiology, and the indigenous ecological practices, the chapter illuminates how societies of the past perceived, adapted to, and lowered climate-related health hazards. The traditional medical system and the local ecological knowledge are described as important sources of community resilience, disease prevention, and sustainable healthcare responses to climate stressors. There are also the current issues that are discussed in the chapter, such as globalization, environmental degradation, and loss of indigenous knowledge, that constrain adaptive capacity. This work highlights the significance of incorporating traditional knowledge into the modern planning of public health strategies and policy frameworks by placing the contemporary climate-related health risks in historical and cultural contexts. The chapter supports the idea of inclusive, culturally sensitive, and evidence-based climate adaptation strategies that build stronger health systems and help them better respond to emerging health risks in the 21st century.

Keywords: Climate change; Emerging diseases; Public health; Traditional knowledge systems; Climate adaptation; Health resilience

The "Swadeshi" Pharmacy: The 20th-Century Independence Movement and the Scientific Validation of Indigenous Plants into Modern Dosage Forms

Abstract

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The Swadeshi Movement (post-1905) served not only as a political boycott of British goods but also as a catalyst for national industrial self-reliance, particularly in the pharmaceutical sector. This paper examines the crucial role of "Swadeshi" pharmacies—pioneered by figures like Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray (Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works, 1901) and Dr. P.S. Varier (Arya Vaidya Sala, 1902)—in validating traditional Ayurvedic knowledge through modern scientific techniques. By translating indigenous, raw material knowledge into standardized, modern dosage forms (tablets, capsules, and tinctures), these enterprises challenged the hegemony of British imported medicine. The study highlights the scientific validation of key indigenous medicinal plants, such as neem (*Azadirachta indica*) and ashwagandha (*Withania somnifera*), which were utilized to create antiseptic products (e.g., Margo soap) and health tonics. The research further explores how early 20th-century chemical analysis of these herbs established their pharmacological efficacy, paving the way for their modern acceptance as therapeutically active, standardized, and safe indigenous medicine.

Keywords: Swadeshi Movement, Indigenous Pharmaceuticals, Ayurveda, Neem, Ashwagandha, Scientific Validation, Modern Dosage Forms.

Preserving Medical and Pharmaceutical Heritage in the 21st Century

Abstract

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Medical and pharmaceutical heritage is necessary to maintain collective knowledge systems that have contributed to the current practices of healthcare. The chapter focuses on the history of medical and pharmaceutical heritage, including historical texts, material culture, traditional medicine, and institutional practices, and discusses the issues and possibilities relating to the preservation of medical and pharmaceutical heritage in the 21st century. The chapter utilizes interdisciplinary approaches of understanding the history of medicine, ethnopharmacology, museum research, and health policy and identifies how digital archiving, museum curation, and developing technologies can preserve the tangible and intangible medical past. Special attention is paid to the traditional and indigenous medical knowledge systems, their inclusion in the framework of contemporary pharmacological studies, and the ethical issues of access, possession, and representation. The chapter also introduces the effects of globalization, changes in regulations, and pharmaceutical industrialization on the preservation of heritage. One of the strengths of the work is its ability to combine historical knowledge with the current-day healthcare issues and concerns, which highlights the importance of medical and pharmaceutical history in shaping both sustainable healthcare practices and policy creation as well as future biomedical innovation. Finally, the chapter recommends inclusive, technology-enabled, and policy-enhanced methods in order to maintain medical and pharmaceutical heritage as a global health living resource.

Keywords: Swadeshi Movement, Indigenous Pharmaceuticals, Ayurveda, Neem, Ashwagandha, Scientific Validation, Modern Dosage Forms.

Heritage Education and Community Engagement: A Psychological Study of Awareness and Cultural Identity among College Youth

Abstract

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Cultural heritage plays a vital role in shaping individual identity, collective memory, and social belonging among young people. However, rapid urbanization, globalization, and limited exposure to heritage in formal education have contributed to declining awareness and weakening connections to cultural roots among college youth. The present study examines the psychological role of heritage education in fostering heritage awareness, cultural identity, and community engagement among undergraduate students. Using a quantitative descriptive research design, data were collected from a convenience sample of 120 students aged 18–22 years through a self-constructed Heritage Awareness Questionnaire and a standardized Cultural Identity Scale. These tools assessed cognitive awareness of heritage, emotional attachment to cultural sites, and willingness to participate in community-based heritage initiatives. Descriptive statistics and correlation analysis were used to analyze the data. Results indicated that students exposed to heritage education through curriculum content, workshops, museum visits, and cultural programmes exhibited higher levels of heritage awareness and stronger cultural identity than those without such exposure. A positive relationship was found between heritage awareness and community engagement, suggesting that psychological awareness enhances a sense of belonging, responsibility, and participation in heritage conservation activities. Students with greater awareness also reported higher interest in advocacy, inclusive heritage practices, and sustainable cultural preservation. The study underscores the importance of integrating heritage education into educational frameworks to promote psychological ownership, social cohesion, and active community engagement among youth, thereby contributing to sustainable heritage management and intergenerational cultural continuity.

Keywords: Heritage Education; Community Engagement; Cultural Identity; Youth Awareness; Psychology

From Traditional Remedies to Modern Medicines: A Historical and Pharmaceutical Perspective

Abstract

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Pharmaceutical science has evolved through centuries of accumulated medicinal knowledge rooted in traditional practices, cultural heritage, and empirical observation. This paper explores the historical journey of drug development from ancient healing systems and indigenous pharmacopeias to contemporary evidence-based pharmaceutical sciences. Emphasis is placed on how early formulations, herbal preparations, and mineral-based therapies laid the foundation for modern dosage forms, pharmacology, and quality standards. Archaeological records, historical manuscripts, and classical medical texts are examined to understand the progression of drug preparation techniques, preservation methods, and therapeutic rationales. The study also highlights the transformation of pharmacy from a craft-based practice to a regulated scientific discipline, driven by advancements in chemistry, biology, and industrial manufacturing. By integrating historical and pharmaceutical perspectives, this work underscores the importance of preserving medicinal heritage while applying scientific rigor to develop safer, more effective therapies for present and future healthcare needs.

Keywords: traditional medicine, pharmaceutical heritage, drug development, history of pharmacy, formulation science

Heritage Education and Curriculum Integration

Abstract

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Cultural heritage embodies the collective memory, identity, and historical continuity of societies. However, armed conflict, political instability, and social unrest have increasingly placed both tangible and intangible heritage at risk, resulting in irreversible cultural loss. This study examines the complex relationship between heritage, conflict, and cultural loss, with a focus on how warfare and ideological violence target monuments, archives, religious sites, languages, and traditional practices. Through a qualitative review of global and regional case studies, the research highlights the deliberate destruction, looting, and neglect of heritage as strategic tools of domination, identity erasure, and economic exploitation. The paper also explores the long-term social and psychological consequences of cultural loss on affected communities, including weakened social cohesion and disrupted intergenerational knowledge transmission. Furthermore, the study evaluates the role of international conventions, digital documentation, and community-based conservation efforts in safeguarding heritage during and after conflict. By emphasizing heritage protection as a component of peacebuilding and sustainable development, this research argues that preserving cultural heritage is not merely an act of conservation but a vital step toward post-conflict reconciliation and cultural resilience.

Keywords: Cultural heritage, armed conflict, cultural loss, identity, heritage protection, peacebuilding

From Plough to Precision: Historical Transitions in Agricultural Technology

Abstract

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Agricultural technology has evolved continuously from simple hand tools to advanced mechanized and precision-based farming systems. Archaeological artifacts such as ploughs, sickles, and irrigation implement provide valuable evidence of early technological innovations that shaped agrarian societies. This paper traces the historical development of agricultural tools and techniques and examines their influence on modern agricultural technologies. The study is based on secondary data drawn from archaeological findings, museum collections, and historical literature, analyzed using a technological evolution framework. Comparative analysis highlights how traditional tools laid the foundation for mechanization and modern precision agriculture. The findings demonstrate that technological change in agriculture has been gradual and cumulative, driven by the need for efficiency, productivity, and adaptation to environmental conditions. The paper argues that understanding the historical continuity of agricultural technology can inform sustainable innovation in the 21st century. Integrating traditional technological knowledge with modern advancements can support environmentally responsible and economically viable agricultural practices.

Keywords: Agricultural technology, Archaeological tools, Mechanization, Precision farming, History

Narrating Heritage: Effects of Colonial and Indigenous Knowledge Framing on Identity Outcomes

Abstract

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Historical narratives shape how individuals connect with their cultural identity. In post-colonial contexts, heritage is often framed through colonial perspectives, marginalizing indigenous knowledge. This study examines how colonial versus indigenous narrative framing affects collective self-esteem, identity threat, and emotional responses among young Indian adults. In a between-subjects design, participants read one of two descriptions of Lodhi Garden, New Delhi. Both contained identical historical facts but differed in framing: the colonial version emphasized institutional documentation and archaeological classification, while the indigenous version highlighted lived experience, community memory, and everyday engagement. Participants then completed standardized inventories, including the Collective Self-Esteem Scale (CSES), the Identity Threat Scale, and the Positive and Negative Affect Schedule (PANAS). It was hypothesized that indigenous framing would increase collective self-esteem, reduce identity threat, and elicit more positive emotional responses compared to colonial framing. This research highlights the value of decolonized knowledge frameworks in promoting inclusive cultural representation and supporting psychological well-being, contributing to social and cultural psychology and the understanding of post-colonial identity processes.

Keywords: Heritage narratives, Indigenous knowledge, Colonial framing, Collective self-esteem & identity threat

Colonization of the Mind: An Indian Perspective

Abstract

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Colonization has played a notable role in molding the social, cultural, and psychological opinion of Indian society. Apart from political and economic influences, colonial rule marked a greater impact on attitudes towards indigenous culture, traditions, and cultural heritage. The present review of literature aims to study the psychological effect of colonization on Indians' attitudes towards cultural heritage. It highlights key psychological concepts such as attitude formation, cultural identity, internalized colonial influence, and collective memory. The review relies on post-colonial psychological theories and recent empirical studies to understand how colonial inheritance keeps on influencing the perceptions of cultural value and heritage preservation in contemporary India. Available literature suggests that prolonged colonial dominance often led to the degradation of indigenous cultural practices and the internalization of Western cultural superiority, which continues to affect attitudes towards heritage. "Fanon's studies reveal how colonial rule inculcates a sense of inferiority in the residing population, resulting in absorption of the colonizer's cultural values and devaluation of endemic identity and heritage" (Black Skin, White Masks, 1952). Also, as Nandy (1983) stated, "colonialism surpassed political control to become a psychological condition that modifies social consciousness, cultural priorities, and self-image among the colonized." In contrast, recent research also indicates a growing sense of cultural pride and renewed interest in heritage preservation among younger generations. The review highlights gaps in empirical psychological research, particularly in the Indian context, and emphasizes the need for systematic studies examining attitudes towards cultural heritage. Understanding these psychological factors can add to reinforcing cultural identity and encourage people to positively take part in heritage preservation.

Key words: Colonization, heritage, Indian, psychological influence, culture, attitude, inferiority

Ancient Water Management Systems and Their Contemporary Relevance to Agriculture

Abstract

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Water management has historically been fundamental to agricultural sustainability, as evidenced by ancient irrigation systems such as tanks, canals, reservoirs, and stepwells developed by early civilizations. These systems demonstrate advanced understanding of hydrology, landscape management, and resource conservation. This paper examines archaeological and historical evidence of ancient water management systems and evaluates their relevance in addressing modern agricultural challenges related to water scarcity and climate variability. The study is based on qualitative analysis of secondary data from archaeological reports, historical texts, and documented case studies of traditional irrigation practices. A comparative approach is used to assess the efficiency and sustainability of ancient systems in relation to modern irrigation methods. The findings reveal that traditional water management systems emphasized community participation, equitable distribution, and long-term resource conservation. The paper argues that reviving and adapting these heritage-based water management practices can support sustainable agriculture and enhance water-use efficiency in the 21st century. Incorporating traditional knowledge into contemporary water management strategies can contribute to climate resilience and sustainable agricultural development.

Keywords: Water management, Irrigation heritage, Archaeology, Sustainable agriculture, Climate adaptation

Bigels: An advanced hybrid drug delivery system for enhanced skin therapy

Abstract

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Bigels are emerging as advanced hybrid drug delivery systems formed by the combination of hydrogels and oleogels, integrating the advantages of both aqueous and lipid-based networks within a single formulation. This unique biphasic structure enables the simultaneous incorporation of hydrophilic and lipophilic drugs, making bigel highly suitable for topical and transdermal applications. In skin therapy bigels offer significant benefits by enhancing drug penetration while maintaining skin hydration and improving patient compliance. The hydrogels phase contributes to moisturization, a cooling effect, and controlled release of hydrophilic drugs, whereas the oleogels phase improves conclusiveness and drug solubilization and penetration through the stratum corneum. The synergistic interaction between these two phases results in improved rheological properties.

Keywords: Bigels, Hybrid Drug Delivery System, Hydrogels, Oleogels, Topical and Transdermal Therapy, Controlled Drug Release.

Museums as Psychological Spaces: Constructing Historical Meaning

Abstract

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Museums are commonly positioned as objective sites of historical preservation, yet they function as psychologically active environments that shape public interpretation of the past. This study conceptualizes museums as psychological spaces in which environmental cues, narrative sequencing, and institutional authority influence cognition, affect, and memory. Drawing on environmental psychology, social cognition, and narrative psychology, the study examines how emotional priming, authority bias, and framing effects operate within museum settings. An observational analysis of selected museum exhibits is combined with a visitor perception survey to assess emotional responses, memory salience, and moral evaluation of historical narratives. The study further explores how spatial positioning and curatorial emphasis contribute to the marginalization or amplification of particular histories through selective attention and omission. Findings indicate that museum environments facilitate the internalization of dominant historical narratives by reducing critical appraisal and reinforcing collective memory through affective conditioning. The paper argues that historical understanding within museums is not passively acquired but psychologically constructed, highlighting the need to integrate psychological frameworks into heritage and museum studies for developing ethically responsible, inclusive, and critically engaging approaches to public history.

Keywords: environmental psychology, collective memory, emotional priming, authority bias, museum studies

Archaeology of Religion: Psychology of Traditions

Abstract

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The Archaeology of religion explores the symbolic foundations of religious traditions and their psychological roots through measurable patterns of behaviour. This paper examines how early ritual practices contributed to the formation of tradition across generations through quantitative design. The data was collected by extracting samples from ritual spaces, burial practices, sacred architecture and symbolic artifacts across different regions. These practices reveal how early communities were keen to psychological needs related to socio-cultural traditions. The sample includes the 40 Archaeological contexts with demographic inferences related to population size, age differentiation and social stratification. Quantitative techniques such as frequency analysis, cross tabulation and correlational analysis were employed to examine the relation between ritual practices and social cohesion, Norm internalization. It is expected that findings will reveal measurable relation between ritual patterns and indicators of group stability and collective identity while posing risks of rigidity and Dogmatism.

Keywords: Dogmatism, Intergenerational bond, Norm Internalization, Social Cohesion, Embodied Cognition

Heritage at the Crossroads: Archaeology, Society, and Meaning in the 21st Century

Abstract

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Heritage history and archaeology in the twenty-first century are increasingly shaped by social debate rather than solely by scientific discovery. Archaeological sites and historical narratives now exist within contested cultural, political, and economic spaces where questions of ownership, authenticity, and representation are constantly negotiated. The discipline has expanded to address issues such as heritage tourism, repatriation of cultural objects, and the commodification of the past, alongside traditional research and conservation goals. Archaeology today often responds to contemporary concerns, including nationalism, identity politics, and sustainable development, positioning the past as a resource that can unite or divide communities. Heritage history, in this context, functions as a critical tool for examining how power influences which histories are preserved and which are marginalized. This paper examines the evolving role of archaeology and heritage studies as mediators between material remains and modern social values. It argues that twenty-first-century heritage practice is less about safeguarding monuments in isolation and more about managing cultural meaning in ways that promote dialogue, inclusivity, and long-term social relevance.

Keywords: Heritage politics; Contemporary archaeology; Cultural representation; Heritage tourism; Repatriation

Tourism, Technology, and Sustainable Use of Heritage Resources: An Indian Perspective

Abstract

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India, a civilization-state with over 3,600 ASI-protected monuments and 42 UNESCO World Heritage Sites (2024), stands at a decisive intersection between cultural preservation and tourism-driven economic growth. Heritage tourism accounts for a substantial share of India's domestic and international travel economy, yet escalating visitor numbers increasingly threaten the structural integrity, authenticity, and cultural ecosystems of historic sites. This paper critically examines how technological innovation can enable the sustainable use of heritage resources within the Indian context.

Drawing upon case studies including the digital ticketing and crowd management systems at the Taj Mahal, 3D laser scanning documentation at Hampi, GIS-based heritage mapping in Ahmedabad (India's first UNESCO World Heritage City), and QR-enabled interpretative frameworks at Red Fort, Delhi, the study analyzes how digital tools are reshaping conservation practice and visitor engagement. The paper situates these initiatives within national policy frameworks such as the Smart Cities Mission, Incredible India 2.0, and SDG 11.4 (protection of cultural and natural heritage).

The study argues that technology must not function merely as an efficiency mechanism for tourism expansion but as an ethical conservation instrument. Sustainable heritage management in India requires an integrated model combining digital documentation, carrying-capacity assessment, community participation, and policy coherence between tourism and cultural ministries. While technological interventions enhance transparency, access, and data-driven preservation planning, challenges such as digital inequality, commercialization pressures, and fragmented governance structures remain significant.

Keywords: Heritage Tourism; Sustainable Development; Digital Heritage; Conservation Technology; Smart Cities Mission; UNESCO World Heritage (India); Cultural Resource Management; Regenerative Tourism; GIS Mapping; Crowd Management Systems; SDG 11.4; Community-Based Conservation.

From Monuments to Mobile Screens: Reimagining Heritage Awareness through Digital Innovation and Community Participation in 21st-Century India

Abstract

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In recent decades, cultural heritage has faced growing challenges due to rapid technological change, urban expansion, and shifting social values. Conventional methods of heritage preservation and awareness are increasingly insufficient to connect with present-day society, especially younger populations. This paper explores how the combined use of digital innovation and community participation can create new pathways for heritage awareness and conservation in contemporary India. The study focuses on the use of digital tools such as virtual heritage experiences, online archives, and mobile-based platforms to present heritage in interactive and accessible ways. Alongside technology, the paper highlights the role of local communities as active stakeholders who contribute knowledge, interpretation, and ethical responsibility in heritage practices. A descriptive and qualitative approach was used, supported by observations, existing scholarly work, and inputs from young adults involved in heritage-related initiatives. The analysis reveals that heritage initiatives are more effective when technology is supported by community involvement. Digital platforms increase reach and engagement, while community participation ensures cultural authenticity and long-term sustainability. The study emphasizes that blending modern technology with indigenous knowledge systems helps bridge historical understanding with present-day relevance. The paper concludes that a people-centered and technology-supported approach is essential for strengthening heritage awareness and conservation in the 21st century. These findings offer useful insights for educators, heritage professionals, and policymakers working toward inclusive heritage practices.

Keywords: Digital Heritage, Community Participation, Heritage Awareness, Cultural Sustainability, Contemporary India

Reframing the Past: Heritage History and Archaeology in a Transforming World

Abstract

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In the twenty-first century, heritage history and archaeology have evolved into interdisciplinary fields that engage actively with global change, social responsibility, and cultural sustainability. Rather than focusing solely on the recovery and preservation of material remains, contemporary practice emphasizes interpretation, participation, and long-term relevance. Archaeology increasingly addresses challenges such as climate-induced site loss, rapid urbanization, and the ethical management of cultural resources, while heritage history interrogates how historical narratives are shaped, transmitted, and contested in modern societies. The integration of digital technologies, community-based research, and policy-driven conservation strategies has reshaped how the past is documented and shared. At the same time, heritage has become central to discussions of identity, memory, and development, particularly within multicultural and postcolonial contexts. This paper explores how twenty-first-century heritage and archaeological practices move beyond monument-centered preservation toward inclusive and adaptive frameworks that connect past knowledge with present needs. It argues that heritage history and archaeology now serve as critical mediators between cultural memory and contemporary global challenges.

Keywords: Heritage studies; Contemporary archaeology; Cultural sustainability; Public engagement, Historical memory

Tourism, Technology, and Sustainable Use of Heritage Resources

Abstract

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Tourism has emerged as a vital contributor to economic growth, cultural interaction, and global integration. With the rapid advancement of technology, the tourism sector has undergone significant transformation, particularly in the promotion, management, and utilization of heritage resources. This seminar examines the dynamic relationship between tourism, technology, and the sustainable management of heritage resources, highlighting the necessity of balancing tourism development with conservation efforts. Heritage resources, both tangible and intangible, represent the historical, cultural, and social legacy of societies. These valuable assets, however, are increasingly threatened by excessive tourist activities, poor planning, and inadequate management practices. The study discusses how contemporary technological tools such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), digital mapping, virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and smart tourism platforms support sustainable heritage conservation. These technologies enhance visitor engagement, improve accessibility, facilitate informed decision-making, and help reduce physical stress on vulnerable heritage sites. Digital documentation and virtual tourism experiences, in particular, enable broader public access while limiting environmental and structural damage.

The seminar also emphasizes the importance of adopting sustainable tourism practices that encourage community participation, promote responsible tourism behavior, and ensure the long-term protection of heritage resources. Technology plays a crucial role in monitoring visitor movement, conserving heritage assets, raising awareness, and strengthening policy implementation. Integrating sustainability principles with technological innovation can foster inclusive development, safeguard cultural heritage, and maintain environmental balance. In conclusion, the seminar asserts that tourism growth must be guided by sustainable planning supported by appropriate technological interventions. A comprehensive approach combining tourism development, technological advancement, and heritage conservation is essential to preserve heritage resources and make them accessible to future generations.

Keywords: Tourism, Technology, Sustainable Development, Heritage Resources, Smart Tourism, Cultural Conservation

Heritage, Conflict, and Cultural Loss

Abstract

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Cultural heritage embodies the collective memory, identity, and historical continuity of societies. However, armed conflict, political instability, and social unrest have increasingly placed both tangible and intangible heritage at risk, resulting in irreversible cultural loss. This study examines the complex relationship between heritage, conflict, and cultural loss, with a focus on how warfare and ideological violence target monuments, archives, religious sites, languages, and traditional practices. Through a qualitative review of global and regional case studies, the research highlights the deliberate destruction, looting, and neglect of heritage as strategic tools of domination, identity erasure, and economic exploitation. The paper also explores the long-term social and psychological consequences of cultural loss on affected communities, including weakened social cohesion and disrupted intergenerational knowledge transmission. Furthermore, the study evaluates the role of international conventions, digital documentation, and community-based conservation efforts in safeguarding heritage during and after conflict. By emphasizing heritage protection as a component of peacebuilding and sustainable development, this research argues that preserving cultural heritage is not merely an act of conservation but a vital step toward post-conflict reconciliation and cultural resilience.

Keywords: Cultural heritage, armed conflict, cultural loss, identity, heritage protection, peacebuilding

Heritage in Transition: Exploring the Role of Technology and Public Participation in Preserving India's Past in the Modern Era

Abstract

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India's cultural heritage is experiencing a period of transition shaped by modernization, technological growth, and changing public engagement with history and archaeology. Traditional models of heritage preservation often struggle to remain relevant in a rapidly evolving society, particularly among younger generations. This research paper examines how technological tools and public participation together influence heritage preservation and awareness in the modern Indian context. The study explores the use of digital technologies such as virtual reconstructions, online heritage resources, and digital storytelling as emerging methods for communicating historical and archaeological knowledge. At the same time, it emphasizes the importance of public involvement, where communities contribute local knowledge, narratives, and ethical perspectives to heritage practices. A descriptive and exploratory research approach was adopted, drawing on a focused literature review, field-based observations, and responses from individuals engaged in heritage-related activities. Unlike earlier studies that examine technology or community participation independently, this study emphasizes their combined role in shaping inclusive and sustainable heritage practices in India. The findings indicate that technology enhances access to heritage by overcoming geographical and physical limitations, while public participation strengthens cultural relevance and community ownership. These findings are particularly relevant for heritage policy and public outreach initiatives in India. When combined, these approaches encourage sustainable heritage practices and foster a deeper connection between society and the past. The paper highlights that inclusive and technology-supported heritage models are essential for addressing contemporary challenges such as globalization and cultural disengagement. The study concludes that integrating technological innovation with public participation provides a practical and sustainable framework for preserving India's historical and archaeological heritage in the modern era. The paper offers valuable insights for historians, archaeologists, educators, and policymakers.

Keywords: Heritage Preservation, Public Participation, Digital History, Archaeology, Modern India.

Digital Media as an Informal Learning Space for Heritage Awareness among Youth

Abstract

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Heritage awareness plays a crucial role in preserving cultural identity and fostering a sense of belonging among younger generations. In the contemporary digital age, youth increasingly engage with history and heritage through digital platforms beyond formal educational settings. This paper explores the role of digital media as an informal learning space in promoting heritage awareness among youth. Informal learning, characterized by self-directed, interest-based, and experiential learning, finds a powerful medium in digital platforms such as social media, virtual museums, online archives, digital storytelling, and virtual tours of heritage sites. The study examines how digital media facilitates heritage learning by making historical content accessible, interactive, and engaging for young audiences. Platforms like Instagram, YouTube, and digital heritage portals enable youth to connect with tangible and intangible heritage through visual narratives, short videos, and immersive experiences. These digital spaces not only supplement formal education but also encourage curiosity, critical thinking, and cultural appreciation among learners. The paper adopts a descriptive and analytical approach based on secondary sources, including research articles, policy documents, and digital heritage initiatives. It also discusses the educational potential of digital media in fostering heritage awareness while highlighting challenges such as misinformation, superficial engagement, digital divide, and lack of academic integration. The study emphasizes the need to strategically integrate digital media into heritage education to strengthen youth participation and cultural consciousness. It concludes that digital media, when effectively utilized, can serve as a significant informal learning space, contributing to sustainable heritage awareness and preservation in the 21st century.

Keywords: Heritage Awareness, Digital Media, Informal Learning, Youth, Cultural Heritage

Heritage Education and Curriculum Integration

Abstract

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Heritage education has emerged as a significant dimension of contemporary education, aiming to preserve cultural identity while promoting social cohesion in a rapidly globalizing world. It encompasses the teaching and learning of both tangible and intangible heritage, including historical monuments, cultural traditions, indigenous knowledge systems, languages, art forms, values, and collective memories. Integrating heritage education into the formal curriculum is essential for fostering cultural awareness, historical consciousness, and value-based learning among students. This abstract explores the relevance of heritage education and examines its effective integration within the school and higher education curriculum.

Curriculum integration enables heritage education to transcend disciplinary boundaries and become an interdisciplinary and experiential learning process. Subjects such as history, geography, literature, social sciences, environmental studies, and visual and performing arts provide meaningful opportunities for embedding heritage-related content. Pedagogical strategies such as project-based learning, heritage walks, field visits, oral history documentation, storytelling, digital archives, and community participation help learners connect theoretical knowledge with lived cultural experiences. Such approaches enhance critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving skills, and emotional engagement, thereby contributing to holistic learner development. Heritage education also plays a vital role in promoting values such as tolerance, cultural sensitivity, mutual respect, national integration, and civic responsibility. Exposure to local and national heritage nurtures pride in cultural identity while encouraging appreciation of cultural diversity and global heritage perspectives. However, successful curriculum integration requires well-structured curriculum frameworks, teacher training, institutional support, and access to appropriate resources.

Integrating heritage education into the curriculum is crucial for developing culturally rooted, socially responsible, and globally competent citizens. A balanced integration of traditional heritage knowledge with modern pedagogical practices can ensure the sustainable transmission of cultural heritage while enriching the quality and relevance of education.

Keywords: Heritage Education, Curriculum Integration, Cultural Identity, Value-Based Education, Interdisciplinary Learning, Experiential Learning

Living Heritage: Communities, Identity, and Memory in the Modern Era

Abstract

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This theme highlights heritage as a living and dynamic process sustained through community practices, collective memory, and cultural identity. Focusing on intangible cultural heritage such as rituals, oral traditions, crafts, and languages, it explores how communities preserve and reinterpret heritage amid globalization and social change. The objective is to examine community participation in heritage transmission and identity formation. Expected outcomes include increased recognition of intangible heritage, development of community-driven preservation models, and strengthened links between heritage, social cohesion, and cultural continuity.

Keywords: Living Heritage, Intangible Heritage, Community Participation, Cultural Identity, Memory.

Leveraging Digital Platforms to Enhance Community Heritage Awareness

Abstract

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In recent years, digital media and online platforms have emerged as powerful tools for promoting heritage awareness and engaging communities in conservation efforts. This paper explores innovative digital strategies—including social media campaigns, interactive mobile applications, virtual reality (VR) exhibitions, and online educational modules—that enhance public understanding and appreciation of cultural heritage. The study analyzes case studies from diverse geographic contexts to assess how digital storytelling, gamified experiences, and user-generated content influence heritage perception and participation. It also examines the role of digital platforms in bridging the gap between formal heritage institutions (museums, archives) and local communities, thereby fostering inclusive narratives and empowering grassroots advocacy. Methodologically, the research combines qualitative interviews with heritage practitioners and quantitative analysis of engagement metrics (likes, shares, participation rates) to evaluate the effectiveness of various digital interventions. Findings indicate that tailored, multimedia approaches significantly increase visitor engagement and inspire proactive community involvement in preservation activities. The paper further discusses challenges such as digital accessibility, authenticity of virtual representations, and sustainability of online initiatives. Recommendations are provided for designing culturally sensitive, technically robust digital programs that amplify heritage education and spur community-led conservation. The insights aim to guide policymakers, educators, and heritage professionals in optimizing digital media for meaningful heritage awareness and sustainable management.

Keywords: digital heritage, media platforms, heritage awareness, virtual engagement, community participate

Archaeology Beyond Excavation: Innovation, Ethics, and Interdisciplinary Futures

Abstract

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This theme explores the shift in archaeology from excavation-centered approaches to non-invasive and interdisciplinary methods such as remote sensing, geophysical surveys, bioarchaeology, and digital analysis. It also addresses ethical responsibilities related to site preservation, conservation, and public accountability. The objective is to evaluate innovative methodologies that minimize site disturbance while maximizing knowledge production. The expected outcomes include sustainable research practices, ethical guidelines for archaeological work, and stronger interdisciplinary collaboration that enhances archaeology's relevance in contemporary society.

Keywords: Archaeology, Non-Invasive Methods, Ethics, Innovation, Interdisciplinary Research

From Ruins to Resilience: Protecting Cultural Heritage in a Changing World

Abstract

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This theme focuses on the growing threats to cultural heritage posed by climate change, natural disasters, urbanization, and environmental degradation. Archaeological sites and historic landscapes are increasingly at risk of irreversible loss, requiring adaptive and resilient conservation strategies. The objective is to analyze environmental and human-induced risks to heritage and to promote sustainable, climate-resilient conservation practices that integrate scientific research with traditional knowledge systems. Through global and regional case studies, the expected outcomes include frameworks for disaster preparedness, policy recommendations for heritage resilience, and strengthened collaboration among heritage professionals, environmental scientists, and local communities to ensure long-term protection of cultural resources.

Keywords: Cultural Heritage, Climate Change, Conservation, Sustainability, Resilience

Decolonizing the Past: New Narratives in History and Archaeology

Abstract

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This theme addresses the decolonization of history and archaeology by challenging colonial frameworks that have shaped knowledge production and heritage interpretation. It emphasizes inclusive narratives that foreground indigenous voices, local knowledge systems, and community-led research practices. The objective is to critically examine colonial legacies within archaeological methods, museums, and historical discourse while promoting ethical, collaborative, and socially responsible scholarship. The expected outcomes include reinterpreted historical narratives, strengthened community agency in heritage management, and the development of ethical research guidelines that contribute to more equitable and pluralistic approaches to understanding the past.

Keywords: Decolonization, Archaeology, Indigenous Knowledge, Heritage Ethics, Historical Narratives

Archaeology of Cultivation: Reinterpreting Agricultural Heritage and Human–Environment Interaction in the 21st Century

Abstract

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The archaeology of cultivation provides essential insights into the long-term relationship between humans, agriculture, and the environment across different historical periods. In the context of the twenty first century, agricultural heritage has emerged as a critical field for understanding sustainable land use and cultural continuity. This paper investigates archaeological evidence related to crop domestication, cultivation techniques, settlement patterns, and landscape modification in order to reinterpret agricultural heritage within modern sustainability discourse. By integrating data from material culture, archaeobotanical remains, and landscape archaeology, the study evaluates how past societies adapted farming practices to local ecological conditions. The results indicate that traditional agricultural systems were shaped by detailed environmental knowledge and emphasized balance between productivity and conservation. Archaeological records reveal practices such as mixed cropping, seasonal land use, water management, and soil enrichment that reduced risk and enhanced long-term resilience. These findings demonstrate that historical farming strategies often minimized environmental degradation while supporting stable community livelihoods. The paper argues that re-examining agricultural heritage offers practical insights for addressing present-day challenges, including climate change, soil exhaustion, and loss of agrobiodiversity. Furthermore, it highlights the importance of preserving agricultural landscapes as cultural heritage that embodies collective memory, identity, and ecological wisdom. By connecting archaeological interpretation with contemporary policy and planning, the study emphasizes the role of heritage-based knowledge in promoting sustainable agriculture. The paper concludes that integrating archaeological perspectives into modern development frameworks can strengthen human-environment relationships and support sustainable, culturally informed agricultural futures in the twenty-first century. This integrated perspective encourages collaboration among researchers, heritage managers, farmers, and policymakers, fostering adaptive strategies grounded in historical experience while enhancing resilience, equity, and responsible stewardship of agricultural resources under rapidly changing global conditions for present and future societies facing uncertainty and environmental stress worldwide in coming decades ahead globally.

Keywords: Archaeology of Agriculture; Heritage Studies; Human–Environment Interaction; Landscape Archaeology; Sustainability; Cultural History

Reimagining the Past: Heritage and Archaeology in the Digital Age

Abstract

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This theme examines the transformative role of digital technologies in reshaping heritage and archaeological research in the 21st century. The integration of GIS, 3D scanning, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, and digital archives has enhanced documentation, analysis, conservation, and public engagement, while also raising concerns regarding authenticity, accessibility, data ownership, and long-term sustainability. The objective is to critically assess how digital tools redefine archaeological methodologies and heritage interpretation and to explore ethical frameworks for responsible digital practice. Drawing on interdisciplinary case studies and theoretical perspectives, the expected outcomes include improved digital documentation standards, collaborative research models between technologists and heritage professionals, and practical guidelines that support inclusive and sustainable digital heritage preservation.

Keywords: Digital Heritage, Archaeology, GIS, Virtual Reality, Cultural Preservation

Cultivating the Past for the Future: Archaeological Insights into Agricultural Heritage and Sustainable Practices in the 21st Century

Abstract

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Agricultural heritage embodies centuries of human knowledge related to farming, land management, and environmental adaptation. This paper aims to examine archaeological evidence such as ancient field systems, irrigation structures, crop remains, and farming tools in order to understand traditional agricultural practices and assess their relevance to contemporary sustainability challenges. The study demonstrates that many historical agricultural systems were environmentally adaptive, resource-efficient, and resilient to climatic variability. Archaeological findings reveal effective strategies of soil conservation, water management, and crop diversification that ensured long-term productivity. By integrating archaeological knowledge with modern agricultural science, the paper argues that agricultural heritage offers valuable solutions for sustainable food production, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience in the 21st century.

Keywords: Agricultural Heritage; Archaeology; Sustainable Agriculture; Traditional Farming Systems; Cultural Landscapes; 21st Century Studies

Negotiating the Past: Heritage History and Archaeology in the Twenty-First Century

Abstract

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In the twenty-first century, heritage history and archaeology have shifted from disciplines focused on uncovering static remnants of the past to dynamic practices that interrogate how societies remember, interpret, and negotiate history in the present. Archaeology now operates within technologically mediated landscapes, where satellite imagery, digital mapping, and virtual reconstructions coexist with fragile material remains threatened by climate change, urban expansion, and conflict. Heritage history has similarly evolved, moving beyond singular, authoritative narratives toward plural and contested interpretations shaped by community voices, indigenous knowledge, and global ethical debates. The past is no longer encountered only through monuments and archives but is continuously reimagined through museums, digital platforms, and public engagement initiatives. These developments position heritage and archaeology as active social processes rather than neutral academic pursuits. This paper explores how twenty-first-century heritage practices function as sites of dialogue between memory and modernity, preservation and transformation. By examining the intersections of technology, identity, and power, the study highlights how archaeology and heritage history contribute to contemporary discussions on cultural responsibility, sustainability, and shared human heritage in an increasingly interconnected world.

Keywords: Heritage history; Archaeology; Twenty-first century; Digital heritage; Cultural memory

Psychological Predictors of Community Participation in Heritage Conservation in 21st Century India

Abstract

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Community participation plays a vital role in ensuring sustainable heritage conservation; however, the psychological factors that motivate such participation remain insufficiently examined within the Indian context. The present study investigated the influence of collective memory, cultural identity, place attachment, and heritage awareness on community participation in heritage conservation. A quantitative, cross-sectional research design was employed. Data were collected from 70 participants, including university students and residents familiar with cultural heritage sites and traditions, using a structured self-report questionnaire measured on a five-point Likert scale. Descriptive statistics and reliability analysis were conducted to examine the distribution and internal consistency of the study variables. Pearson's product-moment correlation analysis revealed that collective memory, cultural identity, place attachment, and heritage awareness were all positively and significantly associated with community participation in heritage conservation. Multiple regression analysis indicated that the overall model was statistically significant and explained a substantial proportion of variance in community participation. Among the psychological predictors, heritage awareness emerged as the only significant predictor of community participation, while collective memory, cultural identity, and place attachment showed positive but non-significant effects when considered simultaneously. The findings highlight the central role of heritage awareness in fostering conservation-oriented participation and underscore the importance of integrating psychological perspectives into heritage conservation strategies. Strengthening awareness through heritage education, community engagement initiatives, and digital platforms may enhance sustainable conservation outcomes. The study contributes to interdisciplinary scholarship linking psychology and heritage studies and provides directions for future research employing larger samples and longitudinal designs.

Keywords: Heritage conservation, collective memory, cultural identity, place attachment, community participation

The Psychological Impact of Heritage Loss on Displaced Populations: A Study of Identity and Collective Trauma

Abstract

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Cultural heritage is frequently defined by its physical manifestations—monuments, landscapes, and archaeological artifacts—yet its most profound impact lies in its role as a psychological anchor for human identity. In the 21st century, as globalization, conflict, and urbanization accelerate, the deliberate or accidental destruction of these sites creates a "void" that extends far beyond material loss. This research addresses the psychological ramifications of heritage loss within displaced populations, specifically focusing on cultural heritage and contemporary challenges. Utilizing a quantitative research design, this study investigates the "Text-Material Culture Interface" by measuring the statistical correlation between physical heritage destruction (material) and the fragmentation of collective memory (textual narrative). Data was gathered from a sample of 100-150 displaced individuals using standardized psychometric scales to quantify levels of identity crisis and rootlessness. Preliminary findings suggest that the destruction of heritage sites acts as a measurable catalyst for intergenerational trauma, while the preservation of intangible heritage correlates with higher psychological resilience scores. The paper concludes by arguing for inclusive heritage practices that integrate psychological "first aid" into conservation policies. This research provides an empirical platform to acknowledge that protecting the past is essential to protecting the mental well-being of the future.

Keywords: Collective Trauma, Cultural Identity, Heritage Loss, Displacement, Psychometric Analysis

Technology, Digital Media, and Cultural Transformation

Abstract

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Technology and digital media play a transformative role in shaping contemporary cultural identities, values, and social practices across the world. This paper examines the dynamic relationship between technological advancement and cultural transformation, highlighting both its enabling potential and its inherent challenges. Drawing on key theoretical perspectives such as cultural diffusion, technological determinism, cyber-cultures, and the digital divide, the study analyzes how digital technologies influence cultural development in diverse social contexts. The findings indicate that technology functions as a powerful catalyst for cultural exchange, innovation, and adaptation by enabling rapid global communication and the widespread circulation of ideas. The expansion of the internet, social media, and mobile technologies has intensified cross-cultural interactions, leading to cultural hybridization and the emergence of new digital cultural forms. At the same time, the study reveals significant challenges, including unequal access to digital resources, the widening digital divide, and the risk of cultural homogenization, where dominant global cultures marginalize local traditions and identities. Through the analysis of empirical case studies, this research demonstrates how technology simultaneously promotes cultural connectivity and threatens cultural diversity. The paper concludes by advocating for inclusive and culturally sensitive approaches to technological integration, emphasizing the need to balance technological progress with the preservation of cultural heritage. These insights hold important implications for policymakers, educators, and technologists seeking to ensure that digital transformation supports cultural diversity and social equity in the digital age.

Keywords: Technology, Digital media, Cultural transformation, Cultural diffusion, Digital divide, Cultural hybridization, Cyber-cultures, Technological determinism

Globalisation and Urbanisation: Their Impact on Cultural Identity and Heritage

Abstract

Shubhi Mittal

Globalisation and urbanisation are two powerful and interconnected processes that have significantly shaped contemporary societies across the world. These forces have accelerated economic development, technological advancement, and social mobility, transforming patterns of production, communication, and living. However, alongside these benefits, globalisation and urbanisation have also brought profound changes to cultural identity and cultural heritage. Cultural identity, which is rooted in shared values, traditions, language, customs, and historical experiences, faces increasing pressure in the modern global and urban context. This research paper examines the impact of globalisation and urbanisation on cultural identity, with particular emphasis on the preservation and transformation of cultural heritage. It explores how global cultural flows, mass media, and consumer culture contribute to cultural homogenisation, often marginalising indigenous traditions and local cultural expressions. Urbanisation, through rapid city expansion and migration, further disrupts traditional community structures, weakens intergenerational transmission of cultural practices, and alters social relationships. The paper also highlights the growing tension between tradition and modernity, where traditional cultural practices are either adapted to fit urban lifestyles or gradually abandoned. Cultural heritage—both tangible and intangible—faces challenges such as neglect, commercialisation, and displacement due to urban development and infrastructure projects. Additionally, the younger generation often experiences an identity crisis as they attempt to balance global influences with their cultural roots. The study emphasizes the need for a balanced approach that recognises the importance of development while safeguarding cultural diversity and heritage. It argues that education, public awareness, policy interventions, and sustainable urban planning are essential for preserving cultural identity in a globalised and urbanised world. By addressing these challenges, societies can ensure that cultural heritage remains a living and dynamic part of contemporary life rather than a relic of the past.

Keywords: Globalisation, Urbanisation, Cultural Identity, Cultural Heritage, Contemporary Challenges

Tourism, Technology, and Sustainable Use of Heritage Resources

Abstract

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Tourism has emerged as a vital contributor to economic growth, cultural interaction, and global integration. With the rapid advancement of technology, the tourism sector has undergone significant transformation, particularly in the promotion, management, and utilization of heritage resources. This seminar examines the dynamic relationship between tourism, technology, and the sustainable management of heritage resources, highlighting the necessity of balancing tourism development with conservation efforts. Heritage resources, both tangible and intangible, represent the historical, cultural, and social legacy of societies. These valuable assets, however, are increasingly threatened by excessive tourist activities, poor planning, and inadequate management practices. The study discusses how contemporary technological tools such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), digital mapping, virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and smart tourism platforms support sustainable heritage conservation. These technologies enhance visitor engagement, improve accessibility, facilitate informed decision-making, and help reduce physical stress on vulnerable heritage sites. Digital documentation and virtual tourism experiences, in particular, enable broader public access while limiting environmental and structural damage.

The seminar also emphasizes the importance of adopting sustainable tourism practices that encourage community participation, promote responsible tourism behavior, and ensure the long-term protection of heritage resources. Technology plays a crucial role in monitoring visitor movement, conserving heritage assets, raising awareness, and strengthening policy implementation. Integrating sustainability principles with technological innovation can foster inclusive development, safeguard cultural heritage, and maintain environmental balance. In conclusion, the seminar asserts that tourism growth must be guided by sustainable planning supported by appropriate technological interventions. A comprehensive approach combining tourism development, technological advancement, and heritage conservation is essential to preserve heritage resources and make them accessible to future generations.

Keywords: Tourism, Technology, Sustainable Development, Heritage Resources, Smart Tourism, Cultural Conservation

Challenges of Preserving Cultural Heritage in Globalised Urban Societies

Abstract

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Globalisation and rapid urbanisation have significantly transformed contemporary cities, creating complex challenges for the preservation of cultural heritage. Globalised urban societies are characterised by economic integration, technological advancement, increased migration, and cultural exchange, all of which influence traditional cultural identities and heritage practices. Cultural heritage, both tangible such as monuments, historic buildings, and artefacts and intangible including languages, rituals, customs, and collective memory play a crucial role in shaping social identity and continuity. However, its preservation in rapidly evolving urban environments has become increasingly difficult. One major challenge is the pressure of urban development and commercialisation, which often prioritises economic growth over heritage conservation. Historic sites and culturally significant neighbourhoods are frequently modified or demolished to accommodate modern infrastructure and real-estate demands, leading to irreversible cultural loss. Additionally, globalisation promotes cultural homogenisation, where dominant global cultures overshadow local traditions, resulting in the gradual erosion of indigenous practices, languages, and art forms, particularly among younger generations. The increasing cultural diversity of urban populations due to migration further complicates heritage preservation, as shared cultural values may weaken and intergenerational transmission of traditions declines. Moreover, inadequate policy frameworks, limited funding, weak enforcement of heritage laws, and lack of community participation hinder effective conservation efforts. While digital technologies offer new opportunities for documentation and awareness, over-reliance on virtual preservation can reduce the value placed on physical heritage. This abstract highlights the need for integrated, inclusive, and sustainable approaches to heritage preservation in globalised urban societies. Balancing urban development with cultural conservation is essential to maintaining cultural diversity, social cohesion, and historical continuity in an increasingly interconnected world.

Keywords: Globalisation, rapid urbanisation, cultural heritage preservation, cultural homogenisation, urban development, and sustainable conservation.

Heritage, Conflict, and Cultural Loss

Abstract

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Cultural heritage embodies the collective memory, identity, and historical continuity of societies. However, armed conflict, political instability, and social unrest have increasingly placed both tangible and intangible heritage at risk, resulting in irreversible cultural loss. This study examines the complex relationship between heritage, conflict, and cultural loss, with a focus on how warfare and ideological violence target monuments, archives, religious sites, languages, and traditional practices. Through a qualitative review of global and regional case studies, the research highlights the deliberate destruction, looting, and neglect of heritage as strategic tools of domination, identity erasure, and economic exploitation. The paper also explores the long-term social and psychological consequences of cultural loss on affected communities, including weakened social cohesion and disrupted intergenerational knowledge transmission. Furthermore, the study evaluates the role of international conventions, digital documentation, and community-based conservation efforts in safeguarding heritage during and after conflict. By emphasizing heritage protection as a component of peacebuilding and sustainable development, this research argues that preserving cultural heritage is not merely an act of conservation but a vital step toward post-conflict reconciliation and cultural resilience.

Keywords: Cultural heritage, armed conflict, cultural loss, identity, heritage protection, peacebuilding

Environmental Health Threats, Pandemics and Emerging Diseases

Abstract

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Modern global stability faces a critical threat at the intersection of environmental decay and re-emerging pathogens. Anthropogenic activities, specifically deforestation, climate change, and rapid urbanization have dissolved ecological boundaries, accelerating zoonotic spillover, where diseases jump from animals to humans. These shifts increase the frequency of "Pathogen X" events, pushing international surveillance systems to their breaking point. To move beyond reactive crisis management, we must adopt a One Health framework that integrates human, animal, and environmental well-being. This transition requires proactive stewardship: mitigating environmental stressors, enhancing global genomic surveillance, and building equitable healthcare infrastructure. Protecting our ecosystems is no longer just an act of conservation; it is a fundamental prerequisite for pandemic prevention. By addressing the root environmental causes of disease emergence and fostering international cooperation, we can build a resilient defense against the inevitable biological challenges of the 21st century, ensuring long-term global health security.

Keywords: One Health Framework, Zoonotic Spillover, Climate Change and Environmental Degradation, Global Genomic Surveillance, Pandemic Prevention, Pathogen Emergence.

Archaeological evidence of ancient drugs, surgeries, and healing systems

Abstract

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The evolution of human healthcare is complexly preserved within the archaeological record which provides a view in the ancient medical practices. This abstract blends the physical evidence of ancient pharmacology, surgical intervention and alternative medicine systems across diverse civilizations. Analysis of the Osteological remains provides undeniable evidence of surgical interventions such as trepanation (skull drilling) and successfully performed amputation brings forward the proofs about the knowledge of anatomy and pain management. Which is supported by the specialized tools such as bone drills and bronze scalpels. Besides surgery, chemical analysis of the dental calculus and residue which was found in the ceramic vessels discloses vast knowledge of botanical drugs. Opium poppies and use of fermented antibiotic beer which contained tetracycline was found to be embedded in the bones of nubia which was used for infection. It proves the use of environmental resources for therapeutic and anaesthetic benefits. Amalgamation of these various practices were used for wide range of healing systems namely the Indus valley's Aryurvedic traditions, Egyptian temple medicine and Greek Asclepieia shows adaptation from ritualistic magic to experimental evidence. Analysis of osteological data, archaeobotanical material unfolds a stories of adaptability and revolution and innovations. These principles became the building block for the modern clinical science.

Keywords: Archaeological record, Osteological remains, Archaeobotanical material, Trepanation, Tetracycline, Anaesthetics, Ayurveda

Loss of traditional medicinal biodiversity and knowledge systems

Abstract

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Traditional medicinal biodiversity and indigenous knowledge systems have been important in healthcare for many centuries and decades, especially in rural and tribal communities. These systems depend on local ecosystems and use a wide variety of medicinal plants, animals, and minerals. Thus, rapid social and economic changes, urbanization, maximum deforestation, sudden climate change, and the rapid use of modern medicine have caused a serious decline in traditional medicinal resources and knowledge. The devastation of natural habitats has made many medicinal species extinct. At the same time, historical & traditional knowledge passed orally from one generation to the next generation is disappearing. Poor documentation, biopiracy, and the lack of legal recognition for traditional healers have set a major holdback for these practices, especially among younger generations. This not only threatens our esteemed cultural knowledge and identity but also reduces our major opportunity of discovering new medicines for modern healthcare. This can be attained through community involvement, scientific research, reassuring policies, and ethical documentation. Improving education, preserving medicinal plants, and ensuring fair sharing of benefits can help connect traditional and modern medical systems.

Keywords: Traditional medicine, indigenous knowledge systems, medicinal biodiversity, medicinal plants, biodiversity loss, biopiracy, ethnomedicine, and the integration of traditional and modern healthcare

Modernization vs. Heritage: A Quantitative Study of Emotional Conflict on Archaeological Conservation

Abstract

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Modernization and urban development conflict with archaeological preservation. This conflict evokes different emotional reactions among people, highlighting their viewpoints on archaeological conservation versus modern development. The present study examines how emotional conflict plays a pivotal role in the perception of archaeological conservation versus urban planning and design. A cross-sectional survey design will be employed, collecting data from individuals using standardized measures of emotional response and value and conservation attitudes. Data will be collected from approximately 100-150 participants. Statistical techniques would be used to assess people's attitudes and emotions towards conservation of archaeological structures against bringing down the old, thereby progressing toward growth and development. The findings are expected to highlight the role of emotional processes in shaping public and personal standpoints on conserving archaeological structures and monuments, focusing on the fact that such decisions are not merely economic or technical but deeply psychological. Integrating quantitative psychological investigation with heritage conservation discourse will contribute to a holistic and integral understanding of heritage-modernization conflicts, offering insights for outlining conservation policies.

Keywords: Modernization, archaeological conservation, emotional conflict, archaeological preservation, urbanization, urban planning

Combining Machine Learning Techniques with Hybrid Methods for Big Data Analytics

Abstract

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In order to extract valuable insights, advanced analytical approaches have to be developed due to the exponential rise of data generated from several sources. The accuracy, effectiveness, and accessibility of data-driven solutions are improved by hybrid approaches to big data analytics, which take advantage of the advantages of several machine learning methodologies. In order to tackle difficult problems in big data analytics, this research investigates the integration of various machine learning approaches, such as autonomous, supervised, and reinforcement learning, within a hybrid framework. Our goal is to enhance pattern identification, anomaly detection, and predictive modeling by integrating these methods. By leveraging each technique's advantages and minimizing its drawbacks, the hybrid method produces analytics solutions that are more reliable and scalable. The efficacy of these mixed approaches is shown by case studies and experimental findings in a number of industries, such as social media, healthcare, and finance. The results highlight how hybrid machine learning techniques can improve big data analytics and provide a path forward for further study and real-world implementations in this developing area.

Keywords: Hybrid Approaches, Big Data Analytics, Machine Learning Techniques, Predictive Modeling, Anomaly Detection, Pattern Recognition, Supervised Learning, Unsupervised Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Data Integration, Scalable Solutions, Data-driven Insights, Computational Efficiency, Model Accuracy, Data Mining

Digital Media: Influencing Society, Culture, and Communication in the Digital Era

Abstract

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In the current world, digital media has become a potent and revolutionary force that is changing society, culture, and communication. Digital media, made possible by technology breakthroughs, provides real-time communication and interactivity across geographic borders. This abstract examines the development, significance, difficulties, and potential of digital media, illuminating how it has shaped our digital era and how people interact with information, entertainment, and one another. In the highly technologically advanced world of today, digital media has completely changed how information is created, shared, and consumed. An overview of digital media, its development, and its profound effects on communication, culture, and society are given in this abstract. Digital media has changed how we communicate, learn, and express ourselves, from the advent of the internet to the growth of social media platforms. With an emphasis on its function as a catalyst for innovation, cross-cultural interaction, and the democratization of knowledge in the digital age, this abstract provides insights into the many facets of digital media.

Keywords: Digital media; Communication; Culture; Technology; Interactivity; Information; Entertainment

Technology, Digital Media, and Cultural Transformation

Abstract

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Technology and digital media have become an important part of our everyday lives. From smartphones and social media to online learning and digital payments, technology has changed the way people think, communicate, and live. This transformation is not only technical but also cultural, as it influences our values, habits, relationships, and identity. Digital media allows people to share ideas, express opinions, and connect with others across the world within seconds. It has made information more accessible and has given a voice to individuals and communities who were earlier unheard. However, this cultural transformation also brings challenges. Overuse of digital media can reduce face-to-face interaction, affect mental health, and spread misinformation. Traditional cultures and practices may change or weaken as digital lifestyles grow stronger. At the same time, technology helps preserve culture through digital archives, online storytelling, and global cultural exchange. This study explores how technology and digital media shape modern culture, both positively and negatively. It highlights the need for balanced and responsible use of digital tools so that cultural values, human connections, and ethical practices are not lost.

Keywords: Technology; Digital Media; Cultural Transformation; Globalization; Digital Culture; Social Change; Media Influence; Identity Formation; Virtual Communication; Information Society; Technological Innovation; Network Society.

Heritage Education as A Tool for Value Education

Abstract

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Heritage education plays a vital role in preserving cultural identity and transmitting essential values to the younger generation. In the present age of globalization and modernization, there is an increasing need to strengthen value education within the formal education system. Heritage education, which includes the study of historical monuments, traditions, customs, arts, folklore, and cultural practices, serves as an effective tool for inculcating moral, social, cultural, and civic values among learners. The present study aims to examine heritage education as a tool for value education and to analyze its role in promoting values such as respect, tolerance, responsibility, national integration, and social harmony. The study adopts a descriptive research design to investigate the awareness and perceptions of students and teachers regarding the contribution of heritage education to value formation. Data are collected using appropriate research tools such as questionnaires and interviews and analyzed through suitable statistical techniques. The findings of the study are expected to reveal that heritage education significantly contributes to the development of ethical behavior, cultural awareness, and a sense of belonging among students. The study concludes that the integration of heritage education into the school curriculum can strengthen value education and support the holistic development of learners. The study also emphasizes the need for educators and curriculum planners to incorporate heritage-based learning approaches to nurture value-oriented citizens and ensure the preservation of cultural heritage for future generations.

Keywords: Heritage Education, Value Education, Cultural Heritage, Moral Values, Social Values, Citizenship Education

Reimagining Cultural Heritage: Digital Humanities and Archival Innovations

Abstract

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Digital technologies have reshaped how cultural heritage is preserved, accessed, and analyzed. Digital Humanities (DH) integrates computational methods such as text mining, data visualization, network analysis, and digital editions to expand traditional humanities research (Schreibman, Siemens, & Unsworth, 2016). In parallel, archival institutions have adopted innovations including high-resolution digitization, standardized metadata frameworks (e.g., Dublin Core), digital repositories, and linked open data to support long-term preservation and global access to cultural collections (Gilliland, 2016). Recent developments in artificial intelligence have improved optical character recognition (OCR), handwriting recognition, and automated classification, enabling large-scale processing of archival materials (Terras, Nyhan, & Vanhoutte, 2013). While these innovations democratize access and enhance analytical capacity, they introduce challenges related to sustainability, technological obsolescence, copyright, privacy, and representational bias. This paper argues that the integration of Digital Humanities methodologies with archival innovations significantly strengthens humanities research, provided that long-term preservation strategies and ethical governance frameworks are implemented to ensure equitable and sustainable access to cultural heritage.

Keywords: Digital Humanities; Archival Innovation; Digitization; Metadata; Digital Preservation; Cultural Heritage.

Historical and Archaeological Analysis of Living Heritage and Ancient Water Management Tradition: A Study of Chiryai Muttal Bowli Complex

Abstract

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Bowlis is a reservoir in which natural water can be stored. In Hindi, these reservoirs are known as Bowlis, in dogri called as “Baan” and in English, these are “step-well”. As the English name suggests, it has a series of steps which lead down to the ground level where the water is stored. These steps enabled accessibility to reach down to water especially during summers when the water level went down. In India, Bowlis are mainly found in the arid north-western region, where we usually observed the scarcity of water. Numerous tanks and Bowlis were commissioned by the ruling clans in such areas in which water was collected mainly during the rainy season and was then used throughout the year by the inhabitants. Different household purposes such as collecting drinking water, bathing, washing in general were the basic routines. Most of the Bowlis were intently constructed close to the temples and human settlements. Occasionally, rituals and ceremonies are also performed near Bowlis. From time to time, daily adorations which include prayers and offerings of water and flowers are also performed around them. People washed and bathed before daily prayers and made their offerings here. Thus, these Bowlis are not mere water reservoirs, these are adorned with illustrative architectural originality, shared identity, and represents a rich legacy of spiritual and cultural traditions. In this paper, an initiative is taken to bring to forefront a spectacular complex of Bowlis situated in village Chiryai, tehsil Tikri, district Udhampur, J&K, which is facing neglect due to modernization in water supply techniques and lack of awareness of the native of the region. Situated in the foot hills of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine, Katra, the site can be developed as an attractive tourist place. The unique arrangement of Bowlis and water management describing the ancient history, architecture, culture, traditions and technology of water harvesting of former days. Therefore, this paper brings to light the historical and archaeological importance of the Bowlis and their present conditions facing the wrath of time and management. It is high time to take necessary action for the conservation and restoration of Chiryai Muttal Bowli complex keeping in mind the sanctity of the site. This paper is based on my personal field visit organized by our Heritage Club of Department of History, School of Social Sciences, Cluster University of Jammu as Out-reach program held during World Heritage Week Celebration

Keywords: History, Archaeology, Culture, Tradition, Conservation, Restoration, Tourism

The Past Lives in Us: Psychological Impact of Historical Trauma on the Modern Mind

Abstract

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Historical trauma refers to the shared psychological experiences linked with major historical events that continue to be remembered across generations. In the present context, history and heritage are not only records of the past but also influence the way individuals think and feel today. This study explores the psychological impact of historical trauma on the modern mind. A descriptive research design was used. The sample consisted of 40 young adults between 18 and 25 years of age, selected through convenience sampling from a college setting. Data were collected using a self-prepared questionnaire focusing on awareness of historical events, emotional reactions to historical narratives, and perceptions regarding the influence of the past on personal identity and emotional well-being. The findings indicated that participants often experienced emotions such as sadness, fear, pride, and empathy while engaging with historical narratives. Many participants felt that historical experiences continue to shape their values, attitudes, and sense of identity in the present. The study highlights the continuing psychological relevance of historical trauma and suggests the need for greater awareness and sensitive engagement with history and heritage in the 21st century.

Keywords: Historical trauma, collective memory, psychological impact, heritage, identity.

Digital Humanities and Archival Innovations Related to Psychology

Abstract

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The field of digital humanities has provided researchers with new opportunities to reshape traditional archival practice by integrating technological and humanistic-based disciplines. Archival innovation, as a significant factor that contributes to large-scale storage and management of both qualitative and quantitative types of research data, plays a significant role within the area of psychology when managing the tremendous amount of research data generated from experimental studies, clinical records, interviews, and observational studies. Providing resources for managing and maintaining digital archives enhances researchers' ability to efficiently preserve, access, and ethically manage data generated by psychological research, enabling researchers to collaboratively engage with one another across disciplines including psychology, the information sciences, and digital humanities. The current study seeks to assess how digital humanities and archival innovation enhance researchers' ability to engage in new research practices in psychology. The intent of the study is to assess how digital technologies enhance the organization, analysis, and long-term preservation of psychological research data while maintaining the standards of integrity and ethical principles set forth for the conduct of scientific research. A mixed-methods approach was used to conduct this study by including both qualitative and quantitative methodologies. A total of 50 to 60 participants ($n = 50-60$), including psychology students, academic researchers, and archival professionals, were purposefully selected for participation in the study. Quantitative data were collected from participants via structured questionnaires relating to participants' awareness, use, and perceived effectiveness of digital archival systems. Qualitative data were collected from participants via semi-structured interviews exploring their experiences with, challenges related to, and expectations for digital archives in the field of psychology. Descriptive statistical methods were applied to analyze the quantitative data collected on the adoption and perceived benefits of using digital archival tools; the qualitative data were analyzed through a thematic method of analysis, using this method to provide a more in-depth analysis of the narratives that emerged from the qualitative data relating to the areas of innovation, ethical concerns, data security, and accessibility.

Keywords: Digital humanities, archival innovation, psychological research data management, digital archives, interdisciplinary collaboration, and research ethics.

Reality Heritage Sites' Influence on Learning and Memory in Students

Abstract

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Virtual Reality (VR) is changing the game for history and culture. Instead of just reading about the past, students can now step inside it. This study looks at how walking through a VR-recreated heritage site actually changes the way students learn and remember what they have seen. By swapping textbooks for immersive, 3D simulations of ancient monuments and dig sites, VR gives students a front row seat to history that a traditional classroom simply can't match. We have found that this hands on approach does more than just grab a student's attention it boosts their motivation and helps them process complex information more deeply. The heart of this research explores experiential learning. When a student visits a site virtually, they form an emotional and spatial connection to the material. This sensory rich experience acts as a powerful memory trigger, making it much easier to recall facts in both the short and long term. By tapping into the psychological power of presence and emotion, VR transforms passive observers into active participants. Ultimately, these findings suggest that technology-driven experiences aren't just a cool classroom add-on; they are essential tools for building cultural empathy and improving academic success in the modern age. The main aim of this research is to examine how Virtual Reality (VR) heritage site experiences influence students' learning and memory retention.

Key Words: Virtual Reality (VR), Heritage Education, Learning Outcomes, Memory Retention, Experiential Learning

Reality Heritage Sites' Influence on Learning and Memory in Students

Abstract

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The main aim of this study is to understand how technology and digital media contribute to cultural transformation in contemporary society. Technology plays a very important role in modern society and has brought significant changes in culture and everyday life. The growth of digital media, such as social media platforms, smartphones, online news, streaming services, and digital communication tools, has changed the way people interact, share information, and express themselves. Today, communication happens quickly and easily across long distances, allowing people from different cultural backgrounds to connect with each other. As a result, culture is no longer limited to a particular place but has become more global and interactive. Digital media has also transformed cultural practices such as art, music, literature, films, and entertainment. Traditional forms of culture are now combined with digital technology, creating new ways of cultural expression. People are not only consumers of culture but also active creators who share their ideas, creativity, and identities through digital platforms. This has encouraged greater participation, creativity, and cultural diversity in society.

While digital media offers many advantages, such as easy access to information and greater cultural exchange, it also creates challenges like digital inequality, privacy concerns, and excessive dependence on technology. In conclusion, technology and digital media act as powerful forces in transforming culture by reshaping social values, relationships, and cultural experiences in the digital age.

Keywords: - Digital Media, Technological Change, Cultural Transformation and Social Interaction

Bridging the Past and Future: Strategies for Community Engagement, Education, and Digital Innovation in Heritage Awareness

Abstract

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This paper examines the role of community engagement and education in enhancing heritage awareness and supporting the sustainable preservation of cultural heritage. As cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, faces increasing threats from urbanization, modernization, and changing social values, the study aims to identify inclusive approaches that strengthen public participation and awareness in heritage conservation. The study is situated within community settings, educational institutions, museums, and public history initiatives where heritage-related activities are actively practiced. It focuses on the involvement of local communities, students, educators, and heritage professionals in conservation and awareness programmes. A qualitative research design is employed, based on the analysis of secondary data drawn from scholarly literature, policy documents, official reports, and selected case studies. The study does not involve experimental treatment; rather, it critically examines existing models of community participation, heritage education, and outreach practices. The findings reveal that heritage management is more effective when it shifts from top-down institutional control to participatory, community-driven approaches that foster local ownership and responsibility. The integration of heritage education into formal curricula enhances cultural awareness, civic responsibility, and critical thinking among learners. Furthermore, museums and public history institutions play a significant role in expanding heritage awareness by engaging diverse audiences through outreach initiatives and inclusive programming. The study contributes to heritage studies literature by highlighting the importance of combining community engagement and educational strategies for sustainable heritage conservation. The findings offer practical implications for policymakers, educators, and heritage practitioners seeking to promote inclusive and long-term heritage awareness.

Keywords: Community Engagement, Heritage Education, Heritage Awareness, Cultural Heritage, Sustainable Conservation

Smart Cities and Contemporary Challenges: An Indian Smart City Perspective

Abstract

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The Smart City Mission in India aims to promote sustainable urban development through the integration of advanced technologies, efficient infrastructure, and improved governance systems. However, many Indian smart cities are historically layered urban settlements where heritage buildings, archaeological sites, and traditional urban fabrics coexist with rapid modernization. This paper examines the contemporary challenges of integrating heritage conservation within the Smart City framework, using an Indian Smart City as a case study. The study explores how urban planning tools such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), digital heritage mapping, smart mobility planning, and e-governance platforms can support heritage-sensitive urban development. It identifies key challenges including infrastructure-led redevelopment, increased land values, pressure on historic precincts, inadequate buffer zones, and limited coordination between heritage authorities and smart city agencies. The research highlights how smart interventions, when applied without heritage impact assessments, can result in irreversible damage to cultural assets. Through analysis of planning policies, development control regulations, and on-ground interventions, the paper emphasizes the need for integrated planning approaches that treat heritage as an asset rather than an obstacle to development. Community participation, adaptive reuse of heritage structures, and context-sensitive urban design are identified as crucial strategies. The study concludes that Indian smart cities must adopt a culturally responsive planning model, where technological innovation is aligned with heritage conservation, ensuring sustainable and inclusive urban development in the 21st century.

Climate Change, Risk Management and Heritage Protection

Abstract

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The aim of this study is to examine the impact of climate change on cultural and natural heritage and to understand the importance of risk management in protecting heritage sites from climate-related threats. Climate change is becoming a serious threat to cultural and natural heritage around the world. Changes in climate, such as rising temperatures, heavy rainfall, floods, sea-level rise, and extreme weather events, are causing damage to historic buildings, monuments, archaeological sites, and natural heritage areas. These heritage sites are important because they represent history, culture, traditions, and the identity of communities. When they are damaged or lost, it affects not only the structures but also the people connected to them.

Risk management plays a key role in protecting heritage from the impacts of climate change. It involves identifying possible risks, understanding how climate-related hazards affect heritage sites, and taking preventive and adaptive measures to reduce damage. This includes proper planning, regular monitoring, use of scientific tools, strong policies, and involvement of local communities. Traditional knowledge and modern technology together can help in making heritage protection more effective. This study focuses on understanding how climate change increases risks to heritage and how proper risk management strategies can help in protecting and preserving these valuable assets for future generations. It emphasizes the need for long-term planning and sustainable conservation methods rather than only reacting after damage has already occurred.

Keywords: Climate Change, Risk Management, Heritage Protection, Sustainable Conservation

Christian Historical Heritage of Telangana: An Exploratory Study

Abstract

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The Christian historical heritage of Telangana is a valuable yet insufficiently examined dimension of the region's archival past. This exploratory study investigates the archaeological and archival evidence associated with the presence and development of Christianity in Telangana from the early modern period onward. This study is also based upon church inscriptions, burial sites, architectural remains, missionary correspondences, and diocesan archives to reconstruct patterns of Christian settlement and institutional growth. Four main churches in Telangana have been chosen to make this study appropriately interesting. The analysis is based on the spatial distribution of churches, schools, and mission establishments, as well as the adaptation of Christian architectural forms within Telangana building traditions. The findings suggest that Christian heritage in Telangana is embedded within the region's physical landscape, and the documentary record reflects processes based on cultural negotiation and not on cultural replacement as such. This study contributes to a more detailed and evidence-based understanding of Telangana religious history and highlights the urgent need for systematic documentation and preservation of Christian archaeological heritage in South India.

Keywords: Christian heritage, Telangana archaeology, Church archives, Religious History

Balancing Tourism and Heritage Conservation at Surajkund

Abstract

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Surajkund, located in Faridabad, Haryana, is a historically significant heritage site built in the 10th century by King Surajpal of the Tomar dynasty. Originally constructed as a rainwater harvesting reservoir, Surajkund reflects the advanced understanding of water management and stone construction in early Indian architecture. Today, it is internationally known for hosting the Surajkund International Crafts Mela, which attracts large numbers of tourists every year. This popularity makes it essential to balance tourism development with heritage conservation. Tourism plays an important role in promoting Surajkund's cultural value and generating economic benefits for local communities. The annual Crafts Mela provides a platform for artisans from across India to showcase traditional crafts, folk art, and regional cuisine. Tourism also increases public awareness about the historical and cultural importance of the site. However, excessive footfall, temporary constructions, and waste generation during peak tourist seasons pose serious threats to the fragile heritage structure of the stepped reservoir and its surrounding landscape. To address these challenges, various conservation-oriented strategies are adopted at Surajkund. Controlled visitor entry and regulated movement help reduce physical stress on the historic steps and retaining walls. Temporary and lightweight structures made of bamboo, fabric, and other eco-friendly materials are used during the mela to avoid permanent alterations to the site. Strict guidelines related to cleanliness, plastic bans, and waste segregation are enforced to minimize environmental impact. Modern tourism technology further supports heritage conservation. Online ticketing and digital registration systems help manage crowd density, while CCTV surveillance assists in monitoring visitor behavior and site safety. Digital platforms and information boards educate visitors about the historical significance of Surajkund and encourage responsible tourism practices. Conservation and maintenance works focus on using traditional materials and techniques to preserve the original character of the monument. Community participation is also a key element in balancing tourism and conservation. Local residents, artisans, and vendors benefit economically from tourism, which creates a sense of ownership and responsibility toward the site's protection.

Keywords: Surajkund, heritage conservation, sustainable tourism, community participation, eco-friendly event management, and cultural heritage preservation.

From Monuments to Media: The Psychological Impact of Digital Heritage Consumption on Cultural Awareness

Abstract

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The rise of digital media has appreciably transformed how cultural heritage is reached and understood in the 21st century. Historical monuments, traditions, and narratives are increasingly encountered through social media platforms, virtual tours, and short-form video content rather than through direct physical engagement. While this shift has improved attainability, it has also altered the psychological processes involved in remembering, attributing meaning, and identifying with the past. This review examines the psychological impact of digital heritage consumption on cultural awareness, drawing upon theories of collective memory, social identity, and narrative identity. Collective memory theory suggests that shared understandings of history are socially constructed (Halbwachs, 1992). In digital spaces, platform recommendations engine and viral trends influence which narratives are enhanced, shaping public memory in selective ways. Repeated exposure to simplified or emotionally engaging content may increase familiarity and perceived accuracy, often without deep understanding (Kahneman, 2011). Social Identity Theory further explains how heritage narratives strengthen group belonging and self-concept (Tajfel & Turner, 1979), although digital echo chambers may also reinforce polarized interpretations of history. Additionally, narrative identity theory highlights how individuals integrate cultural stories into their personal identities (McAdams, 2001), a process that may be affected by incoherent digital storytelling. Overall, digital heritage consumption offers both opportunities and challenges. While it reduces barriers to access and increases engagement, it may also encourage superficial understanding. Promoting critical digital literacy is essential to foster deeper cultural awareness in today's social context.

Keywords: Digital Heritage; Collective Memory; Social Identity; Cultural Awareness; Narrative Identity

Women and heritage conversation: Invisible contribution to cultural preservation

Abstract

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The aim of the study is to understand and highlight the role of women in heritage conservation, especially their contribution to preserving tangible and intangible cultural heritage, and to examine the challenges they face due to lack of recognition and exclusion from decision-making processes. The study follows a qualitative research design. This design is appropriate because the research focuses on women's lived experiences, stories, roles, and meanings related to heritage preservation rather than numerical data or measurements. Women's contributions were learned about through interviews, group talks, and story analysis. This helped people understand what women do in their lives. Women have always been important to keeping our heritage alive. They are not often recognized for what they do. Women are the ones who usually make sure that traditional knowledge and customs are not out of mind. They keep the stories and legends of their communities alive by passing them down to their children and grandchildren. Even though women do much to keep our heritage alive, their work is often not seen or recognized by the people who make decisions about how to preserve our heritage. Women's contributions are often overlooked in the institutions that are supposed to protect our heritage. When we talk about saving our heritage, people usually think about buildings and museums. Women play a role in passing down stories, making traditional art, and teaching children about our customs. Often their work is not recognized as important. Women's roles in saving our heritage are very important. This study will try to understand what they do and how they do it.

Keywords: women, heritage conservation, cultural preservation, qualitative research, gender and culture

Built Heritage under Pressure: Conflict, Urban Transformation, and Cultural Loss in Agra, India

Abstract

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Historic Indian cities are increasingly shaped by tensions between heritage conservation, urban development, and socio-political contestations. Agra, internationally recognized for its Mughal-era monuments, exemplifies how built heritage is placed under sustained pressure from rapid urbanization, tourism-driven development, infrastructural expansion, and regulatory fragmentation. This paper examines the nature and impacts of heritage conflict in Agra and its implications for cultural loss within the urban fabric. Adopting a case-study methodology, the research integrates spatial analysis, planning policy review, field observations, and stakeholder narratives to identify key conflict zones between conservation imperatives and contemporary urban demands. The study reveals that heritage conflict in Agra extends beyond monument precincts to encompass historic neighborhoods, cultural landscapes, and everyday heritage practices, often resulting in incremental erosion of cultural identity rather than overt physical destruction. Planning instruments and conservation regulations, while present, are shown to operate in silos, inadequately addressing lived heritage and community relationships with historic spaces. The findings highlight the limitations of monument-centric preservation approaches and emphasize the need for integrated planning frameworks that reconcile development pressures with heritage values. By situating architectural heritage within broader urban and socio-cultural systems, the paper contributes to ongoing discourse on heritage-led planning in Indian cities. The study argues for context-responsive, participatory, and spatially sensitive strategies to mitigate cultural loss and ensure the sustainable coexistence of heritage and urban transformation.

Keywords: Built heritage, heritage conflict, cultural loss, urban transformation, Agra, India

A Psychological Review of Attitudes, Motivation, and the Role of Social Media in Heritage Conservation

Abstract

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Heritage conservation involves more than just preserving monuments and artefacts. It also focuses on building public awareness, encouraging positive attitudes, and inspiring action related to cultural heritage. This psychological review examines how attitudes and motivation affect individuals' involvement in heritage conservation, and how social media can connect awareness with action. Attitudes include cognitive, emotional, and behavioural aspects that influence how willing people are to join conservation efforts. Motivation, which can be intrinsic, like personal interest or cultural pride, or extrinsic, such as recognition or social approval, fuels continued engagement. While raising awareness is important, research indicates that knowledge alone rarely leads to action. To create change, a mix of positive attitudes, motivated behaviour, and supportive social environments is essential. Social media serves as a strong tool to improve engagement by sharing information, providing interactive experiences, and fostering community identity around heritage issues. Psychological theories like the Theory of Planned Behaviour and Self-Determination Theory clarify how awareness can turn into action when people feel capable, independent, and connected. This review emphasizes the need to design social media campaigns that build emotional connections, encourage involvement, and reinforce motivated behaviour. Ultimately, linking awareness to action depends on understanding the psychological factors that drive human behaviour and using modern communication tools to encourage shared responsibility in heritage conservation.

Keywords: Attitudes, motivation, awareness versus action, role of social media, psychological theories applied, practical implications.

Defence Mechanisms, Perceived Stress, and Emotional Regulation: A Quantitative Analysis

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Abstract

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Defense mechanisms play a crucial role in psychological adaptation, influencing perceived stress and emotional regulation. This study examines the relationships among mature defense mechanisms (MDS), immature defense mechanisms (IMDS), neurotic defense mechanisms (NDS), perceived stress (PSS), and emotional regulation (ER) using correlational and regression analyses. A sample of 45 participants was assessed using standardized measures for these psychological constructs. Correlation analyses revealed significant positive associations between IMDS and NDS ($r = .556, p < .01$), as well as between NDS and PSS ($r = .280, p = .062$). However, MDS was not significantly correlated with PSS ($r = -.208, p = .171$) or ER ($r = .029, p = .850$). Regression analyses indicated that defense mechanisms accounted for 12.4% of the variance in PSS ($R^2 = .124, F(3,41) = 1.939, p = .138$) and 3.9% of the variance in ER ($R^2 = .039, F(3,41) = .549, p = .652$). Although the models were not statistically significant, individual predictors showed notable effects, with NDS emerging as a marginally significant predictor of PSS ($\beta = .341, p = .060$). These findings suggest that different defense mechanisms contribute uniquely to perceived stress and emotional regulation, with neurotic defense mechanisms playing a potentially significant role in stress perception. Future research should explore these relationships in larger samples and consider additional psychological factors such as coping strategies and resilience.

Keywords: Defense Mechanisms, Perceived Stress, Emotional Regulation.

Climate change and environmental threats to cultural heritage

Abstract

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Climate change and environmental threats are increasingly endangering cultural heritage worldwide. Cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, represents the historical, social, and cultural identity of communities and nations, making its protection a global priority. Environmental changes such as rising temperatures, sea-level rise, flooding, coastal erosion, wildfires, and fluctuations in humidity are accelerating the deterioration of monuments, archaeological sites, historic buildings, and cultural landscapes. These climate-related factors weaken construction materials, encourage biological growth, and increase the risk of irreversible damage, particularly in environmentally vulnerable regions.

Local communities and individuals play a crucial role in safeguarding cultural heritage against climate-related threats. Public awareness, sustainable tourism practices, reduction of carbon emissions, community participation in conservation programs, and the application of traditional knowledge systems can significantly strengthen preservation efforts. Community-based conservation approaches enhance resilience and support culturally appropriate adaptation strategies.

Efforts to mitigate climate impacts on cultural heritage offer several advantages, including increased global awareness, advancements in conservation technology, and improved collaboration between heritage experts and environmental scientists. However, significant challenges remain, such as financial constraints, limited technical expertise, unequal levels of protection across regions, and the risk of compromising authenticity through excessive intervention.

Protecting cultural heritage in the context of climate change requires integrated, sustainable, and inclusive strategies that balance environmental responsibility with conservation needs. Long-term preservation depends on coordinated action among governments, conservation professionals, and local communities to safeguard heritage resources for future generations.

Keywords: Climate Change, Cultural Heritage, Environmental Degradation, Heritage Conservation, Sustainable Preservation

The Psychological Power of the Past: How History Shapes Beliefs, Identity, and Behaviour

Abstract

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History, while not referring to past events described in academic literature, is also not limited to having an inactive role in the belief system of people, as it has significant psychological effects on the identity of individuals in society. Therefore, the main purpose of this study is to explore the role of history as an active element in creating belief systems in the minds of people and in creating identity in general. The major aim of this review is to seek an understanding of the impact of historical events and/or narratives on various psychological constructs such as attitudes, values, social identity, behaviour, etc. While conventional approaches to studying history have been based on the acquisition of historical facts, the major intent of this review has been to assess the impact of history on psychological constructs via various mechanisms such as memory, transmission, social identity, generations, etc., thereby attempting to bridge the gap between history and behaviour. This study adopts a qualitative narrative review approach, informed by secondary data from peer-reviewed psychological, social, and interdisciplinary literature. Reference material was sourced through various academic databases like Google Scholar and JSTOR. Second, a review of published qualitative case studies was conducted to highlight the long-term psychological impacts of major historical experiences on persons and communities. The identified literature was thematically and interpretatively analyzed to ascertain regular psychological themes that connect history with beliefs, identity, and behaviour. The findings suggest that history plays a significant role in the formation of moral values, social attitudes, group identity, and behavioural responses. Historical narratives serve as psychological schemata through which individuals interpret current realities and meaning.

Keywords: History and psychology, collective memory, identity formation, beliefs, human behaviour

Scrolling The Past: The role of Digital Media and Cultural Spaces in constructing Historical Awareness among Youth

Abstract

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"History has a vital importance in shaping identities, ideologies, and memory." In the context of the modern digital era, there is a need to focus on the values of youths by using social media in relation to history, including textbooks and museum sources. In this study, a qualitative narrative review was conducted in relation to the importance of different forms of history representation in understanding the past among youths.

The authors of the review have attempted to synthesize the existing literature on the subject from the domains of psychology, education, media studies, and cultural history by relying on peer-reviewed literature search engines such as Google Scholar and JSTOR. Selected studies were analyzed thematically to identify recurring patterns of engagement, emotional involvement, authenticity, framing, and making related to historical learning.

Findings from the literature reviewed denote that in social media, history is made more present through visually appealing, short, and emotionally appealing formats, which make it more accessible and immediately engaging for youth. Yet they are often prompt, simplistic interpretations of historical events. Traditional textbooks are found to support structured and factual understanding but may lack emotional resonance and personal relevance for learners.

Taken together, the results of these studies indicate that the medium is as crucial to historical understanding as its content. This review underlines how integrating digital media into more conventional and experience-based learning methods can help provide young people with critical, meaningful, and psychologically informed ways of thinking about history.

Keywords: Social media and history, youth, museums, collective memory, identity formation

Virtual Technology and Heritage Conservation

Abstract

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Virtual technology is redefining the landscape of heritage conservation by bridging the gap between physical preservation and digital innovation. As tangible heritage sites face increasing threats from urbanization, environmental degradation, and tourism pressures, the adoption of digital tools offers a sustainable alternative to documentation, analysis, and dissemination. This paper explores the role of emerging virtual technologies—such as 3D laser scanning, photogrammetry, Building Information Modelling (BIM), and immersive visualization—in conserving and interpreting cultural heritage assets. These technologies enable the accurate recreation of historical environments, facilitate virtual tourism, and provide long-term digital archives that mitigate risks associated with material decay or disaster. By integrating spatial data with interpretive narratives, virtual heritage not only enhances public engagement but also supports multidisciplinary collaboration among architects, archaeologists, planners, and conservation experts. Furthermore, the study discusses challenges related to data interoperability, authenticity, and ethical representation in digital reconstruction processes. The paper concludes that virtual technology extends the traditional boundaries of conservation practice, transforming heritage from a static relic into a dynamic cultural experience that ensures accessibility, education, and continuity for future generations. The research underscores the need for standardized frameworks and interdisciplinary policy integration to maximize the conservation potential of virtual technologies.

Keywords: Virtual heritage, digital conservation, 3D documentation, BIM, cultural heritage management

The Cosmopolitan Cure: The Globalization of Ayurvedic and Unani Medicine in Early Modern Cities

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Abstract

The Indian subcontinent became a global center for medical innovation between the 14th and 17th centuries, thanks to the growth of cities and trade across the Atlantic Ocean. This book talks about the history and archaeology of healthcare during this time of change. It says that the medieval Indian city was more than just a place to do business; it was also a lively "contact zone" for medical knowledge. Crucially, it states that pre-modern globalization was a double-edged sword: the same maritime routes that brought novel infections and epidemics to Indian ports also enabled the introduction of medical expertise needed to combat them.

Moving beyond a purely structural analysis of ruins, this volume focuses on the intellectual heritage of health: the dynamic encounter between indigenous Ayurvedic traditions and the incoming Unani-Tibb (Greco-Islamic) systems. Through an examination of translated medical manuscripts (such as the Tibb-e-Aurangzebi and Materia Medica), court chronicles, and archaeobotanical evidence, the text traces how this biological pressure fueled a "medical syncretism." It demonstrates how the trade of specific medicinal commodities—from Persian rosewater to Indian spices—created a shared language of healing that bridged cultural divides.

The chapters investigate how this synthesized medical knowledge was operationalized in the growing urban centers of the Delhi Sultanate and the Mughal Empire to address these new public health challenges. In addition, this work defines pre-modern India's medical interchange as a pioneering instance of global health governance, providing crucial insights into how legacy preserves human survival and adaptation.

Climate change and environmental threats to cultural heritage

Abstract

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Climate change has emerged as a significant threat to India's rich cultural heritage, accelerating the deterioration of historic monuments through rising temperatures, air pollution, extreme weather events, and sea-level rise. Environmental stressors such as acid rain, humidity, and thermal fluctuations have caused physical and chemical damage to several heritage structures. Iconic monuments such as the Taj Mahal and the Red Fort are increasingly affected by air pollution, resulting in discoloration and surface erosion. Heavy monsoon rainfall and flooding have weakened structural stability in sites such as Jaisalmer Fort, while temperature variations and high humidity promote microbial growth and material cracking in stone and wooden structures. Coastal erosion and rising sea levels pose long-term risks to archaeological and coastal heritage sites, while salt crystallization and moisture damage threaten intricate carvings at Khajuraho Group of Monuments.

Several monuments including Humayun's Tomb, Iron Pillar of Delhi, and the Lotus Temple face increasing environmental stress due to pollution and moisture infiltration. To address these challenges, agencies such as the Archaeological Survey of India and Indian Space Research Organisation have implemented climate-monitoring technologies, including Automated Weather Stations, to assess environmental impacts on monuments. Pollution-control laboratories monitor air quality around vulnerable sites such as the Taj Mahal and Bibi Ka Maqbara, while the National Disaster Management Authority has developed disaster-management guidelines for heritage protection. The study emphasizes the need for integrated conservation strategies combining scientific monitoring, environmental management, and policy intervention to safeguard India's cultural heritage from climate-related risks.

Keywords: Climate change and cultural heritage, Heritage conservation in India, Air pollution and monuments, Environmental degradation of monuments, Extreme weather and heritage sites, Sea-level rise and coastal heritage

Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Challenges

Abstract

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This research paper investigates the multifaceted pressures facing global cultural heritage in the 21st century, examining the intersection of systemic threats and evolving preservation paradigms. As globalization and rapid urbanization accelerate, traditional cultural identities face unprecedented risks of homogenization and physical displacement, necessitating a shift toward adaptive reuse and localized identity resilience. Simultaneously, the escalating climate crisis presents an existential threat, where rising sea levels and extreme weather patterns demand innovative, heritage-led climate adaptation strategies.

The study further analyzes the role of heritage in zones of armed conflict, where the deliberate destruction of monuments serves as a tactic of cultural erasure, highlighting the urgent need for international protective frameworks and digital archiving. Central to this discourse is the dual role of technology and digital media; while these tools facilitate virtual accessibility and "digital twins" of at-risk sites, they also introduce complex questions regarding data sovereignty and the digital divide. Finally, the paper argues for a critical transition from top-down conservation models to inclusive heritage practices. By centering community engagement ethics and prioritizing intangible heritage, the research concludes that sustainable preservation is only achievable when local populations are empowered as the primary custodians of their own narratives. This holistic approach ensures that heritage remains a dynamic driver of social cohesion and sustainable development in an increasingly volatile global landscape.

Heritage Conservation, Preservation Policies and Sustainable Management

Abstract

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Heritage conservation has progressively evolved from a limited focus on protection and restoration to a holistic and integrated framework that embraces cultural, social, environmental, and economic dimensions of sustainability. This paper examines contemporary conservation theories and practices alongside indigenous knowledge systems, emphasizing their critical role in safeguarding the authenticity, integrity, and continuity of heritage resources. It reviews existing heritage laws, policies, and institutional frameworks, highlighting the need for adaptive, inclusive, and responsive governance mechanisms to address the pressures of rapid urbanization and developmental change.

The study further explores sustainable heritage management approaches that place community participation at the core of conservation strategies. Local communities are increasingly recognized as primary stakeholders and custodians of heritage, whose traditional knowledge, skills, and cultural practices contribute significantly to long-term preservation and management. Active community involvement in planning and decision-making processes enhances social equity, strengthens cultural identity, and ensures equitable sharing of economic benefits derived from heritage resources.

Climate change presents emerging and complex risks to both tangible and intangible heritage, including material deterioration, disruption of traditional livelihoods, and heightened exposure to natural hazards. This paper discusses risk management frameworks and resilience-based strategies that integrate climate adaptation and disaster preparedness into heritage protection policies. Additionally, the role of tourism and digital technologies is analyzed in the context of sustainable use of heritage assets. While tourism can support conservation through economic incentives, unregulated growth may threaten heritage values. Therefore, technology-enabled documentation, monitoring, interpretation, and visitor management systems are essential to balance conservation objectives with sustainable development.

Keywords: Heritage Conservation, Sustainable Management, Indigenous Knowledge, Community Participation, Climate Change

Mind, Culture, and Conservation: Psychological Insights into Heritage Management

Abstract

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In India, the relationship between heritage conservation and culture is a challenging one. This research investigates how we can preserve the nation's cultural heritage and sustainably manage those resources using a psychological approach by analysing the impact of individual/collective cognition, identity, memory, and emotion on the outcome of heritage conservation.

This study will explore four themes of research using anthropology and geography as they relate to both traditions and to preservation. It will first describe, using conservation theory and methods, how indigenous knowledge systems within India's living heritage traditions (sacred landscapes, oral histories, rituals, and vernacular architecture) shape community attitudes toward preservation and provide stewardship to their communities. It will then critically assess India's legal and institutional frameworks (national heritage laws and local governance) that act as psychological regulators impacting how people perceive, comply with, and share collective responsibility for preserving their heritage. Third, sustainable heritage management practices will be explored through community and environmental psychology to consider how participation, empowerment, sense of belonging, and pro-preservation behavior contribute to the long-term sustainability of cultural heritage. Lastly, this study will explore the modern-day challenges faced by Indian heritage (climate change, disaster risk, mass tourism, increased incidence of digital technologies) and their psychological impacts (stress, cultural dissonance, perceived risk, change in heritage engagement). Through the integration of psychological perspectives into conservation policy and practice, the results of this research illustrate the need for culturally responsive and community-based approaches to sustainable and resilient management of cultural heritage in India.

Keywords: Heritage Conservation, Cultural Heritage Management, Psychological Approaches to Heritage, Sustainable Heritage Practices, Community-Based Conservation.

Heritage Conservation, Preservation Policies, and Sustainable Management

Abstract

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Heritage conservation requires an integrated approach that combines conservation theories, legal frameworks, sustainable management practices, and technological innovation. Conservation principles emphasize authenticity, minimum intervention, and respect for original materials, while indigenous knowledge systems in India contribute significantly through traditional construction techniques such as lime mortar, stone masonry, and climate-responsive architecture. Effective preservation is supported by heritage laws, policies, and institutional mechanisms that regulate development and ensure protection of historic sites. Sustainable heritage management highlights the importance of community participation, where local stakeholders and artisans contribute to the long-term maintenance and cultural continuity of heritage resources. In the context of increasing environmental challenges, climate change and disaster risks necessitate preventive conservation and risk-management strategies to safeguard heritage structures. Furthermore, sustainable tourism and modern technologies such as digital documentation and GIS mapping enhance conservation efforts by improving monitoring and promoting responsible use of heritage resources. This integrated framework ensures the long-term protection, sustainability, and cultural relevance of heritage assets.

Keywords: Heritage Conservation, Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Sustainable Heritage Management, Climate Risk and Heritage, Heritage Tourism and Technology

Community Participation in Heritage Conservation and Management

Abstract

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Traditional strategies to history management have long favored a "pinnacle-down" methodology, often prioritizing expert-led conservation at the price of local narratives. This chapter demands situations that challenge that paradigm, arguing that network participation is not simply a moral choice but a purposeful necessity for the long-term survival of cultural assets. By way of moving the focus from the physical material of monuments to the residing values of those who reside close to them, we discover an extra resilient version for maintenance. The discussion explores the multifaceted roles of local stakeholders, ranging from grassroots advocacy and traditional craftsmanship to virtual crowdsourcing and community-led tourism. But the course to inclusion is fraught with challenges, along with socio-monetary disparities, conflicting stakeholder interests, and the bureaucratic inertia of institutional frameworks. Through an important evaluation of various international case studies, this bankruptcy identifies the limitations to meaningful engagement and proposes techniques for fostering collaborative governance.

On average, the bankruptcy asserts that after groups are empowered as number one custodians of their own history, history conservation evolves from a static preservation act right into a dynamic device for social brotherly love and sustainable improvement. Through integrating local expertise with scientific know-how, we can ensure that background stays a colorful, relevant part of the cutting-edge landscape.

Climate Change, Risk Management and Heritage Protection

Abstract

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Climate change poses an unprecedented threat to cultural and architectural heritage across the globe. Rising temperatures, increased frequency of extreme weather events, sea-level rise, flooding, and environmental degradation are accelerating the deterioration of historic monuments, archaeological sites, and traditional settlements. These heritage assets are not only symbols of identity and history but also contribute significantly to social cohesion and economic development through tourism and cultural continuity. The growing vulnerability of heritage structures demands an integrated risk management approach that combines scientific assessment, preventive conservation, and adaptive planning.

Effective risk management begins with systematic vulnerability assessments, climate modeling, and hazard mapping to identify sites at greatest risk. Preventive strategies such as improved drainage systems, climate-resilient materials, structural reinforcement, and digital documentation can significantly reduce potential losses. Additionally, policy frameworks must incorporate heritage protection into broader climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction strategies. Collaboration among governments, conservation experts, urban planners, engineers, and local communities is essential to ensure sustainable preservation efforts.

Technological innovations, including Geographic Information Systems (GIS), remote sensing, and digital archiving, play a crucial role in monitoring environmental impacts and supporting informed decision-making. Community engagement further strengthens resilience by integrating traditional knowledge with modern conservation practices. Ultimately, safeguarding heritage in the face of climate change requires proactive planning rather than reactive restoration.

By embedding heritage protection within climate resilience frameworks, societies can preserve cultural identity while adapting to environmental uncertainties. A strategic and interdisciplinary approach to risk management is essential to ensure that future generations inherit the tangible and intangible legacies of the past.

Keywords: Climate Change, Risk Management, Heritage Protection, Disaster Resilience, Sustainable Conservation

Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Challenges

Abstract

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This paper examines how globalization and rapid urbanisation reshape cultural identity and the stewardship of cultural heritage. It argues that economic integration, migration, and urban redevelopment produce both homogenizing pressures and new forms of cultural hybridity, creating tensions between preservation, adaptation, and community belonging. Drawing on cultural geography, heritage studies, and urban sociology, the study traces how material and intangible heritage are revalued, commodified, or marginalized within expanding metropolitan contexts. It foregrounds local voices and analyses how policy frameworks, market forces, and digital media mediate identity formation and heritage practices. Using a mixed-methods design, the research combines comparative case studies of three metropolitan regions, ethnographic interviews with residents and cultural practitioners, and archival analysis to document shifts in material culture. The cases illustrate divergent outcomes: heritage-led regeneration, market-driven commodification, and grassroots resilience. Findings reveal that governance models, economic incentives, and participatory practices critically shape whether heritage fosters inclusion or exclusion. The paper proposes a conceptual framework linking globalization, urban processes, and identity dynamics, and offers practical recommendations for inclusive, community-centred heritage governance that balances development with cultural continuity. By integrating theoretical refinement with empirical evidence, the study contributes to debates on urban heritage policy, sustainable conservation, and cultural rights, and provides a toolkit for planners and practitioners seeking equitable strategies to sustain diverse urban identities amid global change. The research underscores the urgency of collaborative, context-sensitive interventions that empower communities, integrate traditional knowledge, and leverage technology responsibly to safeguard living heritage for future generations globally.

Impact of IoT on Architectural Design of Smart Buildings

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Ar. Toolika Saini⁵, Shahrukh Shah⁶

Abstract

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The evolution of Smart Buildings has become a defining innovation in the fields of architecture and construction, largely influenced by the growing adoption of the Internet of Things (IoT). This dissertation examines the intersection of digital technology and architectural design, highlighting how IoT-enabled systems can enhance building performance, user experience, and environmental sustainability. By integrating intelligent automation, real-time data analysis, and energy-efficient mechanisms, the study investigates how built environments can transform into responsive systems that adapt dynamically to human behavior and climatic variations.

The core aim of this research is to evaluate the impact of IoT on architectural practices and understand its role in improving the functionality, efficiency, and liability of smart environments. The dissertation begins by outlining the conceptual foundation of IoT and its evolution within architecture, followed by an overview of its major technological elements—such as sensors, actuators, Building Management Systems (BMS), and cloud-based analytical platforms.

Employing a mixed-method approach, the study integrates literature review, case study assessment, and design-based analysis to explore the practical implications of IoT applications in contemporary buildings. Selected case studies demonstrate how IoT technologies optimize energy management, security, lighting, HVAC operations, and occupant engagement. Comparative data and illustrative models have been used to assess the degree to which IoT integration improves overall building intelligence.

Keywords—Smart Building in IoT, Emergence of Smart Buildings

Reimagining the Past through Algorithms: Psychological Effects of AI and Digital Media on Historical Consciousness and Youth Identity

Abstract

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The increasing presence of artificial intelligence (AI) and digital media has significantly altered how young individuals perceive, interpret, and emotionally connect with the past. Historically, knowledge and understanding of the past, which were shaped and directed through formal education and the collective cultural narrative, are, today, supplemented with algorithmic-based media and technologies like social media, virtual archives, and AI-based content. This is a qualitative review of the psychology of AI and digital media on historical consciousness and youth identity.

Through the systematic qualitative study and thematic analysis of interdisciplinary research literature from psychology, media studies, and cultural studies, this study aims to examine the ways in which algorithms shape historical information, personalized memory, and reconstructed histories through AI-mediated representations. The research revealed several key findings: historically mediated by AI increases accessibility and engages audiences and emotional experiences for youth; however, historically mediated by AI promotes exposure to select information, biased thinking, a fragmented understanding of history, and a fusion between historically factual and algorithmically reconstructed realities.

The review again emphasizes the impact of digital nostalgia, AI-generated images, and viral historical content on collective memory and self-concept formation. In the light of digital technologies providing alternatives for learning and exploring individualities via history, there is a trending impact of distorted history and psychological vulnerability. Limitations: The investigation depends on secondary materials and lacks longitudinal psychological research. Future investigation should entail an empirical and cross-cultural approach. Ultimately, this study highlights the necessity of critical digital literacy in fostering a reflective historical consciousness and a healthy youth identity in an algorithm-ruled world.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence, digital media, historical consciousness, youth identity, collective memory, algorithmic mediation

Mind, Culture, and Conservation: Psychological Insights into Heritage Management

Abstract

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The increasing presence of artificial intelligence (AI) and digital media has significantly altered how young individuals perceive, interpret, and emotionally connect with the past. Historically, knowledge and understanding of the past, whereas shaped and directed through formal education and the collective cultural narrative, is, today, supplemented with algorithmic-based media and technologies like social media, virtual archives, and AI-based content. This is a qualitative review of the psychology of AI and digital media on historical consciousness and youth identity.

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Keywords: Artificial intelligence, digital media, historical consciousness, youth identity, collective memory, algorithmic mediation

Optimizing Energy Efficiency in Buildings via Renewable

Abstract

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The growing global demand for sustainable development has led to an increasing emphasis on renewable energy systems within the built environment. This dissertation examines the integration of solar, wind, and geothermal energy systems in architecture, focusing on their potential to reduce reliance on conventional energy sources, minimize carbon emissions, and enhance building performance. The study explores three core dimensions: individual renewable system integration, hybrid system optimization, and architectural design strategies that support energy efficiency.

A comprehensive literature review highlights the significance of renewable energy adoption in addressing environmental challenges, followed by detailed assessments of solar photovoltaic systems, building-integrated wind turbines, and geothermal heat pump installations. Each system is examined in terms of technology type, functional performance, architectural compatibility, benefits, and limitations. Case studies demonstrate the successful real-world application of these systems in residential, commercial, and institutional buildings. Further, the research discusses hybrid integration approaches that combine multiple renewable systems with intelligent building energy management technologies to improve reliability and efficiency. Design considerations related to site context, climate response, structural planning, energy modelling, aesthetics, and cost-effectiveness is also analysed. The findings indicate that integrated renewable energy solutions can significantly enhance building sustainability, provided that systems are carefully selected, strategically located, and optimized through smart control frameworks.

Adaptive Reuse of Industrial Buildings

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Abstract

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Industrial buildings represent a significant phase of urban and economic development and stand as important markers of industrial heritage. With changing industrial processes, economic shifts, and urban growth, many such structures have become obsolete, abandoned, or underutilized. Demolition of these buildings results in the loss of cultural identity, embodied energy, and valuable urban resources. In this context, adaptive reuse emerges as a sustainable architectural strategy that enables the transformation of disused industrial buildings into functional spaces while retaining their historical, architectural, and cultural significance.

This research investigates the concept of adaptive reuse of industrial buildings and examines its role in sustainable development, heritage conservation, urban revitalization, and community engagement. A qualitative research methodology has been adopted, supported by an extensive literature review and comparative case study analysis. Three adaptive reuse projects in India—The Dhan Mill Compound, Delhi; Alembic Factory, Vadodara; and Phoenix Mills, Mumbai—have been studied to evaluate design approaches, material strategies, structural interventions, and socio-cultural impacts.

Climate Resilience and the Protection of Cultural Heritage

Abstract

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Climate change has become a major global concern that significantly affects cultural heritage sites and historic environments. Rising temperatures, sea-level rise, irregular rainfall patterns, and extreme weather events are accelerating the deterioration of monuments, archaeological sites, and traditional settlements. Coastal heritage areas are particularly vulnerable to flooding, erosion, and salt damage, while inland heritage structures face structural cracking, moisture damage, and biological growth due to changing humidity and temperature conditions. Air pollution and environmental stress further weaken traditional building materials such as stone, brick, and timber. Beyond physical impacts, climate-related displacement and economic challenges threaten intangible heritage, including cultural practices, craftsmanship, and community traditions. Urban heritage zones are increasingly exposed to heat stress and infrastructure strain caused by rapid urbanization and environmental variability. Regions with limited financial and technical resources face greater risks due to insufficient conservation capacity. Integrating climate risk assessment into heritage management strategies is essential for long-term sustainability. Adaptive measures such as climate-responsive materials, improved drainage systems, protective landscaping, and community-based monitoring can strengthen resilience. Safeguarding cultural heritage requires interdisciplinary research, proactive policy planning, and sustained investment to ensure that both tangible and intangible heritage assets remain protected for future generations.

Safeguarding Our Shared Past: Managing Climate Risks to Protect Cultural Heritage for a Sustainable Future

Abstract

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Our world's most precious cultural treasures—ancient temples, historic cities, timeless monuments—are facing an unprecedented enemy: climate change. Rising seas creep toward coastal landmarks, fierce storms batter fragile structures, scorching heat and relentless moisture eat away at stone and wood, and shifting weather patterns invite decay that our ancestors could never have imagined. Recent studies show the scale of this crisis: around 80% of UNESCO World Heritage cultural sites already suffer from harmful climate stress, with nearly one in five facing serious threats to multiple building materials like stone and timber. Places we hold dear, from the sinking canals of Venice to vulnerable Mediterranean heritage cities, stand at the edge of irreversible loss.

This research dives into how we can fight back by blending smart risk management with dedicated heritage conservation and forward-thinking sustainable policies. Drawing on established frameworks from the IPCC and tools from UNESCO and ICCROM, it reviews global evidence, policies, and real-world examples to highlight what's working—and what's missing. Too often, preservation efforts remain reactive: repairing damage after it happens rather than preventing it. Yet heritage isn't just something to save—it's a living resource that can teach us resilience, inspire low-carbon ways of living, and strengthen community bonds in turbulent times.

The paper proposes a practical, people-centered approach: start with thorough vulnerability checks for each site, build layered strategies that mix prevention, quick response, and long-term recovery, keep watch through modern tools like satellite monitoring and GIS, and weave in local knowledge and community voices. By aligning these efforts with global goals like sustainable cities (SDG 11) and urgent climate action (SDG 13), we can treat cultural heritage not as a victim of climate change, but as a powerful ally in building a more resilient world.

Ultimately, protecting our shared past isn't only about saving old buildings—it's about honoring who we are, learning from history, and ensuring future generations inherit the stories, beauty, and wisdom embedded in these irreplaceable places. With collaborative, proactive steps today, we can keep our cultural legacy alive and thriving amid the challenges ahead.

Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Challenges

Abstract

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Cultural heritage represents the collective memory, identity, and values of societies transmitted across generations through tangible and intangible forms. It includes monuments, historic buildings, archaeological sites, traditional settlements, arts, crafts, rituals, languages, and social practices that reflect the cultural continuity of communities. Cultural heritage serves as an important resource for education, social cohesion, and economic development, particularly through tourism and traditional livelihoods. From an architectural perspective, heritage offers valuable insights into climate-responsive design, local materials, and sustainable construction practices that remain relevant in contemporary times.

However, cultural heritage faces significant challenges in the modern world. Rapid urbanization and infrastructure development often lead to the demolition or insensitive alteration of historic structures, disrupting traditional urban patterns and architectural character. Globalization has contributed to cultural homogenization, where local traditions and vernacular architecture are increasingly replaced by standardized designs and modern lifestyles. Environmental issues, including climate change, pollution, and natural disasters, further threaten heritage sites by accelerating structural deterioration and landscape degradation.

In addition, many heritage sites suffer from neglect, lack of awareness, and insufficient funding, which hinder effective conservation efforts. Balancing heritage preservation with the demands of modern development remains a critical challenge. Adaptive reuse and sustainable planning approaches offer practical solutions by integrating historic structures into contemporary use while preserving their cultural significance. Modern technologies such as digital documentation and 3D modeling, along with supportive policies and community participation, can strengthen conservation strategies.

Cultural heritage is a vital link between the past and the future. Addressing contemporary challenges through sustainable conservation practices is essential to protect cultural identity and ensure that heritage continues to contribute to social and environmental well-being.

Keywords: Cultural Heritage, Urbanization, Conservation, Sustainability, Globalization

Virtual Technologies in Heritage Conservation

Abstract

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Virtual technologies have emerged as innovative tools in heritage conservation, enabling the documentation, analysis, reconstruction, and simulation of historical sites and cultural artifacts through advanced digital methods. Technologies such as three-dimensional (3D) scanning, Virtual Reality (VR), and Augmented Reality (AR) provide accurate and non-invasive techniques for recording heritage resources. These digital approaches help create detailed archives of monuments, archaeological sites, and cultural landscapes, ensuring their preservation and accessibility for future generations. Digital documentation and archiving form a major component of virtual heritage conservation. Tools such as laser scanners, drones, and photogrammetry capture high-resolution images and precise measurements, allowing the creation of realistic 3D models. These models help researchers and conservationists monitor structural conditions, plan restoration work, and safeguard heritage information even if physical structures deteriorate or are damaged.

Virtual reconstruction is another important aspect of digital conservation. Through advanced modeling techniques, damaged or lost heritage structures can be digitally rebuilt, enabling visualization of sites in their original or historically significant forms. Virtual environments also allow users to explore heritage sites remotely through immersive experiences, enhancing education, research, and public engagement.

Virtual technologies provide sustainable and cost-effective solutions for heritage preservation by minimizing physical intervention while improving accessibility and awareness. By integrating digital tools with traditional conservation methods, heritage professionals can ensure more effective protection and interpretation of cultural heritage in the modern era.

Keywords: Virtual Heritage, 3D Scanning, Digital Documentation, Virtual Reconstruction, Heritage Conservation.

Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Challenges

Abstract

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Cultural heritage represents the collective memory, identity, and values of societies transmitted through generations in both tangible and intangible forms. It includes monuments, historic buildings, archaeological sites, cultural landscapes, traditions, rituals, languages, crafts, and social practices that shape community identity and continuity. Cultural heritage serves as an important educational, social, and economic resource, particularly in heritage-rich regions where historic cities such as Jaipur, Varanasi, Mumbai, and Hampi attract visitors and support local livelihoods.

Despite its importance, cultural heritage faces numerous contemporary challenges. Rapid urbanization and development pressures often lead to the demolition or inappropriate modification of historic structures, disrupting traditional urban patterns and architectural character. Globalization has further contributed to cultural homogenization, where vernacular traditions and regional identities are gradually replaced by standardized architectural styles and modern lifestyles.

Neglect, lack of awareness, and limited funding also hinder effective heritage preservation. Many historic buildings suffer from poor maintenance and unauthorized alterations due to insufficient institutional support and community participation. Balancing heritage conservation with modern developmental needs remains a key challenge, requiring integrated planning approaches and adaptive reuse strategies that allow historic structures to remain functional while preserving their cultural significance. Modern technologies and policy frameworks provide new opportunities for heritage conservation. Organizations such as UNESCO and Archaeological Survey of India play an important role in safeguarding cultural assets through conservation policies and documentation efforts. Sustainable heritage management requires a combination of community involvement, technological innovation, and effective governance.

Cultural heritage forms a vital link between the past, present, and future. Addressing contemporary challenges through sustainable conservation practices is essential to preserve cultural identity and ensure that heritage continues to contribute to social and environmental development.

Keywords: Cultural Heritage, Urbanization, Conservation, Sustainability, Globalization

Adaptive Reuse of Heritage Buildings: Preserving Identity While Ensuring Functionality

Abstract

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Adaptive reuse has emerged as a critical strategy for heritage conservation in the 21st century, addressing the dual challenge of preserving cultural identity while accommodating contemporary functional requirements. Rapid urbanization, changing socio-economic needs, and technological advancement have placed significant pressure on historic structures, often leading to neglect or demolition. Adaptive reuse provides a sustainable alternative by extending the life cycle of heritage buildings through sensitive architectural interventions.

This paper explores the concept of adaptive reuse as a means of conserving built heritage without compromising historical authenticity. It examines how architectural design strategies can balance spatial adaptation, structural stability, and modern utility integration while retaining the original character of heritage buildings. The study draws upon selected Indian and international case studies to analyse successful adaptive reuse practices, focusing on material conservation, functional transformation, and contextual responsiveness.

The research further highlights adaptive reuse as an environmentally responsible approach that conserves embodied energy, minimizes material waste, and supports sustainable urban development. Challenges such as regulatory constraints, economic feasibility, and conflicts between conservation ethics and contemporary demands are also discussed. The paper concludes that adaptive reuse is not merely a conservation technique but a dynamic architectural process that bridges the past and present, ensuring that heritage buildings remain functional, relevant, and culturally meaningful in the modern built environment.

Urban Heritage and Planning Challenges in Rapidly Growing Indian Cities

Abstract

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India's rapidly urbanizing cities are witnessing unprecedented transformation, often at the cost of their historical and cultural heritage. Urban heritage—comprising historic buildings, traditional neighborhoods, archaeological sites, and cultural landscapes—plays a vital role in shaping the identity and continuity of cities. However, unplanned development, infrastructure pressure, real estate expansion, and lack of integrated planning frameworks have posed serious challenges to heritage conservation in the 21st century.

This paper examines the relationship between urban planning and heritage conservation in contemporary Indian cities. It highlights key challenges such as inadequate policy integration, weak regulatory mechanisms, and conflicts between development needs and preservation goals. Through secondary data analysis and case references from Indian urban contexts, the study emphasizes the need for heritage-sensitive planning approaches that balance growth with conservation.

The paper argues that sustainable urban development cannot be achieved without protecting historical and archaeological assets. It recommends the integration of heritage impact assessments, adaptive reuse strategies, and community participation within urban planning processes. By aligning planning policies with heritage conservation principles, Indian cities can ensure inclusive, resilient, and culturally rich urban futures.

Keywords: Urban Heritage, Urban Planning, Conservation, Indian Cities, Sustainable Development

Reimagining Heritage in the 21st Century: Integrating Technology, Conservation, and Community Engagement in Historical and Archaeological Research

Abstract

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The preservation and interpretation of cultural heritage in the 21st century face unprecedented challenges arising from rapid urbanization, climate change, technological transformation, and shifting socio-cultural dynamics. This research paper examines an integrated framework for heritage conservation that combines technological innovation, sustainable conservation practices, critical reinterpretation of history, contemporary socio-environmental challenges, and active community engagement. The study explores the role of digital technologies such as geospatial mapping, digital archaeology, artificial intelligence, and virtual heritage tools in enhancing archaeological research, documentation, and public accessibility. It further evaluates conservation theories, heritage policies, and institutional frameworks that support sustainable management and risk mitigation in the context of climate change and urban pressures. Emphasis is placed on reinterpreting historical narratives by incorporating marginalized voices, indigenous knowledge systems, and interdisciplinary historiographical approaches to create inclusive and pluralistic understandings of the past. Additionally, the paper highlights the growing importance of community participation, heritage education, and public outreach in ensuring long-term conservation outcomes. By examining the interface between public history, museums, digital media, and local stakeholder involvement, the research underscores how community-centric and ethical heritage practices can strengthen cultural identity and social responsibility. The paper concludes that integrating technology, policy, education, and community engagement is essential for safeguarding cultural heritage and ensuring its relevance and resilience in the 21st century.

Keywords: Heritage conservation, digital archaeology, community engagement, sustainable heritage management, cultural heritage

Sustainable Heritage Management and Community Participation

Abstract

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The preservation and interpretation of cultural heritage in the 21st century face unprecedented challenges arising from rapid urbanization, climate change, technological transformation, and shifting socio-cultural dynamics. This research paper examines an integrated framework for heritage conservation that combines technological innovation, sustainable conservation practices, critical reinterpretation of history, contemporary socio-environmental challenges, and active community engagement. The study explores the role of digital technologies such as geospatial mapping, digital archaeology, artificial intelligence, and virtual heritage tools in enhancing archaeological research, documentation, and public accessibility. It further evaluates conservation theories, heritage policies, and institutional frameworks that support sustainable management and risk mitigation in the context of climate change and urban pressures. Emphasis is placed on reinterpreting historical narratives by incorporating marginalized voices, indigenous knowledge systems, and interdisciplinary historiographical approaches to create inclusive and pluralistic understandings of the past. Additionally, the paper highlights the growing importance of community participation, heritage education, and public outreach in ensuring long-term conservation outcomes. By examining the interface between public history, museums, digital media, and local stakeholder involvement, the research underscores how community-centric and ethical heritage practices can strengthen cultural identity and social responsibility. The paper concludes that integrating technology, policy, education, and community engagement is essential for safeguarding cultural heritage and ensuring its relevance and resilience in the 21st century.

Keywords: Heritage conservation, digital archaeology, community engagement, sustainable heritage management, cultural heritage

Sustainable Heritage Management and Community Participation

Abstract

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Sustainable heritage management has become an essential paradigm in addressing the complex challenges of conserving cultural heritage amid rapid urbanization, environmental change, and socio-economic transformation. Conventional heritage conservation models, often characterized by centralized and expert-driven decision-making, have shown limitations in achieving long-term sustainability. This paper explores the critical role of community participation in advancing sustainable heritage management by integrating local knowledge, cultural values, and social practices into conservation processes.

The study examines heritage not only as a physical asset but also as a living cultural system shaped by community interactions and collective memory. Through a review of interdisciplinary literature and selected case studies, the paper analyzes participatory approaches such as community-based planning, shared governance models, and collaborative conservation initiatives. These approaches demonstrate how active involvement of local stakeholders enhances cultural continuity, strengthens social cohesion, and generates sustainable economic opportunities, particularly through heritage-based livelihoods and responsible tourism.

The paper further identifies key challenges to effective community participation, including power imbalances among stakeholders, institutional rigidity, lack of capacity-building mechanisms, and the commodification of heritage. Addressing these challenges, the study proposes adaptive frameworks that emphasize inclusive decision-making, transparent governance, and long-term engagement strategies. It argues that empowering communities as custodians rather than passive beneficiaries leads to more resilient and context-sensitive heritage outcomes.

The Digital Renaissance: Technological Innovations in Historical Architectural Research

Abstract

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The “Digital Renaissance” marks a transformative phase in historical architectural research, where advanced technologies are revolutionizing the documentation, analysis, and preservation of architectural heritage. Traditional methods based on manual surveys and sketches have increasingly been replaced by digital tools such as LiDAR scanning, photogrammetry, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Heritage Building Information Modeling (HBIM), and immersive visualization technologies.

Technologies such as LiDAR and photogrammetry allow the creation of detailed three-dimensional models that capture both the geometry and surface characteristics of historic buildings. These digital models form the basis for HBIM systems, which integrate geometric data with historical, structural, and material information, enabling efficient conservation planning and interdisciplinary collaboration. Artificial intelligence further enhances research by processing large datasets, assisting in damage detection, and enabling the digital reconstruction of lost or damaged heritage structures. Non-invasive investigation techniques, including thermal imaging and ground-penetrating radar, allow researchers to explore hidden structural features without damaging fragile historic fabric.

Digital visualization technologies such as Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) have expanded the accessibility of architectural heritage by providing immersive and interactive experiences for researchers, students, and the public. A notable example is the digital documentation of Notre-Dame Cathedral, where laser scanning data supported accurate restoration following the 2019 fire.

The integration of digital technologies in historical architectural research not only improves preservation accuracy but also democratizes access to heritage knowledge. The Digital Renaissance ensures that architectural heritage can be documented, studied, and experienced beyond physical limitations, securing its continuity for future generations.

Keywords: Digital Heritage, LiDAR, HBIM, Artificial Intelligence, Architectural Conservation

Sustainable Heritage Conservation and Community Participation in India

Abstract

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India possesses a vast and diverse cultural heritage that includes monuments, archaeological sites, historic structures, and traditional cultural practices. However, this heritage faces multiple challenges due to rapid urbanization, climate change, uncontrolled tourism, and limited public awareness. This paper examines the concept of sustainable heritage conservation with a specific focus on community participation as a crucial component of effective heritage management. Sustainable heritage conservation emphasizes the protection and preservation of cultural resources while allowing their responsible use for social and economic development. The study highlights that involving local communities in heritage planning, conservation activities, and decision-making processes helps create a sense of ownership and responsibility among people. Community participation not only strengthens conservation efforts but also supports local livelihoods through tourism, cultural activities, and heritage-based employment. The paper further discusses the role of traditional knowledge systems, institutional frameworks, and modern conservation techniques in addressing contemporary heritage challenges. Through analytical discussion, the study demonstrates that heritage conservation cannot rely solely on government authorities or experts. Instead, a collaborative and inclusive approach involving local communities, policymakers, and professionals is essential for long-term sustainability. The research concludes that sustainable heritage management ensures the protection of cultural heritage for future generations while maintaining its relevance and value in the present socio-economic context of India.

Keywords: Heritage Conservation, Sustainability, Community Participation, Cultural Heritage, India

Cognitive Biases and the Online Spread of Misinformation About Historical and Cultural Narratives

Abstract

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The creation, dissemination, and interpretation of historical and cultural information have all changed as a result of the explosive rise of digital media. Online platforms have made knowledge more accessible, but they have also made it possible for false information about historical events and cultural heritage to proliferate widely. Because people frequently use mental shortcuts when assessing information, cognitive biases are important in this process. People's interpretations and dissemination of heritage-related content are influenced by biases such as confirmation bias, in-group bias, availability heuristic, and emotional reasoning, which increase their propensity to accept narratives that support their preexisting identities, beliefs, or feelings.

Using a narrative qualitative review methodology, this study investigates the psychological processes underlying the dissemination of false information in digital spaces by consulting the body of research in cognitive psychology, media studies, and heritage studies. In order to find patterns in the ways that cognitive biases interact with social media algorithms, community narratives, and emotionally charged historical content, the strategy entails examining academic sources.

According to the research, false information spreads more quickly when it supports collective memory or group identity, especially in digital echo chambers that encourage selective exposure. Such false information has the power to skew the public's sense of history, affect cultural norms, and exacerbate social unrest. The significance of media literacy, heritage education, and community involvement as tactics to combat these psychological processes is emphasized in the conversation.

However, the study has limitations as a qualitative evaluation based on secondary sources, such as low generalizability across varied cultural contexts and the lack of primary empirical data.

Keywords: Cognitive biases, online misinformation, historical narratives, cultural heritage, social media, media literacy.

Digital Humanities and Archival Innovations Related to Psychology

Abstract

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The field of digital humanities has opened new avenues for transforming traditional archival practices through the integration of technological tools and humanistic approaches. Archival innovation plays a crucial role in managing the large volumes of qualitative and quantitative data generated in psychological research, including experimental records, clinical data, interviews, and observational studies. Digital archival systems enhance the preservation, accessibility, and ethical management of research data, enabling efficient collaboration among scholars across interdisciplinary fields such as psychology, information science, and digital humanities.

This study examines the role of digital humanities and archival innovation in improving research practices in psychology by enhancing the organization, analysis, and long-term preservation of research data while maintaining ethical and scientific standards. A mixed-methods approach was adopted, involving 50–60 participants, including psychology students, academic researchers, and archival professionals. Quantitative data were collected through structured questionnaires assessing awareness and effectiveness of digital archival systems, while qualitative data were obtained through semi-structured interviews exploring experiences, challenges, and expectations related to digital archives.

Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistical methods, while qualitative data were examined through thematic analysis focusing on innovation, accessibility, data security, and ethical concerns. Findings indicate that digital archival systems improve data retrieval efficiency, promote research transparency, and support interdisciplinary collaboration. The study concludes that digital humanities and archival innovation significantly enhance psychological research by improving data management and methodological rigor. Greater integration of digital archival practices and technological investment is recommended to strengthen future research and academic training.

Keywords: Digital Humanities, Archival Innovation, Psychological Research, Digital Archives, Data Management

The Past Lives in Us: Psychological Impact of Historical Trauma on the Modern Mind

Abstract

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Historical trauma refers to the shared psychological experiences linked with major historical events that continue to be remembered across generations. In the present context, history and heritage are not only records of the past but also influence the way individuals think and feel today. This study explores the psychological impact of historical trauma on the modern mind. A descriptive research design was used. The sample consisted of 40 young adults between 18 and 25 years of age, selected through convenience sampling from a college setting. Data were collected using a self-prepared questionnaire focusing on awareness of historical events, emotional reactions to historical narratives, and perceptions regarding the influence of the past on personal identity and emotional well-being. The study highlights the continuing psychological relevance of historical trauma and suggests the need for greater awareness and sensitive engagement with history and heritage in the 21st century.

Keywords: Historical trauma, collective memory, psychological impact, heritage, identity.

The Psychological Impact of Heritage Loss on Displaced Populations: A Study of Identity and Collective Trauma

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Abstract

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Cultural heritage is frequently defined by its physical manifestations—monuments, landscapes, and archaeological artifacts—yet its most profound impact lies in its role as a psychological anchor for human identity. In the 21st century, as globalization, conflict, and urbanization accelerate, the deliberate or accidental destruction of these sites creates a "void" that extends far beyond material loss. This research addresses the psychological ramifications of heritage loss within displaced populations, specifically focusing on cultural heritage and contemporary challenges. Utilizing a quantitative research design, this study investigates the "Text-Material Culture Interface" by measuring the statistical correlation between physical heritage destruction (material) and the fragmentation of collective memory (textual narrative). Data was gathered from a sample of 100-150 displaced individuals using standardized psychometric scales to quantify levels of identity crisis and rootlessness. Preliminary findings suggest that the destruction of heritage sites acts as a measurable catalyst for intergenerational trauma, while the preservation of intangible heritage correlates with higher psychological resilience scores. The paper concludes by arguing for inclusive heritage practices that integrate psychological "first aid" into conservation policies. This research provides an empirical platform to acknowledge that protecting the past is essential to protecting the mental well-being of the future.

Keywords: Collective Trauma, Cultural Identity, Heritage Loss, Displacement, Psychometric Analysis

Technological Innovations in Historical and Archaeological Research

Abstract

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Technological innovations have significantly transformed historical and archaeological research, enabling scholars to reconstruct the past with greater accuracy, efficiency, and scope. Advances such as remote sensing technologies, including Geographic Information Systems (GIS), satellite imagery, and LiDAR, have revolutionized site detection and landscape analysis without intrusive excavation. Scientific techniques like radiocarbon dating, DNA analysis, and isotopic studies provide precise chronological frameworks and insights into ancient populations, diets, and migrations. Digital tools, including 3D modeling, virtual reconstruction, and database management systems, enhance documentation, preservation, and public accessibility of cultural heritage. Furthermore, artificial intelligence and machine learning support pattern recognition and large-scale data analysis, opening new interpretive possibilities. Together, these innovations foster interdisciplinary collaboration and promote sustainable heritage management, reshaping how historians and archaeologists investigate, interpret, and present the human past.

Leveraging Digital Platforms to Enhance Community Heritage Awareness

Abstract

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In recent years, digital media and online platforms have emerged as powerful tools for promoting heritage awareness and engaging communities in conservation efforts. This paper explores innovative digital strategies—including social media campaigns, interactive mobile applications, virtual reality (VR) exhibitions, and online educational modules—that enhance public understanding and appreciation of cultural heritage. The study analyses case studies from diverse geographic contexts to assess how digital storytelling, gamified experiences, and user-generated content influence heritage perception and participation. It also examines the role of digital platforms in bridging the gap between formal heritage institutions (museums, archives) and local communities, thereby fostering inclusive narratives and empowering grassroots advocacy. Methodologically, the research combines qualitative interviews with heritage practitioners and quantitative analysis of engagement metrics (likes, shares, participation rates) to evaluate the effectiveness of various digital interventions. Findings indicate that tailored, multimedia approaches significantly increase visitor engagement and inspire proactive community involvement in preservation activities. The paper further discusses challenges such as digital accessibility, authenticity of virtual representations, and sustainability of online initiatives. Recommendations are provided for designing culturally sensitive, technically robust digital programs that amplify heritage education and spur community-led conservation. The insights aim to guide policymakers, educators, and heritage professionals in optimizing digital media for meaningful heritage awareness and sustainable management.

Keywords: digital heritage, media platforms, heritage awareness, virtual engagement, community participate

Climate Change and Heritage Risk Management: Agra Fort and the Taj Mahal

Abstract

Shruti Kulshrestha

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School of Architecture, Lingaya's Vidyapeeth, Faridabad

Agra Fort and Taj Mahal are globally recognized heritage monuments that reflect the architectural and cultural achievements of the Mughal period. Situated along the Yamuna River in Agra, these monuments are important symbols of India's historical identity and attract millions of visitors annually. However, increasing environmental degradation and climate change pose significant threats to their long-term preservation. Air pollution, changing climatic conditions, river pollution, and urban development pressures have accelerated the deterioration of these historic structures, highlighting the urgent need for effective risk management and conservation strategies.

Climate change has intensified environmental risks affecting these monuments. Rising levels of air pollution contribute to discoloration and corrosion of the Taj Mahal's marble surfaces and cause surface erosion in Agra Fort. The degradation of the Yamuna River has lowered groundwater levels, potentially affecting the structural stability of the Taj Mahal's foundations. Temperature fluctuations create thermal stress in building materials, while increased humidity and irregular rainfall encourage biological growth such as algae and fungi that damage stone surfaces.

Risk management strategies play a vital role in heritage protection. Environmental regulations such as the Taj Trapezium Zone help control industrial emissions and restrict harmful activities near heritage sites. Conservation measures, including scientific cleaning techniques, structural monitoring, sustainable tourism practices, and digital documentation, contribute to long-term preservation. Community participation and government initiatives further strengthen heritage management efforts.

The conservation of Agra Fort and the Taj Mahal requires integrated environmental planning, scientific conservation methods, and climate-resilient strategies. Sustainable heritage management is essential to preserve their cultural significance and ensure their protection for future generations.

Keywords: Climate Change, Heritage Conservation, Risk Management, Taj Mahal, Agra Fort

Technology, Digital Media, and Cultural Transformation

Abstract

Pooja Rathore

Assistant Professor

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Technology and digital media play a transformative role in shaping contemporary cultural identities, values, and social practices across the world. This paper examines the dynamic relationship between technological advancement and cultural transformation, highlighting both its enabling potential and its inherent challenges. Drawing on key theoretical perspectives such as cultural diffusion, technological determinism, cyber-cultures, and the digital divide, the study analyzes how digital technologies influence cultural development in diverse social contexts. The findings indicate that technology functions as a powerful catalyst for cultural exchange, innovation, and adaptation by enabling rapid global communication and the widespread circulation of ideas. The expansion of the internet, social media, and mobile technologies has intensified cross-cultural interactions, leading to cultural hybridization and the emergence of new digital cultural forms. At the same time, the study reveals significant challenges, including unequal access to digital resources, the widening digital divide, and the risk of cultural homogenization, where dominant global cultures marginalize local traditions and identities. Through the analysis of empirical case studies, this research demonstrates how technology simultaneously promotes cultural connectivity and threatens cultural diversity. The paper concludes by advocating for inclusive and culturally sensitive approaches to technological integration, emphasizing the need to balance technological progress with the preservation of cultural heritage. These insights hold important implications for policymakers, educators, and technologists seeking to ensure that digital transformation supports cultural diversity and social equity in the digital age.

Keywords: Technology, Digital media, Cultural transformation, Cultural diffusion, Digital divide, Cultural hybridization, Cyber-cultures, Technological determinism

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Keywords: Technology, Digital media, Cultural transformation, Cultural diffusion, Digital divide, Cultural hybridization, Cyber-cultures, Technological determinism

Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Challenges

Abstract

Muskan

Student

School of Law, Lingaya's Vidyapeeth, Faridabad

Cultural heritage plays a significant role in shaping cultural identity, social continuity, and collective memory, yet it faces increasing pressures in the contemporary global context. This study examines the major challenges affecting cultural heritage, including rapid urbanization and globalization, which contribute to the transformation and gradual loss of traditional cultural expressions and historic environments. The research also explores the impact of environmental factors such as climate change, natural disasters, and pollution that threaten both tangible and intangible heritage resources.

The study further addresses issues related to heritage conflicts, cultural displacement, and the effects of political and social instability, which often result in the destruction or neglect of cultural assets. In addition, the growing influence of digital technology and media is analyzed as both a challenge and an opportunity for heritage preservation, offering innovative methods for documentation, interpretation, and public engagement.

The research emphasizes the importance of community participation, ethical conservation practices, and inclusive heritage management in ensuring long-term sustainability. Organizations such as UNESCO highlight the need for integrated approaches that combine traditional knowledge with modern technologies. By examining these interconnected challenges, the study underscores the need for adaptive, community-centered, and technology-driven strategies to safeguard cultural heritage in a rapidly changing world.

Keywords: Cultural Heritage, Globalization, Climate Change, Digital Heritage, Community Participation

Technological Innovations in Historical and Archaeological Research

Abstract

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Technological innovations have significantly transformed historical and archaeological research, enabling scholars to reconstruct the past with greater accuracy, efficiency, and scope. Advances such as remote sensing technologies, including Geographic Information Systems (GIS), satellite imagery, and LiDAR, have revolutionised site detection and landscape analysis without intrusive excavation. Scientific techniques like radiocarbon dating, DNA analysis, and isotopic studies provide precise chronological frameworks and insights into ancient populations, diets, and migrations. Digital tools, including 3D modeling, virtual reconstruction, and database management systems, enhance documentation, preservation, and public accessibility of cultural heritage. Furthermore, artificial intelligence and machine learning support pattern recognition and large-scale data analysis, opening new interpretive possibilities. Together, these innovations foster interdisciplinary collaboration and promote sustainable heritage management, reshaping how historians and archaeologists investigate, interpret, and present the human past.

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Keywords: Climate Change, Heritage Conservation, Risk Management, Taj Mahal, Agra Fort

Heritage Education and Curriculum Integration

Abstract

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Heritage education has emerged as a significant dimension of contemporary education, aiming to preserve cultural identity while promoting social cohesion in a rapidly globalizing world. It encompasses the teaching and learning of both tangible and intangible heritage, including historical monuments, cultural traditions, indigenous knowledge systems, languages, art forms, values, and collective memories. Integrating heritage education into the formal curriculum is essential for fostering cultural awareness, historical consciousness, and value-based learning among students. This abstract explores the relevance of heritage education and examines its effective integration within the school and higher education curriculum.

Curriculum integration enables heritage education to transcend disciplinary boundaries and become an interdisciplinary and experiential learning process. Subjects such as history, geography, literature, social sciences, environmental studies, and visual and performing arts provide meaningful opportunities for embedding heritage-related content. Pedagogical strategies such as project-based learning, heritage walks, field visits, oral history documentation, storytelling, digital archives, and community participation help learners connect theoretical knowledge with lived cultural experiences. Such approaches enhance critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving skills, and emotional engagement, thereby contributing to holistic learner development.

Heritage education also plays a vital role in promoting values such as tolerance, cultural sensitivity, mutual respect, national integration, and civic responsibility. Exposure to local and national heritage nurtures pride in cultural identity while encouraging appreciation of cultural diversity and global heritage perspectives. However, successful curriculum integration requires well-structured curriculum frameworks, teacher training, institutional support, and access to appropriate resources.

Integrating heritage education into the curriculum is crucial for developing culturally rooted, socially responsible, and globally competent citizens. A balanced integration of traditional heritage knowledge with modern pedagogical practices can ensure the sustainable transmission of cultural heritage while enriching the quality and relevance of education.

Keywords: Heritage Education, Curriculum Integration, Cultural Identity, Value-Based Education, Interdisciplinary Learning, Experiential Learning

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Abstract

Muskan

Student

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Cultural heritage plays a significant role in shaping cultural identity, social continuity, and collective memory, yet it faces increasing pressures in the contemporary global context. This study examines the major challenges affecting cultural heritage, including rapid urbanization and globalization, which contribute to the transformation and gradual loss of traditional cultural expressions and historic environments. The research also explores the impact of environmental factors such as climate change, natural disasters, and pollution that threaten both tangible and intangible heritage resources.

The study further addresses issues related to heritage conflicts, cultural displacement, and the effects of political and social instability, which often result in the destruction or neglect of cultural assets. In addition, the growing influence of digital technology and media is analyzed as both a challenge and an opportunity for heritage preservation, offering innovative methods for documentation, interpretation, and public engagement.

The research emphasizes the importance of community participation, ethical conservation practices, and inclusive heritage management in ensuring long-term sustainability. Organizations such as UNESCO highlight the need for integrated approaches that combine traditional knowledge with modern technologies. By examining these interconnected challenges, the study underscores the need for adaptive, community-centered, and technology-driven strategies to safeguard cultural heritage in a rapidly changing world.

Keywords: Cultural Heritage, Globalization, Climate Change, Digital Heritage, Community Participation

History, Heritage and Archaeology

Abstract

Prasun Jain

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The study of history, heritage, and archaeology plays a crucial role in understanding the cultural identity and historical consciousness of a society. While history focuses on the study of past human events, heritage represents the cultural traditions, monuments, and practices inherited from earlier generations. These interconnected disciplines contribute to preserving both tangible and intangible aspects of the past. However, the growing complexity of historical interpretation and the limited public awareness of heritage preservation create a significant gap between academic scholarship and popular understanding.

This paper examines the evolution of heritage protection laws in India, from the Indian Treasure Trove Act to the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Amendment Act, and evaluates their impact on heritage management and conservation practices. The study also analyzes important archaeological and heritage sites such as Sanchi Stupa, Mahabodhi Temple, and Bharhut Stupa to understand the relationship between historical research, archaeological evidence, and heritage preservation.

Furthermore, the paper highlights the role of museums and cultural institutions in bridging the gap between academic knowledge and public awareness. Artifacts and traditions together reflect interconnected histories, demonstrating that the combined efforts of history, archaeology, and heritage studies are essential for maintaining a continuous dialogue between the past, present, and future. The study emphasizes the need for integrated approaches to heritage education and conservation to strengthen historical understanding and cultural preservation.

Keywords: History, Heritage, Archaeology, Heritage Laws, Museums

The Past Lives in Us: Psychological Impact of Historical Trauma on the Modern Mind

Abstract

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Historical trauma refers to the shared psychological experiences linked with major historical events that continue to be remembered across generations. In the present context, history and heritage are not only records of the past but also influence the way individuals think and feel today. This study explores the psychological impact of historical trauma on the modern mind. A descriptive research design was used. The sample consisted of 40 young adults between 18 and 25 years of age, selected through convenience sampling from a college setting. Data were collected using a self-prepared questionnaire focusing on awareness of historical events, emotional reactions to historical narratives, and perceptions regarding the influence of the past.

on personal identity and emotional well-being. The findings indicated that participants often experienced emotions such as sadness, fear, pride, and empathy while engaging with historical narratives. Many participants felt that historical experiences continue to shape their values, attitudes, and sense of identity in the present. The study highlights the continuing psychological relevance of historical trauma and suggests the need for greater awareness and sensitive engagement with history and heritage in the 21st century.

Keywords: Historical trauma, collective memory, psychological impact, heritage, identity.

Heritage conservation, preservation policies and sustainable development

Abstract

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The study of history, heritage, and archaeology plays a crucial role in understanding the cultural identity and historical consciousness of a society. While history focuses on the study of past human events, heritage represents the cultural traditions, monuments, and practices inherited from earlier generations. These interconnected disciplines contribute to preserving both tangible and intangible aspects of the past. However, the growing complexity of historical interpretation and the limited public awareness of heritage preservation create a significant gap between academic scholarship and popular understanding.

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Keywords: History, Heritage, Archaeology, Heritage Laws, Museums

Technology, Digital Media, and Cultural Transformation

Abstract

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Technology and digital media have become an important part of our everyday lives. From smartphones and social media to online learning and digital payments, technology has changed the way people think, communicate, and live. This transformation is not only technical but also cultural, as it influences our values, habits, relationships, and identity. Digital media allows people to share ideas, express opinions, and connect with others across the world within seconds. It has made information more accessible and has given a voice to individuals and communities who were earlier unheard.

However, this cultural transformation also brings challenges. Overuse of digital media can reduce face-to-face interaction, affect mental health, and spread misinformation. Traditional cultures and practices may change or weaken as digital lifestyles grow stronger. At the same time, technology helps preserve culture through digital archives, online storytelling, and global cultural exchange.

This study explores how technology and digital media shape modern culture, both positively and negatively. It highlights the need for balanced and responsible use of digital tools so that cultural values, human connections, and ethical practices are not lost.

Keywords: Technology; Digital Media; Cultural Transformation; Globalization; Digital Culture; Social Change; Media Influence; Identity Formation; Virtual Communication; Information Society; Technological Innovation; Network Society.

Parametricism as a Contemporary Architectural Paradigm: A Study of Computational Design and Performance-Based Form Generation

Ar. Tamanna Bhardwaj¹, Ar. Om Prakash², Ar. Vivek Painuli³, Ar. Toolika Saini⁴, Ar. Prutha Amoli⁵

Abstract

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Architectural theory has played a significant role in shaping and transforming the built environment over time. In recent decades, advancements in digital technologies have led to the emergence of Parametricism as a contemporary architectural approach. This dissertation examines parametricism as an evolving design methodology that focuses on the generation, control, and manipulation of complex architectural forms through computational and parametric tools. The research presents an analytical study of the scope, principles, and framework of parametric architecture, with particular emphasis on the relationship between form generation, structural stability, and performance-based design. Through an extensive literature review, the study investigates how parametric design techniques enhance efficiency in structural analysis, engineering, fabrication, and construction, while enabling early-stage evaluation of structural behavior.

The dissertation further explores the theoretical transition from Modernism and Deconstructivism to Parametricism, highlighting key similarities and differences in terms of form, function, and structural expression. While parametricism introduces innovative and fluid architectural forms, the research critically examines its departure from traditional modern principles such as form follows function, purity of form, and structural honesty. The study concludes that parametricism represents a transformative architectural movement that has significantly influenced contemporary architectural practice by integrating digital tools with design intelligence to produce adaptable, efficient, and visually dynamic built forms.

Keywords: Parametricism, Architectural Theory, Computational Design, Digital Architecture, Performance-Based Design, Contemporary Architecture

Climate Change and India's Cultural Heritage: Constitutional Obligations and Legal Challenges

Abstract

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Climate change has emerged as a significant threat to India's rich cultural heritage, affecting both tangible assets such as monuments and historic cities and intangible traditions maintained by local communities. Climate-related events, including floods, heatwaves, sea-level rise, and environmental degradation, are accelerating the deterioration of heritage resources across the country. Although India possesses constitutional and legal provisions aimed at protecting cultural and environmental resources, these frameworks were not originally designed to address climate-related risks, creating gaps in implementation and accountability.

This paper examines India's constitutional obligations for heritage protection under Articles 21, 29, 49, and 51A(f) of the Constitution of India and evaluates the effectiveness of existing environmental and heritage laws in responding to climate-induced threats. The study highlights key legal challenges, including fragmented policy frameworks, weak enforcement mechanisms, and the absence of climate-specific heritage protection strategies. Judicial interpretations and environmental legislation have expanded the scope of heritage protection, yet practical implementation remains limited.

The paper argues that safeguarding cultural heritage in the context of climate change is not only a conservation issue but also a constitutional obligation linked to environmental justice, cultural rights, and intergenerational equity. It emphasizes the need for an integrated legal framework that aligns heritage conservation with climate adaptation and sustainable development strategies. Strengthening legal provisions and policy coordination is essential to ensure long-term protection of India's cultural heritage in a changing environmental context.

Keywords: Climate Change, Cultural Heritage, Constitutional Law, Heritage Protection, Environmental Justice

Heritage Conflict and Cultural Loss

Abstract

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Heritage conflict and cultural loss have emerged as serious global challenges in the context of armed conflicts, political instability, rapid urbanization, and globalization. Cultural heritage, encompassing both tangible and intangible forms, represents the collective memory, identity, and historical continuity of societies. Heritage conflict occurs when cultural sites, symbols, traditions, and practices become contested, damaged, or deliberately destroyed due to ideological, religious, ethnic, or political tensions. Such conflicts often result in irreversible cultural loss, weakening social cohesion and disrupting the transmission of cultural knowledge across generations.

This abstract explores the causes, dimensions, and consequences of heritage conflict and cultural loss. Armed violence, colonial legacies, forced displacement, religious extremism, economic exploitation, and unregulated development frequently contribute to the destruction, neglect, or appropriation of cultural heritage. Beyond the physical damage to monuments, museums, and archaeological sites, intangible heritage such as oral traditions, indigenous knowledge, rituals, languages, and performing arts faces gradual erosion and disappearance. The loss of cultural heritage deeply affects communities by eroding cultural identity, collective memory, and social belonging.

Heritage conflict also raises complex ethical, legal, and political issues related to cultural ownership, repatriation, and heritage protection. Although international conventions and organizations aim to safeguard cultural heritage, their effectiveness is often limited by weak enforcement and lack of local participation. In this context, education, documentation, community engagement, and digital preservation have gained importance as strategies for preventing cultural loss and promoting reconciliation.

In conclusion, addressing heritage conflict and cultural loss requires a multidisciplinary and inclusive approach that integrates cultural preservation with peace-building and sustainable development initiatives. Protecting cultural heritage is essential not only for conserving the past but also for strengthening cultural resilience, social harmony, and shared human heritage for future generations.

Keywords: Heritage Conflict, Cultural Loss, Tangible and Intangible Heritage, Cultural Identity, Armed Conflict, Globalization, Heritage Protection

Effects of Climate Change on Open-Air Heritage: A Review and the Situation in the Region of Mediterranean

Abstract

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This paper collects research information and registered data regarding the relationship between climate change and heritage, aiming to present a comprehensive state of studies and research on the subject. This relationship between these two cores is basically the main subject of this research, as well as the discovery of the areas with little information. Nowadays, there is a remarkable increase in the concern of the damage of cultural heritage and the research of methods and means of protection and of interpretation of its value. In the meanwhile, climate change is the other pillar of this paper, with evident damage, imminent jeopardy, and accumulative downgrade of heritage assets.

Keywords: Climate models, Heritage conservation, Building damage, Impact assessment, Climate uncertainty

Multi-determinant Climate Change Risk Assessment for Heritage: A review of current approaches and future needs

Abstract

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Anthropogenic climate change is radically changing the way we relate to and interact with our shared histories. Culturally important heritage sites have already been damaged and lost due to changing climatic conditions, and these impacts are expected to continue in the future.

Considering the scale of climate change, it is vital that risk assessments move beyond focusing only on climatic hazards such as sea-level rise. A multi-determinant climate risk assessment approach considers four major determinants: hazard, exposure, vulnerability, and response. Hazard refers to climate-related events such as floods, heatwaves, storms, and sea-level rise. Exposure includes the geographical location of heritage sites and their susceptibility to such hazards. Vulnerability relates to the physical condition, materials used, and cultural importance of heritage assets. Response involves adaptive measures, risk management strategies, and mitigation efforts.

The IPCC risk framework integrates these determinants to provide a comprehensive understanding of climate risks. However, most existing studies focus on single-site assessments. Future research should focus on developing dynamic and scalable frameworks that allow multi-site heritage risk evaluation for better planning and protection.

Keywords: Cultural heritage; Climate change; Risk assessment; Exposure; Vulnerability; Adaptation; Mitigation

The Eternal Vaidya: Heritage Lessons for Today's Green Manufacturing

Abstract

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Modern pharmaceutical manufacturing stands at a critical crossroads. While we have achieved unprecedented scale, the environmental cost—from chemical runoff to carbon-heavy global logistics—is no longer sustainable. The *Eternal Vaidya* proposes a radical shift in perspective: looking backward to move forward. This book bridges the gap between the silent ruins of ancient healing centers and the sterile precision of modern laboratories, arguing that the blueprints for a sustainable future are buried in our archaeological past.

By examining the industrial heritage and material remains of ancient medicine—from the distillation vessels of the Indus Valley to the complex trade networks of the Silk Road—this work unearths a forgotten philosophy of "enoughness." The narrative explores how ancient practitioners (the Vaidyas) managed supply chains that were inherently circular, local, and resilient. It contrasts these historical models with today's "just-in-time" manufacturing, identifying specific lessons in green chemistry, biodegradable packaging, and ethical sourcing that can be reintegrated into modern systems. Rather than a mere historical survey, this book serves as a manifesto for "Heritage-Led Innovation." It challenges industry leaders, archaeologists, and environmentalists to collaborate on a new manufacturing paradigm—one where the wisdom of the ancestors meets the technology of tomorrow. The *Eternal Vaidya* is a journey through time that proves sustainability is not a modern invention but a legacy we must reclaim to heal both the patient and the planet.

Keywords: Heritage Science, Industrial Archaeology, Green Pharma, Sustainable Supply Chains, Ethno-pharmacology.

Decolonizing Indian Educational History: Revisiting the Gurukul Tradition

Abstract

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Decolonizing Indian history requires a critical reassessment of colonial narratives that marginalized indigenous knowledge systems, particularly in the field of education. Colonial historiography often portrayed pre-colonial India as lacking organized and scientific educational structures, thereby justifying British educational reforms. However, historical evidence indicates the existence of well-developed indigenous educational institutions such as the Gurukul system and community-supported village schools, where subjects including mathematics, astronomy, grammar, philosophy, ethics, and medicine were systematically taught. These institutions reflected locally rooted pedagogical traditions that emphasized holistic learning and social responsibility.

Colonial educational policies, especially following Thomas Babington Macaulay's Minute on Education of 1835, shifted the focus of education toward administrative efficiency and clerical training, resulting in the gradual decline of indigenous epistemologies and traditional teaching practices. Re-examining the Gurukul tradition provides an opportunity to restore indigenous perspectives in historical discourse and contributes to epistemic justice by recognizing India's intellectual heritage.

Recent educational reforms such as the National Education Policy 2020 emphasize the integration of Indian Knowledge Systems into contemporary curricula to promote culturally grounded and globally relevant education. In this context, the paper explores how revisiting the indigenous Gurukul system can contribute to the decolonization of Indian educational history and support the revival of India's rich knowledge traditions.

Keywords: Decolonization, Indigenous Education, Gurukul System, Indian Knowledge Systems, Educational History

Bridging the Past and Future: Strategies for Community Engagement, Education, and Digital Innovation in Heritage Awareness

Abstract

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This paper examines the role of community engagement and education in enhancing heritage awareness and supporting the sustainable preservation of cultural heritage. As cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, faces increasing threats from urbanization, modernization, and changing social values, the study aims to identify inclusive approaches that strengthen public participation and awareness in heritage conservation.

The study is situated within community settings, educational institutions, museums, and public history initiatives where heritage-related activities are actively practiced. It focuses on the involvement of local communities, students, educators, and heritage professionals in conservation and awareness programs. A qualitative research design is employed, based on the analysis of secondary data drawn from scholarly literature, policy documents, official reports, and selected case studies. The study does not involve experimental treatment; rather, it critically examines existing models of community participation, heritage education, and outreach practices.

The findings reveal that heritage management is more effective when it shifts from top-down institutional control to participatory, community-driven approaches that foster local ownership and responsibility. The integration of heritage education into formal curricula enhances cultural awareness, civic responsibility, and critical thinking among learners. Furthermore, museums and public history institutions play a significant role in expanding heritage awareness by engaging diverse audiences through outreach initiatives and inclusive programming.

Keywords: Community Engagement, Heritage Education, Heritage Awareness, Cultural Heritage, Sustainable Conservation

Globalization Urbanization and Cultural Identity

Abstract

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Globalization and urbanization are significant processes that greatly affect cultural identity in our world today. Globalization refers to the increasing connections between countries through trade, technology, communication, and sharing ideas. Urbanization is the movement of people from rural areas to cities and the quick growth of city life. Together, these influences have transformed how people live, think, and showcase their culture.

Through globalization, individuals can learn about different cultures via the internet, social media, movies, music, and travel. Consequently, many adopt new lifestyles, clothing styles, eating habits, and languages from around the globe. This trend is especially noticeable in cities where global brands and modern trends are readily accessible. While globalization encourages open-mindedness and connection among people, it can also diminish the significance of local traditions and customs.

Urbanization amplifies the effects of globalization on cultural identity. Cities bring together individuals from various backgrounds, regions, and cultures. This mix creates cultural diversity but can also alter traditional lifestyles. In urban settings, people often lead fast-paced lives with nuclear family structures and contemporary values. Many traditional practices, local languages, and community ties tend to weaken, especially among younger generations.

Nevertheless, globalization and urbanization do not always erase cultural identity. Many individuals strive to maintain their culture by celebrating festivals, preserving traditional art forms, and promoting local languages. Cities offer platforms for sharing culture through events, education, and digital means. This indicates that cultural identity is adaptable and can evolve over time.

In summary, globalization and urbanization significantly influence cultural identity. They facilitate cultural exchange and progress while presenting challenges for maintaining traditions. It's essential to find a balance between enjoying the advantages of modern life and safeguarding cultural heritage and diversity.

Keywords: Globalization, Urbanization, Cultural Identity, Cultural Diversity, Cultural Change, Modernization, Traditional Culture, Urban Life, Social Media, Cultural Preservation

Awareness, Advocacy, and Capacity Building in Heritage Conservation

Abstract

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Heritage, history, and archaeology constitute the cultural foundation of societies and play an essential role in shaping collective identity, social cohesion, and historical awareness. In the twenty-first century, cultural heritage faces numerous challenges, including rapid urbanization, environmental degradation, neglect, inadequate funding, and limited public participation. Addressing these challenges requires integrated strategies that emphasize awareness creation, advocacy, and capacity building for the sustainable conservation and management of heritage resources.

Awareness creation is a fundamental step in heritage preservation, as it helps communities recognize the cultural and historical significance of both tangible and intangible heritage. Educational initiatives, museum outreach programs, public history projects, and digital platforms have enhanced public understanding of heritage issues. The inclusion of heritage education in academic curricula encourages young people to develop a sense of responsibility toward cultural preservation. Digital technologies, including virtual exhibitions and social media platforms, further expand public engagement by making heritage knowledge more accessible and inclusive.

Advocacy complements awareness by mobilizing public support and influencing heritage policies and conservation practices. Effective advocacy involves collaboration among historians, archaeologists, policymakers, non-governmental organizations, and local communities. Community-based initiatives and legal advocacy strengthen heritage protection frameworks and promote responsible conservation practices.

Capacity building is equally important for sustainable heritage management, focusing on the development of professional skills and institutional knowledge. Training programs for heritage professionals, community members, and volunteers enhance expertise in documentation, conservation, and site management. Collaborative partnerships and knowledge-sharing initiatives support the adoption of best practices and inclusive approaches to heritage preservation.

Keywords: Cultural Heritage, Heritage Conservation, Awareness Creation, Advocacy, Capacity Building

Residential Schooling and Multidimensional Empowerment of BC Welfare Students in Telangana: An Empirical Study

Abstract

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Residential education has become an important policy measure aimed at tackling educational inequalities faced by underprivileged groups in India. In the region of Telangana, BC Welfare Residential Schools have been introduced to improve access, retention, and overall growth of students from Backward Class (BC) communities. Although previous studies have looked into residential education frameworks like Eklavya Model Residential Schools and Ashram Schools, there has been a lack of thorough empirical focus specifically on BC Welfare institutions and their impact on fostering diverse empowerment. This current research examines the educational, social-emotional, and aspirational results of BC students attending residential schools in Telangana. Utilizing a mixed-methods strategy, the study evaluates institutional support structures, markers of academic success, leadership development, and mental health outcomes. The results aim to enrich policy discussions by determining if residential schooling serves merely as a means to increase access or acts as a transformative tool for achieving long-term social advancement and educational fairness for BC students.

Keywords: Residential Schooling; BC Welfare Students; Backward Class Education; Educational Empowerment; Multidimensional Empowerment; Social Mobility; Educational Equity; Institutional Climate; Academic Achievement.

Heritage Laws, Policies, and Institutional Frameworks in India: A Critical Legal Analysis

Abstract

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India's extensive cultural and archaeological heritage embodies a priceless civilizational legacy that requires robust legal safeguards and efficient institutional management. This article thoroughly analyzes the legal structure regulating heritage preservation in India, focusing specifically on the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act and its later modifications. It examines the constitutional requirement of Articles 49 and 51A(f) of the Constitution of India, which establish duties for the State and citizens to safeguard monuments and cultural heritage. The research also examines the role and operation of the Archaeological Survey of India as the main legal authority tasked with the conservation and regulation of centrally protected monuments.

The study assesses the effectiveness of current policies in tackling modern issues like swift urban expansion, infrastructure growth, encroachments, and competing land-use priorities. It also examines judicial trends and significant interpretations that have broadened the scope of heritage protection within the wider context of environmental and constitutional law. Although India has an extensive legislative framework, there are notable deficiencies in enforcement measures, coordination among agencies, involvement of communities, and alignment with sustainable development objectives.

The article advocates for an improved and more inclusive heritage governance framework that increases accountability, improves regulatory clarity, and aligns conservation goals with developmental needs. Utilizing doctrinal and analytical approaches, this research adds to the ongoing conversation on cultural heritage legislation and institutional changes in India

Keywords: Cultural Heritage Law; Ancient Monuments Act; Archaeological Survey of India; Constitutional Protection; Heritage Governance

Globalization, Urbanization, and Cultural Identity: A Legal Perspective on Cultural Protection in India

Abstract

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Globalization and urbanization are rapidly transforming Indian society. Globalization connects India with the global economy through trade, media, technology, and migration, while urbanization leads to the expansion of cities and infrastructure development. These processes promote economic growth and modernization, but they also create challenges for cultural identity, traditions, and local heritage.

This paper examines the impact of globalization and urban development on cultural identity from a legal perspective. The Constitution of India recognizes the importance of protecting cultural heritage. Article 49 directs the State to protect monuments and places of historical importance, and Article 51A(f) makes it a fundamental duty of every citizen to preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture. Various heritage protection laws and regulatory frameworks aim to safeguard historical sites and cultural spaces from uncontrolled urban expansion.

The study also discusses the conflict between development projects and cultural preservation. Courts in India have emphasized the need to balance economic growth with environmental and cultural protection. However, weak implementation and lack of awareness often reduce the effectiveness of these safeguards.

The paper argues that sustainable development must include legal protection of cultural identity. A balanced and responsible approach is necessary to ensure that modernization does not lead to the loss of India's cultural roots and traditional values.

Keywords: Globalization; Urbanization; Cultural Identity; Constitutional Protection; Cultural Heritage Law; Sustainable Development

Strengthening Communities through Awareness, Advocacy, and

Abstract

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Awareness, advocacy, and capacity building are interconnected pillars that play a critical role in empowering individuals and communities to address social, environmental, and developmental challenges. Awareness serves as the foundation by informing individuals about their rights, responsibilities, and available opportunities. It enables communities to recognize existing issues, understand their implications, and develop informed perspectives. Without adequate awareness, meaningful participation and sustainable change remain limited.

Advocacy builds upon awareness by transforming knowledge into action. It involves strategic efforts to influence policies, systems, and decision-making processes to promote equity, inclusion, and justice. Through advocacy, individuals and organizations can amplify marginalized voices, promote accountability, and foster supportive environments for positive change. Effective advocacy encourages dialogue between stakeholders, including policymakers, civil society, and communities, thereby strengthening democratic participation and responsiveness.

Capacity building complements awareness and advocacy by enhancing the skills, knowledge, and institutional abilities required for sustainable development. It focuses on equipping individuals, organizations, and communities with competencies such as leadership, communication, planning, and resource management. Capacity building ensures that stakeholders are not only aware and motivated but also capable of implementing solutions and sustaining progress over time.

Together, awareness, advocacy, and capacity building create a comprehensive framework for empowerment and social transformation. They promote active participation, strengthen institutional effectiveness, and enable communities to become self-reliant and resilient. Integrating these elements into development initiatives enhances long-term impact by fostering ownership, accountability, and sustainability.

Keywords: Awareness, Advocacy, Capacity Building, Community Empowerment, Sustainable Development

Sustainable Heritage Management and Community Participation

Abstract

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Sustainable heritage management refers to the systematic protection, conservation, and responsible utilisation of cultural and natural heritage resources to ensure their preservation for present and future generations. It aims to maintain historical monuments, traditions, and cultural identities while balancing environmental, social, and economic development. Community participation is a key element in this process, as local people act as custodians of their heritage and contribute through awareness, cooperation, and decision-making. Their involvement enhances conservation efforts, promotes sustainable tourism, and generates livelihood opportunities. Support from organisations such as UNESCO further strengthens preservation initiatives at local and global levels. Thus, integrating sustainable practices with active community engagement ensures the long-term protection and meaningful use of heritage resources.

Balancing Tourism and Heritage Protection: Legal Safeguards in India

Abstract

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India boasts a profound cultural heritage, with 44 UNESCO World Heritage Sites and thousands of ancient monuments that attract millions of tourists annually. However, the rapid growth of tourism poses significant risks to these sites, including physical damage, environmental degradation, and cultural erosion. This research paper examines the legal safeguards in India designed to balance tourism promotion with heritage protection. Primary legislation, such as the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act (1958), the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act (1972), and environmental laws like the Environment (Protection) Act (1986) and Wildlife (Protection) Act (1972), form the backbone of this framework. These laws aim to regulate activities around heritage sites, prevent illegal trade, and ensure sustainable development.

Drawing from case studies of prominent sites like the Taj Mahal, Ajanta Caves, and Hampi, the paper highlights both positive impacts—such as economic growth and cultural awareness—and negative effects, including overcrowding and pollution. Challenges identified include weak enforcement, overlapping jurisdictions between central and state authorities, and insufficient community involvement. The study recommends strengthening legal mechanisms through amendments for carrying capacity assessments, public-private partnerships, and technology integration for monitoring. It also emphasizes the need for community-based tourism models to foster local ownership and sustainability.

By analyzing existing policies and international best practices, this paper argues for a holistic approach that integrates tourism revenue into conservation efforts. Ultimately, effective legal safeguards can transform tourism into a tool for heritage preservation, ensuring India's cultural legacy endures for future generations while contributing to economic resilience. This research underscores the urgency of adaptive policies in the face of post-pandemic tourism recovery and climate change threats.

Keywords: Heritage conservation, Sustainable tourism, Legal safeguards, India, UNESCO sites

Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Challenges in India: A Theoretical and Critical Analysis

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Abstract

India's cultural heritage represents one of the most diverse and historically layered civilizational traditions in the world, encompassing monuments, archaeological sites, languages, rituals, and indigenous knowledge systems that collectively shape social memory and national identity. This study presents a theoretical and critical analysis of cultural heritage in India by examining the conceptual foundations of heritage and the contemporary challenges affecting its preservation. Moving beyond the traditional view of heritage as static inheritance, the paper interprets heritage as a dynamic socio-cultural and political process shaped by historical experiences and modern transformations.

The research investigates major contemporary pressures on Indian heritage, including globalization, rapid urbanization, commercialization, environmental degradation, digital transformation, identity politics, and institutional fragmentation. It evaluates the evolution of heritage governance from colonial frameworks to post-independence legal and institutional systems, particularly the role of agencies such as the Archaeological Survey of India in conservation and management. Case-based illustrations, including sites such as the Taj Mahal and Jaipur Walled City, demonstrate the tensions between development, tourism, environmental pressures, and heritage protection.

Drawing upon heritage theory and postcolonial scholarship, the study argues that existing preservation models remain limited unless reinterpreted through participatory and interdisciplinary approaches. It emphasizes the importance of community participation, digital documentation, sustainable development integration, and inclusive governance frameworks in safeguarding cultural heritage. The paper concludes that protecting India's cultural heritage requires a rethinking of the relationship between development, identity, and collective memory in contemporary society, ensuring that heritage remains a living and sustainable cultural resource for future generations.

Keywords: Cultural Heritage, India, Heritage Theory, Urbanization, Sustainability, Postcolonialism

Strengthening Communities through Awareness, Advocacy, and Capacity Building

Abstract

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Awareness, advocacy, and capacity building are interconnected pillars that play a critical role in empowering individuals and communities to address social, environmental, and developmental challenges. Awareness serves as the foundation by informing individuals about their rights, responsibilities, and available opportunities. It enables communities to recognize existing issues, understand their implications, and develop informed perspectives. Without adequate awareness, meaningful participation and sustainable change remain limited.

Advocacy builds upon awareness by transforming knowledge into action. It involves strategic efforts to influence policies, systems, and decision-making processes to promote equity, inclusion, and justice. Through advocacy, individuals and organizations can amplify marginalized voices, promote accountability, and foster supportive environments for positive change. Effective advocacy encourages dialogue between stakeholders, including policymakers, civil society, and communities, thereby strengthening democratic participation and responsiveness.

Capacity building complements awareness and advocacy by enhancing the skills, knowledge, and institutional abilities required for sustainable development. It focuses on equipping individuals, organizations, and communities with competencies such as leadership, communication, planning, and resource management. Capacity building ensures that stakeholders are not only aware and motivated but also capable of implementing solutions and sustaining progress over time.

Together, awareness, advocacy, and capacity building create a comprehensive framework for empowerment and social transformation. They promote active participation, strengthen institutional effectiveness, and enable communities to become self-reliant and resilient. Integrating these elements into development initiatives enhances long-term impact by fostering ownership, accountability, and sustainability. This integrated approach is essential for achieving inclusive development, strengthening governance, and ensuring that communities are equipped to address current and emerging challenges effectively.

Keywords: Awareness, Advocacy, Capacity Building, Community Empowerment, Sustainable Development

Technological Advancements in Mechanical Engineering for Cultural Heritage and Archaeological Sustainability

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Abstract

The evolving themes of historical reinterpretation, technological innovation, heritage conservation, and cultural sustainability present strong interdisciplinary connections with mechanical engineering. Mechanical engineering contributes significantly to archaeological research and heritage preservation through advanced material characterization, structural analysis, thermal studies, and sustainable design practices. Modern tools such as computational modeling, digital simulation, additive manufacturing, and robotics enable non-destructive testing, restoration planning, and structural health monitoring of historical monuments and artifacts. Innovations in energy-efficient systems and green manufacturing further support sustainable heritage management by reducing environmental impact while ensuring long-term preservation. Mechanical engineers also play a vital role in developing climate-responsive conservation techniques, addressing challenges such as material degradation, environmental stress, and urbanization pressures on cultural assets. Integration of artificial intelligence, automation, and digital technologies enhances documentation, analysis, and visualization of historical structures, enabling accurate interpretation and informed decision-making. By aligning mechanical engineering innovations with heritage research themes, this approach fosters sustainable conservation strategies, promotes technological advancement in archaeology, and strengthens the role of engineering in preserving cultural identity while addressing contemporary societal and environmental challenges.

Keywords: Mechanical Engineering Applications, Heritage Conservation, Archaeological, Structural Health Monitoring, Material Characterization, Digital Simulation and Modeling, Non-Destructive Testing

Smart Heritage: An IoT-Based Multi-Parameter Sensor Network for Real-Time Structural Health and Environmental Monitoring of Ancient Monuments

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Abstract

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The preservation of ancient monuments and cultural heritage sites faces growing threats from environmental degradation, climate change, and structural aging. Traditional conservation methods, which rely on periodic manual inspections, often fail to detect early-stage deterioration or provide real-time alerts for sudden risks. This paper proposes an innovative Internet of Things (IoT)-based modular sensor network designed for continuous, non-invasive monitoring of heritage structures. The system architecture integrates multiple layers—sensor, node, network, and cloud—to enable comprehensive data collection and analysis. A network of low-power wireless sensors monitors critical parameters including temperature, relative humidity, vibration, barometric pressure, ambient light, and seismic activity. Using a cost-effective platform such as Raspberry Pi as processing nodes, the system transmits data to cloud storage at regular intervals. An integrated alert mechanism triggers notifications when sensor readings exceed predefined safety thresholds, enabling proactive maintenance and rapid emergency response. The proposed framework also discusses integration with Heritage Building Information Modelling (H-BIM) and Digital Twin technologies for predictive conservation, moving beyond reactive approaches to ensure long-term structural integrity. By providing real-time visibility into the condition of heritage assets, this smart monitoring system offers a scalable, sustainable solution for safeguarding cultural legacy for future generations.

Keywords: Internet of Things (IoT), Structural Health Monitoring, Heritage Conservation, Wireless Sensor Networks, Predictive Maintenance, Digital Twin.

IoT-Based Environmental Monitoring Systems for Heritage Structure Preservation

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Abstract

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Heritage structures are highly vulnerable to environmental degradation caused by fluctuations in temperature, humidity, air pollution, vibration, and moisture infiltration. Continuous monitoring of these parameters is essential for effective preservation and sustainable conservation planning. This paper proposes an Internet of Things (IoT)-based environmental monitoring system designed specifically for heritage structure preservation. The system integrates low-power sensors, embedded microcontrollers, and wireless communication modules to collect real-time environmental data from historical monuments and archaeological sites.

Through cloud-based platforms, the suggested framework makes remote monitoring possible while streamlining data storage, visualization, and predictive analysis. The technology prevents structural deterioration by using threshold-based alarm mechanisms and data analytics to deliver early warnings against potentially hazardous environmental conditions. In order to preserve the integrity and elegance of the legacy, the architecture is made to be minimally invasive, scalable, and energy-efficient.

In order to evaluate long-term environmental repercussions and assist preventive conservation initiatives, the project also investigates the integration of AI-driven predictive models. The application shows how intelligent technologies may lower the cost of manual inspections while improving preservation procedures. The results demonstrate how IoT-enabled solutions may support digital transformation in historical and archaeological research as well as sustainable heritage management.



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