

ICOMOS - INDIA's Annual Scientific Symposium on RVCA Campus, February 2023

Call for Papers

Parampara@75

Journey of 75years: Understanding Spatial Transformation through the lens of Built Heritage Conservation

Proposal Jointly Prepared by

Bikramjit Chakraborty, Associate Professor, Co-ordinator , NSC HD

R V C A Bangalore, Institutional member of ICOMOS India

And

ICOMOS INDIA



Parampara@75 : Journey of 75years: Understanding Spatial Transformation through the lens of Built Heritage Conservation

The phenomena of transformation and change are dynamic in nature. However, within the process of change, we also need to understand the value of anthropogenic layers built in the past. The complex relationship between nature, space and humanity must be understood, while decoding history to unfold the present. Frequently, we tend to binarise our society into the segments of rural and urban. This, in reality, is a difficult and a reductive way of categorising space. Both are simultaneously interacting, creating a fluidity of boundaries, and their cumulative manifestation. We must thus relook at the methods of applying “scientific objectivity” alone, that works on gathering clean data, meticulous documentation, with an explicit conclusions. Understanding fluidity and dynamics of a phenomenon is the very essence of unearthing the idea of transformation and the concept of change.

Spatial Transformation needs to be recognised through agencies that continue to produce exclusive spaces in a cumulative manner. Understanding its cohesiveness is more important than its dialectic, but scientific entities. This constant process determines the nature of transformation, change and allied outcomes. Conflicts and contradictions are perpetual; acknowledging such issues and establishing the limits that manifest their relationship, and placing those in the foreground, offers a challenge towards understanding Spatial Transformation.

ICOMOS INDIA’s initiative of capturing this discourse through the lens of Built heritage conservation has the potential of amplifying discussions among peers and professionals. It is within this context that the Scientific Symposium hosted by the RV College of Architecture, Bangalore as ICOMOS INDIA’s institutional member from South Zone would create a platform for dialogues in future. This may work together, creating an inclusive pedagogy towards understanding the built environment, transformation and its agencies and change in a more cohesive manner.

Sub-themes:

1. Conservation : Past and Present : Epistemology and Discourse

Following the ICOMOS Charters, the purpose of conservation in human history is to build a lens to capture the development trajectory. Vitruvius in 1st century BC, had said that ‘when designing a building or planning a town, buildings should conform to the nature and climate of each place’. Built expression, ranging from traditional settlements to the royal architectural edifices has confirmed this. In Indian context, we take conservation as a lens for visualising everyday life practices not only related to paying respect to objects of built entity that we inherited but acknowledging the experiences that accumulate over time. Thus, ICOMOS-India Scientific Symposium 2023 will look at the epistemological perspective of conservation more as an Indian idea that not only has a history of past 75 years of realisation and practice but also as a cultural construct integrated with the idea of conservations and transformations.

Suggested keywords: History - Theory - Criticism, Reflexivity Positionality, Authenticity, Integrity, Ethics, Value and Significance, Legitimacy, Ontology and epistemology.

2. Evolution of Conservation as a Discipline and its Pedagogy:

As an academic program in India, the first formal course and its institutionalisation started as a Department of Architectural Conservation in 1986. It was the first postgraduate programme in India to offer a degree in Architectural Conservation. Every architecture school in India has made constant efforts of developing sensitive architectural minds. Various subjects have talked about the idea of “place making” to “experiential quality of void” or the discussion of “volume of the void” to the “logic of vernacular” and much more during classroom teaching and field visits. These have nurtured the discipline with several institutions taking up conservation as one of their key disciplinary ideas, placing emphasis on an interdisciplinary approach. At this juncture talking about Conservation itself as a lens to look at phenomena appears important. The session will view how different subjects and perspectives deal with “Built heritage conservation” in real life student-teacher and professional interactions. Relevance of different disciplinary perspectives in the domain of conservation will reveal the idea of conservation across architectural thinking, pedagogy and allied courses.

Suggested keywords: Trans and interdisciplinary, Education-discourse, Human resources, Teaching-Learning, Project Management, Construction Techniques, Historiography, Historic Urban landscape, Archaeology, Art Appreciation, Urban Transformation, Design and planning, Geo heritage, New media Discourse, Tourism and heritage, Outreach and Dissemination.

3. Funding, Politics and Negotiation on Conservation Process

Architecture has always been used as a nation building tool signifying a constant relationship between past and present; converging and diverging simultaneously. In these past 75 years of India's independence a series of construction and reconstruction has emerged, raising the question as to what we need to inherit. The constant conflict between development and conservation creates contradictions, and shapes institutional priorities. 'New' becomes the eraser of the "old". Image building takes on the past; predicated over the role played by funding politics and negotiations and deliberations, making the conservation process more about reinstating specific significance, and thereby reinforcing its value. The session will deal with the related aspects and issues, highlighting the negotiating spaces and politics of conservation as well as its 'govern-mentality', across time; specifically focusing on the last seven decades.

Suggested keywords: Identity, Imageability, Sense of belonging, Tangible-Intangible Values, Transactional forces, ease of business, Power Relations, Assertion and Subversion, Conflicts and contradictions.

4. Heritage and Conservation : Policies and Practice:

Policies reflect actions for safeguarding existing heritage structures, which the practitioners adopt as guidelines. Policies are often framed based on the centrality of discourse that helps adopting a strategy based on its intent. The key questions, however are about identifying the beneficiaries and comprehending the transactional cost it generates, rather than also recognising its intangible values. Here, one can aim at examining as to how we use the policy framework(s) as a tool to develop mechanisms of safeguarding our built heritage in several sites across the country in the post independence era. How the central to federal to the local are envisaged, and carried from case to case, can be a subject of reflections, review and research.

Suggested keywords: 'Production of Space', Politics of space, Spatial Triad, Visionary, Contested Space, Laws, Acts, Regulations, Constraints, Planning Strategies, Transfer Development Rights vs Transactional Development rights, Stakeholders, Public Participation, Heritage Impact Assessment.

5. Future of Conservation : Material and Technological Aspects:

Conservation process has, in essence, limitations of the material used in the construction. How the aspects of their authenticity and integrity are perceived in Indian context - where reuse of materials are of key importance, which raises questions associated with the concept and idea of sustainability. Decisions of selecting appropriate materials or tools to be used in conservation, their limitations or state of the technology types, are expected to be the standard practice in future. Several methods of documentation to understand the phenomena of behavioural pattern of a specific material, have achieved certain level of accuracy, though data interpretation also depends on human engagements and agencies of several kinds. These aspects will be the focus of discussion under this sub theme.

Suggested keywords: SDG, LiDAR, 3D Laser Scanning, Photogrammetry, Drone Survey, point Cloud data, Chemical Analysis, Thin Section Studies, Thermal imaging, Refraction and Reflection, GIS, Strength of Materials, Structural Analysis.



Important Dates:

20th January 2023		Opening of google form link for the submission of Abstracts for the ICOMOS scientific symposium based on the above mentioned Sub-themes. The submitted abstract must fall under one category of sub theme.
12th February 2023		Last date of Submission of abstract in 300 to 400 words via google form as per the link mentioned in the poster and brochure
18th February, 2023		Announcement of the selected abstracts via email
21st February, 2023		Submission of 8 to 10 slides presentation to demonstrate the key argument during the ICOMOS Scientific Symposium2023
24th, 25th and 26th February 2023		8min Presentation of the abstract based on the file submitted on 21st February 2023. Presentation of selected abstracts will be conducted at RVCA campus, Bangalore during the ICOMOS Scientific Symposium 2023.
9th April 2023		Complete paper Submission between 1800 to 2500 words
14th May 2023		Reviewers' comments
11th June 2023		Revised final paper Submission
31st July 2023		Send for Publication as per the decision of ICOMOS-INDIA's Publication Committee

Paper Submission Stages:

Stage:01

1. **Submission of Abstracts:** Any person who is associated with the “interest” of Heritage and Conservation from any disciplinary background may submit the abstract. The abstract will be submitted via “google form” accessing the below mentioned link. Length of the abstract must be between 300 to 400 words.

<https://forms.gle/8zVc2XzUypi7mZEi9>

2. Up to three persons as a team can submit the abstract jointly. However, during abstract submission clearly mention the name of the author and co-author(s) in the google form as applicable.
3. The author will be always the key contact person for all future correspondence till the time of publication.

Stage:02 Presentation of Selected abstract at RVCA campus, Bangalore during ICOMOS Scientific symposium

1. The presentation needs to be submitted by 21st February 2023, via a google form which will be circulated along with the acceptance/selection of abstract email.
2. The Presentation sequence will be published and team can present the slides during the session.

Stage:03 Final paper submission:

1. The Final and complete paper submission between 1800 to 2500 words by 9th April via a separate google form which will be shared post symposium
2. The Final paper will be reviewed by the reviewers and the comments will be shared by 14th May, 2023
3. A revised version of the paper for publication need to be submitted by 11th June 2023
4. The editorial team will complete the necessary works and make it publication ready by 31st July 2023.

The MS Word Abstract copy upload format:

The abstract must be between 300 to 400 words. Kindly follow the word Limit Strictly. Please use the font “Garamond” with 12 font size and 1.5 spacing. Keep a margin 1.5 cm from all four sides.

Don’t use bold or italics option to highlight any sentences or word or phrase. The author must mention key words at the end of the abstract. The abstract must be uploaded in MS word format and the document must be a one page document. Please mention author and co-author name(s) and affiliation clearly after the title of the abstract.

The ‘nomenclature’ of the file which will be submitted via the “Google Form” (link is mentioned earlier) must follow the mentioned syntax below. It would be Author’s first name followed by the mobile number which is already mentioned in the google form. So, as an example if the Author’s name is Katha Singh and her contact number is 783783XXXX then the file name would be katha783783XXXX.doc. Please note all alphabets used in the file name must be in small case.

Registration:

Please note that all selected authors of the presentation, for the SS2023 must complete the necessary registration procedure, which will be announced by ICOMOS - INDIA separately and shortly. However, to participate the symposium all individuals must be registered as per the ICOMOS-INDIA’s notification.

Communication:

All communication will be made via email only. For “scientific symposium” related query, please write to ss2023icomosindia.rvca@rvei.edu.in and always mark a copy to icomosindia@gmail.com .

Credits:

The content conceptualised and created by
Bikramjit Chakraborty, Co-ordinator NSC-HD, Associate Professor, R V college of Architecture, Institutional
Member of ICOMOS INDIA

Representatives from Executive committee of ICOMOS INDIA shared their valuable observation and offered
continuous encouragement :

1. Dr. Navin Piplani, President, ICOMOS-INDIA
2. Dr. Rima Hooja, Vice- President, ICOMOS-INDIA
3. Ms. Shalini Dasgupta, Secretary, ICOMOS-INDIA
4. Ms. Priyanka Singh, Treasurer, ICOMOS-INDIA
5. Mr. GSV Suryanarayana Murthy, South Zone Representative, ICOMOS-INDIA
6. Dr. Arun Menon, NSC Counsellor, ICOMOS-INDIA
7. Dr. Jigna Desai, Institutional Member Representative, ICOMOS-INDIA

Reviewed and edited by :

1. Dr. Biswaroop Das, Former Director, Centre for Social Studies, Surat

Supported the thoughts by :

1. Dr. O. P. Bawane, Principal, RVCA
2. Prof. Suresh Murthy, Dean, RVCA

Review assistance to prepare this document, from RVCA faculty Members

1. Arun Swaminathan, Design Chair, RVCA
2. Dinesh Rao, Adjunct faculty, RVCA
3. Nishant, Assistant Prof. RVCA
4. Hiranmayi S, Assistant Prof. RVCA
5. Anupriya S, Assistant Prof. RVCA
6. Harcharan P, Assistant Prof. RVCA
7. Sreedhar K, Professor, RVCA

Scientific Symposium Theme poster and logo design

1. Gowtham N, Assistant Prof. RVCA
2. Nishant. Assistant Prof. RVCA

Photographs taken by:

Bikramjit C and Gowtham N