

Marie-Theres Albert Culture, Heritage and Identity

Series of lectures on Cultural Heritage in the 21st Century - Opportunities and Challenges

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Reflects the need to safeguard
Cultural Diversity

Focused on the Recognition of inherited Treasures from manifold Peoples of the World

1972

Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage entry into force 17 Dec. 1975

First ratifying countries:

USA (Dec. 1973)

Egypt (Feb. 1974)

Iraq (Mar. 1974)

Bulgaria (Mar. 1974)

Most popular and most successful Programme of UNESCO

First instrument combining the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage





1970

Convention on the Means of
Prohibiting and Preventing the
Illicit Import, Export and
Transfer of Ownership of
Cultural Property

1972

Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage

1954

Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (Hague Convention)

UNESCO Conventions for the Protection of Culture and Heritage

2005

Protection on the
Protection and
Promotion of the
Diversity of Cultural
Expressions

2003

Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

2001

Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage





Diversity of Knowledge and Skills on an International Scale

Natural Heritage – Biodiversity

Gender Diversity

Art and Artefacts

"The best of the world is the diversity of the contained universes and the conservation of this diversity is the challenge of the future..."

(Eduardo Galeano)

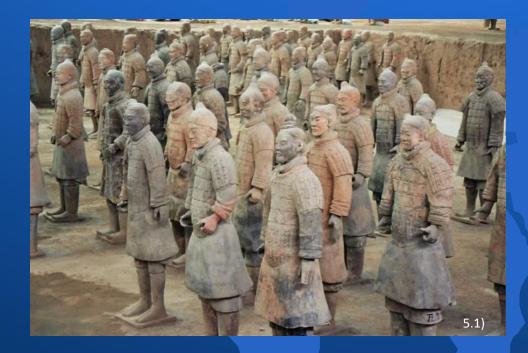
Cultural and Natural Heritage Landscapes

Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage

Diversity of Life Styles and Expressions







The Destruction of Heritage
Aims at Destroying Identities

"No doubt thousands of statues will still remain to be unearthed at this archaeological site, which was not discovered until 1974. Quin Shihuang (d. 210 B.C.), the first unifier of China is buried, surrounded by the famous terracotta warriors, at the centre of a complex designed to mirror the urban plan off the capital, Xianyang. The small figures are all different; with their horses, chariots and weapons, they are all masterpieces of realism and also of great historical interest."

Source: www.unesco.org/nwhc/pages/doc/main/3.htm







"The cultural landscape and archaeological remains of the Bamiyan Valley represent the particular artistic and religious developments from the 1st to the 13th centuries in ancient Bakhtria, integrating various cultural influences into the Gandhara school of Buddhist art. The area contains numerous Buddhist monastic ensembles and sanctuaries, as well as fortified settlements from the Islamic period. The site is also testimony to the tragic destruction of the two standing Buddha statues by the Taliban in March 2001, which shook the world."

(www.unesco.org/nwhc/pages/doc/mainf3.htm)





Warsaw destroyed in 1945

Warsaw was destroyed at least twice by German Nazi troops. The first time: late in 1939, in the fascist attack on the country; then again during the Warsaw Uprising between October 1944 and January 1945.

Approximately 80% of the city had been destroyed. Around 700.000 citizens lost their lives.







Reconstructed Old Town of Warsaw

Historic centre of Warsaw

Category (ii), (vi) listed since 1980

After the war, a five-year reconstruction campaign by its citizens resulted in today's meticulous restoration of the Old Town, with its churches, palaces and market-place. It is an outstanding example of a near-total reconstruction of a span of history covering the 13th to the 20th century.

Source: http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/30







Destroyed Dresden, 1945

Dresden in ruins

In 1945, Dresden was heavily bombed by the Allied Powers, and a large part of the Old Town was destroyed.







Rebuilt Frauenkirche

The Reconstruction of Dresden

After the war, as part of the German

Democratic Republic, the destroyed areas

were subject to restoration and

reconstruction.

In 2004, the Dresden Elbe Valley was listed under criteria (ii), (iii), (iv), (v).

The nomination includes the Frauenkirche, the reconstruction was completed in 2006.

The Dresden Elb Valley was delisted in 2009.

Source: http://whc.unesco.org/archive/advisory_body_evaluation/1156.pdf



View of the Cultural Landscape Dresden and justification for its inscription



Current view on the historic city centre of Dresden

Source: Grüne Liga, Netzwerk Ökologischer Bewegungen, http://www.welterbe-erhalten.de/pict/foto/09.jpg, DOA 04.02.08



View of the Cultural Landscape Dresden and justification for its inscription



Construction site of the Waldschloesschen Bridge in the Dresden Elbe Valley, Germany

Source: http://www.flickr.com/photos/onkel_thoms/6986070628/







A scene from the movie "Long Walk Home" (2002)

Contempt of Cultural Identity – Aborigines in Australia

Between 1910 and 1970, official policy in Australia allowed to take away half-blood Aborigine children from their families and to incarcerate them 'for their own good' in training schools.

They were educated as servants for white families.

Source: http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0252444/#comment



A scene from the movie "Long Walk Home" (2002) Source: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0252444/mediaindex







Surviving Herero (1907)

The Destruction of Cultural Identities Aims at Establishing New Systems

Herero in chains during the 1904 rebellion in the German colony South-West Africa, before the Herero Genocide (1904-07).

After WW1 the territory was ruled by South Africa. Namibia, as it is called today, became independent in 1990.



World Map of Colonies at the End of the Second World War in 1945. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colonialism







City Palace (Stadtschloss) in Berlin, Germany

The Berlin City Palace was situated in central Berlin. It was originally built in 1443 as a winter residence for the rulers of Brandenburg, then Prussia and finally it became the seat of the German Emperors.

After the First World War, it was converted into a museum and its interior was destroyed during the Second World War.

The Palace was completely demolished on the 7.9.1950



Demolition after the War







In 1950, the communists in East Germany demolished the City Palace as a symbol of "Prussian militarism". In its stead, they erected the Palace of the Republic, a modern socialist realist building.

After the German reunification, the Palace was found to be contaminated by asbestos. Despite local opposition, in 2003, the German parliament decided to demolish the Palace of the Republic and reconstruct the City Palace.





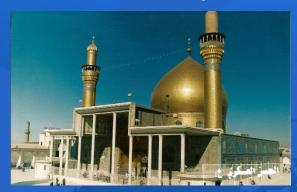
Virtual reconstruction of the Berlin City Palace



Current view on the site of the former Palace of the Republic, Berlin (2015)



The destroyed Al-Askari Mosque in Samarra, Iraq



Mosque before bombing in 2006



Mosque after bombing in 2006

The destroyed Umayyad Mosque in Aleppo, Syria



Mosque in 2009



Destroyed Mosque in 2016





Images

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