



Heritage Borders of Engagement Network

Mobilising cultural heritage for building partnerships and institutions for sustainable and inclusive peace

International Research Network Conference

TOWARDS A GLOBAL AGENDA FOR HUMANITARIAN HERITAGE

A COMMUNITY-CENTRED VISION TOWARDS THE FUTURE of GLOBAL HERITAGE

Monday, 14- Wednesday, 16 June 2021
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Heritage Borders of Engagement Network - ENGAGE
Mobilising cultural heritage for building partnerships and institutions for sustainable
and inclusive peace.

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

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A COMMUNITY-CENTRED VISION TOWARDS THE FUTURE OF
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14-16th June 2021

5 Venues
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ENGAGE PAPER SERIES

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ABOUT the ENGAGE Network

The 'Heritage Borders of Engagement Network - [ENGAGE](#) seeks to develop transformative equitable partnerships in the Middle East and South Asia, focused on shared 'humanitarian heritage'. Working with local border communities, whose cultural heritage and traditions have been affected by conflict across geographical and cultural borders, the Network aims to promote peacebuilding, cultural exchange, and socio-economic development. Working collaboratively with research partners and communities across three Humanitarian Heritage Regional Hubs in Tunisia, Iraq and India, ENGAGE Network partners will foster alliances and partnerships between communities, heritage stakeholders and social groups across conflict-prone borders.

We define 'humanitarian heritage' in the ENGAGE network as a theoretical disposition to redefine human and cultural heritage as common endeavour of humanity that is indiscriminate about human race, culture, ethnicity or religion, but with common purpose, values, ethos that liberates cultural heritage assets, from being objectified and symbolic commodities of certain groups of people.

Purpose and Scope of [ENGAGE Network](#)

The damage of cultural heritage (sites, traditions, art and craft) has increasingly become a consequence of acts of destruction and terrorism in ideological and armed conflicts, with such events being presented by the perpetrators as moral or ideological victories (Bevan 2006). The past three decades of conflict in the Middle East and South Asia have exposed the critical vulnerability of both tangible and intangible heritage in conflict zones, resulting in fragile economies, growing numbers of vulnerable individuals and displaced communities, limited access to basic living needs, developmental challenges and regional instability. The destruction of heritage sites is believed to be designed to obliterate a sense of belonging and collective memory held among local communities.

The international community's response to cultural heritage destruction, erasure or disappearance was predominantly reactive, post-event intervention, with limited long-term plans to prevent the causes of conflicts or to build resilience in communities to counter the vulnerability of heritage as targets. There was little attention to the long-term cost paid by women, young people and refugees with displaced communities representing a disproportionately large part of the population. In response to the forms of destruction in such culturally diverse areas, the development of effective and inventive strategies is important to re-envision heritage as a force for cultural engagement, exchange and heritage education, as a gateway to inclusive peace, is critically needed.

[ENGAGE Network](#) is working in partnership with HEIs, Research Centres and International Partners, including stakeholders; community representatives; civil society organisations; NGOs; heritage organisations; and participatory groups, across the UK and three partner countries as regional hubs; Tunisia, Iraq and India. It is multidisciplinary collaborative research alliances that will use aims to develop new methods, case studies, policy briefs, strategic plans, and practical toolkits useful for border communities, with emphasis on women, young people and refugees.

[ENGAGE Network](#): Humanitarian Heritage Global Partnership

The ENGAGE Network sought to develop a collaborative and engagement research programme in collaboration with a global network of research and regional partners to co-design the conceptual framework, activities and impact programme of Humanitarian Heritage that spans different regional, social and cultural needs looking at shared challenges, peculiar needs, identities and responses. Three

initial regional hubs in India, Tunisia and Iraq were established with an ever-growing involvement of research institutions, community representatives and policymakers across the borders within each region. This network expanded to Egypt to form a fourth hub with growing interest amongst UK research partners and international organisations. Through collaborative events, workshops and detailed case studies, research teams have successfully drawn a series of critical needs, challenges and priorities to co-create a global research agenda with the theoretical and empirical investigation and opportunities for impact-driven collaboration and regional partnerships. At the centre of this programme are equitable research collaboration on shared interest that address the challenges, needs and sustainable development of heritage communities and their cultural and built heritage.

The Phase One Conference enables cross-region and cross-disciplinary discussions, co-production, engagement and learning between research teams, community groups, project partners, national organisations and governmental officials. Regional hubs managed to:

- develop scoping research investigation on the needs for humanitarian heritage as an inclusive programme of cultural exchange.
- develop a collaborative research environment that facilitates shared and sustained engagement with local heritage communities, their representatives and CSOs within the regional research hubs.
- contribute to the development of a global humanitarian heritage framework through comparative and regional investigations and empirical research.

ENGAGE Network: Conference Programme

The Conference Programme aims to bring together regional teams and experts who have collaborated with the Network or undertaken well defined to develop its research agenda, developmental studies and implementation programme. It brings to a conclusion the first Phase of the ENGAGE Network global research programme and contributes to building the Network research programme that is driven by the local knowledge, understanding of challenges and potential opportunities. It will draw on lessons learned, and knowledge exchanged amongst local and regional teams, with a particular focus on the needs of local communities, stakeholders and policymakers, to sustain and build upon relationships to develop a peaceful and productive engagement that benefit heritage sites, practices and communities across national and regional borders.

The Programme of the Conference comprises 3 days of research panels, presentations and debates. Those will take place virtually for the ENGAGE Network Hubs in the UK, Iraq, India, Tunisia and Egypt. All panels will comprise research reports, papers and presentations that cover a series of case studies, under one of the following research and partnership tracks:

Research Engagement: Understanding Local Challenges

Talks under this track will bring together presentations from research and academic partners to underline socio-economic challenges that hinder heritage communities' ability to develop a sustainable approach to community heritage preservation with economic and cultural impact on the most vulnerable groups.

Communities of Change: Engaging with Heritage Communities at Borders of Engagement.

Papers will report on the research and work of representatives of heritage communities, local civil society organisations, and NGOs to bring local voices, concerns and developmental, social and economic challenges that face community heritage preservation and development.

Negotiating Power: Debating Sustainable Development Priorities for Border Communities

This strand will debate heritage regeneration and developmental priorities for governments, local authorities and international organisations. It will uncover the development challenges across borders of conflict, considering the interventional approach of international organisations and corporations.

Conference Programme

Day One - Monday 14th June 2021

Nottingham, UK

ENGAGE – UK [09.00am-12.00pm BST]

09.00-10.50	<p>ENGAGE-UK: Opening Session (A1)</p> <p>Humanitarian Heritage: Global perspectives and Theoretical Encounters</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
09.00-09.10	<p>Welcome Address</p> <p>Professor Nigel Wright, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Enterprise), NTU</p>
09.10-09.30	<p>ENGAGE Network Report: A Global Agenda for Humanitarian Heritage</p> <p>Professor Mohamed Gamal Abdelmonem, Network Lead & Principal Investigator</p>
09.30-09.50	<p>Breaking with Convention: Re-imagining the Heritage of the World</p> <p>Professor Mike Robinson, ENGAGE Co-Investigator, University of Birmingham, Visiting Professor, Nottingham Trent University</p>
09.50-10.10	<p>Co-producing Heritage with Young People: Developing an active culture of Engagement in communities</p> <p>Dr Gehan Selim, ENGAGE Co-Investigator, School of Civil Engineering, University of Leeds</p>
10.10-10.30	<p>What about the humanitarian heritage of displaced, enslaved and vulnerable individuals?</p> <p>Dr Andrea Nicholson, ENGAGE Co-Investigator, The rights Lab, University of Nottingham</p>
10.30-10.40	<p>Q&A</p>
10.40 – 10.50	<p>Coffee Break</p>
10.50am–12.00pm	<p>ENGAGE-UK: Session (A2)</p> <p>Preserving community heritage and identity: Lessons from post-conflict contexts</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
10.50-11.10 am	<p>Challenging the Meaning of the Past through Grassroots Action: Thinking about Memory Activism Comparatively</p> <p>Dr Jenny Wustenberg, Director, Centre for Public History, Heritage and Memory, NTU</p>
11.10-11.30	<p>Voices of 68: Agonism, education and challenge of Northern Ireland's contested past</p> <p>Professor Chris Reynolds, Professor of Contemporary French and European Studies, NTU</p>
11.30–11.50	<p>Heritage for recovery: Recovery of heritage</p> <p>Dr. F. Farnaz Arefian, Director, Silk Cities, University College London, UK</p>
11.50-12.00	<p>Q&A</p>
12.00-13.00pm	<p>Lunch Break</p>

Baghdad, IRAQ

ENGAGE – Middle East [13.00pm-17.00pm BST/ (+2Hrs) Iraq Time]

13.00-15.00	<p>ENGAGE-Iraq: Session (B1)</p> <p>Communities and cultural heritage in urban Iraq: Challenges and Opportunities</p> <p>Click here to join</p>
13.00-13.10	<p>Honorary Address</p> <p>HE Minister of Culture and Minister of Higher Education.</p>

13.10-13.15	Honorary Address HE The President, Wasit University, Iraq
13.15-13.20	ENGAGE-IRAQ Report: Understanding Humanitarian heritage of Iraq Dr Sabeeh Farhan, ENGAGE-IRAQ Coordinator, University of Wasit.
13.20-13.40	Challenges and opportunities of the heritage of Iraqi communities Dr Dirgham AIObaidy, ENGAGE-Iraq, Department of Architecture, Baghdad University
13.40-14.00	Building Partnerships with stakeholders for humanitarian heritage Dr Ula Merie, ENGAGE-Iraq, University of Babylon, Iraq
14.00-14.20	Tangible and Intangible heritage dad of a Legendary City “Baghdad the city of Peace”, Iraq Professor Ghada Al Slik, Department of Architecture, Baghdad University
14.20-14.40	Preventive Conservation For Safeguarding Mosul Built Heritage Dr Emad Hani Esmaeel, Associate Professor, University of Mosul, Iraq
14.40-14.50	Q&A.
14.50-15.00	Coffee Break
15.00-16.40	ENGAGE-Iraq: Session (B2) Deciphering the multi-layered urban and cultural heritage of Urban Iraq Click here to join
15.00-15.20	Traditional architecture and urban Communities in Basrah Dr Hamed Hayab Samir, Assistant Professor, University of Basrah
15.20-15.40	Traditional and vernacular architecture of Erbil city Assistant Professor Dr Salahaddin Yasin, University of Salah al Din, Kurdistan, Iraq
15.40-16.00	Architecture and urban heritage of Mosul, Iraq Professor Wahda Shuker Al-Hinkawi, University of Technology, Iraq
16.00-16.20	Historic and religious architecture; Kerbala & Najaf Dr. Zuhair A. Nasar, University of Kufa.
16.20-16.40	Q&A.

Day Two - Tuesday 15th June 2021

Tunis, TUNISIA

ENGAGE – North Africa [09.00am-13.00pm BST/ (+0HRs) Tunisia Time]

09.00-11.00	ENGAGE-TUNISIA: Session (C1) Urban heritage of Maghreb: Diversity and inclusion of marginalised communities Click here to join
09.00-09.05	ENGAGE-Tunisia Report Dr Majdi Faleh, ENGAGE-Tunisia Research Coordinator, University of Bahrain, Aga Khan (MIT) & Fulbright Alumnus
09.05-09.20	ASM: Narrating the experience of heritage strategies Mrs Amel Meddeb, ENGAGE-Tunisia Co-Investigator, Managing Director, ASM (Heritage Association of the Medina of Tunis)
09.20-09.40	Building back better local urban heritage in Tunisia's cities Mrs Aida Robbana, Head of Office, UN-Habitat (United Nations), Tunis Office
09.40-10.00	The Basilica of Tabarka (Tunisia): An example of restoration of a monument caught in urban inflation Dr Dhougha Laribi, Researcher and Heritage Architect, National Institute of Heritage; PhD, University of Carthage - ENAU

10.00-10.20	<i>The Cities of Mzab: A millenary example of community-based urban development initiated by refugee groups</i> Dr Naima Ben Kari, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman; Associate Research Fellow at IIS Tokyo University, ICOMOS Expert, Voting member
10.20-10.40	<i>Preserving heritage, sustaining development and empowering communities in the M'Hamid Oasis, Morocco</i> Dr Giamila Quattrone, Lecturer in Architecture, Project Coordinator at ArCHIAM Centre, University of Liverpool, UK
10.40-10.50	Q&A
10.50-11.00	Coffee Break
11.00-13.00	ENGAGE-Tunisia: Session (C2) Marginalised youth and heritage communities in North Africa [Click here to join]
11.00-11.20	<i>Tabarka and El Kef: Tales of marginalised community heritage in North-West Tunisia</i> Dr Asma Gharbi, Lecturer University of Carthage (ENAU) & ISTEUB, Researcher, Architect (OAT) Dr Majdi Faleh, Assistant Professor, University of Bahrain, Aga Khan (MIT), Fulbright Alumnus Mrs Nourchen Ben Fatma, Lecturer University of Carthage (ENAU) & ESAD, Architect (OAT)
11.20-11.40	<i>Tourism beyond economic development: Heritage for marginalised communities</i> Mrs Leila Ben-Gacem, Socio-cultural opportunity designer, Ashoka Fellow & founder, Blue Fish
11.40-12.00	<i>Marginalised youth and heritage in Gafsa's Oasis Medina: A sensitive approach to promote historical centres in Southwest Tunisia</i> Mrs Dorsaf Zid, Lecturer in Architecture, University of Carthage (ENAU), Tunisia Prof Azeddine Belakehal, Professor of Architecture, University of Biskra, Algeria
12.00-12.20	<i>Unsafe housing in a historical centre: The right to inhabit the Medina of Tunis</i> Mrs Faika Bejaoui, Architect & Vice-president of CIVVIH (International Committee of Cities and Historic Villages (ICOMOS)
12.20-12.40	<i>Participatory approaches of built heritage promotion in the European neighbourhood of Downtown Tunis</i> Ms Khaoula Stiti, PhD Candidate, Université Libre de Bruxelles & University of Carthage; Member of NGO Edifices & Mémoires Ms Safa Cherif, PhD Candidate, University of Carthage & the Sapienza University of Rome; Member of NGO Edifices & Mémoires
12.40-12.50	Q&A.
12.50-13.00	Lunch Break (after Lunch moving to Cairo Egypt)

Cairo, EGYPT

ENGAGE – North Africa [13.00pm-16.00pm BST/ (+1Hrs) Egypt Time]

13.00-14.30	ENGAGE-EGYPT: Session (D1) Polarised cultural heritage in Egypt: Heritage communities and sites [Click here to join]
13.00-13.10	<i>ENGAGE-Egypt: Humanitarian aspects of heritage sites preservation in Egypt</i> Prof. Gad El-Qady, ENGAGE-Egypt Coordinator, President, National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics
13.10-13.30	<i>Conservation of rupestrian heritage sites in the Mediterranean region</i> Claudio Margottini, Former Scientific Attaché at the Italian Embassy in Egypt & UNESCO Chair on the Prevention and Sustainable Management of Geo-Hydrological Hazards Daniele Spizzichino, ISPRA, Geological Survey of Italy, Rome

13.30-13.50	<i>Understanding Slum Communities and their heritage: A participatory approach to counter urban development deficiencies</i> Dr Eng Manal ElShahat, Associate Professor of Urban Planning & Design, Ain-Shams University
13.50-14.10	<i>Challenges facing heritage sites in EGYPT</i> Prof. Ayman Hamed, Suez University
14.10-14.20	Q&A.
14.20-14.30	Coffee Break
14.30-16.00	ENGAGE-Egypt: Session (D2) Innovative approaches to heritage protection and preservation in Egypt [Click here to join]
14.30-14.50	<i>Inclusive heritage-based humanizing city: Lessons learned from Madinah and Cairo</i> Prof. Galal Abada, Professor of Architecture and Urban Design, Ain Shams University, Cairo
14.50-15.10	<i>Manging geotechnical hazards for heritage site through the involvement of communities</i> Prof. Abbas M. Abbas, National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics
15.10-15.30	<i>Raquda: Local social enterprise and its role in youth and community heritage education</i> Ms Rawda Abdel-Hady; Founder, Raquda Heritage Enterprise, Alexandria, Egypt Managing
15.30-15.50	<i>Disasters Risk for cultural heritage Sites: Insights from Egypt</i> Dr Mohamed El-Gabry, National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics
15.50-16.00	Q&A.

Day Three – Wednesday 16th June 2021

Delhi, INDIA

ENGAGE – South Asia [09.00am-12.00pm BST/ (+4.30Hrs) India Time]

09.00-10.30	ENGAGE-India: Session (E1) Navigating Heritage Communities and Institutions in South Asia [Click here to join]
09.00-09.10	ENGAGE-India report Tom Thomas, ENGAGE-Network South Asia Coordinator; Director, Praxis-India.
09.10-09.30	<i>Role of cultural institutions in urban resilience: The case of Ahmedabad</i> Dr Jigna Desai, Executive Director, Center for Heritage Conservation, CEPT Research and Development Foundation, CEPT University, Ahmedabad.
09.30-09.50	<i>Understanding humanitarian heritage in India's craft communities: Craft of Bangle making in Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh</i> Ms Anjali Mittal, Assistant Professor, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi
09.50-10.10	<i>Evolving Heritage: A case study of Kalbelia and Jogi nomadic tribes and their relationship with state, society and markets</i> Ms Ekta Verma, Partners in Change, India
10.10-10.20	Q&A.
10.20-10.30	Coffee Break
10.30-12.00	ENGAGE-India: Session (E2) Community-led approaches: Living with heritage [Click here to join]

10.30-10.50	<i>Chhara assertion of heritage: Subverting mainstreamed notions of morality, legality</i> Anusha Chandrasekharan, ENGAGE-India Research Coordinator; Praxis India
10.50-11.10	<i>Laying groundwork for community-led activities Aiming at local involvement in Imamzade-Yahya locality, Tehran, Iran</i> Shima Saghandali & M. Reza Karfar
11.10-11.30	<i>The role of religion and religious rituals in landscape conservation; tomb gardens of Iran</i> Sara Mahdizadeh, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, IRAN
11.30-11.40	Q&A

11.40-12.00	<i>Conference closing remarks and roundtable session</i> <i>ENGAGE Network Lead and Co-Investigators</i> Click Here to Join
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You can check the detailed programme, speakers, and titles, please visit the project website:
<https://humanitarianheritage.com/engage-network-conference>

Author Biographies and Paper Abstracts¹

ENGAGE-UK: Session (A1):

Humanitarian Heritage: Global perspectives and Theoretical Encounters

ENGAGE Network Report: A Global Agenda for Humanitarian Heritage

Professor Mohamed Gamal Abdelmonem, Network Lead & Principal Investigator

Biography: Professor Mohamed Gamal Abdelmonem is Chair in Architecture and the Director of the Centre for Architecture, Urbanism and Global Heritage at Nottingham Trent University. He is the Principal Investigator of the ENGAGE Network. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, Gamal is the University lead of the Strategic Research Theme, Global Heritage, and the Cultural Heritage Research Peak. Gamal is the recipient of NTU 2020 Vice-Chancellor Outstanding Researcher Award and the 2014 recipient of the Jeffrey Cook Award of the International Association of the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE). Gamal's research focuses on architectural and urban history, everyday homes, socio-spatial practices of urban communities, virtual heritage, medieval culture and post-conflict cities. Gamal's research has informed the policy and practice of several governments and international organisations on aspects of heritage preservation, urban planning and design. His recent books include *'Peripheries: Edge Conditions in Architecture'* (2012), *'Portrush: Towards an Architecture for the North Irish Coast'* (2013); *'The Architecture of Home in Cairo'* (2015), and *"Architecture, Space and Memory of Resurrection in Northern Ireland"* (2019); and *'People, Care and Work in the Home'* (2020)

Breaking with Convention: Re-imagining the Heritage of the World

Professor Mike Robinson, ENGAGE Co-Investigator, University of Birmingham, Visiting Professor, Nottingham Trent University

Biography: Mike Robinson is Professor of Cultural Heritage at the University of Birmingham. For over 25 years Mike's work has focused upon the relations between heritage, tourism, culture and he has published numerous books, articles and chapters on the various ways in which these realms intersect. Recent works have addressed issues relating to World Heritage and Tourism, Heritage and Popular Culture, the Concept of Tradition and Heritage and Superdiversity. Mike is a founding member of UNESCO/UNITWIN Network on Tourism, Culture and Development, a specialist advisor to the UNESCO World Heritage Programme in Sustainable Tourism and to the UK's National Commission for UNESCO. He was a government appointed member of the UK's Expert Panel to determine the UK's Tentative List for World Heritage and is the co-author of a major UNESCO Report on Tourism, Heritage and Sustainable Development. He has worked on projects with UNESCO offices in China, Peru and Southeast Asia, and with World Heritage Sites in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Canada, Sweden, Finland and many other parts of the world. He has held grants from the British Academy, the Arts and Humanities Research Council (where he is a member of their peer review college), US Social Science Research Council and several other national based funding bodies. He has held Visiting Fellowships and Professorships in the USA, Italy, South Africa and Taiwan where he remains a Visiting Professor. He has held Board memberships for two leading UK heritage attractions.

¹ Some Paper abstracts were not available at the time of printing/sharing

Co-producing Heritage with Young People: Developing an active culture of Engagement in communities

Dr Gehan Selim, ENGAGE Co-Investigator, School of Civil Engineering, University of Leeds

Biography

Dr Gehan Selim is an Architect and Associate Professor at the University of Leeds. She was Fellow of The Senator George Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice (2017/18). She holds a PhD from the University of Sheffield and held permanent posts in several schools of Architecture in the UK. Dr Selim is leading the Architecture and Urbanism Research Group at the University of Leeds with research covering interdisciplinary methods bridging between Architecture, Urban Politics and Sustainable Heritage. Dr Selim is leading several AHRC/GCRF funded research projects with extensive fieldwork experience in the Middle East and conflict zones (Egypt, Lebanon, Iraq, Kosovo & Northern Ireland). She is the author of 'Unfinished Places: The Politics of Remaking Cairo's Old' (Routledge, 2017) and 'Architecture, Space and Memory of Resurrection in Northern Ireland Shareness in a Divided Nation' (Routledge, 2019).

What about the humanitarian heritage of displaced, enslaved and vulnerable individuals?

Dr Andrea Nicholson, ENGAGE Co-Investigator, The rights Lab, University of Nottingham

Biography: Andrea Nicholson is a Nottingham Research Fellow in the Rights Lab and with the School of Politics and International Relations. She joined Nottingham in 2017 as an Associate and later as Research Fellow, having previously worked at Nottingham Trent University as a Head of Department, and as Research Director for Nottingham Law School. She received her PhD in American & Canadian Studies and History from the University of Nottingham in 2018. Her research interests include human rights, public administration and public policy, modern slavery and human trafficking. She focuses on the narratives and antislavery ideas of survivors of slavery, working closely with government bodies and NGOs on victim support.

ENGAGE-UK: Session (A2):

Preserving community heritage and identity: Lessons from post-conflict contexts

Challenging the Meaning of the Past through Grassroots Action: Thinking about Memory Activism Comparatively

Dr Jenny Wustenberg, Director, Centre for Public History, Heritage and Memory, NTU

Abstract: In 2020, following the murder of George Floyd by police, we witnessed what seemed like an unprecedented wave of protests around the world, many of them targeting statues and memorials that symbolise racist and colonial violence. In this talk, I want to go beyond the issue of "what should be done with the monuments" by asking how we make sense of "memory activism" more systematically? Drawing on my own work on postwar Germany, as well as my collaboration with Yifat Gutman, I argue that in order to systematically compare it over time and space, we need a way to categorise types of memory activism and that such comparison can help us see different dynamics.

Biography: Jenny Wüstenberg is an Associate Professor of Twentieth Century History and the Director of the Centre for Public History, Heritage and Memory at Nottingham Trent University. She is also the Co-President of the Memory Studies Association and the Lead on the COST Action "Slow Memory". Her research examines the involvement of activists in memory politics, transnational networks of

remembrance, as well as how family separation policies and institutional child abuse are remembered from a comparative perspective.

Voices of 68: Agonism, education and challenge of Northern Ireland's contested past

Professor Chris Reynolds, Professor of Contemporary French and European Studies, NTU

Abstract: Following more than two decades since the signing of the Good Friday Agreement, many important and difficult issues remain to be overcome in Northern Ireland's divided society where the hard-won peace very much remains a process requiring careful management. Arguably one of the most challenging and sensitive of such issues is that which relates to how the legacy of the past can and should be managed. One only has to consider the recent and ongoing difficulties faced by the UK, Dublin and Northern Irish governments in reaching agreement over the 'legacy' debate to take stock of how and why this remains a central challenge for the peace process. This paper, drawing on the work of a recent National Museums NI project on Northern Ireland's 1968, will examine the effectiveness of approaching the divisions of the past via the deployment of agonism as one potentially constructive mechanism to find a way through this most pressing obstacle to the consolidation of peace. It will be argued in particular that the innovative combination of oral history and agonistic memory in how young people are taught about the past in Northern Ireland offers a particularly potent strategy in overcoming the difficulties the past represents. Using evidence garnered on the reception, feedback and impact of the Voices of 68 educational strand, it will be argued that this approach offers a potentially effective example of where the engagement and participation of civil society, via the museums and education sectors, can play a pivotal role in future-proofing the Province's fragile peace.

Biography: Chris Reynolds is Professor of Contemporary European History and Memory Studies at Nottingham Trent University. His main research interests are in relation to the events of 1968 from a French, Northern Irish and European perspective. In addition to a wide range of articles and chapters on these topics, he is the author of *Memories of May '68: France's Convenient Consensus* (University of Wales Press 2011) and *Sous les pavés...The Troubles: Northern Ireland, France and the European Collective Memory of 1968* (Peter Lang 2015).

Heritage for recovery: Recovery of heritage

Dr. F. Farnaz Arefian, Executive Director, Silk Cities, University College London, UK

Abstract: In a post-crisis situation, the interrelations of historic urban contexts, social, psychological, and economic factors present a highly complex scenario for decision makers, practitioners and affected communities and individuals. Focusing on the bigger picture, this presentation reflects on views and approaches in different historical and contemporary cases of post-crisis recovery and reconstruction of several historic cities. Addressing the multidisciplinary nature of the subject matter, the presentation will share some communalities and contrasts to pose a few key questions, points, and food for thought. For example, the everlasting dilemma in setting the priorities in practice when thinking about reconstruction in historic landscape. Below are the example of points for discussion.

- Cultural heritage, post-crisis urban recovery, and social recollection
- The dilemma: rebuilding the past Vs updating damaged historic urban fabric.
- The dilemma: social participatory processes Vs non-participatory heritage conservation
- From shaping the agenda to implementation in the field.

Tapping on the capacity of urban heritage for enhancing social recovery, the key points provide the opportunity for self-reflection of the part of the global community regarding the past and where

theory, policy and practice stand today, to help for directions for a better future. Examples come from Syria, Libya, UK, Iraq and more.

Biography: Farnaz Arefian ((PhD, MSc, M.Arch, FICPEM) is an interdisciplinary expert in disaster management and reconstruction, urban development and design, and architecture. Her professional life combines extensive experience in academic research and education with practice-based experience, knowledge exchange and international engagement in the Middle East, UK, and Southeast Asia. Farnaz is the founding director of Silk Cities initiative (silk-cities.org). She has delivered largescale urban development and architectural projects, including various post-disaster reconstruction projects in the historic contexts. Those first-hand encounter with urban development challenges and disasters, in the context of historic cities motivated her to return to academia and pursue her multidisciplinary doctoral research and further activities on the subject matter at the Bartlett Development Planning Unit (DPU), UCL, where she is also associated with. Her post-disaster reconstruction experience was featured in a guidance for humanitarian organisations. She published papers and books, including *Urban Heritage Along the Silk Roads* (2019), *Organising Post-Disaster Reconstruction Processes* (2018), and *Urban Change in Iran* (2016). The latest publication Farnaz currently leads on is the forthcoming book on *Historic Cities in the Face of Disasters*.

ENGAGE-Iraq: Session (B1)

Communities and cultural heritage in urban Iraq: Challenges and Opportunities

ENGAGE-IRAQ Report: Understanding Humanitarian heritage of Iraq

Dr Sabeeh Farhan, ENGAGE-IRAQ Coordinator, University of Wasit.

Biography: Dr. Sabeeh Lafta Farhan is a Vice-Chancellor of Wasit University, Wasit- Iraq. With more than 27 years of academic and professional experience, Dr. Farhan also serves as an academic and faculty member at the Department of Architecture, the College of Engineering at Wasit University. His postdoctoral research is from Nottingham Trent University, UK, 2018. He received his PhD (2012), and MSc (2009) in Architecture and Urban Design, both from Baghdad University. His BSc in Architecture is from the University of Technology in Baghdad, Iraq, 1993. Dr. Farhan is an academic visitor at Nottingham Trent University - Centre of Architecture, Urbanism and Global Heritage (CAUGH), School of Architecture, (2017-2018). His major research focus is on the preservation of the high-profile historical cities. Dr. Farhan also served at different leading positions such as the Municipality Manager (2002-2005), and the Governor Deputy for technical affairs (2005-2013), of Wasit Governorate – Iraq.

Challenges and opportunities of the heritage of Iraqi communities

Dr Dirgham AlObaidy, ENGAGE-Iraq, Department of Architecture, Baghdad University

Abstract: This paper investigates the heritage of cultural communities in Iraq and highlights their current situations. The heritage of these communities has been ignored and witnessed a remarkable deterioration because of the unsafe environment, the unstable economy, and the continuous challenges for building-state's institutions. Methods employed of this research are included a deriving framework analysis of the existing literature integrated with the storytelling approach to study four case studies: one in Najaf and three in Baghdad. For this study, the cases are included the Suq Al Howaish, Suq Al-Safafer, Goldsmiths' Suq, and pottery-makers. Results showed that there is a real impact on the heritage of these traditional communities led to be fading unless an urgent governmental program has to be involved in preserving the remaining cultural legacy. However, the

heritage that is related to the ethno-religious institutions and associations – taking the charge of sustaining their tradition, culture and identity – is in a good shape in comparison with those that are related to the heritage of the minorities.

Biography: Dhirgham Alobaydi is Chair in the Department of Architecture Engineering at the University of Baghdad. Many of his research projects and publications have focused on the morphological developments of Iraqi cities, particularly the urban forms. His recent publications examine the role of streets and syntactic properties of urban grids in creating successful urban places and well-connected communities. His work also has included design of planning processes to enhance the education and communication functions of cities. He is currently working with the team of 'The ENGAGE Network' and studying the problems concerning conservation and awareness of cultural heritage in a wide framework in Iraq; this research project aims to develop a theoretical and conceptual framework of Humanitarian Heritage through co-production and co-creation with local communities, stakeholders and partners. He received the Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Architecture degrees, with a focus on urban planning, from the University of Kansas (KU), KS, U.S.A

Building Partnerships with stakeholders for humanitarian heritage

Dr Ula Merie, ENGAGE-Iraq, University of Babylon, Iraq

Abstract:

This paper identifies current challenges, policy, and legislative loopholes in national and international policy on community heritage protection and preservation. This has been done through two main steps, firstly, preparing and undertaking interviews with 20 experts in the field covering researchers, Heritage Professionals, NGOs & Community Representations. The multi-disciplinary interviews include specialists from politics, social sciences, human rights, heritage, tourism, archaeology, architecture, economics, museums, and education. It also reports on the outcomes of the participatory workshop that was organized and designed to explore different research methodologies, approaches, and challenges to the models of partnership hubs in August 2020. In addition, it developed a collaborative research framework that facilitates shared and sustained engagement of local heritage communities, their representatives, and CSOs within the regional research hubs. These methods allowed the research to restructure and develop new accounts that help to answer the research questions in addition to developing a theoretical and conceptual framework of Humanitarian Heritage through production and co-creation with local communities, stakeholders, and partners, particularly in Iraq.

Biography: Ula Merie is a Lecturer in Architectural History and Theory at the University of Babylon, Faculty of Engineering, Architectural department. She has recently been awarded a Ph.D. in Space, Cultures and Politics studies from Sheffield School of Architecture at the University of Sheffield. She holds an MA, in Urban Design and Housing Planning from the University of Baghdad in 2011, and a BA in Architectural Engineering, granted in 2007. Her research interests in Exploring History and Theory of Architecture and Design in Post War Cities: Memory and Conflicted identity, Disappearing Cultural Heritage and Identities, Politics and Policies, Culture trauma and Hierarchy of Power.

Tangible and Intangible heritage dad of a Legendary City “Baghdad the city of Peace”, Iraq

Professor Ghada Al Slik, Former Head of Dept, Department of Architecture, Baghdad University

Abstract: The presentation quickly explores the history of the city of Baghdad, showing the tangible heritage of its architecture, mainly the existing heritage of the urban fabric, yet showing aspects of the intangible heritage which lived and is still living within that architecture and beyond it. It is to be investigated and discussed how people kept and are keeping their intangible heritage despite that it

is a non-material one, but in the same time leaving their tangible architectural great heritage neglected and abandoned. So, what could be done to rejoin both heritage sides and can we benefit from the intangible live heritage to maintain the tangible one.

Biography: Ghada Al Slik is Professor, (previous head of) Department of Architecture, College of Engineering, University of Baghdad, research and supervision of thesis on the topics of theory and conservation of architecture. Author of the book (City of Stories). Founder of Docomomo Iraq 2016, Chair of Iraq Docomomo International. Member of the Higher Committee of the Basic Design of Baghdad City, Mayoralty of Baghdad and consultant 2008-2018. Excellence Award, (Tamayous) Iraqi women architects, 2013. Founder Member of the Makyia foundation for the development of Baghdad, 2015. Editorial member of The Iraqi Journal of Architecture, since 2000, Journal of Iraqi Engineers Society, and other academic and professional committees.

Preventive Conservation For Safeguarding Mosul Built Heritage

Dr Emad Hani Esmaeel, Associate Professor, University of Mosul, Iraq

Abstract: After the accomplishment of different international experiments of adopting preventive conservation approaches for safeguarding the cultural heritage, numerous countries attempt to put such strategies for protecting their built heritage. During the most recent decades, a lot of heritage buildings in Mosul Old City have been deteriorated progressively due to several factors, the most significant of which is the military operations in 2017, the absence of monitoring and controlling procedures for preserving these irreplaceable outstanding constructions. Preventive conservation describes studies and interventions aiming at reducing deterioration rates and minimizing risks to the constructions. It aims to identify and reduce potential hazards to cultural objects with thoughtful control of their environmental factors, and it attempts to mitigate the occurrence of damage and deterioration through investigations and the implementation of procedures which improve the safety of cultural objects and buildings. The absence of a comprehensible and efficient preservation protective policy for the responsible institutions of conservation of Mosul built heritage is a critical issue. The research aims to compare the current conservation policy of these institutions with international counterparts, and to put guidelines and recommendations for preparing a preventive conservation plan for the cultural heritage of Mosul Old City, which are represented by controlling its vital aspects such as managing of environment, risk, documentation, schedule investigation, information, regulation, human resources, and communication. The research methodology adopts a comparative analytical study between several successful international experiments in preventive conservation field and the current existing procedures of the conservation of the Mosul heritage.

Biography: Assist. Professor, 2013, Department of Architecture, College of Engineering, University of Mosul, Faculty member since 2002. Consultant at UNESCO for the period March-May 2020. Visiting Scholar in a research project grant, Staatlichen Museen zu Berlin, Germany, 7/2019-10/2019. International expert in the field of "Technologies of Exploitation of the Built Heritage" for the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization- ALECSO in 2018-2019. Ph.D. in Design & Technology for Exploiting the Built Heritage, 2010, Politecnico di Milano, Italy. Entitled: "Meta Modelling for the Conservation of the Cultural Heritage". Member of the Scientific Committee of the Architecture Engineering Department at the University of Mosul. Member of the Scientific Plagiarism Committee at the Architecture Engineering Department at the University of Mosul. Head of the Graduate Studies Committee in the Architecture Engineering Department at the University of Mosul 2018-2019. Member of the Department Council in the Architecture Engineering Department at the University of Mosul 2018-2019. He is the author of 9 books specialized in the field of urban conservation, architectural design and computer-aided drawing. He has 24 scientific papers

published in international and local journals and conferences. He has a set of research papers published in local symposia. Coordinator and lecturer in a number of engineering scientific courses.

ENGAGE-Iraq: Session (B2)

Deciphering the multi-layered urban and cultural heritage of Urban Iraq

Traditional architecture and urban Communities in Basrah

Dr Hamed Hayab Samir, Assistant Professor, University of Basrah

Abstract: In recent years, Iraqi traditional architecture and heritage have been deeply affected by three wars, challenging the cultural memory of the people and in particular of young generations. The long history of Basra leads to it been classified as a city rich in cultural heritage. In particular, the canals are a very specific feature of the city. Many canals cross Basra, which holds the nickname of “Venice of the East”, embed its distinctive architectural identity. However, the three big wars in Iraq -1980, 1991 and 2003- greatly affected the architectural identity of the city. During these wars, Basra was under attack from bombs and grenades every day and as a result of this, most of the heritage and architectural landmarks were lost. Moreover, these wars had also forced most of the original residents of the city to leave and look for a safer shelter away from Basra. Thus, after the end of the war, new people from other cities moved to Basra, bringing with them a different culture. Following the last war, many developers carried out different projects in Basra adopting foreign and alien designs, which reflect their ideological culture, far from the city’s spirit and not respectful of the city's history and identity. Due to the lack of care for the cultural heritage of the city, the reconstruction of Basra has been put forward disregarding the history of the city, thus threatening the authenticity of the urban landscape and the collective memory.

Biography: Education: PhD on Urban Design achieved with a Thesis on Iraqi architecture between tradition and modernity: re-creating the urban identity of Basra, the “Venice of the east”(2017), from University of Salford - Manchester UK, and M.Sc on Urban Design / University of Technology-Baghdad, Iraq(2008), and B.Sc on Architectural Engineering / from the University of Technology-Baghdad(1993). Employment history: Dr Samir has been joining the University of Basrah in 2003, his professional expertise includes development strategy plans for cities, in 2011 he was a Member of committee of Basra Development Plan (2012 - 2035) with the Ministry of planning, and in 2009 Member of committee of Basra Development strategy from 2010 to 2015, he was a Member of lecturer for training courses to develop and enabling the staff of Basra government with the GSR in 2010, in 2012 he was a Member in committee for assessing the projects of Basra governorate. he Participated with HOOPS + HILGENDORFF international German Consultant Office in Abu Dhabi in 2009, and in 2006 participated with Saleh ALQalaf Architectural Engineer Consultative Bureau in Kuwait. He has awarded the Dean’s Award, for the best paper for built environment research; 13th International Postgraduate Research Conference (IPGRC2017). University of Salford- School of Built Environment.

Traditional and vernacular architecture of Erbil city

Assistant Professor Dr Salahaddin Yasin, University of Salah al Din, Kurdistan, Iraq

Abstract: Vernacular architecture is considered as a type of local construction, using traditional materials with local construction technologies. Therefore, it is closely connected to the context and cultural characteristics of the region. It represents a unique form which become a means of endorsing an identity.

Architecture in Erbil city has passed through different epochs with distinctive features that related to its historical evolution. Each era shaped an exceptional Identity forms that does not depend on the

composition and physical form of space only, but It linked to the concept of meaning in a large sense. Erbil city vernacular forms are made to reply to the human needs. These forms are the product of certain cultures which contain the national values that represent users' way of life. The technological progress made sudden changes and sharp deviations in the path of vernacular architecture in Erbil city. It became an evident of strange constructional trends that bore with it new concepts varying much from the accustomed norm. These developments have resulted in new systems of users' requirements and, in order to satisfy these, new performance of materials, structures and buildings have been discovered that ultimately trans-formed the appearance of buildings.

This presentation will focus on, traditional forms and methods of construction, that accommodate the needs of the community. The study concludes that the concept of culture impacts the forms of vernacular houses through two sets of variables; the first are the cultural characteristics of the cultural groups, and the second are the cultural factors and their response by the cultural groups. These two sets of variables impact on the house facades in different levels: building elements, composition of the elements, and the composition of the facades.

Architecture and urban heritage of Mosul, Iraq

Professor Wahda Shuker Al-Hinkawi, University of Technology, Iraq

Abstract: Mosul recently survived a bitter war during which the Iraqi army had to fight to liberate the city from the grip of ISIS. The Middle East stands at a critical time, with unprecedented stratification of culture according to religion, ethnicity, color, and social class. There is an increasing necessity to raise awareness of other cultures, especially in multicultural regions. Cities that have had multicultural combinations and that have witnessed a series of historical changes provide us with a new paradigm separated from biased and stereotyped relationships. The city of Mosul presents a microcosm of religion and ethnicity in Iraq.

Mosul sits at an important crossroad between Syria, Turkey, and Persia. Its strategic location, fertile land, two seasons of clement weather, deep historical roots, and human diversity are the greatest factors distinguishing Mosul from other surrounding cities. The Tigris River divides Mosul into two sides, which are connected by many old and new bridges. The ancient part of Mosul was the capital of the Assyrian Kingdom. Mosul is considered one of the most sacred cities in the northern part of Iraq. Any study of Mosul's urban morphology must explore the historical facts behind the modernization of Mosul, represented here by the opening of new streets, such as Nineveh Street. It must also take into account the previous Hamidian period to help understand the circumstances at the beginning of modernization. Many local authors, especially from Mosul, have studied in the urbanization of Mosul and its morphological aspects, citing the urban geographer Carter's definition. These authors considered modernization's consequences to be alien to the urban fabric. This kind of study represents the biased position of most Iraqi researchers regarding the impact of modernization in Mosul. However, many other studies have pointed out that modernization was a tool for development. Social life in Mosul was greatly affected by the long Ottoman occupation, which lasted from 1515 to 1918. Later; later after the world war, the economic interests of powerful countries in Mousel was the main reason for the later urban development of the city, like opening of the Nineveh Bridge in the 1930s to facilitate the transmission of raw materials from the fields on the east side of the Tigris to the railroad on the west side of the river. The urban development programs of the Iraqi government since 1970, represented by Mosul Municipality, focused on expanding the existed streets to facilitate accessing cars to different parts of the city fabric especially the historical one. Using an orthogonal junction breached the norm of the city of Mosul topology, which led to ignoring the locations of the most valuable landmarks, ending in leaning toward expanding contemporary houses horizontally. Adopting this orthogonal junction, side by side with the tendency toward horizontal

dispersion in residential areas out of the city wall, led to the switching city center land use from residential into commercial along the newly opened streets. Finally, this presentation presents a structural analysis of the old city of Mosul to clarify the urban dilemma of the city regarding the unawareness of urban developers of the structural features of the city. Furthermore, the research identifies sites that require urban interventions to restore their spatial value and integration with parts of the fabric, particularly sites of historical value.

Biography: Dr. Wahda Shuker Al-Hinkawi is a faculty member at the University of Technology, Department of Architectural Engineering, for more than 30 years, she became an assistant professor at 2008. She received her master's degree in 1994, the Ph.D. is in urban design and spatial analysis, at 2005, since then she is interested in studying and teaching urban design, the spatial organization, and analysis of historical centers. Dr. Wahda became the head of the Department of Architectural Engineering at the University of Technology from May 2014 -May 2016, during that time she was a member of the University Board , editor in chief for the Iraqi journal for architectural engineering, a member of the committee of the "Deans of Engineering Collages in Iraqi Universities", a member of the Editorial Board of the Iraqi Journal of Architecture / 2010-2013, and a member of the consultant Board of the Journal of engineering and development/university of Mustansiriyah. She had the chance to participate in IREX programs in 2016. During her academic years Dr. Wahda became a member of many scientific committees, and the postgraduate committee, participate in many conferences in Iraq and many Arabic and European countries.

Historic and religious architecture; Kerbala & Najaf

Dr. Zuhair A. Nasar, University of Kufa.

Abstract: Religion plays an important role in most people's lives, and this is evidenced by nearly 10,000 distinct religions worldwide, of which 84% belong to one of the five dominant religious groups. Almost every religion has its holiest shrines where pilgrims of faith from different parts of the world gather to practice their rituals. Therefore, cities with a religious character are among the most important cities in the world, historically and ideologically, because of their close association with the history and culture of the community connected with them. For example, Islamic cities and their historical and cultural depth linked to the depth and history of Islamic civilization, such as Mecca and Medina, which represent the most important sites in Islamic sociocultural for more than 14 centuries. Therefore, researchers have extensively studied these cities in different fields of different religious orientations, as a study of a unique phenomenon.

On the other hand, many Islamic cities are no less historical and religious in importance than Mecca and Medina but have not been studied to the same level as Mecca and Medina, despite their religious peculiarities. It can be said that the Islamic cities in Iraq are among the religious sites that have not been thoroughly studied and understood in terms of urban and cultural components. Among these cities are Kufa, Najaf, Karbala, Kadhimiya, and Samarra. Although the general classification of these cities falls within the Islamic cities, they are distinguished from the traditional Islamic cities by several characteristics. The most important of which is that the Islamic cities depend on their urban fabric the mosque as an urban core; however, the Islamic cities in Iraq depend in their fabric the presence of the holy shrine and the attached mosque as an urban core of the fabric of the city, except for the city of Kufa.

In this presentation, the two most important religious sites in Iraq will be addressed, which is the historical centre of the cities of Najaf and Karbala, as examples of these religious cities. The slides will address the historical origin and the importance and characteristics of the urban fabric of these

historical centres, in addition to discussing the distortion and unplanned urban changes that threaten the urban fabric of these historical centres.

Biography: PhD in Digital Architectural Design and Technologies, from the University of Liverpool, the thesis entitled "PARA-SIM: A Hybrid Technology-Enhanced Approach to Learning Energy Modelling in Architectural Design Education". MSc in Digital Architectural Design (DAD), from University of Salford-Manchester. BSc in Architecture Engineering, the University of Technology-Baghdad. Senior lecturer at Faculty of Physical Planning, University of Kufa, Iraq. My research interest in Urban Design studies, Digital Architectural Design, Building Informational Modelling BIM Building Energy Performance, and Sustainable, Green and Smart Architecture Design.

ENGAGE-TUNISIA: Session (C1)

Urban heritage of Maghrab: Diversity and inclusion of marginalised communities

ENGAGE-Tunisia Report

Dr Majdi Faleh, ENGAGE-Tunisia Research Coordinator, University of Bahrain, Aga Khan (MIT) & Fulbright Alumnus

Biography: Dr. Majdi Faleh is a Fulbright/Aga Khan Postdoctoral Alumnus (MIT). He is an Assistant Professor at the University of Bahrain. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Western Australia (UWA). His research focuses on global cities, social justice, and Islamic architecture. Majdi lectured in Australia (U Melbourne) and China.

ASM: Narrating the experience of heritage strategies

Mrs Amel Meddeb, ENGAGE-Tunisia Co-Investigator, Managing Director, ASM (Heritage Association of the Medina of Tunis).

Abstract: The Medina of Tunis, a Unesco world heritage site for 40 years, is spread over approximately 300 hectares. It has more than 15,000 dwellings, including 700 historical monuments, and is a socially alive place full of economic activities and crafts developed in more than 40 souks. In a contemporary context with perpetual urban change and architectural evolution, preserving this historical heritage requires implementing a fundamental development and management strategy. There should be a willingness to establish an urban and heritage management plan ensuring a real urban requalification and several investment projects, thus enhancing this historic site. The advocacy developed focuses on implementing a sustainable safeguarding strategy combining two approaches with different aims, cultural and social. The projects carried out in the medina of Tunis, since then, have reflected its cultural, social, and economic values (real estate). This historic centre, therefore, needs to be valued to celebrate the heritage and promote sustainable tourism.

Biography: Amel Meddeb Ben Ghorbel is the managing director of the Heritage Association of the Medina of Tunis (ASM). She is an architect and urbanist. Amel is also the president of the Medina district and an elected municipal councillor. She earned a BArch and MArch in architecture and urban planning from ITAAUT (Technological Institute of Art, Architecture, and Urbanism) in Tunis. In 1995, Amel earned her Architecture Degree from ITAAUT. At ASM, she worked on several projects, including Oukalas rehabilitation projects, Municipal Theatre Restoration project, and more recently, the restoration and redevelopment project of the Holy Cross Church. In 2010, her team received the Aga

Khan Award for Architecture for the project "The enhancement of the recent heritage of Tunis, Tunisia."

Building back better local urban heritage in Tunisia's cities

Mrs Aida Robbana, Head of Office, UN-Habitat (United Nations), Tunis Office

Abstract: The need for new methods of urban governance is demonstrated day after day. In the context of the 2030 Agenda, and in light of the COVID 19 crisis and the necessary building back better, new holistic methods are expected, considering the economic, social, and environmental fields. The characteristics and history of Tunisian cities imply the need to identify synergies between the economic, ecological, urbanistic, and social dimensions with the local urban heritage. UN-Habitat would like to support local authorities (Executives and municipal councils elected in May 2018) in enhancing their planning and territorial development; hence also supporting the valorisation of diversity and local cultures as well as the most vulnerable, through its urban heritage as a vector and catalyst for a better sustainable urban organisation.

Biography: Aida Robbana has a BA from the Institute of the High Studies of Carthage (IHEC) and a Ph.D. in International Economy and Management from the University of Paris IX Dauphine, France. She worked as a senior economist at Eurostats in Paris for three years and in an Office of Urban planning Studies in Tunisia for seven years. She joined the United Nations in Tunis in 2002 as Head of the Office of the Resident Coordinator, where she took care of the follow-up and the implementation of the operations and programs of the United Nations Agencies in Tunisia with the Tunisian government. In 2020, she worked as a Programme Specialist for the Sustainable Development Goals integration and innovation unit in UNDP Tunisia. Since February 2021, she is Head of the UN-Habitat Office in Tunisia, covering the Maghreb subregion.

The Basilica of Tabarka (Tunisia): An example of restoration of a monument caught in urban inflation

Dr Dhouha Laribi, Researcher and Heritage Architect, National Institute of Heritage; PhD, University of Carthage – ENAU

Abstract: The Basilica of Tabarka had many urban functions which changed as the environment around it changed. This building was an old Roman cistern transformed into a basilica under the French protectorate and had its first role in the city. It was later restored in the eighties. At a certain point, its exterior and interior spaces were used as a cultural venue. The position of this monument in the middle of the new urban fabric challenged the governing laws. Three interrelated problems need to be solved to protect this classified monument. Firstly, the poor state of preservation and a total disfiguration of its interiors and exteriors must be considered—secondly, the urban non-controlled inflation. And finally, the inappropriate use of the building. This paper focuses on identifying the state of marginalisation of this building and discusses the existing heritage preservation laws in Tunisia.

Biography: Heritage architect at the National Institute of Heritage, Dhouha Laribi, is responsible for restoring and conserving monuments of two regions in the northwest of Tunisia and controlling the proper application of different laws governing the built heritage in the country. She earned her doctorate in Architectural Science and was a thematic workshop lecturer at the National School of Architecture (ENAU). Dr. Dhouha was also the coordinator of the research unit "Methods and Models for the Modelling of Architectural Knowledge" and worked on many restoration projects. Her current research focuses on the digitalisation of heritage, thus combining practice with research.

The Cities of Mzab: A millenary example of community-based urban development initiated by refugee groups

Dr Naima Benkari, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman; Associate Research Fellow at IIS Tokyo University, ICOMOS Expert, Voting member

Abstract: The Mzab valley is the location of a community-based urban development that started at the turn of the 11th century CE. Seven self-contained and self-supported cities were established progressively along the valley of the Wadi Mzab. The builders of these cities established themselves in an unforgiving site to flee the aggressions they were victims of by the Fatimid during their expansion in North Africa. Before their "Mzab period," the Ibadi community who built the Cities of Mzab were living in the region of Tahart under the thriving Ibadi Imamate of the Rustemid. Their capital city was sacked by the Fatimid, and so was the major city they have built during and immediately after the Rustemid Imamate. Their Cities survived and continue to thrive until nowadays. Our presentation will address the socio-economic and cultural characteristics of the urbanism in Mzab by the Ibadi community. A group of refugees in the 11th century could build a civilisation that earned world heritage status in 1986. Some lessons will be drawn from this "success story," and maybe some strategies will be formulated to foster resilience, peace, and community building for actual populations victims of armed conflicts in the Arab region.

Biography: Dr. Benkari is an architect-urbanist. She has a PhD. in Urban Design and a Bachelor and Master degree in Architectural Engineering. She taught and practised architecture in France, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and the Sultanate of Oman. Dr. Benkari was the Chair-Founder of the first architecture program in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi (UAE). She is an Assistant Professor at Sultan Qaboos University. Her research revolves around Built Heritage and vernacular architecture in Oman and North Africa. As an international expert member at ICOMOS, Dr. Benkari is a Heritage consultant for the Ministry of Heritage and tourism in Oman. She is an associate research fellow at the Institute of Industrial Science (University of Tokyo).

Preserving heritage, sustaining development and empowering communities in the M'Hamid Oasis, Morocco

Dr Giamila Quattrone, Lecturer in Architecture, Project Coordinator at ArCHIAM Centre, University of Liverpool, UK

Abstract: Desertification, socio-cultural change, lack of infrastructure, and unemployment have coalesced in the M'Hamid Oasis, on the fringes of the Moroccan Sahara, triggering outmigration and consequent desertion of its traditional settlements. In danger of disappearing, along with the earthen-built fabrics, are local arts, crafts, and traditional knowledge systems. This talk presents Restoring, Recording, and Inventorying the Tangible and Intangible Heritage of the M'Hamid Oasis, Morocco, a project done in 2019 by ArCHIAM with Terrachidia and CineTecture. During an international workshop in Ksar Ouled Youssef, the Marabout of Sidi Abdellah Khalifa was restored with local master builders and young apprentices. Buildings were documented, interviews held to understand local needs and aspirations, while crafts demonstrations, dance, music, and chanted poetry performances were filmed. The project has offered the opportunity to reflect on sustainable development trajectories that can reactivate the settlement through the synergy of heritage preservation, heritage-led sustainable development, and community empowerment.

Biography: Dr. Giamila Quattrone is a Lecturer in Architecture at the University of Liverpool and HSS Faculty Lead of the Digital Heritage Sub-theme. She is interested in traditional Arabian and North African architecture, sustainable heritage management and adaptive reuse, and creative recycling of

wastelands, buildings and materials. Dr. Quattrone is also a Founding Member and Project Coordinator at ArCHIAM, Centre for the Study of Architecture and Cultural Heritage of India, Arabia and the Maghreb. Here, she leads projects for cultural heritage research and documentation, sustainable development of heritage

ENGAGE-Tunisia: Session (C2)

Marginalised youth and heritage communities in North Africa

Tabarka and El Kef: Tales of marginalised community heritage in North-West Tunisia

Dr Asma Gharbi, Lecturer University of Carthage (ENAU) & ISTEUB, Researcher, Architect (OAT)

Dr Majdi Faleh, Assistant Professor, University of Bahrain, Aga Khan (MIT), Fulbright Alumnus

Mrs Nourchen Ben Fatma, Lecturer University of Carthage (ENAU) & ESAD, Architect (OAT)

Abstract: The two cities "Kef" and "Tabarka" reveal the same spatial and cultural development issues related to marginalised tangible and intangible heritage. Therefore, this research proposes revisiting two historical sites in North-West Tunisia (Kef and Tabarka), which have historical and cultural values weakened by the recent urbanisation and uneven economic choices. Based on current social and spatial analysis of the built heritage (interviews with experts and artists, spatial analysis), this research establishes the link between the development of those cities, their marginalised communities, and the enhancement of a forgotten local identity.

Biography: Dr. Asma Gharbi is a lecturer (ENAU/ISTEUB), researcher, and architect. After being awarded a Ph.D. in built morphology, she focuses on morphological regeneration in new marginalised contexts. She was also a thematic workshop lecturer at the National School of Architecture (ENAU), dealing with marginalised cities. Asma is also certified in New learning techniques and is a volunteer architect in the NGO Toit-Digne.

Dr. Majdi Faleh is a Fulbright/Aga Khan Postdoctoral Alumnus (MIT). He is an Assistant Professor at the University of Bahrain. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Western Australia (UWA). His research focuses on global cities, social justice, and Islamic architecture. Majdi lectured in Australia (U Melbourne) and China.

Nourchen Ben Fatma is an architect and lecturer in architecture at ENAU and ESAD. She holds a MArch from the University of Carthage. Nourchen is a Ph.D. Researcher

Tourism beyond economic development: Heritage for marginalised communities

Mrs Leila Ben-Gacem, Socio-cultural opportunity designer, Ashoka Fellow & founder, Blue Fish

Abstract: A social enterprise guesthouse in the historical urban quarters of Tunis will be presented as a case study for the impact of tourism beyond economic development. As a social enterprise, Dar Ben Gacem has non-financial returns on investment, which include built heritage preservation, youth inclusion, intangible heritage revitalisation, and urban revival through community empowerment. The case study highlights the importance of inclusive urban revival strategies, including private sector and civil activists, to sustain urban dynamics within historical urban quarters.

Biography: Leila Ben-Gacem is a socio-cultural opportunity designer, Ashoka Fellow, and founder of Blue Fish, a consultancy that improves the socio-economic dynamics of heritage and culture to improve its resilience. Leila also founded Dar el Harka, a creative industry hub; Dar Ben Gacem, a Boutique Hotel and cultural catalyst in the Medina of Tunis. Leila is an elected city council member at

her native town of Beni-Khalled. Before switching careers, Leila held various positions at multinational corporations and has a BS in Biomedical Engineering.

Marginalised youth and heritage in Gafsa's Oasis Medina: A sensitive approach to promote historical centres in Southwest Tunisia

Mrs Dorsaf Zid, Lecturer in Architecture, University of Carthage (ENAU), Tunisia

Prof Azeddine Belakehal, Professor of Architecture, University of Biskra, Algeria

Abstract: This research focuses on enhancing, developing, and requalifying the identity of a marginalised oasis with historical significance, continuously facing the challenges of modernisation in Gafsa, in southern Tunisia. It adopts a sensitive approach to the urban heritage generated by the presence of water in outdoor spaces. This case study of the old district built around the "Roman basins" of Gafsa's Medina is located in Southern Tunisia. This project highlights the importance of water in these historic basins and the degree of appreciation of their ambiances perceived and experienced by inhabitants, particularly young people. It argues that water is a generator of particular urban atmospheres that promote this place's tangible and intangible heritage. This experiential study of practices relies on in-situ observations and interviews with users.

Biography: Dorsaf Zid is an architect and lecturer at Carthage University in Tunisia. She is a member of the Ambience Research Team ERA.EDSIA, which is part of the International Ambience's Network. Her research focuses on enhancing and requalifying historic oasis centres through a methodological approach based on urban and architectural ambiances. She is also co-founder of "JMDarchitectes," based in Tunisia since 2010.

Azeddine Belakehal is a Professor of Architecture and head of a research team at the LACOMOFA Laboratory in the Department of Architecture at Biskra University of Algeria. He is working on the interdisciplinary approaches to the architectural object's study and recently on the urban and architectural heritage special case. He has published a number of articles dealing with these issues in well-known research journals and presented papers in specialised scientific events. He has also been a consultant for urban planning project studies carried out by governmental agencies for new human settlements in the Algerian desert.

Unsafe housing in a historical centre: The right to inhabit the Medina of Tunis

Mrs Faïka Bejaoui, Architect & Vice-president of CIVVIH (International Committee of Cities and Historic Villages (ICOMOS)

Abstract: Since independence, social housing in Tunisia has been an essential challenge for maintaining social peace. As a result, this sector always remained a significant concern for the various development policies adopted. The proliferation of spontaneous settlements (Oukalas), the rise in poverty, and the accentuation of socio-spatial segregation phenomena were witnessed. This phenomenon has imposed new challenges for urban planning in Tunisia. Today, urban development implies, first and foremost, the recognition of the rights of the working classes to the city. The social, economic, and political demands of the 2011 revolution have reopened the debate on social housing. This presentation aims to deal with the evolution of housing policies and particularly the social housing sector through a retrospective analysis of the different periods of urban history since independence by reflecting on insalubrious housing in the historical centre.

Biography: Faïka Bejaoui is an architect and urban Designer. From 1982 to 2014, she held various positions within the Association for the Safeguarding of the Medina of Tunis (ASM). From 2014 to

2016, she worked as a heritage expert at ALECSO (Arab League Organization for Culture, Education, and Sciences). She is teaching at the school of architecture and urban planning of Tunis. She is also Laureate Aga Khan Award for Architecture 2010 for the rehabilitation and requalification of the city of the nineteenth-twentieth centuries.

Faïka is vice-president of CIVVIH (International Committee of Cities and Historic Villages (ICOMOS) since September 2018; she is also a member of the ASM Steering Committee. She has been involved in several heritage projects, including Oukalas rehabilitation, Euromed Heritage II Programme, and the Organization of Arab capacity building in heritage risk management during conflict periods - ALECSO / UNESCO / ICCROM.

Participatory approaches of built heritage promotion in the European neighbourhood of Downtown Tunis

Ms Khaoula Stiti, PhD Candidate, Université Libre de Bruxelles & University of Carthage; Member of NGO Edifices & Mémoires

Ms Safa Cherif, PhD Candidate, University of Carthage & the Sapienza University of Rome; Member of NGO Edifices & Mémoires

Abstract: From citizen participation in l'Observatoire Collaboratif du Patrimoine to mobilisation against the historical buildings in danger law-project to participatory design in P@trimonia 2.0, Participation has been a core value for Edifices & Mémoires. P@trimonia 2.0 is the result of collaboration between three research institutions in Tunisia and Belgium: PAE3C at UCarthage, BATir at ULB, and LUCID at ULiège, and Edifices & Mémoires as an NGO. The originality of the approach in P@trimonia 2.0 is characterised by a dual-action: involve citizens in heritage and culture promotion, and democratise access to heritage by taking it out of museums.

Biography: Khaoula Stiti is an architect who graduated from the National School of Architecture of Tunis, with more than five years of experience in project management at national and international institutions. She is a doctoral researcher at BATir - Université Libre de Bruxelles and PAE3C - University of Carthage. Her research combines built heritage, human sciences, and change management. Her research focuses on the study, design, and implementation of participatory approaches for the built heritage promotion in the European neighbourhood of downtown Tunis, within P@trimonia 2.0 research project framework.

Safa Cherif is an architect who graduated from the National School of Architecture of Tunis, with more than five years of experience in project management. She is a doctoral researcher at the University of Carthage and the Sapienza University of Rome. She has been active in the Tunisian NGO Edifices & Mémoires for more than four years. She has coordinated projects with different partners, such as research institutions, other Tunisian NGOs, and international funders.

ENGAGE-EGYPT: Session (D1)

Polarised cultural heritage in Egypt: Heritage communities and sites

ENGAGE-Egypt: Humanitarian aspects of heritage sites preservation in Egypt

Prof. Gad El-Qady, ENGAGE-Egypt Coordinator, President, National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics

Biography: Prof. Gad El-Qady, is a Professor of Applied Geophysics working in the area of application of Geophysical techniques for, but not limited to, Environmental investigations, archaeological, geotechnical, groundwater, geothermal investigations. Currently, Prof. El-Qady working as a president of the National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics (NRIAG) Since Jan 2019. Between July 2018 till Jan 2019 he was appointed as Vice President of NRIAG. During 2017 he was the acting president of the National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (NIOF), Egypt. While during 2013-2014 he was coordinator of the international relations of E-JUST. He also was the science and culture attaché of Egypt in Japan from 2010 to 2013. He got his PhD from Kyushu University, Japan in 2001. Since that time is an active member of the Egyptian Geophysical community. Prof. El-Qady supervised many postgraduate students at different Egyptian universities. Prof. El-Qady, is the managing editor of the journal of National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics (NRIAG) and has published many scientific papers, reviews, in peer reviewed international journals among them: archaeology, Earth Planets Space, Journal of African Earth Science, Earth and Planetary Science Letters.... etc and he participate in several international Conferences and functioning as a referee for international Journals. He also organized several international conferences such as the 20th EMIW, ACAG5th, AFSC2016. He is also a working group committee member of the Electromagnetic induction in the earth (WMIW) that is now Div No. 6 of the IAGA (2008-2016).

Conservation of rupestrian heritage sites in the Mediterranean region

Claudio Margottini, Former Scientific Attaché at the Italian Embassy in Egypt & UNESCO Chair on the Prevention and Sustainable Management of Geo-Hydrological Hazards

(claudio.margottini@gmail.com)

Daniele Spizzichino, ISPRA, Geological Survey of Italy, Rome, Italy

Abstract. The rupestrian habitat is a distinctive element of the Mediterranean landscape. It is made of structures excavated in the rocks and making benefit from the availability of weak rocks or the presence (in earlier period) of natural hollows and rock shelters. Typical examples are from all over the Mediterranean region, such as the sepulchral monuments and temples which date back to the years before the Christian era (Hittitian, Egyptian, Etruscan, Hellenistic Nabatean and early Christian structures) or the underground town and churches in Christian, Byzantine and medieval period (Caucasus, Anatolia, Ethiopia).

Within that anthropological and ethnographic framework, the cave is a distinctive feature of the Mediterranean civilization and evolution, with common elements among all of them, even if also present elsewhere but with less density. Furthermore, the many connections in historical periods, in terms of trade or migrations, allowed the realization of similar monuments in apparently far areas, such as the cube and palace Etruscan tombs (Central Italy), most probably imported from Asia minor, which also affected the Nabatean ones (Jordan and KSA). Common element, especially in the most advanced period such as the Byzantine epoch, is the need of soft rock to be excavated, to obtain the distinctive rupestrian architecture. Due to the weakness of parent materials, as well as the impact of climate change, threaten by rapid and slow instability processes or the misuse in recent period, most

of the site are now-day in a precarious equilibrium or even destroyed or disappeared, with a significant acceleration of degradation.

Responsible Institutions, as well as UNESCO, are deeply involved in programs for mitigating the risk and proposing a proper maintenance plan. In the present paper some case studies have been investigated, to show anthropological and structural similarities among them, but also geological, geomechanical and geomorphological ones. Petra and Al-Ula (Nabatean kingdom), Etruscan monuments and temple of Tarquinia and Norchia (Italy), Byzantine rupestrian Heritage in the Caucasus (Georgia) and others, may offer a clue to understand the interconnection of Mediterranean cultures during the time. On the other hand, since their geological and topographical assets, the main acting processes are slope instability on a rock material, which sometime is behaving as soil. A compartment that is at border between weak rock and stiff soil and where water and weathering may play a relevant role in their morphological evolution and future survival. In such conditions the main effort is to preserve them from an irreversible damage and to maintain their integrity and authenticity, making use of a common strategy based on deep knowledge, advanced monitoring, low impact mitigation approach, integrated with the enhancement of local capacity and expertise.

Keywords: Mediterranean region, cultural rupestrian heritage, weak rocks, slope instabilities, low impact mitigation, capacity building

Biography: Claudio Margottini is a UNESCO Consultant, Senior Scientist at the Geological Survey of Italy (ISPRA) and former Scientific and Technological Attaché at the Italian Embassy in Cairo (Egypt). He is currently also Adjunct Professor at the UNESCO Chair in the University of Florence, at Galala University in Egypt, at National Research Institute for Astronomy and Geophysics (NRIAG) in Egypt. As an Engineering Geologist, he was extensively supporting UNESCO, international organization and worldwide local institutions in projects for the conservation of UNESCO and other heritage sites against landslides and other natural hazards. His activity include projects in Afghanistan (Bamiyan, Jam, Herat and Shar-e-Zohak), Ethiopia (Aksum and Lalibela), South Korea (Seokguram), Syria (Maaloula), Peru (Machu Picchu), Bolivia (Tiwanaku), Georgia (Vardzia, Sakdrisi, Vanis Kvabebi, Uplistskhe, Mravaltskaro, David Garenj and Katski), Chile (Orongo in Easter Island and Moai), Jordan (Petra), North Korea (Kogurio), Mongolia (Bayannuur), Nepal (Lumbini and Swayambu) Egypt (Hawara), Madagascar (Antananarivo), Iraq (Hatra), KSA (AlUla, Hegra and Dadan) as well as Pompei, Rome, Florence, Piazza Armerina, Civita di Bagnoregio in Italy and others. In all these sites an innovative approach integrating traditional knowledge and local expertise in the mitigation of hazard was implemented. He is an author and co-author of more than 330 publications and books.

Understanding Slum Communities and their heritage: A participatory approach to counter urban development deficiencies

Dr Eng Manal ElShahat, Associate Professor of Urban Planning & Design, Ain-Shams University

Abstract: Community heritage can be considered to encompass a wide range of heritage-based activities that are developed and operated by communities. This describes groups of people who strive to preserve tangible and intangible features and qualities of their local culture. The vision of the EZBET project is based on the understanding that the identity and culture of each community is an asset for urban development. Each community, which has a strong and particular social characteristic, shapes its heritage and culture, in which urban spaces and buildings are produced to meet their needs and allow them to behave and live their lives on this basis.

From the experience of field and empirical work with communities in informal settlements (slums), we have explored the various similarities to historical urban planning and architectural features, e.g. those of medieval cities. This especially in the way people shape their spaces and their surroundings according to their needs and cultures. Along an almost ten-year research journey on the ground and especially during the implementation of different urban interventions and physical projects hand in hand with the inhabitants, we, as a large team of the EZBET project, were able to identify the different cultural heritage of their spaces and how many rich values and architectural and urban vocabulary they possess. In addition, we were also able to understand how it shapes their identity within the space. In my short talk, I will present the results of a street intervention project where we successfully managed to give the space the same characteristics as the historical city of Cairo. People in the slums were surprisingly able to discover the diversity and beauty of their spaces, contrary to the image of informal areas and slums that always presents the problems of such areas without looking for their potentials and opportunities for urban development.

Biography: Dr. Manal El-Shahat is an accomplished senior researcher and project manager of various urban planning and participation projects with more than 20 years of professional experience in research and teaching as well as practice-oriented sustainability & development projects. She is also a licensed DGNB consultant for sustainable building. She is the founder of the EZBET project (in Germany EZBET e.V.) and the KAIROS City LAB. She established various collaborations in national and international as well as transdisciplinary work contexts. In addition, she serves as a reviewer and consultant in local and global contexts for various research institutions and journals, as well as for the city administration of the state capital Stuttgart. She is an associate professor and faculty member at the Faculty of Engineering at Ain Shams University in Cairo (on leave). Dr. El-Shahat has several academic publications on topics addressing urbanisation issues of informal settlements, participatory planning and the development of smart cities.

ENGAGE-Egypt: Session (D2)

Innovative approaches to heritage protection and preservation in Egypt

Inclusive heritage-based humanizing city: Lessons learned from Madinah and Cairo

Prof. Galal Abada, Professor of Architecture and Urban Design, Ain Shams University, Cairo

Abstract: What is inclusive heritage in the context of Arab historic cities—that is considered one of the world’s most diverse and rich patrimony, and an important component of individual and collective identities? What defines it? Why is inclusive heritage a vital task in response to the current urban conditions in many cities in the region? How can inclusive heritage be achieved? In response to these and other related inquiries, this presentation argues that making heritage areas inclusive—i.e. easily reachable, simply accessible, well integrated, and actively usable for as many people as possible—is a highly challenging issue. Integrated urban conservation approaches in the region should strive to give urban heritage a contemporary role in society. On the one hand, urban development schemes in older city areas need to value historic areas and cultural landscapes as “assets”—not just conventional “practice or responsibility”—for more inclusive and sustainable city development. On the other hand, conservation schemes need to look beyond the protection of isolated sites towards integrating with various urban, socioeconomic and cultural conditions. Hence, such emphasis on heritage as an asset and fundamental quality of vitality can become a crucial success factors for reaching humanized cities, incorporating the continuity of historical areas into the overall city development framework. This presentation summarizes the main motivation, objectives, methodology, and some lessons learned from the practice of the Inclusive Heritage-based Humanizing Cities in Egypt and Saudi Arabia. The development objective of this practice was to test

an inclusive heritage-based approach to urban revitalizing and conservation development planning within a highly significant cultural context.

Biography: Galal Abada is an architect, urbanist, and development advisor, consultant and educator. He is Professor of Architecture and Urban Design at Ain Shams University in Cairo ASU. He was trained at Ain Shams University, (Bachelor and Master of Architecture, in 1985 and 1991), the Institute for Housing and Development Studies IHS, Rotterdam, the Netherlands (1990), the School of Architecture Paris-Belleville, France (1993), and the University of Leuven Belgium KUL (Master of Architecture in 1994). He received a Ph.D. in Architecture and Urban Design from Stuttgart University, Germany (1999). Over more than 30 years, Mr. Abada has been engaged in professional practice, consultancy and advisory service in a wide range of urban development; urban conservation and design projects. He was an international expert and senior advisor for the development of Makkah, the Holy sites and Madinah from 2005-2020. Prof. Abada was the founding director of the Historic Cairo Studies and Development Center HCSDC for the Egyptian Ministry of Culture (2000-2005) and to manage planning operations of the National Organization for Urban Harmony "NOAH", in Cairo, Egypt (2002-2005). His designed, built projects and winning competitions are located in Belgium, Germany, and throughout the Middle East, notably in Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. He was a jury member and successfully managed a number of international design competitions. Prof. Abada has served as a technical reviewer and an official nominator for projects nominated for the Aga Khan Award for Architecture AKAA, Geneva, Switzerland. He has published more than 80 articles, research papers, critical reports and technical reviews in international conferences, refereed journals and professional magazines. He also contributed to a number of books on the Middle Eastern urbanism, Arab contemporary architecture, conservation of historical cities and heritage sites.

Manging geotechnical hazards for heritage site through the involvement of communities

Prof. Abbas M. Abbas, National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics

Biography: Prof. Abbas Mohamed Abbas is a professor of applied and environmental geophysics since 2011. He has received his Ph.D. from Giessen University, Germany on the year 1999 and has a postdoctoral fellowship at Tokyo Institute of Technology between 2001-2003. His main work is concerned with the perspective of geophysics in the field of archaeology, groundwater, geotechnical and environmental assessments. Currently, Prof. Abbas is the deputy of geomagnetism and geoelectricity department, National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics "NRIAG". During the period between 2015 to 2020, Prof. Abbas was the head of Geoelectric and Geothermal Lab., NRIAG. Prof. Abbas has supervised several postgraduate studies and thesis (MSc and Ph.D.) in different disciplines of geophysics. Moreover, he is a peer reviewer of some geophysical journals. Prof. Abbas is the PI or a running project funded by the ministry of high education of Egypt at Hawara pyramid and its labyrinth.

Raquda: Local social enterprise and its role in youth and community heritage education

Ms Rawda Abdel-Hady; Founder, Raquda Heritage Enterprise, Alexandria, Egypt

Abstract: Raquda Foundation for Art and Heritage: Local social enterprise and its role in youth and community heritage education Deterioration or disappearance of any item of the cultural heritage constitutes a harmful impoverishment of the humanitarian of all the nations of the world. The objectives of conserving and safeguarding heritage, whether tangible or intangible, are achieved by sharing awareness of the importance and value of heritage among societies, and integrating the community in the sustainable development of its human heritage. Alexandria has played an important role throughout history in creating important human meanings which affected human philosophy and economy in many countries not just in Egypt. Hence, Alexandria's heritage values were more diverse and influential. Therefore, it was important to have an influential role from

Heritage NGOs in preserving and developing the Alexandrian cosmopolitan heritage. Therefore, the idea of the Raquda Foundation for Art and Heritage came. Raquda managed and established many projects and activities to preserve heritage and integrate societies into developing their humanitarian heritage since 2015.

ENGAGE-India: Session (E1)

Navigating Heritage Communities and Institutions in South Asia

Role of cultural institutions in urban resilience: The case of Ahmedabad

Dr Jigna Desai, Executive Director, Center for Heritage Conservation, CEPT Research and Development Foundation, CEPT University, Ahmedabad.

Abstract: Historic City of Ahmedabad has through its history seen earthquakes, floods, fires, famines, riots and epidemics. The historic city was also considered to be the ‘epicenter’ of the COVID 19 pandemic. On one hand there are many narratives that blame the urban settlement pattern, density of people, culture of constant communication and a general lack of upkeep as what negatively affects the city during these times; there are also, on the other hand, recorded instances of cultural (religious and non-religious) institutions that are embedded in the city, that get activated during these times and provide the support for residents to recover and bounce back to their lives. This research looks into these institutional networks, their processes and their outreach during these times. The study will also include the role of cultural heritage as markers of these networks and processes. A historic perspective of this will be developed through literature studies. COVID 19 provides a possibility to study responses of these institutions in such situations. Interviews of residents, institutional custodians and experts will be conducted for this.

Biography: Dr. Jigna Desai is an Associate Professor and Program Chair for Masters in Conservation and Regeneration at the Faculty of Architecture and Executive Director of Center for Heritage Conservation, CEPT Research and Development Foundation. She has worked extensively on architecture projects and conservation research and advisory in different parts of India, carried out advocacy for community-based conservation in partnership with national and international institutions and government organisations. Her recent book, *Equity in Heritage Conservation, The Case of Ahmedabad* (Routledge, 2019) brings out urban processes that marginalise heritage and their effect on sustainable development. She is an Expert member of the International Scientific Committee for Historic Towns and Villages, International Council for Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS).

Understanding humanitarian heritage in India’s craft communities: Craft of Bangle making in Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh

Ms Anjali Mittal, Assistant Professor, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi

Abstract: A shift from product to process centric approach results in a better sustenance of intangible heritage systems in a contemporary society. This research sets out to explore an alternative approach to the conceptualisation of ‘heritage’ extending beyond the tangible to the intangible. Craft processes are living systems based on traditional knowledge and practices. It is the ‘process’ through which the agency of the ‘Product’ enlivens and enriches the community, thereby providing its identity. A system based on complex web of social relationships arising out of craft as an object, craft as a process and craft as a practice, can bring forth a new framework for humanitarian heritage. In the backdrop of material culture and its production processes the research focussed on “Craft” based society in the North Indian city-Firozabad as its Genus Loci. Interlacing the residential, commercial and industrial sectors of the city, the production of bangle, penetrates the daily cycle and lifestyle of the people of Firozabad. A humanitarian approach in reading the structures and patterns situated

around improvisation of skills that have been passed on from generation to generation, is employed for understanding existing traditional way of life.

The study is based on a grounded theory approach and employed both ethnographic as well as spatial and physical mapping techniques. The findings reveal heritage systems rooted in sustenance and the collective. Further, the assessment of the policies relevant to the craft industry unveils the dichotomous nature of a traditional artisanal industry like that in Firozabad- is it an industry or a craft?

Biography: Ms. Anjali Mittal is an Assistant Professor of Architecture at the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. She is a researcher, an urbanist and an academician with over 13 years of experience both in India and the UK. She is an architect with an interdisciplinary masters-MSc in City Design and Social Science, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). She is also the recipient of the LSE Graduate Merit Award. Her range of experiences, both in the urban and rural context and public and private sector; familiarity with urban development issues in the developed and the developing world; ability to comprehend the dichotomy of developmental issues and community aspiration; focus on transformative processes; deciphering socio-spatial systems empowers her as a professional as well as an academic.

Evolving Heritage: A case study of Kalbelia and Jogi nomadic tribes and their relationship with state, society and markets

Ms Ekta Verma, Partners in Change, India

Abstract: Though heritage, either natural or cultural, is inherited from the past, it is no more considered as inexplicable or simply 'inherited', especially when it is at the intersectionality of overlapping identities and oppressions. Heritage is complex and dynamic, shaped by the constant engagement with the realities around it – the citizens, the state, politics, power relationships, aspirations of its youth, economic needs, social identities and more. In this context, this paper looks at two inter-related nomadic tribes of the western Indian state of Rajasthan, the Kalbelias and the Jogis, which are caught on the crossroads of a range of contradictions that raise questions that are equally relevant for any other. How does a community's relationship with the state and society shape its own relationship with its heritage? Does celebration of a community's heritage by state and society automatically elevate its status and that of its members? Is the influence of commercialisation of a community's heritage a positive one? Within these contestations, what is the role played by patriarchy and casteism?

Biography: Ekta has done Masters in Development Communication and Extension from Delhi University. She been working with Partners in Change since 2017 and has been involved in various projects around corporate disclosures, as well as issues of marginalised communities. She is also a part of the communications unit of PiC.

ENGAGE-India: Session (E2)

Community-led approaches: Living with heritage

Chhara assertion of heritage: Subverting mainstreamed notions of morality, legality

Anusha Chandrasekharan, ENGAGE-India Research Coordinator; Praxis India

Abstract: Chhara community was a community highly stigmatised as 'born criminals' because of a colonial area law that was denotified post-Independence, but whose impact never eroded. Living in Chharanagar Gujarat, the largest ghetto of Chharas, the community is branded as thieves, mischief-

makers and brewers of illicit liquor. Within the physical space of Chharanagar, the memories of historic marginalisation and the assertion of new identity through culture clash with the deep-rooted caste system that invisibilises their citizenship and basic rights. Set against this context, the research aims to explore the Chharas' search for identity through heritage and culture, intersecting land-centric human rights, theatre, and community identity.

Biography: Anusha has worked as a print journalist with several leading newspapers before moving to communications in the development sector. She has close to ten years' experience in the development sector in building the capacity of different stakeholders in the use of participatory approaches in multiple contexts and enabling community participation in stages of a development projects. She is interested in areas of gender and sexuality and has been involved in capacity-building, participatory research and communications in multiple mediums such as participatory video and digital story-telling.

Nirmita is a geographer and qualitative researcher by training. She has five years of experience in qualitative research and more than three years of experience in the development sector in building the capacity of different stakeholders on use of participatory approaches in varied contexts. Having had the academic background in interdisciplinary ethnographic research and passion for offbeat travel, she continues to engage and work with communities marginalised by sex, gender, occupation, caste, class, religion and ability. Her research interests revolve around genderscapes, border conflicts, child protection, local history, cultural hybridity, landscape studies, geographies of religion, folk traditions and tribes.

Laying groundwork for community-led activities Aiming at local involvement in Imamzade-Yahya locality, Tehran, Iran

Shima Saghandali & M. Reza Karfar

Abstract: 'Imamzade-Yahya' is one of the three localities of 'Oudlajan' district, Tehran, Iran. This historic district was the residential part of ancient Tehran and it is located next to the Tehran Grand Bazar. Due to uniqueness of historical houses and organic city fabric in this locality, the government decided to 'save' the area by defining it as historical heritage. Being a historical heritage and a historical district is equal to being a target to many special regulations and top-down projects. Enacting special regulations in historic districts affected the land prices and delivered several socio-economic challenges and displaced so many people. 'Imamzade-Yahya' locality is one of the few localities with lots of potentials where people are still living in and has not been abandoned yet. Our team was invited for one of top-down projects with touristic goals. After a while, we changed our path and decided to run a participatory project to see what people think about their locality, what their challenges are and how they like to answer those challenges. We used several participatory tools for recognition, analysis, identifying main issues, finding solutions and implementing the ideas. This was an effort to see if taking this approach can help these localities.

Biography: M. Reza Karfar is a graduate of Architecture from the Faculty of Architecture & Ekistics, J.M.I Central University, New Delhi, India. After working with consulting companies in India and Iran, he chose to pursue his activities independently to focus on the unconventional vernacular and contextual architecture. His independent ventures led to his curiosity about the socio-economic aspects of architecture and built environments. He has been actively involved in defining and experiencing participatory-based projects in the recent years.

Shima Saghandali is a graduate of Urban Planning and a master student of Urban Management from the Faculty of Urban Planning, University of Tehran, Iran. Her main focus has been on studying issues and policies about urban blight areas and historical districts, also assisting classes on Urban

Restoration, Issues and Planning Experiences. She has been involved in experiencing, learning and defining participatory-based projects, where she tries to facilitate local knowledge and common-sense engagement in decision making processes

The role of religion and religious rituals in landscape conservation; tomb gardens of Iran

Sara Mahdizadeh, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, IRAN

Abstract: Religion can play a key role in environmental conservation. While in some research emphasize have been given on conservation of physical aspects of natural environment through religion, in this paper, the role of Shi'a-Islamic belief in conservation of both material and immaterial aspects of garden will be scrutinized. Employing qualitative research method, the paper sheds new light on the under-researched role of religion in conservation of tangible and intangible aspects of landscape gardens in Iran. This paper argues that the faith and degree of religiousness of the Iranian community has been, and remains, a real force for continuity in the social and physical life of tomb gardens, helping it to resist complex ideological shifts and upheavals over the centuries, even in the absence of any regulatory framework regarding historical gardens in Iran.

Biography: Sara Mahdizadeh completed her Ph.D. at the School of Architecture, University of Sheffield, UK. She was awarded a fellowship by Dumbarton Oaks, Trustee for Harvard University, USA in 2013. Her research focus on landscape conservation and cultural heritage. Now, she is an Assistant Professor at department of Architecture and Urbanism, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Iran

Guidance for Speakers and Participants:

- The Event is conducted via Virtual Platform Zoom, run by Nottingham Trent University in Partnership ENGAGE Regional Hub Coordinators and Partners. Each regional hub session is coordinated by the Hub coordinator who will chair/coordinate the speakers and their order.
- Participants in each session needs to Click on the **Provided Link** and it will take you directly to Admission Lobby of that conference room, where our team will admit you. Only Speakers will be allowed to talk, and the rest will be on mute with Camera Off.
- The Chair will manage the Session, talks and remind speakers of their time with 5min & 2minutes reminders. We are keen for open and respectable debate. Whilst we welcome public participation and audience, no derogatory or out of context comments will be allowed to maintain the focus of the session.
- The conference is video recorded, and attendance open to the public, who can access it via the link provided on the programme or the Network's website. The conference will be livestreamed online via the ENGAGE Network Facebook page. If you do not wish your talk/interventions to be displayed on the ENGAGE Network Platforms, you need to tell us in advance.
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- If you have any enquiries or wish to get in touch with The ENGAGE-Middle East Team, Please visit the Network website: www.humanitarianheritage.com; or e-mail us on: caugh@ntu.ac.uk



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