

Assessment of Intangible Cultural Heritage in World Heritage: *A critical appraisal of the use of criterion vi*

9th December 2017, 18.00 - 21.00 p.m.

Venue: Delhi, India International Centre, Lecture Hall 2

ICOMOS General Assembly Delhi

In some quarters, there is concern as to how well the 1972 *World Heritage Convention* lends itself to the assessment of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) for nomination purposes.

UNESCO and some professionals, practitioners and communities engaged in the assessment processes feel criterion vi of the *World Heritage Convention* in conjunction with the 2003 *Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage* are appropriate and adequate. However, others feel that the 1972 Convention probably does not do justice in defining and measuring ICH and giving it an equivalent or similar status as tangible elements and they would like ICH to be given a higher status than is currently afforded to it, when considering its OUV.

Our Mini Colloquium therefore aims to stimulate discussion on:

- Key issues and challenges in relation to assessment of OUV of ICH under the 1972 World Heritage Convention and the use of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage
- ICOMOS's contribution to the trajectory of assessments of ICH in WH properties to date
- Differences in perceptions of ICH value between the state/guardians and inhabitants of WH properties and whether the existing methodology and operating guidance are sufficient to meet the diverse needs and to resolve the different interests of all stakeholders
- What constitutes good practice, including examples.

The ICICH Mini Colloquium is open to everyone attending the General Assembly.

Programme

18.00	<i>Arrive, refreshments and networking</i>
18.30	Introducing the Colloquium - Clara Arokiasamy OBE (Session Chair) Welcome - Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy (outgoing ICICH President) & Hee Sook Lee-Niinioja (new ICICH President)
18.40	Key Note Presentation Dinu Bumbaru C.M. – “World Heritage and ICH - Views for an ICOMOS contribution on values”
19.00	Q&A
19.10	Case Studies – Chris Johnston (Session Chair)
19.10	Dr. Jignai Desai – “(Co)Production of Space, A case of Ahmedabad” Munish Pandit – “Resolving differing perceptions of ICH values between Guardians and Inhabitants of World Heritage sites”
19.40	Q&A
20.00	ICICH: our plan for next three years – Hee Sook Lee-Niinioja and new board members
20.20	<i>Thank you from organisers and networking [Close at 21.00]</i>



Dinu Bumbaru C.M.: A graduate in architecture, Dinu Bumbaru C.M. has worked since 1982 at Heritage Montreal, a non-profit organisation supporting the built, landscape, memorial, archaeological and natural heritage of Canada's original metropolis. His involvement extends internationally through ICOMOS and its ISCs on theory, risk preparedness and the heritage of the modern era.

Abstract: Despite perceptions, ICOMOS includes intangible in its definition of monuments and sites, its World Heritage Advisory work and its national activities. Its 14th General Assembly Symposium focused on tangible / intangible relations in the wake of UNESCO's 2003 Convention; 16th General Assembly Resolution 25 advocates inclusive tangible / intangible inventory and listing processes. Growing attention to communities and landscapes, and richer interpretations of World Heritage criteria III, V and VI supports this with new ICOMOS challenges.

Dr. Jigna Desai: Jigna Desai is an Associate Professor and is the Area Chair for Conservation at the Faculty of Architecture. She is an architect with her graduate studies in sustainable design and her doctoral research in the area of conservation with the specific focus on issues of sustainability in the historic cities and villages. She has worked extensively conservation research in different parts of India, carried out advocacy for community-based conservation in partnership with national and international institutions.

Abstract: Ahmedabad is inscribed as a World Heritage City under the criteria (ii) and (v). The domestic architecture and the neighbourhood spaces of the city have much of the knowledge of making embedded in the language, in the way places are used, in the way construction processes are laid out and relationships in (co)production of these spaces are negotiated. This presentation will focus on these aspects of the city and present a critique on how identification of heritage and conservation processes do not bring these aspects out, and explore the possible reasons behind it.

Munish Pandit: Munish Pandit is a Conservation Architect and has been engaged in conservation of built heritage for the past 20 years. His experience in WHSs in India and abroad includes the following: developing World Heritage Nomination for sites in Maldives; preparation of world heritage nomination and management plan for Aapreavasi Ghat in Mauritius; co-authored nomination dossier for Six Hill Forts and prepared a management plan for Jaisalmer, both in Rajasthan, India; and conservation of heritage sites in India and Mauritius. Munish is the Co-ordinator of the National Scientific Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage for ICOMOS India.

Abstract: Management of world heritage sites especially which are living is a challenge of its own type. Traditions, beliefs and rituals continue over generations and at same time lifestyle and aspiration of the people inhabiting within the heritage site change with times. "Standard Operating Systems" of conservation and management generally don't apply in their universal format and pose major challenges. Drawing on his vast experience of his work in Jaisalmer and other World Heritage sites in India and abroad, Munish Pandit's presentation will focus on challenges faced by Authorities responsible for managing the sites and as well as the inhabitants of these WH sites. The presentation will briefly touch on the various approaches, methodologies and strategies used in resolving conflicts and differing perceptions of ICH and their values between the authorities and inhabitants.

Clara Arokiasamy OBE: Clara Arokiasamy is the Chair and founder member of ICOMOS-UK'S Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee and a member of the Executive Council. She was a senior manager in local government planning for arts, heritage and leisure; Deputy Director of Operations at the Heritage Lottery Fund; chaired the London Mayor's Heritage and Diversity Task Force on embedding equalities and diversity in museums and community heritage; a member of the Culture Committee at the National Commission for UNESCO and Strategic Review Committee at ICOM; and chaired a research board on intangible heritage in Kenya for UK's Open University. Clara is one of the outgoing Vice Presidents of the ICICH.

Chris Johnston: Chris Johnston is co-convenor of the Australia ICOMOS National Scientific Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage, and Principal at Context, a heritage consultancy based in Australia where she specialises in understanding community connections to place. She convened the working group that undertook the most recent revisions to the Burra Charter and development of a suite of Practice Notes.