



mughal gardens of kashmir

TOWARDS THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE NOMINATION

International Seminar

14th – 16th May 2011 - University of Kashmir, Srinagar, Kashmir

Objectives

Re-examining the Mughal gardens and their wider landscapes; understanding their historical evolution and significance; reviewing conservation approaches; developing sustainable management and visions for rehabilitation; working towards UNESCO World Heritage nomination.

Organizers

INTACH, Jammu & Kashmir Chapter in partnership with the University of Kashmir and supported by the Department of Floriculture, Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

Location

University of Kashmir, Srinagar, Kashmir.

Friday, 13th May 2011		
19.00	Arrival of participants and dinner	Nageen Club
Saturday, 14th May 2011		
INAUGURAL SESSION		
9.15 – 9.45	Registration	Ibn-i-Khaldun Auditorium
10.00	Arrival of Chief Guest	Ibn-i-Khaldun Auditorium
10.05 – 10.15	Welcome and objectives of the workshop M. Saleem Beg (Convener, INTACH J&K Chapter)	
10.15 – 10.25	'Mughal Heritage in Kashmir: An introduction to Mughal Architecture in Kashmir' Prof. Ashraf Wani (Head, Department of History, University of Kashmir)	
10.25 – 10.45	'Mughal Gardens and Landscape Art' Keynote address by Prof. Ebba Koch (Professor Institute of Art History, University of Vienna)	
10.45 – 10.55	Address by Principal Secretary, Agriculture, Government of J&K	
10.55 – 11.05	Address by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Kashmir	
11.05	Address by Chief Guest, H.E. Governor, Jammu & Kashmir	
	Tea and Coffee	



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SESSION 1 – OBJECTIVES AND BACKGROUND

Objectives: Introducing the wider context of the Mughal Gardens of Kashmir, the key gardens, main challenges for the World Heritage Nomination.

Chair: Dr. R. C. Agrawal, Principal Director, Architectural Heritage Division, INTACH

11.45 – 12.25	'Process of achieving World Heritage Status: The case of Jantar Mantar (inscribed 2010) and serial nomination of Hill Forts of Rajasthan (to be evaluated in 2011)' Dr. Shikha Jain (DRONAH)	Ibn-i-Khaldun Auditorium
12.25 – 13.05	'The UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List and the requirements and process for a full application' <i>(Including samples of other Indian World Heritage sites and ongoing applications)</i> Janhwij Sharma (Archaeological Survey of India)	Ibn-i-Khaldun Auditorium
13.05 – 13.30	'The Mughal Gardens of Kashmir included in the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List' <i>(Introduction to the gardens and their significance, present status of research, recent conservation works and challenges)</i> Saima Iqbal (INTACH, J&K Chapter)	Ibn-i-Khaldun Auditorium
13.30 – 14.30	Lunch	University of Kashmir

SESSION 2 – EXISTING CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMMES FOR THE GARDENS

Objectives: The existing management and maintenance of the gardens; current conservation approaches with recent research findings from re-examining the gardens.

Chair: Prof. Ashraf Wani, Head, Department of History, University of Kashmir

14.30 – 15.00	'Existing management structures and ongoing approaches to the maintenance and management of the Mughal gardens in Kashmir' <i>(Including an overview of approaches towards restoration, maintenance, visitor management, garden developments, budgets and PR)</i> Dr. Ghulam Sarwar Naqash (Department of Floriculture)	Ibn-i-Khaldun Auditorium
15.00 – 15.30	'Ongoing, completed and planned conservation works, conservation studies and outcomes so far' Hakim Sameer Hamdani (INTACH, J&K Chapter)	Ibn-i-Khaldun Auditorium
15.30 – 16.15	'Re-examining a hidden heritage: Survey findings, reviewing conservation visions and management recommendations' Dr. Jan Haenraets (INTACH, J&K Chapter)	Ibn-i-Khaldun Auditorium
16.15	Dr. Jan Haenraets conducts the site visit to Shalimar Garden, tea at the site	
19.00	Dinner	Royal Springs Golf Club



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Sunday, 15th May 2011

SESSION 3 – SITE VISITS

Objectives: An opportunity for the participants to become acquainted with the gardens, their present condition, on-going conservation works and key issues.

8.30 – 9.30	Breakfast at Chashma Shahi		
9.30 – 10.30	Site visit and on-site discussions on Chashma Shahi		
10.40 – 11.40	Site visit and on-site discussions on Pari Mahal		
12.00 – 13.00	Site visit and on-site discussions on Nishat Bagh		
13.15 – 14.30	Return to university	Lunch	University of Kashmir

SESSION 4 – CASE STUDY PRESENTATIONS

Objectives: Participant's inputs from their backgrounds and involvement in other garden conservation projects.

Chair: Mr. M. Saleem Beg, Convener, INTACH, Jammu & Kashmir Chapter

14.30 – 15.10	'The Terrace Garden of Kashmir' <i>(a case study of the Jharoka Bagh and its representation in Mughal sources)</i> Prof. Ebba Koch (University of Vienna)	Gandhi Bhawan
15.10 – 15.30	'Garden archaeology in the study and conservation of the Mughal gardens of Kashmir' Dr. R. C. Agrawal (Architectural Heritage Division, INTACH)	Gandhi Bhawan
15.30 – 16.10	'Restoring Past Glory at Humayun's Tomb and Bagh-e-Babur: Garden Restoration by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture' <i>(Including thoughts on the integration of conservation, urban and environmental development as a catalyst for socio-economic change)</i> Ratish Nanda (Aga Khan Trust for Culture)	Gandhi Bhawan
16.10 – 16.40	Tea and Coffee	

Chair: Prof B. L. Zutshi, Coordinator, Directorate of Distance Education, University of Kashmir

16.40 – 17.25	'Conservation of historic gardens: From principles to practice' <i>(Outlining the philosophy and methods adopted in case study garden restoration projects)</i> Dr. Priyaleen Singh (School of Planning and Architecture)	Gandhi Bhawan
17.25 – 17.55	'Environmental scenario of the Dal Lake and its Environs' Prof. Shakeel Romshu (University of Kashmir)	Gandhi Bhawan
19.30	Dinner	



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Monday, 16th May 2011

SESSION 5 – TECHNICAL WORKING SESSION (9.00 – 13.30)

Objectives: Key challenges and issues to be addressed in a workshop sessions after which findings will be shared and discussed to generate practical guidance notes and recommendations.

Venue: Gandhi Bhawan and Department of History, University of Kashmir

Tea and refreshments will be provided during the workshop sessions

CORE & BUFFER ZONES

Chair: Dr. Jan Haenraets

Speakers: Hakim Iftekhar (Chief Town Planner, Kashmir) and Irfan Yasin (Vice Chairman, LAWDA)

- Defining the core zones and buffer zones
- Addressing challenges relating to the Dal Lake and its environs, and the use of land around the properties
- Information status (database)
- Existing and required regulatory regime (legal status)
- Urbanization, urban pressure and environmental challenges
- The present plans, philosophies and approaches
- Technical know-how for meeting challenges
- Resources needed to address challenges (including funds and HR)
- Restoration and rehabilitation (including cut-off dates and obligations of the residents)
- Outreach and community participation

CONSERVATION OPTIONS & APPROACHES; AUTHENTICITY & INTEGRITY; REQUIREMENTS FOR A WH STATUS

Chair: Ratish Nanda

Speakers: Dr. Priyaleen Singh and Janhwij Sharma

- Conservation approaches, preferred treatment options and long-term visions
- Management and maintenance structures and approaches
- Information status (database)
- Existing and future research and planning
- Existing and required regulatory regime (legal status)
- Skillbase, capacity building, heritage horticulture (Technical and research, civil and landscape)
- Documentation and description of the property as a serial nomination

BALANCING CONSERVATION WITH ACCESS AND PUBLIC BENEFITS

Chair: Dr. Shobita Punja

Speakers: Samir Mathur, Aashiq Peerzada and Prof. B. L. Zutshi

- Interpretation, access and education
- Landscape and horticulture
- WH standards of infrastructure and visitor facilities
- Community participation and consultation
- Public perceptions

Guest Representatives:

Srinagar Municipal Corporation and SDA, Lakes and Waterways Development Authority, Garden Superintendents (Department of Floriculture), ASI (Srinagar Circle), EMMRC, Department of Tourism

CONSOLIDATION OF THE REPORT, RECOMMENDATIONS, CLOSURE OF THE SEMINAR AND LUNCH