



**Department of Antiquities**

6596 .

**DEPARTMENT OF ANTIQUITIES**

**“CONSERVATION AND REHABILITATION OF BUILT  
HERITAGE”**

Traditionally the kings and state machinery used to cater for the maintenance of the public works, Grand mosques and mausolea, and also monuments created by earlier patrons. In Sindh the *Summas* are known to have played active role in this regard. *Arghuns*, *Turkhans* and *Talpurs* not only looked after such buildings in Sindh, but provided regular financial assistance for the structures in Jerusalem, Iraq, Hijaz and Persia. There is evidence available to the effect that even after losing the country to Britishers, the *Amirs* of Sindh still continued to remit funds, through British Resident in Iraq, for such works.

Mir Fateh Ali Khan Talpur, is said to have sponsored restoration work on ShahJahani Mosque and it was a popular continuation of the tradition that British's, felt compelled to undertake the restoration works on *Shahjahani Mosque*, Thatta and Mirza Essa Turkhan's Tomb at Makli. *The Archaeological Survey of India* (ASI) after its creation undertook restoration of selected historic monuments and developed a strategy of conservation, which is spelled out in the *Conservation Manual* (1922). After the independence the *Department of Archaeology* continued the policy of the *ASI* and classed the monuments under these categories:

*Those monuments which from their present condition or historical or archaeological value ought to be maintained in permanent good repair.*

*Those monuments which it is now only possible or desirable to save from further decay by such measures as the eradication of vegetation, the exclusion of water from the walls, and the like.*

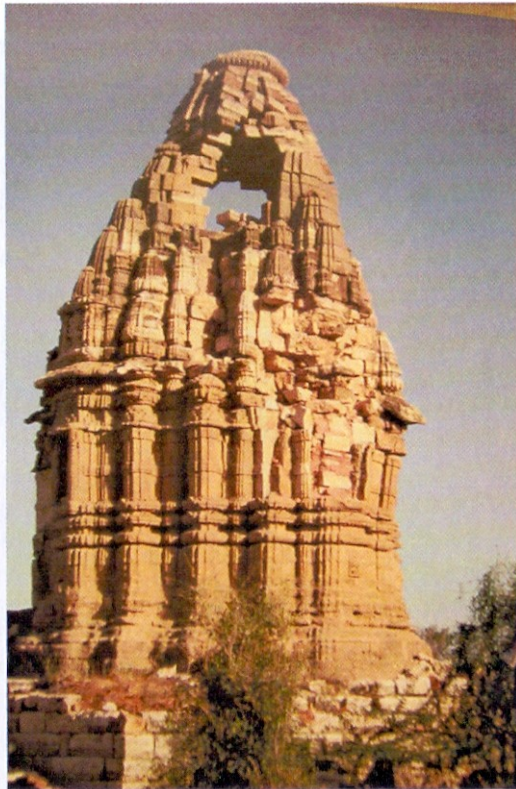
*Those monuments which, from their advanced stage of decay or comparative unimportance, it is impossible or unnecessary to preserve.*

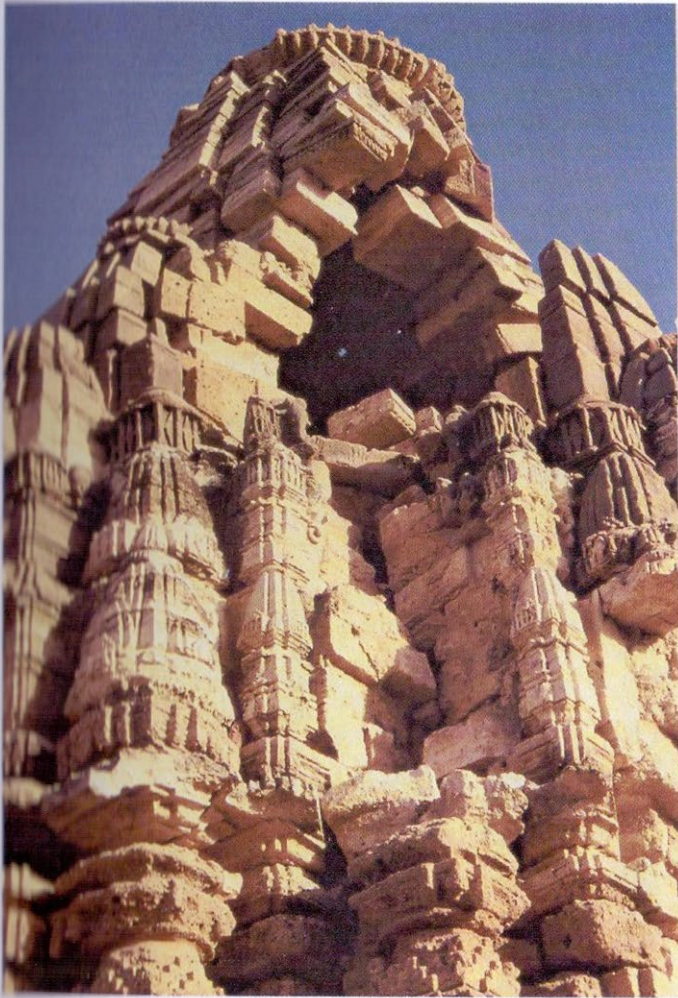
This policy, as can be seen, is quite out dated and the world community has taken more progressive view of the issue. UNESCO has spelled out the will of the people of the world and framed these into *conventions* for the guidance of member countries. *Conventions concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* required of each state party to ensure that active and effective measures are taken for the protection, conservation and preservation of the cultural and natural heritage (Article 5). But the old practice, lack of funds and under developed human resources has created a situation, where the concerns of the people regarding fast deterioration of their valuable physical heritage is mounting with passage of every day.

The indulgence of government with the matters of Culture started quite early in Sindh, compared with other provinces. The Sindhi Adabi Board did great service for Sindh's *Literature and History*, the Museum at Hyderabad bravely sustained change of fate; however in seventies a cell was established in the Education Department to look after the cultural issues. Same cell grew into Directorate of Culture and subsequently became Department of Culture.

The Jain Temple at bhodesar was the Oldest standing monument in Sindh, till it came down in the year 2006. That eighth-centuries old building has beautiful carving, and represents the classical temple design of typical Indian architecture. The temple was damaged during the earthquake in 2001. It is protected monument, but was neglected by the custodians, till it fell five years later.

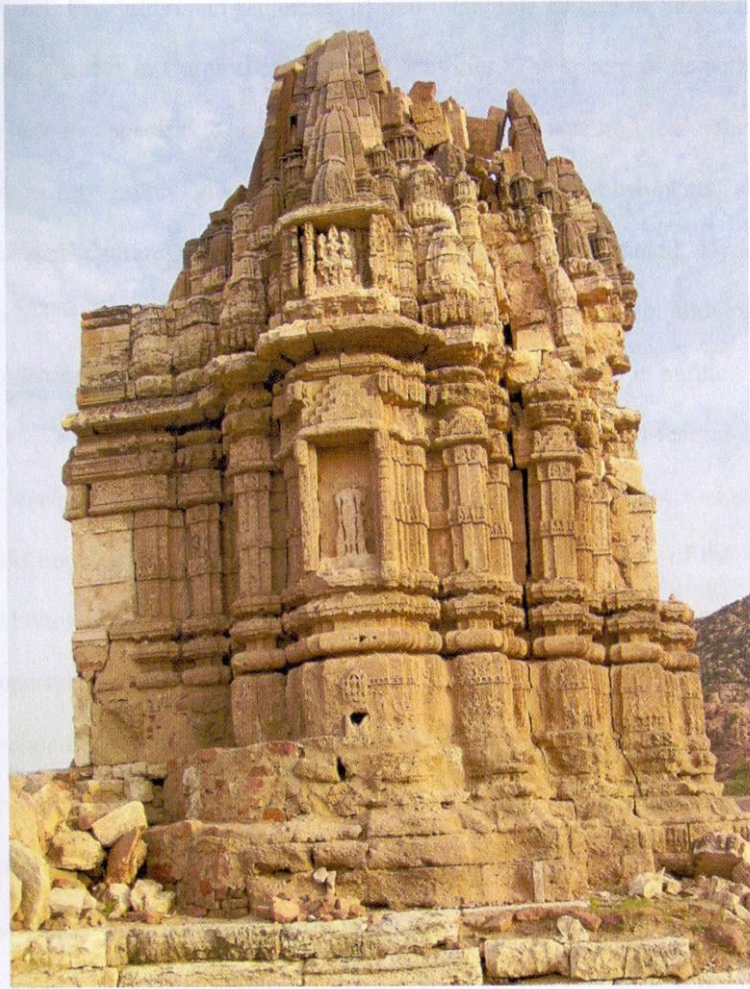
**Jain Temple at  
Bhodesar  
damaged during  
earthquake of  
2001 remained  
neglected till it  
fell in 2006**





**This Photo shows the condition**

*After the second jolt in 2006*



**After the second jolt in 2006**

There is no doubt that Cultur department has contributed considerably, towards promotion and projection of rich intangible culture of Sindh. It continued to be a leader in Cultural promotional activities. The sphere of its activities more or less was specific to intangible heritage, as there was no clear concept spelled out in any policy guidelines or articulated in its establishments, such as (1) Bhitshah Culture Centre Committee, (2) Mehran Arts Council, Hyderabad, (3) Sachal Academy, Khairpur. However the popular sentiment did exist for the protection of the archeological sites and historic monuments in public.

*The Antiquities Act 1975 (as amended in 1976), and federal Department of Archaeology and Museum (DOAM) was deemed sufficient to look after the built heritage of the country. Seeing the gradual deterioration of the monuments and sites a sense of resentment grew into demand for establishment of Provincial Department of Archaeology. It was not realized that the Department of Archaeology and Museums was handicapped by default, as the discourse of Archaeology is limited to the study of past, through the remains of structures, artifacts and settlements of the past, and surely not beyond that. The Antiquities Act was to ensure that the material evidence of the development of human culture is protected; thus the concept of conservation of built heritage did not take roots in this country.*



The efforts of the *Department of Archaeology and Museums*, for restoration of the monuments were in gross violation of International conventions and have been widely criticized. The reason for it can be, one; There exists no other mechanism or guideline but the age old *Conservation Manual*, of twenties and the approach spelled out in *The Antiquities Act*, two; there exists no separate establishment of conservation, within the department. Following these practices few projects were undertaken in Sindh, unfortunately these were complete disasters. The renovation of *Kot Diji* Fort undertaken by District Government Khairpur, was widely criticized, and the work on *Ranikot* by District Government Dadu was highly deplored. The *Advisory Committee for Sindh Cultural Heritage* had to intervene and stop the work.

The Conservation has come a long way, it encompasses not only the in depth study of the monuments, building materials, structural strength, soil, pigments, environmental effects, but also the historic process and usage, evolution of cultural ambience and socio cultural aspects, coupled with the economic viability of the developmental works to be carried out. Then follows the (conservation) work to arrest the decay, by removing the causes, and finally the unavoidable physical intervention is designed, on basic principles, such as reversibility, minimum interference, authenticity of material and design etc.

## KotDiji Fort



The Talpur period fort is an impressive small fortress, having three defenses. It shows an able initialization of the hill, on which it stand Majestically.

The fort was picked up for repairs by District Government Khairpur, without following the normal procedure and there arose many question.

## Ranikot Fort



The damaged walls of the fort were repaired, fallen portions were recreated and original features were recklessly treated. Stone from old unfurnished walls ere taken out and paved in the road.

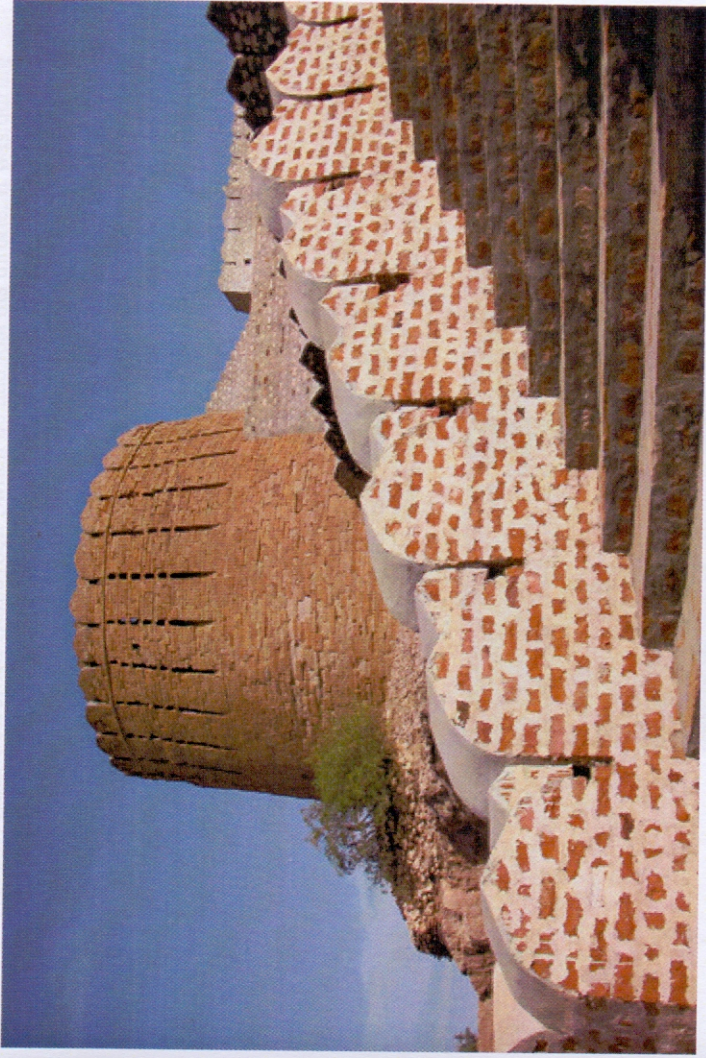
The scheme of repairs sponsored by Culture Department ended up in the hands of District Government of Dadu. That would have been the last thing to happen.

# RANIKOT CONSERVED ?

Conservation of Fort

?

One of the most important monuments in the world, the Ranikot Fort, is a masterpiece of ancient architecture. It has been recognized as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

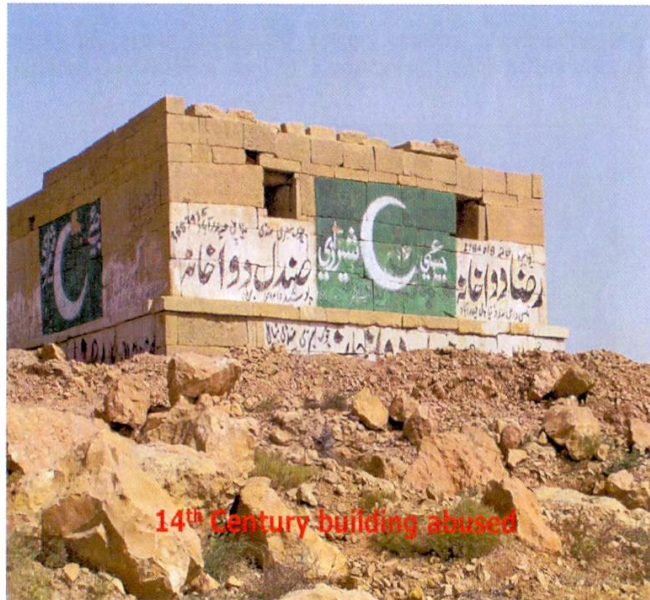


## Omerkot Fort

the fort of Omerkot is supposedly a late medieval period stronghold of Local chiefs, that has been maintained all through these centuries. The local Sodho Chief welcomed Humayoon , when he had lost his throne. It was during those days Akbar, the great Mughal was born there in 1542 A.D. The Fort was strengthened by Mian Noor Muhammad Kalhora, It was used by Talpurs and later by Britisher. Its surroundings and inside has been encroached by local as well as Government agencies. The custodians too have remained indifferent to such issues, hey have recently gone on to add yet another structure, within fort walls. Another such effort was averted, with courtesy of the Chief Secretary; But much is required to be done to rehabilitate the fort, and make it a visitor friendly site.

## Jam Tamachi Ji Maari

The 14<sup>th</sup> century structure, that is also famous for its larger literary references and has relation to historic personalities. But it too has been fully neglected and comprehensively abused, at the hands of those who should have taken care of it.



There have been many unfortunate incidences thought-out all these years, where the heritage sites and monuments have been vandalized, encroached upon and undermined. Sometimes the newspapers reported, reflecting reaction of outraged society, but official response was not simply there, as this business was not assigned to any one. Traditionally no provincial agency thought it their duty to intervene in matters where archaeological sites were concerned, or monuments which were not maintained by them. The wide spread physical heritage continued to suffer, as identification and registration of the archaeological sites was not possible, without a specialized department.

The archaeological enquiry and investigations remained neglected, thus our past remains behind the heavy curtain besides these issues along with man made causes, the neglect of years is also telling upon the built heritage.

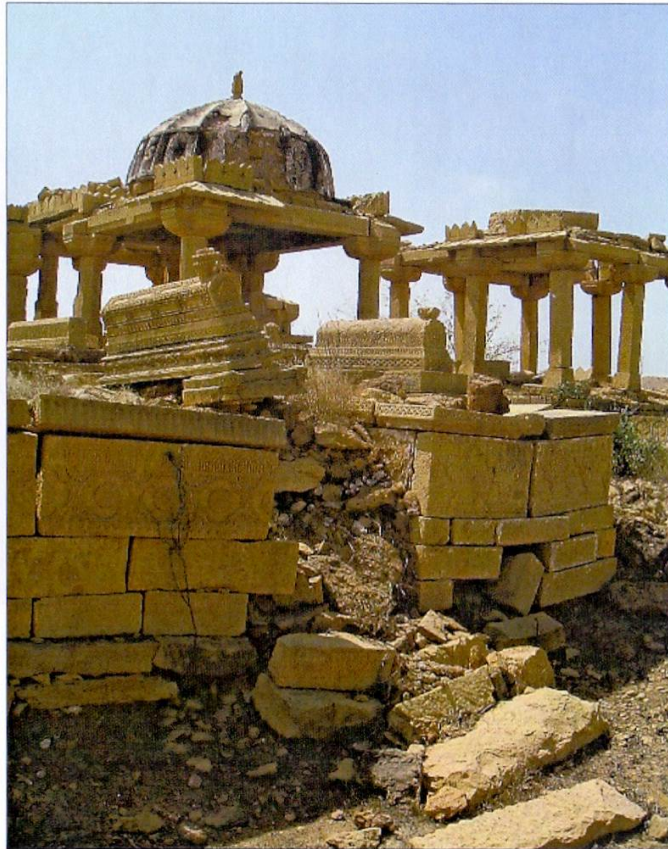
### **PIR LAKHO GRAVEYARD WAS DUG FOR THE STONE**

13<sup>th</sup> century graveyard, having 18<sup>th</sup> century chatters/ chaukandeas is a vast burial ground, having been used by a prominent branch of Soomras of Sindh.

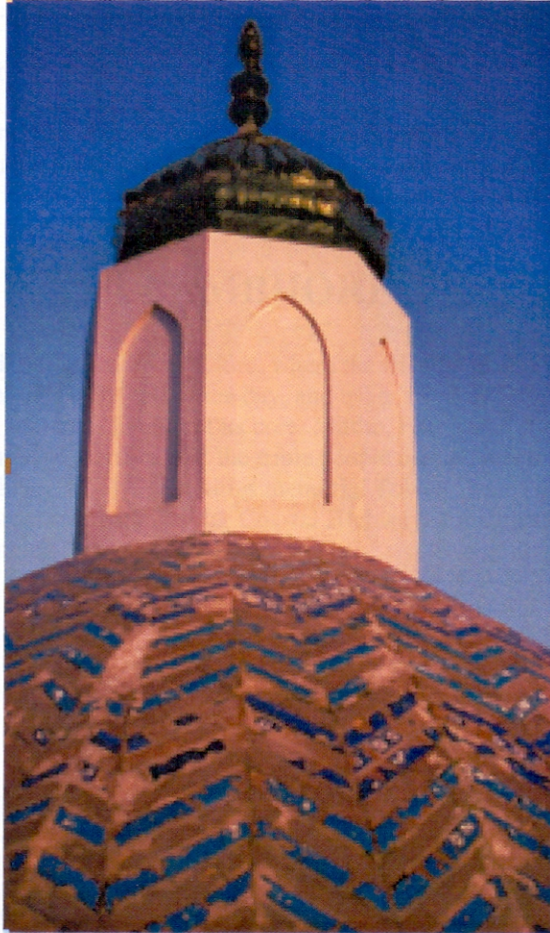


The typical funeral architecture of the lower Sindh is reflected in this graveyard, specially its last leg and initial transit period.

It being one of the important part of the long chain of graveyards, depicting evolution and development of Sindhian funeral practices deserve much care and maintenance. But unfortunately the human greed is senseless; the graveyard was ravaged and dug, only for worth of stone, lying buried under ground.



## 16<sup>th</sup> C. BUILDING THAT IS NO MORE



The structure adjacent to Masjid Manzil Gah  
was Demolished in 2001



The Masjid Manzilgah at Sukkur caused Hindu-Muslim riots, many lives were lost. The custody of the premises was handed over to Muslims, under conditions of non-interference with the structures.

In 2001 one of the building was demolished and with it went an important building related to our history and also reminder of a phase of our freedom movement, but no one moved. It shows how faulty was this assumption that the extra Legal arrangement can give required guarantee to protect the historic structure.

## BAMBHORE

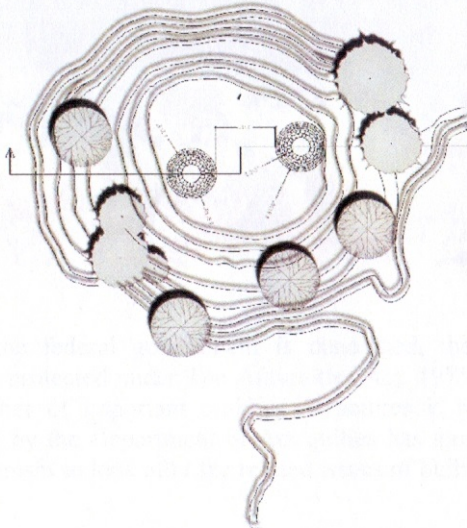
Reminder of a famous folk lore, where the friendship and valour was the mainstay. Cattle raids were call of the day, and tribes lived under an unwritten code of conduct, that had chivalry at its core. Mittho, Harro and Mugur set such impressive example of sacrifice that the tribble people erected memorial towers to their memory. These 18<sup>th</sup>- 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries memorial Towers, near Bambhore were demolished, in order to create way for Coastal Highway. An indicator of the lack of adequate Planning Laws.



## Development or Destruction ?



View of demolished memorial towers. The map indicates the high ground on which these towers stood robustly.



## FATAHI HILLOCK

A newly registered extension of Makli Hills. It housed Khwaja Kamaludin's mortal remains; under a beautifully carved cenotaph, that has been stolen.

The present Cenotaph is of Amir Kamaluddin, an imminent personality at the turn of Fifteenth-Sixteenth centuries. It is left behind most probably because it is broken. The historical accounts record "Fatahi Hillock", but its identity was lost in the maze of history. It only became possible when one of the inscriptions on these groves was deciphered and published.



As far as the federal government is concerned, there are only 129 monuments and sites protected under The Antiquities Act, 1975 in Sindh. On the other hand the number of important buildings/structures is much higher. The primary list prepared by the Department of Antiquities has more than 1400, and there exists no mechanism to look after the related issues of built heritage.

The specialists and concerned citizens have been raising the voice for creation of a department to undertake preservation of the tangible heritage of the province.

This concern was one of the reasons that office of *Director General (Projects & Special Initiatives)* was created, initially to make project, to salvage prominent historical buildings and to take care of the built heritage.

This office faced difficulties, as the operation of works and budget required financial powers, for which a summary was floated.

It remained pending for sometimes, and it was in the month of January, 08 that re-designation of the office of *DG(P&SI)*, into the *Department of Antiquities* was agreed to.

The *Department of Antiquities* have proceeded with its development plan and got a few schemes approved in ADP

## PROFORMA REGARDING ADP SCHEMES

General No.	Sector/Sub-sector /Agency	Location of the Scheme	Status of the Scheme	Estimated cost		Physical Progress in % Age Terms upto the End of		Current position
				Total	FPA	2007-08	2008-09	
01	02	03	04	05	06	17	18	
1.	Conservation of Jain Temple at Bhodiser and Development of Site.	Tharparkar		30.322			1.68%	Scheme is Revised & submitted for approval
2.	Survey Mapping and Documentation of Cultural Archaeological and Historical Heritage Sites Sindh for Promotion of Tourism In Sindh.	Sindh		80.231			9.97%	Scheme is Revised & submitted for approval
3.	Establishment of Institutions for Preservation of Tangible Heritage.	Jamshoro	Approved	53.899			0.95%	Antiquities of Land is awaited
4.	Restoration Conservation and Rescue of Mukhi House and Establishment of Mukhi House Museum.	Hyderabad	Approved/submitted for revision	37.096			0.67%	Scheme is Revised & submitted for approval
5.	Establishment of Archaeological Museum at Sukkur.	Sukkur	Approved/awaiting for DDWP	29.529			85%	Scheme is Revised & submitted for approval
6.	Conservation and Improvement of Old Free Masons Lodge /Establishment of Wild Life Museum at Karachi.	Karachi	Approved/AA awaited, modified PC-1 submitted for consideration	35.751			Tender invited	Work begun
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>266.820</b>				

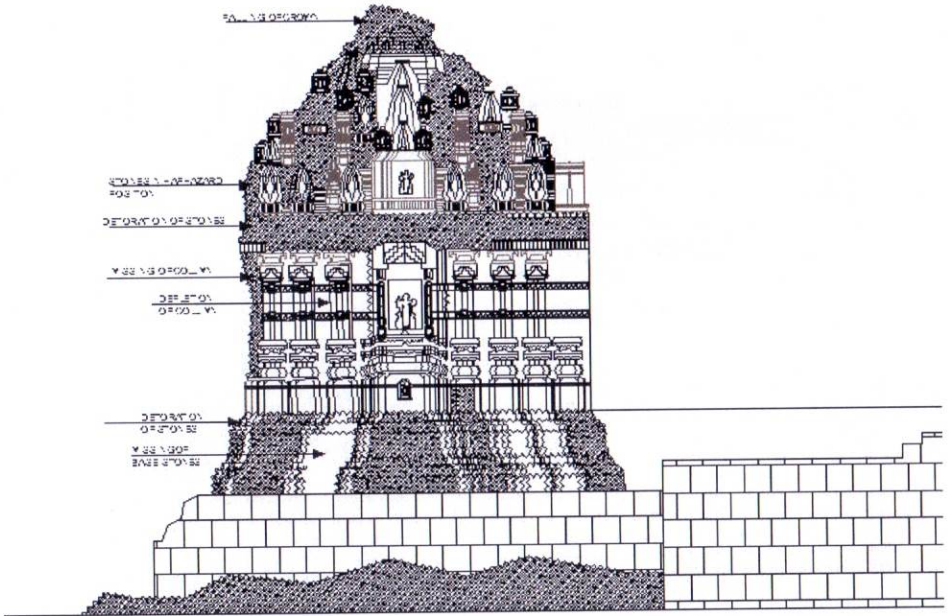
Antiquities “NEW SCHEME”						
1692	Estblis: of Museum of Epigraphy.	Karachi	Approved	22.0 M	5%	
1693	Excavation on important sites around Sindh	Sindh	Approved	15.0 M	13%	Approved
1694	Construction of the office of Department of Antiquities and sub-offices.	Hyderabad/Sukkur/Karachi	Approved/waiting for AA	20.000	10%	Approved by Technical Committee
1695	Research Programme on Antiquities and publication of scientific reports	Sindh	Approved/waiting for AA	150.000	17%	Approved
1696	The Conservation & Rehabilitation of Shahjhan Mosque Thatta	Thatta	Approved/waiting for AA	40.0 M	5%	Approved
1697	Endowment fund for Preserving Physical heritage in Sindh	Sindh	Approved	1000.000	25%	Approved
1698	Benazir Bhutto Shaheed Youth Development Prog: in Sindh	Sindh	Approved/Going on	25.000	100%	
				1272.000		
Total Antiquities, (New Schemes)						
Total Antiquities				1538.368		

## ON GOING ADP SCHEMES

- 1) **Conservation of Jain Temple at Bhodiser and Development of Site**  
The Jain Temple is a 13<sup>th</sup> Century structure, probably the oldest standing temple in Sindh. The building was damaged during the earthquake of 2001, and the upper half of Shakhara fell in the year 2006. It is the only instance of elaborately executed design and shape, representation of the period it belongs, in Sindh.



rich heritage is known, promoting its promotion becomes possible.



The Drawing of the highly damaged Jain Temple at Bhoderar

## 2) Survey Mapping and Documentation of Cultural Archaeological and Historical Heritage Sites in Sindh, for Promotion of Tourism In Sindh

The province is rich in its cultural heritage, dating back to 5000 years before Christ. The development of culture can be traced through the remains from past, which are representative of its various phases. But unfortunately there is no existing record of widespread archaeological sites and historic remains. Such situation has encouraged the plunder and devastations of this valuable treasure. In order to safeguard this priceless heritage and to plan its promotion and appropriate presentation, it is required to be properly documented not only for record purposes, but also for planning any required input etc. Once the extent of rich heritage is known planning for its promotion becomes possible.





## 2) Establishment of Institutions for Preservation of Tangible Heritage

The country has no such institution which imparts training in the fields of Archaeometry, museum management and safekeeping of various artifacts. The institution will be first of its kind to offer training chances and offer opportunities of research in these fields. Its location at Jamshoro will facilitate collaborative projects, research and imparting of training, where natural sciences are involved; thus the efforts of the Institute will be complimented at the advanced laboratories of University Departments. The Institute will be instrumental in advanced researches and also imparting training to students and in-service employees.



#### 4) **Restoration Conservation and Rescue of Mukhi House and Establishment of Mukhi House Museum**

Makhi House is such a building that represents the emergence of high class urban structures. The building is beautiful and a powerful reminder of refined urban setting that was preferred by elit and town planners. The building is highly threatened and is fast losing its vitality. It requires immediate measures to save it for future generations. Once conserved it will house a museum that will show Sindh's recent past, with special focus on flourishing urban centuries, during late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.



## 5) Establishment of Archaeological Museum at Sukkur



Sukkur is an important town of Sindh, which has remained prominent through out the historic period. It has also important pre-historic remains, settlements and Neolithic tool factories. This rich past will be represented in the Museum which is being established in a befitting old building, that has decayed and is presently fully endangered. Built in anglo-Mughal architectural style the building of PPC school is in very bad shape, a threat to the lives of hundreds of students. The building will be scientifically treated and conserved and will house archaeological museum. It will be first ever museum in the whole of upper Sindh, that will be a show window of the all phases of Sindh's past.

Building of Former PPC School

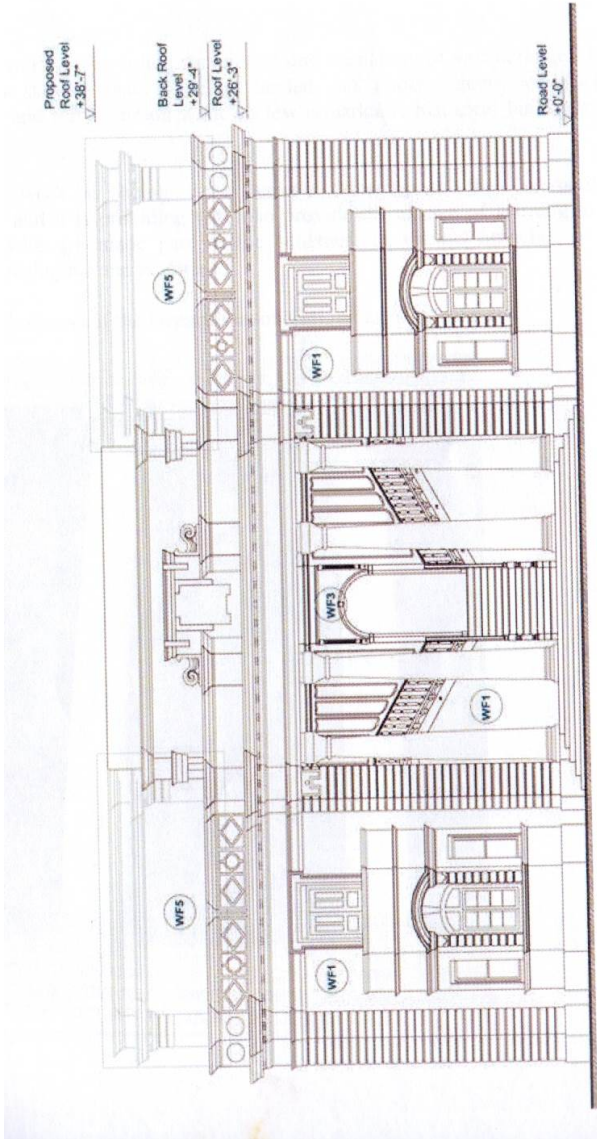


6) **Conservation and Improvement of Old Free Masons Lodge / Establishment of Wild Life Museum at Karachi.**

Old free Mason's lodge was built after 1908, in a remarkable architecture, which was an amalgam of Victorian new classic and Edwardian trends. A representative price of architecture, the building deserves to be conserved. Sindh has no befitting wild life museum, the scheme envisages conservation of the building and establishment of a museum to show the natural wealth of the province in modern high-tec way. It also envisages a rich interactive library, on the subject providing modern facilities to the readers.



Old Free Masons Lodge



The work on the initial survey and documentation of vast heritage of the province has started, that is being carried out under scheme of *Survey*. Conservation and rehabilitation work on few remarkable historical buildings has been initiated.

The work is being done strictly adhering to the International Conventions, and it is providing will also provide the chance of learning to the apprentices, who are made part of the schemes, in various branches of the conservation technique and practices.

The business of the Department of Antiquities is as follows.





**NEW SCHEMES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
ANTIQUITIES FOR THE YEAR 2008-09**

## Establishment of Museum of Epigraphy



## Excavation on Important sites around Sindh



# Construction of the office of Department of Antiquities and sub-offices



Ph: 021-9213880



SECRETARY  
DEPARTMENT OF ANTIQUITIES  
GOVERNMENT OF SINDH

## SUMMARY FOR CHIEF MINISTER, SINDH

**SUBJECT: ALLOTMENT OF LAND FOR CONSTRUCTION OF OFFICES OF DEPARTMENT OF ANTIQUITIES**

The Department of Antiquities, Government of Sindh is required to have an extended net work, to look after the vast physical Heritage scattered all around in the province.

2. The department is undertaking many projects to ensure that the scientific conservation takes place, like wise it is establishing new museums for the proper presentation of the interesting artifacts, being evidence of rich past. As the department is newly established it lacks proper accommodation for its offices, at Karachi and Sub-offices at Hyderabad, Sukkur and Thatta.

3. In this regard this department requires Government land for construction of its offices. The land needed is given as under :-

- |    |           |          |
|----|-----------|----------|
| 1) | Karachi   | 05 Acres |
| 2) | Hyderabad | 03 Acres |
| 3) | Sukkur    | 03 Acres |
| 4) | Thatta    | 03 Acres |

The Land Utilization Department may please be advised to allot appropriate land, to the Department of Antiquities for construction of its offices, at the aforementioned places.

4. Chief Minister, Sindh may like to approve proposal contained at para-3.

(DR. KALEEMULLAH LASHARI)  
SECRETARY

5 CHIEF SECRETARY

CHIEF MINISTER, SINDH

E:\Work\PS\Miscellaneous 4

No. PS/SECY/ANTIQUITIES/VII-11/2008/196  
Karachi dated the 7th July, 2008

BOARD OF REVENUE  
LAND UTILIZATION DEPARTMENT  
Road No. PAF/HR/CA/01/344  
08-07-2008

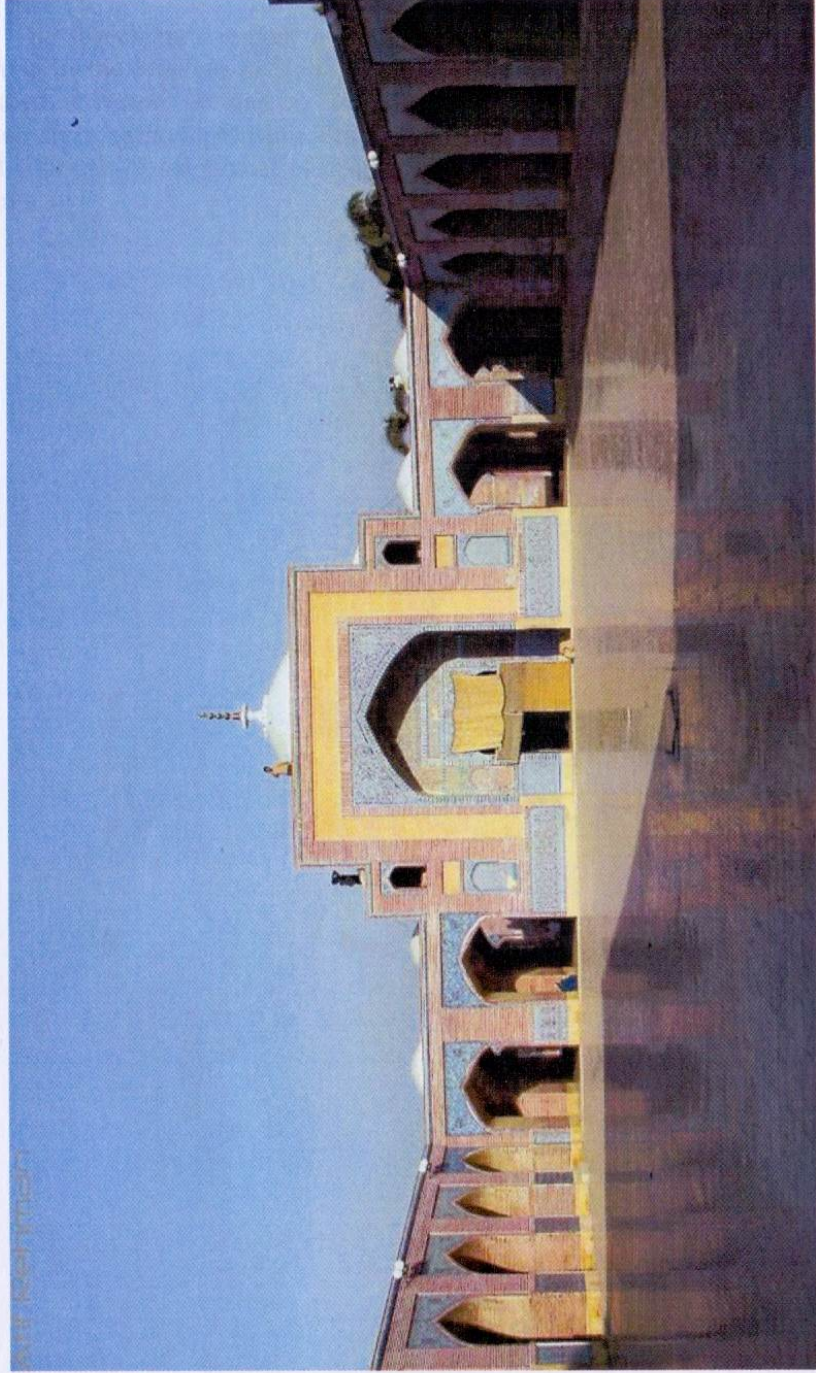
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Research Programme on Antiquities and  
publication of scientific reports

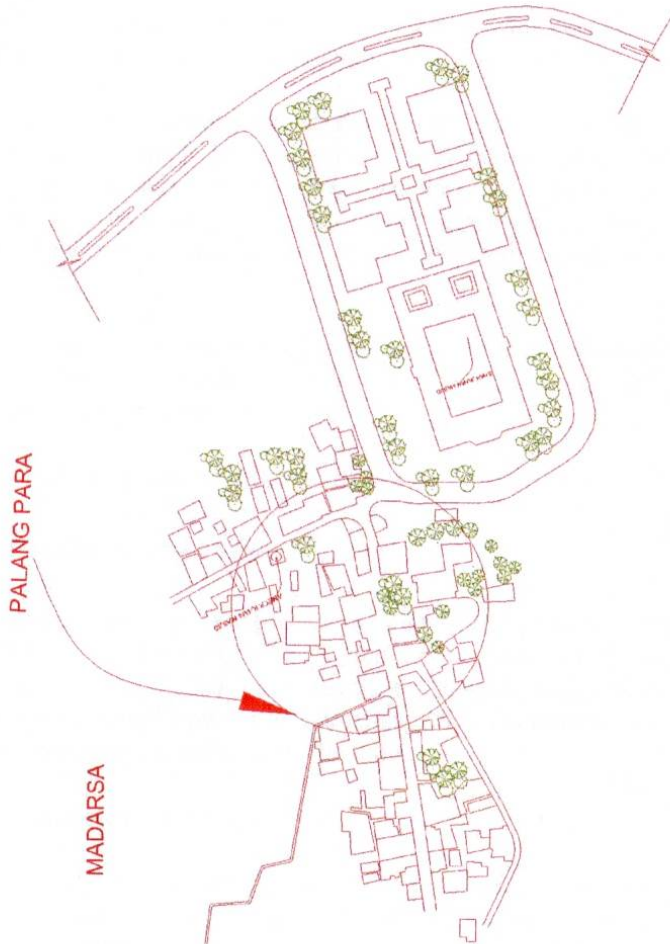


# The Conservation & Rehabilitation of Shahjhan Mosque Thatta



Conservation of Shah Jahani Mosque and development of a cultural precinct.

The seventeenth century Mosque was most probably the only imperial undertaking by the Mughals in Sindh. The hundred or so domed building is highly embellished structure. It has a curiously identified structure that finds its inspiration from saffavid Mosque designs. Its rich mural ceramics place it at a different pedestal. Development of neighbored hood as cultural precinct is part of the scheme



## **Endowment fund for Preserving Physical Heritage in Sindh**

Antiquities endowment fund will contribute to the Departments' overall financial stability, by providing a permanent income stream that supports the scope and objectives of the department's recognized work, in conservation and related studies.

A steadily growing endowment will have a significant impact on department's ability to: attract and retain the very best conservators.

Develop and test conservation strategies, archaeological methods and theories. Conduct field research in collaboration with the scholars of the field. Contribute to the field of preservation through scholarly investigation of how to learn about the past practices and what kinds of material were used. Involve public in the work of department, ensuring that their perspectives are reflected in departments' programs.

Contribute insights gained through research towards understanding of our past, maintain the ethnic and socioeconomic diversity of the apprentices, who participate in department's research programs.

Remain a leader in advancing knowledge of the past.

### **Sindh Antiquities Endowment Fund**

Sindh Government has established a named endowment fund with a minimum contribution of RS.1000 million, and donors may contribute by an irrevocable planned gift or a gift of cash, securities, tangible assets or bona fide pledges. The Department will prepare an agreement, that documents and defines the donor's intent regarding the purpose of the fund.

### **Contributing to the Endowment Fund**

Donors may contribute to the endowment fund that is being established. There is no minimum amount requirement. Contributions can be designated as tribute gifts in honor or memory of someone.



## Management Board

Management Board of the Endowment to chalkout investment policy with guidelines for establishing, investing, managing, spending the returns from, and stewarding endowments, that support the departments current operations. Among the investment objectives are (1) preservation of the donated principal of the endowment and (2) the creation of a steady stream of revenue through prudent investment.

## Endowed Chairs

Endowed chairs will be *named funds* established with a principal in the range of \$ 1 million to \$ 3 million. These endowments support the salary and work of archaeologists and conservators working with or in collaboration with the Department.

## THE ENDOWMENT POLICY

The Management Board will adhere to a policy of spending only a small, fixed percentage of the endowment fund's liquid assets annually. The remaining assets are to be reinvested, and the principal never touched. The endowment funds thus become long-term savings and investment accounts, providing regenerating resources – resources that can be directed to the funding priorities of the department for conservation of the physical heritage and to support the related research.

With a long-term goal of having sufficient endowment to provide for department's conservation plans, the Board will focus on steadily growing the endowment in stages, raising both current contributions to endowment while also encouraging donors to make *bequest and/or other planned gifts* to the endowment. The Board will ensure that earnings generated year after year from endowment will support the conservation plans, while the principal grows to support province's physical heritage.

Projects suitable for funding must be essentially conservation research – led. The sorts of project involved could be :

- Investigation, documentations, research etc.
- Physical Conservation

- Post excavations conservation of sites
- Sites, Museum/Archives based research related to physical heritage
- Training

## **SHAHEED BENAZIR BHUTTO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

The Department of Antiquities is taking care of tangible heritage, that include the built heritage, old artifacts, Archaeological materials & sites etc. In this regard the acute shortage, of the persons related to architectural crafts, artifacts related custodial jobs, curatorial and preservation related tasks, has been greatly felt.

It is pertinent to mention that the department is presently developing museums, repositories and various specialized thematic collections in the province; with in next five years at least 10 such centers will be made functional. Besides the conservation work is also picking up pace on the heritage sites, where the requirement of trained staff is great.

The Department through its routine work will be able to provide these trainees further on job training, that will give the chance, to the trainees to gain experience. Any further requirements for grooming can be assessed through work assignments and can be provided, with in the remaining period.

The Department through its normal maintenance and conservation activity will have, in future these trained persons either can be hired or else can be assigned the job.

Few of these can even be employed against the vacancies in the department, through normal recruitment procedure. Being trained, and having worked for the department they will have better chances of selection.

The department is training 150 educated, unemployed youth under this programme, the training is start from the end week of November, 2008 and related allowances

## TRADES FOR TRAINING

- ❖ Stone Cutting & Carving
- ❖ Ceramics
- ❖ Traditional Masonry
- ❖ Wood Craft & Inlay
- ❖ Paper Treatment & Conservation
- ❖ Cataloguing
- ❖ Microfilming
- ❖ Traditional Binding
- ❖ E-Library Management
- ❖ Archive (IT)
- ❖ Modeling (Artifacts related)
- ❖ Archaeological Survey
- ❖ Architectural Drawings
- ❖ Epigraphy
- ❖ Petrography Technician
- ❖ Assistant Chemist
- ❖ Pottery Classification
- ❖ Pottery Drawing
- ❖ Excavations
- ❖ Mural Painting
- ❖ Stain Glass
- ❖ Field/Heritage Exploration
- ❖ Photo Archiving
- ❖ GIS Technician

## **PROPOSAL SCHEME FOR IN THE ADP 2009-10**

- ❖ Establishment of Printing Museum.
- ❖ Establishment of Central Record Room.
- ❖ Enhancement/Development of Technical skills.
- ❖ Silhouettes and Sounds: Sindh Digital Museum.
- ❖ Establishment of Shikarpur City Museum.
- ❖ Heritage Park & Open Air Museum.
- ❖ NA Baloch Centre for Heritage Research