

# International Cooperation in the Conservation of Cultural Heritage

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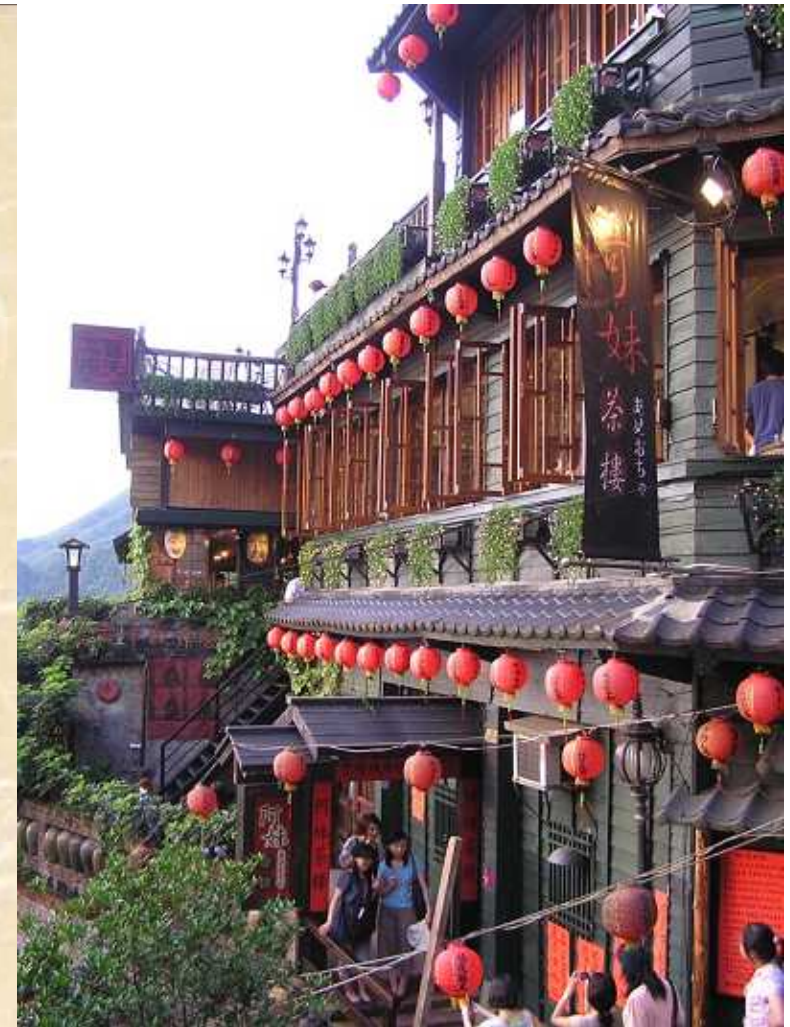
# 1 . Significance of International Cooperation in the Conservation of Cultural Heritage

## **Character of Cultural Heritage**

Example of Jiufen, a mining town of Taiwan

- 1) Cultural stimulation as a source of creativity
- 2) Promotion of understanding of cultural diversity
- 3) Sharing memories beyond space and time
- 4) Showing value of the real things

# Taiwan: Jiufen (Mining town)





## 2. History of International Cooperation for the Conservation of Cultural Heritage

### 1) UNESCO International Campaign

Ex. 1: Egypt: Decision to launch campaign to protect historical sites in Nubia against dangers of submersion following construction of Aswan High Dam, 1959.

42 million USD to move Abu Simbel temple.

Ex. 2: Old Town Venice: Water rose 194 cm (historical high) because of flooding in 1966.

Water level 155 cm in Dec. 2008 (First time in 22 years).

Ex. 3: Borobudur historical sites: Decision to launch campaign at UNESCO General Assembly of 1970.

Project: 1975 ~ 1983.

### Limits to campaign method

- **Addressed only when threatened. Mammoth capital required. Time needed to coordinate efforts amongst nations.**
- **28 projects started since 1960s. 6 projects completed. New projects are difficult to undertake.**



Indonesia:  
Borobudur

## **2) International Conventions**

Participation in protection is a duty of international society.

- 1) Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict ... 1954
- 2) Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property ... 1970
- 3) Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage ... 1972
- 4) Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage ... 2003

### **3 ) Regional Cooperation**

- South East Asian Minister of Education Organization, Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts (SEAMO-SPAFA)
- ASEAN
- Council of Europe
- EU



### **3 . History of International Cooperation of Japan**

1) Pioneer days

2) Full-scale Cooperation by Government

1988 International Cooperation Concept by Prime Minister  
Takehito

1989 UNESCO/Japan Trust Fund for Preservation of the  
World Cultural Heritage

1992 New party to the World Heritage Convention

1993 Japanese Government Team for Safeguarding  
Angkor

1999 Establish Cultural Heritage Protection Cooperation  
Office, ACCU

# Angkor Preservation and Restoration Operation by UNESCO/Japan Trust Fund for Preservation of the World Cultural Heritage

[1<sup>st</sup> phase] 1994 ~ 1999 \$9.6 million

[2<sup>nd</sup> phase] 1999 ~ 2005 \$11.0 million

[3<sup>rd</sup> phase] 2005 ~ 2010 \$3.08 million

(1) Restoration of South Library

(2) Survey and preservation of bas-relief

(3) Survey and preservation of Central Towers

(4) PR

(5) Human resource development



# Bamiyan Preservation and Restoration Operation by UNESCO/Japan Trust Fund for Preservation of the World Cultural Heritage

[1<sup>st</sup> phase] 2003 ~ 2004 \$1.82 million

[2<sup>nd</sup> phase] 2005 ~ 2007 \$1.42 million

[3<sup>rd</sup> phase] 2008 ~ 2010 \$1.54 million

(1) Preservation of rock cave paintings

(2) Preservation and restoration of niches for Buddha statue

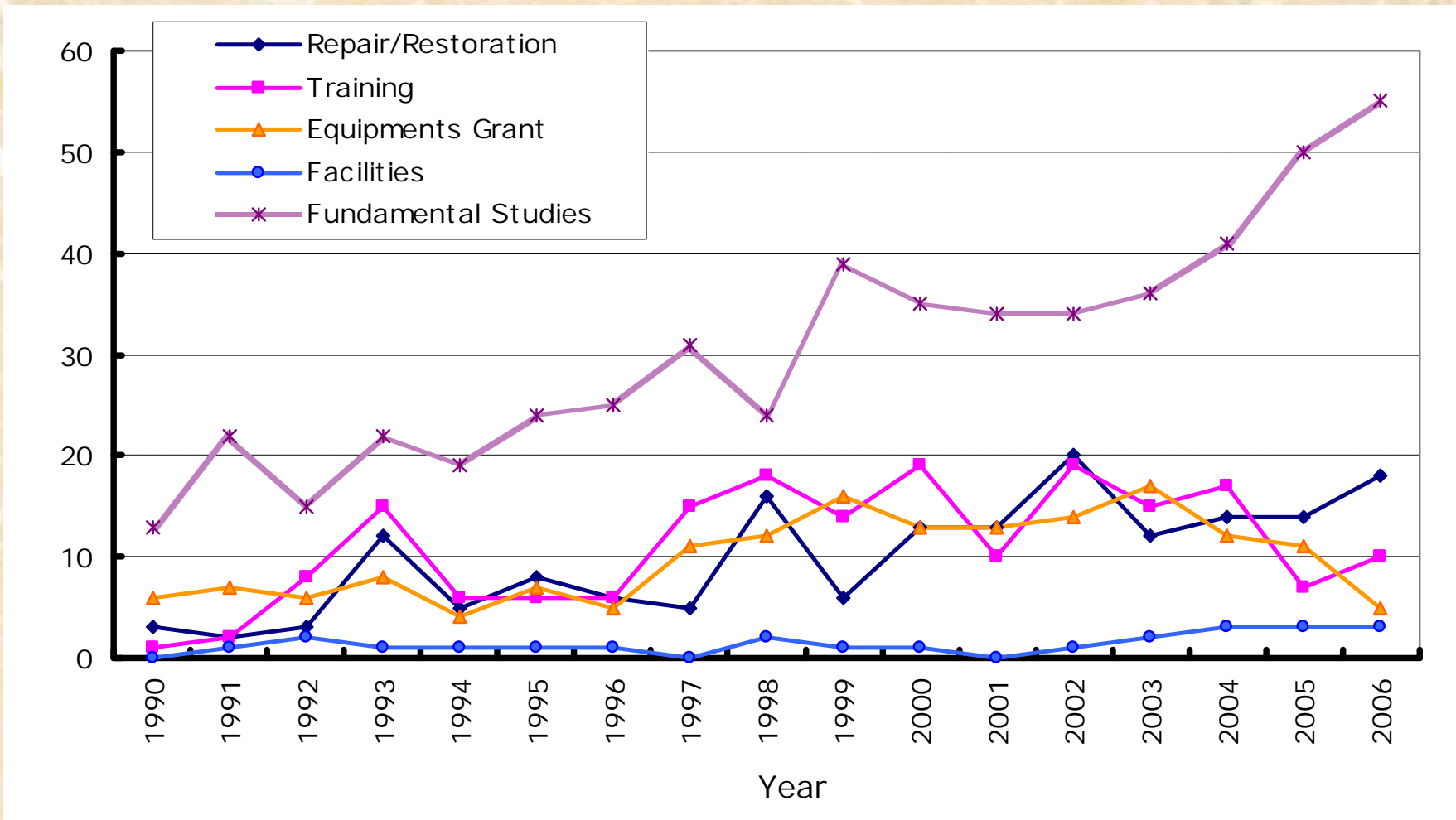
(3) Preservation of fragmented Buddha statue

(4) PR

(5) Human resource development



# Numbers of Projects Commenced (by Category)



# Operation Contents

- Restoration projects
- Training and transfer of technologies
- Joint research
- Conservation plans
- Institutions and systems for conservation
- Bases for conservation activities
- Basic infrastructure for conservation activities

# **Major Supporting Organization**

- 1) Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
- 2) Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**
- 3) Japan Foundation**
- 4) Agency for Cultural Affairs**
- 5) National Research Institute for Cultural Properties**
- 6) ACCU**
- 7) Private foundations, etc.**

# JICA Project Construction of Grand Egyptian Museum and Development of Restoration Experts



### **3) Recent Topics for the Promotion of Cooperation**

Bamiyan Preservation and Restoration Operation (UNESCO/Japan Trust Fund) 2003 ~

Enacted the Law on the Promotion of International Cooperation for the Protection of Cultural Heritage Abroad ... 2006

Fundamental policy for the promotion of international cooperation for the protection of cultural heritage abroad ... 2007

**Established Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage ... 2006**

**Exchange project on international cooperation bases for cultural heritage ( Agency for Cultural Affairs) 2007 ~**



# Activities of Agency for Cultural Affairs

- (1) International contribution to disaster recovery, etc.
- (2) Cooperation in Asian cultural heritage preservation and restoration (1990 ~, 1998 renamed)
- (3) Support for restoration of Japanese ancient works of arts in foreign countries (1991 ~)
- (4) Exchange project on international cooperation bases for cultural heritage (2007 ~)

# (1) International contribution to disaster recovery, etc.

## Recent Cases

Indonesia: Java earthquake

China: Sichuan earthquake

Italy: L'Aquila earthquake

# Rescue support for cultural heritage in natural disasters

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## ■ Java (Indonesia)

**Survey of damage to World Heritage Prambanan Temple Compounds by Central Java Earthquake of May 2006.**  
**Structural analysis and proposal on restoration guidelines.**



China: Sichuan Earthquake 2008  
Exchange of experiences via Japan-China Cultural  
Properties Preservation Study Group



Italy: L'Aquila Earthquake 2009  
Dispatch the survey team



## (2) Cooperation for Asian cultural heritage preservation and restoration (1990 ~, 1998 renamed)

### Technical cooperation in the restoration of structures

- 1990 ~ 1993 Nepal: Restoration of I Baha Bahi Buddhist Monasteries
- 1991 ~ Vietnam: Preservation of streetscape in Hoi An
- 1992 ~ Bhutan: Site surveys, ledger preparation, etc. for castles, temples, etc.
- 1995 ~ Indonesia: Workshop on wooden structure restoration, restoration of palace on Sumbawa Island
- 2003 ~ Vietnam: Preservation of rural village in Duong Lam, Ha Tay

### (3) Exchange project on international cooperation bases for cultural heritage

#### Human resource and network development through pilot projects

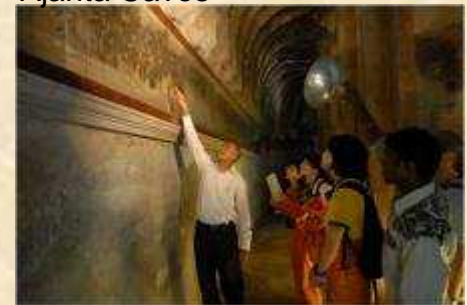
- India: Technology and information exchange and research into wall painting preservation in cohort with Archeological Survey of India
- Central Asia: Human resource development via preservation and restoration of cultural properties
- Mongolia: Human resource development concerning cultural properties in cohort with Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and Bureau of Culture and Art



Wall painting preservation in Ajanta Caves



Cleaning of wall painting fragments at Tajikistan National Museum of Antiquities



Workshop on cultural properties protection systems in Mongolia



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# 3) Activities of Japan Center for International Cooperation in Conservation

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**1990: Launched as Research Commission for Cultural Properties Preservation in Asia.**

**1995: Renamed Japan Center for International Cooperation in Conservation and Restoration.**

**1996: Renamed Japan Center for International Cooperation in Conservation. Consigned management duties of Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage.**

## Roles

- **Promoting cooperation in cultural properties protection with international and domestic institutions**
- **Collecting, disseminating and utilizing information on cultural properties preservation around the world**
- **Cooperation in international preservation and restoration projects**
- **International research and exchange in preservation and restoration**
- **Cooperation and support in rescue operations of cultural properties in disasters**
- **Development of specialists**



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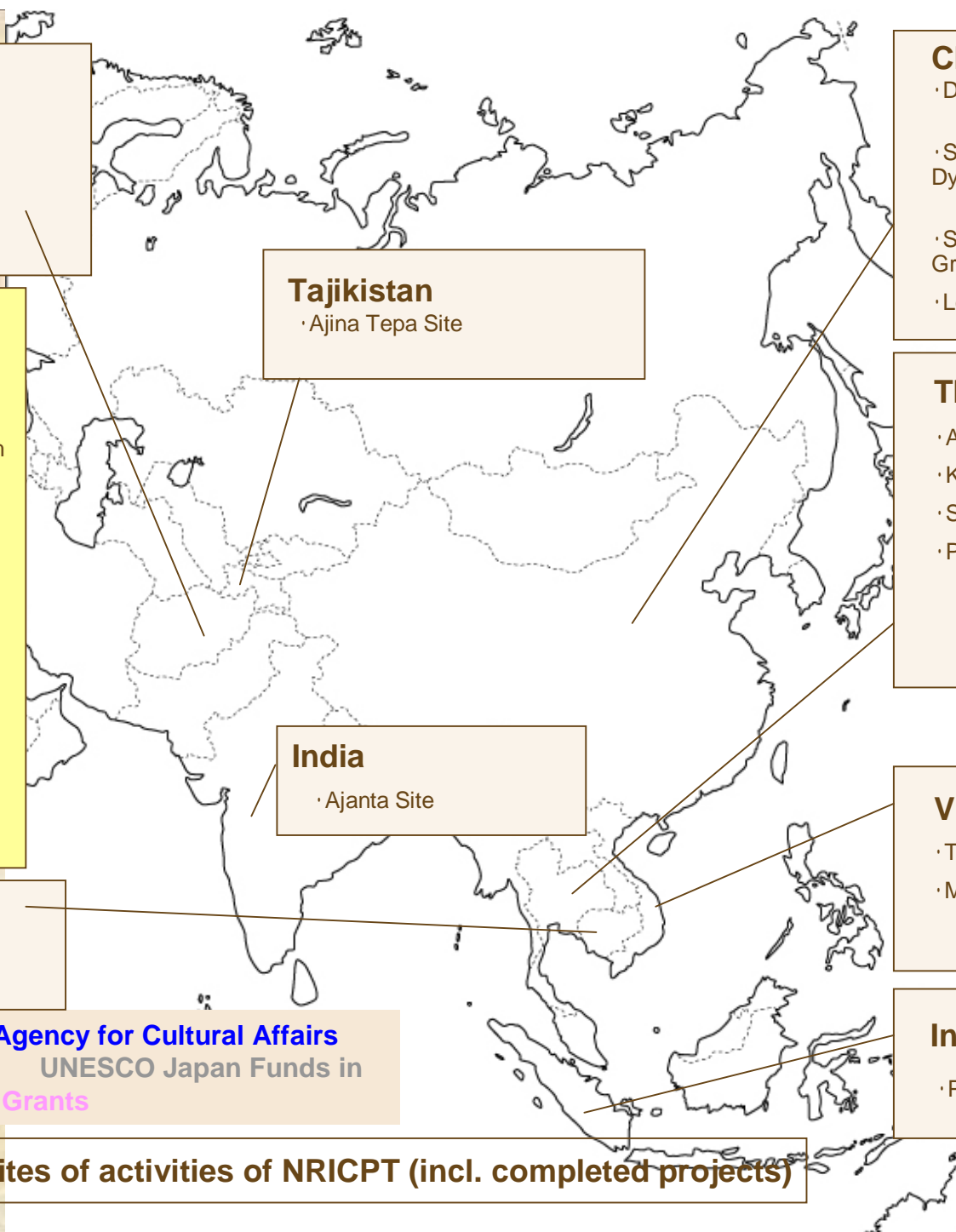
# International research into protective measures for cultural properties

Collect and analyze information on concepts, principles, policies and the latest measures of cultural properties protection in various countries and the international community in order to improve cultural properties measures in Japan and help to raise standards for international projects cooperated in by Japan.

Research documentation and conduct field studies of organizations, mechanisms and systems of cultural properties preservation in Europe and North America.

- 2001 ... Germany
- 2002 ... UK
- 2003 ... France
- 2004 ... Italy
- 2005 ... Netherlands
- 2006 ... EU
- 2007 ... Scandinavia





**Afghanistan**

- Bamiyan Site
- Kabul National Museum
- Kabul region

**Others**

**Iraq**

- Iraq Museum
- Baghdad National Museum

**Panama**

- Casco Antiguo

**Egypt**

- Grand Egyptian Museum

**Multiple countries**

- Training program for cultural heritage preservation along the Silk Road

**Cambodia**

- Angkor Site
- Ta Nei Site

**Tajikistan**

- Ajina Tepa Site

**India**

- Ajanta Site

**China**

- Dunhuang Mogao Grottoes
- Shaanxi Province Tang Dynasty Stone Grottoes
- Shanxi Province Stone Grottoes
- Longmen Grottoes

**Thailand**

- Ayutthaya Site
- Khmer sites
- Sukhothai Site
- Phanom Rung Site

**Vietnam**

- Thang Long Site
- My Son Site

**Indonesia**

- Prambanan

**NRICPT budget**      **Agency for Cultural Affairs**  
**Private foundations**      **UNESCO Japan Funds in**  
**Trust**      **JICA**      **JSPS Grants**

**Sites of activities of NRICPT (incl. completed projects)**

# Research on Chinese Cultural Heritage Preservation and Restoration (Rock caves and stone statues)

## ■ Surveys and research into preservation and restoration of Longmen Grottoes

Japanese specialists participation in preservation and restoration project funded by UNESCO/Japan Trust Fund.

Environmental surveys and analysis, identification of degradation factors and research into corrective measures. Also, long-term and short-term human resource development.



## ■ Studies and research into preservation and restoration of stone statues of Imperial Tomb of the Tang Dynasty in Shaanxi

Studies, research, restoration and preservation planning for stone statues of Imperial Tomb of the Tang Dynasty in cohort with Xian Center for the Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Property.



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# Research on Chinese Cultural Heritage Preservation and Restoration (Dunhuang, Mogao Caves)

- Joint research into wall painting preservation in cohort with Dunhuang Academy since 1990. Now in 5th stage.
- Research into production techniques and materials of wall paintings using optical/analytical methods.
- Radiographic dating of grottoes by C14.
- Training for young researchers from Japan and China.



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# Research on the degradation of Southeast Asian heritages and their restoration (Thailand)

**There is concern that further propagation of lichens and algae on the face of the large Buddha statues at the World Heritage Wat Sri Chum will harm appearance and deteriorate the plaster.**

■ **Studies and research into containing the propagation of vegetation on large Buddha statues in cohort with Department of Fine Arts, Ministry of Culture, Thailand**



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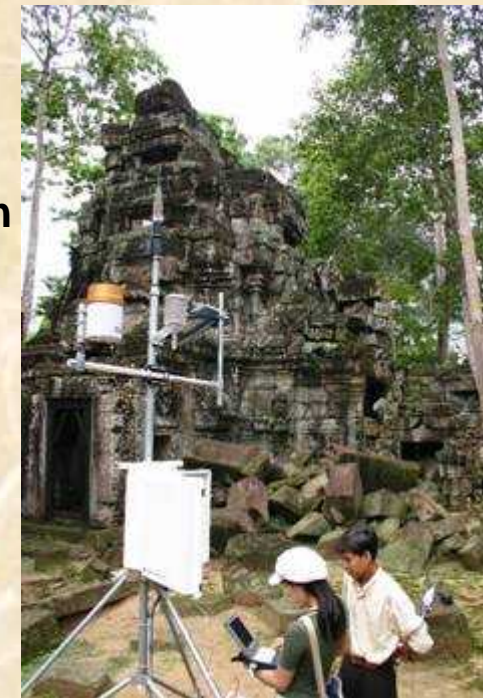
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# Research on the degradation of Southeast Asian heritages and their restoration (Angkor, Cambodia)



**Studies and research into stone structures in cohort with Authority for Protection and Management of Angkor and the Region of Siem Reap (ASPARA)**

- **Studies and research into effects of vegetation on stone materials in historical sites and measures to contain propagation**



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Measuring amount of water in stone material

Measuring meteorological data in the site

# **Cooperative projects for the preservation and restoration of cultural properties in West Asia**

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- **Studies and research into cultural properties in Afghanistan and Iraq endangered by civil war and conflict.**

**Preservation and restoration projects for damaged cultural properties as a means for transferring related technologies, developing human resources and providing support for self-implemented protection projects**



# Archaeological and architectural research in Bamiyan



Survey to identify the scope of the site



Unearthed cut stones for the foundation of the Tower

- Architectural surveys of Buddhist caves to identify the state of preservation, layout, design, technologies and chronologies.
- Distribution surveys and underground exploration to identify and protect scope of artifacts.





# Archaeological and architectural research in Bamiyan

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**Buddhist cave newly discovered in distribution surveys**



**Wall painting of Buddha in above cave**



# Archaeological and architectural research in Bamiyan



**Water drain in Cave I**



**Animal figure newly discovered from ceiling**



**Canopy top for Cave I**



**Director Suzuki on-site inspection**



# Documentation of wall paintings and restoration in Bamiyan

■ Buddhist wall paintings in the caves were documented in detail and basic materials were prepared to analyze degradation and the state of preservation of wall paintings.



■ Emergency measures were taken with wall paintings threatened by imminent collapse, rather than remove them from the caves.



Preservation and restoration work on Buddhist wall paintings in Cave N (a)



# Training of experts from Afghanistan and Iraq

## ■ Training in Japan

Training for specialists implemented in Japan  
Afghanistan: Kabul National Museum, Afghan Institute of Archeology, Afghan Department of Historical Architecture  
Iraq: Iraq National Museum, Iraq Agency for Antiquities (Nineveh Office), etc.



## ■ Training in Afghanistan



Workshop on preserving and restoring archeological materials (Nov. 2005 at Bamiyan Center for Education and Culture)



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# Research on material degradation and preservation



Joint research on  
the protection of  
Dunhuang wall  
paintings



# Training in colored painting Mongolia: Training in colored painting at Baravian Monastery



**Training in survey and  
restoration planning of temples  
Mongolia: Training in survey  
and restoration at  
Amarbayasgalant Monastery**





**Preservation of rock cave paintings**  
**India: Wall painting preservation in Ajanta Caves**



# Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage (JCICCH)

## 文化遺産国際協力コンソーシアム



## **4) Activities of Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage**

- **Activities ... Loose federation aiming to effectively implement activities of each organization by providing opportunities for cooperation**
  - 1) **Building of networks of related organizations and experts**
  - 2) **Collecting and providing information ... Building and opening databases**
  - 3) **Support for planning and preparing cooperative activities, i.e., support for reconstruction planning for Prambanan Temple Compounds**
  - 4) **Dissemination and awareness ... Opening of PR websites**

# Activities of Consortium

1. Building networks amongst experts
2. Collecting and providing information
  - Building and opening databases
3. Study and research
  - Support for planning and preparing cooperative activities involving Japan



4. Dissemination and awareness
  - Opening of PR websites



## 5. Topics and outlook on international cooperation

- **Dealing with changing properties**

- Changes that threaten properties

  - Changes over time

  - Changes accelerated by conflict, disaster, etc.

  - Sustained man-made changes due to urbanization, tourism, etc.

- Properties are expected to change gradually.

  - Expanding the concept of cultural properties

  - Familiar properties, cultural properties in daily life (Cultural scenery, intangible properties)

## Heritage protection and development assistance

- Sustainable protection activities

Conservation is a continuous economic activity for local communities.

Educating people (technical experts, production of resources, guides, ...)

- Fostering a local community that protects its heritage

Pleasant living environment

Maintaining cultural diversity, training bases of cultural dissemination

Moderate tourism



**Laos:**  
**Luang Prabang**  
**Maintaining the**  
**environment of**  
**daily life**



**China: Lijiang**  
**Old town district**  
**Tourism pressure**







# Character of cultural heritage protection projects

Seen from the development assistance side...

- Value confirmation      Vague
- Differences in planning approaches      Appearing to be unplanned/unorganized
- Time span      Lack of speed
- Time and effort      Physical labor, inefficiencies
- Economic effect      Indirect, long-term comparison to infrastructure development

# The real crisis is the absence of people.

- Tourism brings opportunities to save heritage sites, but also brings the continuous risk of human acts.
- Sustainable social development = Cooperation of economic development and heritage protection (Places for social-economic activities, human resource development).