

Summer Project Report 2017-18

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Project Topic: Monuments Preservation in Jaipur, Rajasthan, India

Aims/ Objectives:

1. Our first aim is to find the management and preservation methods conducted by the government officials, private caretakers and local people for the monuments.
2. Secondly, we will explore the social and economic problems such as tourist traffic and environmental damage faced by the government officials, private caretakers or local people during the preservation and renovation of monuments.
3. Lastly, we aim to find the impact of growing tourism around the historical monuments in the livelihoods of local people and on the preservation of the monuments.

Introduction:

Monuments in India present a significant portion of India's history and culture. In particular, the rich history of Rajasthan has a vibrant culture, reflected in the traditions, architecture and monuments of the city of Jaipur. The splendid monuments of the city have an intricate architecture which is a distinct blend of Rajput and Mughal styles. These monuments are the standing examples of human imagination where the ruling dynasties expressed their ideas through them. These monuments are centuries old and have been examples of philosophies in the world. Some famous monuments in the city of Jaipur includes: Jantar Mantar, Hawa Mahal,

Amer Fort, Jaigarh Fort and City Palace. These monuments have been the center of research. These monuments not only project the rich Indian history and culture but forms a crucial part of tourism industry in India. In our research project, we aim to find the methods of management and preservation conducted by the government officials and the local people, the economic and social challenges faced during the monuments preservation, the impact of monuments on the lives of the local people and relationship between the tourism industry and the monuments. Thus, our key research questions are: What and how are management and preservation methods conducted by the local people and government officials in the monuments in Jaipur? What challenges does the tourism industry pose in this process? How does this impact the livelihoods of the local people? What are the social and economic problems faced by the government officials during the management and preservation of monuments?

Background:

- City palace is a beautiful complex, a souvenir of majestic history which constitute of vast courtyards, beautiful gardens and buildings. It was built by Sawai Jai Singh II, the ruler of Amber and holds a historical importance globally as it also marks the honour of hospitality extended to the Prince of Wales during his visit to India. The construction that was started in 1729 and it took three years to be completed in 1732. The palace has been designed combining the architectural elements of Rajput, Mughal and European style. A perfect fusion of colours, art, designs and culture can be seen in every nook and corner of the palace. Currently, to preserve the valuable items the palace have been converted into

museum and art galleries.

- Jaigarh Fort was named after and built by Sawan Jai Singh II in 1726. It is located at 500 feet above the sea level which provides panoramic views of the surrounding. It was built with the purpose of protecting Amer fort and also is considered as the strongest monument of Jaipur. The fort is also known as 'Victory Fort' which was previously used as a water reservoir, arms foundry, and treasury during the war. The present buildings date from the 18th century, but have been heavily restored over the years.
- Hawa Mahal, "Palace of the Winds" is said to resemble the honeycomb structure of a bee's nest and is one of the finest examples of the Rajput architecture of the 18th Century. It was constructed in 1799 by Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh. The Hawa Mahal was built with the intention of providing the view of everyday life through the window because the royal women were not allowed to appear in public. The shape of the building is said to be pyramidal and on the exterior there are 953 windows. Thus its preservation would add to the eminent architecture culture that Indian culture holds.
- Jantar Mantar is one of the five astronomical complexes constructed by Maharaja Jai Singh II, and the one in Jaipur is the largest and most well preserved. It was built in 1728-1734 and is a collection of 19 architectural astronomical instruments. It is presently known for its clever use of geometrical patterns in the form of instruments. It has the world's biggest stone sundial "Samrat Yantra" and also has been inscribed under UNESCO's world heritage sites in 2010.

Literature Review:

The Archaeology & Museum Department (DAM) of the State Government is presently responsible for managing and work for the monuments in Rajasthan. It has listed 238 monuments from various parts of state to project, conserve and maintain (Jain). Due to limited budget constraint, where 80% of the budget is spent towards establishment, the department fails to conserve the monuments. Therefore, the government has allotted 2/3rd share of revenue receipt from tourist visits and other sources of income such as TV/film shooting, elephant rides, facilities for tourists, and parking. This budget is used in the renovation and maintenance of the forts. Furthermore the government supports to raise loans by providing outlays. Financial support was generated from Central Government Funds & other agencies (Jain).

The research conducted by Dr. Laxmi Kant Sharma and the co- authors point out environment intrusion as the major cause for heritage and cultural conservation. According to the authors, heritage and cultural assets such as the monuments should be given higher significance than the public and private places. Heritage assets, cultural life and its history are the main elements of a city's identity. Furthermore, monuments primarily located in cities face potential threats such as uncontrolled agricultural and urban development, regional conflicts, natural catastrophes, and climate change. Internationally, UNESCO has declared many sites as world heritage and efforts have been made to protect them from destruction (Sharma et.al 2011). As per the Archeological Survey of India (ASI), the Ancient Monuments and Preservation Act, 1904 was passed to ensure the structural conservation of the monuments. Monuments such as the Taj Mahal, Qutub Minar and Sabchi received nominal funds and attention way back from 19th century. The ASI's Science Branch is responsible mainly for the chemical conservation

treatment and preservation of some three thousand five hundred ninety three protected monuments besides chemical preservation of museum and excavated objects countrywide.

In addition, according to Travel India, tourism is an important source of income for the local people of Rajasthan. The historical monuments such as forts and palaces all over the state make a large sum of money and the considerable amount of it is paid to the government support the local economy in Rajasthan. A recent study showed that from every single tourist around 13 people profits directly or indirectly. Local transporters, hotels, shopkeepers, monuments, museums, guide and tour operators are just a few who make a living through tourism. Statistics also suggest that proper efforts to boost tourism can serve 30% of the total population of state. Rural tourism of Rajasthan could bring enormous wealth to the villages. Tourism accounts for eight percent of Rajasthan's domestic product. Many old and neglected palaces and forts have been converted into heritage hotels. especially, tourism has increased employment in the hospitality sector.

Methods:

Study Period: Time period for the fieldwork was from June 17, 2017- June 20, 2017

Study Area: Jaipur (Rajasthan)

To find out “Monument Preservation in Jaipur”, we conducted qualitative method for the interviews with government officials and quantitative method for the survey local people and tourists. The main objective of the research was to understand the methods of management and preservation of the monuments by UNESCO, the Indian government, and the local people. In addition, research also aimed how the preservation of monuments contributes to the

enhancement of tourism - promoting economic and cultural sustainability. Moreover we also aimed to develop our knowledge of the potential threats like tourist traffic, environmental damage, and commercialization of culture to the monument sites.

Furthermore, we divided our research into two parts i.e surveys and interviews. Surveys for conducted for the local people including tourists, local businessman (Shopkeepers, guides), youth; whereas interview was conducted for the government officials. All together 30 surveys and 20 interviews were taken for research topic. The survey data was transferred in excel sheet and then analysis was done based on the outcome.

In this research the Survey Question we used are:-

(Please rate this on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1=Not at all important and 5= extremely important)

Q1. How important do you think the protection of historic heritage is?

Q2. How satisfied are you with the way historic heritage is cared for in your local area?

Q3. How often do you see maintenance work being done on monuments?

Q4. Who of the following do you think has a role in caring historic heritage?

- General public (as volunteers)
- Owners of heritage places (monuments on people's land)
- Community Groups (historical societies)
- Businesses (part of new development)
- International organizations (UNESCO)

Q5. Do you think the cultural and economical importance of monuments in your local area is well understood? (YES / NO)

Q6. Does preservation of monuments and tourism affect the culture and livelihood of people?
(YES / NO)

Q7. Do you see some challenges facing the preservation of these sites? (YES / NO)

Q8. Do you think tourism is playing an important role in boosting the economy of the country?
And it is a good source of livelihood for the local people? (YES / NO)

Q9. Do you think due to tourism as a business, it has a negative impact on the aesthetic beauty of the monuments as compared to before? (YES / NO)

Qualitative Questionnaire: For government officials

1. What kind of methods are conducted to manage and preserve the monuments?
2. How are the management methods for the monument preservation carried out by the government officials?
3. What are the social and economic problems that are often faced in this process of monument preservation?
4. Are there any international organizations or UN agencies associated and contributing towards the management and preservation of monuments? If yes how ?
5. How these monuments have contributed to boost the tourism industry and vice versa?
6. From where and how finances and budgets are managed for monument preservation?
7. What challenges does the tourism industry pose in the process of preserving the monuments?
8. Why do you think these sites are important to preserve?
9. What impact do you think the tourism sector has on the maintenance of these sites?

10. How does the preservation of monuments impact on local livelihoods and culture ?
11. Do you have any other innovative or creative suggestions on how we can understand value, care for and celebrate our historic heritage like monuments ?
12. How does the ongoing tourism affect the local livelihoods and culture ?
13. What do you see as the greatest challenges and potential threats against the preservation and management of these sites?
14. What steps have been taken to combat possible threats like tourist traffic, commercialization of culture and environmental damage?

Table 1: Scaling Rubric for qualitative data in case of government officials

		A(1)	B(2)	C(0)
	Management and preservation methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Timely reconstruction weekly or monthly. · Managed by the trust (private property) · Same construction materials such as stones, paint etc to maintain the same condition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Reconstruction as soon as the budget is received that can begin monthly or yearly. · Managed directly under the govt. · Same construction materials such as stones, paint etc to maintain the same condition · 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Has no idea about it

	Social problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Aware of the social problems such as tourist traffic, environment pollution (climate change, garbage, air) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Has moderate awareness such as air pollution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Claims that they are no social problems being faced
	Budget allocation and Economical problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Sufficient budget from the govt (specifically). · Budget approval constraints such as time, long procedures etc. 	<p>Budgets provided by the trust (monument classified as private property. No budget from the govt.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · No budget either from the govt or the trust.
	Historic importance of monuments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Deeper understanding of the historical significance of monuments · Wider knowledge on the history of the monuments, the rule of kings and clans · Relates to India's cultures and traditions · Presents India's rich history and royalty globally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Moderate understanding of the historical significance of monuments · Shows moderate knowledge on the histories regarding the monuments however no detailed reflection on relation to India's history and culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Fails to show any knowledge regarding the historical importance, it's relation to India's cultures and traditions.

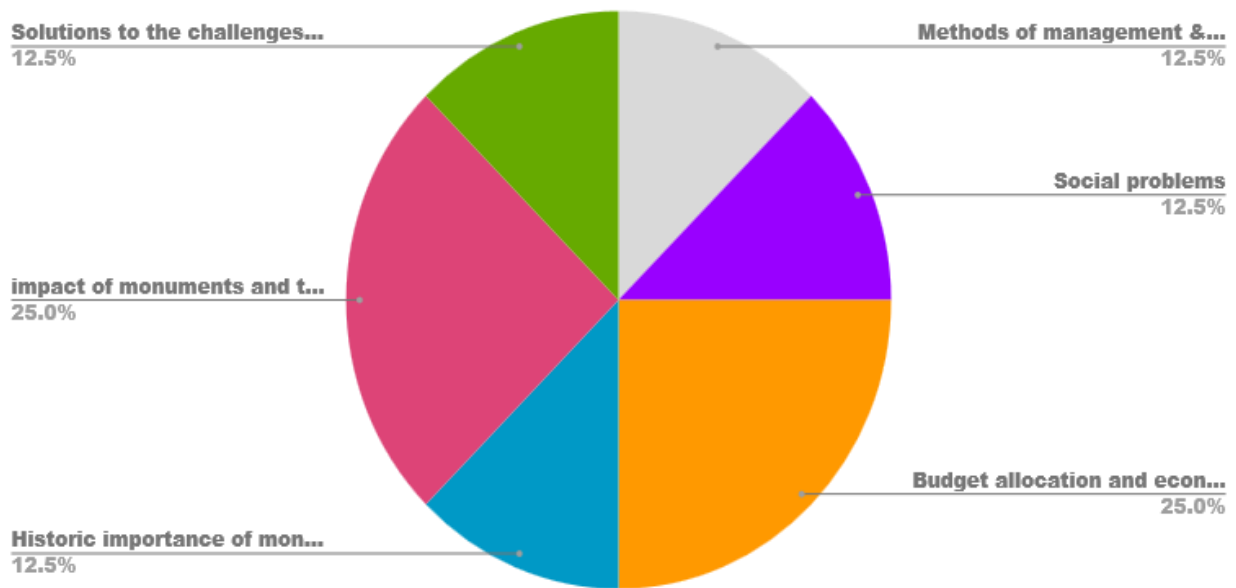
	Challenges faced by tourism within the heritage sites (monuments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Reflects deeply on challenges posed by the tourism such as Safety and security of the monuments (strange foreigners)* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Moderately reflects on the challenges posed to the monuments from tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Sees no challenges towards monuments through tourism
	Impact of monuments and tourism on local lives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Increased number of job opportunities (guides, travel agents) · Emergence on small scale businesses such as handicrafts, antiques, sculptures and traditional items. · Increased growth of large scale and small travel agencies such auto-rickshaws, mini buses etc.) · Few local citizens working in the government sector of managing the monuments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Partial details on the impact of monuments on local lives · Job opportunities for locals as guides, artisans and artists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Not aware and lack of knowledge regarding the impact of monuments and tourism
	Solutions to the (social and economic) challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The monuments under the private property highlighted the need of economical support (such as funds from the govt. 		No solutions

Presentation and analysis of the data:

A) Analysis of the data : Government Officials

The first question asked to the government officials during the survey was about the timely management of the monuments. As the survey continued, we were able to understand that the monuments were given great care and importance. In case of any damage or repair, it has been tried to solve as early as possible with same substance with which it was made of earlier, so that the monuments doesn't have a damage in their beauty. The other interesting finding in the question is that both privately owned and government owned monuments are preserved with great care and responsibility. The next question followed as the social problems that are caused to the immense tourist traffic in Jaipur and its consequences. Jaipur is a major spot of tourist attraction in India. The government officials understand the problems that can be caused due to tourist trafficking. But many of the officials throughout the survey, responded that the government has already taken measures to tackle the large problems that can be caused due to this. Even though there are positive aspects of preserving, big environmental problems like global warming and air pollution has to be addressed in order to keep the monuments safe for a longer time. Budget allocation was the next concern that was asked in the interviews. As Jaipur is a city which has its main income coming from tourism government has been implementing better measures to keep up the standard of the monuments through preservation methods. As per government officials a greater part of the concern is budget allocation for doing all the things but as a whole majority responded that they are happy with the ways things are going at present and are happy with the budget. Privately owned monuments have formed trust which provide them with money to use for preservation methods.

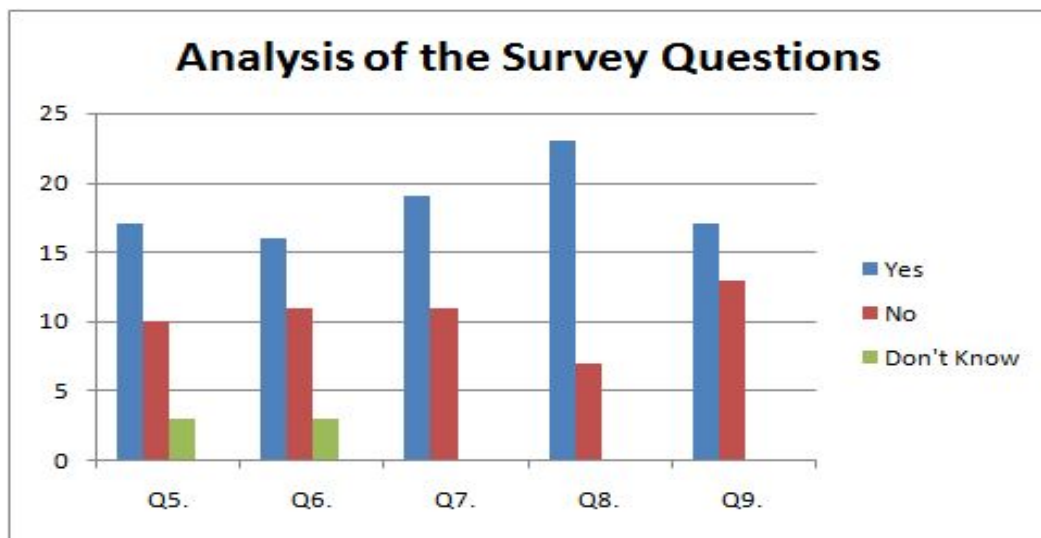
The fourth question asked to the government officials were about how aware the government officials are about the history and culture of Rajasthan particularly regarding the monuments. Majority of the officials had a deeper understanding about the historical significance of monuments, which goes through the wider knowledge on the history of the monuments, the rule of kings and clans relating to the tradition and culture of India, thereby presenting India's rich history and royalty around the world. This made us understand why we should be concerned about knowing history and preserve it to let the world know about the magnificent art India possess. This led us to about knowing how foreign tourism could pose a challenge to preserving the monuments. The response to this were mixed, as they said foreigners bring their currency and spend it in India, which would enhance our economy but some were also concerned about the foreign influence that had as been coming to our culture. Therefore, they suggested that it is important to let our generation and kids to know about the importance of preserving our culture. Next question was regarding the influence that tourism have on the lives of local people around Jaipur. The responses said that the job opportunities have increased with the need for more travel agents and local guides for tourists within India and over the world. Small scale and traditional business have been flourishing through items such as handicrafts antiques and sculptures. We also saw a few local citizens working under the government for managing the monuments. All around the questions and surveys , we found that the Government of India have been giving a huge support to the tourism sector of Jaipur in all the ways.



The graph above shows the percent of people who have responded with (A) to the questions that have been asked and has been prepared accordingly. 12.5 percent of people strongly believe that the solution to the majority of the social and economic problems can be solved by the budget allocated by the government. 25 percent of people believe that government and the private property owners have been doing well to preserve the monuments have the budget needed for the preservation. 12 percent of the government officials said that social problems like environmental pollution and tourist trafficking effects preservation. 12.5 percent of people were fully about the historical importance of the monuments. The other 12.5 percent of people were satisfied with the measures that has been taken by the government to preserve the monuments. The whole graph in divides people into the total ratio of 100.

B) Analysis of the Survey Questions (For the local people)

According to the survey, most of the people believed that the cultural and economical importance of the monuments is well understood and taken care among the local people. And they are much satisfied with the way the monuments are preserved. Moreover they feel that, along with the government and different organisations individual on their behalf should take care of the monuments by not polluting them. It does affect the livelihood of the local people in both positive and negative ways. Since due to modernisation the importance of traditional artists (Puppet shows) is fading away. Moreover tourism as a business is having a negative impact on the aesthetic beauty of monuments.



Conclusion:

Monuments in Jaipur have a lot to tell about the vibrant and magnificent culture that India have represented to the world. Jaipur commonly called the pink city showcase the art, culture, architecture and science during the old era. Therefore, the preservation of these

monuments are necessary to conserve the culture and take inspiration from it .Jantar Mantar, Hawa Mahal, Amer Fort, Jaigarh Fort and City Palace have been the center of research that our project have been based on. These monuments not only project the rich Indian history and culture but forms a crucial part of tourism industry in India. In our research project, we aimed to find the methods of management and preservation conducted by the government officials and the local people, the economic and social challenges faced during the monuments preservation, the impact of monuments on the lives of the local people and relationship between the tourism industry and the monuments. And we found out that tourism have both positive and negative impacts to the Indian society, also the Government of India have taken great measures to preserve the monuments and to conserve the culture of India.

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