MONUMENTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM

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Introduction
Monuments are the cultural epitomes and mirrors of a society where the past and their present are conjoined towards future. Any society that has forgotten its past is said to repeat the same mistakes, blunders, and errors; and monuments are one of the major efforts of man kind in concretizing the past so as to guide the present towards the future historical actuality, and social development.

Monuments are not only the preservation and testimony of the past glory and history it also becomes the cultural identity of a community, playing the role of a totem. Therefore, monuments can never die and if at all a monument becomes dead it means that, that community, or that society has lost its quintessence and has degenerated or has undergone changes due to acculturation etc.

When a society or a community loose it's meaning of the monument the monument becomes dead. Therefore, a monument lives only when it is a part and parcel of the society or community in which it is situated.

Monuments are bridges, which bridge the gap between mythical time and historical time. Monuments revolve around Legends who were historical once but have undergone a metamorphosis to that of a Devine. Moreover, it is this attribution of divinity to monuments that acts as the key in bridging the mythical and the real present history. This is very true not only of our ancient land but is a universal phenomenon.

Meaning of Monuments
A **monument** is a concrete structure, which is either created to commemorate a person (politico-socio-cultural) or any important event from the perspective of a social group as a part of their remembrance of historic times or cultural heritage, or simply as an example of historic architecture. In English the word "monumental" is often used in reference to something of extraordinary size and power, as in monumental sculpture, but also to mean simply anything made to commemorate the dead, as a funerary monument or other example of funerary art. The word comes from the Latin "monere," which means 'to remind' or 'to warn.' The term is often used to describe any structure that is a significant and legally protected historic work.

Purpose of Creation
Monuments have been created for thousands of years, and they are often the most durable and famous symbols of ancient civilizations. Prehistoric tumuli (cemetery, mound), dolmens (big-stone age burial yard), and similar structures have been created in a large number of prehistoric cultures across the world, for example Megalithic culture in India, and the many forms of monumental tombs of the more wealthy and powerful members of a society are often the source of much of our information and art from those cultures. As societies became organized on a larger scale, so monuments so large so as to be difficult to destroy like the Egyptian Pyramids, the Greek Parthenon or the Moai of Easter Island and Monolithic Rathas of Mahabalipuram of Tamil Nadu have become symbols of their civilizations. In more recent times, monumental structures such as the Statue of Liberty, Eiffel Tower, Lotus Temple, Delhi, and Auroville of Pondicheery, have become iconic emblems of modern nations.

Functions of Monuments
Monuments are frequently used to improve the appearance of a city or location to commemorate certain historical events. Planned cities such as Chandigargh, New Delhi, Washington D.C., and Brasília are often built around monuments. For example, the Washington Monument's location was conceived by L'Enfant to help organize

public space in the city, before it was designed or constructed. Older cities have monuments placed at locations that are already important or are sometimes redesigned to focus on one.

Structures created for others purposes that have been made notable by their age, size or historic significance may also be regarded as monuments. This can happen because of great age and size, as in the case of the Great Wall of China, or because an event of great import occurred there such as the village of Oradour-sur-Glane in France. Many countries use Ancient monument or similar terms for the official designation (Gopuram of Siriviliputur Temple in Tamil Nadu emblem and also the Four-Faced Lion taken from the Lion Pillar of Saranath as the official emblem of India) of protected structures or archeological sites which may originally have been ordinary domestic houses or other buildings.

Monuments are also often designed to convey historical or political information. They can be used to reinforce the primacy of contemporary political power, such as the statues of political leaders, tombs of political leaders in Tamil Nadu, Gandhi Memorial Museum in New Delhi, Kamarajar Illam, Chenni, Barathiar manimandam in Pandicheery, etc., column of Trajan or the numerous statues of Lenin in the Soviet Union. They can be used to educate the populace about important events or figures from the past, such as in the renaming of the old General Post Office Building in New York City to the James A. Farley Building (James Farley Post Office), after former Postmaster General James Farley.

The social meanings of monuments are rarely fixed and certain and are frequently 'contested' by different social groups for example, the Statue and tomb of Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thavar. This contention of meaning is a central theme of modern 'post processual' archaeological discourse.

Types of Monuments: Religious and Secular
Monuments can be broadly classified into two categories: religious and secular. Religious comprise of place of worship based on any religious faith such as Hindu, Christian, Islam, Sikkism, and others, and Secular monuments like Forts, Palaces, Dams, buildings and others of national importance.
- Buildings designed as iconic landmarks
- Religious monuments like temples, churches, mosques, gurudwarah and places associated with the holy men and saints, or to commemorate their life or death.
- Cenotaphs and memorials to commemorate the dead, usually war casualties - e.g. war memorial in Chennai, Vimy Ridge Memorial and India Gate. A cenotaph is a type of monument intended to honor the dead who are buried elsewhere, such as those killed in a war or disaster.
- Columns, often topped with a statue - e.g. Trajan's Column and Nelson's Column in London
- Grave stones constitute small monuments to the deceased especially which is known from the very early period like hero-stone (Nadukal)
- Mausoleums and tombs to inter the dead - e.g. the Taj Mahal, Bibi-ka-mug-barag of Aurangabad, and Great Pyramid of Giza
- Monoliths erected for historical or religious or commemorative purposes. E.g., Ashokan Pillar and Five-rathas of Mahabalipuram.
- Mounds erected to commemorate great leaders or events - e.g. Ko ciuszko Mound
- Mosque monuments are places of worship that usually feature highly skilled calligraphy and geometric artwork.
- Obelisks usually erected to commemorate great leaders - e.g. the Washington Monument, Monas
- Statues of famous individuals or symbols - e.g. Statue of Liberty, Statue of Kannaki who is the heroine of Tamil Literature
- Temples or religious structures built for pilgrimage, ritual or commemorative purposes - e.g. Tanjore Brijhadeshwara, Gangai Konda Cholapuram, Rameshwaram, and Thiruvannamalai Arunachalashwara.
- Terminating vista, layout design for urban monuments like Jandar-Mandar of Jaipur and Delhi

- Triumphal arches, almost always to commemorate military successes and welcoming the honourable gusest like Gate-Way of India, Anna Arch of Chennai, and the Arc de Triomphe in France.
- War memorials

Importance of Monuments

Monuments are quiet testimonials of its past glory of any countries of politico-socio-cultural and historical validity. By the way of its importance of heritage it attracts more number of domestic and international tourists. By visitation of people from one geophysical area to another area gives many benefits to the guest as well as host country in terms of socio-economic benefits. For example national integration, international understanding, unity in diversity, appreciation of one's own culture and others is the social benefit. The economic benefits like regional development, development of infra-structure, employment, foreign exchange earnings, improvement in the standard of living, preservation and conservation of monuments.

Tourism in India is the largest service industry, with a contribution of 6.23% to the national GDP and 8.78% of the total employment in India. India witness's more than 5.5 million annual foreign tourist arrivals[i] and 740 million domestic tourism visits. The tourism industry in India generated about 100 billion US$ in 2008 and that is expected to increase to US$275.5 billion by 2018 at a 9.4% annual growth rate.[ii] In the year 2010, 17.9 million foreign tourists visited India. Majority of foreign tourists come from USA and UK. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan are the top 5 states to receive inbound tourists.[iii][3] Domestic tourism in the same year was massive at 740 million. Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra received the big share of these visitors.[iv,v] Ministry of Tourism is the nodal agency to formulate national policies and programmes for the development and promotion of tourism. In the process, the Ministry consults and collaborates with other stakeholders in the sector including various Central Ministries/agencies, the State Governments/ union Territories and the representatives of the private sector. Concerted efforts are being made to promote new forms of tourism such as rural, cruise, medical and eco-tourism.[vi] The Ministry of Tourism is the nodal agency for the development and promotion of tourism in India and maintains the marketing slogans like Incredible India, Enchanting Tamil Nadu, and Gods Own Country Kerala.

Need for Preservation and Conservation of Monuments

The World Heritage Sites in India recognized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) are 28, as of 2010.[vii] These are places of importance of cultural or natural heritage as described in the UNESCO World Heritage Convention, established in 1972.[viii] The Convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage was adopted on 17 November 1997 following the General Conference of the UNESCO held from 17 October 1972 to 21 November 1972. The Convention is defined under 28 Articles. Broadly, the Cultural Heritage Sites are defined in Article 1 as monuments, groups of buildings and sites, while the natural sites defined under Article 2 refer to natural features, geological and physiographical formations and natural sites. As of date, there are 911 properties under the World Heritage List, which cover 711 cultural sites, 180 natural sites and 27 mixed properties encompassing 152 countries, including India.[ix] Countries who have signed the Convention are 187 States, including India, which signed the Convention on November 14, 1977.[x]

Role of Archaeological Survey in Preservation

In 1861, the Archaeological Survey of India was established and Alexander Cunningham was made its head. He started working towards the cause of protection, preservation and conservation of built heri[xi]tage and antiquarian remains of India as a mission. During this period with promulgation of the Indian Treasure Trove Act, 1878 leading museums of India were able to acquire hoards of antiquities. This Act is still operational as it is helpful in building up of India's antiquarian wealth.

The era of Sir John Marshall, witnessed codification of conservation manual, followed by major excavation of archaeological sites for the study of antiquarian remains. In 1900, the Government of Bengal drafted a bill, which

was circulated amongst all the local officers for comments. This exercise resulted in enactment of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904 with the aim 'to provide for the preservation of ancient monuments, for the exercise of control of over traffic in antiquities and over excavation in certain places and for the protection and acquisition in certain cases of ancient monuments and of objects of archaeological, historical or artistic interest'. The concept of archaeological site museums was evolved during this period.

In 1944 Mortimer Wheeler took the reign of Archaeological Survey of India which was marked by numerous changes and all round improvements. During his period, the Antiquities (Export Control) Act, 1947 was passed through which the Director General of Archaeology in India was made the final authority to decide whether or not an article is an antiquity.With the promulgation of the Constitution of India from 26th January 1950, 'archaeology' has been made a concurrent subject under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, which reads:
List I (Union List), item 67: ancient and historical monuments and records, and archaeological sites and remains declared by or under law by Parliament to be of national importance.

List II (State List), item 12: libraries, museums and other similar institutions controlled or financed by the State; ancient and historical monuments and records other than those declared by or under law made by Parliament to be of national importance.

List III (Concurrent List), item 40: archaeological sites and remains other than those declared by or under law made by Parliament to be of national importance. Thus, in fulfillment of the provisions of the Constitution, the Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Declaration of National Importance) Act 1951 was enacted.

1 New Initiative
Currently the archaeological sites and remains are managed both by union and state governments; however there are thousands of monuments and sites which are unprotected and in utter state of neglect. There is a need to make an inventory of those sites nation-wide, which are not protected either by the Centre or the State Governments. In order to prepare a database of the National Mission for posterity, an inventory/document of all such built heritage and antiquarian remains is a necessity. In order to achieve the arduous but onerous task, the following initiatives have been drafted:
- The cataloguing and describing of works of art have to follow a standard method applicable to all types of built heritage and antiquarian remains.
- Devise uniform measures to promote archaeological investigations.
- To give clear and detailed instructions about the nature of information and the manner of illustration required for effective documentation of archaeological remains.
- To identify and train archaeologists, draughtsman, photographers and surveyors with the help of new technical gadgets and Equipments.
- Devise training programs at various levels to create awareness among the stakeholders.

2 Legislative Frameworks
The cultural renaissance that began with the establishment of the Asiatic Society in 1784 heralded an era of pristine attention in Indology and Indian archaeology which subsequently paved the way for the genesis of antiquarian laws in the beginning of the nineteenth century. Consequently, a series of legislations were enacted to preserve and protect the cultural wealth of the country both by the constituent States and Central Government.

They include,
(i) The Bengal Regulation XIX (1810);
(ii) The Madras Regulation VII (1817);
(iii) The Act XX (1863);
(iv) The Indian Treasure-Trove Act (1878);

(v) Ancient Monuments Preservation Act (1904);
(vi) The Antiquities (Export Control) Act (1947);
(vii) The Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act (1951);
(viii) The Ancient Monuments and Archeological Sites and Remains Act (1958) and
(ix) Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 (AAT Act 1972).

2.1 Operative Legislations

The Ancient Monument and Archaeological Sites and Remain Act 1958 (AMASR Act 1958) was enacted by the Parliament with an aim 'to provide for the preservation of ancient and historical monuments and archaeological sites and remains of national importance, for the regulation of archaeological excavations and for the protection of sculptures, carvings and other like objects'. This act was enacted after repealing (i) The ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904, (ii) The Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (declaration of national importance) Act, 1951 and (iii) Section 126 of the States Reorganization Act, 1956. As per the AMASR Act 1958, the following are the definitions of the ancient monuments and antiquity.

(a) "ancient monument" means any structure, erection or monument, or any tumulus or place of interment, or any cave, rock sculpture, inscription or monolith, which is of historical, archaeological or artistic interest and which has been in existence for not less than one hundred years, and includes –
    (i) The remains of an ancient monument,
    (ii) The site of an ancient monument,
    (iii) such portion of land adjoining the site of an ancient monument as may be required for fencing or covering in or otherwise preserving such monument, and
    (iv) The means of access to, and convenient inspection of an ancient monument;
    The definition of antiquity occurring in Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958 has been amalgamated with Antiquities and Art Treasures Act 1972.

In the AMASR Act 1958, there are provisions to declare ancient monuments and sites to be of national importance, acquisition of protected monuments, excavations in unprotected areas, power to control the movement of antiquities, to compensate for loss or damage to a site or monument under private ownership and maintenance of monuments under private ownership after entering into an agreement. These provisions of the AMASR Act, 1958 will help in executing of the Mission's agenda as thousands of monuments are either unprotected or under private ownership.

(b) "antiquity" includes –
    (i) Any coin, sculpture, manuscript, epigraph, or other work of art or craftsmanship,
    (ii) Any article, object or thing detached from a building or cave,
    (iii) Any articles, object or thing illustrative of science, art, crafts, literature, religion, customs, morals or politics in bygone ages,
    (iv) Any article, object or thing of historical interest, and
    (v) Any article, object or thing declared by the Central.

Government by notification in the Official Gazette, to be an antiquity for the purpose of this Act. Which has been in existence for not less than one hundred years? Further, the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 (AAT Act 1972) was enacted by the Parliament 'to regulate the export trade in antiquities and art treasures, to provide for the prevention of smuggling of, and fraudulent dealings in antiquities, to provide for the compulsory acquisition of antiquities and art treasures for preservation in public places and to provide for certain other matters connected therewith or incidental or ancillary thereto'. The AAT Act, 1972 repeals the Antiquities (Export Control) Act, 1947. As per the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972, the following are the definitions of antiquity and art treasure:

The Act is implemented by the Archaeological Survey of India and ASI has appointed persons across the country vide Gazette notification GSR 282 (E) 5th April, 1976 to act as Registering Officers and further to accelerate the process of registration of antiquities and art treasures the Dy. S.As and ASAs of the ASI have also been empowered to exercise the powers conferred under the said Act vide Gazette notification GSR 73 1st March, 2005. There are apprehensions that antiquities are smuggled out for want of effective enforcement machinery and lack of knowledge about their importance and relevance. However, there is no way of knowing to what extent this control is flouted either wittingly or unwittingly. It is impossible to search every bag that leaves the country and every parcel that is posted. It is equally impossible to believe that a license has been sought in every case before an item has been shipped or flown to a foreign destination.

Apart from these two legislations, the Indian Treasure –trove Act, 1878 is also operative for the purpose of acquisition of chance discoveries that defines 'treasure' as 'anything of any value hidden in the soil, or in any thing affixed thereto'. Under this Act, the role of Collector is to receive notice from the finder of treasure and decide the ownership of the treasure. The Collector may also acquire the treasure on behalf of the Government or can divide the treasure or its value between the owner of the place and the finder in the ratio of 25 and 75 percent. This Act is still in vogue.

3. Mission of ASI
The objective for undertaking the National Mission on Monuments & Sites and Antiquities is to develop a national database with a view to enhances access to the students, scholars, researchers and to the general public and preserve it for the posterity. The main emphasis should be to improve awareness about cultural inheritance and encourage their use for educational and research purposes for lifelong learning. Though a lot has been done to locate, survey, preserve and describe various monuments, sites and antiquities from different cultural zones, so much is required to be done through this Mission:

1. Locational analysis of monuments and sites on the map of India, state, district, region and location-wise leading to evaluation of the wealth of antiquities within the country and abroad.
2. Documentation of the monuments, sites and antiquities with the help of drawings, photographs, satellite imagery, aerial photography and placing the cultural heritage in a chronological stratification.
3. Identification, assessment and promotion of the monuments for larger acceptance among the various linguistic, cultural and religious groups or factions within the society.
4. Classification and categorization of monuments, sites and antiquities on the basis of their history, typological groupings for increasing awareness of cultural heritage's role in institutional terms and to provide them need based conservation facilities.
5. Involvement of larger community participation for awareness generation sustained conservation, preservation and environmental development of heritage sites located in the neighbourhood of the community and makes them stakeholders. This will be in addition to the role of Central or State Governments, who are over burden with the responsibility in managing a large number of cultural heritages of the country.
6. To create repository of antiquarian wealth at each of the prospective site starting from panchayat level.
7. Compilation of data pertaining to Build heritage and sites from both published and unpublished literature in a prescribed format developed by the Mission and prepares a National Data base of the same.
8. Documentation of antiquities and art treasures under the custody of ASI, State Archaeology department, Private collections, institutions govt. and private museums etc. in a prescribed format.
9. Compilation and setting up of data base pertaining to antiquities and art treasures, and management of the same for easy retrieval as and when required and to also track the illicit trafficking of antiquities.
10. Capacity building among the State Department of Archaeology and Museums and other institutions through training programmes.

11. To help in creating synergy to link between institutions like ASI, Universities/Institutions, NGO's, professional individuals, public etc.
12. To conduct awareness programme for the masses.
13. To bring popular as well as research publications both for the masses and the professionals.
14. To carry out conservation of selected unprotected monuments.
15. State and local level policy can be framed for management of these measures as part of sustainable development.
16. Setting up of Data Bank at various levels, State Archaeological Department, Museums, institutions, Circles of ASI etc. A complete data will be managed at the National Mission Headquarter.

A cosmetic treatment is not enough. To this effect, a general rehabilitation program and modern rehabilitation and retrofitting techniques are briefly described. Analytical aspects of the problem are also presented. In particular, simple mathematical models are described, which may help in locating the exact source of trouble. These models show that the distress in one location may come from a cause, which is located far away. In actual practice, the load transfer mechanism may be more complicated then these simple analytical models. This can be handled by using the advanced analytical technique such as the Finite Element Method.

It is suggested that the modern repair methods must be perfected in the laboratory before transfer of this technology for field application. A comprehensive research program must be initiated and a code of practice should be developed to facilitate proper execution with best results.

India has a huge spectrum of HBM like temples, forts, mosques and other similar structures. Large numbers of these were constructed several hundred years ago when the Indian Civilization was at its peak. Their architecture, design and construction at the time when computers, code of practice, design guidelines, research institutions and modern construction techniques did not exist makes one to realize the wisdom and expertise of our forefathers. These structures have survived for hundreds of years while most of the modern constructions need repair after couple of years of service. In addition, some of HBM have elaborate arrangement for rain water harvesting, which could be a lesson to all of us in the time of scarcity. The following reasons may be responsible for deterioration and degradation of HBM.

1. Action of a natural disaster such as cyclone or earthquake
2. Act of sabotage or a casual accident resulting in a fire
3. Corrosive action of the contact materials
4. Uncontrolled vegetation growth
5. Natural deterioration due to aging and adverse environmental factors
6. Vibrations due to heavier structural and land use
7. Theft and vandalism
8. National priorities

These HBM are a testimonial of our glorious past and can become a money earner through tourism. However, the growing population has put Indian economy under pressure so that enough attention and resources for preservation of HBM could not be mobilized. With the development of last few decade, such as globalization and liberalization of Indian economy, several multinational companies have entered into India and the Indian economy has been revived to some extent. There is no reason why the mistakes of the past could not be rectified. The multi-national companies and big business establishments can play a major role in this direction. An international conference was organized in 1988 on the theme of present paper and four proceeding volumes are available [1]. This paper presents some fundamental concepts of structural mechanics, which may have been used by our forefathers in the construction of HBM. Further, it emphasizes that any preservation program should be systematic and thorough, which should utilize all modern technology and gadgets like computers, ground

penetrating radar and other non-destructive testing techniques with acoustic emission and lasers. A cosmetic treatment is not adequate. The modern construction and repair techniques are described and references are cited.

Forefathers Wisdom
The construction materials like cement and concrete, and concept of putting steel reinforcement in the tension zones of a structure were, perhaps, not known at the time when some of the HBM were constructed. However, most of the existing HBM are symmetric in shape and their base is wider than the top. This shows, as described subsequently, that our forefathers had thorough knowledge of tension and compression. They devised efficient structural systems for the Available construction materials and technology so that the external loads could be safely transmitted to the foundations without causing tension anywhere in the structure.

Typical Damage Scenario
Damage in a typical HBM, which has existed for thousands of years, may take any of the following forms. It must be mentioned that most HBM have been neglected over a period of time so that damage keeps on accumulating.
- Cracks
- Loose building blocks, particularly in roof
- Seepage and leakage of water
- Tilting
- Corrosion and discolouring

Sources of Damage
The possible changes in structural system (or load transfer mechanism) of HBM over a period of time may be one or more of the following:
- Change in land use
- Change in eccentricity of loading
- Change in cross section of beams and columns on account of corrosion
- Change at interface of the building blocks–cracking and corrosion
- Change in foundation conditions– Differential settlement of foundation
- Seepage of water through cracks
- Action of bacteria, insects and rodents
- Plant growth

END NOTES

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