1.	Introduction			
a.	a. Country (and State Party if different):			
	Pakistan			
b.	Name of World Heritage property:			
	Buddhist Ruins of Takht-i-Bahi and Neighboring City at Sahr-i-Bahlol.			
c. Give the date of inscription on the World Heritage List and sextension (if applicable):				
	05-09-1980			
d.	Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of this report.			
	Organisation(s) / entity(ies):			
	Person(s) responsible: Director General			
	Address: Department of Archaeology & Museums, Government of Pakistan, 27-A, Al-Asif Building, Shaheed-e-Millat Road Karachi, Pakistan.			
e.	Signature on behalf of the State Party			
	Signature:			
	Name: Dr. Fazal Dad Kakar			
	Function: Director General			

# 2. Statement of significance

Cultural criteria: iv

Please propose a statement of significance by providing a description of the World Heritage value(s) for which the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List. This description should reflect the criterion (criteria) on the basis of which the Committee inscribed the property on the World Heritage List and it should also detail what the property represents, what makes it outstanding, what the specific values are that distinguish the property as well as what its relationship with its setting is, etc:

The Buddhist ruins of Takht-i-Bahi lies on the northern slope of an isolated spur near the village of the Takht-i-Bahi 15 km from District Mardan on main road leading to Swat. The Archaeological Remains of Takht-i-Bahi are one of the most astounding, exciting and imposing relics of Buddhism in Pakistan dating back from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> century A.D. The remains comprises of main stupa court, votive stupas court, a group of three stupas, monastic quadrangle, meditation cells/basement, conference hall, covered stepped passageways and many other single and double storey secular buildings. All the structures are stone built, in Gandhara patterns (diaper style) using local dressed/semi dressed stone blocks with flakes, set in lime and mud mortar.

On the basis of study of structures, the construction phases have been divided into four distinct periods starting from 1st century B.C. continuing through subsequent centuries till 7th century A.D. It finds association with Gondophares, the Parthian ruler, Kanishka, the most important Kushan ruler, Kanishka III and Vasudeva II, the kings of later Kushan dynasty, the Kidara Kushan rulers and the Huns. The structures i.e. court of many stupas, and the monastery along with kitchen and refectory are of 1<sup>st</sup> period (Parthian and Kushanas) effective from 1<sup>st</sup> century B.C. to 2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D. Main stupa court and assembly hall are stated to be belonging to the 2<sup>nd</sup> period (Kushan) i.e. 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> century A.D. Court of three stupas is supposed to be of 3<sup>rd</sup> period (later Kushan or Kidara Kushana rulers) i.e. 4th and 5th century A.D. and low level chambers (meditation cells) and open court yard are attributed to 4<sup>th</sup> period (Post Hun) spanning over 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> century A.D. The white Huns from Central Asia who were mainly responsible for extensive devastation of the Buddhist religious complexes etc. swept major parts of the ancient Gandhara country in the 5<sup>th</sup> century A.D.

# 3. Statement of authenticity / integrity

Have the World Heritage values identified above been maintained since t property's inscription?			
Have there been changes in the authenticity / integrity since inscription?			
Are there (further) changes foreseeable to the authenticity / integrity of the property in the near future?			

# 4. Management

How could the arrangements for the protection and the management of the property best be defined (more than one indication possible)?

- Legal (/) The Antiquities Act 1975 of Pakistan provides adequate remedy for protection of the property
- Contractual (/) Due to World Heritage Site, the International Conventions/laws concerning protection of Cultural Heritage are also applicable, which provides additional guarantees for its protection.
- Traditional (/ ) The masses have great emotional attachment with this heritage site, having been built by one of the most staunch Muslim rulers of the Sub-Continent as a military might and the people are themselves determined to protect this splendid heirloom of the history.

Please describe and assess the implementation and effectiveness of these arrangements for the preservation of the values at the national, provincial and/or municipal level:

The Government of Pakistan has prepared and executed a number of different schemes for its conservation and restoration. After implementation of different projects the Department of Archaeology has succeeded to control the further deterioration and is trying its best level to preserve the Site for our future generations. Since Archaeology is on

the concurrent list of the constitution, the Federal, Provincial and the Municipal Governments are equally responsible for the protection of all cultural heritage sites and specifically the protected and the World Heritage Sites.

In general terms can this legislative, contractual and/or traditional protection be considered sufficient?

YES

Please explain:

The present Antiquities Act, 1975 of the Department of Archaeology, Government of Pakistan provides sufficient guidelines/legislations for the protection of our cultural heritage including Takht-i-Bahi.

Provide a list and summaries of laws and regulations concerning cultural and natural properties protection and management (including extracts of relevant articles from the Constitution, Criminal Law, Law/Regulations on Land-use, Environment Law and Forestry Law, amongst others). Please also attach any documentation available concerning these points:

The following Laws and Regulations are concerned for the protection and management of cultural properties of Pakistan:

- 1. Antiquities Act, 1975.
- 2. Excavation & Exploration Rules, 1978.
- 3. Conservation Manual.
- 4. Dealing in Antiquities Rules, 1989.
- 5. Export of Antiquities Rules, 1979.
- 6. Immovable Antiquities (mining, quarrying and blasting in restricted areas) Rules, 1979.
- 7. Admission of Public into Immovable Antiquities Rules, 1982.
- 8. Cinematographical Filming Rules, 1980.

Describe the administrative and management arrangements that are in place for the property concerned, making special mention of the institutions and organisations that have management authority over the property as well as of the arrangements that are in place for the coordination of their actions:

The Deputy Director, Sub Regional Office, Department of Archaeology, Peshawar, Government of Pakistan, is responsible for the administrative and management arrangements for the property concerned.

Please indicate under which level of authority the property is managed: Property ( ) Regional ( ) National ( / ) Other (please describe): **World Heritage** Please provide the full name, address and phone/fax/e-mail of the entity(ies) directly responsible for the management (conservation, preservation, visitor management) of the property: **Deputy Director** Sub Regional Office, Department of Archaeology & Museums, Peshawar. Pakistan. City and post code: **Peshawar** Telephone: 092-091-9211319 092-091-9210941 Fax: E-mail: Is it necessary to revise the administrative and management arrangements for NO the property? If YES, explain why this is the case: Is there a management plan for the property? YES If YES, please summarise, indicating if the plan is being implemented and since when: The Management Plan of the property contains the administrative set up which perform vital functions for its preservation, conservation and up keep since the property is declared as a Protected Site. Please report on legal and administrative actions that are foreseen for the future, to preserve the values (e.g. passing of legislation, adjusting administrative and management, implementing of drawing up of a (new) management plan, etc.):

The existing Antiquities Act of 1975 has some flaws, which are being removed. The proposed amendments will certainly make the law strong enough to deal strongly with the violation of the relevant laws concerning protection of cultural heritage.

Please provide detailed information, particularly in cases where changes have occurred since the inscription of the property, on the following matters:

#### Conservation

Make reference to all major interventions at the property and describe its present state of conservation:

A plan to take the eminent nature of work on the most important structures, surviving in most precarious condition and to make the whole site easily accessible and brought to presentable condition, was prepared and approved in 1992. The approval plan was implemented in four years (1992-93 to 1995-96) against the original proposal of one year (1992-93) due to financial constraints. Government of Pakistan has approved a Master Plan for the restoration of archaeological sites from Taxila to Swat which included the site of Takht-i-Bahi at a total cost of Rupees 100 million.

#### Ownership

Make reference to all major changes in ownership of the property and describe the present state of ownership:

No changes have been made/occurred in the ownership of the property concerned, which is still under the control of Department of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Pakistan.

Please, give a detailed description of the staffing of the site:

The staffing position of the property concerned is as under:

- 1. Deputy Director
- 2. Assistant Directors
- 3. Assistant Archaeological Engineer
- 4. Field Officer
- 5. Archaeological conservator
- 6. Technical Assistant
- 7. Technical supporting staff.
- Watch and Ward staff.

Is the staffing level sufficient for adequate management of the property?

NO

If NO, what should be done to improve the situation?

In order to improve and perform the duties of the Deputy Director, a number of staff is required to properly manage and conserve the World Heritage. The Department is trying to secure necessary staff for the purpose.

Does the staff need additional training?

YES

If YES, what are the training needs for your staff?

- 1. Conservation training in all respects pertaining to different fields such as, Stone conservation, Bricks conservation, Chemical treatment, Fresco work, landscaping, hydraulic work etc.
- 2. Curatorial staff training in field of Archaeology.

Describe the funding and financial situation of the property, indication sources, level and regularity of financing:

The main source of funds for the Department of Archaeology & Museums for the Preservation of Conservation of the Cultural Heritage of the country is allocation from the National Budget.

There are two types of Budget under which the conservation of sites and monuments is carried out by the Department of Archaeology & Museums Government of Pakistan.

- a) Normal Budget
- b) Annual Development Programme (ADP)

### a) NORMAL BUDGET:

This Budget is provided to our Circle Offices/S.R.Os annually for the conservation of the sites/Monuments which is used for carrying out the annual repair and maintenance of the sites and monuments. Under this budget, special problems are also attended concerning to the Conservation of the Sites/Monuments.

### b) ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Under the Annual Development Programme the Government provides the funds to the Department of Archaeology & Museums on the already approved schemes. This budget is also provided annually according to the approval phasing of the scheme.

Source of expertise and training in conservation and management techniques.

The Department of Archaeology & Museums has established an institute known as Pakistan Institute of Archaeological training and Research (PIATR) at Lahore Fort, Lahore in 1986. The PIATR is the main source to provide training in conservation and management techniques and other related trainings for the managers and curators of the cultural properties. The PIATR has successfully organized many International and National Training Programmes some of them with the assistance of the UNESCO.

Is the available funding sufficient for adequate management of the property?

ΝÓ

If NOT, describe the financial resources that would be required for the management of the property:

For the proper management of the property different financial resources could be utilized for the purpose. The Department of Archaeology and Museums collect funds through different resources, which can be utilized for the property concerned to implement the different functions.

Describe the IT (computer) equipment of the site and/or management office and assess its effectiveness:

NO

Are you using (multiple indications are possible):

✓ PC ( )
Apple ( )
Mainframe ( )

Please, give the number of available computers:

TWO

Does an operational access to the Internet exist?

NO

Is e-mail used for daily correspondence?

NO

Is there a Geographical Information System (GIS) for the site?

NO

If YES, what software do you have and how is the GIS used?

List scientific studies and research programmes that have been conducted concerning the site:

A French officer of Maharaja Ranjit Singh namely General Court was the first person who mentioned the ruins of Takht-i-Bahi in 1836. He had also found the Asoka Rock Edicts at Shahbaz Garhi in the same year. However, Dr. H.W. Bellow explored the site in 1864 and later on Dr. D.B. Spooner excavated the site during 1907 and 1909. After him Mr. Hargreaves carried out researches in 1910-11. Sir John Marshall describes that the high walled monastery appeared in the Gandhara region for the first time in the first century A.D. However, on the basis of fresh studies on the structure of site mainly carried out by Department of Archaeology and Museums, it is believed that construction phases have been divided into four district periods. The structures of the first period pertain to the 1st century B.C. to 2nd century A.D. when it was ruled by the Parthians and Kushans. The second phase is confined to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> century A.D. (The Great Kushans Period). The third period starts from the 4th century to the 5th century A.D. which is related with later Kushan rulers or Kidera Kushana rulers. The fourth period is spread over 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> century A.D. and as such basically the past Hun period.

Describe financial and human resource inputs for the research programmes and or facilities:

The Conservation staff of the Sub Regional Office, Peshawar according to allocated funds carried out different schemes for the conservation of Takht-i-Bahi.

Describe how the information / results are disseminated?

The results disseminated through these research works are published in the Annually Departmental Journal and the Department of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Pakistan prepare reports for the future quidance. Are there any visitor statistics for the site?

YES

If YES, please summarise the statistics (2003)

PAKISTANI	FOREIGNERS	TOTAL
2203	223	2426

What visitor facilities do you have at the property?

NIL

What visitor facilities are you in need of?

- 1. Public Toilets
- 2. Cafeteria
- 3. Telephone, E-mail and Fax facilities
- 4. Souvenir Shop and Antique Shop

Is a public use plan (tourism / visitor management plan) in existence for the property?

NO

If YES, please summarise, if NO explain if one is needed:

A visitor management plan is required for the visitors.

Indicate how the property's World Heritage values are communicated to residents, visitors and the public (please attach examples of leaflets, videos, posters etc. and print-outs and/or the address of a web-page):

A number of published material is available in the shape of Leaflets, Books and Information Booklets.

Are there educational programmes concerning the property aimed at Schools?

NO

If yes, please describe:

What role does World Heritage inscription play for the site concerning the visitor number, the research programmes and/or the awareness building activities?

A number of visitors/tourists both from home and abroad are attracted in a large number since its inscription on World Heritage List by UNESCO.

### 5. Factors affecting the property

Please comment on the degree to which the property is threatened by particular problems and risks, such as development pressure, environmental pressure, natural disasters and preparedness, visitors / tourism pressure, number of inhabitants. Also mention all other issues that you see as problematic.

The Takht-i-Bahi suffered a lot mostly due to age, human neglect and other shabby additions and alterations. Variations of atmospheric condition, severe temperature and natural disasters have also caused its decay.

The main causes of decay are summarized as under:

#### 1. WILD GROWTH / VEGETATION

Unwanted and harmful vegetation all around the remains viz. shrubs, saplings, bushes, ferns and flouring plants, trees etc.

#### 2. DRAINAGE

The existing choked drainage system including pocket have been desalted and rehabilitated up-to a certain extent. Depressions and low-level areas have been properly filled and a gentle slope was provided in falling gradient to drain off the rainwater quickly.

#### 3. SITE CLEARANCE AND DOCUMENTATION

All debris/rubbish and stone already deposited and accumulated. During conservation work have been removed and disposed off to bring the site to presentable condition. Documentation of site before, during and after conservation was also done according to the need and requirement in order to maintain a complete record of

conservation undertaken, as well as to meet the requirements of the forth coming day.

# 4. PLANTATION & FENCING

Plantation decrease the dust content, have a favourable effect on the purity of the atmosphere, help to lessen pollution aid in precipitating contaminants. Trees also act as a barrier for the high velocity winds pressure, effect of attributive and abrasive are neutralized, help in soil conservation and enhance the scenic beauty of the site. It will also provide shelter to the visitors in summer season and finally a source of income.

Barbed wire fencing with mild steel L-iron post embedded in concrete along with steel gate will help:

- (i) To protect the site from encroachment
- (ii) To improve the security measures
- (iii) To stop the entry of animals on pasture, necessary to save the plants, keep the site free neat and free of filth as well as to avoid the damages to the structures.

Indicate areas where improvement would be desirable and / or towards which the State Party is work:

The improvement is desired to check the urbanization near the site, illegal diggings / encroachments, mine blasting.

Give an indication if the impact of the factors affecting the property is increasing or decreasing:

Since these affects are increasing therefore an emergency plan is required to be executed.

What actions have been effectively taken, or are planned for the future, to address the factors affecting the property?

In order to overcome the problems mainly caused by weathering and other problems mentioned above, the Department of Archaeology and Museums has prepared a comprehensive master plan but due to non-availability of requisite funds the schemes could not be launched.

### 6. Monitoring

If applicable, give details (e.g. dates, results, indicators chosen) of any previous periodic or reactive monitoring exercises of the property:

The Department of Archaeology & Museums, Government of Pakistan in collaboration with Japan Trust Fund is carrying out conservation work at the Takht-i-Bahi for the last five years. A large portion of the remains have been conserved and more area/remains will be taken in hand in future planning of work.

Is there a formal monitoring system established for the site?

YES

If YES, please give details of its organisation:

The Ministry of Minorities, Culture, Sports, Tourism & Youth Affairs' Planning Section monitor the projects and schemes during and after completion of work as per procedure adopted/rules.

Are there any indicators established for monitoring the state of conservation of the property?

If YES, please provide up-to-date information with respect to each of the key indicators established and / or used. Care should be taken to ensure that this information is as accurate and reliable as possible, for example by carrying out observations in the same way, using similar equipment and methods at the same time of the year and day. Name and describe the key indicators for measuring the state of conservation of this property:

Though a number of works have been carried out by applying different methods for preservation of Takht-i-Bahi but still a number of equipment/latest techniques are required for the preservation of structural remains of Takht-i-Bahi.

If NO, indicators have been identified and / or used so far, please define key indicators for future use in monitoring:

Environmental Monitoring System is proposed for future monitoring of the state of conservation of the site

Indicate which partners, if any, are involved or will be involved in the regular monitoring exercise:

Science and Technological Universities of Pakistan, Soil Investigation Laboratory, Lahore, Geological Survey of Pakistan, Environmental Department etc.

Identify the administrative provisions for organizing the regular monitoring of the property:

Under the convention for the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, it is the prime responsibility of the State Parties to take appropriate provisions and actions for the application of the convention and to put in place on site monitoring arrangements as an integral component of day-to-day and management of the sites. As per Conservation Manual of Sir John Marshall enough administrative provisions for organizing the regular monitoring of the property are provided which the Department of Archaeology and Museums are implementing.

Describe what improvement the State Party foresees or would consider desirable in improving the monitoring system.

Necessary funds are required to be allocated for the implementation of various programme/schemes for the purpose

#### 7. Conclusions and recommended actions

Please summarise the main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property

The Buddhist ruins of Takht-i-Bahi lies on the northern slope of an isolated spar near the village of the Takht-i-Bahi 15 km from District Mardan on main road leading to Swat. The Archaeological Remains of Takht-i-Bahi are one of the most astounding, exciting and imposing relics of Buddhism in Pakistan dating back from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> century A.D. The remains comprises of main stupa court, votive stupas court, a group of three stupas, monastic quadrangle, meditation cells / basement, conference hall, covered stepped passageways and many other single and double storey secular buildings. All the structures are stone built, in Gandhara patterns (diaper style) using local dressed/semi dressed stone blocks with flakes, set in lime and mud mortar.

The funds for preservation and conservation are provided by the Government of Pakistan through the Ministry of Culture under different sources such as A.D.P., D.S.D.P., Special Grants and Annual Regular Budget for implementation of various schemes/projects/programme for the conservation and management of the property concerned by the Federal Department of Archaeology and Museums.

A plan to take the eminent nature of work on the most important structures, surviving in most precarious condition and to make the whole site easily accessible and brought to presentable condition, was prepared and approved in 1992. The approval plan was implemented in four years (1992-93 to 1995-96) against the original proposal of one year

(1992-93) due to financial constraints. Government of Pakistan has approved a Master Plan for the restoration of archaeological sites from Taxila to Swat which included the site of Takht-i-Bahi at a total cost of Rupees 100 million.

Please summarise the main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property.

The Takht-i-Bahi suffered a lot mostly due to age, human neglect and other shabby additions and alterations. Variations of atmospheric condition, severe temperature and natural disasters have also caused its decay.

The main causes of decay are summarized as under:

# 1. WILD GROWTH / VEGETATION

Unwanted and harmful vegetation all around the remains viz shrubs, saplings, bushes, ferns and flouring plants, trees etc.

# 2. DRAINAGE

The existing choked drainage system including pocket have been desalted and rehabilitated up-to a certain extent. Depressions and low-level areas have been properly filled and a gentle slope was provided in falling gradient to drain off the rainwater quickly.

#### 3. <u>SITE CLEARANCE AND DOCUMENTATION</u>

All debris/rubbish and strewed stone already deposited and accumulated. During conservation work have been removed and disposed off to bring the site to presentable condition. Documentation of site before, during and after conservation was also done according to the need and requirement in order to maintain a complete record of conservation undertaken, as well as to meet the requirements of the forth coming day.

#### 4. PLANTATION & FENCING

Plantation decrease the dust content, have a favourable effect on the purity of the atmosphere, help to lessen pollution aid in precipitating contaminants. Trees also act as a barrier for the high velocity winds pressure, effect of attributive and abrasive are neutralized, help in soil

conservation and enhance the scenic beauty of the site. It will also provide shelter to the visitors in summer season and finally a source of income.

Barbed wire fencing with mild steel L-iron post embedded in concrete along with steel gate will help:

- 1. To protect the site from encroachment
- 2. To improve the security measures
- 3. To stop the entry of animals on pasture, necessary to save the plants, keep the site free neat and free of filth as well as to avoid the damages to the structures.

Give an overview over proposed future action / actions:

The Government of Pakistan has approved a Master Plan for the restoration of archaeological sites from Taxila to Swat, which included the site of Takht-i-Bahi at a total cost of Rupees 100 million.

Give a timeframe for the implementation of the actions described above:

For the year 2004-2005.

Indicate for which of the planned activities International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund may be needed (if any):

Both financial and technical International facilities/assistance is required from the World Heritage Fund, UNESCO and other donor agencies.

Are there any contacts with management units of other properties within or outside your country?

NO

Please indicate which experience made during the periodic reporting exercise and/or during the on-going conservation / protection efforts of the property could be shared with other States Parties dealing with similar problems or issues:

The Department of Archaeology and Museums has been facing a number of problems during the excavations/implementations of the conservation works or different schemes due to shortage of technical skilled staff, craftsman, procurement of traditional materials, paucity of finances.

Provide the name(s) and address(es) of organization(s) or specialist(s) who could be contacted for this purpose:

**Deputy Director** 

Address: Sub Regional Office,

Department of Archaeology & Museums,

Peshawar, Pakistan.

City and post code: **Peshawar** 

Telephone: **092-091-9211319** 

Fax: **092-091-9210941** 

E-mail:

# BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1. Percy Brown, Indian Architecture (Buddhist and Hindu Periods), Bombay, 1959.
- 2. Muhammad Ishtiaq Khan, "Buddhism in Gandhara Some Thoughts" in Journal for the Comparative Study of Civilizations, No.3, March, 1998.
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