## State of Conservation of the World Heritage Properties in the Asia-Pacific Region

## INDIA

# Khajuraho Group of Monuments

### **II.1 Introduction**

Year of Inscription 1986

#### Organisation Responsible for the Report

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## **II.2 Statement of Significance**

Inscription Criteria C i, iii

#### Statement of Significance

 Proposed as follows (new): "Situated on a moderately undulated upland amidst lakes and rivulets, Khajuraho nourished a prolific temple building epoch from the sparsely ornamented pyramidal temples of 9th Century A.D. to the exquisitely carved temples with spires rising in a

crescendo, during its zenith, in 11th Century A.D. Its embellishments, proportion and aesthetics punctuated with almost alive sculptures, is art par excellence, now represented in the 22 of the 85 legendary temples that once flourished under Brahmanism and Jainism."

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of

The report proposes an extension to the property because of new important findings which will open up a panorama of continuous development over a large period of time.

#### Status of Site Boundaries

- The demarcation line and buffer zone are not adequate.
- Extension of buffer zone is planned.

## II.3 Statement of Authenticity/Integrity

#### Status of Authenticity/Integrity

- Values and authenticity/integrity maintained.
- No changes to the authenticity/integrity foreseen.

## II.4 Management

an

property

important

continuous

#### Administrative and Management Arrangements

- The ASI needs co-operation from local authorities to enforce laws, in order for them to be properly implemented.
- Site protected by insufficient legal arrangements due to the lack of co-operation of enforcing agencies.
  - Overall management made at the local, regional and national levels. The above arrangements are considered sufficient.
  - No Management plan.
    - Actions foreseen in the future: a co-ordination committee constituted and a Khajuraho development plan framed.

#### **Present State of Conservation**

- No changes in authenticity of material, style, workmanship.
- Major conservation works carried out by the circle from 1986 to 2001-02.

#### Staffing and Training Needs

- Staff total number: 84 Staff at both regional and local levels, not sufficient to monitor the site. It is necessary to increase their number and enhance security.
- The staff needs training in conservation and management policy and practices, geophysical radar techniques and procedures in security.

#### **Financial Situation**

- Sources of funds from Central Government.
- Funding is sufficient. Expenditures on excavations made until 2000.
- \* International Assistance from WHF: none.

#### Access to IT

- 8 sets of computers, with email and Internet.
- No use of GIS.

#### Visitor Management

- 2001, 145,216 visitors.
- Various facilities available on site.
- Needed facilities: cafeteria, souvenir shop, parking, conference auditorium, and extension of museum, guesthouse, documentation centre, and interpretation centre.
- No public use tourism/visitor plan. This plan is needed to be part of the comprehensive management plan.
- Communication of WH values through: cultural awareness programmes including photo exhibition, debates and speech competition, essay and drawing competition.
- Educational programmes: school and college students are invited to participate in the cultural awareness programme. Lectures and talks are then delivered.
- Role of the inscription in the List of World Heritage: increase in tourism, increase in development activities, more research, more attention from authorities, better local awareness.

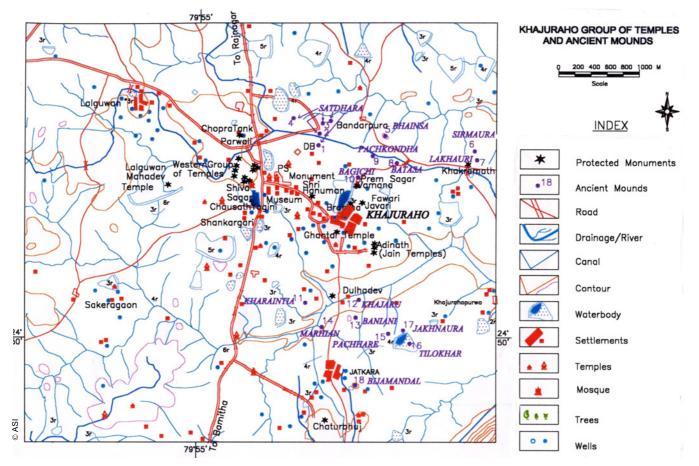
### **II.5 Factors Affecting the Property**

#### **Threats and Risks**

- Illegally constructed residential & commercial buildings in buffer zone, spoil the panorama.
- No notable natural disasters.
- Manageable visitor pressure.

#### **Counteractive Plans**

- No emergency plan.
- Threats managed by exercising legal options.
- Improvements needed: removing unauthorised constructions in the buffer-zone, more land for maintaining buffer area, land for site museum, improved security system, tourist inflow records maintained.
- Impacts of factors: decreasing.
- Measures adopted or planned: illegal constructions stopped, co-ordination committee constituted, land acquirement in final stages, plans to acquire more land around other temples.



Map of Kajuraho Group of Temples and Ancient Mounds

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## **II.6 Monitoring**

#### **Monitoring Arrangements**

- A monitoring system is in place: regular monitoring with inspection, note for further measures for implementation.
- Partners: no partners involved at present.
- Foreseen improvements: monitoring is presently done at a large area level, henceforth it will focus on smaller areas and if necessary, microscopic investigations will be carried out.

#### **Monitoring Indicators**

- No indicators.
- A formal monitoring system has been adopted.

# II.7 Conclusions and Recommended Actions

#### **Conclusions and Proposed Actions**

- Values: property unchanged. Its cultural integration has been enhanced by the exposition of archaeological remains within Khajuraho.
- Management and factors affecting the property: the comprehensive management plan is under consideration, but preliminary management plans are strictly followed.
- Future actions: take up conservation work, establish new site museum, excavations, more land for maintaining buffer zone, provision of security equipment systems, providing adequate signage.
- Timetable for the implementation of the Plans: 5 years.

### \* State of Conservation Reports

2000 Committee. WHC-2000/CONF.204//10 received Following information from ICOMOS/ICCROM international experts concerning illegal encroachment within the site, the World Heritage Centre requested ICOMOS to organise a Reactive Monitoring Mission. The ICOMOS expert was expected to undertake this Mission in October 2000, at the time of preparation of this working document. The findings and recommendations of the ICOMOS Mission will be presented to the Bureau at its 24<sup>th</sup> session.

The Bureau may wish to formulate a decision upon examining further information to be presented by ICOMOS at the 24<sup>th</sup> extraordinary session of the Bureau.