

Cultural Heritage Management – Assignment 10

1. Definitions

Stakeholder: A stakeholder is any individual or group that affects or is affected by decisions about a heritage place, including governments, communities, researchers, visitors, and businesses.

Rights holder: A rights holder is a person or community with legally or culturally recognized rights connected to a heritage site, such as Indigenous peoples or local communities.

People-centered heritage management: This approach places communities and their knowledge, values, and participation at the center of conservation and decision-making.

Capacity building: Capacity building means strengthening the skills, knowledge, institutions, and resources needed to manage and protect heritage effectively.

2. Analysis: Taj Mahal

The Taj Mahal demonstrates a largely values-based management approach. Conservation experts and archaeologists play an important role in protecting the monument, while tourism authorities balance visitor access with preservation. The site's cultural, historical, artistic, and symbolic values guide management decisions. Public interpretation, visitor facilities, and local economic benefits show some people-centered elements, but technical conservation remains central. Overall, the management combines expert knowledge with recognition of wider social and cultural values rather than relying exclusively on either approach.

References

- UNESCO World Heritage Centre. Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention.
- ICOMOS. The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance.
- ICCROM. People-Centred Approaches to the Conservation of Cultural Heritage.