



ICOMOS

Conseil International des Monuments et des Sites
International Council on Monuments and Sites

CIAV

NEWSLETTER

Number 42

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

NOV 2018



Iran

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Editorial

On this occasion CIAV Newsletter relate CIAV activities at the conference and meeting that took place in Tabriz, Iran. You may read the official report made by CIAV President Gisle Jakhelln.

With great pleasure we reproduce the first report from CIAV Iran, which was recently established.

Our dear colleague and friend Samir Abdulac have sent us a very interesting article about the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Maaloula, a damage vernacular village in Syria.

One of our readers, Rawiwan Oranratmanee from Thailand, have sent us a letter that we have been happy also to publish on this CIAV Newsletter.

Many others interesting news

We encourage our readers to send us news and articles about vernacular heritage in their countries and we thank all the collaboration with CIAV Newsletter.



We are also very glad to have enclosed the nice letter that was sent to us by our colleague Rawiwan Oranratmanee from Thailand.

Valeria Prieto

1. Greetings from the President Oct. 2018

CIAV
Comité Internationale d'Architecture Vernaculaire
International Committee on Vernacular Architecture



Greetings from the President

We have accomplished the CIAV scientific conference and Annual Meeting in Tabriz, Iran, 1st – 5th October thanks to Ali Malekabbasi's active initiative. Ali managed a very smooth organisation of all the technical elements! And thanks to Ali's enthusiastic approach and work for CIAV!

The VERNADOC camp, studying the Tabriz Bazaar, took place ahead of the conference during the days 15th – 30th September. This also was taken care of by Ali.

The last two days we all visited Kandovan Village, 1 ½ hours' drive south of Tabriz, staying overnight there. Kandovan is an interesting troglodyte settlement still used for living by the locals. Many of the caves have front buildings in stone and flat timber roofs. The visitors and tourists flock to Kandovan during the holidays threatening the life of the village as a traditional village based on the rural life - to become an artificial presentation of a society from the past.

Tabriz is an old cultural city with fascinating buildings from the 17th C up till to-day, being an important element on the Silk Road. The city has roots from the very earliest times. A very strong earthquake in 1772 destroyed most of the city, however, the older important buildings were rebuilt, as the Bazaar and the Blue Mosque. The traffic in the streets is terrible, especially for the pedestrians. But people manage somehow. A strong impression visiting Tabriz and Iran is the nice atmosphere and hospitality between everybody felt very strongly to us visitors. My personal difficulty was to handle the money and bills as the Iranian currency being Rials has too many figures on the notes, i.e. to pay for a taxi you give the driver a 100,000 Rial note, equivalent to 0.50 EUR roughly! The women's situation in the public was another element very different from what I have experienced in other countries: the dress code for women to wear head scarfs covering the hair and the neck with a cloak down to the knees and not showing bare feet.

Unfortunately there was no representation from ICOMOS Iran during the conference. Neither were there any members from the newly established National CIAV group. I hope these new members shall apply for CIAV International membership and take part in our exchange of thoughts and experiences.

Ali Malekabbasi and Dr. Talebian, the Deputy of Cultural Heritage of ICHHTO (Iran Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organisation) made these arrangements very successful.

As participant I was not able to notice any difficulty – everything worked as it should.

The conference took place at Tabriz Islamic Art University. We are very thankful for the hospitality from the university!

The main theme of the conference was Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development. 28 papers were presented. VERNADOC exhibited their work in the foyer of the conference hall during the days there.

There were roughly 120 participants during the presentations of the papers for the conference, from 13 countries.

We are very happy that the papers will be published by the university, as Maziar Asefi, Editor-in-Chief, writes 18th October:

“I am very delighted to inform you that according to our agreement with the organiser of the conference Mr. Malekabbasi, we are considering the papers presented at CIAV-ICOMOS-2018 for publication at the "International Journal of Innovation and Visionary in Architecture and Art" (IJIVA) after peer review process.”

At our **Annual Meeting** we were 25 persons present (of which two joined through Skype), from 15 countries. We were six Voting Members and all together 13 CIAV members present. We really had hoped to see CIAV members from Iran to join us. There were three Iranians present.

It was particularly nice that Rakan Sullaiman from Syria took part in the VERNADOC camp, the conference and the Annual Meeting having been sponsored from ICOMOS Norway for the travelling costs.

It was unfortunate that some CIAV members were rejected visa for visiting Iran. The Skype connection didn't function properly. (Hopefully this might be solved for our next meeting.)

The Annual Meeting resolved to utilize the three presented forms:

1. Guidelines to the Minimum Participation Requirements for CIAV Members
2. ICOMOS CIAV Members' Annual Activities Report Form
3. ICOMOS CIAV Membership Application Form

The next CIAV Conference and Annual Meeting will take place in Pingyao, Shanxi Province, China, either in August or, most probably, in June 2019, following the invitation from Shao Yong, ICOMOS China. The main conference theme will be Vernacular Architecture and Local

Development. The general ICOMOS scientific theme for 2019 will be included: Territory: World Rural Landscapes Initiative.

We are very grateful for the efforts made already by Shao Yong and her team in preparing next year's arrangement.

I hope to see very many of you, the CIAV members, there!

Bodö, 27th October 2018

Gisle Jakhelln
President CIAV

CIAV

President: Gisle Jakhelln, e-mail: gi-jakhe@online.no Secretariat:
Valeria Prieto, e-mail: valeriaprieto@hotmail.com

2. Report from CIAV President.

CIAV
Comité Internationale d'Architecture Vernaculaire
International Committee on Vernacular Architecture



PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2018

Bureau

President: Gisle Jakhelln

Vice Presidents: Valeria Prieto and Maria Inés Subercaseaux

Secretary General: Ivan Enev

Responsibilities

We have divided our tasks within the Bureau:

Valeria: Responsible for our Newsletter

Maria Inés: General support

Ivan Enev: Contact with our members, update of the list of members and activity register

Martin Čerňanský: Responsible for our website. Here we find our newsletter and other relevant information. Unfortunately the website has technical difficulties and is not been working this year. Hopefully this will be managed soon. Martin hopes to have more presentations to go onto the website. Please furnish him with notes and photos. Contact: cernansky@up.npu.cz

VERNADOC - working camps for the documentation of vernacular architecture

This is a very active field. Sudjit Sananwai is working closely with Markku Mattila. This year there has been five camps:

- 22nd November – 6th December 2017: Yazd, Iran, organised by Ali Malekabbasi and Deputy of ICHHTO with cooperation of Javad University of Yazd.
- ASA X SRW VERNADOC 2018, Valley of hope, Sungai Buloh settlement, Malaysia / by ASA & Suriwong group (12 participants from France, Portugal, Malaysia and Thailand) 01-17.03.2018
- Bali VERNADOC 2018, Pinggan village, Bali , Indonesia / by U.South Aultrali, Udayana U. & ASA (approx. 56 participants from Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand) 24.06-09.07.2018

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- ASA_CAN VERNADOC 2018, vernacular icon of BKK canal by ASA (9 participants from 3 institutes of Thailand) 16-29.08.2018
 - RSU VERNADOC 2018, old custom house, BKK by RSU, & Banana studio (approx. 35 participants from Thailand & Malaysia)
 - Bangka VERNADOC 2018, 2 Houses of Kampong Ulu, Muntok, West Bangka, Banga Belitung, Indonesia (28 participants from Indonesia, Lao P.D.R. & Thailand) 04-19.08.2018
 - exhibition & seminar for celebrating ASA VERNADOC X (10th year of ASA VERNADOC Exhibition) 01-06.05.2018
 - 15th – 30th September 2018: Bazaar District, Tabriz, Iran, organised by Ali Malekabbasi and ICHHTO.
 - Enrica Pieragostini to the “ITALIAN VERNADOC 2019 Montepandone”, just in the beginning of the year 2019.

Task force: “The threats facing cultural heritage in the Arab region”

Hossam Mahdy is organising the task force to study the situation in Yemen, Syria, Iraq and Libya and other Arab countries where huge dangers are facing the conservation of cultural heritage, particularly vernacular architecture.

Members

We are a total of 116 members (including 8 honorary members and 1 associate member) within CIAV in October 2018, from 50 countries/54 nationalities. (We were 128 members in September 2017.)

Secretary General Ivan Enev has this year made an effort to reach out for inactive members and encourage them to renew their presence in CIAV and to work on ideas to ensure CIAV members remain active and engaged. As part of this there have been drafted three documents: 1) CIAV Membership Application Form, 2) CIAV Members’ Annual Activities Report Form and 3) Guidelines to the Minimum Participation Requirements for ICOMOS CIAV Members.

Ivan also is working on an update of National Committee-designated Voting Members to CIAV.

Strategic Plan

Following our Strategic Plan we are, as usual, having our Annual Meeting together with our scientific conference and shall this year take place 1st – 3rd October in Tabriz, Iran, on the invitation of ICHHTO The Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts & Tourism Organization and with the support of ICOMOS Iran. The theme of the Scientific Conference in 2018 is

“Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development”. There will be a post conference tour to Kandovan village outside Tabriz 4th – 5th October.

Representation and meetings

Samir Abdulac is chair of ICOMOS Working Group for the safeguarding of cultural heritage in Syria and Iraq.

Ege Yildirim is ICOMOS Focal Point for the UN Sustainable Development Goals. She works on the theme ‘heritage as a driver of sustainability’.

CIAV supports the H2020 project called “Hidden: Underground historical areas: transdisciplinary risk reduction and reconstruction technologies to improve resilience to floods, earthquakes and climate change”, led by the University of Leeds (UK) and with the participation, among other universities and institutions of the Universitat Politècnica of València (Spain). Our CIAV members Fernando Vegas and Camilla Mileto are actively engaged in the project.

Publications

Valeria has presented three issues this year of the CIAV Newsletter. Our Newsletter is a very important source of inspiration and information to our members. Please continue to send presentations to Valeria.

The website is also an important link and information with our members. Unfortunately the website has had technical problems and has not been working most of this year. However, we hope it will be available very soon. As mentioned earlier Martin is doing a perfect job following up on the website.

Marwa Dabaieh has taken over from Miles Lewis as editor of the book on all the presentations from the CIAV scientific conference in 2012 in al Ain, UAE. The main theme of the conference was “The Place of the Vernacular Built Heritage in a Rapidly Changing Context”. The publication is now at the printing office.

Markku Mattila, Ildikó Lehtinen and Maria Lennox have published “Pre VERNADOC 1997-98 Tšuajevo Birska Baškiriya”, printed in Länkipohja 2018, presenting the building traditions in Tšurajevo village of Mari people (Finn-Ugor tribe) in Bashkortostan, Russia. The text is in Finnish only.

Christoph Machat and ICOMOS Germany work on a publication of the papers given at the CIAV conference in Lübeln, Germany, in 2016. This is expected presented in 2018.

Encyclopedia of Vernacular Architecture of the World, 2nd Edition. Editor is Marcel Vellinga, Research Lead, Oxford Brooks University, UK. This is an update and supplemented edition of the earlier book. CIAV is here presented by an article by Gisle Jakhelln. Publication is expected in 2019.

Borut Juvanec has presented the exhibition “Zvonice – belfy, glockenturm, harangláb, zvonik” together with Faculty of Architecture, Ljubljana University. CIAV supports this work.

For me it is a pleasure working with this new CIAV Bureau team - and inspiring to receive feedback from all the active CIAV members.

Gisle
12th September 2018

CIAV
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3. Presentation. CIAV Scientific Conference 2018. Tabriz, Iran

CIAV
Comité Internationale d'Architecture Vernaculaire
International Committee on Vernacular Architecture



20th September 2018

CIAV

Scientific Conference 2018

Introduction

Monday 1st October 2018 09:40 – 10:00

Tabriz, Iran

Presentation: GJ – architect living in Northern Norway. President of CIAV

The International Committee on Vernacular Architecture (CIAV) is a scientific committee within ICOMOS (International Committee on Monuments and Sites), ICOMOS is a non-governmental international organisation dedicated to the conservation of the world's monuments and sites.

ICOMOS is an advisory body to the World Heritage Committee for the implementation of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention.

CIAV is an international platform for the dialogue and cooperation between professionals, experts, academics and students of vernacular heritage. We work primarily through our annual meetings and scientific conferences. CIAV fosters discussions and activities on national and regional levels.

We consist of members with established expertise in the field of vernacular architecture.

The annual conferences are held to exchange experiences and new knowledge among its members. This is of utmost importance in order to further develop the competences in these fields of work. The term vernacular architecture, as defined by CIAV, includes a great variety of building types and sites, making it necessary to have knowledge in nearly all kinds of building constructions.

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CIAV aims to ensure a multidisciplinary approach to the vernacular heritage by encouraging interaction between different disciplines within the framework of the annual CIAV scientific meetings and through CIAV membership. Establishing strategic alliances with other ICOMOS International Scientific Committees (ISC) whose field of work is represented in vernacular architecture is an important aspect, as working with the International Committee on Wood (IICW) and the International Committee on Earthen Architectural Heritage (ISCEAH) – of high actuality this year!

This aim is stated in our Strategic Plan and has been followed up through our scientific conferences.

Thus in 2012 CIAV collaborated with ISC Earthen Architectural Heritage (ISCEAH), ISC Analysis and Restoration of Structures of Architectural Heritage (ISCARSAH) and Abu Dhabi Tourism & Culture Authority (TCA Abu Dhabi), organised by CIAV UAE. The theme of the conference was “The place of vernacular built heritage in a rapidly changing context”. The conference took place in al Ain, Abu Dhabi, UAE.

In 2013 the conference took place in Vila Nova de Cerveira, Portugal. The theme was Contribution of Vernacular Architecture to Sustainable Development. This was a joint conference with ISC Earthen Architectural Heritage (ISCEAH) and PROTERRA, an organization for earthen architecture.

In 2014 the conference was part of ICOMOS General Assembly in Florence, Italy. The overall theme was cultural landscapes. CIAV arranged a joint meeting and excursions with ISC Wood (IICW) and ISC Analysis and Restoration of Structures of Architectural Heritage (ISCARSAH).

In 2015 the conference took place in Bangkok, Thailand. Here the theme was timber heritage and cultural tourism – values, innovation and visitor management. This was a joint conference with Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, and ICOMOS Thailand.

The conference in 2016 took place in Lübeln, Wendland, Germany. It focused on the cultural landscape of the Wendland circular villages with conservation and rehabilitation of the vernacular heritage. This was a joint conference with The State

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Conservation Office of Lower Saxony Samtgemeinde Lüchow (Wendland),
Samtgemeindebürgermeister Niedersächsisches Landesamt für Denkmalpflege,
Hannover, Cottbus Technical University and ICOMOS Germany.

Last year, in 2017, the conference was part of ICOMOS General Assembly in Delhi, India. The overall theme was Democracy and Heritage. We had an interesting one-day visit to Neemrana Village, south of Delhi.

CIAV's work on protecting the vernacular built heritage is based on widening the understanding on identity (with loss of traditions and collective memory), threats to identity and tradition, loss of intangible knowledge, and recognition of vernacular architecture as heritage value for the people.

We offer support for the cause of conservation for vernacular architecture around the world on different levels: international, regional, national and local. This may be moral support or exercising pressure to save endangered buildings and built heritage. It may also be technical support on international level to UNESCO and NGO's such as World Monuments Fund (WMF) and national and local levels to relevant authorities and organizations upon request.

VERNADOC, working camps for the documentation of vernacular architecture. is an active branch of CIAV, initiated by Markku Mattila. The purpose is to have documentation drawings of buildings done on site. The first VERNADOC was in 2005 in Längelmäki, Finland.

Since 2005 VERNADOC camps have been organised in 10 different countries (Estonia, Finland, Indonesia, Italia, Malaysia, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Thailand, United Arab Emirates) – and this year in Iran. All together these camps have had over 1,000 participants, from twenty-one nationalities and three continents, using twenty-one languages, eight different writing systems and representing more than ten different religions/philosophies.

CIAV was founded in 1976 following a resolution from the international conference for the conservation of vernacular architecture held in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, the year before. Our first president was Professor Rachelle Anguelova PhD, from Bulgaria.

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There were twelve founding members from the twelve national committees (countries) and an additional ten associate members.

To-day we are 116 members (including eight honorary members and one associate member), from 50 countries/54 nationalities.

CIAV's field of work is wide. Over the years the committee has learned to enlarge its understanding of what 'vernacular' is; from single farmsteads and traditional village units to urban vernacular areas and settlements, Banaue, Philippines, to cultural landscape areas, and the links between the vernacular heritage and the geomorphologic conditions of the landscape.

Finally:

Climate change is more and more an urgent matter to be taken in consideration everywhere. However, mostly of the countries are not well prepared to take good decisions to put the right amount of money in research and real actions to reduce the impact of the climate change in nature, cities and vernacular architecture.

CIAV is in close contact with ISC on Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change, bearing in mind that vernacular architecture is in many ways a key to understanding energy efficiency.

This theme will also be commented on during this year's conference.

The program for this conference seems to present very many aspects of the vernacular built heritage - with inputs from many different cultures. I am very much looking forward to listen to the presentations.

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I take this opportunity to thank the organisers ICHHTO, The Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts & Tourism Organization, with the support of ICOMOS Iran. With special thanks to Ali Malekabbasi who took the initiative for getting us here and who has been active - and lately occupied with all the complications that pops up for such an arrangement the last weeks.

I wish you all an interesting and active conference!
Thank you.

Gisle Jakhelln, 21.09.2018

CIAV

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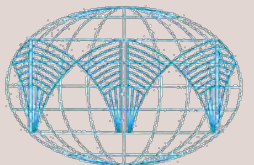
4. First Report. Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture. CIAV IRAN 2018



ICOMOS IRAN

Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture

The First Report (Formation of CIAV-IRAN) - Summer 2018



موسسه فرهنگی ای‌کوموس ایران



**Scientific Committee on
Vernacular Architecture- First
report (Formation of CIAV-IRAN)-
Summer 2018**

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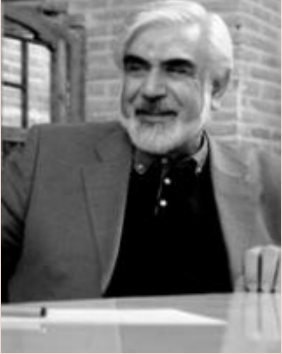
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Statement of the First Meeting of ICOMOS Iran Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture



Dr. Mahdi Hodjat
President of ICOMOS Iran

On the Nature of Vernacular Architecture

Vernacular architecture has been the subject of various, widespread discussions. But what is “vernacular architecture”? In posing this question, we should not overlook the question of architecture itself and take it as granted. If we understand the true meaning of “architecture” the concept of “vernacular” changes accordingly and remarkably, leading us in the direction of the committee’s goals; that is, in its simplest form, the fact that architecture is neither the “architect” nor the “work of architecture”, but the evaluation of how well the human needs and demands adapt to the capacities of the environment.

If we put aside the idea of architecture as buildings or as designing buildings according to the whims of the architect, be it his material or spiritual inclinations, and instead, consider the architect as someone determining people’s material and spiritual needs and exposing hidden and evident opportunities found in nature; someone who makes use of



• Ghale Bala Village- Semnan Province
Photo by: Nasim Asgari



• Rural Buildings- Gilan Province
Photo by: Siavosh Saberi



• A Nomadic tent in Gilan-e Gharb - Kermanshah Province
Photo by: Mohammad Javad Najafian

the materials, substances, light, sound, rhythm, and all such possibilities to meet those needs and demands, then architecture becomes twofold: on the one hand there is the human needs and demands and on the other hand the possibilities the nature has to offer in order to fulfill the mentioned requirements.

The sources on vernacular architecture have mostly focused on this second aspect, in which the environmental means, in the form of vernacular architecture, satisfy the human needs. The reason behind this approach is our ability to exploit the lands, areas and regions and their riches. But we should never forget that man changes when he/she settles in different environments, and thus desire different things.

For instance, the spatial proportions designed for someone living in Bushehr [a southern port in Iran] could differ from those suitable for the inhabitants of more confined cities of central Iran, as they are corresponding to his inherent openness and his vast surroundings. That is why we should not consider a work of architecture only in terms of its form, constructed through the employment of some technical knowledge about the combination of materials. Preserving such a structure could by no means be deemed as preservation of “vernacular architecture”.

What there is, i.e. conditions set by the environment, affects people, shapes their desires and changes their outlook on life.

We are all affected by a kind of cultural uniformity, imposed by the media and the huge economic mechanisms behind it. The downside to such uniformity is the loss of all intricacies and subtleties specific to each land, and all the taste and sensitivity there. Despite some attempts to endorse



• A Mosque in Tis Village - Chabahar—Sistan Va Baluchestan Province
Photo by: Amir Masood Nakhaei Sharif

• A Mosque in Tafresh- Markazi Province
Photo by: Atefeh Amraei



• A Traditional House- Laft- Hormozgan Province
Photo by: Atefeh Amraei

such uniformity, it is in fact a serious problem, a menace to vernacular architecture.

Preserving vernacular architecture as such, means to protect the various lifestyles established in every part of the country, with regard to their characteristics, beauties and intricacies. If we succeed at protecting the content, then the container is saved as well. Preserving vernacular architecture signifies the understanding of the human conditions and its subtleties in each and every region. Just like the economic, material and technological issues, vernacular architecture is extensively complicated.

We should primarily attend to the soul of a land rather than its body. Indeed, the focus of the vernacular architecture committee is the soul and they will endeavor to save all aspects of our vernacular regions and ensure their endurance. Today the real threat is neglecting what actually is going on in our various cultural fields. We are embellishing our lands to conform with the taste of the tourists.

It is a futile attempt to save the mere form of buildings for the future, just turning them into some sort of a theme park, whereas the next generations do not get to inherit any of their vernacular properties like cuisine, confectionery, accents, dialects and such. That is why the committee should take into account two main issues: The first issue is what we actually consider to be architecture; bearing in mind that it is the needs, the demands, and the environmental capacities that constitute architecture. The other is understanding and acknowledging people, their nature, their qualities, and their subtleties, that prevails in all vernacular regions.

If we truly understand these cultural manifestations and study them



• Nomadic Houses in Shimbar– Khuzestan Province
Photo by: Afroz Tahmasebi

• Rural Houses- Chahar Mahal-e-Bakhtiari Province
Photo by: Siavosh Saberi



• Ghale Saryazd (Fortress)- Yazd Province
Photo by: Afroz Tahmasebi

carefully, we will see that protecting vernacular architecture, in fact means defending the very right of these regions to exist. It shows our will to let them survive and flourish, not merely embellishing or preserving a dead shell. We must truly empower them to survive and live on.



- Asbadhaye Nashtifan (Windmills)- Khorasan Razavi Province
Photo by: Zohreh Khezri

- Massuleh Village- Gilan Province
Photo by: Mehdi Vosugh Nia



Dr. Siavosh Saberi
ICOMOS Iran Member, Head of CIAV-IRAN

Formation of CIAV-IRAN

A number of experts and members of ICOMOS Iran submitted a proposal for the establishment of a scientific committee on Iranian vernacular architecture in early 2018. Following the agreement and approval of the board, the committee was officially established in cooperation with some affiliated members and interested individuals. Mr. Siavosh Saberi and Ladies: Afsaneh Jebrielzadeh, Afrooz Tahmasebi and Bahareh Allahdadi have participated in establishing of the committee. The founder members of the committee hold PhD And MA degrees in architecture and restoration and they have profound professional backgrounds in the field of restoration and urban and architectural management. Due to increasing activities, the committee invited two new members to join the founding team: Ms. Atefeh Amraei and Ms. Zobeydeh Bayat, holders of architectural expertise in the field of “architecture and energy” (MA & PhD candidate).

- Dulab Village - Kordestan Province
Photo from Hawramanat Cultural Heritage Base





- Tabas- South Khorasan Province
Photo from: Yaqub Daneshdoust (1990). Once there was a town, called Tabase. p 21,22.



Afsaneh Jebreil Zadeh



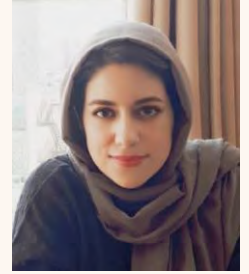
Bahareh Allahdadi



Afrooz Tahmasebi



Zobeydeh Bayat



Atefeh Amraei

It took no less than 30 sessions in order to finalize the objectives, approaches, and basic definitions of the committee. The related documents were presented to ICOMOS Iran board and after receiving the approval of the board, statement of establishing of the committee, containing the objectives, approaches, overall plan, and first year plan was issued. The secretariat of the national committee published the announcement in the committee's website and social networks, and consequently about two hundred individuals showed interest by sending e-mails. At this stage they were kindly asked to inform us that how and in what capacity they would like to cooperate with the committee. To make the process as easy as possible, we provided our audience with prepared forms to fill in. We received about 120 forms and so started our mission. Now the committee has almost the same number of members.

In this phase, ICOMOS Iran Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture does not have any special restrictions (i.e. age, education, occupation, etc.) in accepting members. We believe in this, because we also believe that vernacular architecture is fully understood by the presence of all aspect of human life, studied by experts



• Masuleh Village- Gilan Province
Photo by: Atefeh Amraei

from various disciplines, but also with the help of people in direct and deep connection with the forgotten or even neglected aspects of the common lived experience.

Fortunately the diversity of our members in many aspects is in harmony with our belief. To give a few examples, our members' age is between 24 to over 60 years old. They have a variety of specializations including architecture, architectural restoration, urban restoration, restoration of cultural monuments and they have various professional backgrounds related to the tradition of Iranian architecture, photography, etc. Many of them are holders of BA, MS, and PhD degrees and some of them despite not having any academic background, are among experienced craftsmen. There are faculty members of the universities, among our members, as well as students, and many individuals who are active in public and private sectors.

The enrollment process initiated with the primary identification of volunteers to cooperate with the committee. Since many of them were not members of Iranian cultural institute of ICOMOS, following the committee request, institute approved gradual admission in order to facilitate the admission process through financial support by means of financial burden reduction, aiming to encourage volunteers' cooperation.

Concurrent with the growth of membership rate, the committee introduced its executive workgroups based on the pre-planned schema and in accordance with its members' interests and potentials. Subsequent of board's confirmation of working groups' topics and agenda, committee engaged in correspondence with all members in regard to the declaration of their preferred workgroup to cooperate and also their proposed timetable for its execution. Correspondingly, three teams



• Urban Houses in Gorgan - Golestan Province
Photo by: Siavosh Saberi

were founded: Studies and research, documentation, monitoring and archiving, and training and promotion. In this step, a detailed agenda of each team is prepared and sent to its members.

Moreover, at this stage, reading materials on the vernacular concept in addition to the translation of some relevant texts and also ICOMOS charter on vernacular architecture were sent to every member. Considering the important role of nomadic architecture in the formation of Persian civilization architecture and in response to the committee chairman's request, a specialized workgroup under the title of nomadic (temporary) architecture was established. The Iranian committee on Vernacular architecture aims to propose this concept through an essay to the ICOMOS, after the documents' compilation and consolidation.

Within three months of the committee formation, specialized work groups have their priorities to start the cooperation. Studies and research team has sought to identify Persian references in the field of vernacular architecture; documentation, monitoring and archiving team has started to collect relevant documents, and training and promotion team has taken steps to identify enthusiasts to hold scientific meetings with the aim of reviewing those studies and researches which have already been conducted in this field.

On the 6th September 2018, in response to the request of the members, the first meeting of the Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture of Iran, took place at the office of the ICOMOS Iran in Tehran, attended by over fifty volunteers, as well as the president and deputy of the institute, number of the committee heads and mass-media reporters. Due to the start of the academic year and the



• Rural House in Saravan Village- Gilan Province
Photo by: Afsaneh Kargar

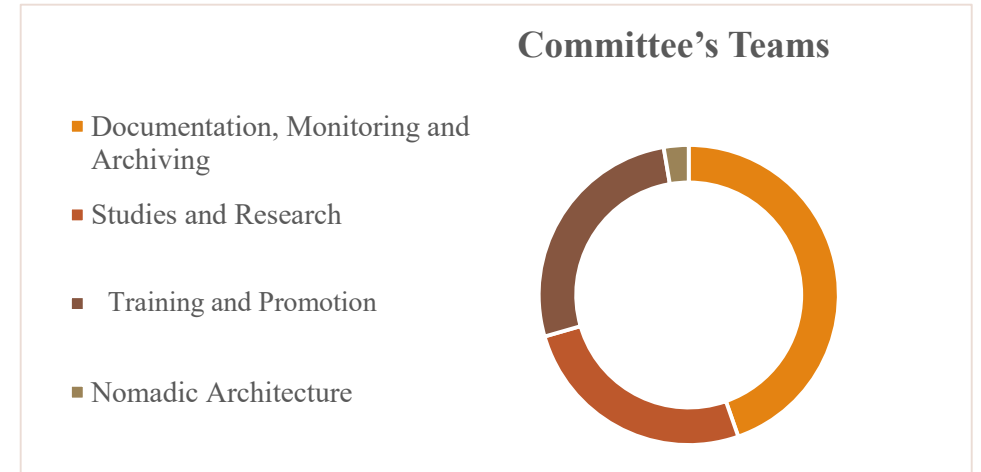
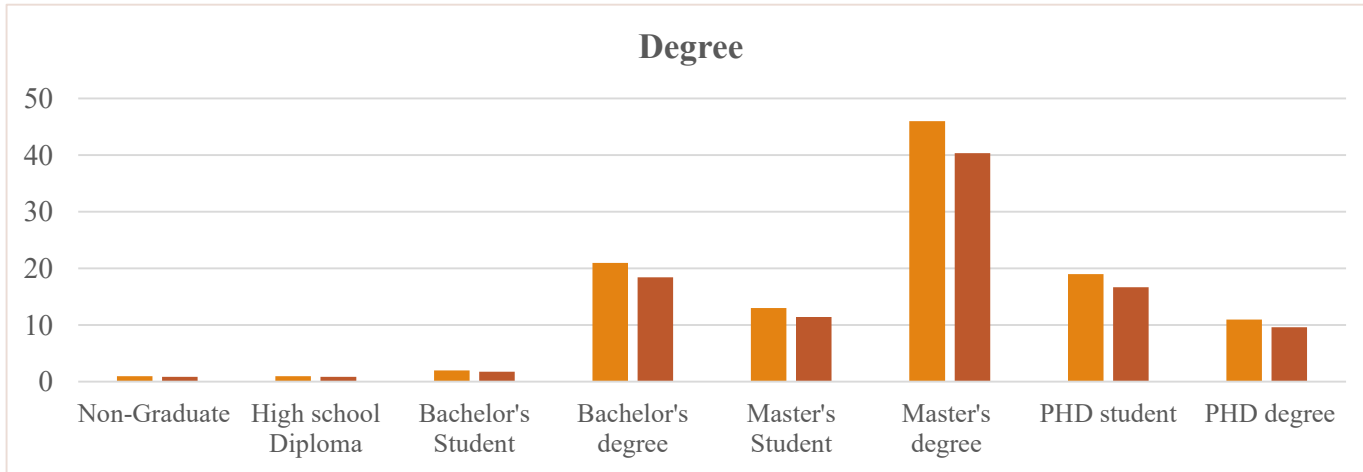
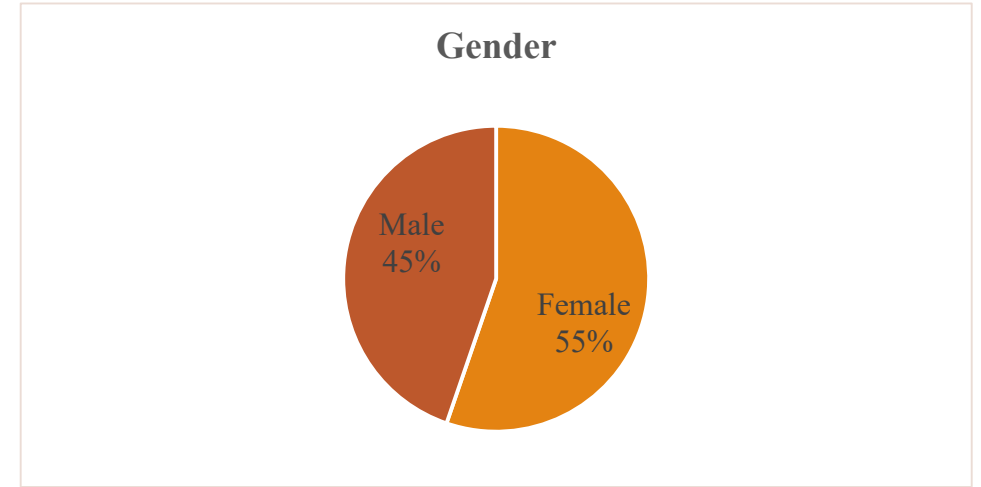
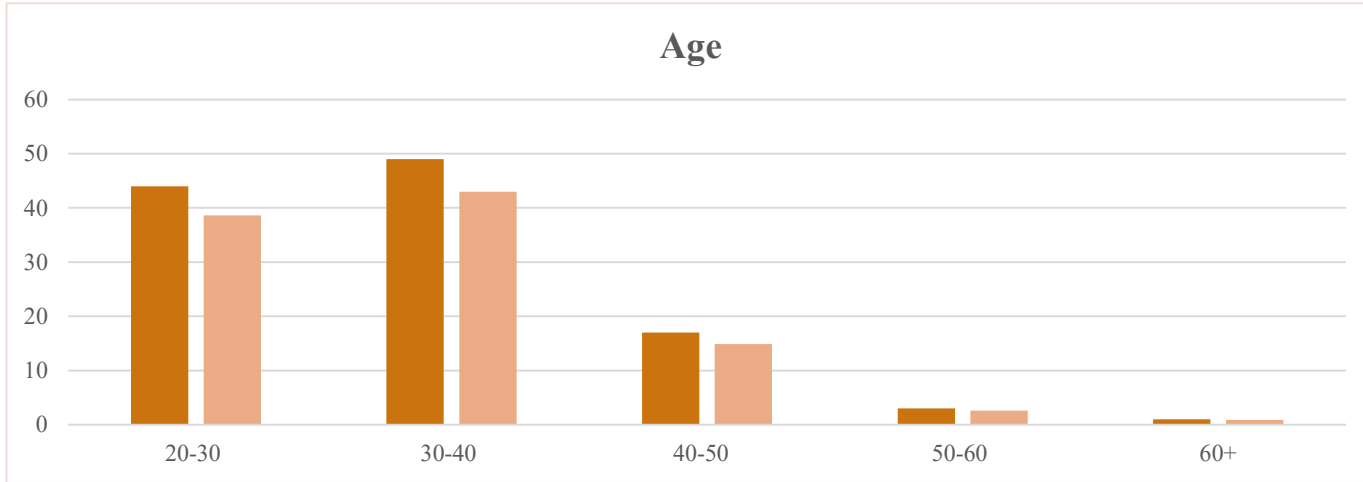
involvement of members in educational institutions as well as proximity to the cold season and traffic challenges, it was decided that a meeting would be convened as soon as possible, with at least one-third of members' participation. At the mentioned session and after the speech delivery of head of the ICOMOS IRAN on the concept of vernacular architecture, the officials of the committee elaborated on the formation process, theoretical foundations, the similarity and difference between the concept of "vernacular architecture" and its Persian equivalent, as well as the teams schedule and the quantitative and qualitative analysis of the volunteers' statistical indicators.

Subsequently, in a collective conversation with the presence of deputy director and members of the committee, the audience's opinions were heard, their suggestions were received and the issues of interest were disputed and finally, the statement of the committee annexed to this report was read, approved, applauded and signed by the attendants. Subsequently, a set of the pencil and the booklet (eco-friendly) marked with the ICOMOS logo and committee title was bestowed to each of participants. In the next few days, an illustrated report was sent to absent members and their statement's confirmation was received through email.

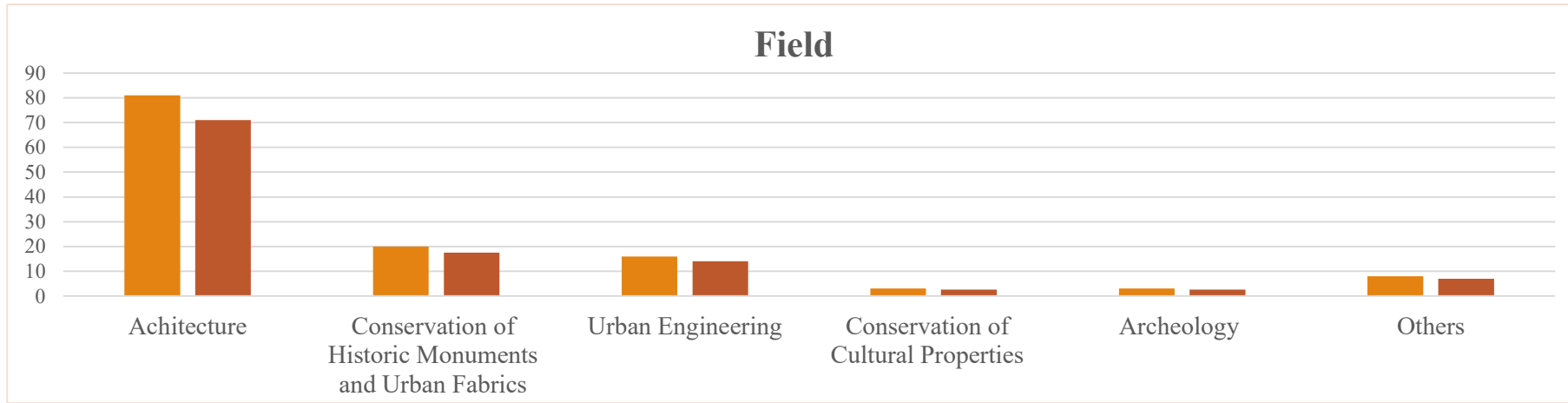
The committee hopes that, in the event of the support and cooperation of the ICOMOS, ICOMOS IRAN can accomplish its mission on protection and propagation of the humane, scientific and artistic values of vernacular architecture in Iran's cultural sphere. It is also prepared to provide favorable circumstances for the empowerment of local communities in preserving this community capital and participate in Outstretching of this endeavor at a regional and global scale.

Statistical Analysis of Committee Members' Attributes - (Up to Sep.28th 2018)

Number of Members: 114



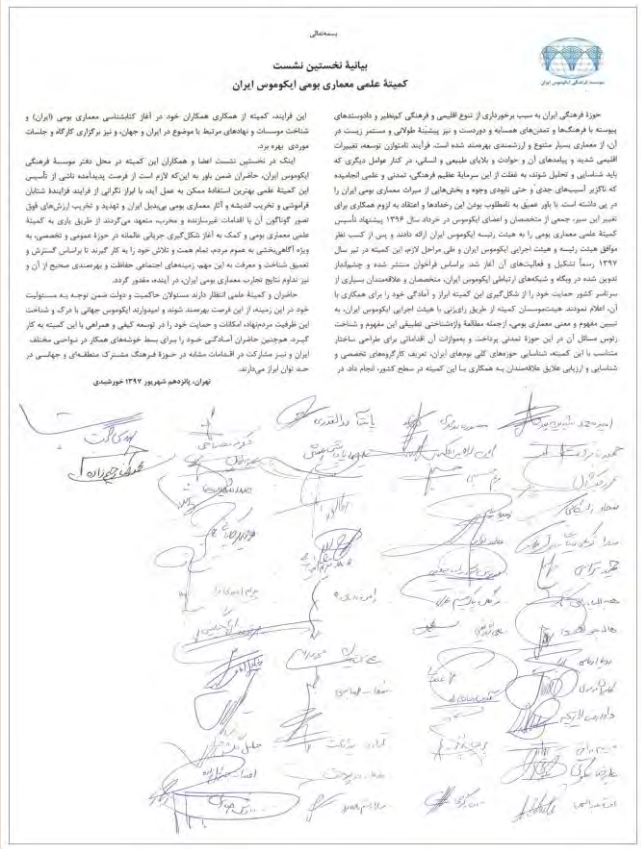
Statistical Analysis of Committee Members' Attributes - (Up to Sep.28th 2018)



Occupation										
University Student	Architectural/ Urban/ Restoration Designer	Academic Staff and Lecturer	Employee	Researcher	Journalist	Photographer	Sculptor and Painter	Travel Guide	Others	
32	31	27	16	7	2	1	1	1	14	Number
28.1	27.2	23.7	14.0	6.1	1.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	12.3	Percentage

Statement of the First Meeting of ICOMOS Iran Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture

Tehran, Sep. 6th 2018



Iranian cultural Geography owes its rich diversity to Iran's long history, its diverse climate and culture, and continual cultural trade with neighboring and distant cultures and civilizations. In the previous century, uneven development processes, dramatic climate change, and natural and human-caused disasters (defining factors that have to be identified and analyzed) have led to the neglect of this huge cultural, civilizational, and scientific wealth. Consequently, Iranian vernacular architecture heritage has been exposed to severe damage and destruction. With sincere belief in changing and redeeming these unfavorable circumstances, in June 2017 a number of experts and members of ICOMOS Iran proposed to the board to establish the Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture in Iran. Following the approval of the board and of ICOMOS Iran, the Scientific Committee was officially formed in July 2018. Experts across the country responded to our official call on ICOMOS Iran web site and its social media outlets for cooperation and expressed their support for the formation of the Scientific Committee. The committee's founding board, in consultation with the board of ICOMOS Iran, expounded the concept and meaning of vernacular architecture, including its comparative terminological study and defining concepts in the Iranian civilization.

Subsequently, the committee was properly structured to identify the general areas of regional Iranian architecture, define specialized working groups, and assess the interests of those who are intent on cooperating with the committee nationwide. In this process, the committee benefited from the cooperation of its colleagues who were responsible for holding workshops and case meetings, as well as compilation of bibliography of Iranian vernacular architecture and research on relevant working institutions in Iran and worldwide. In the first meeting, which was held at the ICOMOS Iran bureau in Tehran, the members and colleagues of the committee expressed concern regarding the rapid and continued negligence and damage to the unique vernacular architectural heritage of Iran. Believing that it is necessary to make the best use possible of the opportunity created by the establishment of this scientific committee, the members are fully committed to redeem the aforementioned unfavorable circumstances and neglect through initiating a scientific movement to inform popular and scholarly awareness, particularly by educating the general public. The committee hopes that understanding the depth and extent of this cause, as well as proper protection and utilization of strategies, will culminate in continued rich experiences of Iran's vernacular architecture in the

Statement of the First Meeting of ICOMOS Iran Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture

Tehran, Sep. 6th 2018



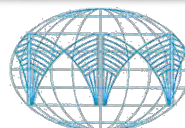
future. The Scientific Committee expects government authorities to assume and continue to regard their responsibility in this matter. The committee also hopes that ICOMOS International, as a non-government organization, will offer its support for qualitative development of the cause. The committee also announces its willingness to expand partnership clusters in different regions of Iran, as well as collaboration in international common culture.

First meeting of ICOMOS Iran Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture, Tehran-September 6th, 2018





**The First Meeting of ICOMOS Iran Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture
Tehran, Sep. 6th 2018
(Photo: Khalil Emami)**



انجمن علمی معماری بومیان ایران

Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture - First report (Formation of CIAV-IRAN)

Layout Design by: Atefeh Amraei

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5. Maaloula visit.

About a recent visit to Maaloula

Rehabilitation and reconstruction of a damaged vernacular village in Syria.

by Samir ABDULAC

Importance of Maaloula as a case Study

The war in Syria brought terrible losses and suffering to its population. Many urban and rural areas were largely destroyed, including historical areas. International funding for reconstruction is still lacking and guidance for comprehensive plans are still lacking including in World Heritage cities like Aleppo. Reconstruction has however started in some places, even at a small scale. The visit and study of such endeavours would therefore help to understand existing processes and to draw lessons from its strengths as well as its possible shortcomings.

Presentation of Maaloula

Maaloula is a picturesque colourful village located about 50 km to the North East of Damascus, overlooking a fertile valley in the Qalamoun mountains. It has a population of a few thousand persons in winter that increased to 5,000 in summer. The inhabitants belong to the Greek Orthodox Church, to the Melkite Catholic Church or are Sunni Moslems. Aramaic, the language of Christ, is still spoken among them, which is considered as a sort of intangible living heritage. The site features caves from prehistoric times and a few convents and churches (like St Takla, St Elie, St Sarkis and Bacchus).

Traditional houses have 60 to 80 cm thick walls built with barely squared stones agglomerated in mortar. External and internal facing layers with a rubble infill are often used. Local wooden beams support roofs. Supporting arches were sometimes used internally and/or externally. A light blue tinted rendering was usually externally applied. Unfortunately new concrete houses appeared during last decades. The site was included on the World Heritage Tentative List in 1999. Some street arrangements adapted to the relief were undertaken before the war started in 2011.

The village was repeatedly invaded by al Nusra (al Qaida) Islamist rebels in September and December 2013. After a few murdering of civilians and a nuns kidnapping, most of the Christian population fled to Damascus. Religious buildings, houses and icons have suffered from intentional destruction and fighting. Rebels were not dislodged by Government troops before April 2014.

A clearing of the streets was undertaken by the UNDP and a general inventory carried out by the Baroudi (formerly Chaillot) Restoration Unit at the University of Damascus. The evaluation took into account three scales: demolished, damaged and good condition. Traditional restorations are supervised by the DGAM were undertaken so as to assess involved costs. Subsidies were provided to inhabitants for their restoration works. The church domes of St Sarkis, St George and St Elie were restored as well as typical houses.

The French association *SOS Chrétiens d'Orient* provides volunteers and funding to wine production, a debess (grape jelly) factory and particularly to micro-economic projects: a baker, a carpenter, a marquetry craftsman, a pharmacist, an accountant, and a café-restaurant. UNDP is also involved in redevelopment of activities.

The Christian population who went for shelter in Damascus and elsewhere has long been afraid of a return of the jihadists.

A recent visit

We already went to Maaloula several times. Our last visit was nine years ago. We went to Maaloula last May in a small lorry provided by the Directorate General of Antiquities and Museums (DGAM) together with a team of two architects from the DGAM geographical unit (Rif Dimashq) in charge of Maaloula, headed by Jihad Abu Kahla, accompanied by Ali Salameh. We got there on 13 May after a peaceful journey and several stops at military checkpoints.

Once arrived, we directly met Mr. Naji Wahbeh, the young mayor at his office, who explained the situation as well the on-going reconstruction process. He explained that about 300 families live now in the city, including 100 in the old village. 1,500 persons have returned from a total of 3,000 before the armed conflict.

Out of a total of 200 houses, the municipality has provided 80 rehabilitation permits for small or middle scaled repairs. 5 reconstruction permits were attributed and additional 5 ones are on the way. The Government provides incentives of 30% (that

may reach 50% for church properties) as well as tax exemptions. Contacts with the University of Damascus are continuous. He confirmed international (UNDP) and foreign (French, Italian and Swedish NGOs) involvement in reconstruction and redevelopment.

Coming projects include a dispensary, a kindergarten, primary schools, a secondary one and redesigning the main square.

We all visited the nicely restored St Takla tomb and chapel in a large cave, as well as the adjoining convent and St Sarkis monastery, further away. Their design and structure looks late 19th or early 20th century. The domes are however traditionally built and restored with bricks and covered with metal sheets. The nuns and monks are now waiting for furniture to move in. We met father Abdullah al Hamidiyeh a Maronite priest.

We also visited the old village with its winding steeply streets. The Municipality pays attention to the pavement, the evacuation of rainwater and to the burying of electricity cables. Public lighting should soon be provided with solar energy (Caritas and Red Cross).

A joint commission from the Municipality and the DGAM supervises all works. It provides advisory services and building permits for usual repairs and small extensions. Reconstruction permits require however the intervention of a specialised private architect. We met one of them. The requirements are rather simple. No concrete is allowed in houses. Walls should be built with traditional stone masonry and wooden beams should support roofs.

We observed the DGAM team in action with their paper files discussing design and construction details with members of the local population, directly on the ground. Restoration may not be the adequate word, but the general aim is to keep the original volumetric and spirit with traditional building materials.

Interim conclusions

The characteristics of the site and of its population are exceptional. To keep its cultural character and to encourage the return of the community, through small-scale operations, were quite a challenge.

To complete this case study, a much longer visit would however be necessary, with

more comprehensive surveys. The early findings of this visit seems however quite positive from human, architectural and development points of view. Various and sustainable aspects are taken into account. Multi-aspects national, foreign and international assistance seems to have combined in a rather limited period of time.

Such an endeavour should demonstrate how well considered and guided national structures may adapt and respond to extreme situations. This project is still not complete of course, but the results are encouraging and we strongly hope it will continue to be successful.

At a much larger scale than Maaloula and other individual presented examples, when taking the whole country into account, adequate management, planning and technical skills and resources would be needed, as well as a huge national reconstruction investment and massive foreign as international financial assistance. The challenges would then be increasingly greater. Community participation should also be considered as a must at all stages, particularly in order to avoid any suspicion of population cleansing.

Paris, 30 October 2018



St Takla Chapel and Tomb, May 2018 - © s.abdulac



Damaged dome, 2014 - © dgam



Restored dome of St Sarkis (St Serge), May 2018- © s.abdulac



Restored monastery of St Serge and Bacchus, May 21018 - © s.abdulac

6. Rawiwan letter to CIAV Newsletter

Dear Gisle and Valeria,

Thank you very much for this newsletter. It is a great work as always.
If you don't mind, may I forward to ICOMOS (Thailand) too

Best wishes,

Rawiwan Oranratmanee

24/07/2018

7. Åse Tveitnes, new member from Norway

As one of the newer members of CIAV, I am encouraged by our dedicated editor to write a brief presentation of my experiences in vernacular architecture.

Educational background:

Master in architectural heritage, Aarhus School of Architecture;
Cand.Polit. in social anthropology, University of Bergen;
Bachelor's degree in building engineer, Oslo and Akershus University College.

Professional Experience:

Twenty-two years of experience in conservation management and project work related to building heritage.



Åse Tveitnes

Senior architect, built heritage
Estate and facilities management
University of Bergen

CIAV Norway

ICOMOS Norway, member of the
board



Member of CIAV

My first meeting with CIAV International was in Delhi in December 2017, where I benefited greatly from attending the annual meeting and on the interesting study trip along with many of you. Site visits with discussion and a regular flow of newsletters have convinced me that CIAV is an arena where I can further my knowledge and understanding of our built heritage with a focus on vernacular architecture. Maybe my knowledge, perspective and experience, as I will briefly present to you, can contribute to CIAV's efforts to preserve the world's multifaceted vernacular architecture.

The base

Already in my adolescence, I became interested in how our built environment is relevant when people meet, how houses can be symbolic markers that communicate both identity and status.

The social organization of my homestead Ålvik, a small industrial town on the West Coast of Norway, clearly reflected in the building's architecture: the separation of workers' apartments from the supervisor's small chalets and the bosses' stylish villas. The house was both home and a stigma; with career advancement the family had to change address. The house was of course the safe framework around my family life, a place to come home *to*, but also a place to come *from*. My early experience was that the built environment largely defined my local community's social life as well as me. Vernacular architecture created a sense of belonging to the place.





Learning by living

As part of my Cand. Polit. degree in social anthropology, I got the opportunity to study what I had experienced at my homestead. I lived in two Bamabra villages in Mali and studied vernacular architecture and everyday life for one year (1993-94).

I define in my studies, inspired by the early Norwegian social scientist Eilert Sundt (1817- 1875), the concept of vernacular architecture (*byggeskikk*) to have a threefold content: the first relates to the physical layout of the building, use of material and handcraft. The second is about how the building is used, and the third is about changes - changes in the building itself and changes in usage.

One of the locations of my field studies was a small rural village. Courtyards and houses were all made from mudbricks with earth plaster, greenery, hall and the central towering mosque from the older technique of wet earth construction.



Through participant observation, surveys and conversations about the subject: the house, I discovered in this environment, a myriad of structuring and social factors that gave me the knowledge and understanding of the interaction of these people in everyday life.

My observations taught me about a specific Bambara-costume for house planning, housebuilding, furnishing and use. The house as a symbolic form reflect, express and form the social relationship among household members, kin, neighbors and more distant social partners.

Vernacular architecture was a source of knowledge in my study of social change processes. As elsewhere in the world are modern materials and building styles established as urbanization increases; division of the extended family, which also requires new homes. The custom of how to build and live was under pressure in Mali.





From Sahel to the West of Norway

Modernity as threat to cultural heritage were also challenges I faced in my seven years in the public sector, commissioned by the Department of Agriculture. The focus of my work was to protect and preserve the vernacular architecture of old farms in the west of Norway.

This particular region was about to be depopulated. New methods in agriculture demanded new buildings and land use. Many of the old farm buildings stood empty and in decay. The cultural landscape and its traditional buildings was about to be lost under the slogan "tear down the rubbish"!

My aim was to extend knowledge of vernacular architecture to the inhabitants, by focusing on questions such as: what is typical of their built traditions, which materials and structures are represented, why is it important to take care of it, and how can we preserve it? The aim of this transfer of knowledge was to create changing attitudes and positive expectations about the region's vernacular architecture.





A set of guidelines was made for the maintenance of the farms. I also went around the region as a missionary in the service of heritage, and gave lectures and seminars on vernacular architecture.

Generous subsidies and enlightened owners have saved many small houses in the cultural landscape, and prolonging the life of old farmhouses and neglected barns.

The change of attitude among the owners of vernacular architecture was the crucial success factor. They are proud of their heritage and more conscious of the value of the heritage as a mark of identity.

New use of old barn



At Mælen farm, the artist Arne Bakke Mælen has built a modern gallery and workshop in a traditional barn.

One focus for our planning was how to make a unobtrusive contrast between modern design and old traditions in spectacular surroundings.





Vernacular architecture in a city-based university context

For the last 14 years, I have been working at The Estate and Facilities Management division at the University of Bergen. My job is to protect and simultaneously make the 37 listed buildings at the university campus relevant to a modern research and educational institution.

These are buildings with very different characteristics and age: majestic museums, modernist purpose buildings, townhouses and summer residences.

I find that my background in vernacular architecture is an attribute in this work, one tool I use to read the building in time and space when making heritage impact assessments. The city-based university, is a living tradition, subject to continuous changes. Knowledge and understanding of the intentions behind the building, the history of changes and use of materials and craftsmanship, is important to ensure that the building's character survives reuse and refurbishing. We have therefore worked very hard with the production of conservation management plans for these listed building.



The conservation management plans is an important document in the daily maintenance of the University's listed buildings, but also an important document in which the tenant as well as the area planner can do familiarized themselves with the building.

<https://www.uib.no/foransatte/114728/freda-uib-bygg>

Finally I will present you two of my projects that show the diversity of my work for the University of Bergen: the University hall in the old museum and *Tingviken*, a group of small wooden houses.



Restoration of An old museum

Norway's oldest museum (1865) built for that purpose, is now undergoing a major restoration and will reopen in 2019 with modern museum infrastructure. The prudent restoration will reinforce the quality and historical atmosphere of the old building. The south wing reopened in 2015 with a new University hall in the same location as the first auditorium, but this time over two floors.





Restoration of Tingviken

The summer residences has been converted to an employee's resort, designed by the restoration architect Andreas Blix and built by a Scotsman in 1910. The houses (6) in dragon style mixed with local vernacular architecture and the romantic garden had decayed before restoration.



GEORES2019

8. Geomatics & Restoration - GEORES 2019

2nd edition

GEOMATICS & RESTORATION

Milan, Italy | 08 - 10 May 2019

Cultural Heritage: challenges, new perspectives and technology innovation

Towards informative content models and beyond

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www.geores19.polimi.it

Dear friends and colleagues,

We'd like to kindly remind you to join the **2nd International Conference on “Geomatics and Restoration” - GEORES 2019, in Milan (Italy), May 8-10, 2019.**

GEORES2019 is organized by: Politecnico di Milano (POLIMI), Department of Architecture, Built Environment and Construction Engineering (DABC) & Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASTU).

Co-organizers: Università degli Studi Firenze (UNIFI) and Politecnico di Torino (POLITO).

The conference is organized as an ISPRS and ICOMOS-CIPA Heritage Documentation event.

The conference is also supported by ISPRS, ICOMOS-CIPA Heritage Documentation, AUTECH, SIRA, SIFET, ICOMOS, EU ERA Chair on DH, UNESCO CHAIR on Digital Cultural Heritage at CUT.

The conference is an occasion for the experts of the two worlds of Geomatics and Restoration of Cultural Heritage to meet, share, exchange and explore common needs and new approaches in domain of heritage management.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Extended abstract submission : 11 January 2019
- Acceptance notification : 8 February 2019
- Camera ready submission : 15 March 2019
- Young Researcher Workshop : 6-7 May 2019

Conference : 8-10 May 2019

Abstract should be at maximum 5000 characters possibly with figures, accepted articles will be published in the **ISPRS International Archives of Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences**. Selected contributions will be suggested for a Journal Special Issue.

GEO&RES CO-WORKING GROUPS: SPECIAL SESSIONS & ORAL SESSIONS

During the Conference a set of Special Sessions will be organized in the form of GEO&RES co-working groups. Co-working groups will discuss specific topics for which the contribution of Geomatics and Restores is of primary importance, among other: HBIM – LOD, LOI, LOG and accuracy definition; Monitoring & Restoration: Built Environment and Infrastructure; Semantics and Big Data Hubs in Cultural Heritage; Interactive content based VR/AR/Virtual Museum. Oral Sessions will be related to the co-working group topics.

CONFERENCE TOPICS

- Rapid digitization of cultural heritage: managing complexity, policies and technologies
HBIM IN&OUT: informative content models, data acquisition, data processing and data transfer. Lowering costs, gaps and barriers, boosting potentials
- HBIM IN: Scan-to-BIM modelling and automation: data acquisition, registration, 3D Object Recognition and Reconstruction, accuracy assessment
- Point cloud analysis and modelling of complex scenes
- LOD LOG LOI LOA. Level of Development, Level of Geometry (Surveying, Modelling, Design, Preserving and Monitoring), Level of Accuracy and Level of Information. Towards technical specifications
- Content modelling: object libraries, inventory models, construction techniques, thematic mapping, external DB, recording, cost estimation
- On site rapid HBIM data acquisition and data management: 'as-found, construction site, as-built and communication
- HBIM OUT: Virtual IDentities; multi-actor cloud based cooperative Hubs; BIM-GIS, BIM-toFEA; Informative model to VM-AR-MR, Virtual Museum, Landscape Museum and Built Environment; Object Libraries; Virtual HUB and GEODB BIM; semantics and vocabularies
- The use of digital images in visible and not-visible multi-spectral ranges, information extraction from LiDAR Intensity Data
- Low-cost sensors and open-source image based innovative tools for on-site data registry: real time thematic mapping documenting pathologies, materials, decay
- OpenBIM and OpenTools for 3D Object generation, conservation plan, construction site, and communication
- Preservation, Planned Conservation, Risk and Resilience management for Cultural Heritage
- Protocols and open specification for streaming massive heterogeneous 3D geospatial informative model data sets on the web
- Archaeology and informative systems
- BIM and preservation of buildings for Cultural Heritage
- Public Administration and management of the historic heritage
- Landscapes and needs of data collecting
- Management of Cultural Heritage
- Different forms of control, static and dynamic monitoring: urban scale and civil infrastructures
- Structural analysis/interpretation of the historic buildings and geomatics
- Physical and cognitive accessibility of historic buildings
- Hydro-geologic disasters, seismic risk assessment by geomatics strategies
- Cultural Heritage education, skill development and communication by innovative systems

YOUNG RESEARCHER WORKSHOP (6-7 May 2019)

The workshop aims to establish the first contact between geomatics and restorers, to discuss and to interchange ideas about Cultural Heritage documentation and HBIM.

More INFO: www.geores19.polimi.it

For any further inquiries please contact the GEORES2019 Secretariat at geores19-dabc@polimi.it

On behalf of the GEORES2019 Scientific and Organizing committee

CONFERENCE CHAIR

Raffaella Brumana, Valeria Pracchi, Fulvio Rinaudo, Alberto Grimoldi, Marco Scaioni