## *CONSERVATION OF THE NEPALESE HERITAGE : STATE OF THE ART*

**by Ridhi Pradhan**

Nepal has a very rich cultural heritage and in the recent years has joined the World Heritage Convention.

The valley of Kathmandu as a whole is now a heritage site and several projects have been initiated with the support of UNESCO and national organisations and foundations. We would like to present here the latest state of the art on Conservation activities in Nepal.

| Name of the Project | Location | Duration | Objectives | Institution involved |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. ADB Project | Gorkha | 4yrs.,1992-93-1995-96 | Development activities | Asian Development Bank |
| 2. Norwegian Project | Dang-Deokhuri in Rapti Zone | 2yrs.12.1.1995-11.1.1997 | Prehistoric Research | The University of Bergen, Norway |
| 3. KVPT Project | Kathmandu Valley. Especially involved in Patan | Working since 1991/92 | Restoration of Monuments | Kathmandu Valley PreservationTrust, established in USA |
| 4. Italian Project | Different areas (Kath.Valley and Tarai) | Since 1983-1995 Nov. | Archaeological Excavations and Explorations | ISMEO, Italy |
| 5. UNESCO/Japan Trust Fund Project | Patan Durbar Area | 1993-95 Dec. | Documentation and conservation of Monuments | Japan Government through UNESCO |



| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6. Patan Durbar Conservation Project | Patan Durbar Keshev Narayan Chowk | 1983 Dec.31st 1997 | Conservation of Keshev Narayan Chowk and establishment of Patan Museum over there | Austrian Govt. |
| 7. Swayambhu area conservation project (Programmes implemented as per the Master Plan) | Swayambhu Hill | continued 3 yrs till 1995/96 till 1994/95 | 1)Conservation of monuments 2)Emergency Afforestation 3)Water supply and sanitation | HMG (Nepal) German Govt German Govt.(UDLE) |
| 8. Patan Conservation and development Programme | Patan Nagarpalika area | 1992 Aug. 1995 Aug. extended fo 3 yrs up to June 1998 | Conservation and Development of Patan city | German Govt (UDLE) |
| 9. High Mountain Archaeology Project | Mustang Valley | 1991-1995 | Archaeological Excavations and Explorations | The Caulfied Meisezah Inst. for High Asian Studies, Bonn Germany |
| 10. Microfilm Project | National Archives and other part of the country | Since 1970 to Feb. 12, 1996 | Microfilming the Manuscripts of the National Archives | German Governt |
| 11. Monument Conservation and Durbar Maintenance Office, Bhaktapur | Bhaktapur City | since 1985-86-1995/96 | Repair and restoration of monuments in Bhaktapur | 50% HMG (Nepal) 50% German Govt |
| 12. Panauti Integrated Project | Panauti | 1991/92-1995 Sept.extension process for one year. up to 1996 is under way. | 1.Conservation of monuments 2.Development of school buildings 3. Sewerage management 4. Road improvement | French Govt |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 13. Iba bahi Restoration Project | Patan Mangal Bazar | | Restoration of Iba bahi | Nippon Institution of Technology, Japan |
| 14. UNESCO/Danida Project | National Library | 1989/90-1995/96<br>20 Dec. 1994, 19 Dec. 1999 | Development of Libraries with special reference to National Library | Danida (Danish aid) |
| 15. Gorkha Durbar Conservation Project (as per Master Plan) | Gorkha | 1987/88-1998/99 | Restoration of monuments , sites and preservation of natural and historical environments | HMG (Nepal) |
| 16. Archaeological Conservation and Development Project | Whole Nepal | on-going programme | Restoration, excavation, exploration of monuments and display of documents | HMG (Nepal) |
| 17. 55 Windowed Restoration Project | Bhaktapur 55 Window Palace | 1995-97 | Restoration of 55 windows palace. | HMG Nepal - 10%<br>German Govt -30%<br>SolteeGroup -60% |



# *THE JHIKHU KHOLA WATERSHED PROJECT*

P.B. Shah and H. Schreier

## *Overview of the watershed study*

Given the lack of long-term information on land use, resource degradation, sediment transport and soil fertility in Nepal, it was decided in 1989 to use the Jhikhu Khola watershed as the key research area for a long-term monitoring programme. With the support of the International Development Research Development Centre (IDRC), Canada, we focused our research on documenting climatic conditions, soil erosion, sediment transport and redistribution, stream flow, irrigation, deforestation, agricultural intensification, soil fertility, socio-economic conditions and population growth in the watershed. After the first three years, we then initiated a number of smaller projects which attempted to translate our gained knowledge into development efforts. These activities included the construction of a suspension bridge, upgrading of rural water supply systems, reclamation of degraded areas, electrification of three houses with solar-powered photovoltaic cells, and introduction of a water-conserving trickle irrigation system. Computer technology was used in monitoring as well as in data organisation, and a PC-based Geographic Information System (GIS) was used as the main tool for data integration and modelling.