

# Practicable Functions of Charters and Principles in Urban Cultural Heritage Management

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## **Abstract**

*In the developing countries, there is growing interest in adoption of charters or principles to encourage approaches to conserving and managing urban cultural heritage resources. As a rule, the principles aim to manage the planning and design mechanism of place making, including in urban area, to improve the quality of places for people and tourists. Given a simplified view of tourism as an industry, urban cultural management can be integral to creative based cultural industries management. The existence of charters and conventions is essential for the process of establishing and assessing the values of heritage. Integrity of urban heritage places and their continuing authenticity are primary concerns, particularly as the notion of urban heritage embraces traditions and everyday places. With particular reference to urban heritage management in developing countries, this paper is reviewing current interest in urban cultural heritage and the various charters used to assess significance and to comment on China ICOMOS Charter and the Nara Document and Hoi An Protocols.*

Keywords: Urban cultural heritage; Tourism; Place making

Heritage ...

... and urban identity / pride

... is more than history

... needs community participation and involvement

... leads to well-being / human security

... is critical to job creation and poverty alleviation

... helps preserve intangible local cultures

... strongly influences sustainability goals

... through localization, contextualization & customization.

(<http://www.gdrc.org/heritage/doc-repository.html>, accessed on 19 May 2006)

## **Heritage, tourism, and creative based cultural industries**

Over the past two decades there has been a rise of popular interest internationally in social histories, in urban cultural heritage, and in heritage management. The attractions of heritage places increase the productive tourism industry, domestically and internationally, where visiting urban heritage places, museums, events and cultural festivals is a major industry. McKercher and du Clos (2002) record that something like 240 million international journeys annually involve some element of cultural tourism. The link between heritage and tourism is unavoidable but stimulates the question as to how far should this link go. Tourism and heritage are linked, not least economically for most developing countries. It asks the question of how places and monuments and objects are presented to tourists and visitors. The campus of *Institut Teknologi Bandung* and its surroundings transform to a certain extent as visitors and tourists destinations especially every Friday and weekend. Benteng Vredenburg in Yogyakarta is substantially a re-creation popular with tourists, but this does not detract from its potential to inform people on history and develop urban heritage values. *Taman Mini Indonesia Indah* can be seen as an artificial historic park in Jakarta developed as a miniature of all aspects of Indonesian lifestyles and settlements is a theme park, but has the potential to be informative and provoke the imagination for children.

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