


Architectural Conservation and Historic Preservation
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Lecture – 05
Heritage Significance and Values (Contd.)

Welcome we have been discussing the Heritage Significance and Values, in the last lecture. Today we will take out the part 2 and will continue to discuss about the significance and values.

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Significance

Conservation as a process should take account of all the values that contribute to its **significance**

1. Understanding the values
2. Assessing heritage significance

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We talked about that how conservation is a process and how it should take care of your significance and we should understand the values and we should assist assess the heritage significance. So, that was the background of how and why we are taking the discussing the significance and values.

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Understanding the values

People may value a place for many reasons beyond utility or personal association:

- for its distinctive architecture or landscape
- the story it can tell about its past
- its connection with notable people or events
- its landform, flora and fauna
- because they find it beautiful or inspiring
- for its role as a focus of a community
- architectural or 'historic interest' or 'scientific interest',
- 'special' interests

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We also discussed that there may be many reasons beyond utility or personal association and we have discussed several points distinctive architecture and landscape the story it can tell about the past the connection with the notable people and events flora fauna and how they find it beautiful or inspiring and his role as the focus of the community and architectural historical interest or scientific interest and special interest.

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Understanding the values

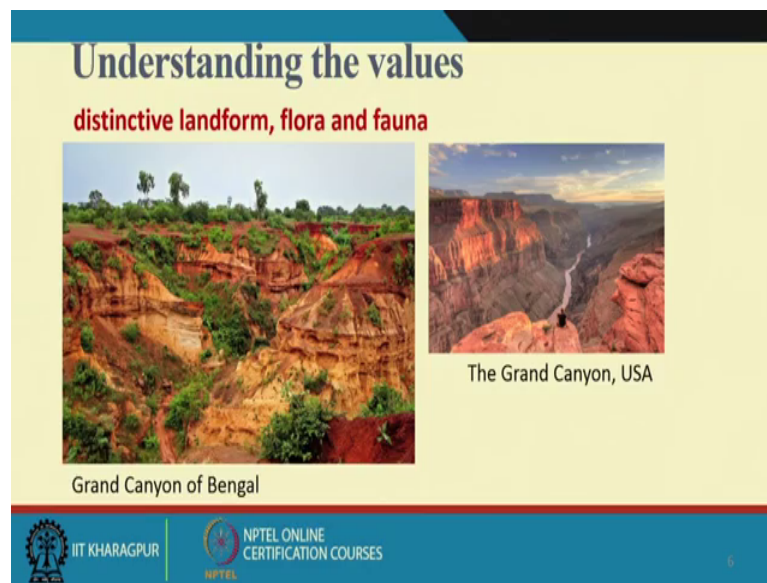
Architectural		Association	Person
Landscape	Ecological		Event
		Narration	

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In the last lecture we talked about architecture value, landscape value, ecological value, association value person association with a person association with an event and we also talked about the narration.

So, today we will talk about other types of significance and values like land form flora and fauna and why they find it beautiful or interesting and how they can become the focus of a community historic interest, scientific interest and the special interest.

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So, let us talk about the first one the distinctive land form flora and fauna. If you remember we also talked about the Grand Canyon year say that how it is a Colorado River and how over the years ages centuries. So, a particular type of land and geo geographical formation has found and how it has become and what he decides and interest to us visitors all over the world.

Like Grand Canyon may not be to that extent, but there are other land forms all over the world in various places which are also can be very significant even if not for the world heritage. But it can be for the local community a country or a nation. For example, this is a place which is known as the Grand Canyon of Bengal and which also has found because of the same phenomena that is a particular River Shilabator Silai it has created this type of land form and it is not known widely known its known for very locally.

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Understanding the values
distinctive landform, flora and fauna

Grand Canyon of Bengal

Gangani (Gongoni)
Popularly known as the "Grand Canyon of Bengal"
Located near **Garbatah** of West Medinipur
on the banks of river **Shilabati**
Locally known as "Gangon Danga" or "Gangon Khola"

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And it is actually now people are trying to popularize it and they call it is actually Gonganidanga or Gonganikhola and along that river of Shilabhatior Silai because of the laterites oil it has made this formation and which is located in West Bengal in the West Medinipur district.

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Understanding the values
distinctive landform, flora and fauna

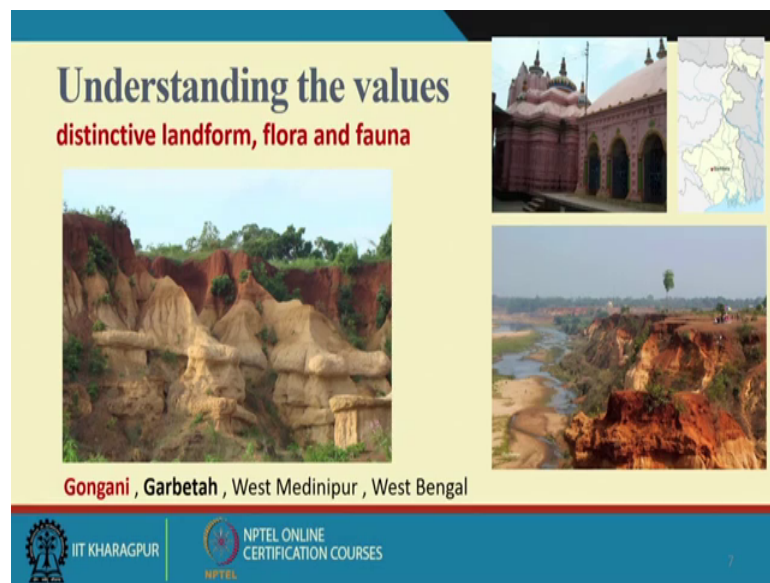
Gongani , Garbatah , West Medinipur , West Bengal

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And what we have to understand this is a beautiful to look at not only beautiful looked at. It is actually a particular type of geographical formation. Now, what we have to know that it is near a place called Garbatah, which is a town and which also has importance for

its other historical association which we will talk about later on what one must understand that this also is very significant this is value not only for the scenic reason, but also it needs to be preserved because if you do not understand this value and significance it may eventually get destroyed.

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There are other distinctive landforms as I told you people come here for picnic daily spent, but it is not known outside Bengal or even in the other districts of Bengal.

As we told that there is also historical or religious significance of this place and which can form a multiple criteria that why this place should be important, but most important it is land form flora and fauna.

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Understanding the values
distinctive landform, flora and fauna

Sundarbans National Park
National Park, Tiger Reserve, and a
Biosphere Reserve in West Bengal, India.

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Let us talk about another very well known place nearby from Bengal only which is Sundarban, it is a world heritage site. It has got very distinctive flora and fauna, it is now declared as a national park a tiger reserve and a biosphere reserve in West Bengal India. As we know that there is the Royal Bengal tiger and there are different types of species the type of particular type of tree called Sundari tree which comes out of the, this is very conducive for this type of environment the saline water whether the roots are very conducive and now this is important. That it is not only for a scenic beauty, but it is a combined thing which must take care of his land form flora and fauna. And though it is well known is not only for India it is also covers certain area of Bangladesh the adjoining country. We must understand that when we declare or we understand the significance of a place we also have some sort of other connotations of that.

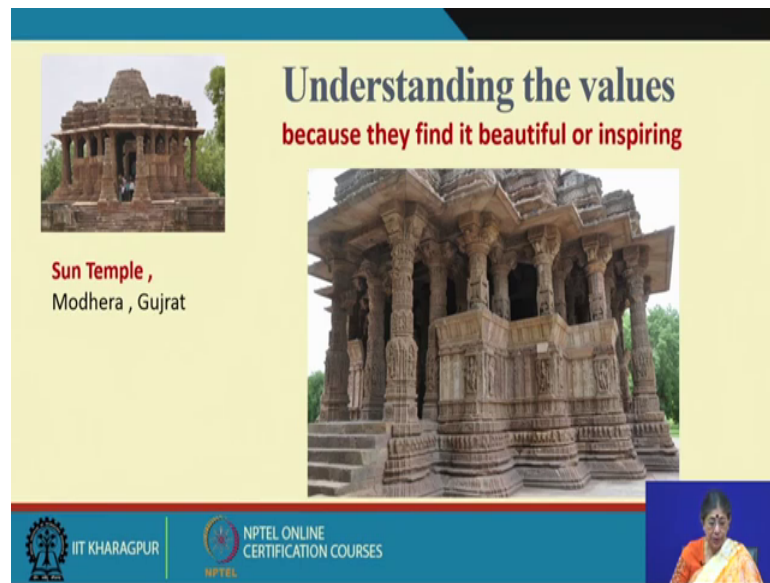
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For example, now, this Sundarbans National Park is in danger and there is a threat that it may be delisted from the world heritage sites. Why? Because in Bangladesh there is coal plant which is proposed and if it comes out it will put that in threat, threat means it we can endanger the flora and the fauna and it can endanger the particular ecosystem for biodiversity for which it is well known and because of that there is a worldwide protest that it should be put pressure on the country involved. So, that this type of development should not happen and that is why we must understand that when we talk about significance and the value we also should understand that it gives a responsibility to us.

On one hand it is very important because it attracts tourists it creates an economy, but at the same time it also puts a lot of responsibility not only on the stakeholders, but also on the government and different people, different policy makers who must understand that why and how to keep the significance of it.

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Understanding the values
because they find it beautiful or inspiring

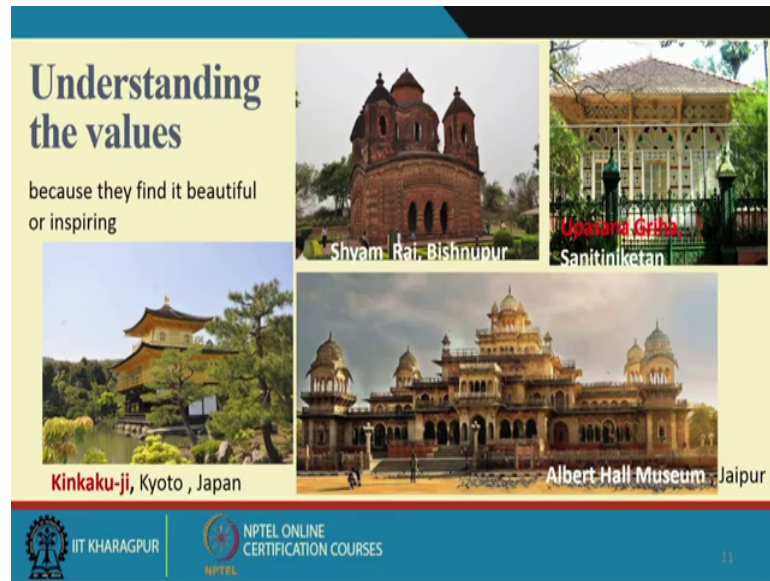
Sun Temple ,
Modhera , Gujrat

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Let us talk about the other type of significance which is the other one which they call because they find it beautiful or inspiring. Now, the question is what is beautiful what is inspiring and who are they?

For example, this is a temple if you cannot recognize that it is actually in good shot it is sun temple in Modhera, Gujrat there are the sun temples also like Konark and other places this is beautiful because it is because of his curving because of his architectural style no doubt it is a beautiful structure. And it has survived it is an archaeologically protected site. There are some problems of preservation which we will talk about when we will talk about the decay of the materials.

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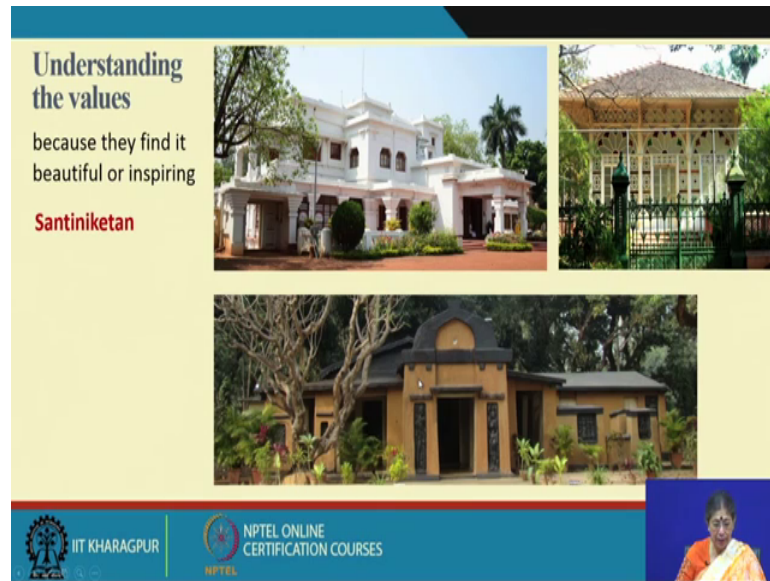


Let us talk about some other structures which are widely known as known to be quite beautiful and we will see that what is the difference between the beautiful and inspiring. This is Shyamrai in Bishnupur terracotta temple very delicate carvings are there in terracotta and reached also has an additive value because this talks about religious stories, the stories from our purans and the methodology. And this is Upasana Griha Santiniketan entirely a different type it is in stained glass which is a place the local community come and sit together to have their prayers.

And this is Albert Hall museum which is Jaipur entirely another difficult different architecture style a different genre in a different place, a different time altogether. And this is a sun temple Kinkaku-ji, Kyoto, Japan it is known as the golden temple.

Now, generally it is accepted by a very white number of people and viewers that these are beautiful. If this is beautiful then what is inspiring.

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Let us talk about Santiniketan, upasana griha, it is beautiful because of its stained glass, its proportion is the light architectural style, but there are other structures in the same place as Santiniketan like Udon and Shyamaliah. These perhaps may not be as beautiful, but they are inspiring. Why they are inspiring because these are the structures like many other structures in Santiniketan, where Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore was actually experimenting in the architectural style, how he sort of got inspired from Japanese style of architecture as well as the traditional Indian style of architecture in the case of the first one that is Udon which was his residence.

And other one which is Shyamali where he was actually getting inspiration from the local tribal people and how to create an architecture in a very sustainable form which will remain cool and from it totally made out of other than structure out of a structure it is very difficult to preserve that it do it just been inspired by the local traditional crowd, but it also has a very significant mark of the ideas and thoughts and aesthetic artistic experiment which Rabindranath Tagore was taking in Santiniketan along with art, disciples and associates.

So, there is some difference between what is beautiful and what is inspiring. Let us talk about some other examples also.

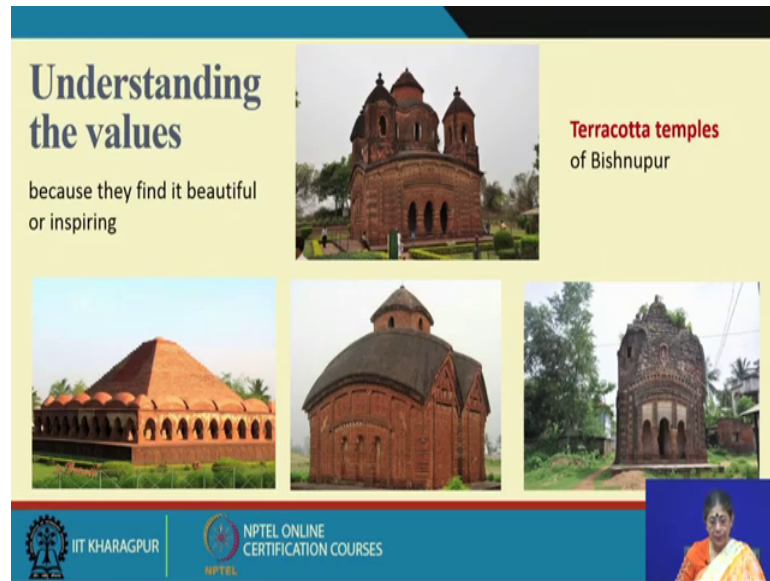
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The slide features a yellow background with a blue header. The title "Understanding the values" is in a large, dark blue font, with the subtitle "because they find it beautiful or inspiring" in a smaller, red font below it. On the left, there is a photograph of the Kinkaku-ji temple, a golden pavilion surrounded by greenery. Below the photo is the text "Kinkaku-ji, Kyoto, Japan". On the right, there is a photograph of the Itsukushima Shrine, a large wooden torii gate standing in the water. Below the photo is the text "Itsukushima Shrine". At the bottom of the slide, there are logos for IIT KHARAGPUR and NPTEL ONLINE CERTIFICATION COURSES. A small inset image of a woman in a yellow and orange sari is visible in the bottom right corner.

The kinkaku-ji, Kyoto, Japan is beautiful because not only of his architectural style, but also because of his setting and others, but in the same country there are other structure like itsukushima shrine which is in a nearby island I found it quite interesting and inspiring beautiful in its own sake, but because of its setting and in the morning it gets (Refer Time: 11:40) throughout the day because it sort of gates because of the sea water and in the afternoon during the day, it sort of evening hours it is almost becomes like this. It is quite inspiring I think I should see.

And whereas, the other one I should call it beautiful there is subtle difference. But one can understand that this is quite subjective and when we will start discussing about how to assess the heritage significance, we will talk about that how to make this assessment from a wider perspective.

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Talking about the terracotta temple of Bishnupur Shyamrai which has its own particular architecture significance and we also have other examples of terracotta temple in Bishnupur and in other places of Bengal.

Let us talk about this one which is (Refer Time: 12:40) is beautiful definitely, but it is also very inspiring because it actually because of its construction technique, because of the form which is quite unique it stands out. See significance is not only because of it is beautiful because it is quite inspiring because of its structures, because of its innovation. And later on we will talk about how he is also has got some religious and spiritual significance for the community as a whole.

Jorbangla which is also quite very unique structure this is definitely beautiful because of the, but it is also really important because it is sort of showed that how sort of an experimentation happened with the structure, structure form and very innovative. So, in a way it is quite inspiring more than they are beautiful. It is not only that they are very well known this Shyamrai well known the Jorbangla and also the structures they are very well known, but there are also other structures in the vicinity which may not be that well known.

For example this one is in village called Joypur very close by to Bishnupur area where its known as the Gowardhan and I found it very inspiring because what it did is that because the name is gowardhan which represents the hill. It tried to depict or try to replicate the

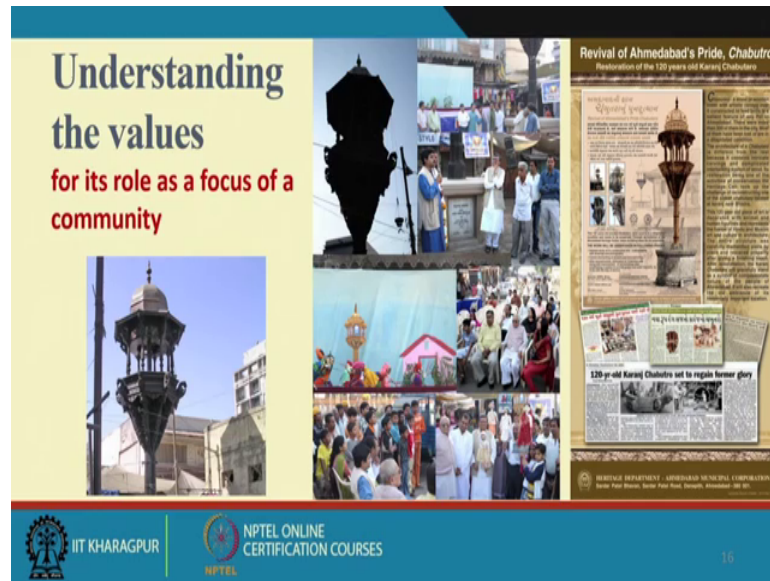
form of a hill through terracotta tiles which is quite unique and inspiring and very innovative I must say. So, I think there is some difference between what is beautiful and what is inspiring, but as together there are a values called beautiful and inspiring for which structures can be very significant.

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The slide features a yellow background with a blue header and footer. The title "Understanding the values" is in a large, dark blue serif font, with the subtitle "because they find it beautiful or inspiring" in a smaller, black sans-serif font below it. On the left, a photograph of the Vijaya Stambha tower in Chittorgarh is shown against a clear blue sky. On the right, a photograph of the Albert Hall Museum in Jaipur is shown, a large, ornate building with multiple domes and arches. Below the left image is the caption "Vijaya Stambha, Chittorgarh" and below the right image is "Albert Hall Museum, Jaipur". The footer contains the logos for IIT KHARAGPUR and NPTEL ONLINE CERTIFICATION COURSES, along with a small inset image of a woman in an orange and white sari.

We talked about the Albert Hall museum which is again in Rajasthan, Jaipur which is a combination of the classical style of architecture and, but when you talk about seeing the same vision the Vijaya Stambha, Chittorgarh beautiful definitely, but it is also very inspiring. It has its own association value because its talks about the victory. So, there are as we try to sort of point out that the difference between the beautiful and inspiring and the can some can be more beautiful and some can be more inspiring.

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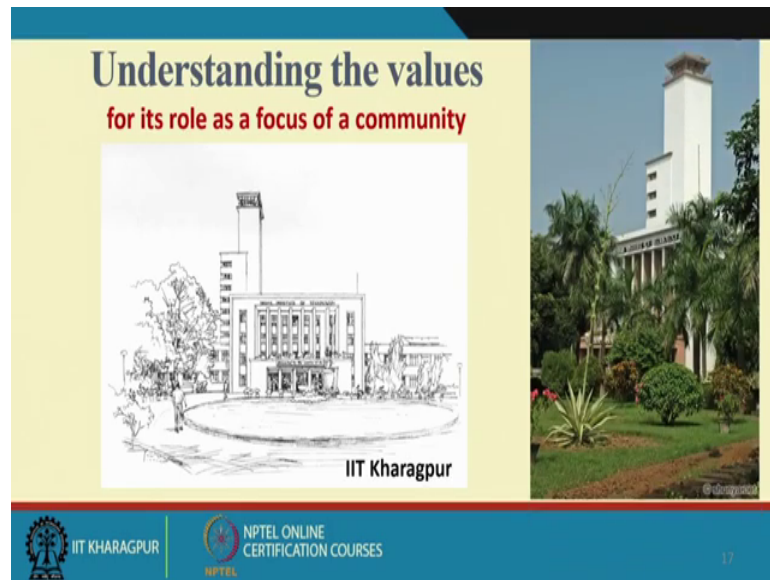
The next point we come about understanding the values for this role as a focus of the community and this community we will talk about later, but this is talking about a larger group of people who we can associate as a community. Does that mean always they have to be temples and forest or religious structures monumental structure? Not always, they can be very insignificant structure also.

Let us talk about this one. This is a Chabutraa bird feed structure which is very common in the traditional community of Ahmedabad. Here it is associated because if within a community there is a place where these structures have been traditionally there timber structures where there is a practice that all the people after their lunch or dinner they come and put the leftovers there. So, the birds can come and be feeded, be fed here. So, this also it is a functional use, it has got some sort of a responsibility towards the birds, but over the time it got very beautiful the way it was constructed the way it was designed and now it has become a symbol of the traditional neighborhood structure of Ahmedabad and for that the community was involved to a large extent problem.

You are aware that Ahmedabad is the first city in India which courts it is declared as the first heritage city of India by UNESCO. And because of this, this has become a symbol a community structure something which is valued by the community which sort of acts as a binding factor in the community as is a symbol and not only for its aesthetic value, but for his role in the community and other significance. When we talk about the community

the question comes who is this community, who are these people, they can be a small group of people, they can be the people, from entire city, people from entire city or So, let us see that what does this community mean.

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I am talking about IIT, Kharagpur or this building this is the administrative block the main building of IIT, Kharagpur and generation after generation of the students and the residence of community the sort of associate this tower has almost something which is very important. And this tower has become an almost an icon or symbol something to be valued, something to be preserved, something which sort of something to look up to which represents IIT, Kharagpur for generation and generation of students and teachers and staff and residents of this place.

So, here the community means a community associated with a particular academic institution. So, the community can also vary and from a very small community to a larger community nonetheless it is valuable, valuable for that community. So, because it acts as a focus for that community it has acquired a symbolic value an important value over the years.

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Understanding the values
historic interest

"To be of special historic interest a building must illustrate important aspects of the nation's social, economic, cultural, or military history and/or have close historical associations with nationally important people. There should normally be some quality of interest in the physical fabric of the building itself to justify the statutory protection afforded by listing."



Brandenburg Gate, Berlin

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Next we will talk about the historic interest that how the values can be of a historic interest. Let us talk about this one this is Brandenburg Gate in Berlin. Why it is important? It is important I will just quote and read out to be a special historic interest of a building must illustrate important aspects of the nation's, social, economic, cultural or history and or have close historical associations with nationally important people. There should normally be some quality of interest in the physical fabric of the building itself to justify the statutory protection afforded by listing. So, as we can see that the history is a widespread term it can be for various reason that why it is important.

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Understanding the values
historic interest

an 18th-century neoclassical monument in Berlin, built on the orders of Prussian king Frederick William II after the (temporarily) successful restoration of order during the early Batavian Revolution.



Brandenburg Gate, Berlin

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In this particular case, it is an 18th century neoclassical monument in Berlin built on the orders of the Prussian king and after successful restoration of order during the early Batavian revolution.

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Understanding the values
historic interest

- Throughout its existence, the Brandenburg Gate was often a **site for major historical events**.
- **symbol** of the tumultuous history of Europe and Germany, but also of European unity and peace.



Brandenburg Gate, Berlin

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But throughout its existence the Brandenburg Gate was often a sight for major historical event. So, history means not only one particular event or one particular association history means it spans over a wider span of time. So, because it has become a symbol of the tumultuous history of Europe and Germany, but it is also of a European unity and peace it has become a symbol of European unity and peace. So, we must understand when we are talking about a historically important its nothing to do with beautiful or community it is a wider span of time and there may be some very positive events some maybe not so happy events.

But we must understand that when we are talking about a historic interest all periods of history, all aspects, all events whether it is associated with one community or many community it must be respected because history cannot be altered, it cannot be modified, we cannot tamper with history. So, this historic importance means we have to understand how this structures site has been changed modified what is his role over the centuries decades and over years and how it has become an important thing and how it is acute value and we must respect that.

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Understanding a place
and assessing its significance

Understand the fabric and evolution
of the place

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History again I mean emphasizing the history cannot be tampered with, but at the same time there must be some sort of evidence that why and what happened and other things.

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Understanding the values

Communal value

- Commemorative and symbolic values
- Social value
- Spiritual value



Bodhi Tree , Bodh Gaya

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We come to the communal value also that when we are talking about the community the communal value which can be commemorative and symbolic values which can be the social value and which can be the spiritual value.

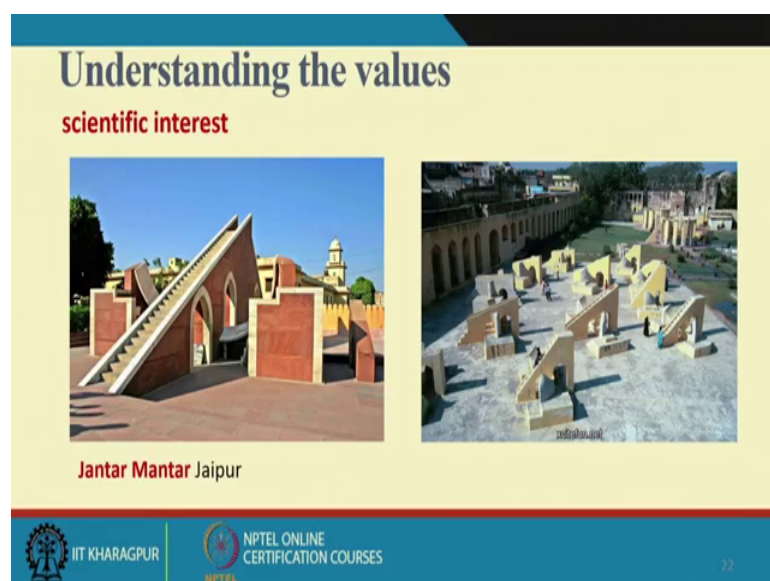
The very good example of this communal value is the Bodhi tree in Bodh Gaya this is associated with the great person of humanity where it is said to have that Buddha

attained his moksha here. So, this tree has got a symbolic value a spiritual value for all the Buddhists from all over the world, they come and visit this place. But it is not only the Buddhists who come tourists from all over the come place all over the world come to this place and sit there and do some sort of a meditation.

So, it has got a symbolic value, it has got a spiritual value and it has got a social value. Also it means that it is not only important for only the Buddhists from all over the world it is also important from the people of any religion who come there and pay respect to this, what should I say it is a person whom is respected all over the world. Now, when we talking about this value we must important that to preserve this value are significant there is a lot of challenge in that because these tree is something which is a living tree it is not a structure and how to preserve it and how to preserve the sanctity of the place. So, that it remains a place for pilgrimage for all the people who visit the site and I must agree that it needs a lot of challenge because a lot of countries are also put up their structure nearby and its under great pressure and its of a challenging task, it is a world heritage site. So, it needs some management control. So, this is one of the example of the communal value.

Now, let us talk about the other aspect which is called a scientific interest.

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So, we have come a long way from the artistic historic and other let us see the scientific interest. A very good example of this scientific interest is the Jantar Mantar, Jaipur. This

Jantar Mantar actually are basically observatories which was built in 1724 to observe the sun, moon and the stars and compute the astronomical table and charts there.


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Understanding the values
scientific interest


built in 1724 to observe the Sun, Moon and the Stars and compile astronomical tables and charts.




Jantar Mantar Jaipur



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So, they are very quite ancient and they were done for scientific reasons.

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Understanding the values
scientific interest




The Sun Dial at the Vedh Shala in Ujjain, **Jantar Mantar**



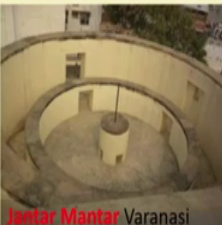
Jantar Mantar Mathura




Jantar Mantar Jaipur




Jantar Mantar Delhi



Jantar Mantar Varanasi



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There are 5 places all over India where this Jantar Mantar's are there - the Sun Dial at the Vedh Shala in Ujjain, Jantar Mantar; this Jantar Mantar in Mathura and there is Jantar Mantar in Delhi, Jantar Mantar in Varanasi and Jantar Mantar in Jaipur.

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Understanding the values

scientific interest



Jantar Mantar Delhi

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We must understand that when we talk about the scientific interest just to preserve them is not enough because we must understand they are important for this scientific value, let us come to a discussion that when we see that how without understanding this value can create a problem. For example, this is Jantar Mantar in Delhi the New Delhi museums municipal corporation build the highest structure very in the close proximity to this structure which actually sort of a jeopardies the functionality of this structure. So, we must understand that it is not only beautiful, not only old, but it has a scientific reason and this has to be understand if you want to preserve it.

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Understanding the values

Special interest



This book is dedicated to

James Prinsep
(b. 20 August 1799 – d. 22 April 1840)

The man whose genius discovered the name of Ashoka the Great (BCE 272-232), the Buddhist monarch, and Kanishka, another emperor, by deciphering their Brahmi and Kharosthi edicts and coins, placing him above Champollion, the decipherer of Egyptian hieroglyphs. Not only was Prinsep a great epigraphist, but he was also, at the same time, an Architect (Banaras Mint, St. Mary's Church, Nandolwar Kotli, etc.), Archaeologist (treasurer of the remains of Asutogab's mosque, Banaras), Engineer (builder of Karamnasa bridge and Circular Canal, Calcutta), Artist (Banaras Illustrated, 55 plates), Cartographer (Map of Banaras, 1822), Demographer (Census and Directory of Banaras, 1826-31), Engineer, Scientist (Fellow of the Royal Society at 20, inventor of Exponometric, Fluviometer, Pyrometer, Assay Balance, etc.), Journalist (editor-publisher of the Journal of the Asiatic Society, & Glanville in Science), Chemist (Assay Master of Banaras & Calcutta Mints), Musician and Actor. His works paved the path to study this holy city and still serving as light tower.

Prinsep Ghat Kolkata

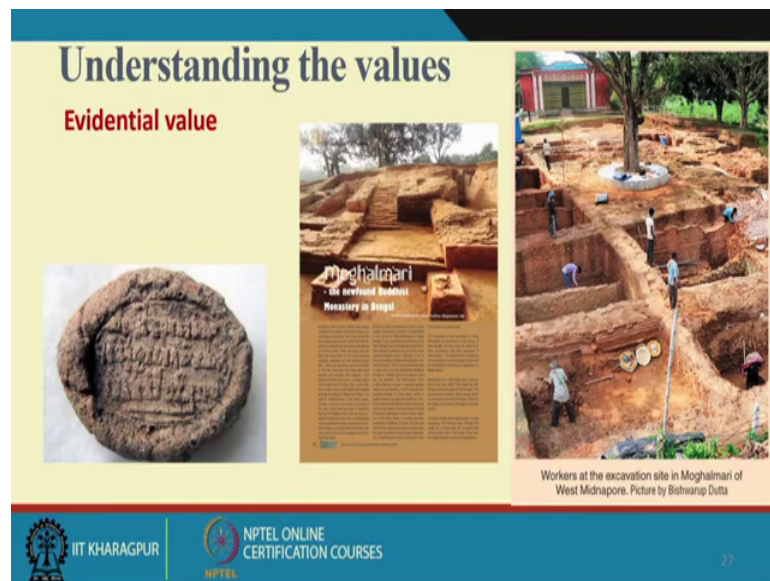
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There is a special interest for example, this is Prinsep Ghat in Kolkata the Prinsep special interest can be of various type Prinsep Ghat in Kolkata.

It is not a very monumental structure, it is just as the name says this is a Ghat where it was landing for the boats and why it was done. It is important or special importance because of the association. It is associated with a person called James Prinsep, James Prinsep he was a mint master, he is the founder of the Asiatic Society, but is more well known because he discovered the name of Ashoka the Great, because he was responsible for deciphering the Brahmi and Kharoshthi relics and coins because of which we have got the evidence that of King Ashoka. And that his contribution and after he sort of passed away it is not the Britishers, but the local people because they wanted to commemorate they donated the money and on a land this Ghat was constructed and so it is a very special interest.

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Their evidential value for example, this Moghalmari which is again near in Midnapore very close to Kharagpur area place called Dantan. Now, it was known that this place was very frequented by the Buddhist monks and other pilgrimages, but there was not much less evidence for that. Dantan which is also associated with Dantannagari or it is said that Buddha, Buddha's tooth was preserved here there was a sort of a myth that there is some sort of an thing association of this place. But it is only after this archaeological remains were excavated from Moghalmari that people got the evidence a concrete evidence that it

is really the place where this Buddhist monastery was there a very large Buddhist monastery.

And there were the coins there were the different evidence which were discovered from that the local people local community really played a very important role.

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Understanding the values **Evidential value**

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

40 Buddhist relics unearthed at Moghalmari in a single day

By Anand Bhatnagar

KOLKATA, West Bengal: The ancient site at Moghalmari witnessed much excitement on Sunday morning when around 40 bronze artifacts, dating back to fifth and sixth centuries, unearthed out of the earth, as the state archaeology department re-launched excavation of the Buddhist shrine after a gap of two years. The digging work coincided with a two-day Moghalmari Festival inaugurated on Sunday.

About two kilometers away from Durgam in West Midnapore an bronze artifacts dating back to fifth and sixth centuries started tumbling out of the ground, one after the other. The state archaeology department has re-opened the excavations at the site after a gap of two years.

Around 11 tons, a bronze Buddha statue measuring 1.7m tall, first surfaced in the middle trench of the site, which is about 2km from Durgam in West Midnapore. After the several more statues of varying size started showing up to local towns from archaeologists as well as residents of the area. Monks from across the country, who have converged on Moghalmari for special prayers and seminars at the festival being organized by Kolkata-based Buddhist Charitable Society, were equally enthralled by the discovery of the shrine, believed to be one of the oldest Buddhist sites in the country.

of the area who gathered to watch the digging. A two-day Moghalmari Festival also started there on Sunday organized by the Kolkata-based Buddhist Charitable Society. Inviting the Buddha monks from across the country are carrying at the site for special prayers and seminars. Notably, the discovery of the bronze statues generated all around attention for the site has

Workers at the excavation site in Moghalmari of West Midnapore. Picture by Bishwarup Dutta

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So, these place is actually evidential value because it actually made us understand or that what it was that there was a place which was very important at that place and also they discovered a lot of statues bronze statues of Buddha and which was discovered from there which gave a concrete evidence that it is a very historical place. So, these are the.

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Understanding the values			Aesthetic
Multiple criteria			Person
Architectural	Association	Narration	Event
Landscape	Ecological	Focus of a community	Evidential
Historic	Scientific	Special interest	

So, as we can see that there are multiple criteria architectural, landscape, historic, association, ecological, scientific, narration, focus of the community, special interest, aesthetic, person, association with a person, association with an event and evidential evidence and many many other values or significance for which we can sort of see the structure, site or place is has significance and its value is valuable to the present and the future generation. And that is why we must preserve them and we must keep them for posterity.

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cultural significance

Cultural significance means
aesthetic, historic, scientific or social value for
past, present or future generations

The Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (the Burra Charter)

So, what is the cultural significance? Cultural significance means is aesthetic historic scientific or social value for past present or future generations this is the definition which is given by Australia commerce charter for conservation of places of cultural significance which is popularly known as the Burra Charter. But we must also understand that if you want to understand place and assess the significance we must also understand the fabric and evolution of the space because though we are seeing it is at a product, but we must understand the process.

So, in the next class we will or the next lecture we will talk about that how to assess the significance of a place.

Thank you.