

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Bisotun

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

State(s) Party(ies)

- Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Type of Property

cultural

Identification Number

1222


Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

2006

1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
Bisotun	34.388 / 47.437	187	361	548	2006
Total (ha)		187	361	548	

1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Core, buffer and landscape zones	29/01/2005	

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

Comment

Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicraft and Tourism Organization

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- E. Mashaei
Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization
Intern
CLT/WHC/SPU
4.21
- Seyyed Taha Hashemi
Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization
Intern
CLT/WHC/SPU
4.21
- Kholdinasab M. K
Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization
Intern
CLT/WHC/SPU
4.21
- Hosein Raei

Comment

Hosein Raei Site manager of Bisotun world heritage site
Kermanshah Islamic Republic of Iran Email:
hoseinraei@gmail.com Tel/fax: ++98 8323723813

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

1. [The UNESCO Courier](#)

Comment

www.bisotun.ir/ <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco-courier/archives/>

1.8 - Other designations / Conventions under which the property is protected (if applicable)

Comment

This property has been registered on the natural heritage list and is protected by the Iranian heritage legislations.

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Comment

Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for this property has been sent to the above mentioned Email address "wh-periodicreporting@unesco.or" from the following Email address on 25th July 2011: medhi_keramatfar@yahoo.com

2.2 - The criteria (2005 revised version) under which the property was inscribed

(ii)(iii)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for this property has been sent on 25th July 2011 as addressed in 2.1. This file also contains description for attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion.

2.4 - If needed, please provide details of why the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should be revised

This Statement of Outstanding Universal Value has been recently revised upon the suggestion of the world heritage committee and needs to be approved.

2.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

3. Factors Affecting the Property

3.14. Other factor(s)

3.14.1 - Other factor(s)

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

Name	Impact	Origin
3.1 Buildings and Development		
3.1.1 Housing		
3.1.2 Commercial development		
3.1.3 Industrial areas		
3.1.4 Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure		
3.1.5 Interpretative and visitation facilities		
3.2 Transportation Infrastructure		
3.2.1 Ground transport infrastructure		
3.2.2 Air transport infrastructure		
3.6 Physical resource extraction		
3.6.1 Mining		
3.6.2 Quarrying		
3.7 Local conditions affecting physical fabric		
3.7.1 Wind		
3.7.3 Temperature		
3.7.5 Dust		
3.7.6 Water (rain/water table)		
3.7.7 Pests		
3.7.8 Micro-organisms		
3.8 Social/cultural uses of heritage		
3.8.4 Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system		
3.8.5 Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community		
3.8.6 Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation		
3.13 Management and institutional factors		
3.13.1 Low impact research / monitoring activities		
3.13.3 Management activities		
Legend	Current	Potential
	Negative	Positive
	Inside	Outside

3.16. Assessment of current negative factors

3.16.1 - Assessment of current negative factors

	Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend	
3.7 Local conditions affecting physical fabric						
3.7.6	Water (rain/water table)	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	decreasing
3.7.7	Pests	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	decreasing
3.7.8	Micro-organisms	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	decreasing

3.17. Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to factors affecting the property

3.17.1 - Comments

Most of the highlighted factors have affected the relieves surface during the past 25 centuries. the effects of these factors are to be controlled with the specialized conservation measures.

4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is a buffer zone

4.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.5 - Are the buffer zones of the World Heritage property known?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are **known** by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to boundaries and buffer zones of the World Heritage property

4.2. Protective Measures

4.2.1 - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and / or traditional)

The property is state owned through the *Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization* (ICHTO).

The property is protected as a national monument on the basis of the *Iranian Law on the Conservation of National Monuments* (1982), the *Law of Purchase of historical properties*, and the *Law of City Halls*.

4.2.2 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate for maintaining the

Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides an **adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides an **adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone provides an **adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection of the property, contributing to the maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity

4.2.5 - Can the legislative framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) be enforced?

There is **excellent** capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property

4.2.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to protective measures

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

The principal management authority of the nominated property is ICHTO, and the Local office of the Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization at Bisotun, Kermanshah.

The general management plan for the site was approved in 2004. It consists of short term (1 year) and mid term (5 years) programmes, referring to equipment, research, conservation work and repairs, as well as educational activities.

4.3.2 - Management Documents

Comment

The general management plan for the site was approved in 2004. It consists short term (1 year) and mid term (5 years) programmes, referring to equipment, research, conservation work and repairs, as well as educational activities. For more information about the management please refer to the 5th section of the nomination document on page 41.

4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national / federal; regional / provincial / state; local / municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

There is **excellent coordination** between all bodies / levels involved in the management of the property

4.3.4 - Is the management system / plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value ?

The management system / plan is **fully adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is being **fully** implemented and monitored

4.3.6 - Is there an annual work / action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work / action plan exists and **most or all activities** are being implemented and monitored

4.3.7 - Please rate the cooperation / relationship with World Heritage property managers / coordinators / staff of the following

Local communities / residents	Good
Local / Municipal authorities	Good
Indigenous peoples	Fair
Landowners	Fair
Visitors	Fair
Researchers	Good
Tourism industry	Fair
Industry	Poor

4.3.8 - If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Local communities directly **participate** in all relevant decisions relating to management, i.e. co-management

4.3.9 - If present, do indigenous peoples resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Indigenous peoples directly participate in **all relevant** decisions relating to management, i.e. co-management

4.3.10 - Is there cooperation with industry (i.e. forestry, mining, agriculture, etc.) regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone?

There is **regular contact** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone and **substantial co-operation** on management

4.3.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

4.3.12 - Please report any significant changes in the legal status and / or contractual / traditional protective measures and management

arrangements for the World Heritage property since inscription or the last Periodic report

4.4. Financial and Human Resources

4.4.1 - Costs related to conservation, based on the average of last five years (relative percentage of the funding sources)

Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc)	0%
International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	0%
Governmental (National / Federal)	50%
Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	40%
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	10%
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	0%
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	0%
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	0%
Other grants	0%

4.4.2 - International Assistance received from the World Heritage Fund (USD)

Comment

There are no international assistance yet received from the World Heritage Fund.

4.4.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

The available budget is **acceptable** but could be further improved to fully meet the management needs

4.4.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

The existing sources of funding **are secure** in the medium-term and planning is underway to secure funding in the long-term

4.4.5 - Does the World Heritage property provide economic benefits to local communities (e.g. income, employment)?

There is a **major flow** of economic benefits to local communities from activities in and around the World Heritage property

4.4.6 - Are available resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure sufficient to meet management needs?

There are **some** adequate equipment and facilities, but deficiencies in at least one key area **constrain** management at the World Heritage property

4.4.7 - Are resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure adequately maintained?

Equipment and facilities are **well maintained**

4.4.8 - Comments, conclusion, and / or recommendations related to finance and infrastructure

4.4.9 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Full-time	80%
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Part-time	20%
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4.4.10 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Permanent	100%
Seasonal	0%

4.4.11 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Paid	100%
Volunteer	0%

4.4.12 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

Human resources are **adequate** for management needs

4.4.13 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Good
Promotion	Fair
Community outreach	Fair
Interpretation	Fair
Education	Fair
Visitor management	Good
Conservation	Good
Administration	Good
Risk preparedness	Fair
Tourism	Good
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Good

4.4.14 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Medium
Promotion	Low
Community outreach	Low
Interpretation	Low
Education	Low
Visitor management	Medium
Conservation	Medium
Administration	Medium
Risk preparedness	Low
Tourism	Medium
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Medium

4.4.15 - Do the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property help develop local expertise?

A capacity development plan or programme is **in place and fully implemented**; all technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally, who are assuming leadership in management

4.4.16 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

in addition to the above mentioned details on the human resources, the local specialists meet priority for employment

and the administration encourages indigenous people to be trained.

4.5. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

4.5.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient**

4.5.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme of research**, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are **shared widely** with the local, national and international audiences

4.5.4 - Please provide details (i.e. authors, title, and web link) of papers published about the World Heritage property since the last Periodic Report

4.5.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to scientific studies and research projects

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

4.6.1 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

In **many locations and easily visible** to visitors

4.6.2 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

Local communities / residents	Average
Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property	Excellent
Local Indigenous peoples	Average
Local landowners	Average
Visitors	Average
Tourism industry	Average
Local businesses and industries	Excellent

4.6.3 - Is there a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property?

There is a **planned and effective** education and awareness programme that contributes to the protection of the World Heritage property

4.6.4 - What role, if any, has designation as a World Heritage property played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities?

World Heritage status has been an **important influence** on education, information and awareness building activities

4.6.5 - How well is the information on Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

There is **excellent presentation and interpretation** of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property

4.6.6 - Please rate the adequacy for education, information and awareness building of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property

Visitor centre	Excellent
Site museum	Excellent
Information booths	Excellent
Guided tours	Excellent
Trails / routes	Excellent
Information materials	Excellent
Transportation facilities	Adequate
Other	Excellent

4.6.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to education, information and awareness building

4.7. Visitor Management

4.7.1 - Please provide the trend in annual visitation for the last five years

Last year	Minor Increase
Two years ago	Major Increase (100%+)
Three years ago	Minor Increase
Four years ago	Major Increase (100%+)
Five years ago	Major Increase (100%+)

4.7.2 - What information sources are used to collect trend data on visitor statistics?

Entry tickets and registries
Other

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

Visitor management system has been planned in the following documents: - Master Plan of Harsin city approved by governorships commissions. - Master plan for Sahneh city approved by governorships commissions. - Drainage system for Chamchamal Plain approved by Ministry of Jihad and Agriculture. - Projects on Irrigation of agricultural lands approved by Ministry of Jihad and Agriculture. - Plan of Emergency Conservation of Darius Inscription. - Designing and reorganization of Bisotun Site.

4.7.4 - Is there an appropriate visitor use management plan (e.g. specific plan) for the World

Heritage property which ensures that its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is **effectively managed** and does not impact its Outstanding Universal Value

4.7.5 - Does the tourism industry contribute to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property?

There is **excellent co-operation** between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation

4.7.6 - If fees (i.e. entry charges, permits) are collected, do they contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

The fee is collected, and makes **some contribution** to the management of the World Heritage property

4.7.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to visitor use of the World Heritage property

4.8. Monitoring

4.8.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme** of monitoring, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.8.2 - Are key indicators for measuring the state of conservation used to monitor how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient** for defining and monitoring key indicators for measuring its state of conservation

4.8.3 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups

World Heritage managers / coordinators and staff	Excellent
Local / Municipal authorities	Excellent
Local communities	Excellent
Researchers	Average
NGOs	Excellent
Industry	Average
Local indigenous peoples	Excellent

4.8.4 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?

Implementation is **complete**

4.8.5 - Please provide comments relevant to the implementation of recommendations from the World Heritage Committee

4.8.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to monitoring

The site staffs are daily monitoring the conservation state of the site attributes. In addition to the periodic reports on the conservation state, occasional reports are prepared if any special risk exists.

4.9. Identification of Priority Management Needs

4.9.1 - Please select the top 6 managements needs for the property (if more than 6 are listed below)

Please refer to question 5.2

5. Summary and Conclusions

5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

5.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

	World Heritage criteria and attributes affected	Actions	Monitoring	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric					
3.7.6	Water (rain/water table)	This threat challenges criterion (ii) and (iii). Gutters have been already installed to lead the rain water out of the risky areas. plans are being prepared to enhance the ventilation systems.	In addition to the daily monitoring arrangement, the periodic photography enables specialists to compare and analyze the state of conservation.	Immediate action is on the way after completion and confirmation of conservation plan in 2012.	Consultants have been employed for preparation of the conservation plan. ICHHTO base in Bisotun will undertake the responsibility of conservation and more consultants and contractors may be invited for contribution.	.
3.7.7	Pests					
3.7.8	Micro-organisms					

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

Answers provided have not outlined any serious management need.

5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

The authenticity of the World Heritage property has been **preserved**

5.3.2 - Current state of Integrity

The integrity of the World Heritage property is **intact**

5.3.3 - Current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **maintained**.

5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

Other important cultural and / or natural values and the state of conservation of the World Heritage property are **predominantly intact**

5.4. Additional comments on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.4.1 - Comments

Although the property has a satisfactory state of conservation but, there are still opportunities to develop more capacities amongst the indigenous people as well as ICHHTO base staffs to have a better contribution to the conservation of the property.

6. World Heritage Status and Conclusions on Periodic Reporting Exercise

6.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

Conservation	Very positive
Research and monitoring	Very positive
Management effectiveness	Very positive
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	Positive
Recognition	Very positive
Education	Very positive
Infrastructure development	Positive
Funding for the property	Positive
International cooperation	Positive
Political support for conservation	Very positive
Legal / Policy framework	Very positive
Lobbying	Very positive
Institutional coordination	Very positive
Security	Very positive
Other (please specify)	

6.2 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to World Heritage status

6.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report

Governmental institution responsible for the property

Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff
Staff from other World Heritage properties
External experts
Advisory bodies

6.4 - Was the Periodic Reporting questionnaire easy to use and clearly understandable?

yes

6.5 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

Please provide more space for some of the explanatory questions!

6.6 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire from the following entities

UNESCO	Good
State Party Representative	Good
Advisory Body	Good

6.7 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

All required information was accessible

6.8 - The Periodic Reporting process has improved the understanding of the following

The World Heritage Convention
The concept of Outstanding Universal Value
The property's Outstanding Universal Value
The concept of Integrity and / or Authenticity
The property's Integrity and / or Authenticity
Managing the property to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value
Monitoring and reporting
Management effectiveness

6.9 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

UNESCO	Excellent
State Party	Satisfactory
Site Managers	Excellent
Advisory Bodies	Excellent

6.10 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

• Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Reason for update: Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for this property has been sent to the above mentioned Email address "wh-periodicreporting@unesco.or" from the following Email address on 25th July 2011: medhi_keramatfar@yahoo.com

6.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise