



Ministry Of Culture

Directorate General of Antiquities & Museums

STATE PARTY REPORT

On The State of Conservation
of The

Syrian Cultural Heritage Sites
(Syrian Arab Republic)

For Submission By
1 February 2020



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INTRODUCTION

This Progress Report on the State of Conservation of the Syrian World Heritage properties is:

- Responds to the World Heritage request during the 43rd session of the world heritage committee in Baku 2019
- Provides an update to the December 2018 State of Conservation report.
- Prepared in to be present on the previous World Heritage Committee meeting 44^e session 2020.

Information Sources

This report represents a collation of available information as of 31 December 2019, and is based on available information from the DGAM braches around Syria, taking inconsideration that with ground access to the Ancient Villages in North of Syria extremely limited for antiquities experts, extent of the damage cannot be assessment right now.

Name of World Heritage property.: **ANCIENT CITY OF ALEPPO**

Date of inscription on World Heritage List: 1986

CHALLENGES:

- Urgent initiatives need to be carried on in the Ancient City in the coming months that need financial resources which are not available in the meantime.
- Lack of traditional buildings materials.

MEASURES TAKEN:

With reference of the Vision and Planning Framework for the Recovery of the World Heritage City of Aleppo dated on October 2018, the Recovery Master Plan were prepared, that included in its 1st Stage:

1. The redesign and improvement of existing infrastructural networks (roads, utilities, sewage, etc.).
2. Identified Special Area plans in order to respond to specific needs. This included the zones of high economic interest (Souks). According to the needs, special administrative authorities envisaged in these areas, in order to speed up the reconstruction process such as:

The Ancient Souk: The rehabilitation of the Souk started in order to contribute to the return of commercial activities to the rest of the Souk. The DGAM & Aleppo City Council, in cooperation with the Aga Khan Foundation for Cultural Services, started the 2nd phase of restoring and rehabilitating after completing **Al-Saqatiyya Souk** project. This phase includes restoring and rehabilitating **Khan Al-Harir Souk**, which includes more than 60 shops and three stores that were designated for the trade of fabrics, sweets, and nuts. The rehabilitation works take place through two phases in the northern part and include constructional restoration work for the shops according to the traditional Aleppo system of architecture and building. The work includes rebuilding some of the collapsed walls. The second phase is in the southern part which includes **Khan al-Banadeqa**. The restoration works is about 160 days.



Khan Al-Harir Souk current situation

AL-Haddadeen Souk: The Souk is located next to the Umayyad Mosque, the works were executed by the owners of the shops and nearly 25% of the shops were completed.

Al-Niswan Souk: About 100 shops have got a restoration licensed in the Souk and the works will start soon.



The damage at the Al-Haddadeen Souk



The damage at the Al-Niswan Souk

Supporting the livelihoods of 199 workshop and shop owners in four souks in the Ancient City of Aleppo, namely al-Khabieh, al-Nahaseen, al-Mahmas & al-Sham Souks. The work was done by the UNDP in partnership with the the Aleppo Chamber of Commerce, the Craftsmen Union and the Aleppo City Council, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, Roman Catholic Archbishopric, and the Syrian Orthodox Archdiocese and with the financial support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Government of Japan, UNDP assisted workshops and shops owners within these markets to help them recover their livelihoods and maintain a sustainable income and therefore revive the markets. Through provision of equipment, shelves, storefronts rehabilitation, raw materials, and assets; 65 shops in Al-Khabieh, 27 shops in Al-Mahmas, 17 shops in Al-Sham, and 45 workshops in Al-Nahaseen are now back to life and providing residents with important services and commodities.



The damage at the Al-Khabiya Souk

UNDP, in cooperation with the International Trade Centre (ITC), has implemented an additional unique initiative in Al-Nahaseen souk where 16 copper-artisans and 10 women who work in embroidery received advanced training in design and branding to help them develop their abilities and promote their products to international markets. To pass down their traditional craft to the young generation, the copper artisans also trained 32 young men.

3. Regulatory processes: Approval processes for land use management, housing improvements aimed to facilitate the return of the inhabitants were adapted to the with great benefits for the population and for the City in general. Restoration and Rehabilitation works are ongoing under the direct supervision of the Protection Committee of the Ancient City, which is headed by the Governor of Aleppo. This is done with the help of the specialists technical committees which makes a periodic meetings and constant checking to accelerate the process of licenses granting, the licenses are followed up after being granted by the Directorate of Aleppo's Antiquities and the Directorate of the Ancient City.
4. The Aleppo Governorate is also pursuing efforts to rehabilitate several schools in the Ancient City, while the Ministry of Awqaf is restoring some religious buildings, with the support of local and international donors. The number of the damaged Waqfs property in Ancient City Aleppo reached 600 buildings, most of which were distributed in Souk Al-Madina and Al-Jadida area. In 2019, restorative approvals were granted in coordination with the Antiquities of Aleppo for 115 property, of which 22 houses and 93 shops, the total percentage of restorative approvals are (55%). The number of historical mosques in the Ancient City of Aleppo is about /235/ mosques and a religious schools (Madrassa), about 110 buildings partially or completely damaged, a total percentage (50%). Restoration approvals were granted in 2019 in coordination with the Directorate of Antiquities and Museums and the Old City Directorate for about 20 mosques, in addition to the previous 50 mosques for a total of 70 mosques, with a total percentage of 65%. Many of

the mosques which partially damaged were rehabilitated for prayer and religious rituals, with a percentage (77%) of the damaged mosques. All restoration work is carried out under the joint supervision of the Directorate of Awqaf and Aleppo Antiquities, recognized archaeological conditions and standards were applied in addition to using local expertise and local manpower.

The Umayyad Mosque: The works in the Umayyad Mosque financed by the Chechen Republic continues. A progress in the studies presented by the study company (faculty of civic and architecture engineering, university of Aleppo), as well as the follow up in coordination with the DGAM, the works include:

- Completion of sorting the minaret stones according to their resistance in order to reuse the good stones as possible in rebuilding the minaret.
- Start the rebuilding of the base of the minaret (about five layers) according to the approved studies.



Rebuilding of the base of the minaret



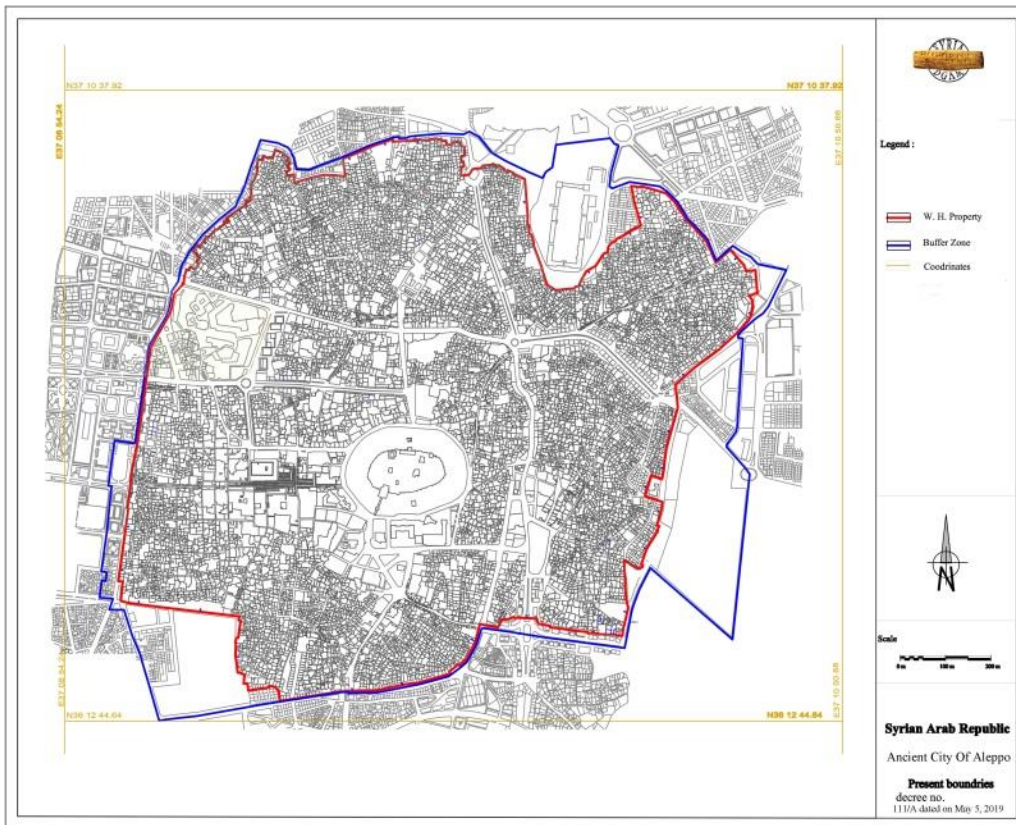
Restoration works at the portico

- Finishing the work of manufacturing wooden carpentry and electricity works for the prayer hall (Qebliya) wing.
- Finishing the prayer hall (Qebliya) roof with a layer of traditional covering.
- Treatment of distortion caused by bullets and shrapnel in the prayer hall (Qebliya) and external facades of the mosque.
- Start the restoration at the eastern portico and the Second prayer hall (Hijazia) in parallel with the restoration of the traditional Souk nearby.

- The completion of the work in the water fountain and ablution place.
- Finishing of the excavation work in the courtyard.

Restoration of churches: large parts of the restoration were completed for a number of churches and the works are continuing (The Forty Martyrs Church and Al-Saida Church), also the restoration works of the Roman Catholic Cathedral and Maronite Church in Farhat square are completely finished.

5. Consolidation of damaged buildings such as Beit Ajiqbash (Museum of Folks Arts) was carried out by DGAM, in order to safeguard the historical values and to avoid further collapses and to prepare the future work.
6. The DGAM had finalized the minor boundary modification according to the UNESCO suggestions. The Ministerial decree n 111/A had been issued for the modification on May 5, 2019. The area of Bab al-Faraj had been added to the world heritage city's boundaries.



Minor boundary modification for Aleppo Ancient City- decree n 111/A dated on May 5, 2019

With the support of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Syria and funding from the Government of Japan the National Museum of Aleppo reopened its doors on October 24, 2019 in front of visitors and archaeology scientists in a civilized ceremony which affirms the return of life to Aleppo. The rehabilitating works included: Removal and safe disposal of around 400 cubic-meters of debris; Restoration of electricity networks, sanitary installations and civil works including the entrance of the museum; Maintenance and restoration of the Mari and Prehistoric

exhibition halls and display cabinets on the ground floor; and insulation and additional work on the roof of the Museum.

This activity was accompanied by an international symposium entitled "Aleppo City: Past, Present and the Future ", in which participated a number of international and Syrian archaeologists, and lasted for two days.

ANNEX 3

الأمانة
السورية
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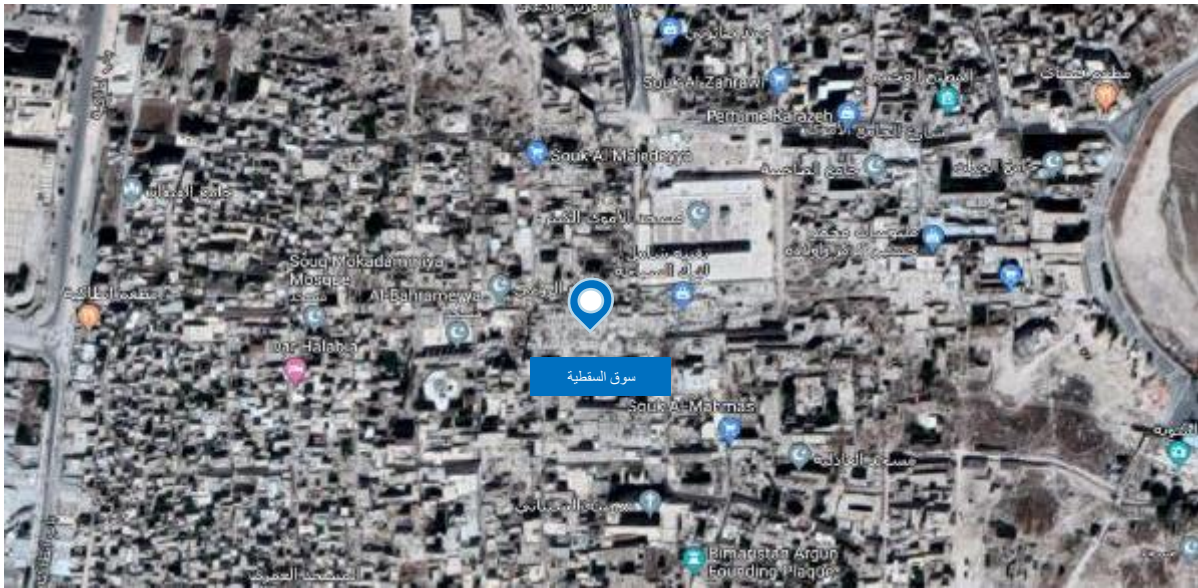
Syria Trust for
Development

**Intangible Heritage Report
Ancient City of Aleppo**

Al-Saqatiyya Souk

Location:

AL-SAQTEA SOUQ is the link between the markets of the old city, which extend from the Bab Antakia on the western side of Old Aleppo to the Souk al-Zerb, opposite to the Citadel of Aleppo to the east. AL-SAQTEA SOUQ extends for about a hundred meters in the old city, which was placed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on world heritage in danger list due to the damage, destruction and fire that effected the city during the war.



Introduction:

Within the partnership project agreement signed between the General Directorate of Antiquities and Museums, the Governorate of Aleppo, the City Council of Aleppo, Syrian trust for Development and the Aga Khan Foundation for Cultural Services - Syria, with the aim of rehabilitating and restoring the entire architectural value of the Al-Saqatiyya Souk, The rehabilitation work was started on December 13, 2016, the market includes 53 shops devoted to the sale of sweets and nuts and butchery and is considered the main center of the markets of the old city of Aleppo. after completing the work of restoration and rehabilitation, and repairing the damage to its shops, the vital artery of the markets of the old city was returned, and the Al-Saqatiyya Souk was officially opened on 10/17/2019.

the role of the Syrian Trust for Development is:

- Documenting and survey of the community and heritage site and conducting a real estate ownership survey to confirm the owner of each store and helping the occupants to extract the necessary legal documents.
- Coordination with partners to ensure the implementation of the project in accordance with what was agreed upon and in a manner commensurate with the restoration of the heritage, cultural, societal and economic value of the ancient Aleppo.
- Coordination with partners to secure financial and economic support for shop owners, including the provision of small and micro loans.
- Coordination with the Ministry of Higher Education and the universities of Aleppo and Damascus to involve local students and local experiences in the project in coordination with the Aga Khan Foundation, according to a memorandum of

understanding previously signed between the Syrian Trust for Development and the Ministry of Higher Education.

Performed Work :

1. The restoration of the Al-Saqatiyya Souk, included the rehabilitation of stone facades, domes, and infrastructure that includes water, electricity, telecommunications, and sanitation networks, with the aim of restoring the niche of this market and preserving its identity and urban character.
2. In addition to the qualitative work that has been accomplished, such as reinstalling and rehabilitating domes that were subject to demolition, with national and local experiences and under the supervision of the Aleppo City Council and the Directorate of Antiquities and Museums, whether stone or tile domes, they were restored and built in addition to restoring the facades and replacing the losses with stones of the same type according to the specifications used for restoration in The ancient city of Aleppo and the Directorate of Antiquities.
3. As for the restoration work related to the roof of the market overlooking the Citadel of Aleppo and the whole old city, it includes pouring a new concrete layer for the entire surface in addition to the insulation work, removing all existing violations, rebuilding the domes, installing alternative energy panels to generate electricity and provide lighting for the commercial stores.
4. The Syria Trust for Development has played an important societal role with the merchants of Al-Saqatiyya Souk, by communicating with them and reviewing their societal and economic needs according to a questionnaire that was filled out by the merchants with the aim of providing the following necessary assistance :
 - Providing the requirements of their shops according to their professions, in order to secure an electronic scale for the owners of nuts and butchers' shops and several cutting machines for the butcher's shops.
 - Providing legal advice by the primary legal response team of 25 lawyers to help obtain official ownership papers for the market.
 - Restoring the interior of 11 shops completely.

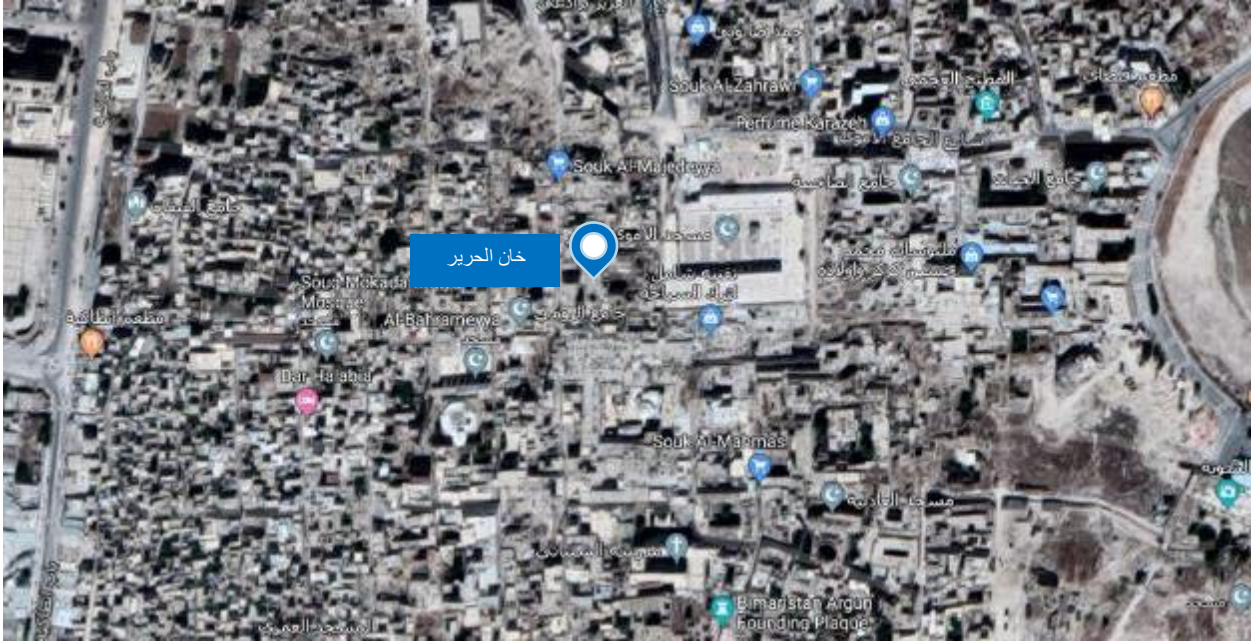


Al-Saqatiyya Souk after rehabilitation

Khan Al Harir Souk:

Location:

Khan Al-Harir souk is located next to the Umayyad Mosque from the west, and it contains / 60 / shops that sell fabrics.



An introduction:

Within the partnership project agreement signed between the General Directorate of Antiquities and Museums, the Aleppo Governorate, the Aleppo City Council, the Syrian trust for Development and the Aga Khan Foundation for Cultural Services - Syria, with the aim of rehabilitating and restoring the entire architectural value of the Khan Al Harir Souk on December 31, 2019.

Kahn Al Harir is One of the most important Khans in the ancient city of Aleppo and contains shops and establishments for trade and sale of textiles and silk and various types of fabrics, which forms one of the oldest famous Syrian industries in the ancient city of Aleppo, and it has the most important textile factories in the region and the most famous ones, and it was chosen in the rehabilitation process as it is a major nerve connecting the old city's markets.

the role of the Syrian Trust for Development:

1. Employing the social base of the trust and its capabilities to mobilize, starting with involving the shop owners and the community surrounding the market, and until creating a deeper understanding about their needs, their current situation and the requirements of the region in a manner that supports the efforts of the parties of the agreement to stimulate social, economic and cultural development.
2. Benefiting from the trust's experiences in the legal field through conducting a survey of real estate properties and supporting shop owners in extracting the necessary legal evidence for them.
3. Employing the trust network to support the owners of the commercial stores and enabling them to restore their livelihoods and ensure their sustainability in order to

be effective and vital in their surroundings, including helping to provide small and micro loans, linking them to new opportunities and markets, and enabling them to align their products in line with the market movement and its needs.

4. Involving the business owners and the communities surrounding the market with the essential joints of the project through periodic meetings to examine their ideas and proposals and benefit from their experiences in a way that ensures their involvement in the project system in order to make the process of reviving the market integrated.

Performed Work:

The rehabilitation work started on 01/12/2019, after the Syrian trust for Development had a meeting on 06/11/2019 with the merchants in the presence of officials from the Old City Directorate in Aleppo, the National Microfinance Foundation of the Syrian Trust for Development and the Aga Khan Foundation for Cultural Services to explain the mechanism Through which the market will be restored and the contribution made by each side in rehabilitation.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

The event of Al-Suhrawardi

Introduction:

850th anniversary of the active life of the Suhrawardi philosopher in cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

UNESCO has begun to celebrate the 850th anniversary of the birth of the Suhrawardi philosopher since last July, beginning in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

On Wednesday 16/10/2019, a varied event was held that included a tour in the citadel and the old city and an intellectual meeting, within the activities of Aleppo, the capital of the Syrian culture, in cooperation between the Syrian trust for Development, the Ministry of Culture and the National Committee for UNESCO, where various events were held in Aleppo, in the presence of the Governor of Aleppo, Mr. Hussein Diab Mr. Tawfiq Al-Imam Deputy Minister of Culture, Mr. Rami Martini Minister of Tourism, Mr. Member of the Board of Syrian Trust for Development, Mr. Shadi El-Elchi CEO of the Syrian trust for Development, and the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Damascus, Mr. Iranian cultural attaché in Syria, Mr. Luis Muriel representative of the Aga Khan Foundation.

The celebration program included a tour of sites related to Suhrawardi in the city of Aleppo, such as "the mausoleum and the blood" in the castle, and a scientific conference on the philosophy of sufi between the past and the present.

Then the scientific sessions of the celebration were launched in Al-Halawiya School, and a film was presented on the rehabilitation of the old city and some of the mausoleum and archeological sites in Aleppo, Sufi singing was performed with poems written by Al-Suhrawardi accompanied by Melauia Dancing (religious dancing).



Shadow Theatre Event:

Introduction:

The Shadow Theater with its two characters Karakouz and Ayaz is one of the heritage elements associated with the Syrian society, and it depends on a dialogue play between characters that are manufactured and moved behind a curtain, so that these characters deal with social, artistic, cultural and monetary issues, but now the Shadow Theater attracts children in particular through its presentation of entertainment issues Ethical, educational and educational alike.

Performed Work:

The event was held within Khan Al-Wazir, located in the Old City - Aleppo, on May 21, 22 and 23 /2019, targeting 485 children from Hassan bin Thabit School, Aqabah bin Nafeh, Al-Ansari from the area's residents by presenting Shadow performances in addition to the storytellers (Alhakawati).





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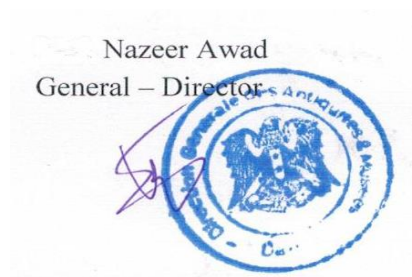
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INTRODUCTION

This Progress Report on the State of Conservation of the Syrian World Heritage properties is:

- Responds to the World Heritage Center on the 43 Session of the UNESCO Committee organized in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan from 30 June to 10 July 2019.
- Provides update to the December 2019 State of Conservation report.
- Prepared in to be present on the previous World Heritage Committee meeting 44e session 2021.

Information Sources

This report represents a collation of available information as of 31 December 2020, and is based on available information from the DGAM braches around Syria, taking inconsideration that with ground access in some cities in Syria extremely limited for antiquities experts, extent of the damage cannot be assessment right now such as (Ancient Villages in North of Syria).

1. WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Name of World Heritage property.: **ANCIENT CITY OF ALEPPO**

Date of inscription on World Heritage List: 1986

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANTS

Located at the crossroads of several trade routes since the 2nd millennium B.C., Aleppo was ruled successively by the Hittites, Assyrians, Akkadians, Greeks, Romans, Umayyads, Ayyubids, Mameluks and Ottomans who left their stamp on the city. The Citadel, the 12th-century Great Mosque and various 16th and 17th-centuries madrasas, residences, khans and public baths, all form part of the city's cohesive, unique urban fabric.

The monumental Citadel of Aleppo, rising above the suqs, mosques and madrasas of the old walled city, is testament to Arab military might from the 12th to the 14th centuries. With evidence of past occupation by civilizations dating back to the 10th century B.C., the citadel contains the remains of mosques, palace and bath buildings. The walled city that grew up around the citadel bears evidence of the early Graeco-Roman street layout and contains remnants of 6th century Christian buildings, medieval walls and gates, mosques and madrasas relating to the Ayyubid and Mameluke development of the city, and later mosques and palaces of the Ottoman period. Outside the walls, the Bab al-Faraj quarter to the North-West, the Jdeide area to the north and other areas to the south and west, contemporary with these periods of occupation of the walled city contain important religious buildings and residences. Fundamental changes to parts of the city took place in the 30 years before inscription, including the destruction of buildings, and the development of tall new buildings and widened roads. Nonetheless the surviving ensemble of major buildings as well as the coherence of the urban character of the suqs and residential streets and lanes all contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value.

CHALLENGES:

Since liberation in the 7th of November , 2016, the recovering stage in the city commenced in a relatively slow steps for the following reasons:

- 1- Lack of financial resources and capabilities.
- 2- Dependence on the personal donations of the city's residents, which are relatively limited and unable to rebuild large buildings.
- 3- The unfair economic blockade on Syria, which caused difficulty in accessing some of the raw materials for the restoration process, in addition to the high price of them.

MEASURES TAKEN:

In this year, A number of infrastructural projects have been launched with the technical support of the DGAM and the Directorate of Ancient city of Aleppo such as:

Replacing telephone lines, water, electricity and the stone tiles in Al Mutanabbi Street and Qastal Hajjarin; The axis of the street extending from Bab Al-Hadid to Al-Khandaq Avenue; the street extending from Bab Jenin to Jamal Mosque.



Above photo: Rehabilitating project in in Al Mutanabbi Street.



Right photo: filling tunnels project.

In addition to this rehabilitation projects were started in the public squares such as: the park of Al Dabagha mosque; Al-Hatab Square and the streets leading to it, the endowment yard park; Pistachio yard; Rehabilitation of the perimeter of the castle and its outer defense wall; Tunnels fill; Rehabilitation of Al-Khabiya souk in the Old City which connects the axis of Al-Prison Street with the axis of Bab Al-Nasr Street and includes / 109 / shops that have been implemented by UNDP; Dismantle the cracked and ramshackle walls in the narrow alleys of the Old City.



Al-Khabiya souk in the Old City before and after



The recovery phase of the old city is led by the Old City Protection Committee headed by the Governor, which held several meetings during the year 2020, and the Old City Technical Committee which meets weekly and studies all licenses granted by the Old City Directorate to restore residential homes and shops, which in 2020 amounted to about 300 permits between reconstruction and partial restoration.

The traditional souk area witnessed a remarkable intervention by the people to restore their shops under the supervision of the Old City Directorate, where /50/ licenses were granted for the Istanbul souk axis (Al-Niswan) as well as /20/ licenses in the Al-Haddadin souk. In addition, a committee was formed by the Governor from all the directorates concerned with the affairs of the old city by Resolution No. / 3947 / dated 3/2/2020, which played its role in preparing a proposal to amend the building control system for the old city in order to respond to the unprecedented destruction of the old city. This proposal was presented to the Aleppo City Council, and a council decision was issued to approve it and announce it for a period of one month to receive objections to it, in preparation for completing the procedures for duly ratification.

The Umayyad mosque project:

According to the report of the project manager Dr. Sakher Al-Olabi, the works in the mosque including the followings:

Rebuilding the minaret: The construction of the stone blocks of the minaret is carried out, with the use of ancient stones as possible, after determining their original sites. Determining the locations of lost stones, securing alternative stones of appropriate specifications, shape, color and resistance, preparing them and processing them using traditional hand tools.

The minaret's building is built using the undamaged ancient stones that were documented and measured its resistance and the places before using, to be placed in the body of the minaret, the foundations and the bearing of soil was measured and excavate the soil layers to the first foundation layer on which the mosque was built. As for the lost stones, they are replaced by new stones of the same quality, resistance and color, and all the lost ones are manufactured from inscriptions lines, stairs and vaults that carrying stairs.



The rebuilding work was launched depending on all the documents available on documenting the minaret.



The restoration of the inscriptions in the minaret





The restoration of the Eastern Rewaq façade by cleaning the holes from metal shrapnel and filled with traditional mortar, then filling with lime mortar and hammering a stone of the façade.

Maintenance and rebuilding of the upper parts of the façades overlooking the courtyard were completed using the stones that were available at the site. In some parts it required manufacturing some of the formed elements for the tops of the façades (gutters, shoulders, umbrellas, girdles ... etc.). The facades were cleaned of all weeds and fire traces. An archaeological excavation was carried out in the eastern courtyard, it did not yield significant archaeological results.



The restoration work in the Qibla in the mosque's includes documenting, dismantling, reconstructing and treating walls and columns, including cleaning and treating holes, filling mortar, and stone hammering.



Peel and remove the damaged and burnt painting mortar and implement a new painting lime mortar in the walls and the roof of the Riwaq



Maintenance and restoration of the shrine of the Prophet Zakaria included the manufacture of missing Qashani tiles for its internal and external facades and the maintenance of the old copper frames.

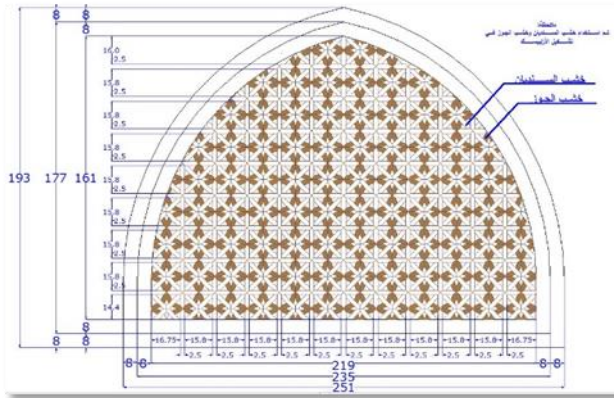
The severely damaged lead layer that covered the domes of the mosque (al-Qibla, Al-Maqam, the ablution and Al-Sabil dome) were removed and the gaps caused by the shells were repaired, re-covered with lead sheets. In addition to restore the wooden frames and the electric installation.



Restoration the damage domes in the courtyard of the mosque



The stone dome of the Maqam was restored which was severely damaged by shells



The manufacture and installation of the wooden works according to historical references of the finest types of wood and insulating paints



The restoration works to the stones walls

The infrastructure works have been completed, and work is in progress in all other facilities (roofs - electrical technology, sanitary and air conditioning works).

According to ministry of endowments report mentioned that until the end of 2020, the number of mosques that are rehabilitated for the establishment of prayer and the establishment of religious rituals reached about / 88 / of the damaged mosques with a total rate (80%) of the damaged mosques such as: The Ottomania - the minaret of the Al-Adiliyah Mosque - the minaret of the Al-Saffahiyah Mosque and the minaret of the Al-Tawashi Mosque Most of these works depend on donations provided by the local community, which contributes to the social re-connection between the residents of these neighborhoods.

The number of damaged endowment estates in Old Aleppo reached / 600 /, most of which were distributed in the Medina market and the Al-Jdayde district. In the year 2020, restoration approvals were granted, in coordination with the Directorate of Antiquities and Museums and the Old City Directorate, for / 57 / divided by / 15 / houses and / 42 / shops, in addition to the previous approvals.

The Directorate has provided many legal facilities to endowment real estate investors that enable them to maintain their investment status even after the property is demolished, thus contributing to their effective participation in the construction and reconstruction process. The social and educational activities concerned with developing the role of the mosques of Aleppo in general and the old city in particular were continued, with the aim of encouraging the return of its residents, and increasing the bonds of social cohesion that characterize the inhabitants of these areas, through many activities and we mention, for example:

- 1- Conducting human development courses for teachers in the institutes of the Endowment Directorate, with the aim of training them on how to deal with children affected by the war.
- 2- Psychological support work for children through various activities and courses in order to get rid of the negative effects of war.
- 3- Opening new courses for Arabic calligraphy and Arabic reading, while preparing to open an exhibition for Arabic calligraphy.
- 4- Opening new adult education courses (literacy courses) for ages over 15 years.
- 5- Expanding afforestation operations in the gardens of the old city areas.

Restoration in the walls of the Citadel of Aleppo, structural studies, and investigations of the damaged walls:

1. The work of sorting rubble, structural evaluation and documentation. Work was done in the Citadel of Aleppo in a systematic and thoughtful manner.

- The collapsed stones were collected and documented from the collapsed walls, and the stones that fell at the foot of the castle and the trench and in the resting section of the Ibrahim Pasha barracks were collected and the stones were sorted for use in the construction work.
 - Documentation work at the north and east of the walls of the citadel of Aleppo using two parts documentation Topographic, for the current situation and plans of the proposed construction.
2. Restoration and reconstruction works of the damaged walls between the two northern towers (12 and 15) have been started, in addition to the eastern part of the walls between the two towers (22 and 27).



The damaged northern defenses wall of the citadel of Aleppo before and during the restoration works





The damaged eastern defenses wall of the citadel of Aleppo before and during the restoration works



During the restoration works at the Eastern wall



During the restoration works at the Northern wall



Before filling the existing tunnels



After filling the tunnels by soil and small stones

Emergency restoration works in the Bimaristan of Aragon

Restoration works for the damaged dome: in the southern iwan, using pieces of handmade brick, with the same dimensions and specifications as the tiles found within the intact parts of the dome. Carved stone was installed to complete the the missing parts of the stones in the neck of the dome (the spherical triangle), using a carved stone similar to the stone in terms of dimensions, thickness and method of processing manually.



The dome of the Southern Iwan before and after the restoration



Painting by the lime mortar to the external surface of the domes before and after

Restoration work and construction of collapsed walls

First, the collapsed stones were sorted, collected and documented in preparation for re-using the good ones in construction work, then an architectural documentation of the western façade of the southern iwan from the outside and the inside was conducted before the construction work began. Then the construction of the western wall of the iwan was completed from the outside using the sorted stones or by using new carved stone and treating it by hand.



Restoration of the damaged stone walls during and after

Roof restoration works: By implementing a moisture isolation layer of bituminous insulation chips and implementing a protective stones in the surfaces.



Implementing a moisture isolation layer to the roof

Restoration work at Bab al-Hadid outpost:



Before and after the restoration of the roofs by installing column wood (murine), Swedish wood plate, implementing reinforced concrete for roof tiles, implementing a moisture insulation layer of bituminous insulation chips, reinforced concrete layer was cast for the floors and yellow tiles were installed