

# WHV – Heritage through the Youth Lens for Public (Badshahi Mosque)

## Badshahi Mosque, Lahore, Pakistan

Cultural property inscribed on the Tentative List (1993)

## PROJECT DATES

17 June - 18 June 2023

**THE SITE** - The mosque and its vast courtyard are raised upon a platform which is approached from the east by a handsome flight of 22 steps an upstanding gateway of traditional Moghal type. The entrance which is a double storey edifice is elaborately decorated with framed and carved panelling on all its facades. At the four corners there are square minarets surmounted by pseudo-pavilions of red sandstone with white marble cupolas. At the four corners of the courtyard are the tall octagonal minars (towers). Four smaller minarets, also octagonal, are attached to the corners of the prayer chamber. Above them rise three grand bulbous marble domes. The red sandstone of the building is decorated externally with unobtrusive lines and patterns in white marble inlay. The embellishment of the prayer chamber in the interior and exterior with Zanjira interlacing and flowers with their spidery tendrils, and treated in bold relief, is a unique work of unsurpassed beauty and workmanship in Moghal architecture. The inscription on the gateway indicates that it was built in A.H. 1084 (1673-74 A.D.)

**OBJECTIVES** - The project aims at developing youth's relationships with heritage sites through visual storytelling, building on existing knowledge and engaging a wider public in the dialogue for heritage sites. The main goal of the programmes is informing, engaging and enabling youth in using the heritage sites artistically, creatively and recreationally.

**ACTIVITIES** - Photo workshops and exhibitions will engage public for meaningful dialogue around themes that will include stories tied around the heritage sites concerned, their history and curatorial input from young people themselves in collaboration with expert artists. The public will have a better idea about the importance of heritage sites, new ways to look at them and the projects will demonstrate how youth can be successfully engaged in creative storytelling through photography.

**PARTNERS** - Walled City of Lahore Authority, Tinkers Collective, Aangun Center for Learning and Culture

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