



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

World Heritage

45 COM

AMENDMENT

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| Item of the Agenda | WHC/23/45.COM/8B and WHC/23/45.COM/INF.8B1, Nominations to the World Heritage List |
| Amended Draft Decision | 45 COM 8B.11 |
| Amendment submitted by the Delegation of ... | The State of Qatar |
| Date of submission | Friday, 15 september, 2023 |

TEXT

Draft Decision: 45 COM 8B.11

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/23/45.COM/8B and WHC/23/45.COM/INF.8B1,
2. ~~Refers~~ **Inscribes** the nomination of The Persian Caravanserai, Islamic Republic of Iran, ~~back to the State Party in order to allow it to:~~
 - a) **Adopts** the following statement of Outstanding Universal Value, by justification criteria (ii) & (iii) ~~Refocus the justification for inscription on the caravanserais as outstanding examples of historic roadside inns, during the Safavid dynasty, when a great number of caravanserais were constructed between the main cities, in order to justify criterion (iv),~~
 - b) Reduce the series to ~~the twenty nine~~ **fiftyfour** caravanserais **through excluding two caravanserais:** ~~illustrating the Safavid period, considered to be the golden age of caravanserai construction in Iran, and meeting the conditions of integrity and authenticity, that is to say excluding the caravanserais of Yām, and Mādar Shāh,~~
 - c) Revises **maps** of the boundaries of the component parts and **submits them until 30 January 2024.**

~~the immediate surroundings of the caravanserais and important ancillary buildings related to each,~~

Brief synthesis

The Persian caravanserai is a collection of 54 caravansaries selected among numerous historical caravanserais based on typology, climate zones the ancient network of roads, which is an outstanding evidence of the tradition of travel in the historical and cultural periods before the industrial age and the development of modern roads, railways and air corridors. The caravanserai was supposed to facilitate comfort for travelers and pilgrims on long and or difficult road to pass in different geographical conditions, especially desert areas.

The development and evolution of this property from the Achaemenid period (530 BC) to the late 19th century, the Qajar period, shows the stability and importance of this architectural structure in the lives of the people of Iran and West Asia. This nomination includes 54 caravanserais located in a network of ancient, historical and pilgrimage routes, which resemble as a chain, not only from the point of view of tangible heritage, but also enjoys a remarkable and integral intangible heritage. This human phenomenon has been the place of exchange of ideas, knowledge, trade and the meeting place of different cultures, ethnicities and religions throughout time. These are the irreplaceable features that connect this number of caravanserais to each other and furnishes them with the outstanding universal value.

Criterion (ii):

Emergence of the Persian caravanserai enriched the exchange of cultural values. The diversity and variety that could be seen in this heritage were the result of the extremely long period of time and uninterrupted use of the caravanserais that were a place for interaction between various civilizations over the span of the last three millennia. Caravanserais, as one the most significant structures constructed on historical routes, such as the Silk Roads, Shāhrāh-e-Khorāsān (Khorasan Road) and pilgrimage routes, presented valuable ideas.

Criterion (iii):

Persian caravanserai bears an exclusive cultural tradition for long journeys in the past times and is a symbol of a civilization in the region of Iran that has lasted from the 5th century BC to the early years of the 20th century. The network of caravanserais and its related infrastructures in different time periods were of significant importance for the expansion of trading among different areas of the known world as well as the growth of economic and cultural interactions among various ethnic groups and nations.

Criterion (iv):

Persian Caravanserai *is an outstanding example of a type of* an architectural point of view, is a unique and exceptional type of building that appeared and developed over a very long time in the Persian region and represents the knowledge, art, creativity and adaptation to nature by the people of Persia. The caravanserais included in the nominated property are architectural masterpieces from the Sassanian to the Islamic period, up to the Qajar period, located all over Iran.

Integrity

The selected caravanserais in the serial nomination file the Persian Caravanserais are spread over a network of historical roads. These caravanserais can be divided into urban and suburban types. The components enjoy integrity, and as a whole, they have a good and stable relation with each other. The integrity of the components can be confirmed, each in its place and in general in relation to the network of historical and ancient roads. In addition, despite the passage of time, the integrity of the caravanserais that have been protected as ancient relics, can also be confirmed.

Authenticity

The authenticity of the Persian caravanserais can be proven based on the form, function and design. Some of these caravanserais have still kept their historical functions for pilgrims and traders; and the new functions have been assigned for other caravanserais, which have also been carried out in order to revive these properties, have not damaged the originality of the properties. The caravanserais that are preserved as archeological site enjoy higher degrees of originality.

The submitted caravanserais bear a unique testimony to a disappeared tradition of traveling which enjoyed tangible and intangible features. The spatial background of the caravanserais and the main elements related to the components enjoy the same originality as the components'. And the authenticity of the property is properly protected.

Protection and management requirements

d a) Strengthen the management plan for the nominated property as a whole to include clear management objectives, detail the governance arrangements and how the different actors coordinate their actions, define decision-making processes, and include a disaster risk-preparedness, a comprehensive interpretation, and tourism strategies for all component parts, **especially for the caravanserais: Khoy, Titi, Sāeen and Chameshk.**

e b) Strengthen the monitoring programme for the nominated property as a whole to include a clear, simple to measure and cost-effective set of indicators in terms of data collection, analysis and interpretation, and which allow the easy aggregation of data and transmission across different administrative levels;

~~3. Recommends that the name of the proposed property be changed to reflect the revised focus of the justification for inscription and reduced series;~~

4. Also recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:

a) Issuing general guidelines for the adaptation of the caravanserais with regards to modern commercial and hospitality functions,

b) Ensuring that laws and regulations that apply to the buffer zones are strictly enforced,

c) Undertaking maintenance work on a regular basis so that necessary interventions

are kept to a minimum and respecting international conservation principles and good conservation practice.

Requests the State Party to submit as the world Heritage Centre, by 01 December 2024, a report on the implementation of the above-mentioned recommendations for review by the World Heritage Committee at its 47th Session.