Defence Seminar

Seminar Title : A Methodological Framework for a Multi-Dimensional Value Assessment of Architectural Heritage: A Case of Odishan

Temple Architecture, India

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Venue : Online mode through MS Teams. Team code: 2dimpiw

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Abstract : Preserving architectural heritage (AH) of a country or region necessitates value assessment. However, on many

occasions, decision-makers intuitively make decisions that may not be systematic and may focus only on a few aspects of

AH.

The Odishan Temple Architecture (OTA) was identified as a case example for this study. While evaluating the OTA, the parameters (directly measurable components) and dimensions (broader aspects measurable with the help of parameters) were initially identified from the literature. For the final list of parameters, this research adopted a two-round expert opinion survey (Delphi method). Further for value assessment, this research relied on the opinions of stakeholders, primary observation by the researcher, and information gathered from secondary sources. For identification of the relative importance of the parameters and sub-dimensions, this research considered the opinions of experts and also without the opinions of experts for an unbiased assessment. For analysis with the opinions of experts, AHP+TOPSIS method was implemented. The inter-criteria correlation (CRITIC) and grey relational analysis (GRA) methods were implemented for analysis without the opinions of experts.

Overall, this thesis summarizes the dimension-wise values and ranks and also an index-based grading system considering multiple dimensions for OTA. The procedure will help in future conservation and management and also immediate decision-making purposes regarding site and surroundings of OTA. Considering mostly living temples (where rituals are performed regularly since ages) of OTA and exploring the possibility of continuation of the existing uses in the future through multi-dimensional evaluations this research showed a novel attempt in the religious architecture of the world.