



Original scientific paper

Towards the Egyptian Charter for Conservation of Cultural Heritages

¹ Associate Professor Dr. **Corinna Rossi** , ^{2*} **Sara Rabie** 

¹ Department of Architecture and Urban Design, Faculty of Architecture, Politecnico di Milano Cairo, Milan, Italy

² Department of Architecture and Urban Design, Faculty of Architecture, German University in Cairo, Cairo, Egypt

¹ E-mail: corinna.rossi@polimi.it, ² E-mail: sarah.rabie@guc.edu.eg

ARTICLE INFO:

Article History:

Received 5 April 2021

Accepted 15 June 2021

Available online 25 June 2021

Keywords:

Cultural Heritages;
Conservation;
History;
Value;
Authenticity;
Europe;
Egypt.

ABSTRACT



The notion of “Cultural heritage” is quite modern compared to other humanistic fields developed in the last century. Conservation as a science has emerged and took shape during international conventions and treaties in many places in Europe and developed various frameworks to recognize the heritage and its value but based on “Eurocentric bias” criteria. The fact of sharing universal values and common practices during the age of globalization had a significant impact on conservation actions in contexts utterly different from western societies and don’t share the same historical or cultural dimensions. Therefore, this study traces the history of the evolution of conservation in the west from two perspectives; the historical one and the developing methodologies, and the philosophies behind the main theories in conservation. Cultural heritage is a reflection of the identity of the society and its past; thus, this study outlines the development of conservation practices in Egypt within the international approaches in a chronological order to investigate the social response and the impact of the political and cultural influence of the cultural consciousness of the society and the conservation actions in the Egyptian context. Furthermore, to investigate the contribution of international charters in developing national policies in Egypt.

JOURNAL OF CONTEMPORARY URBAN AFFAIRS (2021), 5(1), 101-111.

<https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2021.v5n1-9>

www.ijcua.com

This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons

Attribution (CC BY) license



This article is published with open access at www.ijcua.com

Copyright © 2021 Associate Professor Dr. Corinna Rossi, Sara Rabie.

1. Introduction

The last century has witnessed a crucial development in the science of conservation and its theories. Most of the synthesis of the critical debates and critique was driven by western intellectuals and historians who perceived the past from their perspective (Yazdani Mehr, 2019). Moreover, developed protection methodologies and techniques that are compatible with the legacy of their ancestors. All these efforts paved the way to have a profound base for conservation as

science and expand its definition to include cultural heritage as tangible and intangible heritage (Laurajane Smith & Akagawa, 2008).

*Corresponding Author:

Department of Architecture and Urban Design, Faculty of Architecture, German University in Cairo, Cairo, Egypt

Email address: sarah.rabie@guc.edu.eg

How to cite this article:

Rossi, C., & Rabie, S. (2021). Towards the Egyptian Charter for Conservation of Cultural Heritages. *Journal of Contemporary Urban Affairs*, 5(1), 101-111. <https://doi.org/10.25034/ijcua.2021.v5n1-9>