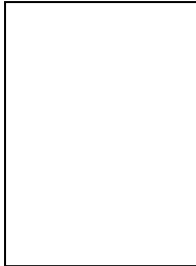


Work in Progress: Restoration and Reconstruction of World Heritage in Seismic Areas: The Sistani House in Bam, Iran



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ABSTRACT

In December 2003 a severe earthquake struck the town of Bam in southern Iran. The extensive damages not only caused a terrible human tragedy but also affected a cultural site of international significance: The Citadel of Bam. One of the world's largest structures in earthen architecture with more than 2500 years of history suffered damages up to a degree of 70%. As an immediate reaction, the UNESCO decided to enlist Bam and its cultural landscape as World Heritage in Danger. A rehabilitation plan was set up by the Iranian authorities that included the reconstruction of some of the key buildings of the site. As part of the international efforts, the Dresden Technical University, Department of Structural Design contributed a comprehensive research-, restoration- and reconstruction plan for the so called Sistani House, a major dwelling within the Bam Citadel. The central idea of the proposed measures was to find a way that suits heritage conservation standards as well as the demands of modern disaster prevention in an area of strong seismic activity with the aim to create an earthquake resistant building technology. Research has started in 2006 whereas the actual work on the site was begun in summer 2007.

KEY WORDS :

Cultural World Heritage, traditional building techniques, earthquake resistant adobe masonry, retrofitting, disaster prevention.