Management Plan for *Taxila*
A World Heritage Site in danger

By
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**Significance**
The name of the city was “Takshashila” in Sanskrit, means the city of cut stones. Taxila is abbreviated form used by Greeks and Romans and from them adopted by European writers.

The cultural remains of Taxila are from the Pre-historic times. The evidences are found from the sites of *Sarai Khola* and *Hathial*. The historic period of Taxila starts from 6th century BC, when Achaemenids came here. Afterwards different dynasties like Greeks, Mauryans and Kushans etc built different cities here like *Bhir Mound, Sirkap* and *Sirsukh* etc. Probably the first world treaty signed at Taxila between the Chandragupta and Greeks in 305 BC.

Taxila is known to the world for its Buddhist heritage. A good number of priceless stupas, monasteries and sculptures etc are present here. In ancient times it was a seat of learning, where the subjects like Astronomy, Mathematics, Medicine, Sanskrit and Prakrit grammar were taught.

Map showing the buffer zone of world heritage archaeological sites of Taxila.
Location
The city of Taxila is situated between the rivers, Indus and Jhelum and in the shadow of Murree hills in Potohar Plateau. It is situated a little over 20 miles in the northwest of the Rawalpindi city. The particular valley Taxila extends about 17.699 kms. Its average elevation above sea level is between 518 m and 548 m at its eastern end. It is bounded by the Murree hills, which are 2438 m in height; on its north and south, by two spurs from the Murree hills, namely, the Sarda on north, and Margala spur on the south. Between these two is third and a shorter one called Hathial- which divides the valley into two unequal parts.

Taxila is located at a meeting place of different routes and same is the reason it has a great importance in the history. In ancient times it was a meeting point of three trade routes, one from Hindustan and Eastern India; the second from Western Asia through Bactria and Pushklavati; and the third from Kashmir and Central Asia by way of the Sirinagar valley and Baramula to Mansehra and so down the Haripur valley. These three trade routes which carried the bulk of the traffic passing by land between India and Central and Western Asia played an important part in the history of Taxila.
Historical Background

The cultural remains of Taxila are from the pre historic times. The evidences we found from the sites of Sarai Khola and Hathial which are in Taxila. From the site of Hathial we found the remains of Neolithic and Gandhara Grave Culture period. Pre historic remains of Kot Dijian period (3100 BC to 2400 BC). These sites link the pre history of the valley to the wider archaeological perspective of Pakistan. The site of Hathial Mound marks the beginning of the city of Taxila.

The historic period of Taxila starts from 6th century BC, when Achaemenids started construction here. Afterwards in different periods several cities and sites were constructed and destroyed here. Some of them are:

Map showing the buffer zone at world heritage archaeological sites of Taxila.
**Bhir Mound (6th-2nd BC)**

The remains of Taxila spread over a large area, and have been distributed into various sections. The archaeological remains of *Bhir Mound* are the oldest ruins of Taxila. These ruins are the remains of a thriving city that flourished from the 6th to the 2nd centuries BC. Darius conquered *Bhir Mound* in 518 BC. In 326 BC Alexander came to this area and conquered *Bhir Mound*. The ruins of *Bhir Mound* stretched back to 6th - 2nd century BC. The remains of *Bhir Mound* are present near Taxila Museum. The remains of *Bhir Mound* comprise the blocks of dwelling houses and shops divided by streets and lanes. There is no fortification around monastery of *Bhir Mound*.

This ancient city was built on a small plateau in the open fields. The houses of *Bhir Mound* city were probably made of stone rubble with wooden ceilings. Settlement at the *Bhir Mound* was an urban settlement and it was ended when the Bactrian Greeks built a new city called *Sirkap*.

The masonry used in *Bhir Mound* remains is lime stone and rubble with little Kanjur stones. All specimens are bonded together by mud mixed with chopped straws.

The bio deterioration of stone monuments at *Bhir Mound* is very obvious. A variety of biological agents including mosses, higher plants, fungi and algae are present on the surface of the
monuments. UNESCO declared the remains of ancient city of *Bhir Mound* as world heritage in 1980. The serial ID number of *Bhir Mound* as world heritage is 139-003 in UNESCO world heritage sites list.

Damaging of signage is very common

Fire activity at Bhir Mound by locals to clear ground for playing cricket.
Growth of wild plants causing structural disaster at Bhir Mound

Wild growth at Bhir Mound
Black coloured patinas on stone monuments at Bhir Mound

**Dharmarajika (4th–5th Century AD)**

*Dharmarajika* Stupa is one of the eight shrines constructed in the 3rd century BC during the reign of Emperor Ashoka of the Mauryan dynasty. It is earliest Buddhist Stupa in Taxila. The shrine gradually expanded, reaching its largest size in the 2nd century AD. The remains of vast monasteries that are barely distinguishable are present near the main Stupa of *Dharmarajika*. *Dharmarajika* Stupa is the largest Buddhist Stupa in Taxila. Many smaller Stupas were constructed around the relics of Buddha. Many chapels and stupas were added over a period of four centuries ending in 5th century AD. *Dharmarajika* stupa is situated at the foot of Hatial spur on its southern side. The modern name of *Dharmarajika* is Chirtope. *Dharmarajika* is also famous for monastic quarters, stupas and chapels. The remains of *Dharmarajika* are a source of valuable data for history, local architecture and art of past times. The masonry of *Dharmarajika* remains is rough limestone rubble. *Dharmarajika* was a monastic settlement. The serial ID number of *Dharmarajika* as world heritage is 139-006 in UNESCO world heritage sites list. The present status of the monuments of *Dharmarajika* site is not satisfactory. There is a large number of different coloured biofilms, Patinas and stains on all stupas of *Dharmarajika*. The structural damage of these stupas is also noticeable.
Sheltering over stucco sculptures at Dharmarajika

Illustration boards at Dharamajika
Different coloured stains and biofilms on stones at Dharmarajika

Delapidated stucco sculpture at Dharmarajika
Consolidation of wall tops with stones in cement masonry
Growth of algae and mosses between cracks of building materials

Cracking and fracturing of figural decoration
Biological growth on monuments is very obvious

Consolidation of stucco sculpture at Dharmarajika in 2006
Consolidation of stucco sculpture at Dharmarajika in 2006

Stucco conservation at Dharmarajika in 2006
Reproduction of stucco sculpture with wooden replica of Buddha, Dharmarajika

Severe biological growth at Dharmarajika
Seating arrangement under shade for visitors at Dharmarajika

Damaging of Signage by visitors (Graffiti) at Dharmarajika
Load of heavy traffic and crushing machines at Taxila.

Map well illustrated of different archaeological sites at the entrance of Museum Taxila.
Stucco sculpture decaying at Dharmarajika

Deteriorating wall structure due to rain water & Wild Growth at Dharmarajika
Wild Growth at Dharmarajika

Destruction due to ignorance at Dharmarajika
**Sirkap (2nd BC- 2nd AD)**

After the abandonment of *Bhir Mound* city, *Sirkap* became the major city of Taxila in the 2nd century BC. Greeks had introduced this city with planning principles after Alexander’s conquest in the 3rd century BC. On the east side of the streets there are several notable structures, such as the Shrine of the Double-Headed Eagle, the Apsidal Temple, and a Palace at the south end of the street. *Sirkap* flourished under several different regimes, beginning with the Greeks, then the Scythians, Parthians and finally the Kushanas.

The main street of *Sirkap* running north to south through city was lined with shops, interspersed with shrines and Stupas. The *Sirkap* was constructed on embraced part of extreme western end of Hathial spur. *Sirkap* is an important archaeological site because of its unique Stupas. The settlement of *Sirkap* city was on urban pattern.

The serial ID number of *Sirkap* as world heritage is 139-004 in UNESCO world heritage sites list.
Signage at Sirkap, Taxila

Biological growth at Sirkap, Taxila
Physical clearance of biological growth at Sirkap, Taxila
Preservation work in progress at Sirkap, Taxila

Physical clearance of biological growth at Sirkap, Taxila
**Sirsukh (2nd AD- 8AD)**

Kushan King Kanishka founded *Sirsukh* city in the middle of 2nd century AD. It was last ancient city of Taxila. The city at that time had a cut through the fortification wall, which is almost 5 kilometers long and less than 6 meters thick. *Sirsukh* city was constructed after the abandonment of *Sirkap* city near Lundi Nala.

Sirsukh, Taxila

![Sirsukh, Taxila](image)

Stone fortification of *Sirsukh* has historical value. This wall was slightly irregular rectangular measuring nearly 1371.6 meters along its northern and southern sides and 1005.84 meters along its eastern and western sides. The northern and western walls have almost entirely disappeared. The masonry of *Sirsukh* fortification is rough rubble with neatly fitting limestone. The settlement pattern of *Sirsukh* was an urban pattern.

The wall of *Sirsukh* city is covered with hundred of coloured stains, biofilms and debris of algal colonies. The growth of grasses is also very common in cracks between stones of fortification. UNESCO declared the remains of ancient city of *Sirsukh* as world heritage in 1980. The serial ID number of *Sirsukh* as world heritage is 139-005 in UNESCO world heritage sites list.
**Mohra Moradu (3rd–5th AD)**

*Mohra Moradu* belongs to Kushan age. The city was built in 3rd century AD and renovated in 5th century AD. The ruins of *Mohra Moradu* are situated near a village of the same name. Monastery of *Mohra Moradu* is approached through a gap across the water channel coming from Khanpur dam. In *Mohra Moradu* site wild olive and Sonatha shrub flourish freely among the rocks. The Stupa of *Mohra Moradu* site stands on a double rectangular terrace with an offset projection for the steps on the east. This Stupa has a figural decoration of Buddha and Deva. The steps of monastery are made of lime stone.

*Mohra Moradu* monastery flourished as a beacon of knowledge from 3rd to 5th centuries AD and is located in a small valley between *Sirkap* and *Jaulian*. The monastery was once a place of meditation in the rural areas outside of *Sirkap* city. The Stupa of *Mohra Moradu* is famous for many base-relics of Buddha that adorn its base. The monastic cells around the Stupa are badly damaged. *Mohra Moradu* was a monastic settlement. The serial ID number of *Mohra Moradu* as world heritage is 139-013 in UNESCO world heritage sites list.
**Jaulian (2\textsuperscript{nd} century AD)**

The monastery and University of *Jaulian* was situated on a mountain top that rises some 100 meters. Like other monasteries in Gandhara period, the cells surrounded a rectangular central court with a bathroom, an assembly hall, a storeroom, a kitchen, a refectory and a latrine. The settlement had been restored briefly before it was abandoned after the invasion of the White Huns at the end of the 5\textsuperscript{th} century. Therefore, the decorations are better preserved than those at *Mohra Moradu*, but unfortunately, they are of a poorer quality.

The ruins of *Jaulian* belong to Buddhist monastery. There are twenty one votive Stupas around main Stupa of *Jaulian* archaeological site. Some original structures were permanently shifted to some other places. *Jaulian* monastery was founded in 2\textsuperscript{nd} AD but enlarged in 5\textsuperscript{th} century AD. *Jaulian* ruins are consisted of historic chapels, monastery and Stupas. The figural decorations on Stupas are very famous and have archaeological values. Masonry of archaeological remains of *Jaulian* is coarse diaper, semi ashlars, roughly squared stones, lime mortar, mud, lime and river gravel. The floors of Stupas are covered with concrete and lime plaster. Kanjur blocks with mud are used in figural decoration of Buddha. The settlement of *Jaulian* was on monastic pattern.
The ruins of *Jaulian* are also under severe biodecay. The growth of biological agents is very common. The effects of biological decay can easily be observed visually on the surface of monuments. The different colored stains and patinas due to biological growths are very common on these monuments. The remains of *Jaulian* were included in world heritage list in 1980 and the serial ID number of *Jaulian* as world heritage is 139-015 in UNESCO world heritage sites list.
Proper signage with public information in Jaulian
Grazing and movement of cattle around the Jaulian

Well maintained Buddha at Jaulian
Well maintained Budhaha at Jaulian kept under lock

Unsatisfactory condition of signage
Biological growth on stone at Jaulian

Fragile stucco sculpture, Jaulian
Termites attack in ceiling at Jaulian site

Washrooms facility at Jaulian 2006
An open pond at Jaulian with litter and mud

Heavy Biological growth at Jaulian
Margalla monument rebuilt near GT road Taxila due to road extension.

Nickelson monument in danger due to road extension.
Objectives (a World Heritage Site in danger)
Taxila was inscribed on the world heritage list in 1980 on the basis of criteria iii and IV along with its natural setting.

Problems of Taxila;
As the city is centuries old and there is no satisfactory management plan, so the site is facing many problems.

1. Stucco in open area facing deterioration due to adverse environmental conditions.
2. Improper shelters for the protection of stucco sculptures.
3. Biological growth both higher plants as well as micro organisms like lichen, fungi etc.
4. Age factor- due to ageing the mortar losing its cohesive power.
5. Natural hazards like variation of environmental parameters, heavy rainfall etc.
6. Use of cement for conservation instead of original mortars.
7. Scarcity of management plan.
8. Less know how of conservation staff working on the site.
9. No proper sanitation of the sites.
10. Vandalism- as the nearest hills are cutting for stone crush using blasting, the result is shaking of structures.
11. Termites’ problem on sites as well as in the museum.
12. Graffiti by the visitors over site as well as stucco sculptures.
13. Due to its location in earthquake zone no proper arrangement carried out.
14. Animal grazing and birds’ problem due to open sites.
15. Encroachment is common on the sites.
16. Laboratory is there but without staff.
17. No awareness regarding cultural heritage as a whole.
18. Visitors use the site in improper way. There is no planed tourism.

Methods
To prepare proper management plan for Taxila sites after proper scientific study of their problems and its remedial measures and suggest economical & scientific measures for its long lasting conservation.

1. Stucco sculptures of various sizes on various locations of Taxila need proper treatment on SOS basis as carried out in 2006 by Archaeological Conservation & Research Laboratory (ACRL), Taxila staff but unfortunately the Lab is without staff at present. Funding for the purpose needed however, Department of Conservation Studies (DCS), Hazara University, Mansehra will help in technical knowhow and preservation of the same during vacations of the University.

In this regard an MOU can be signed with Federal Department of Archaeology & Museums, Pakistan (DOAM) to carry out the job. After complete preservation proper sheds be designed to keep the same protected from visitors / animals etc.
2. Biological growth at Taxila site is a long lasting problem which is not taken as serious issue to date. UNESCO has arranged a workshop in 2003 but no serious steps taken after that to follow neither the recommendation of experts nor someone do some experimentation on the issue. One of our lecturer in the Department had his PhD degree on Biological deterioration of Taxila site recently his services can be of great value to control the problem at par with the international standards and according to ICOMOS charters. Once again DCS can help to provide technical knowhow on the subject for its scientific control measures.

3. Automatic Weather Station is provided and was installed in Taxila in 2006 but due to unknown reasons the same is not functional. It is needed to be reinstalled to receive proper data regarding environmental parameters of the sites. If there is need of some maintenance the same is carried out and reinstalled, receive proper data for experts to suggest remedial measures. I think again here is on top priority is staff of ACRL Taxila to be appointed, properly trained and facilitated as without staff these jobs cannot be performed. Technical expertise on the part of Department of Conservation Studies (DCS) will always be there for conservation of cultural Heritage.

4. Use of cement as done in the past needs awareness among the staff which is believed to be stopped now due to various awareness campaigns & training of some of the staff, however, more refresher courses needed. Such phenomenon is a regular activity at world heritage sites to update the staff on latest developments in the field of scientific conservation.

5. To date there is no Management Plan in operation at Taxila to coop with the situation we need to provide proper staff (Archaeologists, Chemists, Biologists, Conservators, Architects, and Entomologists) apart from supporting staff. Archaeological Conservation and Research Laboratory (ACRL) needs to be activated by appointment of staff and provide proper training to newly appointed staff regarding Taxila. (DCS can help to provide training for the purpose).

Everyone is charged with his/her specific duties to perform and all the data is stored in ACRL to discuss with various scholars and receive certain recommendations. Increase of watch & ward staff to ensure proper protection of the sites recommended.

Training of the staff is the prerequisite as without training we cannot expect good results. (DCS can be helpful apart from International workshop on the issue at Taxila (practical approach) in consultation with DCS to cover all issues). Proper well trained guides can be of great help to minimize destruction by visitors also can help in awareness of visitors. Apart from all a good Administrator with the rank of Director and necessary facilities at Taxila will be of great success in this endeavor.

6. Taxila site is protected along with surrounding valley where now stone crushing machines are cutting the stones and very soon the picturesque view of Taxila be vanished if such activities continues. This is high time that Government should take initiatives to control such activities in the area.
The whole Margalla hills are endangered due to crushing activity on large scale in the area. Ecosystem is disturbed due to removal of Margalla hills for nothing. Though they have ban such activities in the buffer zoon but I think that is not enough. This activity will mar the beauty of Taxila monuments even if outside buffer zoon.

7. Termites survey was initiated in 2006 but due to non availability of funds it could not be finished. However, there are several locations on sites as well as in the campus, Museum where Termites are active and great loss to the heritage is expected. It is highly recommended that proper survey and its control is ensured. (DCS having expertise available in the field can help).

8. Awareness campaign will follow these activities as without this improper use of sites by visitors & locals can cause damage to the sites. Locals, MNA’s, MPA’s, Local Administration, TV Stars, students of Schools/Colleges in the area should participate in awareness campaign. In this way message should reach so many houses in the area and awareness multiplied. Free entry, proper guided tour and refreshment to students at Taxila site/campus only once in a year will enhance the idea of awareness.

9. After proper site plans fixing of Iron grills all around the sites and ensuring proper care will help in control of vandalism, encroachments, animal grazing, graffiti etc in the sites.

10. Being in the earthquake zoon display of artifacts in the Museum need special showcases for various artifacts that can secure these objects from damage during such event. Various shelters are designed accordingly to minimize any damage during such event.

11. An example of vandalism recently one Chinese tourist while visiting Jaulian site cut head of one stucco sculpture and tried to steal it but fortunately the same observed by the guard and the tourist was arrested. The head was recovered and still not replaced as the same is now in the museum till the finalization of the case. Hope to be replaced at its original place by some technical person.

12. Graffiti is normal every where even internationally; however, at Taxila there are several examples where tourists are found to scratch the signboards sometimes even don’t bother to disfigure stucco sculptures writing their names and various slogans etc.

**Outcomes / Benefits of the Heritage Management of Taxila;**

Taxila is a unique site in Pakistan which tells the story of centuries old past. It is located on the main trade and tourist route in Pakistan. It is very near to the capital of the country, so it is easily accessible. If the site is properly managed and promoted, the same can be a source of economic prosperity in the country.

The sites in Taxila provide a lot of knowledge and enjoyment through the ancient culture in the form of architectural remains and the objects exhibited in the Taxila museum. If the city survives long it will keep alive the century’s old culture for the study and enjoyment of the people.

The city of Taxila contributes a lot in the rich cultural heritage of Pakistan. Taxila sites provide a profile of different dynasties who ruled here. This is such a rich site which provided a good
number of cultural materials to house a complete museum and also donates to other museums of Pakistan as well as abroad.

It is the need of the hour to study the sites scientifically for reasons of various deteriorating agents and ensure its remedial measures on regular basis and to provide proper management plan.

Proper tourism management and linking sites with other interested activities in the valley like Khanpur Lake, Fruit gardens in Taxila, Famous citrus fruits of the area, Stone work, woodwork workshops, Margalla hills and recent ethnological culture of Taxila etc.

Various tourist visits packages are prepared so that one can see according to his/her own interest as will availability of time at their disposal.

Public Facilities

Public facilities need to be enhanced at Taxila to attract both local & foreign visitors; in this regard the most important are;

Security

Tourist would not like to visit unsecured areas keeping in view the importance of security, the same be given top priority. As there is no any bad incidence happened in the past history of Taxila being very calm and quite area but the prevailing condition of the country where we are in struggle to eradicate terrorism from Pakistan we need to keep an eye on strict security in the area with special reference to foreign tourists.

During recent years the authorities has enhanced the security measures at Taxila but even than more emphases needed on this vital issue. If the area is secured more tourists will visit it, apart from the same we need to tighten over all security in the country as one has to pass from other areas coming to Taxila.

Road/Train/Air Access

Taxila is very near to the capital city Islamabad where all these facilities are already available however, need improvement.

Transport to sites

The sites are scattered quite far from the Museum where public transport is not available for each site, one has to arrange private transport to visit certain sites. It is needed that authorities should manage shuttle service on nominal charges to each and every site for the convenience of tourists.

We have to plan various guided tours for two hours, four hours, six hours and so on mentioning various sites to be visited so tourists can choose according to availability of time at their disposal and financial capability.
Accommodation

At Taxila there are three types of accommodations

Museum Rest house

Mostly used and booked for scholars/government officials/state guests. There are only three rooms along with full facilities, Drawing/Dinning/Kitchen/A class washrooms etc. Tourists can also stay if booked prior to their visit but normally remained fully booked.

PTDC Motel

Again good quality of accommodation just in front of Museum having six rooms with all other facilities, Drawing/Dinning/Kitchen/A class washrooms etc. It is sometimes expensive for normal tourists/ students tourists, food is also expensive than normal so it is out of reach of normal tourists. However, good for those who wants to stay in big hotels can enjoy the facilities here.

Youth Hostel

Youth Hostel is very interesting facility but unfortunately they are not maintaining the required standards. They have enough rooms where groups of students can be accommodated on very cheap rates but they have to enhance the standard. Authorities have to intervene and to provide funds for renovation and provision of tourists’ facilities in the youth hostel. With available facilities it is not recommended for most of foreign tourists as the same cannot fulfill the requirement of tourists.

Food

Pakistan is the land of hospitality where no one sleeps without food, food is quite cheap, delicious, easily available everywhere. For tourists one has to arrange food according to their taste and on affordable rates. Fast food sometimes needed as tourists have very little time to spend on food specially for lunch such facilities needed in Taxila.

Wash rooms

During 2006 Government of Pakistan has enhanced such facilities on the sites as well as in Museum campus. Government of Pakistan constructed good quality wash rooms and arrangements for maintenance carryout. However, some sites still are in need to have such facilities.

Shade

Tourists need shade on the site to relax specially during hot summer. At Taxila there is natural growth of higher plants that provide very comfortable shade where tourists can relax. Authorities
have provided necessary seating arrangements, dust bins, drinking water facilities on some sites but need to be on all sites, however, drinking water facilities need improvement. These facilities are on some sites where there are not available authorities need to provide artificial sheds where tourists can enjoy shade during hot summer.

**Souvenir shop**

There are few Souvenir shops at Museum campus and *Jaulian* site but need more and need to improve quality of service. Replica of most of the artifacts is made available for the tourists to purchase according to their choice. Local handicrafts of the area may also be displayed for tourist’s attraction and purchase.

**PCO**

Communications is very important; one has an easy access to such facility everywhere. At present there is no such facility exist, it very much needed, the concerned authorities have to think and plan for.

**Post Office**

There is no post office at Taxila Museum most of the tourist would like to send post cards to their family/friends from Taxila. Post office facility along with internet is provided. Special tickets that issued on special occasions need to be made available for tourists.

**Guides**

Guided tour is very much essential for the tourists so as to know more in a limited time about site and not to miss important features of the site.

**Literature**

There are enough material already published but still need more to be published and stock available for the tourists on the sites/Museum. Flyers/books/photographs/guide books/ site maps etc in various forms are made available for the tourists.

**Proper identification boards/history boards**

Such facilities improved mostly identification/history boards fixed but maintenance is quite poor. Mostly writing is scratched by visitors which are not rewritten again. Proper arrangements of maintenance needed. Where there is no such facility the same is provided for an easy excess of the tourists. Such facilities are uniformly provided for the cultural heritage throughout Pakistan of same shape & sizes.

**Drinking water**
Supply of mineral water, electric coolers and soft drinks are ensured on various sites being hot area especially in summer.

**Medical facilities**

There is one hospital near the Museum campus but no such facility available near any site, the same needed to be think of.

**Internet facilities**

Internet cafe near Museum will provide an opportunity to the tourists to communicate with their family/ friends and share movements of joy with them.

**Foreign exchange facilities**

Counter for foreign exchange service at Museum campus is the utmost necessity along with an ATM service to facilitate tourists. Authorities should provide bank facility to have all these requirements.

**Tourism Plans**

Unfortunately we have no such study carryout in the past to collect data from the tourists regarding available facilities and improvements. Such data is needed to plan proper tourism at Taxila. Universities can play role in this regard and can do the job in a befitting manner, can suggest authorities for further improvements. Certain facilities like casts of various artifacts, post cards, brushers, local handicrafts, are made available for the tourists. Certain functions, celebrations, events are arranged for the attraction & enjoyments of the tourists. Tourists should not be left unattended so as not to be bored. Museum authorities may arrange various competitions for school children and provide cash prizes and certificates to children who are winners. One day every month should be free for locals, so that awareness is created among the masses. Both local as well as foreign tourists are encouraged to visit most of the sites and to spend more time in Taxila and to use all the available facilities.

**Legislation**

There is certain legislation for the protection of cultural heritage in Pakistan as follows;

- Antiquity act,1975
- Excavation and Exploration rules, 1978
- Conservation manual of john marshal
- Dealing in Antiquity rules,1989
- Export of Antiquity rules,1979

Tourists need to be aware of country laws and to respect all rules and regulation for their convenience.
Conservation strategy

Conservation strategy is needed to be developed at Taxila, keeping in view the dilapidated condition of the world heritage site regular maintenance is ensured. Conservation is not one time activity it is a continuous phenomena and monuments need to be cared on regular basis. Monument once preserved be monitored for its success or otherwise, in this way the methods used will be assessed for its quality. Once there is any decay observed shall be treated after proper scientific investigation and shall not wait for its total disintegration. There should be proper conservation manual for Taxila monuments based on scientific investigation and should be followed regularly. All world heritage sites need to have conservation manual particularly for specific monument keeping in view the decay pattern of the monument and based on scientific analysis like the one we have for Moenjodaro.

Manual will guide conservators regarding various specific definitions, when and what activity to do, how to do, ratios of certain mortars etc

Integrated Conservation

Conservation need to be integrated on regular basis and all activities needed to be carried out simultaneously. When one is doing stone cleaning for some monument it is needed to fill the gaps if any, missing portion be provided, to consolidate the cleaned stones, to provide protective layer to the stones so that the same should not be in need of re-treatment soon. Even up to the level of display, packing, report writing, publication and enhancement of awareness to be created.

Financial policy

Few points regarding financial policy of cultural heritage are;

- To highlight the tolerance, harmony and social integration inherent in Pakistan’s Islamic Cultural fabric and to eradicate the violence, intolerance and fanaticism by affirmative cultural action through education and legislation.
- To relate our spiritual cultural aspects with their physical manifestations and to highlight and develop the universal values of our respective belief systems and the message of the founders of Pakistan in the promotion of our cultural heritage.
- To encourage a positive cultural response to negative aspects of foreign and local through national media by articulating and promoting Pakistan’s cultural activities.
- To provide a free and healthy environment for the promotion of all cultural activities at different levels of society.
- To ensure a healthy interaction with others through cultural exchange programmes, exhibitions, and international interaction at governmental and non-governmental levels.
- To map, record and document all tangible and intangible cultural assets in the country and to frame national cultural strategies to sustain cultural heritage.
- To generate a sense of pride in the rich historical and archaeological heritage of Pakistan.
- Gate money received from visitors and other resources are spent on the site for its protection/tourists facilities / awareness etc.
Cultural tourism
Pakistan is proud to be the land of two world’s biggest civilizations that is Indus Valley and Gandhara Civilization. Pakistan is blessed by almighty Allah with rich cultural heritage providing good opportunity for the tourist specially those interested in cultural tourism. Old culture should be linked with existing culture of the area and enhance awareness for the tourists. Various cultures exist in the width and breadth of Pakistan.

Site presentation
Sites should be in presentable condition where tourists should see all the details and feel comfortable while visiting certain monuments. Neat and clean environment is provided for the enjoyment of tourists.

Environmental preservation
Environment is mostly responsible for the decay of monuments so environmental conservation is given priority.

Education of experts
Those who are supposed to work on the site need to be given ample training in various fields of conservation regarding particular monument. However, refresher courses are ensured for keeping them updated with the latest developments in the field of conservation.

Education of inhabitants and tourists
Proper awareness of the inhabitants of the area where site is, like the people of Taxila and surrounding villages need to be trained as how to take care of their assets, also tourists need proper guiding tours so that no one can harm the cultural heritage in any way. All the inhabitants of the area as well as tourists need to aware of how to use monument and how to care cultural assets.

Involvement of local community
Locals need to be involved in the preservation of cultural heritage; they have to own it and to participate in its preservation. If local community is involved they will own it and preservation is ensured. Cultural property is not the job of government to take care of it should be owned by all community it is for all. When cared by everyone it will not be harmed by anybody.

Conference Room
Due to non availability of Conference room at Taxila, various functions/meetings could not be held in a befitting manner. It is recommended to facilitate such activities establishment of Conference room at Taxila is needed.

Audio video centre
Documentaries regarding history of Gandhara Civilization especially Taxila must be shown and this can only be possible when there is a Audio Video center established at Taxila. This could help in creating awareness among the visitors and it could be helpful for Staff to make people aware about the importance of Cultural Heritage.
Mosque on campus
As the major population of visitors is Muslims So, there must be a mosque established at Taxila Campus. This will also provide ease to the staff members and other administrative faculty.

Staff for security
Nowadays the law and order situation of our country is not too much good. It is suggested that highly trained guards with latest equipped weapons must be inducted. The Incharge of Campus/ Museum Security must be from Armed Forces Background who is well aware of the Security and trained for the purpose.

Research center
The research in various aspects of Gandhara Civilization is not enough, this scarcity in the field of research need to be enhanced by establishment of well equipped research center at Taxila to facilitate both local and foreign researchers regarding the Gandhara Civilization.

Research officers
Permanent research officers must be appointed so as to carryout research on various aspects of Gandhara Civilization/Sites/Museum Objects etc.

Antiquities stores
Proper store for the keeping antiquities is needed to be established at Taxila with latest facilities.

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