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Gülşen Dişli & Fatma Nur Bacak

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Disaster management and preventive conservation in cultural heritage: Konya Archaeology Museum case

Gülşen Dişli ^a and Fatma Nur Bacak ^b

^aDepartment of Architecture, Necmettin Erbakan University, Konya, Turkey; ^bDepartment of Architecture, KTO Karatay University, Konya, Turkey

ABSTRACT

This study focuses on the first stage of the disaster management cycle in cultural heritage, including risk preparedness and preventive conservation. The main objective is to develop a systematic approach to evaluate and investigate old museum buildings in the pre-disaster stage. Konya Archaeology Museum was chosen as a case study to test the applicability of this systematic approach, mainly the RE-ORG model and Visual Pre-assessment Method: UNI EN 16096 (2012. *Standard for Condition Survey and Report of Built Cultural Heritage*. <https://www.en-standard.eu/csn-en-16096-conservation-of-cultural-property-condition-survey-and-report-of-built-cultural-heritage>) was used to develop preventive conservation measures against the risks before they turned into damage. Thus, the magnitude of risks was determined and their prioritization was done for building and components.

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KEYWORDS

disaster management; preventive conservation; risk preparedness; cultural heritage; Konya Archaeology Museum; Turkey

Introduction

Law on the Conservation of Cultural and Natural Property (2863) adopted in 1983 in Turkey, clearly defines cultural property as movable and immovable property either on or under the ground or water, which have scientific, artistic, cultural, and religious values, belonging to before and after the recorded history. Monuments and civic architecture built until the end of the nineteenth century and the others if found eligible by the Conservation Boards, buildings representing the historic events during the National War of Independence and Foundation of Republic of Turkey, and the properties located in the protected areas are listed as immovable cultural property in Article 6 of the Law. On the other hand, specific examples of movable properties, such as paintings, miniatures, tablets, coins, manuscripts, and ornaments are listed in Article 23. In the Law, conservation, maintenance, restoration, and adaptive reuse of immovable cultural heritage, and conservation, maintenance, repair, and restoration of movable properties are counted among the primary conservation principles (The Republic of Turkey Ministry of Culture and Tourism 2021). Similarly, UNESCO classifies the cultural heritage first, as tangible and intangible, and lists the movable (paintings, sculptures, coins, manuscripts) and immovable (monuments, archaeological sites, and such) properties under the heading