



# Integrating heritage in urban development: Nagpur, Maharashtra

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## Abstract

Most often, the heritage resources in the Indian cities are ignored in planned development process. A city's heritage represents a significant physical and socioeconomic capital accumulated by communities as a result of the knowledge, investments and labour of past generations. Due to non-cognizance of heritage, deterioration takes place that results in loss of economic opportunities and the city loses its identity. The city of Nagpur is presently facing similar problems. It has a history of around 300 years and was ruled by the Gonds (1636- 1743), the Bhonsales (1743-1854) and the British (1854-1947). Thus, it has two distinct types of heritage: Colonial heritage and heritage of Bhonsales (Maratha style of architecture). Therefore, this paper proposes strategies for integrating heritage conservation in urban development process to safeguard it in future. Various levels of intervention i.e., city, study area and precinct levels are analysed. Based on the analysis it is inferred that heritage is not considered in planned development process. Hence, heritage based urban development of the city needs to be looked into so as to retain the identity and values of the city. Further it is suggested to utilize its potential for sustainable tourism and economic purposes.

**Keywords:** Urban heritage, development, colonial, gonds and bhonsale, regulations

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