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Dianne Fitzpatrick
Contributor, Heritage for Peace
contact@heritageforpeace.org

DAMAGE TO SYRIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE

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Catalonia, Spain – Heritage for Peace, a non-profit NGO launches a new mailing list to provide important, up-to-date information on the damage occurring daily to Syrian cultural heritage. Since the Syrian crisis began in 2011, Heritage Consultant, Dr. Emma Cunliffe, UK, has meticulously documented the damage to Syria's rich and diverse cultural heritage. Now, by using tools like satellite imagery, social media and reports via an international network of heritage workers Dr. Cunliffe, in conjunction with Heritage for Peace, aims to provide accurate and on-going accounts of the damage and escalating destruction via the new mailing list: <http://www.heritageforpeace.org/syria-culture-and-heritage/damage-to-cultural-heritage/subscribe-to-receive-updates-on-damage-to-syrias-heritage/>

The creation of the mailing list aims to provide updates each month which concentrate on information relevant to anyone seeking to understand more on the effects of the Syrian conflict; on its heritage and the long-term consequences for the future rebuilding of this ancient country. The launch also coincides with the latest joint statement issued by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, [UNESCO](#) Director-General Irina Bokova and UN and League of Arab States Joint Special Representative to Syria, Lakhdar Brahimi who in diplomatic terms, condemn the destruction of Syria's cultural heritage and use of cultural sites for military purposes in the strongest possible terms.

Recent communiqués report of damage and the threat of destruction in Abu Kamal; Aleppo; Arbin; Damascus; Deir; Homs; Idlib; Maloula; Palmyra and Yabroud. Some of these are towns and cities in which World Heritage properties are located. Syria has six properties inscribed on the [World Heritage List](#) and a further twelve on the [Tentative List](#). To be included on the World Heritage List, sites must be of outstanding universal value. Furthermore, other important but unlisted places like museums and archaeological sites are at risk. Recently, a security guard working at Tell Banat in Aleppo was attacked by an armed group; the dighouse was looted of scientific samples and tools. For more subscribe here: <http://www.heritageforpeace.org/syria-culture-and-heritage/damage-to-cultural-heritage/subscribe-to-receive-updates-on-damage-to-syrias-heritage/>.

Heritage for Peace takes pride in making available pertinent information to those working hard to protect and preserve their threatened cultural heritage during the conflict. As founders and facilitators of Heritage for Peace we aim to do all we can to enhance the peace process by entering into dialogue with the governments and all persons of any religion or ethnicity who matter the most in protecting and preserving irreplaceable cultural heritage. Heritage for Peace consists of volunteers. They are leading Syrian and international experts who are academics, scholars, heritage professionals and independent advisors from Syria, Australia, Germany, Lebanon, Spain, the Netherlands, United Kingdom and the United States. For more information on Heritage for Peace and our activities, visit us online at: <http://www.heritageforpeace.org/>.