



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Intergenerational Wisdom and the Echoes of Ancestral Bonds: Exploring the Legacies of Intangible Cultural Heritage in NEOM

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Abstract

This workshop will explore the intricate interplay between tradition and modernity within the local communities present in northwest Saudi Arabia- what is now NEOM- and discusses the resilience and adaptability of intangible cultural heritage (ICH), skills and traditions amidst transformative development.

Based on a collection campaign consisting of a series of interviews with local community members, the research examines social structures, cultural practices, and the impact of modernization on traditional ways of life, and explores possible linkages between contemporarily practiced elements and more historical ones.

Through an analysis of oral histories, traditional knowledge systems, and intergenerational transmission patterns, the workshop illuminates how communities navigate the preservation of their cultural identity while embracing technological and social change.

The workshop will also address critical questions about the role of youth in heritage preservation, the importance of capacity building and community development, the impact of digital documentation on traditional knowledge systems, and the potential for sustainable heritage tourism in the region.

Keywords

Intangible Cultural Heritage, Oral History, anthropology, community engagement, intergenerational Transmission

Session

3. Heritage and archaeology

Workshop

A15745PS - NEOM, a land for the future of Arabian archeology: surveys, excavations and heritage management in North-West Arabia

Type of paper

