

ABSTRACT

WARS AND ARMED CONFLICTS: DESTRUCTION AND LOOTING OF HERITAGE AND CULTURAL SITES

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Wars and armed conflict are equally disturbing and damaging to any nation affected by it. Present article thrives to understand the meaning of war and armed conflict, national and international in character, the damage it causes to the heritage and cultural property of the said nation and societies and groups affected by it. Article also covers few prominent cultural sites of worldwide importance that are damaged in past years and conventions formulated for its safeguard and the agencies associated with its protection. Damage to property is not the only concern affecting the World, but a major concern is the looting of artefacts from these sites and selling them in black market. This activity, not only makes the cultural and heritage sites vulnerable to destruction and war, but also negatively impacts the population living around and communities and society attached to it. Constant cumulative efforts are needed for its safeguard and protection. Military should be involved and government of all states should have equal and active participation.

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