

Recovering Cultural Heritage: Historical Insights into Ethiopia's Unique Approach and Present Challenges

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Abstract : Ethiopia is an un-colonized African state with rich cultural and natural heritage resources. Due to different reasons, Ethiopia has various cultural heritage resources residing in different countries. Started in the second half of the 19th century, different Ethiopian regimes have been working to recover the country's cultural heritage treasures. Thus, the purpose of this article is to explore the endeavours that have been exerted to recover the cultural heritage of Ethiopia to their original place. As this article reveals, differed from other African countries' endeavour for the restitution of their looted cultural treasures, Ethiopia's approach to recover its cultural heritage is somewhat unique. This paper also argues that, although Ethiopia has been working for a century and a half to reconstitute its cultural heritages, the endeavours of Ethiopian governments to recover Ethiopia's priceless cultural heritage have still been minimal. The efforts to recover Ethiopian cultural heritage have shown progress with increasing magnitude. However, large-scale endeavors are still needed to bring back the priceless cultural heritage resources to their country of origin.

Keywords : Ethiopia, cultural heritage, plundered heritage, recovering cultural heritage, endeavor to recover cultural heritage

Conference Title : ICAHVC 2024 : International Conference on Art History and Visual Culture

Conference Location : Bucharest, Romania

Conference Dates : May 16-17, 2024