Memory of the World works to preserve globally significant documentary heritage such as, the written word on paper, palm leaves, leather or stone and interestingly, audiovisual materials including films, which are in libraries and archives, museums and universities.

Civilized society has the responsibility to recognize the value of any document which may reflect a period of momentous change in the world affairs or make an outstanding contribution to our understanding of the world at a particularly important time in the history.

In addition to ensured preservation of documentary heritage which has world significance, it's encouraged to set up and to promote of the national and regional registers in parallel to with the "Memory of the World" Register.

- Increase the level of open access to documentary heritage based on the appropriate means.
- Raise awareness of Memory of the World in the society, and among professionals especially in history and archeology.
- Set up strategies to efficiently operate the natural and cultural heritage on the UNESCO lists and registers.
-

(National commissions)

Social and cultural benefits

To be inscribed on the registers, documentary heritage is recognized and can be better preserved.The significance of such documentary heritage can be spotlighted to enjoy more publicity and social attention. This helps those documents of which people have lost memory come back to tell the story.

And it can be accessible to the public in more straight-forward ways, for instance, either by internet or exhibition tour. wider transmission of historical knowledge gets cross the boundary. It benefits universal to have a deep understanding of a particular period.

Thus, as those endangered heritages get duplicated and digitalized, it's not only good for preservation, but also for the purpose of raising awareness to such historically precious items.

INTRODUCTION

The Memory of the World is the documented, collective memory of the peoples of the world – their documentary heritage – which in turn represents a large proportion of the world's cultural heritage. It charts the evolution of thought, discovery and achievement of human society. It is the legacy of the past to the world community of the present and the future.

War and social disturbance, as well as severe lack of resources, have worsened problems which have existed for centuries. Significant collections worldwide have suffered a variety of fates. Looting and dispersal, illegal trading, natural causes, destruction, inadequate housing and funding have all played a part.
UNESCO has launched the Memory of the World Program to guard against collective amnesia calling upon the preservation of the valuable archive holdings and library collections all over the world ensuring their wide dissemination.

Objectives of Memory of the World

- To facilitate preservation, by the most appropriate techniques, of the world's documentary heritage.
- To assist universal access to documentary heritage.
- To increase awareness worldwide of the existence and significance of documentary heritage.

Why is documentary heritage important?

Documentary heritage in libraries and archives, museums and universities constitutes a major part of the memory of the peoples of the world and reflects the diversity of peoples, languages and cultures. But that memory is fragile.

Various carriers of the memory which are already endangered can vanish easily. Only if we take efforts, can we maintain those valuable legacies. Preservation of documentary heritage is one of feasible ways to keep those historical treasures fresh in our memory and make the history accessible to future generations.

MEMORI DUNIA
세계의 메모리
दुनिया की स्मृति
bộ nhớ của thế giới
世界のメモリ
ล็อค
Memory of the World
MEMORY OF THE WORLD
世界的记忆
MEMORY NG MUNDO
ذاكرة العالم

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Memory of the World