Some background in US research

Sacred natural sites (SNS) comprise a variety of unique nature-based features that are of spiritual significance to a range of cultural groups and traditions (e.g., mountainous, woodland, savannah, marine, freshwater, etc.). They are found in a broad range of contexts, including protected areas, forests, sacred groves, and agricultural landscapes. The authors listed no less than 100 sites of spiritual importance located in parks or nature protection areas. The authors noted the vast diversity of plant and animal species found in SNS, as well as the importance of these sites for cultural and spiritual reasons. They also noted the importance of SNS for the conservation of biodiversity, as they are home to a large number of endemic and threatened species.

In the pioneering article 'Sacred Groves of India: A plea for continued conservation', published in the Journal of Bombay Natural History Society (72:2), 1975, Gadgil and Vartak noted that certain sites had been protected through traditional belief systems in India, such as the practice of 'jatra' in the Western Ghats. They highlighted the importance of these sites for the conservation of biodiversity, as they are home to a large number of endemic and threatened species.

But first… why sacred natural sites?

As of today, the link between sacred places and conservation is an expanding field of scientific research. Several factors have contributed to this interest, including the recognition of the importance of cultural and spiritual values in conservation efforts, as well as the recognition of the importance of biodiversity conservation in the maintenance of cultural and spiritual traditions. As such, we and many like us believe that the conservation of sacred natural sites is of vital importance, and that dedicated research into their conservation and management is needed.

The IUCN motion on sacred natural sites (CGR4.MOT053) at the World Conservation Congress, Spain 2008, recognized the importance of sacred natural sites for biodiversity conservation, and called for their protection and management. The motion stated that "sacred natural sites are of particular significance for cultural and spiritual reasons, and that they are often highly biodiverse. They are therefore an important component of the global biodiversity conservation network." The motion also called for the establishment of a global network of sacred natural sites, and for the development of guidelines for their conservation and management.

But why now?

Recent developments in the field of sacred natural sites research have highlighted the importance of these sites for biodiversity conservation, as well as for cultural and spiritual reasons. The IUCN Sacred Natural Sites Network (ISSRN) was established in 2005, with the aim of promoting research and action on sacred natural sites. The network has since grown to include hundreds of members from around the world, and has produced a number of publications and events on the topic.

The network has also collaborated with other organizations, such as the Alliance of Religion and Conservation (ARC), which works with the world's major faith groups to develop environmental conservation programmes based on their own religious values. The network has also collaborated with the Sacred Land Film Project, which produces educational and media materials to help broaden the public's awareness and understanding of sacred sites, indigenous cultures, and biodiversity.

The network has also collaborated with the World Conservation Union (IUCN), which is a global organization that works to conserve biodiversity and protect the environment. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice.

The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice.

About the newsletter

The Sacred Sites Research Newsletter (ISSRNC) is a new quarterly publication that aims to provide a platform for research and discussion on sacred natural sites. The newsletter is intended to be a space for the exchange of ideas and information, and to promote collaboration across disciplines and institutions.

The newsletter is published by the ISSRN, and is edited by Emma Shepheard-Walwyn. It is designed by Fabrizio Frascaroli, and the logo is by Helen Simmons.

The newsletter is aimed at scholars but also practitioners and policy makers, and is intended to contribute to their work, by soliciting discussions, promoting ideas for research and encouraging cooperation across disciplines and institutions.

The newsletter is intended to be a space for the exchange of ideas and information, and to promote collaboration across disciplines and institutions.

ISSRN

The Sacred Sites Research Network (ISSRN) was established in 2005, with the aim of promoting research and action on sacred natural sites. The network has since grown to include hundreds of members from around the world, and has produced a number of publications and events on the topic. The network has also collaborated with other organizations, such as the Alliance of Religion and Conservation (ARC), which works with the world's major faith groups to develop environmental conservation programmes based on their own religious values.

The network has also collaborated with the Sacred Land Film Project, which produces educational and media materials to help broaden the public's awareness and understanding of sacred sites, indigenous cultures, and biodiversity.

The network has also collaborated with the World Conservation Union (IUCN), which is a global organization that works to conserve biodiversity and protect the environment. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice.

The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice.

Contact the Editors

To contribute to the newsletter, or to introduce their work in a feature article, please contact the editors:

Emma Shepheard-Walwyn

emw@mount.all.net

Fabrizio Frascaroli

fabrizio.frascaroli@ieu.uzh.ch

ISSRN

The Sacred Sites Research Network (ISSRN) was established in 2005, with the aim of promoting research and action on sacred natural sites. The network has since grown to include hundreds of members from around the world, and has produced a number of publications and events on the topic. The network has also collaborated with other organizations, such as the Alliance of Religion and Conservation (ARC), which works with the world's major faith groups to develop environmental conservation programmes based on their own religious values.

The network has also collaborated with the Sacred Land Film Project, which produces educational and media materials to help broaden the public's awareness and understanding of sacred sites, indigenous cultures, and biodiversity.

The network has also collaborated with the World Conservation Union (IUCN), which is a global organization that works to conserve biodiversity and protect the environment. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice.

The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice.

About the newsletter

The Sacred Sites Research Newsletter (ISSRNC) is a new quarterly publication that aims to provide a platform for research and discussion on sacred natural sites. The newsletter is intended to be a space for the exchange of ideas and information, and to promote collaboration across disciplines and institutions.

The newsletter is published by the ISSRN, and is edited by Emma Shepheard-Walwyn. It is designed by Fabrizio Frascaroli, and the logo is by Helen Simmons.

The newsletter is aimed at scholars but also practitioners and policy makers, and is intended to contribute to their work, by soliciting discussions, promoting ideas for research and encouraging cooperation across disciplines and institutions.

The newsletter is intended to be a space for the exchange of ideas and information, and to promote collaboration across disciplines and institutions.

ISSRN

The Sacred Sites Research Network (ISSRN) was established in 2005, with the aim of promoting research and action on sacred natural sites. The network has since grown to include hundreds of members from around the world, and has produced a number of publications and events on the topic. The network has also collaborated with other organizations, such as the Alliance of Religion and Conservation (ARC), which works with the world's major faith groups to develop environmental conservation programmes based on their own religious values.

The network has also collaborated with the Sacred Land Film Project, which produces educational and media materials to help broaden the public's awareness and understanding of sacred sites, indigenous cultures, and biodiversity.

The network has also collaborated with the World Conservation Union (IUCN), which is a global organization that works to conserve biodiversity and protect the environment. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice.

The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice.

Contact the Editors

To contribute to the newsletter, or to introduce their work in a feature article, please contact the editors:

Emma Shepheard-Walwyn

emw@mount.all.net

Fabrizio Frascaroli

fabrizio.frascaroli@ieu.uzh.ch

ISSRN

The Sacred Sites Research Network (ISSRN) was established in 2005, with the aim of promoting research and action on sacred natural sites. The network has since grown to include hundreds of members from around the world, and has produced a number of publications and events on the topic. The network has also collaborated with other organizations, such as the Alliance of Religion and Conservation (ARC), which works with the world's major faith groups to develop environmental conservation programmes based on their own religious values.

The network has also collaborated with the Sacred Land Film Project, which produces educational and media materials to help broaden the public's awareness and understanding of sacred sites, indigenous cultures, and biodiversity.

The network has also collaborated with the World Conservation Union (IUCN), which is a global organization that works to conserve biodiversity and protect the environment. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice.

The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice. The network has also collaborated with the World Council of Churches, which is a global organization of Christian churches that works to promote peace and justice.

About the newsletter

The Sacred Sites Research Newsletter (ISSRNC) is a new quarterly publication that aims to provide a platform for research and discussion on sacred natural sites. The newsletter is intended to be a space for the exchange of ideas and information, and to promote collaboration across disciplines and institutions.

The newsletter is published by the ISSRN, and is edited by Emma Shepheard-Walwyn. It is designed by Fabrizio Frascaroli, and the logo is by Helen Simmons.