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Researchers to document ancient Iranian architecture

TEHRAN – A project to more systematically document ancient Iranian historical structures and architecture is to be implemented during the next Iranian calendar year (begins March 21, 2005), the director of the Research Center of the Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization (CHTO) announced on Monday.

Mohammad-Hassan Mohebali said that the documentation project will collect comprehensive information about various styles of architecture over the course of Iran's history.

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“Considering the Iranian culture and its variety of styles of architecture in various eras, the research center plans to gather information on the characteristics of historical architecture constructed by different emperors in ancient times, which will help shed light on unknown aspects of the architecture of various eras,” he noted.

According to Mohebali, the project will be implemented in several phases at a number of major monuments and palaces across the country.

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He stated that historical monuments in Shiraz, Isfahan, Qazvin, Tabriz, and Yazd are scheduled to be studied in the first phase.

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He went on to say that the style of architecture, construction materials, changes over the years, and earthquakes and their effects on the architecture of the monuments will be studied during the documentation process.

Upon completion of the project, comprehensive data on Iranian culture will be available which will help the CHTO draft systemized regulations for the renovation of historical sites, Mohebali said in conclusion. The palace of Ardashir I (third century C.E.), the oldest example of Sassanid architecture, which is located near Firuzabad in Fars Province

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