



# Lut Desert

The First Natural Properties of Iran  
Inscribed on the world Heritage List  
2016

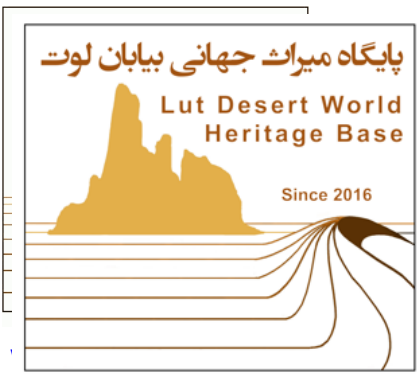
Islamic Republic of IRAN



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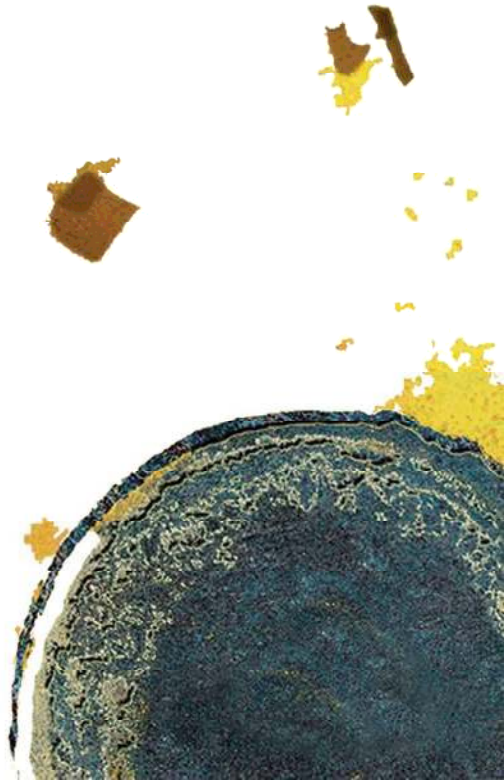
Preparation of World Heritage Nomination Dossiers Office  
Lut Desert World Heritage Site Research Base

Summer 2018  
Iran/ Tehran



بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

*In The Name of Allah, The Beneficent,  
The Merciful...*





The First Natural Properties of Iran Inscribed on the World Heritage List

2016

# Lut Desert

Islamic Republic of Iran

Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization (ICHHTO)

Adapted From The Lut Desert Nomination Dossier/ 2015

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## Lut Desert

In Persian language the term “LUT” refers to a bare land without water and devoid of vegetation that is generally covered by sand and pebbles. It seems that in this case the word LUT as a local name has also been applied to a vast desert land.

A large part of Lut Desert has no plant life without any signs of vegetation either. Also there exist neither halophyte bushes nor any kind of annual plants.

- Lut Desert  
Photo by: Mehran Maghsoudi/2015

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## Introduction

*"The Lut desert is the first natural site of Iran that inscribed in the world heritage list in fortieth world heritage committee in Istanbul (2016)."*

Lut Desert (E: 58° 50' 20" N: 30° 12' 58") is located in the southeast of Iran and is shared among three provinces of Kerman, Sistan-Baluchestan and Khorasan-e Jonubi. It is located 100 km east of Kerman City which is one of the historical cities of Iran. The property is located north of Arg-e Bam (Bam and its cultural landscape) that was inscribed as a world heritage site in 2004. Lut Desert is also located west of Shahr-i Sokhta (Shahr-e Sokhteh) which was inscribed as a world heritage site in 2014.

It is composed of two distinct regions in terms of topography. The first is a vast and flat plain in the center and the second is consisted of hills and separated highlands on the margins. Sirch City, with its favorable climatic conditions is located at a distance of 20 km from the desert area. Snow covered mountains of Kerman is easily visible from the vantage point of various landforms of Lut Desert producing a marvelous and spectacular landscape. This desert represents an interesting example of the integrated performance of geomorphic and geologic processes and climate changes. Together with its complex landforms, Lut Desert is a part of the Lut Plain, the area of which is larger than the size of the property and its buffer zone. The existence of a set of spectacular desert landforms beside each other creates features that constitute the natural borders of the property. The property is bounded by these features from the east, west, north, and south. These features as the main geomorphologic units of Lut Desert can readily be distinguished from the surrounding features. They include:

*yardangs (Kaluts), Yallan Sand Sea (Rig-e Yallan), Shur River, Gandom Beryan area, Nebkhas, Hamadas in the central parts, Rig-e Markazi (Central Erg), Shurgaz-e Hamun (Playa) and southern erg.*

*Lut Desert was registered on the list of National Properties of Iran in 20<sup>th</sup> August 2014*

- Shur River in the northwest of Lut desert  
Photo by: M. Maghsoudi/2015





- Rig-e Yallan (Yallan Sand Sea)  
Photo by: M. Maghsoudi/2015



## *Natural Characteristic of Lut Desert*

Lut Desert is mainly composed of yardangs (kaluts) of Lut, Rig-e Yallan (Yallan sand sea), hamadas of the middle part, and nebkhas. They constitute the main body of Lut Desert but there exist also many features as other components of the desert. Generally, the main components are yardangs in the west (32.61%), Rig-e Yallan in the east (40.16 %), hamadas in the middle (11.9 %), and nebkhas on the marginal parts of the west (3.10 %). The other components including Shur River, Gandom Beryan (a plateau covered with dark lava) and Shurgaz-e Hamun Playa cover about 1.96 %, 0.72 %, and 1.60 % of the area of the desert, respectively.

Location of the area in a hyper-arid region with strong winds, abundant lake deposits resulting in the development of yardangs, and presence of fine-grained sediments all have provided appropriate conditions for the creation and evolution of landforms in Lut Desert. Strong winds blowing in the northwest to southeast direction west of yardangs as well as the unidirectional, multidirectional and convergent winds in the eastern part, where Rig-e Yallan is situated, has created very beautiful and diverse features in the area.

There are wide varieties of sandy landforms in the region. This is indicative of the formative processes of landforms during the geologic history of the area. It is noteworthy that water and water-induced processes have played an important role in the origination and further development of kaluts (yardangs). In most of the cases, the diversity in forms of kaluts (yardangs) is the result of the integrated performance of water and winds. However, Lut Desert not only has aesthetic values but also is indicative of the historical processes involved in configuration of the region and of its geologic history as well. The diversity of landscapes and the wilderness of the region provide an ideal site for scientific research and geotourism.

- Kaluts (Yardangs)  
Photo by: A. Amrikazemi/2014





## Shur River

Shur River (Rud-e Shur) boasts a vast drainage basin and originates from areas receiving more than average precipitation and the only perennial river flowing into the central depression of Lut Desert. Other streams only flow during a short period in the cold season but Shur River has water almost throughout the year and its very high salinity has created a variety of beautiful landscapes. The sinuous image of the river south of "Gandom Beryan" and its consecutive transformations gives a fascinating beauty to the area

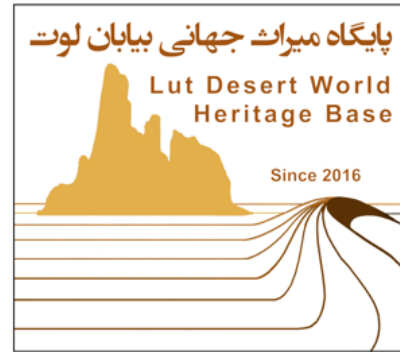
Photo by: M. Maghsoudi / 2015



## Gandom Beryan

Gandom Beryan is composed of igneous lavas which are relatively young. Because of their dark color and high elevation in comparison with the surrounding features, they have made picturesque landforms. These lavas serve as a shield to protect the lower sediments that are eroded in other areas of Lut Desert. The lavas comprising Gandom Beryan constitute a plateau overlooking Shur River. The splintered particles of basalts are severely fractured and polished by wind erosion.

Gandom Beryan boasts a variety of mushroom-like desert landforms created by the prevailing wind from northwest to north east. Tafonis and ventifact are seen on beautiful landforms of Gandom Beryan area. In this part of Lut Desert also sand ramps can be seen. Gandom Beryan together with other landforms of Lut Desert constitutes the body of desert landforms.



- Igneous Lavas, Gandom Beryan  
Photo by: M. Gaeni/2015



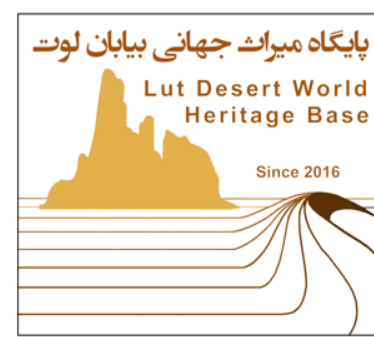


## People in Lut Desert

There are several villages around the property. Many people live in these villages having different languages, ceremonies and cultural characteristics belonging to three provinces, therefore cultural diversity is one of the prominent qualities of Lut desert dwellers. In Dehsalm (Khorasen-e Jonubi Province) people cultivate palm trees and fabricate handicrafts from palm tree leaves in order to earn a livelihood. Also they breed camels used by travelers for passing Lut Desert (especially from Dehsalm to Shahdad) during the course of history. These people also enjoy a natural talent for writing poetry and many of them have ability for improvising poems. Also in Shahdad (Kerman province), people work in the agricultural sector but with different agricultural products such as orange, Sedr (a kind of herb used for coloring of hair and skin) and cultivation of palm trees. In Sistano Baluchestan, people wear white clothes and also have different handicrafts such as needlework, pottery, embroidered coins. Animal husbandry is one of the main activities of people in Nosrat-abad area.

Photo by: M. Maghsoudi/2014





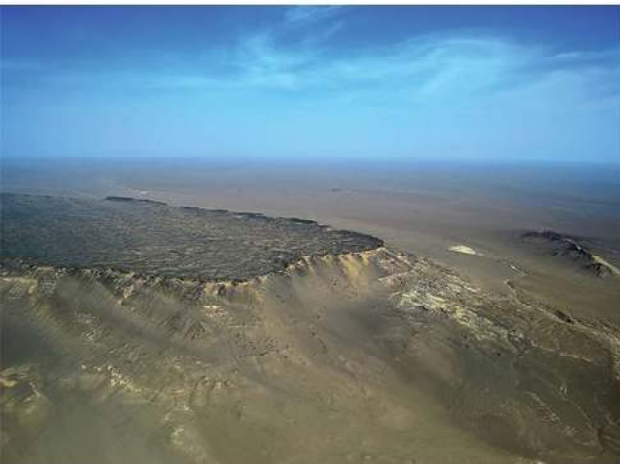
## Description of Property

*"From 2003 to 2009 for 5 years the hottest spot on the earth surface with a temperature of 70.73" was recorded in Lut Desert."*

With its unique landforms, Lut Desert is a perfect laboratory for geological and geomorphological researches. As a result it has attracted many researchers for these purposes. The Hydro-Aeolian erosional and depositional landforms in the area provide an appropriate opportunity for researchers. The wind processes are the most dominant formative processes affecting the landforms.

In addition to the above mentioned characteristics, presence of many pre-historic and historic sites in the property and its buffer zone gives a high potential to the area. The existence of these sites as well as cemeteries related to the copper age and later, historical castles with their spectacular qanats (aqueducts) enhance the charm and attractiveness of the area. This is thoroughly a perfect property conserved well due to inaccessibility of the region.

- Landform of Lut desert  
Photo by: M. Maghsoudi/2015





- Dreamy City of Lut (Shahr-e Khialy-ye Lut)  
Photo by: A. Amrikazemi/2014





## Regulations Related to the Property

The Lut Desert is 235 km long and 220 km wide which are to some extent variable in different parts. The exact area of the property is 22780.15 km<sup>2</sup> and that of its buffer zone is 17941.34 km<sup>2</sup>.

- 1 Any kind of interference and consequently degradation and damage to the property is prohibited;
- 2 All restoration, conservation, research and excavation activities must be first approved by the steering committee of Lut Desert Base;
- 3 Any intervention altering the integrity of the property is not allowed;
- 4 Cultivation of lands belonging to the Forests, Pasturelands and Watershed Management Organization in the property is prohibited pending legal permission from that organization;
- 5 Any project of reorganization, expansion of rural areas, development of green spaces and initiation of tourism infrastructures is only allowed when approved by the steering committee of Lut Desert Base and after obtaining permission from the committee;
- 6 Any kind of tourism activities including sports and other activities must be initially approved by the Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization (ICHHTO);
- 7 Supplementary plans regarding illumination, electronic protection as well as mechanical and electronic utilities must be done only after the approval of Lut Desert Base.

### Regulation of Buffer Zone:

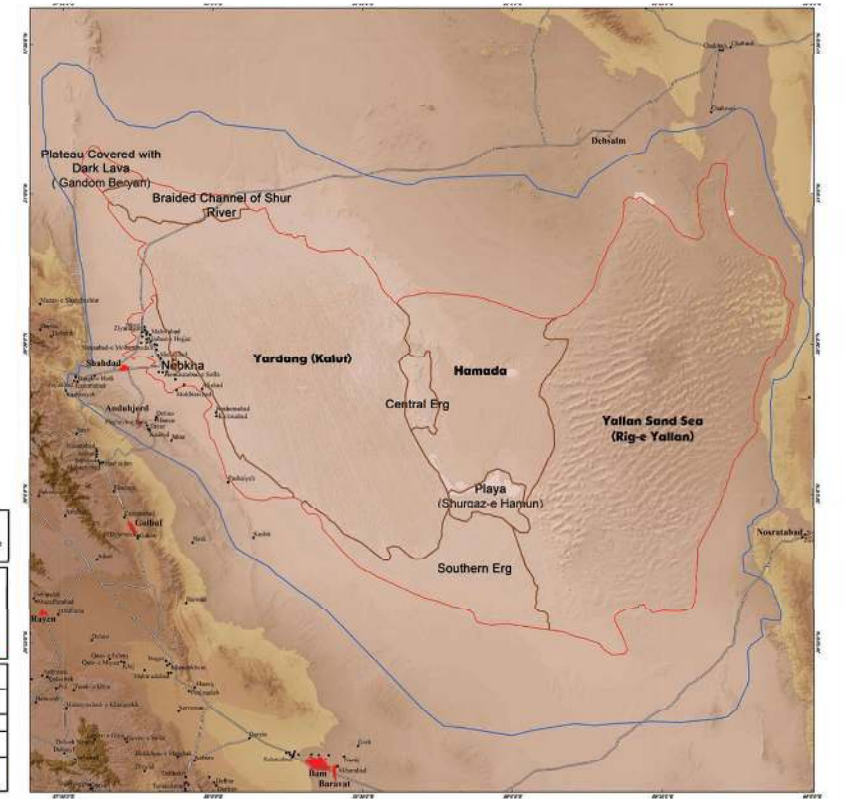
- 1 Any kind of intervention and damage to the integrity and ownership of the property is not allowed inside the buffer zone;
- 2 Application of heavy machinery and environmental pollutants harmful to the property is banned;
- 3 Any project of reorganization, expansion of rural areas, development of green spaces, and initiation of tourism infrastructures is only allowed when approved by the steering committee of Lut Desert Base and by getting permission from the committee;
- 4 Installation and establishment of polluting equipment as well as making topographic changes (such as unearthing) potentially resulting in damage to the property is not allowed;
- 5 Any intervention in natural resources and rivers shall be in accordance with the regulations of the Forests, Pasturelands and Watershed Management Organization and the Environment Protection Organization;
- 6 Deploying power lines, installing poles, establishing industrial facilities and developing roads within this area is subject to getting relevant permits from Lut Desert Base.

The borders of the buffer zone are bounded by the hills in the west and include Shahdad town and nearby villages as well. This characteristic helps both to protect the property and to provide a place for establishing tourism facilities. In this regard, the local community feels sympathy for the property and is eager for participation in such activities.

The boundary of the property is extended, in the north and south to the area containing important individual landforms. In the east the boundary is limited to the flanks of the local mountains and the divides.



- Map of Nominated Property Boundaries  
Ref.: Lut Desert Dossier/ 2015



### Means of Implementing Protective Measures:

Organizations in charge of conservation and management of the property are: the Forests, Pasturelands and Watershed Management Organization, the Environment Protection Organization and Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts, and Tourism Organization (ICHHTO). The Forests, Pasturelands and Watershed Management Organization undertook management of national lands ownership, conservation of the property out of the protected areas, assignment and exploitation, investigation, implementation of catchment management project, fighting the process of desertification and managing the watershed in the area of the property. The Environment Protection Organization is responsible for managing the protection and exploitation of Darband Ravar Wildlife Sanctuary and the Hunting Prohibited Area of Bolbolab as well as environmental assessment of future development projects in the region. The Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts, and Tourism Organization is also in charge of management of tourism, handicrafts of rural areas, and protection and remediation of relics and historical heritage inside the core zone and buffer zone of the property. The Lut Desert Base is in charge of supervising conservation activities within the property and its buffer zone. On the other hand, Deputy of Cultural Heritage which is a sub-sector of ICHHTO is responsible for supervising the activities done by the Lut Desert Base. In fact it is clear that ICHHTO is responsible and focal point for management on behalf from government of Iran.



- Lut Desert  
Photo by: A.Amrikazemi/2014



# Statement of Outstanding Universal

Lut Desert is situated in the southeast of Iran east of Zagros and the central mountains where the least amount of annual precipitation occurs; as a result it is considered as the most arid land of Iran and the world. The area of entire property including Rig-e Yallan, yardangs, and eastern nebkhas, bed of Shur River, Gandom Beryan, and hamadas of middle part, Shurgaz-e Hamun, central Rig equals 22780.15 km<sup>2</sup> and the area of its buffer zone is 17941.34 km<sup>2</sup>. Rig-e Yallan is 180 km long and 68 km wide. The yardangs are about 160 km long and 70 km wide, in the widest section. Lut Desert enjoys unique and special features exceptional in the whole world. Features existing in Lut Desert and their diversity in a complex cannot be seen in any other inscribed properties in the world heritage list.

The vegetation in the area is very poor and in yardangs region no vegetation can be observed at all. The reports indicate the minimum animal activities in the region. The structure of yardangs is consisted of old lake sediments eroded by hydro-Aeolian processes. Huge unique Kaluts (yardangs) are formed in the region. The highest kaluts (yardangs) of the world can also be found in the region. Wind deflation and water erosion are resulted from the performance of Shur River and scarce precipitation. The deflation and water erosions are main agents contributing to the appearance of small (kalutak) and large kaluts (yardangs). The yardangs in some parts are more than 155 meters high. The small kaluts (yardangs) known as kalutak can be seen on the western and northern margins. The winds from the northwest to southeast have created deflation inside the corridors between the yardangs and have transported sediments with different sizes towards the southeast. The maximum strength of the winds is during summers, especially in the afternoons. These winds can accumulate the sand particles forming reflective dunes, mega ripple marks and barchans dunes.

“Nebkhas” of the western part of Lut Desert are the largest in the world. Some of the Nebkhas are about 12 meters high. The sand sea known as Rig-e Yallan in the eastern part is a complex with a wide variety of sand dunes which are often more than 475 m high. Therefore, it can be said that Lut Desert boasts landforms unique in the entire world. What is more important is that all the special landforms of desert areas can be observed beside each other in a complex. Another issue that gives the desert an outstanding universal value is recording of the hottest spot of the Earth in this area. From 2003 to 2009, the hottest point of the earth was recorded for 5 successive years in Lut Desert, in the southwest of Rig-e Yallan.

- Yardang (Kalut) in the West of Lut Desert  
Photo by: A.Amrikazemi/2014

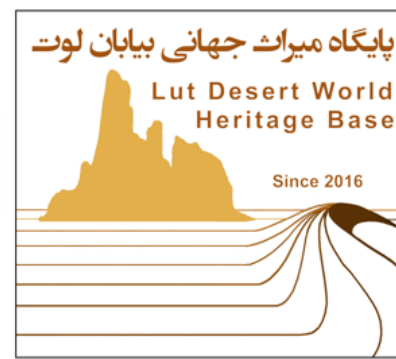
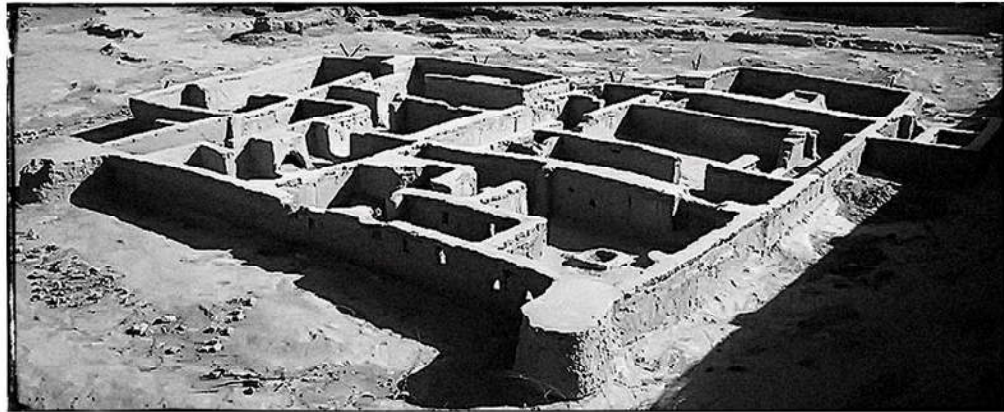


## Historical and Archaeological Perspective

Lut Desert is famous due to its natural attractions and Kaluts are the most typical phenomenal feature of the desert. Consequently hundreds of tourists have been attracted to the region on a yearly basis. It is worth mentioning that apart from the unique natural landscape of Lut, the cultural/ archaeological landscape on its western fringe is very well-known and important in Near Eastern archaeology. Shahdad Plain (western edge of Lut) located on the eastern flank of Kerman dividing range, in an alluvial north-south pocket, and bordering the western fringes of Lut desert which is well supplied with water by two rivers and several qanats.

Through the last ten centuries when the city was known as "Khabis" it was an important trading place on the so-called "Silk Road" connecting the seaports on the "Persian Gulf" to Middle Asian regions and also the distant regions in the East and West. Besides its important geographical position, it was and still is famous for its local production of various goods like dates, several citrus fruits, cereals, hemp as well as henna.

Human life in Lut Plain region dates back to 7000 years ago; since the 5<sup>th</sup> millennium BC the region has always been inhabited by human societies. The western fringe of Lut Plain (Shahdad Plain), despite its proximity to the arid and hot desert of Lut, had been selected as a dwelling-place by ancient men. Based on archeological evidence, the region has a 7-thousand-year history of human culture and civilization.



- Ceramic Container, Chlorite Vessels, Clay statue, Bronze Flag/ Shahdad, Lut Desert Dated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium B.C Excavations by Ali Hakemi, 1997

- Residential Architectural Complex Exposed in Excavations at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium B.C city of Shahdad, Lut Desert

Photo by: Nasir Eskandari



- Keshit, An Early Islamic Castle in the west of Lut

Photo by: Nasir Eskandari

At first glance, it may seem that the region was devoid of inhabitants in the old times due to repulsive factors including: aridity, shortage of water, poor vegetation, lack of animal life, severe sandstorms, hot weather, and constant movement of pebbles and sands but the archeological evidence contradicts the idea. However despite the existence of such negative factors, it seems that elements attractive for human living in the environment were significant enough for convincing ancient people to inhabit such harsh environment since 7000 years ago. Strategic position of western Lut as a natural corridor for connecting the south to the north has served as one of the major appealing factors for the ancients.

### Three important characteristics of the region that gave it a universal value in terms of archeology are:

- 1: Continuation of seven thousand years of incessant settlement;
- 2: Establishment of two of the oldest cities of the world in the region;
- 3: Crossing of the world commercial road of the ancient times, the "Silk Road" through this region.



# Research in Lut Desert

Other than the reports of Iranian and foreign travelers about this desert, the Institute of Geography, in University of Tehran, in 1968 conducted different studies in the fields of geology, geomorphology, pedology, botany and zoology, archeology, climatology, and historical geography. The institute publishes the reports of the studies. Among studies of the institute are researches carried out by a French group with collaboration of the Institute of Geography, University of Tehran. The works of the collaborated group is a comprehensive research about Lut Desert. Reports of the mission were published in the years 1968 to 1978 by the Institute of Geography. In addition, the geology report of Lut Desert was written by George Konrad and Gaklin Konrad. The report was translated to Farsi and published by Mahmoudi. Moreover, the reports included: Lut-e Zangi-ahmad, Soil Samples of Shahdad, Water Networks of Lut Plain, Lut Fauna, and Geologic Issues of Lut published by Mostofi (1969), Kardavani (1971), Mahmoudi (1975), Balouch (1976), and Motamed (1988), respectively.

- The Research Group of Institute of Geography  
University of Tehran, Sorbonne University and C.N.R.S  
- Yardangs (Kaluts) Northeast of Shahdad/1968-1973  
Photo Ref.: The Institute of Geography, University of Tehran Archive





# Criteria under which the Lut Desert is Inscribed on the World Heritage List

*Lut Desert located in the southwest of Iran has a variety of superlative landforms and landscapes. The landscapes are extremely beautiful. They indicate the processes that were influential in the evolution and formation of geological and geomorphological phenomena. The property observes two criteria of vii and viii.*

**Criterion vii: contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance.**

Lut Desert is positioned in a region called by some scientists as a no-life area. This desert with its excellent panorama of the highest kaluts (yardangs) of the world presents interesting scenes of different forms of kaluts (yardangs). Unique landscapes of the Yallan Sand Sea (Rig-e Yallan) boast the highest sand dunes of the world and a variety of landforms. The area has also the highest nebkhas of the world. These are regarded as some of the magic scenes of the property. The proximity of these features is also important. In other words, all the unique features can readily be observed almost simultaneously. On the other hand, from inside the area it is possible to observe the snow covered mountains in surrounding areas. The crystal clear sky of Lut Desert contains minimal moisture; this makes it possible for tourists to have a clear view of the landforms at daytime and for other visitors or astronomers to easily observe the space at nighttime. In other words, due to the absence of any humidity and cloud in the air of Lut Desert, in daylight one can clearly see distant landforms while during the night, a starry sky as well as the outer space can be easily observed. Moreover, the existence of the hottest spot of the earth in the desert emphasizes on the importance of inscribing the property in the World Heritage List.

**Criterion viii: is an outstanding example representing major stages of earth's history, significant ongoing geological processes in the development of landforms, and significant geomorphic and physiographic features.**

In addition to wind erosion as a continuous process in forming the landforms of arid areas, the water plays an exceptional role in the development of geomorphic landforms of Lut Desert. The braided course of Shur River creating wandering small linear channels on the area has prepared optimal conditions for wind activity and development of kaluts (yardangs).

- Shur River  
Photo by: M.Mghsoudi/2015



On the other hand, the severe northwest-southeast winds, which are dominant in the region most of the year, facilitate the process of kalut (yardang) development. Nevertheless, the evolution of kaluts (yardangs) of the region is also dependent upon fine grained sediments deposited in a fluvial lake dating back to the ice age in Lut Plain. Indeed, the history of the geological evolution of Lut Desert represents an era when the mountainous glaciers were dominant on high latitude areas, some lakes were created in this part of the world thanks to higher precipitations.

These lakes served as a place for the accumulation of runoffs from surrounding drainage basins. The geologic and geomorphic evolution process of Lut Desert is indicative of the transportation of the sediments from kaluts (yardangs) to the southern and eastern parts of the region. This accelerated the evolution process of Rig-e Yallan. In other words, during the evolution of the landforms in the region, the wind transported the sediments from the corridors among kaluts (yardangs) and from the surface of alluvial fans and endorheic basins to the south and east. This prepared suitable conditions for creating the highest sand dunes of the world.

- Rig-e Yallan (Yallan sand sea) in the eastern part of Lut
- Kaluts (Yardangs)

Photo by: M.Mghsoudi/2015



# Research Bases of Lut Desert



*"According to the management plan now there are Eco-lodges in 3 bases of Lut Desert namely in Shafi-abad, Dehsalm and Nosrat-abad and ICHHTO encourages the local community to establish this kind of eco-lodge. This policy leads people to be more active in conservation of the nature"*

Bases located at Lut Desert are responsible for conservation activities within the property and its buffer zone. In Lut Desert there are three bases in provinces of Kerman (Shafi-abad Base), Sistan Baluchestan (Nosrat-abad Base) and Khorasan-e Jonubi (Dehsalm base). The Lut Desert bases are under the management of the Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handcrafts and Tourism Organization acting as a government organization of the state party. Among duties of these bases are:

- 1 Gathering information about all subjects related to tourism such as number of foreign and domestic tourists;
- 2 Installation of multi-lingual guidance signboards in and around Lut Desert;
- 3 Designing of tourist paths based on investigation and evaluation of geo-sites;
- 4 Managing the visitors and conducting them to some specified areas;
- 5 Issuing work licenses for tourist operators;
- 6 Regular and continuous monitoring of the property and its buffer zone for conservation purposes;
- 7 Monitoring and management of all camps and Eco-lodge located in and around Lut Desert;
- 8 Producing of good quality information such as displays, booklets, DVDs, websites, posters, brochures, maps, and signage;
- 9 Construction of visitor centers in Lut Desert bases in Shahdad, Dehsalm and Nosratabad;
- 10 Holding a number of workshops with participation of local communities.

In the base, regular meetings of the steering committee provide members an opportunity to share their ideas and experiences. Indeed, a steering committee was established in Iran for better integrated management of Lut Desert. The tasks of the committee were decision making about the strategic issues for conservation and management actions in the property.



The committee consisted of different ministries and the Lut Desert Base administrates organizations with their specified duties. In fact the steering committee is composed of agents and authorities of different organizations and stakeholders. The committee is very strategic for Lut Desert and is managed by the Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handcrafts and Tourism Organization as a government organization of the state party. The chairman of the organization is a deputy of the president of the Islamic Republic.

## The steering committee acts as the agent of the state party; therefore ICHHTO serves as the center responsible for management on behalf of the government of Iran

- Representative of the Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handcrafts and Tourism Organization as secretariat;
- Agent of the Environment Protection Organization;
- Agent of the Organization of Forests, Pasturelands and Watershed Management;
- Agents from the provinces of Kerman, Khorasan-e Jonubi and Sistan Baluchestan;
- Representative of the local community;
- Representative of travel agencies;
- Agent of Geological Survey of Iran;
- Agent from Geography Institute of University of Tehran.

The rules of the committee are issued by Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handcrafts and Tourism Organization. The committee makes necessary coordination among stakeholders involved and determines the strategies related to the property and communicates the decisions to the bases. The organization also monitors the decisions made and any kind of activity in Lut Desert is legal only after the permission of the committee has been granted.

- Ecolodge in Shafiabad  
Photo by: I. Movahedi / 2015



# Our Heritage Our Pride...



The Historic City of Yazd (2017) . Armenian Monastic Ensembles of Iran (2008) . Bam and its Cultural Landscape (2004) . **Bisotun (2006)** . Golestan Palace (2013) . Gonbad-e Qābus (2012) . Masjed-e Jāmé of Isfahan (2012) . Meidan Emam, Esfahan (1979) . Pasargadae (2004) . Persepolis (1979) . Sassanid Archaeological Landscape of Fars Region (2018) . Sheikh Safi al-din Khānegāh and Shrine Ensemble in Ardabil (2010) . Shushtar Historical Hydraulic System (2009) . Soltaniyeh (2005) . Tabriz Historic Bazaar Complex (2010) . Takht-e Soleyman (2003) . Tchogha Zanbil (1979) . shahr-i sokhta (2014) . The Persian Garden (2011) . Armenian Monastic Ensembles of Iran (2008) . Sassanid Archaeological Landscape of Fars Region (2018) . **Susa (2015)** . Bisotun (2006) . Golestan Palace (2013) . Meidan Emam, Esfahan (1979) . Gonbad-e Qābus (2012) . Masjed-e Jāmé of Isfahan (2012) . Pasargadae (2004) . Susa (2015) . Persepolis (1979) . Sheikh Safi al-din Khānegāh and Shrine Ensemble in Ardabil (2010) . Shushtar Historical Hydraulic System (2009) . The Historic City of Yazd (2017) . Soltaniyeh (2005) . The Persian Qanat (2016) . **The Persian Garden (2011)** . The Historic City of Yazd (2017) . Cultural Landscape of Maymand (2015) . Bam and its Cultural Landscape (2004) . Gonbad-e Qābus (2012) . Masjed-e Jāmé of Isfahan (2012) . Meidan Emam, Esfahan (1979) . Pasargadae (2004) . Persepolis (1979) . Sheikh Safi al-din Khānegāh and Shrine Ensemble in Ardabil (2010) . Shushtar Historical Hydraulic System (2009) . **Lut Desert (2016)** . Tabriz Historic Bazaar Complex (2010) . Takht-e Soleyman (2003) . The Historic City of Yazd (2017) . Tchogha Zanbil (1979) . **The Persian Qanat (2016)** . Armenian Monastic Ensembles of Iran (2008) . shahr-i sokhta (2014) . Gonbad-e Qābus (2012) . The Historic City of Yazd (2017) . Golestan Palace (2013) . **Sassanid Archaeological Landscape of Fars Region (2018)** . The Persian Qanat (2016) . shahr-i sokhta (2014) .

- 22 Cultural Properties Inscribed on the World Heritage List**
- 10 Elements on the Lists of Intangible Cultural Heritage**
- 1 Natural Property Inscribed on the World Heritage List**