

The Mosque of Llapi

Territory:
KOSOVO/UNMIK

Name of organisation
compiling the information:
Institute for the Protection
of Monuments of Kosovo

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Name and address of building(s) or site: THE MOSQUE OF LLAPI, Pristina

Inventory reference number(s): Inventory completed in 2000

Building type(s): Sacral building - Mosque

Main date(s): 1470

Current use(s): The mosque is not in use.

Significance:

The Mosque of Llapi, a significant monument from the Ottoman period, is valuable for the material cultural heritage in this part of the Balkans. This mosque was constructed to hasten the acceptance of Islam among the citizens of Pristina. It is one of the oldest monuments of the city. This mosque included a hall for prayers, a *hajati* (corridor) and a minaret. The building was covered with a cupola.

Categories of significance:

The Mosque of Llapi is a representative monument of the architecture of the historic centre in Kosovo where an oriental influence is easily distinguishable. The Mosque of Llapi, the main building alone or together with the surrounding old city, can be used to promote cultural tourism development, generating economic benefits.

Categories of ownership or interest:

Considering the cultural and historical values of this monument in particular, and the significance of the old town in general, these elements are predisposed for cultural tourism development.

Documentation and bibliographic references:

Documentation

The technical, written and photographic documentation is not available. The rehabilitation project prepared by the experts of the Institute for Protection of Monuments of Kosovo, Pristina, in 2000 is missing.

Bibliography

F. Drançolli, *Xhamia e Llapit a Ramadanie*, dok. IMMK, Prishtinë 2003.

Condition:

Very bad: the Llapit Mosque is burned and destroyed.

Risk:

If we do not undertake necessary measures even the existing ruins will be lost.

Condition risk:

Immediate risk: the mosque is destroyed and if urgent restoration and rehabilitation measures are not undertaken, the remains of the monument will be lost in a short time.

Technical assessment and costing:

Technical assessments have not been prepared.

Ownership:

The Mosque is the property of the Islamic Community in Pristina.

Occupation

Due to its condition, the monument is not used.

Management:

The Islamic Community in Pristina is responsible for the management of the monument. Through a study, restoration and revitalisation project this monument could be part of a cultural tourism development scheme. With financial support for the implementation of the project, an agreement could be reached between the Islamic Community of Kosovo and the organisation responsible for cultural tourism, assigned by the Government and local authorities. The Institute of the Protection of the Cultural Monuments of Kosovo, organisation responsible for the protection of cultural monuments, will provide the expertise and supervise this project.

Summary:

The authenticity of this mosque and its situation in the historic centre of Pristina are the main predispositions for a successful pilot project for the development of cultural tourism. Re-establishment of the link between this monument and its vicinity will be the first step in preparing a project for its revitalisation.

The potential priority level of intervention is *high*.

Sign. and date:

Prof. Dr.sc. Fejaz Drançolli
Pristina, 11.03.2004