

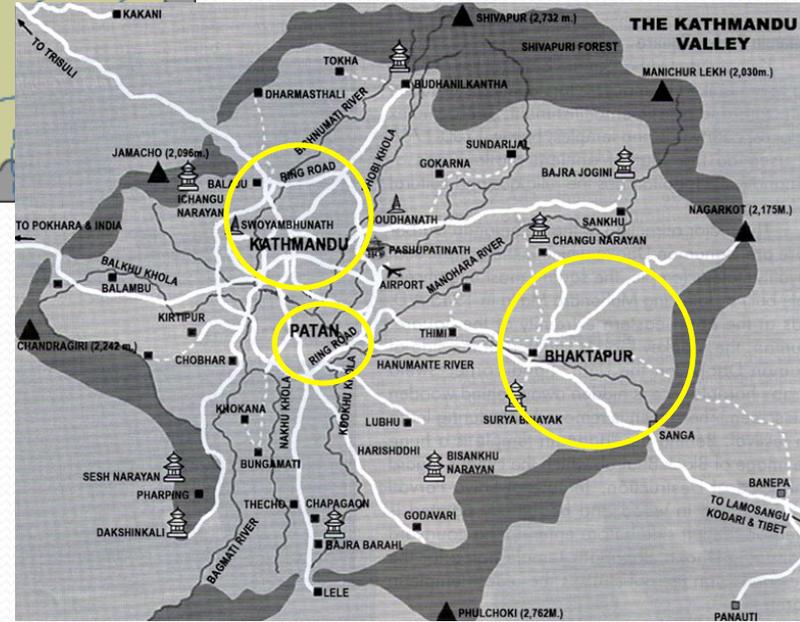
Unnoticed Hands

People's cultural traditions preserving the built heritage of Kathmandu Valley

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Kathmandu Valley

- World heritage site .
- Seven monument zone as a single site under criteria iii, iv and vi.
- Other than WHS many more beautiful temples, statues, stupas, rest houses, priest houses, God's houses and as such.
- All the year round festivals as a way of life.

Intangible Heritage

- Kathmandu Valley made of god and people.
- Festivals , mask dances, music, chariot festivals, occasional and special rituals, daily rituals and as such.
- Continuation of the intangible heritage to be a part of the society.

One of the many mask dances



Indigenous way of management

- Indigenous way of management both tangible and intangible form centuries.
- Through the informal indigenous system called “Guthi”
- Newari word
- Guthi - Association of the people to perform some special tasks.
- Compulsory or Voluntary.
- Si: Guthi – a death guthi (compulsory)

Objectives:

- To show the relationship between people's traditions, rituals and community system and the built heritage.
- The indigenous informal system called Guthi is the backbone for conducting all the intangible heritage in the Valley.

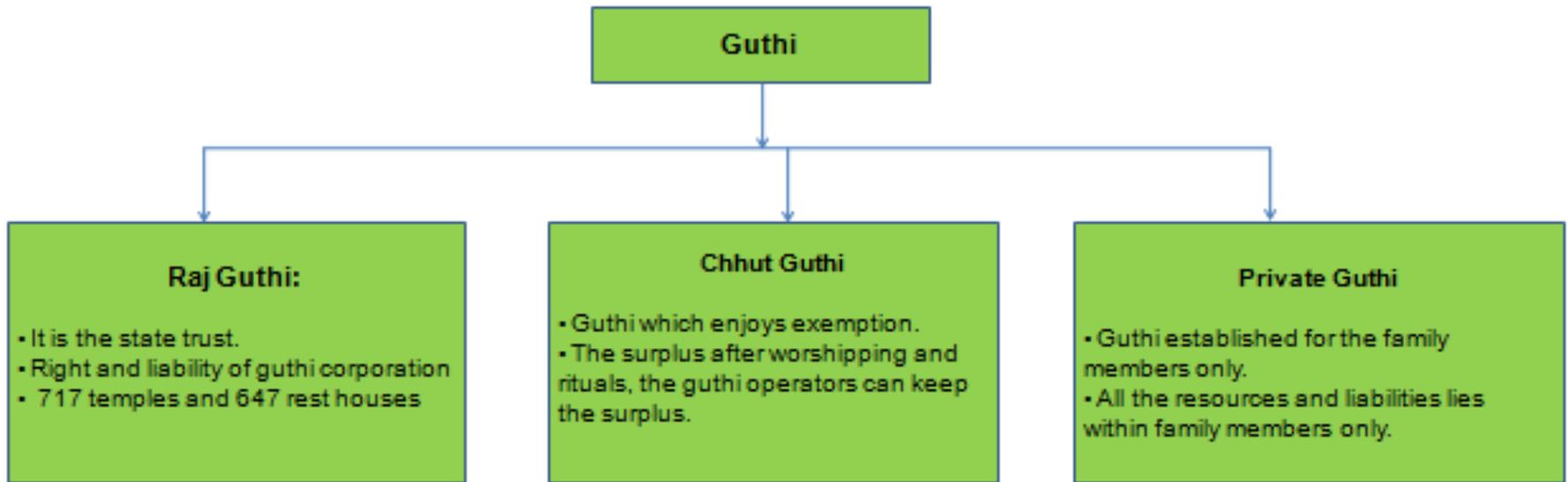
Problems:

- Focus of government and non-governmental organization in conserving built heritage only.
- Also Guthi has been seen and projected as the assets (properties) only by the government.
- People losing the traditional system and communal feeling for heritage over the modern lifestyle.

Guthi System after nationalization

- 1964 government nationalized all the properties of guthi.
- Formed bureaucratic structured Guthi Corporation.
- Now under Raj Guthi or the State all the properties are under it.
- *"Guthi" means and includes a Guthi (trust) endowed by any philanthropist through relinquishment of his or her title to a movable or immovable property or any other income-yielding property or fund for the operation of any shrine (matha) or festival, worship or feast of any God, Goddess or for the construction, operation or maintenance of any temple, shrine (devasthal), rest house (dharmashala), shelter (pati), inn (pauwa), well, tank, road, bridge, asture, garden, forest, library, school, reading hall, dispensary, treatment facility, house, building or institution for any religious or philanthropic purpose. "- Guthi Act 1964.*

Guthi according to Guthi Corporation



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- **Dhimay Guthi (music guthi) of Kathmandu of farmer community**









Problems ahead

- Loosing the guthi system
- Modernization.
- Busy lifestyle.
- Individual lifestyle instead of community based.
- Focus on the tangible part and formal structure of management.

Conclusion

- Invest in the informal system of conservation.
- Still the indigenous system is continuing but slowly losing its multifunction.
- Heritage is not only the final product.



THANK YOU