



Suranga Bawadi

Suranga Bawadi, situated in Bijapur Karnataka, has entered the World Monuments Watch List under “Ancient Water System of the Deccan Plateau” of the World Monument Funds.

- Suranga Bawadi is an integral part of the ancient **Karez System** of supplying water through subterranean tunnels.
- It was built by **Adil Shah-I of Adilshahi dynasty of Bijapur** in the 16th century to supply water to Vijayapura in Karnataka.

Karez System

- Karez is a water harnessing technology in which groundwater is brought to the surface by a tunnel.
- In this system, no mechanical pump or lift is used. Gravity alone brings the water from the underground source.
- The technology originated in Persia/Iran and was widely used during the medieval period.



World Monument Watch

- The World Monuments Watch is a **biennial selection program of ‘at-risk cultural heritage sites’** that combine great historical significance with contemporary social impact.

- It is a nomination-based program that uses cultural heritage conservation to empower communities and improve human well-being.
- It was launched in **1995** on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of World Monuments Fund to identify imperiled cultural heritage sites and provide direct financial and technical support for their preservation.
- The program also seeks to improve the resilience of communities, enhance social inclusion, and build new capacities in the heritage conservation field and beyond.
- Anyone can nominate a site to the World Monuments Watch, including private individuals and representatives of civil society organizations, community groups, government agencies, educational institutions, or other entities.

World Monument Fund

- World Monuments Fund is a **private nonprofit organization** founded in **1965** by individuals concerned about the accelerating destruction of important artistic treasures throughout the world.

[Source: The Hindu](#)

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