

"Ksar Said: Building Tunisian Young People's Critical Engagement with Their Heritage"



The 5th of March, the online open access journal **Sustainability** published an article stating the importance of the use of virtual reality for **increasing and promoting the value of Tunisian heritage** as important cultural expressions of the past.

The article appeared as part of the Special Issue Sustainable Alternate Realities in Digital Heritage and is titled: "**Ksar Said: Building Tunisian Young People's Critical Engagement with Their Heritage**".

The paper describes the work undertaken as part of the 'Digital Documentation of Ksar Said' Project. This project, funded by the British Council, combined education, history, and heritage for the digital preservation of tangible and intangible aspects of heritage associated with the 19th century **Said Palace (Ksar Said) in Tunis**. Authors produced an interactive 3D model of Ksar Said and developed learning resources to build Tunisian students' critical engagement with their heritage through inquiry learning activities within the **3D model**. They used a user-centred approach, based on pre-assessment (i.e., co-creation of contents), mid-term evaluation (i.e., feedback on contents and preliminary design of virtual activities), and post-assessment design (i.e., user trial). Their results demonstrate the potential of this novel approach to virtual learning and inform future co-design, evaluation and implementation choices for improving the generative power of three dimensional virtual replication of heritage sites in the cultural heritage sector.

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