

## **AIPS Fellowship Final Report**

Project Title: LIAVH

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Dates for Project: November 2022 - January 2023

Location: Karachi, Khairpur, and MohenjoDaro, Pakistan

### **1. Significance to Pakistan Studies**

The Laboratory for Integrated Archaeological Visualization and Heritage (LIAVH) makes connections between technology, archaeological data management, technology, and heritage practice. Our work in Pakistan (at the moment) is specifically focused on the third millennium BCE UNESCO World Heritage Site of MohenjoDaro. MohenjoDaro is a major archaeological site in Larkana, Sindh. The current research project conducted was related to documentation of three connected residential units in the excavated area of DK-G South, MohenjoDaro. Documentation took place through photography, LiDAR imaging, drone photogrammetry, and drawings.

Documentation at a micro stratigraphic level allows us to think about residential use patterns, and decision making at the household level. This sort of research and analysis will also provide important data sets for those invested in conducting household archaeology at MohenjoDaro. For LIAVH, the implications of this work is that our data set and data management continues to be more nuanced and accurate, thus providing cross checked, data scraped and cleaned open access data to all researchers. The data collected during this field season allows us to compare it to the original data from the excavation reports and gain a better understanding of how things may have changed (or not) since the original excavations. This will also be beneficial for conservation and preservation efforts. The imaging done by drone photography can also be used for a large-scale image impact analysis of the DK-G area. Although these are being primarily used for archaeological research questions related to how people moved through residential spaces in the third millennium BCE, these images can undoubtedly also be used for conservation and preservation of the site.

Teaching and learning in this manner at the ancient city of MohenjoDaro creates knowledge in a generative and expansive manner. Rather than knowledge production being something to own or keep, it is, in the true nature of World Heritage, for all to access and learn from. These sorts of research-based capacity building and pedagogical frameworks, allow LIAVH to maintain its core ethic around decolonial praxis and community-based work.

### **2. Key Outcomes and Deliverables**

- a) Data for analysis and future research
- b) Capacity building for students and government officials
- c) Plans for future collaborations with Government of Sindh on research at MohenjoDaro
- d) Presentations and Meetings:
  - i) 'Archaeology and Heritage' Shah Abdul Latif University
  - ii) 'Dissertation writing' Shah Abdul Latif University

- iii) Convened and Facilitated conversation with HoDs and Deans to create an interdisciplinary center (Center for Interdisciplinary Excellence – CIE).
- iv) Research presentation at conference “New Challenges to the Physical Heritage: Climate Change Perspective,” Karachi.
- e) Research provided material for publications and grants.