

Kinley Gyeltshen

Kinley Gyeltshen was born in Thimpu, Bhutan, on 24 February 1964. Having studied in Bhutan, India, Italy and Japan, Kinley worked in the Bhutanese Ministry of Culture for 18 years where he was Head Engineer in the Conservation Division. He will receive a 2-year grant for a Master of Arts in World Heritage at Brandenburg Technical University in Cottbus, Germany. This grant will allow him to deepen his knowledge in the management of heritage sites and help his country which, having only ratified the Convention in 2001, currently does not have any properties on the World Heritage List. Kinley Gyetschen will therefore be able to develop a tentative list with a view to nominating Bhutanese sites for inscription on the World Heritage List.



Aim of the project:

In a spirit of comparison, the project will develop a research study based on the nomination process and preservation of the Peking Man Site in Zhoukoudian, China. This research will focus on evaluating the nomination criteria and the methods of conservation at the site, taking into consideration the involvement and role of local communities and authorities. Kinley Gyeltshen will also look at the advantages gained by the site following its inclusion in the List. By trying to work closely with the site's managers, he intends to gain experience which will allow him to help Bhutan to present a tentative list with a view to the later inclusion of some of his country's exceptional sites.

Description of the site:

The Peking Man Site in Zhoukoudian, China was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1987 according to criteria (iii) and (vi). Research has been carried out on the Zhoukoudian site since the 1920s. Scientific exploration of the site has led to the discovery of the remains of the *Sinanthropus pekinensis* who lived in the Middle Pleistocene (700,000 to 200,000 years before modern times) and the remains of Homo Sapiens Sapiens dating from 18,000 to 11,000 BC. The importance of this site for research is therefore particularly high as the relicts recovered there contribute to the study of the human societies of the Asian continent and the process of evolution since the most distant past.