

ALGERIA

Mausoleum of Medracen in Danger

Medracen, a vast mausoleum in the shape of a tumulus possibly dating to the third century BC, is one of the most important sites of the Maghreb. Recently, it became victim of major “repair work” without respect for the value of this monument and its authenticity. Despite protests from ICOMOS Algeria it has not been possible to stop these drastic and harmful interventions. Since the authorities in charge of these measures continued their work regardless of the concerns of national and international professionals, ICOMOS, at the request of ICOMOS Algeria, presented this critical case of the mausoleum proposed for the World Heritage List to the World Heritage Centre. The photographic documentation by ICOMOS Algeria shows the interventions with heavy equipment. Apparently, so far there is no careful planning and documentation.

The Mausoleum of Medracen in the process of inadequate repair work
(Photos: Yassine Ouagueni)

