

Managing Mountain Resources and Diversities: the Role of Protected Areas

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Spiritual Values of Protected Areas









Chicken and Egg Question

What comes first? Nature or Culture?

- **Does Nature influence Culture or does Culture influence Nature? Which would you say is more influential in relation to the other?**
- **Marxists would answer this question one way.**
- **Idealists would answer this another way.**
- **How would ecologists answer this?**

If culture is so important (to a greater or smaller degree) in relation to nature, working with cultural resources can be a very effective way to further conservation.



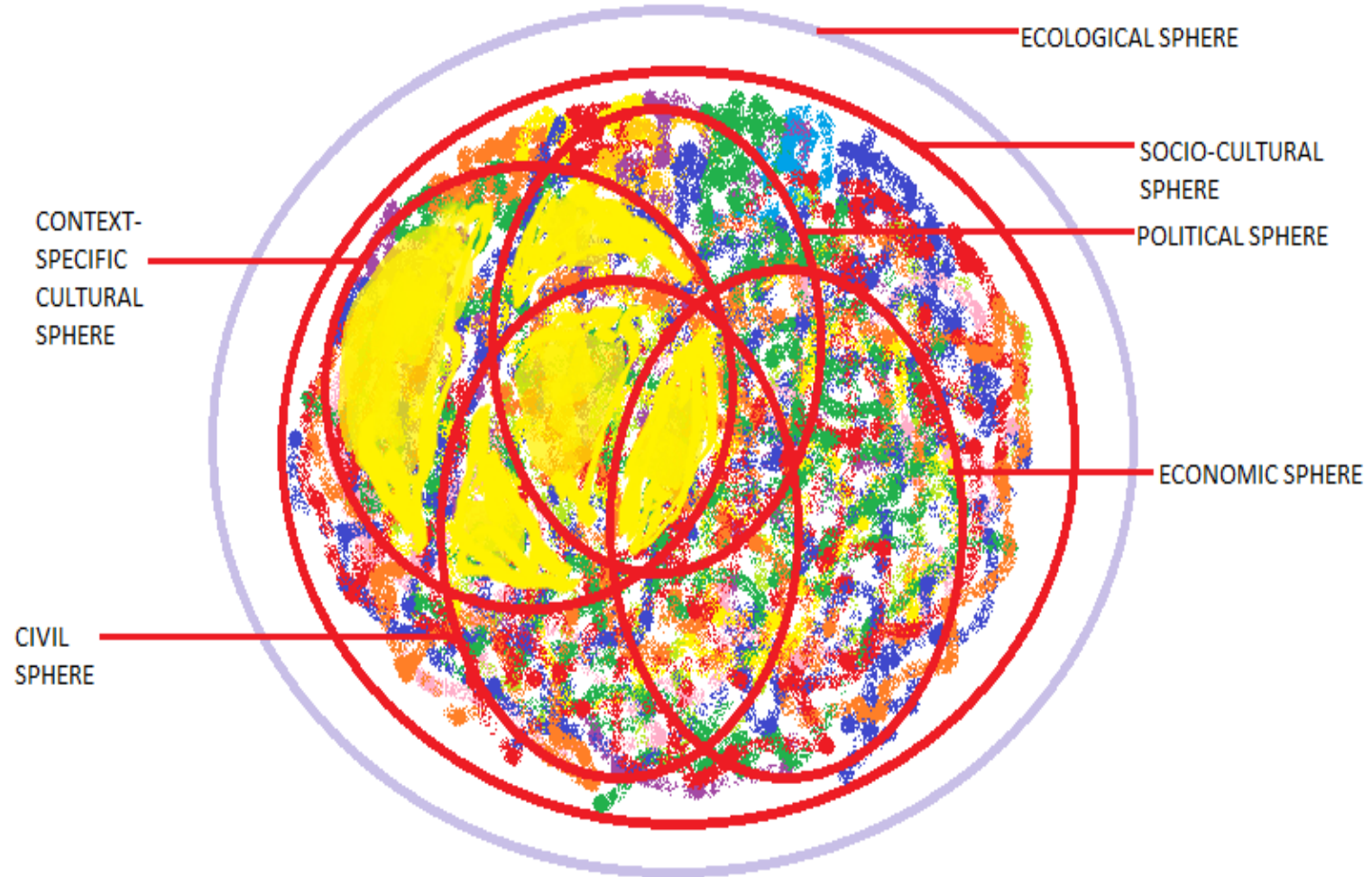
Rationality and Non-Rationality

- Ascribing a value to ecosystem services is one way to further conservation. Externality costs etc. **Rationality**
- Another way is enchantment, ‘seduction’ – working with fantasies: Jean Baudrillard. **Non-Rationality**
 - Baudrillard argues that the fantasy corresponding to post-industrial, late-modern societies is that of the ‘good old’.
 - Baudrillard argues that the fantasy corresponding to the industrial revolution is that of science fiction.

Science in relation to conservation

- The idea that science is value-free and objective has been discounted.
- **Paradigm shifts** instead of **incremental knowledge**: Thomas Kuhn.
- The importance of interpretation and subjectivity in the natural sciences.
- Scientists as culturally embedded interpretative agents.

Working with culture in relation to conservation



The Sarna Movement



Soft Power

- ‘A positive image in world affairs that endears nations to other nations in the world polity. This positive image derives from a number of sources: the domestic and foreign policies that nations follow, the actions they undertake, and/or national qualities that are independent of specific policies or actions (e.g., such as culture)’. (Gallarotti, 2011: 28).

- Piedmont, Italy: Slow Food Movement – leading to the creation of a protected area.



Protected Areas in a Historical Perspective

- Game Reserves
- Sacred Natural Sites

Sacred Mountains in Piedmont



Mountain Finger of God in the state of Rio de Janeiro



A Judas tree (*Cercis siliquastrum*) in bloom next to the church of the Virgin Mary in village Aidonochori (literally the village of the nightingale) in Konitsa, Epirus, Greece



Environmental Conservation as a Political Process

Politics, Modernity and Conservation

Early political modernization is linked with representative democracy.

Political anti-modernization is linked with direct democracy.

Political late modernization is linked with deliberative democracy.

Nature (and nature in protected areas)

Resource, Arcadia, Lifeworld



Arcadia

John Muir (1838-1914) was an American wilderness preservationist and was influential in establishing Yosemite national park which was a model for the U.S. national park system.

Lifeworld

Everyday
experiences of
Nature through
the senses



John Muir and his experience of mountains

John Muir on Blessings of Mountains

Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves.

Muir on Becoming One with Nature

Brooding over some vast mountain landscape, or among the spiritual countenances of mountain flowers, our bodies disappear, our mortal coils come off without any shuffling, and we blend into the rest of Nature, utterly blind to the boundaries that measure human quantities into separate individuals.

Chinese Poetry and Art on Mountains

Li Po, Chinese poet, Mountain and I

Up high all the birds have flown away,
A single cloud drifts off across the sky.
We settle down together, never tiring of each other,
Only the two of us, the mountain and I.

Kuo Hsi, Classical Chinese Artist, on Value of Mountains and Landscape Paintings

The din of the dusty world and the confined space of human habitations are what human nature habitually abhors: while, on the contrary, haze, mist, and the haunting spirits of the mountains are what human nature seeks, and yet can rarely find.

IUCN Protected Area Categories and Others

- Ia – Strict Nature Reserve
- Ib – Wilderness Area
- II – National Park
- III – Natural Monument or Feature
- IV – Habitat/Species Management Area
- V – Protected Landscape/Seascape
- VI – Protected Area with Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

- ICCAs

Governance or Management?

Management: Focused on what to do

Governance: Who manages and how

Different Approaches towards the Governance and Management of Protected Areas

Approaches

- Political Ecology
- Ecological Modernization
- Deep Ecology

Discussion on Possible Audiences

- Local Communities
- Policy-makers, officials
- Visitors, General Public

Culture in Relation to Protected Areas

- Culture is plural, changing, contextual and conflictual.
- It is important to record it, in relation to place – in a way that makes it clear that no one cultural tradition or narrative is the whole story.
- This is especially important where there are different cultures with different understandings of place.

Working with subaltern groups

Critical Development Studies with G.S. Spivak – Ilan Kapoor

- Inhabiting and negotiating discourse
- Acknowledging complicity
- Unlearning one's privileges as loss
- Learning to learn from below
- Working without guarantees

Thank you for your attention!