**Picking Up the Pieces: Transitional Justice Responses to Destruction of Tangible Cultural Heritage**

**Abstract**

The intentional destruction of tangible cultural heritage is commonplace in contemporary conflict. Heritage has immense social, symbolic and spiritual value and its destruction reveals a broader attack on cultural identity and coexistence. Transitional justice (TJ) efforts have largely neglected to address cultural destruction, as part of a wider marginalisation of cultural rights. This article considers why this is the case. It goes on to argue that TJ has a meaningful role to play in engaging with issues of collective identity by countering harmful narratives of difference and recognising the legitimacy of cultural variance. It explores how TJ can incorporate cultural destruction within the remit of truth commissions, shape revised educational curricula and influence physical reconstruction of destroyed heritage. In so doing it can give effect to the indivisibility and interdependence of civil and political, socio-economic *and* cultural rights.