

Contents

< 1. The 12th World Conference of Historical Cities >

Outline of Conference	3
Program	4
The 12th World Conference of Historical Cities “Nara Declaration”	7
Declaration of the Youth Forum	8
Scenes of the Conference	9
Picture Contest	17
Keynote Lecture (Summary)	19
Workshop Topic1	24
Workshop Topic2	25
Roundtable Theme1	26
Roundtable Theme2	27
Youth Forum	28
Summary of the Sessions	29
The 12th World Conference of Historical Cities “Nara Declaration” (Text)	38
Declaration of the Youth Forum (Text)	40

< 2. Symposium of Historical Cities’ Mayors >

Joint-hosting event by Association for Commemorative Events of the 1300th
Anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo Capital and Nara city

Summary	41
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1. The 12th World Conference of Historical Cities

Hosted by The League of Historical Cities

Outline of Conference

1 The name of Conference

The 12th World Conference of Historical Cities

2 Location

Nara Prefectural New Public Hall
Nara Centennial Hall, etc. in Nara city

3 Theme of the conference

Main theme

“Succession of Historical City with Creative Revitalization”

Round table (Meeting mainly for Mayors and Administrative officials)

Theme 1

“Unique City Planning Utilizing Its Historical Characteristics-Establishment of Identity”

Theme 2

“City Maintaining Its History-Harmonious Coexistence”

Workshop (Meeting held for specialists of city planning)

Theme

“System Designing to Succeed Culture of Historical Cities”

Topic 1 “Technical Succession”

Topic 2 “Disaster Prevention of Historical City”

4 Duration

12–15 October, 2010

5 Main contents of the conference

- Keynote lecture: Lecturer Mr. Koichiro Matsuura
(the former Director-General of UNESCO)
- Round table (for Mayors and Administrative officials)
- Workshop (for specialists of city planning)
- Youth Forum (by high school students from member cities of The League of Historical Cities)

Program

11 October, Monday

Time	Program	Venue
13:00	Leave hotel	
13:30~17:30	Pre-Conference Tour in Todaiji- Temple and Kasuga- Taisha Shrine	Todai-ji Temple and Kasuga-Taisha Shrine
19:30~	Back to hotel	Nara Royal Hotel Hotel Nikko Nara

12 October, Tuesday

Time	Program	Venue
8:30	Move to Nara Prefectural New Public Hall from hotel	
8:40	Registration	Nara Prefectural New Public Hall “NOH Theatre”
9:30	Opening Ceremony Greetings Mr. Daisaku Kadokawa, President of The League of Historical Cities Mr. Gen Nakagawa, Mayor of Nara Mr. Mr. Ryuichi Tanabe, Ambassador for Kansai Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Shogo Arai, Governor of Nara	
9:50	Keynote Lecture Mr. Koichiro Matsuura, Former Director-General of UNESCO	
10:50	Break	
11:00	NOH Performance Mr. Yasuyuki Komparu	
11:30 12:20	Lunch Move to Nara Centennial Hall by bus	
12:30	Break	Nara Centennial Hall “Main Hall”
13:00	Youth Forum	
14:45	Break	
15:00	Workshop Topic1	
17:50	Move to hotel Break	
19:00	Move to Hotel Nikko Nara	
19:30~21:30	Welcome Reception	Hotel Nikko Nara “Hiten”

13 October, Wednesday

Time	Program	Venue
8:30	Move to Nara Centennial Hall from hotel	
9:00	Workshop Topic2	Nara Centennial Hall "Main Hall"
12:10	Closing of Morning Session	
12:20	Lunch	Hotel Nikko Nara
13:20	Roundtable Theme1	Nara Centennial Hall "Main Hall"
15:40	Break	
15:55	Roundtable Theme2	
18:15	Move to hotel Break	
19:00	Move to Kasuga-Taisha Shrine from hotel	
19:30	Kasuga Bugaku	Kasuga-Taisha Shrine Apple Yard
20:00~21:30	Dinner Party	Kasuga-Taisha Shrine Kansha Kyosei Institute

14 October, Thursday

Time	Program	Venue
8:00 8:25~	Move to Nara Palace Site from hotel 1.Excursion	Nara Palace Site
9:00	2.Board Meeting of Directors of the League of Historical Cities	Nara Centennial Hall "Main Hall"
11:30	Lunch	Hotel Nikko Nara
13:00	Summary of the Sessions Mr. Hisakazu Takagi, Secretary-General of the LHC	Nara Centennial Hall "Main Hall"
14:00	General Assembly of the LHC	
15:00	Closing Ceremony Greetings Mr. Daisaku Kadokawa, President of the LHC Mr. Gen Nakagawa, Mayor of Nara	
15:15	Break	
19:00~20:30	Farewell Party	Nara Prefectural New Public Hall "Japanese-style garden"

15 October, Friday

Time	Program	Venue
8:30	Move to Kyoto from hotel	Kyoto
10:00	Kiyomizu-dera Temple	
11:40	Sanjusangen-do Temple	
12:25	Luncheon party hosted by the President of the LHC, Mayor of Kyoto Greetings Mr. Daisaku Kadokawa, Mayor of Kyoto Representative of participants	ANA Hotel Kyoto
14:30	Mr. Hisakazu Takagi, Secretary-General of the LHC	
14:45	Leave the venue	
15:00	Nijo-jo Castle Japanese tea and sweet at "Warakuan"	Nijo-jo Castle
16:30	Move to hotel in Kyoto and hotel in Nara	

Program for Youth Forum

12 October, Tuesday

Time	Program	Venue
9:30- 11:25	Opening Ceremony etc. Move by bus	Nara Prefectural New Public Hall
12:00-	Luncheon Meeting	
13:00-14:45	Youth Forum Coordinator Mr. Tabuchi and speakers	
15:00-	Move on foot	Nara Centennial Hall
15:30-	Orientation	
15:40-	Group Discussion, divided into 8 groups and discuss	Gender Equality Center 'Asunara'
17:00-	Reunion	
17:40-18:00	Adopting Youth Forum Declaration	

13 October, Wednesday

Time	Program	Venue
9:20-12:00	School Visit Move by bus	Ichijo High School in Nara
12:30-13:30	Lunch	Hotel Nikko Nara
13:30-17:00	World Heritage Visit	Todai-ji Temple, Kasuga-Taisha Shrine

The 12th World Conference of Historical Cities “Nara Declaration”



The 12th World Conference of Historical Cities “Nara Declaration”



In 2010, representatives of many historical cities from around the world who are passionate about the future of their ancient cities have gathered in the city of Nara, Japan, which this year marks the 1,300th anniversary of its establishment as Japan’s planned imperial capital ‘Heijo-kyo’. Nara is also the place where ‘The Nara Document on Authenticity’ was drawn up in 1994, a document that sets out the world’s shared understanding concerning cultural and heritage diversity. Now, from Nara, we hereby make the following declaration.

In modern society, under the influence of rapid globalization, the process of worldwide standardization has moved forward with the result that regional and local uniqueness have been eroded and the establishment of distinctive identities has become more difficult. At the same time, the concentration of populations into large cities is exacerbating regional disparities and creating various tensions. Indeed, there seems to be no end to the problems resulting from ethnic disputes and religious conflict. On another front, as a consequence of global warming, the world is witnessing more frequent climatic abnormalities and serious natural disasters, indicating that the natural environment is changing on a scale unprecedented in living memory. All these diverse changes are often dramatic and our historical cities are exposed to them on a daily basis.

However, we wish to overcome this situation by mobilizing the knowledge of historical cities that our ancestors have guarded and handed down over the centuries with their collective wisdom.

Each historical city has followed its own unique and original destiny. This is one reason why it is significant that representatives from so many historical cities have gathered here in Nara to exchange opinions and discuss the wisdom of their cities.

At this conference, while expressing our appreciation of the immense achievements of our ancestors who protected their cultural heritage from the ravages of war and disaster, damage and loss, we have shared in a mission to continue providing a new breath of “creation”. We have also reaffirmed that the technology for protecting our cultural heritage requires systematic support. Moreover, we have come to a shared understanding that young people feel proud to live in historical cities, and found that the value of handing down cultural heritage to the next generation is indispensable to the sustainable development of historical cities. Most importantly, we have each confirmed that the proposal for “coexistence” voiced at this conference is also a powerful message toward peace.

Because our home cities are historical cities, they can also serve as models for sustainable cities. Accordingly, this conference calls on all historical cities to collaborate closely in providing each other with information and to focus even more on forming links and building mutual cooperation based on their pride for and awareness of their own history.

In order to make practical use of the results of this conference in the future, we hereby pledge to direct the above actions with great determination towards our young people. It is these members of society who will carry forward the next generation. In addition to this conference’s proposal for a “creative revitalization” of the cultural heritage that has been protected and handed down, this heritage should adopt a new role focused towards greater harmony with future urban development.

Nara	<u>仲川 大作</u>	Kyoto	<u>門川 大作</u>
Vienna	<u>Dany</u>	Xian	<u>康立峰</u>
Ballarat	<u>Phillip</u>	Gyeongju	<u>马 吉 仁</u>
Isfahan	<u>Sayed M. Seifini</u>	Andong	<u>Nae</u>
Bad Ischl	<u>Frank</u>	Baghdad	<u>Naem A. Msaed</u>
Boston	<u>Harjes</u>	Buyeo	<u>李 亨 宗</u>
Hue	<u>Minhuen</u>	Kanazawa	<u>野 島 宏 英</u>
Konya		Norwich	
Norwood Payneham & St. Peters	<u>Sue Whitby (Howarth)</u>	Odessa	<u>Boebz</u>
Osmangazi	<u>Mustafa D. Uner</u>	Riga	<u>A. K.</u>
Sheki	<u>Silinas Salame</u>	Deliko Turnovo	<u>Milica</u>
Yangzhou		Strasbourg	<u>Alain</u>



Declaration of the Youth Forum

We high-school students have gathered here in Nara, the ancient capital of Japan, to take part in the 12th World Conference of Historical Cities.

It has been our great pleasure to have had an opportunity to discuss with other young people from around the world about what we can do for the 'Succession of Historical City with Creative Revitalization'.

Historical cities have been passed down to succeeding generations owing to the continuous efforts of our predecessors. While we should express our gratitude to them, and show our respect for their good work, at the same time, we feel strongly that it is we ourselves who must cultivate the future. This is a role for which we need more awareness and a greater sense of pride.

Each one of us, from our individual homes and hometowns, will give serious thought to what we can contribute towards 'creative revitalization'. While the power of a single individual may be small we believe that, collectively, our individual efforts can accumulate to generate a large force.

We therefore make the following declaration:

- 1 We are committed to continue our conscious learning of the essential qualities within the history and culture we possess.
- 2 We actively convey to the world what we have learned and noticed as a member of historical city to carry forward.
- 3 We will deepen and broaden the exchanges made between us by drawing upon this day's encounter for vital nourishment.

12 October, 2010

The participants of the 12th World Conference of Historical Cities Youth Forum

Scenes of the Conference

Pre-Conference Tour (11 October)



Todai-ji Temple



Kasuga-Taisha Shrine



Nara Prefectural Public Hall (12 October)

Opening Ceremony



Greetings



Mr. Daisaku Kadokawa, President of the LHC



Mr. Gen Nakagawa, Mayor of Nara



Mr. Ryuichi Tanabe, Ambassador for Kansai Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Mr. Shogo Arai, Governor of Nara

Keynote Lecture
Mr. Koichiro Matsuura,
Former
Director-General
of UNESCO



NOH
Performance



Nara Centennial Hall (12-14 October)



Youth Forum



Workshop Topic1&2

Roundtable Theme1&2



Picture Contest



Board Meeting of Directors of the LHC

General Assembly of the LHC

Closing Ceremony



Excursion (14 October)

Nara
Palace Site



Post-Conference Tour (15 October)

Kiyomizu-dera
Temple

Sanjusangen-do
Temple

Luncheon party
hosted by the
President of the LHC,
Mayor of Kyoto

Nijo-jo Castle



Reception

12 October

Hotel Nikko Nara
“Hiten”

Welcome Reception



13 October

Kasuga-Taisha Shrine

Kasuga Bugaku &
Dinner Party



14 October

Nara Prefectural
New Public Hall
“Japanese-Style
garden”

Farewell Party



Youth Forum (12 October)

Presentation at
Nara Centennial
Hall



Discussion at
Gender Equality
Center "Asunara"



Youth Forum (13 October)



School Visit to Ichijo High School in Nara



World Heritage Visit to Todai-ji Temple And Kasuga-Taisha Shrine



Picture Contest

We called for artworks by elementary and junior high school students from member cities of the League of Historical Cities. These pictures show cultural heritage assets from the children's own town, city or country - assets that they treasure and wish to show to the whole world.

The theme of the pictures is - 'This is an example of cultural heritage in my town'.

We received 20 works from overseas and 35 works from Japan, 55 works in total. Among them, by a contest committee, 12 works have been selected for the awards of 'President of the League of Historical Cities Award', 'Nara City Mayor Award' and 'Awards for Excellence'.

In addition 'Special Award' was chosen by conference participant votes on 12 and 13 October for two days. These awards were bestowed at the Closing Ceremony of the 12th World Conference of Historical Cities.

President of The League of Historical Cities Award



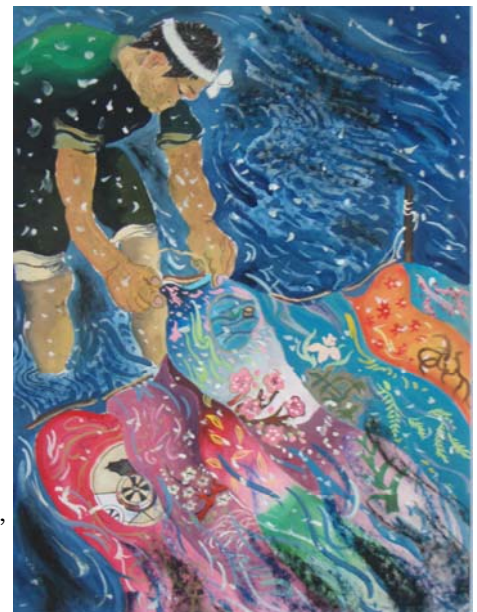
Ms. Valentina Ivanova,
Odessa, UKRAINE,
'Vorontsovsky Lane'

Nara City Mayor Award



Mr. Xin Yu Li
Xian, CHINA
'Memory of history'

Special Award



Mr. Kaito Katayama,
Kanazawa, JAPAN
'Yuzen Nagashi'

Awards for Excellence



Keynote Lecture (Summary)



Mr. Koichiro Matsuura

Former Director-General of
UNESCO

In 1998, I served as Chairperson at the 22nd session of the World Heritage Committee in Kyoto where the Historic Monuments of Ancient Nara were registered on the World Heritage List.

While UNESCO Director-General, I visited numerous cities. Of UNESCO's 193 member states, I visited 190. It is wonderful that so many cities around the world (86 at present) are members of the League of Historical Cities. Even if your town or city has no registered World Heritage property, I implore you to preserve your valued historical monuments and buildings and hand them down as close as possible to their original form. This is the first important message from the main theme of this conference. We consider the transmission of historical cities to future generations to be of vital importance.

The other vital message is creative revitalization, an important element that is combined in the main theme. Firstly, it is essential to hand down properties of historical value to future generations, and maintain them in their original form. Secondly, we must take a dynamic approach and reactivate value in a creative manner.

Both of these correspond to UNESCO's current approach. Previously, the Organization took a more static approach that emphasized making no changes and adding nothing to heritage sites. It criticized any changes or additions even if they were only small alterations.

Today, by contrast, UNESCO realizes that even historical cities need urbanization. For instance, they must be allowed to respond to population increases. Consequently, UNESCO now recognizes the importance of a more dynamic approach. Of course, the basic concept of keeping the original value of heritage remains unchanged. The guidelines of the 1972 World Heritage Convention state that properties on the World Heritage List are considered as possessing "outstanding universal value." If a property is considered to be lacking this value, then the registration request will be refused outright, or be subjected to another assessment at a later date.

In addition, there exist two important concepts. One is that historical cities must maintain universal value in a fundamental, legitimate and authentic way, a concept to which Japan initiated some additions. In 1994, during a conference of experts held in Nara, with the support of other Asian and African countries, Japan made an appeal that the concept of authenticity (of the World Heritage Convention) should be a little more flexible. Prior to 1994, 'authenticity' was interpreted in a very rigid way. There had been exceptions, but authenticity usually meant that the historical building or monument must be maintained in its original "perfect" form. However, serious problems arise when this concept is applied to wooden structures. They differ from stone properties which can last in excellent condition over very long periods. UNESCO was thus obliged to reconsider how authenticity should be interpreted. Had the rigid interpretation remained in force, no wooden buildings, bridges, etc., would be deemed acceptable for World Heritage registration. Ultimately, the World Heritage Committee accepted the appeal by Japan and its supporters for flexibility and adopted the highly important 'Nara Document on Authenticity'.

The other concept, integrity, is still used rigidly. The two major issues here are how to maintain such outstanding universal value and how to hand it down to future generations? Various destructive elements and stress factors take their toll on historical heritage, including reconstruction, fire and war, and we have recently tended to overlook natural disasters and military conflicts. UNESCO's activities here have been insufficient. Additionally, rapid urbanization and the pace of new building continue to increase. Right now, almost 250 historical cities are registered and a great deal more heritage will be registered in the future, all of which must be protected from the three above-mentioned threats. In particular, it is vital to protect it from the supposed need to make way for new buildings.

UNESCO is beginning to express concern about protecting not only the registered heritage sites themselves, but also the buffer zones surrounding them, as well as areas just beyond these zones.

Constructing tall buildings close to, or just outside, the buffer zone of heritage sites can cause serious harm or negatively impact them. In the old days, UNESCO only instructed that the site itself be protected (or a small peripheral area surrounding it) by preventing additions or changes. From now on, however, UNESCO will also focus on the surrounding landscape.

Over the ten years that I was Director-General of UNESCO, I emphasized the need to preserve historical heritage, and particularly its landscape and appearance. In 2005, UNESCO held an international conference of experts in Vienna, which adopted the 'Vienna Memorandum'. (At UNESCO, there are three kinds of action. The first relates to actions with 'binding effects', such as the 1972 World Heritage Convention. The second are 'recommendations' to member nations.

These are not binding but are very important politically. Third are the 'declarations', also non-binding, but which carry political force.)

In 1976, UNESCO adopted the 'Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding and Contemporary Role of Historic Areas'. Even then UNESCO sought the protection of areas, although this did not include landscapes. The Organization is now working on a new action plan (based on the Vienna Memorandum) which addresses landscapes. I retired from UNESCO in 2009 but, at the last General Conference in October that year, it was decided to draw up a new roadmap and revive the afore-mentioned 1976 Recommendation. My successor, who comes from Bulgaria, will be preparing the final declaration for the new Vienna Memorandum, which will specifically focus on landscapes, to be announced at the next UNESCO General Conference in the autumn of 2011. I would ask you to read it together with the 1976 Recommendation. The earlier Recommendation also included some very valuable points and will continue to play a major role in the management of historical cities.

The 1976 Recommendation, Paragraph 4, states that, "Historic areas and their surroundings should be actively protected, against damage of all kinds, particularly that resulting from unsuitable use, unnecessary additions and misguided or insensitive changes that will impair their authenticity, and from damage due to any form of pollution." Paragraph 5 goes on to state that, "Architects and town-planners should be careful to ensure that views from and to monuments and historic areas are not spoilt and that historic areas are integrated harmoniously into contemporary life." I think this concept of harmony is important and, in other words, since 1976, UNESCO has continuously stated that 'harmony' is an essential part of new urban planning. This 1976 Recommendation should be applied to all historical sites, not only to those listed as World Heritage.

To help us more clearly understand the three threats to historical sites mentioned earlier, consider the example of Dresden in Germany. During the Second World War the city was largely destroyed by aerial bombing. Later, however, many of the 18th and 19th century buildings were beautifully reconstructed. Dresden then applied for World Heritage registration of the city centre and part of the Elbe river valley as a cultural landscape. (The 1972 Convention had three types of World Heritage - namely, historic buildings, monuments and historic ruins - but cultural landscapes were added later when it was realized that only three categories would not adequately cover all sites.) Although these splendid 18th and 19th century buildings in Dresden Elbe Valley were modern reconstructions, they had been reconstructed after being destroyed by war. As such, the city was able to nominate this almost 20 kilometre-long valley as a cultural landscape. Then, later, it was decided by city vote to construct a new bridge within the site. UNESCO's protests that the bridge was not in harmony with the existing landscape failed and

the World Heritage Committee was obliged, after much discussion, to remove the Valley from the World Heritage List. All the same, UNESCO did understand that such a bridge was needed in modern times. This example has served as a warning to any city wanting to carry out urban development plans impacting negatively on a heritage site. They risk being refused registration or being removed from the World Heritage List

Military conflict is another crisis that heritage sites face. If a war breaks out, UNESCO's first role is to immediately strive to prevent destruction of heritage sites. In its very first year of existence, UNESCO held a conference to discuss this issue and the extremely important 1954 Hague Convention was adopted to protect historical monuments and buildings. It is legally binding and imposes severe penalties on violators. Under the World Heritage Convention, the biggest penalty is the removal of a heritage property from the List. The Hague Convention, however, can also impose penalties if any World Heritage-listed cultural heritage property is destroyed.

The second part of this conference's theme today is "Creative Revitalization". UNESCO's recent approach has been more related to this topic. In 2003, we adopted the 'Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage' which includes traditional songs, dances, ceremonies, celebrations and landscapes.

Despite there being a total of 911 registered World Heritage properties, the idea of 'intangible cultural heritage' is still a very new one. There have been 166 registrations of intangible items so far, including Noh Theater from Japan. How to use this designation in a meaningful way is a vital point.

I visited Nara last year while still UNESCO Director-General. Nara is the final stop on the Silk Road. When I was here, nationals from South Korea, China and Azerbaijan were performing at Todai-ji. These shows were extremely well performed and there is no doubt that this kind of creative revitalization is needed. How can we combine historical ruins, buildings, with traditional dance, songs, landscapes and the like? This is the second point I would like to make.

Something else of importance is the 'Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions', adopted two years after the 2003 'Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage'. This convention is about how to protect and promote diversity in cultural expression, and extends to protecting the performing arts (modern dance, song, theatre, ballet, etc.), as well as contemporary literature, poetry, films, etc. Festivals of contemporary art are held in many historical cities and I feel that this too is a valid way of pursuing creative revitalization.

I wish to re-emphasize the importance of the second part of today's main theme, "Creative

Revitalization”. What is important is how we revitalize historical cities and sites, and how we meaningfully use them in an organized way. New buildings must be harmonized with already existing historical monuments and buildings. This is UNESCO’s approach and I believe it will bear fruit successfully.

I would also like to thank the people of Nara for their cooperation, back in 2004, in hosting the International Conference on the Safeguarding of Tangible and Intangible Heritage. Highly focused discussions between experts took place on how to integrate these two issues, from which the Yamato Declaration was adopted.

The 1972 World Heritage Convention and the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage are different instruments, and UNESCO Member States have to ratify them separately, yet both of them are highly relevant. I hope we can all work with these two conventions in as harmonious a way as possible.

Workshop Topic1



Coordinator

Mr. Masaya Masui

Professor, Faculty of Human Life and Development,
Nara Women's University

Presenters

Mr. Kozo Ueda

Director of Himeji Center for Research into Castles and
Fortifications, Japan

“Renovation Work on the Main Keep (Tower) at
Himeji Castle and the Handing Down of Traditional
Techniques”

Mr. Hiroshi Mimura & Mr. Takahiko Otani

President of Kyoto Center for Community Collaboration,
Japan

Professor of Mukogawa Women's University, Japan
“Preserving the Historical Urban Landscape of Kyoto
and its Traditional Townhouses: A Machiya Revival
Strategy”

Mr. Koki Miida

Professor of Kio University, Architect, Japan
“Naramachi -The Historical District of Nara City- and
its Functional Architecture”

Ms. Yoko Morimoto

Project General Manager of Education committee,
Uda, Japan

“Inheritance of Lifestyle –Revaluation of Traditional
Events and New Approach-“

Ms. Aya Kubota

Associate Professor of University of Tokyo, Japan
“Integration of Cultural Heritage and Urban Landscape
around the Outer Moat of Edo Castle”

Mr. Koichi Nagashima

AUR Consultants, Architect, Urban Designer, Japan
“Creating Local Identity of Asian Small and Medium Cities
through Recovering Proto-Landscape”

Ms. Sri Astuti

Researcher of Research Institute for Human Settlements,
Indonesia

“Bandung Historical City”

Mr. Fahmi Prihantoro

Instructor of Faculty of Cultural Sciences,
Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia

“Historical City as a Living Museum:

The Revitalization based on Local Culture in Yogyakarta,
Indonesia”

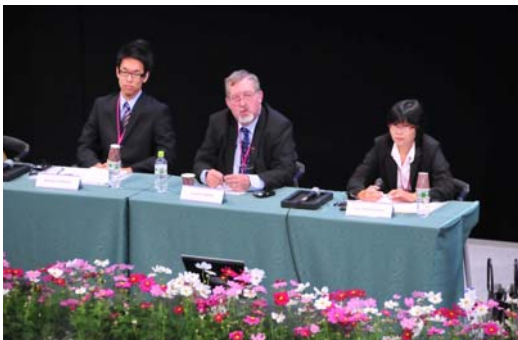
Ms. Yaqin Tai

Deputy Director of Cultural Heritage Bureau of Xian
Municipality, China

“Protect Ancient Sites and Inherit Splendid Culture”



Workshop Topic2



Coordinator

Mr. Takeyuki Okubo

Professor, Ritsumeikan University Department of Civil Engineering

Presenters

Ms. Saw Ohnmar Han

Research assistant of Disaster Prevention Research Institute, Kyoto University, Japan

“A Knowledge Distribution of Disaster Prevention Educated for Reduction Process into Maintenance of Historical Culture Cities in Myanmar”

Mr. Stuart B. Smith

General Secretary of The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage (TICCIH), UK

“Disaster Prevention in Historical Cities - A Historical Overview”

Mr. Masahiro Yoshida

Graduate school of Science and Engineering, Ritsumeikan University

“Evacuation Planning and Problem in Patan, the World Heritage Site in Kathmandu Valley as a Result Great Earthquakes-Focusing on the Newari Community and Its Evacuation Area-“

Ms. Wiendu Nuryanti

Executive Director of Yogyakarta Tourism Development Board, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

“Community-based Disaster Management for Historic Heritage Cities – Case Study: Yogyakarta, Indonesia”

Ms. Yumi Isabelle Akieda

Research Fellow of Japan Center for International Cooperation in Conservation, National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo, Japan

“Conservation Management as a Tool for Disaster Prevention in Historic Cities”

Mr. Takeyoshi Tanaka

Professor, Disaster Prevention Research Institute, Kyoto University, Japan

“Historical City Kyoto and its Post-Earthquake Fire Risk”

Mr. Sarunwit Promsaka Na Sakonnakron

Ritsumeikan University, Graduate School of Policy Science, Japan

“Market Upgrading for Fire Prevention in Samchuk: A 100 Years Historical Market”

Ms. Siyanee Hirunsalee

Research Assistant of Research Center for Innovative Social Communication for Sustainable Development of Faculty of Architecture and Planning, Thammasat University, Thailand (Research Assistant of Ritsumeikan Global Innovation Research Organization, Kyoto, Japan)

“The Pillar House Guideline for Flood Protections and Townscape Conservations in Historic City of Ayutthaya and Associated Historic Towns”

Ms. Minja Yang

President, Raymond Lemaire International Centre for Conservation, Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium)

Former-Director, UNESCO Sub-regional Office in New Delhi
Former-Deputy-Director, UNESCO World Heritage Centre

“Conserving Historic Urban Landscapes in Times of Change: Mitigation of Risk through Planning”

Mr. Hidehiko Kanegae

Professor of Faculty of Policy Science, Ritsumeikan University, Japan

“Continuity Hexalemma of Historical Cities under Community Planning Age”

Roundtable Theme1



Coordinator

Mr. Ikuo Tanabe

Director General, Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties

Presenters

Mr. Yang Sik Choi

Mayor of Gyeongju, Korea

“Conservation Plan for Gyeongju, an Ancient Capital”

Mr. Jong Sil Yoem

Director of Planning & Inspection Office of Buyeo, Korea

“Harmonious Coexistence

— Space Management Plan for Ancient Capital—”

Mr. Guang Jiang Zhang

Human Resources Director of Planning Bureau, Xi’an, China

“In The Inheritance and Protection Of History and Culture, Explore The Development of the Old City

— The Introduction, Overall Layout and the Development of Xi’an City”

Mr. Genji Mori

Deputy mayor of Kanazawa, Japan

The Historical City of Kanazawa

“— A City that is Responsible for its History”

Mr. Gen Nakagawa

Mayor of Nara, Japan

“Through World Heritage Education that Nurtures Pride in One’s Hometown”

Mr. Kirk Sykes

Commissioner, City of Boston Civic Design Commission, Boston, USA

“The City of Boston as a Living Museum of Cultural Evolution”

Mr. Michael Loveday

Chief Executive of Heritage Economic & Regeneration Trust (HEART), Norwich, UK

“Norwich 12 – The Co-ordination & Development of Unique Cultural Asset to Formulate & Promote Local Identity & Distinctiveness”



Roundtable Theme2



Coordinator

Mr. Minoru Senda

Director, Nara Prefectural Library Information Center

Presenters

Mr. Daisaku Kadokawa

Mayor of Kyoto, Japan

“The Development of Historical City of Kyoto by Harmonious Coexistence with Environment”

Mr. S. M. Saghaeiannejad

Mayor of Isfahan, Iran

“Reconstruction of the Atiq Square of Isfahan”

Mr. Hannes Heide

Mayor of Bad Ischl, Austria

“Creating a City Center and Initializing a Growing Consciousness in Bad Ischl’s Historic Heritage”

Mr. Rumen Rashev

Ms. Mariela Tsoneva

Mayor of Veliko Turnovo, Funds and Programming

“Director of Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria

The Cultural and Historical Heritage of Veliko Turnovo”

Mr. Roland Ries

Mayor of Strasbourg, France

“Maintaining the City’s History and Heritage without Turning it into a Living-Museum, Making it a Pleasant Environment in which to Live, Adapted to Modern Life”

Ms. Gulnaz Salamova

Deputy Mayor of Sheki, Azerbaijan

“The Examples of Restoration, Protection and Practical Use of Historical Architectures”

Ms. Svitlana Boieva

Deputy director of the department on foreign relations, European integration and Odessa's diaspora affairs, Odessa, Ukraine

“Odessa - A Modern City Supporting its Heritage”



Youth Forum



Coordinator

Mr. Isoo Tabuchi

Professor, Nara University of Education
Undergraduate of Education
Faculty of Education Social Studies Education

Presenters

Ms. Chinami Saito

Ms. Nozomi Murata

Nara Municipal Ichijo Senior High School, Japan
“A Sightseeing Network Using Bicycles”

Ms. Sydney Sykes

Milton Academy, Boston, USA

“Succession of Historical Cities with Creative
Revitalization – “Boston - Bikes, Boats & Broadway”

Ms. Kaho Mugita

Ms. Maki Nakagawa

Mr. Masashi Yoshida

Kanazawa Municipal Technical High School, Japan

“The Efforts Made by Kanazawa Municipal
Technical High School, Department of Architecture in
Kanazawa, a World Historical City”

Ms. Akari Horiuchi

Ms. Yoshiko Fujiwara

Nara Prefectural Horyuji Kokusai Senior
High School, Japan

“Passing Down the History and Culture
through Traditional Industry”

Ms. Seong Gyuin

Ms. Kim Yoosun

Ms. Park Gwiyoung

Geunhwa Girls' High School,

Gyeongju Girls' High School,

Gyeongju Girls' Information High School, Korea

“Gyeongju, A Historical City, Visited Via
Digital Contents”

Ms. Reona Okada

Nara Women's University Secondary School, Japan

“Inheritance of Charms of Historical City
into the future”.

Ms. Gao Yixuan

Ms. You Zhou

Mr. Yuan Gao

Mr. Hongxing Lei

Xi'an Yucai Middle School,

Xi'an No.1 Middle School

Xi'an No.1 Middle School

Xi'AN Senior High School, China

“Make the Future of Historic City Xi'an Brighter”

Mr. Yuta Kamei

Ms. Mika Matsumoto

Kyoto Municipal Horikawa Senior High School, Japan

“What Makes Possible the Preservation and
Evolution of Culture?”

-Taking Kyoto Gion Matsuri as an Example”

Summary of the Sessions

Mr. Hisakazu Takagi

Secretary-General of the LHC

Date & time:

14 October, Thursday, 13:00 ~ 15:00

Venue:

Nara Centennial Hall



Youth Forum Report

Kazuya Nishimoto

(Youth Forum Representative, Nara Prefectural Horyuji Kokusai Senior High School)

The various presentations about the features of each historical city impressed me, as did the clarity of the opinions expressed by my peers, who are also high school students. I could sense their deep affection for their own local areas. Obviously their presentations were different in content but they did share some things in common.

Many interesting ideas came out of the group discussion after the presentations. Most agreed that it is important for students to know the history of their home city, to try to get to know it better, and gain a sense of attachment. Likewise the importance of both adults and children having opportunities to learn about their city history was widely recognized. Moreover, the students promised to share the Forum's ideas and excitement with their school friends, and spread the word to more people.

As per the Conference theme "Succession of Historical City with Creative Revitalization," it is important to hold exchange events like this so that people living in the historical areas in question (as well as other people) will be motivated to cooperate with each other. All participants agreed to actively try to realize this in their own lives while also keeping in touch with the new friends made at the Forum. So, for all the above reasons, I can happily report that both the Youth Forum and discussion session were very meaningful.

Youth Forum Declaration

Jumpei Yamamoto (Nara Prefectural Horyuji Kokusai Senior High School) ... Japanese
Sydney Sykes (Milton Academy) ... English

Coordinator's Reports

<Workshop Topic 1 Report>

“Technical Succession”

Masaya Masui (Professor, Faculty of Human Life and Environment, Nara Women's University)

The term “techniques for succession” has a broad range of meanings and by ‘techniques’, we refer to different types and levels. In terms of ‘scale’, our workshop’s nine presentations covered a broad spectrum, ranging from field craftsmen’s specific techniques to the construction of whole urban concepts. Moreover, the subjects were all very different, ranging from construction materials to ‘consensus formation’ and creating systems adjustable for different stakeholders.

“Techniques for cultural succession” is therefore a collective term encompassing an enormous diversity of different things on various scales. Examples range from the craftsmen’s hand skills at work on Himeji Castle, the techniques used to preserve Kyoto and Nara’s traditional wooden town houses (machiya), the integration of new and old techniques or those used to protect remains (such as in Xi’an), to techniques for positioning cultural heritage within an overall urban concept for modern cities, some specific cases being exemplified by Bandung and Yogyakarta. Naturally, our workshop participants acknowledged the importance of, not only the hardware examples, but also ‘software’ techniques that make possible cost-effective support and organized coordination, another point being the need to raise awareness among local residents. In order to realize these points effectively a collection of ‘excellent case studies of cultural heritage being utilized in modern ways’ were suggested. Likewise, cases of awareness being raised through performance events drawn from cultural heritage were suggested.

There were discussions about techniques that allow stakeholders to share ideas about preserving and using historical assets and for formulating policies (example, Izu). Participants also noted the need for networks between residents and visitors, and experts and craftsmen (example, Kyoto), likewise, the need for cooperation beyond administrative frameworks (example, Tokyo) and for platforms allowing stakeholders to discuss (as in Uda Matsuyama). Both presenters and discussants shared a common understanding that we need to share our awareness, need to develop methods for stakeholder cooperation that address techniques for the succession of culture, and need to design systems based on an overall viewpoint.

<Workshop Topic 2 Report>

“Disaster Prevention in Historical Cities”

Takeyuki Okubo (Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Ritsumeikan University)

This workshop included roughly five subthemes. The first concerned disasters and countermeasures in general. Ms. Han of Myanmar stressed the urgency of having countermeasures for developing countries facing multiple disaster situations. Then, Mr. Smith of the UK addressed preserving ‘industrial heritage’ (which has been so essential for our modern times), and introduced examples of recent disaster situations and countermeasures taken in both UK and Japan.

The second subtheme related to earthquake disasters and current situations. Mr. Yoshida of Japan presented an evacuation plan proposal for Nepal’s historic royal city, Patan, based on its earthquake risk and urban characteristics. His ideas emphasize maintaining traditional urban structures while linking them to disaster countermeasures. He presented a model for Patan as a safe and beautiful historical city. Then, Ms. Nuryanti of Indonesia talked about earthquake and volcanic eruption disasters and the counter-efforts of the local governments and tourism industry, including monitoring trials conducted with local residents. This illustrated the necessity for sharing management tasks between the various disaster prevention organizations. Next, Ms. Akieda of Japan showed how everyday use and maintenance can be effective in preventing disasters in historical cities using data from Indonesian earthquake disaster surveys. To me, her talk neatly clarified the importance of a disaster prevention standpoint when we use historical cities as living assets.

The third subtheme looked at planning with respect to urban fire disasters. Mr. Tanaka of Japan presented his studies, based on new simulations, into the risk of fires spreading in historic Kyoto. As traditional Japanese townscapes of closely spaced wood buildings have a high risk of fires spreading to cultural heritage sites, countermeasures are needed at the earliest juncture. Mr. Sakonnakron of Thailand also presented improvement plans, and analysis into their effectiveness, relating to fire and evacuation risk awareness based on the cooperation of local residents of the historical Sam Chuk market near Bangkok. He clarified the effectiveness of local resident participation for creating more workable disaster prevention plans.

The fourth subtheme was about flood countermeasures and townscape preservation. Ms. Hirunsalee of Thailand talked about the modernization and reform of ‘pillar houses’, a traditional housing style in the old riverside district of Ayutthaya, and the necessity of guidelines for everything from flood countermeasures and landscape preservation to costs. Workshop participants were able to appreciate the importance of reviewing traditional architectural styles to allow disaster prevention measures to positively contribute to landscape preservation.

The fifth subtheme concerned ‘manmade disaster’ countermeasures and community plans. Ms. Yang of India questioned the necessity of plans to modify historical cities to combat such disasters based on the UNESCO framework. She also presented her own framework. Workshop participants came to understand the importance of management involving citizens and international cooperation for the coexistence of historical cities and modern urban lifestyles. Mr.

Kanegae of Japan explained the need to mutually link six values (including disaster countermeasures, environmental preservation and local development), for the succession of historical cities through community planning based on Kyoto's approach. He supplied potentially useful clues about how people can construct thinking circuits to overcome 'value conflicts' in the interests of historical city preservation.

Disaster countermeasure policies for historical cities should be based on preservation. However, until now, there have been few opportunities to discuss the subject. Now, using this workshop as a springboard, we are beginning to share this characteristic problem and our individual experiences internationally. We stand at a starting line to actually promote historical city disaster countermeasures while maintaining a network. This is a key and significant result for this workshop.

<Roundtable Theme 1 Report>

“Unique City Planning Utilizing Its Historical Characteristics — Establishment of Identity”
Ikuko Tanabe (Director General, Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties)

Theme 1 of the Roundtable discussion can be roughly classified according to two categories. The first relates to involving local residents while developing the hardware for urban planning and building a sense of identity from the results of large-scale urban planning. The presentations of Mayor Yang Sik Choi of Gyeongju and Mr. Jong Sil Yoem of Buyeo provided examples. Both cities are implementing comprehensive plans to consolidate an extensive urban area as an ancient city. Moreover, they look forward to utilizing the results as tourism resources. Historical cities in every country suffer the contradiction of historical heritage itself obstructing improvements to the lives of local residents. These plans seek to overcome such contradictions, aiming for urban reform that makes the heritage attractive to local residents.

Xi'an City's report by Mr. Guang Jiang Zhang also aimed in this direction. In principal, Xi'an is proceeding with urban development using the square grid of the old imperial city of Chang'an. But because modern Xi'an is so large, the plan calls for large-scale urban development concentrated in several selected areas. The plan for Daming Palace National Heritage Site Park was impressive. The development, which will need to relocate many local residents, aims to conjure up a sense of the old Daming Palace. Similar methods have been used in Japan for designated historical city sites and municipal parks, but not on such a large and extraordinary scale.

In the second category the emphasis is to develop diverse systems for handing down historical city assets and traditions, and for related training and education to hand the techniques on to the next generation. It also aims to cultivate human resources for raising awareness by getting local residents involved and encouraging them to network.

Deputy Mayor Mori of Kanazawa talked about his city's efforts towards human resource cultivation involving, for example, traditional techniques and skills that support the hardware aspects of historical cities. Exceptionally, Kanazawa began this approach back in the 1960s.

Mayor Nakagawa of Nara reported that his city is focusing on education so that local residents can take pride in local history and help preserve the town for future generations. Special emphasis is placed on school education about World Heritage. The Mayor reported on classroom trials teaching children about the historical process by which Nara's Great Buddha statue was reconstructed despite numerous difficulties. This impressive story is intended to instill a sense of the preciousness of the city's heritage.

Mr. Kirk Sykes of Boston spoke on the radical question of how various ethnic groups and cultures can share an identity. He said that one important step towards a solution is by using a very big concept to make 'multi-facetedness' into a community property. Diversification is not yet solidified in Boston but it is proceeding steadily. New diversification is a part of the city's history and a common identity can be forged by sharing it. His report that was replete with meaning.

Mr. Michael Loveday of Norwich reported that, while his city has many historical assets, they have always been administered separately. As a result they have not been exploited sufficiently to create any overall city identity. To counter this, Norwich is conducting trials to build a historical assets network, establish a new framework and reconstruct the value of their assets. They also aim to revive the attractiveness of the city and encourage more people to work there. A private trust called 'Heart' is leading this movement. They are seeking project funding from the government and later intend to transfer a successful model to other European cities.

After receiving the above reports, the participants discussed two main focus points, the first asking whether or not historical heritage education directly helps cultivate industry or create employment. For this, Mayor Kadokawa of Kyoto reported on new Kyoto industries with cutting-edge technologies created thanks to the succession of traditional industries, and the source of much local pride. On the second point, about the private sector, while many people recognize its importance, most tend to depend on public institutions. However, Boston City reported that, in the USA, heritage succession is based principally on private activity, (which suggests that the US is advanced in this sense).

Historical cities remain as such not simply because of citizens nurturing their history but also because of the remaining heritage elements that are evidence of this history. Heritage only has value when people recognize the relics of the past as their own assets. This awareness can then become part the historical city's identity. Yet, how can such a thing be realized? Because all historical cities undergo their own unique formation, the problems they face are not uniform. I think this report has revealed the situation of various trials being undertaken by each city to tackle their own problems. I close by stating my heartfelt wish that, by sharing information and learning from each other's trials, we will surely develop substantial assets for each of our

historical cities.

<Roundtable Theme 2 Report >

“City Maintaining Its History - Harmonious Coexistence”

Minoru Senda (Director, Nara Prefectural Library Information Center)

Reports from seven cities addressed Theme 2 for this Roundtable, a theme I had always thought difficult. While the word “coexistence” has been used frequently in recent years, it originally comes from biology. So I am puzzled about its meaning in the context of relationships between people and history. Speakers naturally built their presentation around their own interpretation and I strongly felt that there are diverse cultures in the various cities as well as diverse states of coexistence within each culture.

Regarding the above, I have classified “coexistence” as used in the seven city presentations into three parts. The first considers coexistence in terms of the city’s nature or ecology, exemplified by Kyoto Mayor Kadokawa’s references to trees and water, and the concept of an eco-city presented by Strasburg, France. Both regard coexistence as being between nature and historical cities. The second part can be described simply as encompassing the revitalization of historical landscapes or buildings, as exemplified by Atiq Square in Isfahan, Iran. It took a long time to obtain the residents’ agreement and the process was very impressive to hear.

Another interesting case was from Bad Ischl in Austria, a small but very significant historical city. Thanks to both residents and officials, it has successfully strengthened its standing. We also heard about Veliko Turnovo in Bulgaria and its struggle to build a city under extremely difficult circumstances while also respecting the influences of its location (literally on a crossroads between East and West).

In another interesting tale, Sheki City in Azerbaijan is thinking to raise its recognition internationally as a historical city through events and exchanges with people from many countries. I understood that all the above relate to the revitalization processes of the cities and how residents coexist with their city as a result.

The third part is illustrated by Odessa in Ukraine where a strong and conscious will to proceed with creative town development was expressed. Odessa is a crucible of culture, holding affiliations with 41 cities internationally. This undoubtedly makes it a proponent for building international exchange by leveraging historical city status.

Listening to each of the various city presentations I have been moved in appreciating that it was in Nara, the conference’s host city, where Japanese creative culture was born. I hope that the delegates will leave with this same recognition, and visit Nara again. In a sense, ancient Nara created an archetype for all Japan. It can be likened to Odessa in that it was the first Japanese city to pursue highly creative urban development. It was of course strongly influenced by China

and the Korean Peninsula but, nevertheless, Nara gave Japan a definite form. Having participants come to see Nara as this creative city is perhaps the key factor to helping them understand Japan better. I cannot stress this point strongly enough.

Comments & Opinions

(Kyoto)

It has been very significant that, for the first time, the issue of fire and disaster prevention pertaining to cultural assets has been addressed directly at a World Conference of Historical Cities. Almost all Japan's cultural assets are made from wood, paper or soil. So fires and other disasters are a most fearful prospect. Accordingly, Kyoto is promoting a wide range of countermeasures.

In Kyoto there is a 'cultural asset citizen's rescue system'. In 235 city locations, the guardians of cultural assets, local residents, fire companies and departments, etc., work together, train for emergencies and maintain prevention facilities. Residents routinely and consciously create systems to support temple and shrine custodians to protect cultural assets. With Kyoto being a major university city, students also help by having their own fire-fighting teams.

The area around Kiyomizu-dera Temple has a high density of wooden houses. Here, the approach to fire prevention is to fight fire outbreaks with hydrants. Two 1,500 ton capacity water tanks have been installed with an extensive street network of hydrants.

However, the most important consideration of all is the strength of the cooperation between the temple or shrine organizations and the local residents, plus the degree of official support they receive.

(Canberra)

In 2003, the outskirts of Australia's capital Canberra, were severely damaged by wildfires and many old buildings were destroyed. In the aftermath, the Australian Capital Territory Government initiated two measures. Firstly, it installed fire-fighting countermeasures in important areas and proper fire-fighting systems in older buildings. Secondly, it set up an emergency countermeasures service under which police, ambulance and other services are networked.

(Boston)

The two days of discussions have ranged over such questions as how to increase citizen involvement and the importance citizens place on culture. The essential thing is that citizens should not depend on the government. Instead, calculated approaches are needed to inspire citizens to help, to motivate themselves to protect their own local area with pride.

(Mr. Tanabe, Coordinator of the Roundtable Theme1)

I was concerned that no ideas for fire prevention systems that prevent fires from starting in the first place were presented. No matter how wide-ranging the countermeasures in place, once flames are detected, wooden buildings are very vulnerable, especially older ones. So a more penetrating question is to ask how to prevent the start of fires. This may touch on people's consciousness and lifestyles. Are there towns introducing systems, or with long-standing systems from olden times?

(Kyoto)

Sixty years ago, Kyoto had more fires than any other major city in Japan. This was mainly because it still had many closely-spaced older buildings untouched by the incendiary bombs of World War II. However, the number of fires is now at its lowest postwar level. Per 10,000 people, the rate has declined to one third of those in other big cities, and Kyoto aims to become fire-free. One approach has been through Kyoto City Fire Department which has about 500 more staff than its similarly-populated Kobe counterpart, (despite criticism of high personnel costs by the Kyoto City Assembly and elsewhere). Also, "self-defense" fire groups have been set up to protect cultural assets, etc, and voluntary groups are very active, even though Kyoto is a major city. However, to improve long term fire prevention, a shift to building non-wooden houses is essential. Kyoto is considering new approaches that resolve the contradictions.

(Adelaide)

How can we make our citizens love and respect their cultural heritage more? In my local district, of approx. 40,000 homes, we hold a cultural heritage festival every two years in which we highlight aspects of both cultural and social heritage with a variety of themes. The approach is going well and locals are now participating in heritage preservation at a deeper level.

(Strasbourg)

Part of the Strasbourg project involves partner cities, for example, Yokohama. Students from the two cities pursue team activities together. Exchanges are held in our 'Construction Academy', where students from different countries train together. It is also open to Japanese students, and is effective for deepening cross-culture friendships.

(Canberra)

Mr. Sykes(Boston)'s comments are interesting. Canberra tries to involve people in its heritage preservation through music. When organizing festivals, the concerts are held in historical buildings so that people who may not normally visit such places can enjoy the music and architecture simultaneously.

(Floor A)

An excellent dialogue has started and I suggest setting aside perhaps one or two hours for the participants to hold a dialogue before the Roundtable session? If this could be made possible, the discussions would yield even richer results.

(Boston)

After so many presentations on fire and disaster prevention, all in all, it is important to gather everybody's wisdom together. Every city could use this wisdom to introduce best practices. Disasters, whether natural or manmade, present an equal threat to heritage. In the USA, little effort is paid to fire, but much has been devoted to security since the September 11th terrorism attacks of 2001. Terrorism is certainly another threat to heritage.

Despite real threats of fire to its heritage assets, one town in Massachusetts had to close its fire department due to the poor economy and now operates by sourcing help from other towns. What do other cities around the world do about fire prevention, especially when economic situations become more severe?

(Mr. Takagi, Secretary-General of the League of Historical Cities)

Unfortunately, the time for accepting answers has now run out. We will have to set aside more time at the next conference so that policymakers can hold even more in-depth discussions.

The 12th World Conference of Historical Cities “Nara Declaration” (Text)

In 2010, representatives of many historical cities from around the world who are passionate about the future of their ancient cities have gathered in the city of Nara, Japan, which this year marks the 1,300th anniversary of its establishment as Japan’s planned imperial capital ‘Heijo-kyo’. Nara is also the place where ‘The Nara Document on Authenticity’ was drawn up in 1994, a document that sets out the world’s shared understanding concerning cultural and heritage diversity. Now, from Nara, we hereby make the following declaration.

In modern society, under the influence of rapid globalization, the process of worldwide standardization has moved forward with the result that regional and local uniqueness have been eroded and the establishment of distinctive identities has become more difficult. At the same time, the concentration of populations into large cities is exacerbating regional disparities and creating various tensions. Indeed, there seems to be no end to the problems resulting from ethnic disputes and religious conflict. On another front, as a consequence of global warming, the world is witnessing more frequent climatic abnormalities and serious natural disasters, indicating that the natural environment is changing on a scale unprecedented in living memory. All these diverse changes are often dramatic and our historical cities are exposed to them on a daily basis.

However, we wish to overcome this situation by mobilizing the knowledge of historical cities that our ancestors have guarded and handed down over the centuries with their collective wisdom.

Each historical city has followed its own unique and original destiny. This is one reason why it is significant that representatives from so many historical cities have gathered here in Nara to exchange opinions and discuss the wisdom of their cities.

At this conference, while expressing our appreciation of the immense achievements of our ancestors who protected their cultural heritage from the ravages of war and disaster, damage and loss, we have shared in a mission to continue providing a new breath of “creation”. We have also reaffirmed that the technology for protecting our cultural heritage requires systematic support. Moreover, we have come to a shared understanding that young people feel proud to live in historical cities, and found that the value of handing down cultural heritage to the next generation is indispensable to the sustainable development of historical cities. Most importantly, we have each confirmed that the proposal for “coexistence” voiced at this conference is also a powerful message toward peace.

Because our home cities are historical cities, they can also serve as models for sustainable cities.

Accordingly, this conference calls on all historical cities to collaborate closely in providing each other with information and to focus even more on forming links and building mutual cooperation based on their pride for and awareness of their own history.

In order to make practical use of the results of this conference in the future, we hereby pledge to direct the above actions with great determination towards our young people. It is these members of society who will carry forward the next generation. In addition to this conference's proposal for a "creative revitalization" of the cultural heritage that has been protected and handed down, this heritage should adopt a new role focused towards greater harmony with future urban development.

Declaration of the Youth Forum (Text)

We high-school students have gathered here in Nara, the ancient capital of Japan, to take part in the 12th World Conference of Historical Cities.

It has been our great pleasure to have had an opportunity to discuss with other young people from around the world about what we can do for the 'Succession of Historical City with Creative Revitalization'.

Historical cities have been passed down to succeeding generations owing to the continuous efforts of our predecessors. While we should express our gratitude to them, and show our respect for their good work, at the same time, we feel strongly that it is we ourselves who must cultivate the future. This is a role for which we need more awareness and a greater sense of pride.

Each one of us, from our individual homes and hometowns, will give serious thought to what we can contribute towards 'creative revitalization'. While the power of a single individual may be small we believe that, collectively, our individual efforts can accumulate to generate a large force.

We therefore make the following declaration:

- 1 We are committed to continue our conscious learning of the essential qualities within the history and culture we possess.
- 2 We actively convey to the world what we have learned and noticed as a member of historical city to carry forward.
- 3 We will deepen and broaden the exchanges made between us by drawing upon this day's encounter for vital nourishment.

2. Symposium of Historical Cities' Mayors

Joint-hosting event by Association for Commemorative Events of the 1300th Anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo Capital and Nara city

Symposium of Historical Cities' Mayors (Summary)

Joint-hosting event by Association for Commemorative Events of the 1300th Anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo Capital and Nara city

Theme : "Tourism that enriches the value of historical cities"

Date & Time: 14 October, Thursday, 15:45~17:45 Venue: Nara Centennial Hall

Panellist

Ms. Judy Verlin Mayor of Ballarat

Mr. Ki Yul Kim

Director General, Tourism and Cultural Affairs bureau, Gyeongju

Mr. Sayedmortaza Saghaeiannejad Esfahani Mayor of Isfahan

Mr. Daisaku Kadokawa Mayor of Kyoto

Coordinator

Mr. Gen Nakagawa Mayor of Nara



● Panel Discussion

<Coordinator>

Mr. Gen Nakagawa (Mayor of Nara, Japan)

<Panelists>

Ms. Judy Verlin (Mayor of Ballarat, Australia)

Mr. Ki Yul Kim

(Director General, Tourism and Cultural Affairs bureau, of Gyeongju, Republic of Korea)

Mr. Sayedmorteza Saghaeiannjad Esfahani (Mayor of Isfahan, Islamic Republic of Iran)

Mr. Daisaku Kadokawa (Mayor of Kyoto, Japan)

● Greeting address by Mr. Yoshihisa Akiyama, Chairman of the Association for Commemorative Events of the 1,300th Anniversary of Nara Heijo-kyo Capital

■ Introductions to each city

(Ballarat)

Although it is a comparatively new city, Ballarat is also a city of considerable historic significance. It retains strong vestiges of its history as a mid-19th-century gold rush boomtown, and is also known as the birthplace Australian democracy on account of the Eureka Rebellion, the country's first and only armed civil uprising which took place in Ballarat in 1854.

In 2006, Ballarat hosted the 10th World Conference of Historical Cities.

(Gyeongju)

Gyeongju is an international city of historical and cultural tourism that boasts many cultural assets including World Heritage listed properties. The city is moving forward with a national level restoration project for its development as a historical and cultural city. Gyeongju is also attracting tourists from across the Republic of Korea and abroad through a marketing strategy that draws upon various kinds of experience-based tourism and sports. The city has set itself a target of attracting 15 million tourists annually by 2020.

(Isfahan)

Located in the central region of Iran, Isfahan is an ancient city with roots going back to prehistoric times and an Islamic architectural heritage that includes many wonderful historical buildings constructed principally when it was a capital city during the reigns of the 11th/12th century Seljuq and 16th/17th century Safavid dynasties. In addition to boasting a wealth of tourism resources, Isfahan ranks only second to Tehran as a major university town, and is a center of higher education.

Moreover, Isfahan possesses a multiethnic and multicultural historical heritage based on the long history of peaceful coexistence between its Jewish, Christian and Muslim communities.

(Kyoto)

Kyoto is a city of tourism that attracts around 50 million visitors each year from Japan and abroad. In addition, it is a city of manufacturing where long-established kimono and other traditional product industries coexist alongside modern cutting-edge industries amid a wealth of culturally important buildings and gardens. At the same time, Kyoto is said to be a town of story making. The background to this may have its roots in religion as well as in the philosophy of people coexisting with nature, I believe.

■ **What kinds of problem do each of your cities have in relation to tourism, and what challenges or issues in particular do they face due to being historical cities?**

(The Mayor of Ballarat)

Although Ballarat is a young city with a history only stretching back about 150 years, it has made a major contribution to Australian history because of an incident of great symbolic and national importance that took place there. This historical fact has led to the significant growth of Ballarat's tourist industry. However, as a result of this growth, the population has increased and now poses a threat to the city's heritage and to the tourism industry itself. Naturally, it is necessary to match our development plans to the city's growth, but policy should haul development along with it rather than being pulled along by it. Infrastructure development in the city's central business district is important, but it is vital that we proceed while protecting the townscape and the city's historical heritage.

On top of this, we have wonderful but abandoned historical buildings. Because they are no longer occupied by residents, this is leading to their gradual destruction through neglect. How to preserve such buildings is a challenge.

(Director General, Tourism and Cultural Affairs bureau of Gyeongju)

In our post-modern society, differentiation is being sought in tourism in much the same way as in other fields. Tourist attractions require an image and this image needs to be produced and provided organically. One of the implications of this is that tourism does not necessarily have to be focused on the genuine article. Instead, what is required is a policy that interprets the original form of the historical heritage in a modern way, in order to gain the interest of modern people. For the activation of historical cities, it is important to raise the value and the attraction of their resources by surveying and restoring cultural heritage and then proceeding with development accordingly. This can be expected to lead to the formation of an identity for local residents which can result in a prospering tourist industry. However, the actual situation is that most people have an insufficient understanding of cultural heritage, so securing the financing for these things can be difficult.

Moreover, at the present time, with regard to the restoration of culture, negative views are in

the ascendant. Objections are raised that restored culture lacks sufficient credibility so that, while there is no question of loss of identity, such restoration may be linked to a loss of self-confidence.

Under these circumstances, achieving faithful restoration can be a difficult task. We may be forced to accept restoration up to the level of tourism resources development. I think that, rather than becoming fixated upon restoring the original form, we need to reconstruct facilities, spaces and programs by reinterpreting history and culture from a contemporary standpoint so that today's visitors can experience some form of interchange with the past.

Furthermore, in order to turn cultural heritage into tourism resources, a relationship of interdependence with the daily life of local residents needs to be maintained. Accordingly, tourism management plans must be positioned in the context of overall urban planning. At present, with demands related to tourism tending to be individualized and differentiated, we need to improve our methods of approach.

(The Mayor of Isfahan)

Isfahan's biggest problem is its increasing population and to cope with this situation the city requires infrastructure development. However, because most local residents don't understand the value of cultural heritage, they fail to appreciate its importance, and their [historical] identity is not a factor [in civic development]. In order to improve this situation, I would like to propose a program of education.

With the rise in population, tall buildings are being constructed, and the lifestyles of the citizens have changed significantly. Moreover, environmental pollution has become an increasing problem.

I have a suggestion for dealing with this too. In order to hand down a way of existing as an environmentally friendly city, we intend to review once again the original function of historical heritage in the community. We will make use of the historical district, not as a mere museum, but as the living face of the city.

With regard to urban planning, as people we tend to resign ourselves to the flux of time while overlooking our own identity. City planners can easily forget the value of heritage as well. So we need to consider more about the college curriculum. And as an element of this, we must make use of historical buildings in ways that blend in well with modern lifestyles.

(The Mayor of Kyoto)

Based on a major decision made 3 years ago, we are now carrying out the following six policies for the landscape deeply related to our tourism policy, the activation of traditional industries, and the improvement of the citizens' attitude towards hospitality.

1) Tightening the building height regulations (45m \Rightarrow 31m、 31m \Rightarrow 15m): We are proceeding with this policy based on our determination to never allow Kyoto to turn into a "Little Tokyo" .

- 2) Building design regulation: Roof colors, exterior wall materials, balcony shapes, etc.
- 3) Regulations on outdoor signage: After a 7-year moratorium, the gaudy signboards of nationwide chain stores will be removed. With an approach of protecting the “borrowed” landscape and scenic landscape, Kyoto will be a much more beautiful place in 30 or 50 years from now.
- 4) Approaching the protection of historical landscapes : We will establish a landscape validation system and a landscape citizens’ council.
- 5) Approaching the activation of traditional industries: We are carrying out an approach aimed at protecting traditional industries by providing opportunities for people to experience Kyoto’s “genuine articles”. I myself wear a kimono almost every day, (as if an advertising tower for this policy).
- 6) Improving the citizens’ hospitality: In this approach, Kyoto citizens seek to acquire greater proficiency in traditional Japanese culture such as the tea ceremony, flower arrangement and calligraphy as an aid to practicing hospitality particularly towards visitors from abroad.

■ When taking the ‘Heritage Weekend’ approach, how can you let residents know about the attractions and value of their local area?

(The Mayor of Ballarat)

Heritage Weekend is a campaign. We make the developers and the officials in charge of development aware that our tourism assets come from our heritage. We want to preserve the heritage in the center of Ballarat by asking the community to participate in heritage protection programs too.

■ With traffic congestion issues resolved, many tourists visit historical heritage sites. I wonder whether this presents any threat to the identity that religious people feel they should follow.

(The Mayor of Isfahan)

It is important that people understand the value of their heritage. After its value had been revived, Artik Square became a place where many people gathered, but this in turn led to traffic jams. However, when we conveyed to the public that we were attempting to revive a part of our history and our identity, we were able to work out the traffic problem satisfactorily. We now have restrictions on access by car to the city center and we are promoting the use of bicycles.

■ The environmental burden created by tourism is a problem. Let’ s hear about a case example from Kyoto City, which is taking a pioneering approach.

(The Mayor of Kyoto)

The biggest negative effect of tourism for us is traffic congestion. In Kyoto, we are implementing a comprehensive strategy aimed at turning Kyoto into a town of walking. First of all, we must link together the city’s tourism, environment and traffic policies. To realize this, the citizens first

have to move towards abandoning the present car-centric society. Kyoto wishes to grow as a model city where people can really connect with both tourism and the environment. We are also starting up an electric bus service together with the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

■ **I've heard that in Gyeongju you are moving forward with a policy to link agriculture and tourism. Could you give us some information about that?**

(Director General, Tourism and Cultural Affairs bureau of Gyeongju)

Gyeongju City's livestock sector is prospering as the Republic of Korea's number-one producer of beef and pork, and the city's agricultural sector is also vigorous. To link agriculture and tourism, we have selected ten foods that are considered to promote long life and are selling them as specialty products. Also, local farmers are raising their incomes by supplying rice and vegetables directly to hotels.

■ **Finally, if you have a particular vision or if you want to raise any questions about how to raise the value of historical cities, please tell the forum.**

(The Mayor of Ballarat)

Our problem from now on is how to respond to the increasing population. It is important that we remain skillful in facilitating heritage preservation within the community and that we can secure a budget to pay for this. It is also essential to gain the community's commitment in order to obtain the budget.

(Director General, Tourism and Cultural Affairs bureau of Gyeongju)

In Gyeongju, we are restoring a wide range of things for use as tourism resources. Accordingly, we need to compensate owners for land, which requires a lot of financial resources. Protecting the identity of a historical city requires a lot of financial resources.

(The Mayor of Isfahan)

I would like to make several suggestions. The member cities of the League of Historical Cities must promote their tourism industries by making use of the league's network. Among the members of the league are some cities that are in sister-city relationships, so if they can make skillful use of these relationships, they can carry out exchanges involving all kinds of facilities. I would like to establish a research group and conduct a survey that digs deeply into these issues.

(The Mayor of Kyoto)

Kyoto receives many repeat tourists. We have to move forward from "viewing tourism" to "interactive tourism". However, because our traditional industries and traditional culture are both in a crisis situation, we want to try to reactive them. For example, Kyoto's vegetable

produce, known as “Kyo-yasai” has been successfully transformed into a brand by linking it with the unique Kyoto cuisine known as “Kyo-ryori”. On the other hand, tourists are not linked to tax income. Placing regulations on buildings, etc., as a landscape measure will translate into a reduction in fixed property taxes, but in any case we must try to take the very best care of the landscape. To do this, we need a national policy, and so we will make an approach to the national government in cooperation with Nara.

■ **Summary (Coordinator : Gen Nakagawa, Mayor of Nara)**

I was surprised to hear that we have so many issues in common and I believe that the League of Historical Cities’ network can function effectively to solve these issues. So, how can we best respond to the needs of people today while making use of the traditional ways of life and the attractions of our towns? We have to build a new future for historical cities that includes a tradeoff between these two sets of values.

"The 12th World Conference of Historical Cities"
&
"Symposium of Historical Cities' Mayors"

Report

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