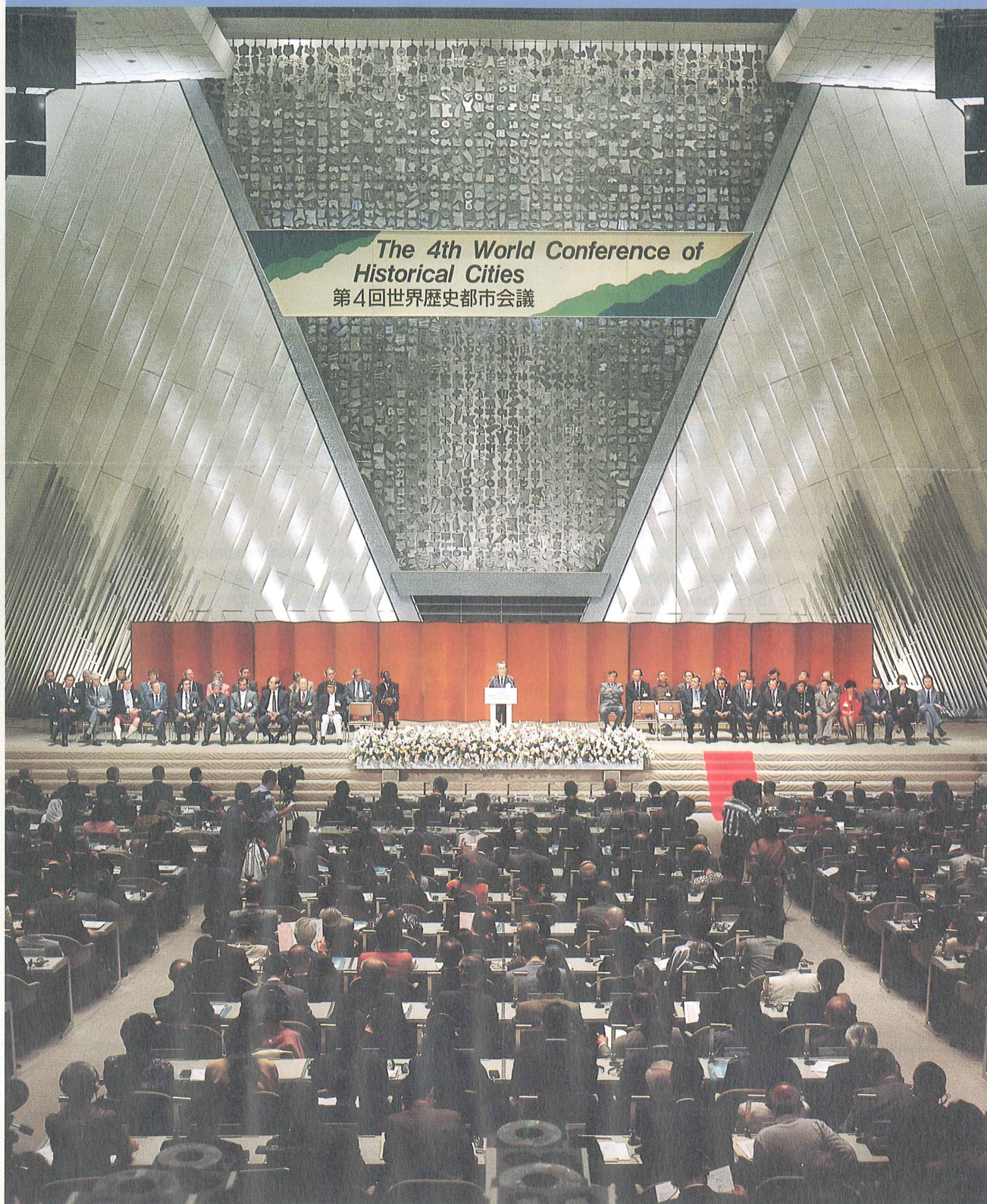


WORLD

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

HISTORICAL CITIES

NO. 1: SUMMER, 1994





THE 4TH WORLD CONFERENCE OF HISTORICAL CITIES

The 4th World Conference of Historical Cities was held successfully from April 25-28 of this year, at the Kyoto International Conference Hall. With 45 cities from 40 countries attending, the highest ever, this year's conference, one of the main events held in commemoration of the Kyoto 1200th Celebration, was a complete success and much was achieved during the four days.

At the opening ceremony, held in the afternoon of the first day in the Main Hall, about 1,600 Kyoto residents were in attendance. The ceremony commenced with a unique performance of Japanese traditional music. Representatives of participating historical cities assembled on stage, each greeting one another in their own language.

Following this, the mayor of Kyoto gave a keynote lecture stating that, "It is time for us historical cities to contribute to the world and to build a bright future for the human race, by applying the accumulated wisdom of our historical cities, it has been made clear through this series of conferences. And exchanges between cities across national boundaries will be a major contribution to the peace and prosperity of the human

race in the 21st century."

"Rather than limiting exchanges among our cities to conferences held once every few years, I propose that we should aim for more continued activities to deepen our exchanges, building on our shared wisdom to bear even richer fruit. There is a need to pool information on our various projects and achievements, which will then be common property to serve in the preservation of our historical heritage, and my hope is that we can make progress towards this goal. Specifically, I propose the setting up a League of Historical Cities."

Following the speech, each of the 45 cities were introduced in a slide show. The opening ceremony was closed with a Noh play performance.

During the 2nd and 3rd days of the conference, in three sessions, each of the participating cities reported on problems they are facing, how these problems are being approached and what their general feelings about these problems were. On both of these days, heated discussions resulted between members that went on well past the day's schedule.

Future World Conferences of Historical Cities & Related Matters

During the General Assembly of the World Conference of Historical Cities Council (on the morning of Wednesday, April 27), Xian (People's Republic of China) and Cracow (Republic of Poland) were chosen as the sites for the 5th and

6th World Conference of Historical Cities respectively. The 5th conference will be held in 1996, followed by the 6th conference in 1998.

On the Foundation of the League of Historical Cities

The foundation of a League of Historical Cities, mentioned in the keynote lecture by Mayor Tanabe, was decided on at the General Assembly of the World Conference of Historical Cities Council. Moreover, during the Kyoto City presentation, "A New Development in the World Conference of Historical Cities," during Session III, Mayor Tanabe spoke further on the necessity of a League of Historical Cities. Recommendation for the formation of such a league received approval during the General Discussion from all participating cities. Quoted below is a summary report concerning the League of Historical Cities.

1) Aims

Our purpose in forming this League is to contribute to the realization of eternal world peace so desired for the future of mankind by all people everywhere; we propose to do so by forming an organization which builds mutual trust by transcending national boundaries to strengthen affiliations between cities. Our aim is to make use of this coming together of cities for the World Conference of Historical Cities in order to also establish a forum enabling further exchange between the participating cities: not only for the period during which this conference convenes, but on an ordinary, everyday basis as well; and not merely with respect to issues unique to historical cities, but also with respect to issues such as government, citizen's lifestyles, and so forth.

2) Background

In 1987, the city of Kyoto proposed the World Conference of Historical Cities and the first conference was held in Kyoto. In order to continue holding the conference and promote exchange

between the participating cities, the World Conference of Historical Cities Council was established with all 26 cities attending the conference as members. Since Kyoto had initially proposed the conference, the Council's secretariat was set up in Kyoto and the mayor was appointed chairman. Kyoto has also borne all the office's expenses.

On the occasion of the 4th World Conference of Historical Cities, held again in Kyoto, it was decided to reorganize and develop the existing Council to form an expanded League of Historical Cities with new member cities which would be able to solve the outstanding problems.

3) Members

The initial members of the League will be the current members of the Council (25 cities) and the cities attending the 4th World Conference of Historical Cities.

4) Secretariat

Since it has done so from the outset, Kyoto will be responsible for the secretariat.

5) Expenses

For the time being, the city of Kyoto will continue to bear the expenses of the secretariat.

6) Interim Plan of Operation

The by-laws and future projects of the League will be planned by the secretariat and consolidated at the next conference in Xian in 1996.

Unanimous Adoption of the "Kyoto Appeal"

During the General Discussion and Closing Session, there was an urgent proposal for the "Kyoto Appeal" from the representative from Paris. The proposal was adopted unanimously. The "Kyoto Appeal" message, printed in full below, was sent directly to the United Nations, Dubrovnik, Vukovar and Sarajevo from the secretariat in Kyoto.

The Kyoto Appeal

The representatives of the historical cities of the world, who have gathered in Kyoto, "The City of Peace," for the Fourth World Conference of Historical Cities, must not forget their obligation as human beings, cities and governments to protect and defend the existence, the heart and spirit of historical cities.

The delegates should bear in mind that cities such as Dubrovnik, Vukovar and Sarajevo, which have been seriously damaged, are also a part of human heritage.

We offer them our message of support, hope and solidarity.

The League of Historical Cities List

Accra (Republic of Ghana)	Fez (Kingdom of Morocco)	Montreal (Canada)
Alexandria (Arab Republic of Egypt)	Florence (Republic of Italy)	Nanjing (People's Republic of China)
Amsterdam (Kingdom of the Netherlands)	Guadalajara (United Mexican States)	Paris (French Republic)
Athens (Hellenic Republic)	Hanoi (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam)	Prague (Czech Republic)
Barcelona (Spain)	Isfahan (Islamic Republic of Iran)	Quebec (Canada)
Bordeaux (French Republic)	Istanbul (Republic of Turkey)	Rio de Janeiro (Federative Republic of Brazil)
Boston (United States of America)	Jerusalem (State of Israel)	Rome (Republic of Italy)
Bratislava (Slovak Republic)	Kaesong (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)	Tashkent (Republic of Uzbekistan)
Brussels (Kingdom of Belgium)	Katmandu (Kingdom of Nepal)	Tunis (Republic of Tunisia)
Budapest (Republic of Hungary)	Kiev (Ukraine)	Ulan Bator (Mongolia)
Chiang Mai (Kingdom of Thailand)	Kyongju (Republic of Korea)	Varanasi (India)
Cologne (Federal Republic of Germany)	Kyoto (Japan)	Vienna (Republic of Austria)
Cracow (Republic of Poland)	Lahore (Islamic Republic of Pakistan)	Xian (People's Republic of China)
Cuzco (Republic of Peru)	Lisbon (Portuguese Republic)	Yogyakarta (Republic of Indonesia)
Dublin (Ireland)	Melbourne (Australia)	Zagreb (Republic of Croatia)
Edinburgh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)	Mexico City (United Mexican States)	Zurich (Swiss Confederation)

Other 4th Conference Events

1) Accompanying Persons' Program

On Tuesday, April 26th, the spouses of representatives and other delegates toured the city, observing the design and production of traditional Kyoto crafts and other aspects of Japanese daily life. Activities included watching the production of braid and wire-netting, instruction in holding fans and yuzen dyeing.

Following the kimono show, participants had a chance to put on and wear a kimono in a Japanese garden, where they were photographed. These photographs will hopefully serve as special reminders of their stay in Japan's traditional craft capital. In the afternoon, they toured the 400-year-old Nishiki market, a 3-meter-wide, 400-meter-long covered street, where about 130 shops sell high quality fresh foods, and then visited local department stores, where they observed aspects of ordinary daily life in Kyoto and enjoyed a bit of shopping.



2) Public Forum

Beginning at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26th, a Public Forum with the participation of 300 Kyoto citizens was held at Kyoto Kaikan Hall. At the Public Forum, the chairman of the planning committee of the 4th World Conference of Historical Cities, Shumpei Ueyama, who is also president of Kyoto City University of Arts, gave a lecture titled, "Kyoto 1200th

Celebration and World Conference of Historical Cities." Following his speech, a superb introductory presentation with some slides was given by three city representatives: Mr. Norman Irons (Lord Provost of Edinburgh), Mr. Leonid Kosakivskiy (Mayor of Kiev) and Mr. Jozef Lassota (Mayor of Cracow).

3) Nijo Castle Garden Luncheon Party

On Wednesday the 27th of April, a garden luncheon party was held at Seiryu-en, the famed garden of Nijo Castle. Nijo Castle was built by the first Tokugawa shogun, Ieyasu, as a protective garrison of the Kyoto Imperial Palace and Kyoto residence for the shogun. The Ninomaru Palace within the castle complex has a set of sliding doors which are a National Treasure, as well as a wide range of splendid examples of 16th century Japanese arts and culture.

Seiryu-en, the venue for the luncheon party, has two tea houses — one set in a traditionally landscaped Japanese garden, the other in a western-style lawn garden. In the lawn garden, 200 kindergarten children welcomed conference participants at the beginning of the luncheon party. The event, held under beautiful weather conditions, included a *koto* performance and a tea ceremony by the Midorikai of Urasenke, Japan's most distinguished tea ceremony school.



4) Excursion

On Thursday the 28th of April, the final day of the conference, 5 buses were provided to give visitors a tour of Kyoto's better known shrines and temples, as well as a close-up look at several of the city's representative traditional and modern industries.

Many of the participants, upon completing the tour, felt that Kyoto was not only a city with a long history, but also one which was clearly developing to enter the 21st century as a modern and progressive center.

Conference Results and Responses

The 4th World Conference of Historical Cities saw participation by over 1,600 Kyoto citizens at the opening ceremony and 200 more at each of the three main sessions, another 300 people attended the Public Forum. In addition, 52 citizen volunteers were active during the conference as interpreters.

1. Response to the Conference by Kyoto Citizens

Kyoto citizens who attended the various sessions and the Public Forum were asked to fill out a conference questionnaire. Following are a selection of the questionnaire responses.

“Today, the big question we are facing is how we can preserve the world’s historical cities. At the conference, it was truly interesting to listen to the opinions of such cities from around the world.”

“A conference like this, where many cities with similar problems are working together, is very meaningful. World-wide, global exchange must be promoted today, in a time when we are facing so many complicated matters and challenges.”

“I recognized that all cities were working on similar problems,

with as much intelligence as possible. I think it is necessary for the revitalization of Kyoto to get ideas from projects that other cities are working on. I will do my best to recognize and carry out things the individual can do to help.”

“To preserve historical cities, you cannot ignore economical facts. We must find a way to make economical success and preservation work together. I feel that instead of objecting to city development, constructive dialogue between people and governments will lead the way.”

“With the many difficulties we are facing in this very fragile and changing world, I felt inspired and encouraged by experiencing people from all over the world communicating with each other.”

2. Volunteer Interpreters

As a means to have local people participate in the Conference and to help delegates relate to another culture directly, 52 interpreters in 9 different languages volunteered their services at the conference.

In all, 327 people from the age of 20 to 72 applied for these volunteer interpreting positions. The applicants were university students majoring in foreign languages, foreign

students studying at Kyoto's universities, teachers of foreign languages and others.

The language skills of all interpretation applicants were quite high, and all who applied had a strong desire to help develop international exchange, formal and informal. It can be said that this stands as proof of the maturity of Kyoto’s people from an international perspective.

Upcoming Kyoto Events

International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Plenipotentiary Conference (1994, Kyoto)

When: Monday, September 19th to Friday, October 14th, 1994
Where: Kyoto International Conference Hall

This year the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference will be held for the first time in the Asia-Pacific region. Founded in 1865 to promote international cooperation for telecommunications and give technical aide to developing countries, the ITU is part of the United Nations. The Plenipotentiary Conference is a high-level decision making body which includes 184 countries. At this year’s conference, strategies to cope with current global change and a future system framework will be discussed. More than 1,300 people from 184 countries are scheduled to participate this year.

The 31st Kyoto General Conference of the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union

When: Wednesday, October 26th to Thursday, November 3rd
Where: Kyoto International Conference Hall

The Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union, founded on July 1, 1964 and headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, functions to facilitate cooperation among broadcasting organizations in the Asian-Pacific region. Japan’s national broadcaster, NHK, was a leading member of the Union’s founding. Union members exchange news, co-produce programs, negotiate sport

broadcasting rights and exchange information on new broadcasting techniques. This year’s conference will see participation from 86 member organizations from 48 countries, about 300 people are expected to attend. As part of this year’s conference, a Union TV Program Contest will be held.

Heian-kyo Reborn A Commemorative Exhibition

When: Thursday, September 22nd to Sunday, October 23rd
Where: Kyoto City Museum of Fine Arts and the surrounding area

Throughout this special 1200th anniversary commemorative exhibit, people will have a chance to experience the world of Heian-kyo, the name for Kyoto when it was first founded as the capital of Japan 1,200 years ago. Here, people can experience the life, beliefs, culture and ambiance of the foundation of Kyoto. A major part of the exhibit will be centered around a scholarly researched, model reconstruction of Heian-kyo, covering an area of over 100 square meters in the Kyoto City Museum of Fine Arts. National treasures and important cultural assets will also be on display at the museum.

Outside the museum, on an open stage, performances and rituals passed down from the Heian Period (794-1185) will be performed. Performances scheduled for the event include *gagaku* (court music), *sumai no sechie* (a ritual held to pray for national peace and a good harvest, an original form of present-day *sumo*), *kemari* (Japanese imperial football), and a number of performances by persons accorded the rank of Japanese Intangible Cultural Asset.

League Member Cities Introduction

Istanbul

(Republic of Turkey)

Mayor: Recep Tayyip Erdogan
Population: 10,000,000
Area: 1,200 km²

Contact Person: Bayram Sezgin
/Necmi Kadioglu
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Istanbul, the only city in the world built on two continents, stands on the shores of the Bosphorus and the Golden Horn, where the waters of the Black Sea mix with those of the Sea of Marmara. Due to its geographic position, the city has been an important world city for centuries.

According to historical evidence, Istanbul was built during the Greek colonization period (circa 660 BC) and known in the beginning as Byzantium. The city's fortunes were greatly changed in 330 AD, when Constantine, the Emperor of the East Roman Empire, made the city his capital, Constantinople. Later, the city was also the capital of the Byzantine Empire.

On May 29, 1453, the city was conquered by Mehmet II (Fatih Sultan Mohammed, Ottoman Emperor) and made the capital of the Ottoman Empire. Named Estantbul, Stimbol, Istanbul, the city was the capital until 1923, when Ankara became the capital of the Republic of Turkey. After the Second World War, as the result of rapid urbanization, the urban population surged. Today, the city has 10 million inhabitants, making it one of the largest in the world.

Istanbul has an infinite variety of interesting sights and places: museums, ancient churches, palaces, great mosques, etc. Among the many outstanding examples, are the Topkapi Palace of the Ottoman Sultans, the St. Irine Museums built by Emperor Constantine in the 4th century AD, and the Sultanahmet Mosque (Blue Mosque) built by the architect Mehmet between 1609-1616. Istanbul offers more than its superb historical and cultural past — it is also an international center for business and the arts.

Guadalajara

(United Mexican States)

Mayor: Alberto Mora Lopez
Population: 2,517,236
Area: 150.4 km²

Contact Person: Fernando
Perez Jimenez
Tel: 523 613 85 50/613 39 80
Fax: 523 613 85 50



Guadalajara, the capital of the central Mexican coastal state of Jalisco, and Mexico's second largest city, was founded in 1542. The city is blessed with a warm climate year-round; even in December, temperatures do not fall below 5°C.

Though a major center of commerce, industry, and transportation and communication, Guadalajara also has the atmosphere of an old city and is referred to by some as "The pearl of the west" or "The city of roses."

The city's long and varied history is well represented in its buildings, which include many structures done in Baroque and Gothic style, such as the Degollado Theatre, Government Palace, city cathedral, and Cabañas Hospital.

Guadalajara, furthermore, is the home of tequila and the birthplace of the Mariachi band, the hallmark of Mexican popular music. The city's opals and various crafts are also very famous.

Barcelona

(Spain)

Mayor: Pasqual Maragall I Mira
Population: 1,643,542
Area: 99.07 km²

Contact Person: Alejandra de
Habsburgo-Lorena
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Barcelona, located on the western shores of the Mediterranean, is the traditional port of entry to Spain. As the cultural and administrative capital of Catalonia, it constitutes an important economic and commercial nucleus, which has had an influence throughout Spain and the Mediterranean basin.

Barcelona is an open city by the sea, which has always been known for its enthusiasm, activity and creativity, all reflecting a place which is truly cosmopolitan, friendly and generous of spirit. During its 2,000 years of history, this city has seen the passing of many civilizations, whose architectural and artistic remains live together in perfect harmony with the very latest trends in architecture, urbanism, art and design. From Roman walls, Gothic buildings, bourgeois facades, to the urban expansion at the end of the 19th century, to Gaudi's modernism and the Catalan art of Picasso, Miró and Tàpies, Barcelona has it all.

The Rambla, in the heart of Barcelona, is a colorful, diverse and spectacular road which runs from the city center down to the sea, past flower stalls and coffee shops, art centers, street artists and musicians. As was true of the Universal Exhibition of 1888 and the International Exhibition of 1929, Barcelona has always known how to excel on special, historical occasions, such as the recent 1992 Olympic Games, in order to achieve a definitive sense of progress.

Barcelona, the city which Cervantes long ago praised for its hospitality, is now opening up to Europe. Warm and welcoming, though firmly loyal to its past, Barcelona is dedicated to its future progress.

Katmandu

(Kingdom of Nepal)

Mayor: Prem Lal Singh
Population: about 432,000
Area: 813.58 km²

Contact Person: Shankar Raj Kandel
Tel: 977 1 228434
Fax: 977 1 229221



Katmandu, the capital of Nepal, is the nation's first political, administrative, commercial, touristic, educational and cultural center. Situated at an altitude of 1,350 meters, the valley in which the city is located is surrounded by green mountains. The abundance of shrines, temples, palaces, squares, ageless sculpture and legend associated with the city make Katmandu, in every way, a living museum. Within the city, there are nearly as many temples as there are houses, as many statues as inhabitants. With its rich cultural heritage, the inner area of the city is a superb example of a living medieval Asian center of art, culture and agriculture.

The city of Katmandu was built by King Gun Kamdev in 723 A.D. It is widely believed that Katmandu was originally a big lake made habitable when the god Manjushree cut the mountains open at Chovar, causing the waters to drain. The city is named after "Kastha Mandap," which refers in Sanskrit to the imposing wooden temple pagoda near Hanuman Dhoka Palace.

Alexandria

(Arab Republic of Egypt)

Mayor: Alsayed Ismail Algawsaky
Population: 4,500,000
Area: 2,679.39 km²

Contact Person: Laila Ahmed Yehia
Tel: 203 4821345/4839663
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Alexandria was named after Alexander the Great, who ordered the foundation of the city in 332 B.C. on the site of a small village called Rakotis opposite the island of Pharos.

Alexandria, often referred to as "The Bride of the Mediterranean," and the second capital of Egypt, is the largest port in the country, handling about 80% of the nation's exports and imports. Approximately 40% of Egypt's industry is located in Alexandria.

Alexandria is also one of the country's major resorts, noted for its outstanding location and mild year-round climate. The city's more than 40 kilometers of fine sandy beaches attract millions of visitors in the summer.

The Eastern Mediterranean regional office for the World Health Organization (WHO), as well as the Ancient Library of Alexandria (Bibliotheca Alexandria) reconstruction project office, are both located in the city.

Kaesong

(Democratic People's Republic of Korea)

Mayor: Kim Ilam
Population: 300,000
Area: 1,211 km²

Contact Person: Korean Society for
Cultural Relations with
Foreign Countries

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Kaesong, with a history of more than 1,000 years, was founded as the capital of Koryo, the first unified state in Korea, which existed for over 500 years from 918 to 1392. Koryo was famous for its developed economy and culture. In the early 12th century it invented metal type and different kinds of ceramics, including celadon, which holds a special place in world ceramics.

Since ancient times, Kaesong has enjoyed a world-wide reputation as a center of Koryo Insam cultivation (ginseng root). The city boasts an abundance of historical remains, museums, palaces, and important tombs, such as the Koryo Museum, the site of the Manwoldae Koryo Dynasty Palace, the tomb of Wanggun (founder of the Koryo Dynasty), the tomb of King Kongmin, the South Gate, and Sonjung Bridge.

Local industries include textiles, fashion, food processing, large-scale agriculture (rice, stock breeding, pomiculture and sericulture).

Situated near the military demarcation line which divides Korea into north and south, Kaesong is characterized by a large number of divided families with an extremely high desire for peaceful reunification.

Paris

(French Republic)

Mayor: Jacques Chirac
Population: 2,152,400
Area: 105.397 km²

Contact Person: Valerie Terranova
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Capital of the French Republic, Paris developed spirally in a widening circle from its point of origin on the island of Cité. The original town's evolution into a major civilized city began with the organization of road and sewage systems. At the end of 19th century, the city blossomed as an international center of increasing importance. It was during this time that the city's world-famous Eiffel Tower, Paris Opera House, and metro (subway) system were constructed.

On the right of Cité island, across the river Seine, lies the commercial area of the city, while on the left bank of the Seine lies the Latin Quarter, well known for its educational and cultural institutions, and government offices.

More than three quarters of the city area are preserved officially or unofficially as important historical areas. The design and scale of the city has for four hundred years, since the time of Henry IV, been a masterwork of harmony. Among the city's many enlightened design concepts are a series of regulations that determine the height of buildings according to the width of the street they stand on. The Marais District and Seine River Bank have been added by UNESCO to the list of world heritage sites.

Tashkent

(Republic of Uzbekistan)

Mayor: Atkhambek I. Fezilbekov
Population: 2,120,000
Area: 28 km²

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As the capital of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Tashkent has various architectural landmarks, such as mosques and other historical remains. Tashkent means "the city of stone" in Turkish. Owing to the special characteristics of its people, made up of numerous ethnic groups and religions, it is often called "the city of friendship and brotherly love." As an important Central Asian transportation and trade center, Tashkent has been an oasis of the Silk Road for the past 2,000 years. The city celebrated its 2,000th anniversary in 1983.

Today, due to a series of major earthquakes in 1966, only a small part of the city maintains the undisturbed atmosphere of its ancient historical past. In response to the catastrophe the city faced in the wake of the earthquakes, support from all over the world poured in. During the rebuilding phase, Tashkent undertook the rapid construction of tall buildings, resulting in a modern city plan. According to this plan, industry was transferred from the city center to outlying areas, and construction of new housing complexes, modern cultural facilities and subways were undertaken.

Yearly, on March 21, regardless of ethnic origin, language and religion, the people of Tashkent dress up in colorful clothing and celebrate Navruz. On this day, when various performances are presented, the streets are crowded with parades and huge open markets from morning to late at night.

Interview with Christopher D. Ward, Director of the Kyoto American Center



Mr. Ward graduated from Northwestern University in 1977. In 1985, after working as a radio announcer, film critic, and in the advertising industry, he joined the US Information Agency. Mr. Ward was the director of the American Center in San Jose, Costa Rica, from 1986 to 1989. In 1991, following a year in London and Yokohama, he became the director of the Kyoto American Center.

WHC: How did you come to be involved with the American Center?

CW: My background is in cultural matters. I studied film and theater in university, then worked in film and radio, and later as an illustrator. So I love art and the arts. Therefore, when I decided to join the US Foreign Service, I was not at all interested in joining the State Department. So I joined the US Information Agency, which is the cultural agency of the US Foreign Service. It's merely my good fortune to be posted in one of the cultural and historical capitals of the world. I've been here for three years now. It's been a very pleasant time. One of the highlights was indeed the World Conference of Historical Cities in April of this year. I enjoyed attending it very much.

WHC: Are there any particular aspects of your current position that have been difficult for you or your family?

CW: In the past, I headed the Costa Rican American Center, which was my previous assignment in Latin America. There are similarities between these two postings, but, on the whole many more differences. In Latin America, one of our mandates is to teach English. Until about 20 years ago, the American Centers used to teach English in Japan. Now, with the incredible number of private schools teaching English, there is no longer any need for us to provide this service here. If there are differences between other centers and Kyoto, then I feel that there are two major differences. One is personal, the other professional. On a personal level, there is the issue of safety. I have two children. When I go out the door or my children go out the door, I don't have to worry. That was a big issue in Latin America. Kyoto and Japan are, in my experience, definitely very safe and happy places to live. From a professional standpoint, our audience here is very sophisticated, because Kyoto is a center of academic excellence. There are about 40 institutions of higher learning in Kyoto — Kyoto University, Doshisha, Ritsumeikan, among them. Frequently the people who attend our lecture are as qualified as the speakers. That's good for us and we find our speakers have a wonderful time.

WHC: You have been in Kyoto nearly 3 years now. What are your feelings about this city and how would you compare it to other world cities you have lived in?

CW: As far as large cities go, I've lived in Chicago, and spent considerable time in London and New York. As a city, Kyoto is the smallest large city I know. Kyoto has managed to conserve and preserve the feeling of an ancient town, though it is, in fact, really big and modern. This small town feeling is a really special characteristic for a city of this size.

WHC: What do you think of Kyoto as a historical city?

CW: Well when I was attending the conference, it was my good fortune to see the slide presentations of other cities, which showed what made those cities special and what connected them to the past. For me, Kyoto is, without question, among the top rank of those cities. First of all because it is such an ancient place, and second because it has taken such a concerned effort in preserving the past as much as it can. Kyoto is a world-class, first-rate historical city.

WHC: Do you have any comments concerning the World Conference of Historical Cities conference agenda?

CW: I thought it was a good agenda. I spoke with many of the participants; and there was no question that everyone enjoyed it. It was a very enjoyable and useful experience for everyone. The thing that was most useful was what happened between sessions: the connections made during the breaks in the agenda and after the agenda. This was an important part of the conference, one which made it especially valuable.

WHC: For you, which places in Kyoto best reflect its historical nature?

CW: The place I go to most often is the Goshō (Imperial Palace grounds). However, I use it mainly as a playground together with my children. That's the place I know best. The place I like to go that particularly makes me think of Kyoto as a historical city is the Daitoku-ji Temple complex. Just to wander. It's so quiet and special there. It seems to be set apart from the city and still somehow connected to the past more than the rest of the city.

WHC: Do you have any other comments that you feel would be relevant to the World Conference of Historical Cities Council' efforts?

CW: I and several people I spoke to during the conference felt that it would be highly beneficial if more of the people attending could be from previous meetings. The Conference is a great opportunities for historical cities to make progress in economic and cultural matters, for environmental purposes and for the promotion of tourism. The only drawback is that at every conference probably eighty percent or more of the participants are new. However, on the whole things went very well. I would like to extend my greatest compliments to the organizers of the conference.

The League of Historical Cities Secretariat

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