

WORLD

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# HISTORICAL CITIES

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People in native dress of Yogyakarta, Republic of Indonesia

*Reports from Member Cities*

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People in native dress of Cusco, Republic of Peru



# City of Yogyakarta



Taman Sari

Yogyakarta City is the center of Yogyakarta Special Region.

During the day, the city's population doubles as many people commute from the suburbs and nearby towns for work.

## *Geography of Yogyakarta*

Yogyakarta Special Region is officially one of Indonesia's 27 provinces.

It is located in the center of the island of Java, bordered on the south by the Indian Ocean, and to the north by a chain of volcanoes of which Mt. Merapi can be seen as a dramatic backdrop to the city skyline.

Yogyakarta is geographically located almost the same distance from Indonesia's two most important international gateways, Jakarta and Bali.

Yogyakarta also has excellent transport connections by bus, train or plane to the rest of Java.

Based on its land area, the Yogyakarta Special Region is the second smallest province in Indonesia after the national capital, Jakarta Province.

## *History of Yogyakarta*

People have lived in Central Java and the Yogyakarta area since time immemorial. They have been attracted by the rich soil caused by the numerous volcanic eruptions.

The recorded history dates from the 9th century. Yogyakarta was dominated by Hindu and Buddhist kingdoms which gave rise to the magnificent temples such as Prambanan, Borobudur.

Yogyakarta itself dates back to the 18th century. In the early 18th century, the Muslim Mataram Kingdom of the time was ruled by Paku Buwono II.

After he passed away, there was a conflict between his son and his brother which was encouraged by the Dutch who were trying to colonize the region on a divide and rule basis.

After the independence of the Republic of Indonesia was proclaimed, a statement was launched that the Kasultanan and Kadipaten (the two royal regions) belonged to the Republic of Indonesia.

Since then, it has been known as Yogyakarta Special Region and was given provincial status in 1950 in recognition of its important role in the fight for independence.

## *Culture of Yogyakarta*

As the former capital and the center of several kingdoms in the past, Yogyakarta is rich in cultural heritage.

Civilization, art and culture had developed respectively in the era of the ancient Mataram Kingdom (8th-10th century), the second Mataram Kingdom (17th - 18th century), and the Sultanate Ngayogyakarta from the mid of 18th century up to today.

It should be noted that the cultural heritage from the past includes the magnificent temples, palaces and monasteries, the various kind of traditions, cultural events, traditional performing arts, architecture and other traditional activities.

It is important to note that this is all part of the living culture of Yogyakarta and colours the daily activities of life and behaviour of the





Street in Yogyakarta

local inhabitants, particularly the Javanese community with its traditional way of life and customs.

Yogyakarta has long been known as the cradle of Javanese culture.

Beautiful environments, traditional architecture, social customs and ritual ceremonies make Yogyakarta the most interesting place to visit.

The arts and culture such as gamelan music and traditional dances invoke the atmosphere of Yogyakarta many centuries ago.

### *Population*

The total population of Yogyakarta Special Region is about 3 million people.

The majority of residents are Javanese, whose language is derived from ancient Sanscrit.

As Yogyakarta is one of the academic cities in Indonesia due to the numerous centers for higher education, there are many students who come from all over Indonesia to study here.

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Kraton ( Palace )



# City of Cusco

The city of Cusco is located in the valley of the Huatanay River in Peru's southeastern Andes, in the province of Cusco.

It is located 3,360 meters above sea level.

## *Climate*

The climate is generally cold and dry but mild, with an average annual temperature of 11 degrees Centigrade.

The rainy season runs from November to March, with light rains at the start of the season and heavier rains from January to March.

The dry season runs from April to October.

Known by the Incas as the home of Gods, Cusco became the capital of one of the largest pre Columbian empires.

Cusco means *Navel of the world* in Quechua (native Indian language), which derives from the fact that the city served as a hub for a vast network of roads interconnecting virtually the whole of South America, from the Southern part of present day Columbia to the northern part of what is now Argentina.

Furthermore, Cuzco is also both a mestizo and colonial city, with splendid churches and manor houses built on foundations of elaborately carved stone.

As for local cuisine, combinations of typical Andean foods, such as corn, potatoes and chili pepper, with pork and mutton introduced by the Spanish are popular.

With its vast landscapes, rich history and fascinating geography, Cusco is something all travellers long to experience.

## *Legend and History*

Although it was settled centuries before the Incas arrived, it was only during the period of Inca control (1438-1532 AD) that the Huatanay River basin, upon which Cuzco is



Machu Picchu Citadel

built, reached its peak as an administrative, religious and military center.

The origins of the city are shrouded in myth and legends which tell the tale of how the Inca empire came into being.

One of the most popular myths kept by the Inca Garcilaso de la Vega, is that mythical couple, Capac and Ocllo, who emerged from the waters of Lake Titicaca to found the city of Cuzco and teach its people how to cultivate the land.

The city was divided into two sectors: an upper area, or Hanan, and a lower area, or Hurin, references to both the geographical position of each area and the hierarchical position of their inhabitants. Moreover, it is also said that the

outline of the first city had the shape of a puma with a falcon's head.

When the Spanish arrived in 1533, many pre-historic structures were destroyed or used as foundations for new structures, which included churches, and convents and mansions built in Baroque or Renaissance styles.

Most of the important and interesting buildings in Cusco have been built on the foundations of Inca temples and palaces.

The Spaniards never managed to eradicate the city's Inca spirit and, even today, Quechua is heard on the streets.

Cuzco has become one of the representative cities of mestizo culture in the American continent.



The ancient Inca capital, Cusco is also considered the archaeological capital of South America.

***Machu Picchu***

The citadel of Machu Picchu is the most important tourist attraction in Cuzco. Discovered in 1911 by the American explorer Hiram Bingham, this citadel is considered to be one of the most extraordinary examples of landscape architecture in the world.

Situated in an enclave on the saddle of a mountain overlooking the deep canyon of the Urubamba River, in an area of lush tropical forest, it served as a place of worship, a site for star-gazing and a private hacienda.



Urubamba Sacred Valley

***The Convent of Santo Domingo***

The Covenant was built on the spectacular "Koricancha" (site of gold), the most important temple dedicated to worship of the Sun and whose walls were plated with sheets

of gold. The convent was built on a foundation of smoothed stone structures - the most finely crafted in Cusco - taken from Inca sanctuary.

The facade of the convent is an excellent example of Renaissance

art and its distinctive spire, built in Baroque style, stands out over the thatched roofs of the Cusco skyline.

***Compania de Jesus Church***

Considered one of the finest examples of Colonial Baroque architecture in the Americas, the construction of this church was begun by the Jesuits in 1576.

The spectacular facade made of carved stone and its great altar, elaborately covered in cedar and gold leaf and built on top of an underground chapel, are among its most notable features. The church also houses a large collection of sculptures and paintings by the most renowned artists.



Compania de Jesus Church

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**The 7th World Conference of Historical Cities  
Summary of the presentation at the working session.**

*Workshop no. 3  
Integration of a Historic City in a Modern Economy*

Mr. Yorikane Masumoto	Mayor of Kyoto
Mr. Malgorzata Lalicka	European Integration Coordinator, Cracow
Mr. Claudio de Souza	Coordinator for International Affairs for Rio de Janeiro
Mrs. Denise Larouche	Member of the Executive Committee in charge of Culture in Montreal
Mr. Henri Talvat	Moderator, Deputy Mayor of Montpellier, Delegate for Cultural Affairs

The term "integration" has often been used by the speakers of this workshop.

Kyoto with its long experience, has presented a project for 2025, "Grand Vision of Kyoto for the 21st Century - The Master Concept of Kyoto City".

Rio de Janeiro introduced a program for the rehabilitation of historic areas.

Montreal also with its rather long experience talked about the rejuvenation program of Old Montreal.

Though the speakers did not make a distinction with the workshops No. 4 on Tourism and Historic Cities, it is possible to say that the discussions under these 2 workshops have **a global vision of development and a long term vision** in common.

A presenter in this workshop mentioned the dangers of overprotecting a heritage and concluded with: "To conserve is to transform".

It was obvious in the studies presented that central area and the

cities outskirts can be linked by transportation systems such as tramways and subways, buses etc.

Economic factors have been taken into consideration in the projects such as tourism. Every city is aware of the fact that information and communication techniques, a foundation of a new economic system will play an important role in this millenium.

It is a challenge to coordinate the strong characteristics which make up historic cities and the globalization which the new economic system demands.

Owing to the development of a communication network, historical cities can build closer relations with other historical cities.

While remaining the precious asseets of human civilization, Historical Cities can also function as economic centers.

**Summary of the presentation  
by Yorikane Masumoto, Mayor of Kyoto**

In historical cities around the world, experience and wisdom have been cultivated and the proficient skills and knowledge of craftsmen accumulated over the course of our long histories.

I am confident that Kyoto, a city with a history of more than 1200 years, can create the new lifestyle demanded by the society of the 21st century. In the industrial and economic sectors, it will be essential

to establish a unique business structure that can adapt to a highly informational-oriented society and simultaneously remain harmonious with an environmentally conscious and aging society.

We are planning to establish the Kyoto Digital Archive, which is designated to facilitate industrial and cultural activities by digitizing information concerning historical and traditional assets. Venture

industries are continuously promoted and a consortium of universities has been established.

In the southern districts, commercial, industrial, informational and cultural services are also being strengthened. In addition, we aim to increase the number of annual visitors to Kyoto to 50 million people.

**The Next 8th World Conference of Historical Cities will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2002.**

**The Meeting of Board of Directors and a Preparation Meeting for the World Conference of Historical Cities will be held in Rio de Janeiro this year.**

**The Cities of Principal Officer shall meet in Rio de Janeiro this year.**





**Workshop no. 4  
Tourism and Historic Cities**

Mrs. Beate Weber	Mayor of Heidelberg
Mr. Nadal Joaquim	Mayor of Girona
Mr. Yasunori Okawa	Mayor of Nara
Mr. Alex Mosson	Mayor of Glasgow
Mr. Guibal Michel	Moderator, Municipal Counsellor of Montpellier President of the Opera House and International Conference Hall of Montpellier (Le Corum) President of the Office of Tourism of Montpellier

Tourism has been recognized as an important industry in order to promote an economic, cultural and leisure activities.

Many historical cities in the world are confronted with a problem of mass tourism.

It is a difficult task to combine conservation of their heritages and environments and the demand for modernization.

The city managers must take into consideration that the residents in historical area can benefit from the activities of the tourism industry.

It is important to enhance a historic city without making it into a museum city.

**Cohabitation between permanent and tourist populations.**

As Mayor of *Heidelberg* underlined, it is essential to draw up a general development plan of a city, a guideline for the tourist influx.

Tourism must be part of city development.

We must encourage local residents to give us support for the management of a growing tourist

flow.

Support will be provided for a city administration if we offer an attractive cultural policy to the residents and devise a tourism development plan based on the historical, economic and environmental characteristics of the city.

Tourism has much influence on the city development strategy.

According to Mr. Yasunori Okawa, Mayor of *Nara*, there cannot be tourism development if there are conflicts between visitors and local citizens.

Alex Mosson, Mayor of *Glasgow*, underlined that the local people as well as the tourism professions must be involved from the beginning and at every stage of development. Politicians must also be involved in this process.

As Mr. Joaquim Nadal, Mayor of *Girona* mentioned, it is important that people be allowed to live in the historic center so it does not become a museum city and also that the people who live outside the historic center be involved in it. This can be realized by improving access to the historic center and public transportation.

**Managing the tourist influx**

A long-term tourism plan is essential in order to cope with the growing influx of tourists. The local communities must consider the influence which this influx will have on the environment. We must also take tourists as well as local residents into consideration.

As an example of environment-friendly measures, some hotels have reduced their consumption of water and electricity by 20 to 50% by involving their clients in energy saving.

Other cities have created parking and waiting areas outside the historic center which can then be reached by bicycle or public transportation.

It is possible to attract tourists to less visited areas provided the city makes an effort in providing better information.

**Conclusion**

Tourism can be a positive part of a city development only if it is a long term project. The local population should become more and more aware of their role in tourism and be strongly involved in the whole process. Residents should also be able to act as tourists in their own city so they can be proud of their heritage.

**A Membership Fee for the fiscal year of 2001**

< Notice from the Secretariat >

An annual membership fee is now collected in accordance with the Covenant of the League.

The articles on a membership fees had been suspended for 1998, 1999 and 2000. But resumption of membership fees system was decided at the General Assembly of the League of Historical Cities in Montpellier in 2000.

**Membership Fee**

**100 US\$ for one member city**



INTERVIEW

Lee Won-Sik

Mayor of Kyongju (Republic of Korea)  
 City of Kyongju, Auditor City of the League of Historical Cities,  
 the Host City of the 9th World Conference of Historical Cities in 2004

**Your city was re-elected as an Auditor of the League of Historical Cities. What is your aspiration as one of the Principal Officers ?**

Kyongju city is very pleased to be reelected as an Auditor. It is our great honor to have served as an Auditor since the 5th Conference of Historical Cities in Xian, China in 1996.

Our city will promote mutual understanding and international exchange among member cities, and encourage more member cities to attend the conference.

**Kyongju was chosen as the venue for the 9th World Conference in 2004, how do you plan to manage it ?**

Our city will do our best to make the conference a successful one and make every effort to increase the attendance of member cities through studying experience of past conferences. I expect participation of all the member cities.

**Please tell us briefly about your efforts and plans to develop and preserve historic relics ?**

Kyongju, which was the capital of Shilla Dynasty for one thousand years, has many invaluable assets including 2 World Cultural Heritage and 203 national cultural assets.

In order to preserve these ancient historic relics, our city has divided the region into three sections according to the distribution of historic relics.

For example, the height of building in the southern part of the



city has been strictly controlled. Only construction of single story building and traditional Korean houses are permitted.

The central part has been restricted to low story buildings, while the northern residential part is designated for high story buildings.

We have also promoted urban development to protect our historic relics according to region. Any construction in a designated area for protection must receive permits in advance.

Kyongju implements laws to preserve historic relics and scenery around them, and restoration and preservation of cultural assets according to the priorities based on the extent of their importance and the level of damage.

**What do you expect of the League when each member city of the League deals with the common theme, " Conservation and Development of Historical Cities" ?**

As urbanization of many

member cities accelerates, the problems of such issues as development and preservation of historic relics has become more serious.

I hope that international cooperation in the area of protection of historic relics and cultural exchanges will be facilitated.

It is necessary for member cities of the League to make more efforts to achieve the common goal of harmony between development and preservation.

**Please give your message to the members of the League of Historical Cities.**

The historical cities with high and noble ideals and wisdom are an intrinsically precious cultural inheritance of mankind and a source of hope and courage for creativity of the future.

We should recognize the value of ourselves. I hope that the culture of mankind will be richly enhanced through active international exchange and cooperation based on the historical and cultural identities each city has.

Let's aim for peace and prosperity with the spirit of reconciliation and cooperation to understand and accept various cultures.

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