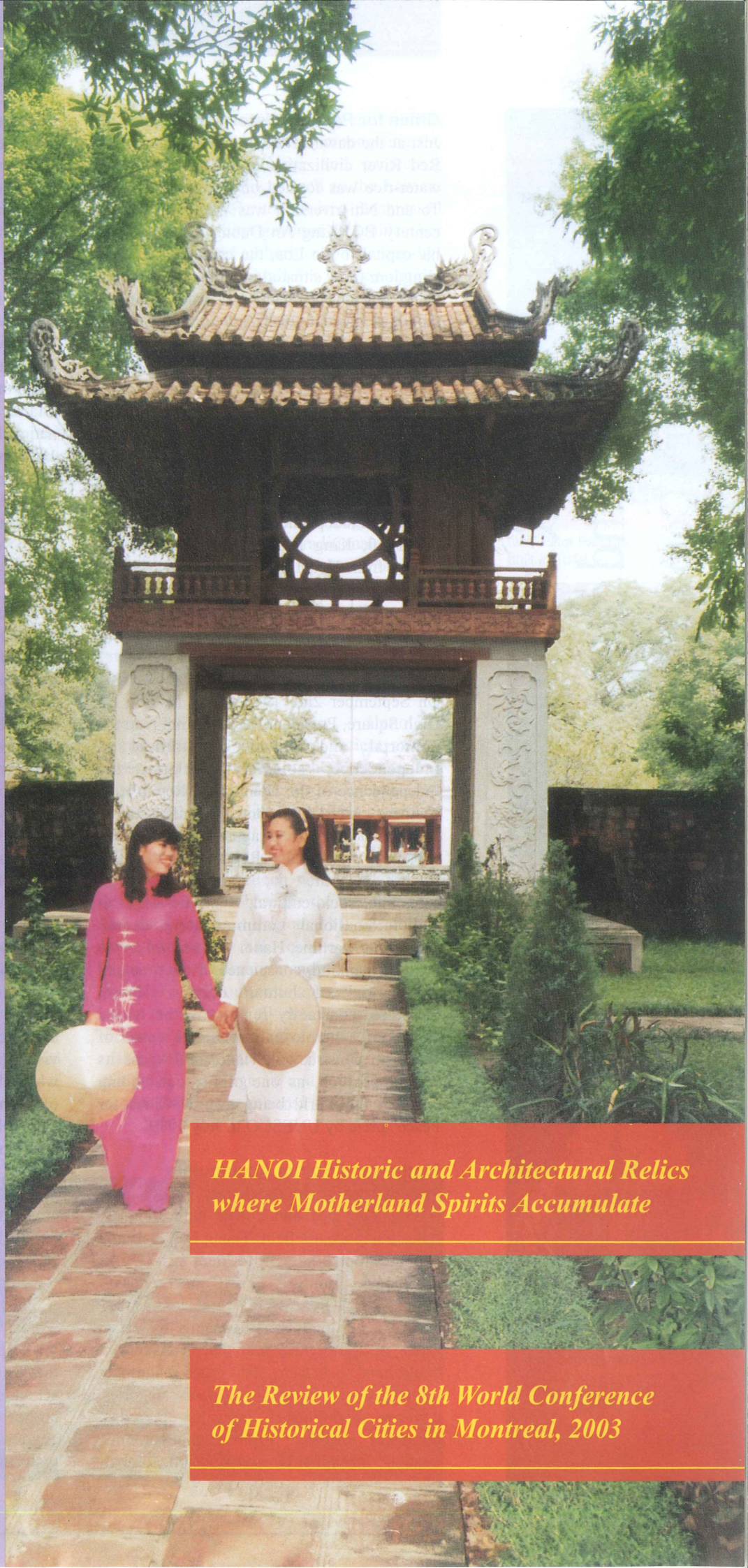


WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin No.29: December 2003

Accra
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Yangon
Yogyakarta
Zagreb
Zurich



*HANOI Historic and Architectural Relics
where Motherland Spirits Accumulate*

*The Review of the 8th World Conference
of Historical Cities in Montreal, 2003*



Hanoi Historic & Architectural Relics where Motherland Spirits Accumulate

by Hanoi People's Committee

Cities for Peace - History of Hanoi

Just at the dawn of the country's history, the Red River civilization or the civilization of water-rice was formed on the confluence of To and Nhi rivers. It was where in the 3rd century BC, King An Duong Vuong moved his capital to Co Loa, the capital of Au Lac Kingdom (now situated in Dong Anh district, Hanoi outer). The citadel was properly one of the most ancient towns all over the world. During mid-5th century, the dominating regime founded Tong Binh district (now in Hanoi) where a system of citadels and ramparts including Tu Thanh (621AD), La Tanh (767AD) and Dai La (876AD) was constructed. After the Bach Dang victory in 939, Ngo Quyen took the throne and decided to choose Coloa as the capital, the 1st one of feudal and independent states of Vietnam. By fall 1010, King Ly Cong Uan moved his capital from Hoa Lu (Ninh Binh) to Dai La and renamed it as Thang Long or Ascending Dragon. The name Hanoi, given in 1831 by Minh Mang, a King of Nguyen Dynasty, means "City on a bend of the River".

On September 2nd, 1945 at the historic Ba Dinh Square, President Ho Chi Minh read the immortal and epical Declaration of Independence, solemnly declared the Independence of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. After the country reunification in 1976, Hanoi was once again selected as the capital of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. It has become the country political, economic, socio-cultural, scientific-technical and international communicating center. During the wartime, Hanoi was praised as the heart of mankind, conscience of the time and the capital of human dignity. Hanoi, therefore, constantly represents the heroic capital of a heroic nation. In the cause of socialism construction, Hanoi still keeps its special position, as one of the outstanding cities in the world being award "Cities for Peace" prize by UNESCO in July 1999.

Motherland Spirits Accumulate

Over its nearly thousand year long history, experiencing ups and downs with so many times being a battlefield, Thang Long - Hanoi has developed herself to demonstrate the traditional identity of "Convergence - Exchange - Quintessence and Pervasion". There are around two thousands historical relics in Hanoi and few places elsewhere could have such many. The relics range over military, civil, religious and other categories, covering communal houses, pagodas, temples, shrines, tombs, mausoleums, citadels, strongholds, underground combat-

trenches, ancient urban quarter, etc.. Each of them seems to be "accumulated with spirits of motherland" and is regarded as invaluable heritage transferred to future generations from our ancestors whose legends are still resounded in each street and each village.

Among the most famous sites, Co Loa relic area, the big spiral citadel with ancient military and urban architectures could remind the legend about its construction work and evoke the immortal tragic romance of My Chau and Trong Thuy. Van Mieu - Quoc Tu Giam (Temple of Literature), the first national university, built between 1070 and 1076 where Khue Van Cac (Literature Pavilion) symbolizing Vietnamese literature and arts, is the emblem of Hanoi, the city of thousand year long civilization.

(Van Mieu - Quoc Tu Giam: cover photo)

Many Hanoi historic and architectural heritages attach to specific legends such as Phu Dong, Soc, Chu Dong Tu temples, Dong Da hillock, O Quan Chuong Gate, Cham communal house, Lang pagoda, Hai Ba Trung temple, and Thang Long Tu Tran, the 4 temples of 4 gods guarding the capital in 4 directions. More to say, One-Pillar Pagoda, built in 1049, has a unique architecture as the total compound is built on only one round stony pillar. Tran Quoc Pagoda, constructed under the region of King Ly Nam De (544-548), is the most ancient architectural relic. Hanoi Flag Tower, built in 1812, is also a special one.

The modern age left its profound imprints on some historical constructions including Hanoi Opera House, Maison Centrale (Hoa Lo Prison) and Long Bien Bridge, the one that arches over Red River. People could not resist visiting the ancient quarter with 36 streets, where "bias-tiled roofs vitalizing memories of the past", embracing its busy daily life and 112 valuable relics ranging from great to small in size.

Repair for the 990th Anniversary

Given the fact that the city has 170 ruins, 975 seriously damaged and 296 transgressed relics, as well as hundreds others need to be repaired, restored, preserved and protected, Hanoi has adopted a master plan as well as annual ones calling for up to 10 trillion VND investment fund. A policy to socialize the work of the relic conservation and to allocate the management to various authority levels has been issued. It has encouraged the people's contribution to restoration and protection, bringing about



Historical area where placed King Le Loi statue

great practical effectiveness. As an example, during 1994-1999 period only, the official investment fund was just VND 15.23 billion worth while the people and other social sources contributed up to some VND 50 billion. Over the past few years, especially on the occasion of the 990th Thang Long - Hanoi founding anniversary, many monuments such as One-Pillar Pagoda, Hanoi Flag Tower, Bich Cau Dao Quan, etc. were successfully repaired.

Beside VND 41 billion raised by the city government for the restoration of Van Mieu - Quoc Tu Giam, Hanoi ancient citadel, the pagodas at 4 city gates, and the historical area where placed King Le Loi statue, the people and other sources contributed VND 19 billion. Another USD 1.3 million funded by social organizations was invested in the reconstruction of Thai Hoc Building in Van Mieu - Quoc Tu Giam.

From the experiences drawn, Hanoi will mobilize the restoration of Co Loa (with estimated cost of VND 195 billion) and Ngoc Hoi-Dong Da historical areas in the coming time. International cooperation was also promoted in some projects conducted at Hanoi Opera House, Long Bien Bridge and the Ancient Quarter.

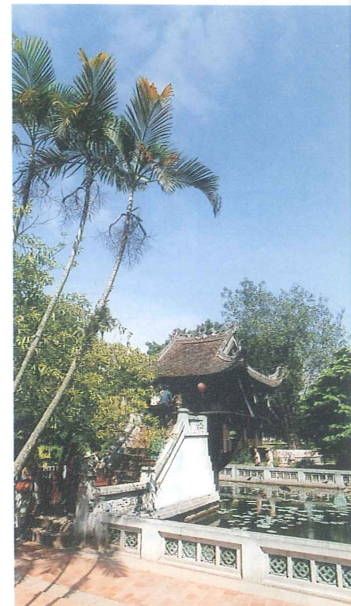
Over 1,000 Works Still Remain

However, huge work still remains since over 1,000 others (exactly, 1,163 as updated in June 1999) are being deteriorated at different levels and need to be restored. Given the rapid urbanization process, protecting natural landscape and environment surrounding historic relics though draws great attention from city authorities yet faces numerous difficulties. As a matter of fact, there exist many kinds of obstacles namely land encroachment, illegal construction, improper repair, etc. causing various negative impacts.

To deal with the matter, the city government attaches great importance to propagating the Ordinance on exploiting and protecting historic, cultural relic as well as the Law on cultural heritage. For the present transgressed 245 relics, the city government guides her agencies and local authorities to take step-by-step measures in parallel with appropriate compensations to relocate inhabitants living in the relic areas with an aim to restoring those constructions back in good conditions for tourism and research.

In the process of integration and development, the city government gives much more concern on the preservation and is willing to broadly introduce Hanoi Capital City countrywide and worldwide. 100% relic sites are daily opened. At the beginning and the end of a year, many traditional festivals are organized in the relic sites, making a cultural beauty and meeting the mass demand for enjoying the spiritual and cultural quintessence. As a result, the sites have gradually become hubs and destinations for social communities and tourists.

Our beloved Thang Long - Hanoi, a combination of modern and ancient values, glorious and splendid, where motherland spirits accumulate, and where bronze drum sound echoing from the past to the present, is reaching her sacred age of 1000. Through ages, the huge ancestor's heritage have remained, existing along with the moon and the sun, forming a base for the city to ascend like the mysterious dragon. This sets forth a lofty and heavy task for the work of the preservation, restoration and use of historical relics. We, with our arms open, would like to invite friends from all over the country and the world to come and give to us a hand thus making Hanoi, the older in age the more profound in intelligence and soul. This is our strongest and most honored willingness.



One-Pillar Pagoda, built in 1049



Quan Thanh temple



Sword-returned Lake

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The 8th World Conference
of Historical Cities
The Review of Montreal Conference - I

The Montreal Declaration

We the undersigned, mayors and representatives of cities gathered in Montreal for the 8th World Conference of Historical Cities, declare:

That we recognize the formative aspect of the cultural diversity of our cities and the priority nature of multicultural exchanges and interactions that encourage the mutual enhancement of our communities and contribute to shaping the collective heritage; shaping the collective heritage;

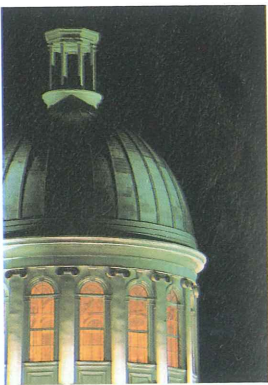
That we will use every available means to assume our responsibilities for recognizing, conserving, enhancing and propagating the natural and built heritage of our neighborhoods and our cities, with the purpose of maintaining and improving the quality of life of our fellow citizens;

That, in order to achieve this objective, we will, on the one hand, invite the civil society to join together, in ways that respect our traditions and cultural diversities, to conserve and enhance this heritage by, among other things:

- *providing it with access to all relevant information, with the cooperation of various partners, including Knowledge Institutions;*
- *promoting exchanges that will increase genuine understanding and recognition of the distinctive symbolic value of certain heritage elements for each community concerned;*
- *encouraging promoters and developers to participate in the screening activities concerning the foreseeable heritage impact of the proposed projects;*
- *facilitating the participation of citizen in screening activities of these proposed development projects;*
- *and this without limiting the accountability of decision-makers;*

And that we will, on the other hand, promptly proclaim our intentions regarding the conservation and enhancement of this heritage, along with medium- and long-term projections:

- *by publicly announcing the principles that will guide decisions regarding heritage conservation and enhancement;*
- *by identifying our priority areas of action, in collaboration with those of other public authorities and the United Nations Programme for Human Settlements (UN-HABITAT);*
- *by establishing a precise timetable for the attainment of objectives.*



The dome of
Bonsecours Market
The Conference Site

Photo: Le Photographe masque
Source: www.old.montreal.qc.ca



Photo: Denis Labine



Yorikane
Masumoto

Gérald
Tremblay

The League of Historical Cities informs with great pleasure the success of the 8th World Conference of Historical Cities in Montreal to all the member cities and others. In the 8th Conference we tried new innovative programs for the purpose of further development of the LHC. More specifically, the various suggestive programs for historical cities as well as the colorful workshops of citizen participation were provided in order to resolve many problems or challenges which each historical city had in diverse way and to formulate the foremost task aiming the sustainable growth. At the same time, we invited the international organizations such as UN-Habitat and ICOMOS and searched for collaboration with them and found the way how to cooperate for the future of historical cities which were common treasure for not only the city-dwellers but also all human-beings. We extensively succeeded in gathering together the knowledge and wisdom of the international communities and issued Montreal Declaration as a significant achievement.

First Cooperation with UN-Habitat

As a guest of honor, we had Dr. Axumite Gebre-Egziabher, Director of New York Office of UN-Habitat, which was an United

Nations agency for human settlements. UN-Habitat has established WACLAC (World Association of Cities and Local Authorities Coordination) and attached greater importance to take many actions with local governments. In this context, the LHC searched for how to cooperate with UN-Habitat so as to develop one of our pillar activities, city-to-city cooperation and City of Kyoto, the Chairperson, invited Dr. G-Egziabher to study their activities. Dr. G-Egziabher made an opening speech including the message from UN Secretary General Kofi Annan concerning World Habitat Day, delivered in the same morning in New York. "I'm greatly honored to be here to participate the 8th World Conference of Historical Cities on the World Habitat Day. UN-Habitat has established World Habitat Day on first Monday of every October in order to reflect on the living condition of the people across this planet. <Water and Sanitation for the City> is the theme of this year. Urbanization has caused excessive concentration of population. Clean water and sanitary environment are needed to the development of cities and it is significant to research the conditions of historical heritage and environment around the city. UN Secretary General Kofi Annan also insisted on the needs of strong ties with local authorities to promote the activities of UN in his message. I look forward to learning a lot from the 8th Conference to solve the complex problems caused by urbanization." Thus the LHC could share the common goal in the field of city-to-city cooperation beyond the national border with UN-Habitat and it deserves special mention as a fruitful result of the 8th Conference. The LHC would like to make full use of our unique status as historical cities which are in charge of irreplaceable assets for all human-beings so that the LHC can make steady steps to occupy more important position in international societies.



Mr. Gerald Tremblay, Mayor of Montreal, addressed opening speech at Opening Ceremony, October 6



Choice of guided tours "Tour of the Mosaiculture exhibition" October 6
Mosaicultures Internationales Montreal 2003, June 20 to October 6, 2003



Choice of workshops "Old Montreal & Montreal Heritage Website" October 8



Dr. Gebre-Egziabher of UN-HABITAT announced the message of Kofi Annan, UN Secretary General at Opening Ceremony, October 6



Photo: Denis Tremblay

Announcement

The next World Conference of Historical Cities will be held in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea in October 18-20, 2005.

Voices from participants
GYEONGJU



Baek Sang Seung
 Mayor of Gyeongju

I would like to express my thanks to Montreal and LHC. All the discussions and presentations have greatly impressed us. We saw difference between the cultural heritages in Montreal, which are mostly buildings, and those in Korea, which consist of many tombs and relics. I want to praise Montreal for its preservation policy. I believe this conference will contribute to the advancement of preservation of cultural heritage. The members of LHC have increased annually. It is expected for us to understand each other's

cultures, share knowledge and experience to preserve historical assets. In order to do that we require an active LHC secretariat and management. We will hold the 9th conference in Gyeongju. October in Korea is the harvest season. We will do our best to make the next conference a successful one. We have learned a lot from the Montreal conference. Organizing committee will be established to arrange a theme for the conference, to plan a tour of the city, to make a special conference and to keep member cities informed.

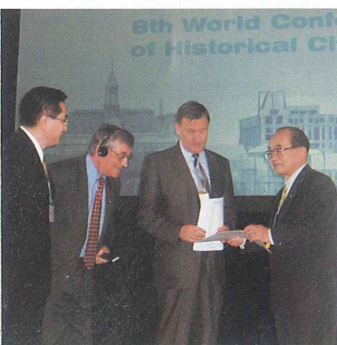


Mr. Dinu Bumbaru,
 Secretary General of ICOMOS,
 addressed at Opening Ceremony,
 October 6

Message from International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)

We had another special guest, Secretary General Dinu Bambaru from ICOMOS which is an international, non-governmental organization dedicated to the conservation of the world's historic monuments and sites founded in 1965. ICOMOS is UNESCO'S principal advisor in matters concerning the conservation and protection of monuments and sites and has an international role under the World Heritage Convention to advise the World Heritage Committee and UNESCO on the nomination of new sites to the World Heritage List. Mr. Dinu Bambaru also holds the post of Director of Heritage Montreal. Mr. Bambaru delivered his speech as follows: "As cities keep their own past and bring back memories from inside, we can say that cities themselves are historical heritage. It is very important for us to keep good balance between development of the cities and conservation of historical assets. It is also significant that we should transfer these historical properties to the future generations. ICOMOS broadly develops multilateral programs concerning conservation of heritage with involving the collaboration of many international committees & organizations and

seeks to establish international standards for the preservation, restoration, and management of the cultural environment. Hereafter ICOMOS would like to cooperate with the LHC and report the outcome of the 8th conference to the world." Thus he expressed his expectation for the LHC to perform its key role toward sustainable development of historical cities as common assets of all human-beings.

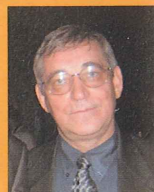


Mr. Ishmakov, Deputy Mayor of Kazan,
 received the Message for the coming
 1000th anniversary of Kazan
 October 8

Official Program & Public Program

At the 8th conference there were 3 Roundtable discussions, 11 Workshops and 9 guided tours. Especially we had brand-new challenge of partnership with citizens in workshop. Not only official delegations of each city but also experts of city planning, professors, architects, specialists of cultural heritage, students and citizens took part in the 8th Conference. Except the official delegation, people joined the 8th Conference as individuals. City of Montreal has implemented positive city planning and conservation of the city heritage for a long time under the partnership with citizens, so that Montreal could execute these highly motivated programs. All the delegations admired these productive programs and could

Voices from participants
KAZAN



Mikhail Stoliarov
 Councilor of the Mayor of Kazan

It was great honor to take part in the Conference. The citizens of the capital of Tatarstan have started the preparation to 1000th Anniversary of the City. Our delegation has got the privilege to get the special Message from the participants of the Conference. We were pleased very much to get the Message and lately this Message was presented to City Council members. Our ties with the League of Historical Cities have become closer. The Conference had a special meaning as there was an excellent

opportunity to meet many colleagues from other countries and Secretariat of the League. We have expressed gratitude to the Mayor of Kyoto for the Message and his efforts to develop the cooperation between the Historic Cities in the world. Finally words of thanks should be said to the organizers of the Conference, the Municipality of Montreal. Due to their effective work, all the participants could contribute to the work of the 8th Conference and see the Historic beauties of Montreal.

It was indeed a great experience to go to Montreal and meet with other Mayor's and leaders of the League of Historical Cities. I was humbled by the passion and zest that all delegates have in relation to their particular city. Ballarat is extremely excited to be hosting the Historical Cities Conference in 2006, of which we have began planning already. We look forward to attending the 2005 Conference in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea and also sincerely thank Mr. Masumoto for his hospitality, friendship and

guidance. Ballarat takes it's historical significance very seriously and being with other delegates from around the world only served to reinforce our commitment to world and local heritage issues. I learn from the Conference that whilst we are all at different stages in our development our common goal is to live the future whilst protecting our past. Congratulations to Mayor Gerald Tremblay of Montreal, an excellent Conference, stimulating speakers and good friends of the future.

acquire knowledge a lot. These highly suggestive Round-table discussions and Workshops will be reported after the next issue of newsletter in series.

The Meeting of the Board of Directors

Together with the 8th Conference, the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the LHC was held on October 7 and discussed as follows. The 9th World Conference of Historical Cities will be held in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea from October 18 to 20, 2005 and the 10th Conference will be held in Ballarat, Australia in the year after (2006).

Board of Directors (absence)

Chairperson:	Kyoto
Vice Chairperson:	Xian, (Paris)
Directors:	Montpellier, Montreal, Vienna, (Cracow) (Rio de Janeiro),
Auditor:	Gyeongju

Especially the Board of Directors appreciated the offer from Ballarat, because the past conferences were hosted by one of the Board cities so far. This would be first case of us, something new. At the same time, the 10th Conference will be the first time in southern

hemisphere and it will be positive evidence of true internationalization. The Board of Directors paid their respects to positive commitment of Ballarat. During the 8th Conference, the Board of Directors consulted with OWHC (Organization of World Heritage Cities) and confirmed that collaboration between OWHC and the LHC could contribute to the sustainable development of historical cities and to the creation of new perspectives in the future.

With the participation of more than 180 persons from 23 cities (Member city:13, Non-member city:10), the 8th World Conference of Historical Cities in Montreal, which is worthy of the name of international convention city, was really substantial and epoch-making. Here again, the LHC would like to express our sincere respect for the host city of Montreal. At the same time, the LHC look forward to gaining new member cities to exchange and hope that the next 9th Conference in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea will be successful as well.

<http://www.vieux.montreal.qc.ca/2003>

"The 8th World Conference of Historical Cities" was a wonderful opportunity for all mayors and officials of historic cities to gather and discuss about all valuable initiatives, which has been implemented in the world for the preservation and development of the culture and historic heritages.

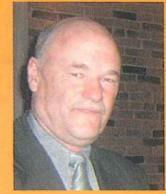
"The 8th World Conference of Historical Cities" was very successful & fruitful and all arrangements were wonderfully provided. The hospitality of Mr. Gerald Tremblay,

the Mayor of Montreal and his colleagues were highly appreciated.

Some of mayors and officials of historic cities of the world had not taken part in the conference. I wish that all of them had taken part in this international conference.

This kind of International gathering are so constructive that I would like to emphasize to all mayors and city government of historic cities to take part in future World Conference of Historical Cities.

Voices from participants BALLARAT



Cr. David Vandy
Mayor of Ballarat



Board of Director's Meeting
October 7



(From left) Mr. L'Allier, Mayor of Quebec, Mr. Sun Qing-yun, Mayor of Xian and Mr. Masumoto, Mayor of Kyoto at Post-Conference activities "Gateway to Trois-Rivieres and Quebec City" October 9-10

Voices from participants ISFAHAN



H.E. Sayed Morteza Saghaian Nejad
Mayor of Isfahan

Working for the UN-HABITAT enables us to bring
many entities to sit on the same table.
Interview with Dr. Gebre-Egziabher



**Axumite
Gebre-Egziabher**
Director of the New York office
of UN-HABITAT

What brought you to the UN-Habitat?

My interest and commitment to work for the United Nations brought me to UN-HABITAT. My educational background and experience has mainly been on urban development and housing as I had worked for my national Government, international NGOs and the private sector before joining UN-Habitat. I applied for the vacancy in UN-HABITAT (formerly known as UNCHS - Habitat) 10 years ago and got the job.

What kind of impression did you get to have had participated in the Conference?

It was a pleasure and an honor for me to participate in the Conference. The presentations and discussions were very substantive. We were able to understand the different key roles of the legal, cultural and social settings within the cities. We have learned the importance and effectiveness of participatory planning and management of cities in choosing heritage priorities and sustainable development of cities. Involvement of citizens requires a complete attitudinal change from the city being a provider to a facilitator and this leads to a healthy development. The discussions demonstrated that despite all political, cultural, legal and institutional differences in the context of decentralization, countries around the world could benefit if they undertook decentralization policies as a tool for development and that it need not be regarded as an ideology. There needs to be a menu of options for different states drawing on the rich experience of many countries. We have learned that successful decentralization and development process are complimentary. There was a clear recognition that decentralization was essential to overall international and national objectives of democratic governance.

How can the League of Historical Cities build up collaboration with UN-Habitat?

I would like to look at this question in the context of the implementation of Montreal Declaration. As laid out in its updated strategic vision, UN-HABITAT is committed to continue, with the support of all Habitat Agenda Partners, coordinating and harmonizing human settlements activities within the United Nations system aiming at facilitating the global exchange of information on shelter and sustainable urban development and assisting countries with policy and technical advice in solving their human settlements problems. To enable this exchange, to strengthen the dialogue with local authorities involved in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements, and the Millennium Development Goals target on improving the lives of 100 million slum dwellers by 2020, and to offer a positive and innovative vision of the future of the World's cities, UN-HABITAT has established a High Level Advisory Committee of Local Authorities of the United Nations. Some of the members of the League of Historical Cities are members of the Advisory Committee. Regular meetings of the Advisory Committee provides the opportunity to discuss substantive issues on shelter and sustainable urban development. Given the Advisory Committee's potential to bring forward the views of local authorities within the UN System, strengthening the Committee and promoting discussions on Culture and Heritage could develop a possibility for closer collaboration between UN-HABITAT and LHC.

What do you expect for the League's activities in such as city-to-city cooperation?

UN-HABITAT is working with many other international associations of local authorities, such as the International Union for Local Authorities (IULA), the World Associations for Cities and Local Authorities Coordination (WACLAC), the United Towns Organization (UTO), City Net and others on city to city exchange. Similar arrangements could be developed with the League of Historical Cities. City to City is an effective way of mobilizing large scale development resources. It is a mechanism for cities to exchange "best practices," to improve management capacity of cities and to learn from each other. The League should be encouraged to promote formal and informal exchanges at every level.

**The League of
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