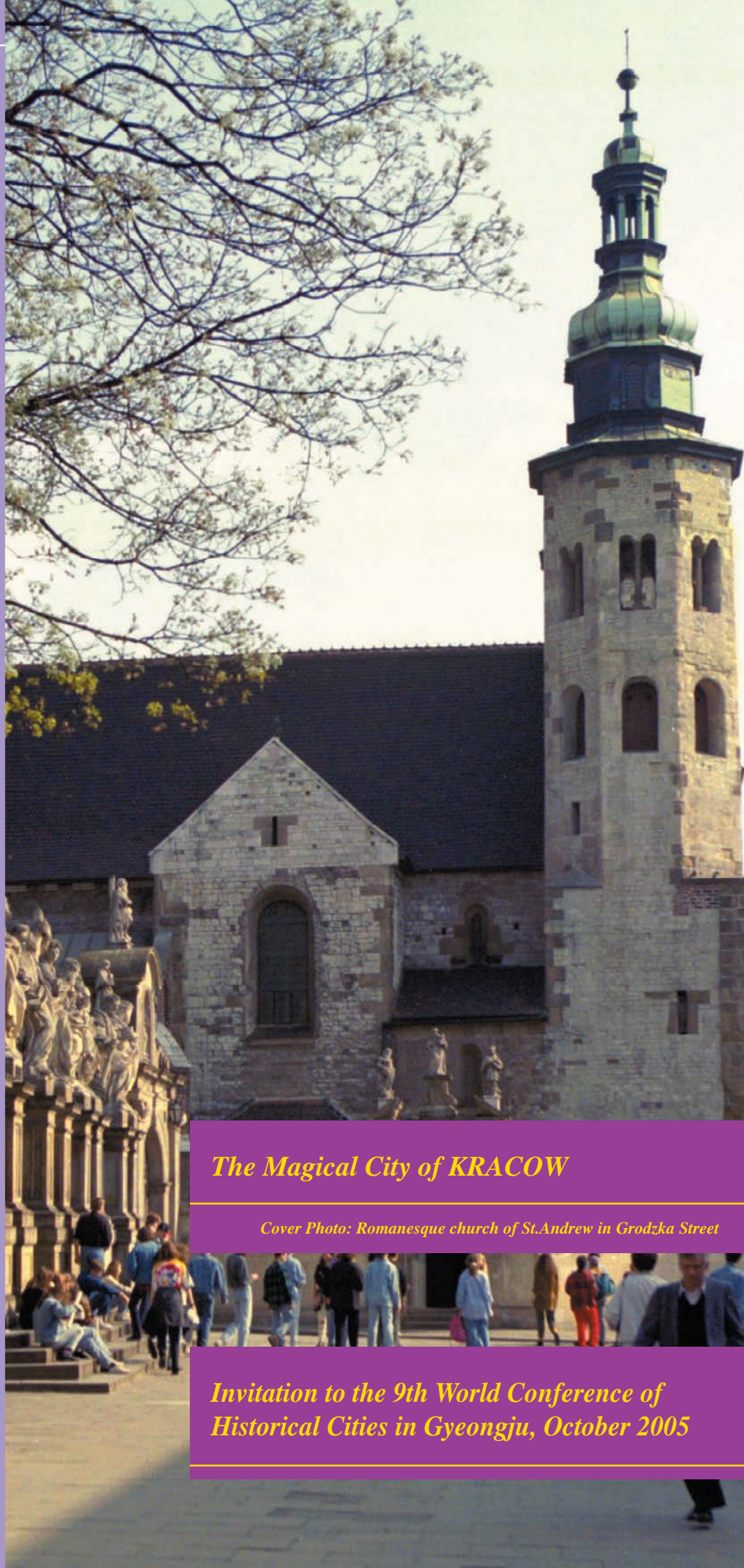


WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin **No.35: June 2005**

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Alexandria
Algiers
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Andong
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Tunis
Ulan Bator
Varanasi
Vienna
Xian
Yangon
Yogyakarta
Zagreb
Zhengzhou
Zurich



The Magical City of KRACOW

Cover Photo: Romanesque church of St. Andrew in Grodzka Street

*Invitation to the 9th World Conference of
Historical Cities in Gyeongju, October 2005*

The Magical City of Krakow

by Stanislaw Dziedzic City of Krakow

Director of the Culture and National Heritage Department

Prism of Krakow

It has been said that someone who has not been to Krakow, has not been to Poland, and someone who has not experienced the phenomenon of this city, its atmosphere, culture, history and day-to-day life, will find it difficult to understand Poland's turbulent past. And though many people claim, as Jan Sztudynger highlights, that 'The homeland becomes more beautiful through the prism of Krakow', it is here and in the historical Krakow territory, that Poland reveals both its authentic beauty and contemporary problems.

Despite being situated beyond the Caroline boundary, Krakow found itself within the borders of Christian Europe much earlier than other Polish cities, as Christianization took place earlier in the territory of the State of Wislania, of which Krakow was the capital, before the first historical ruler of Poland, Prince Mieszko I created the foundations of the state and was officially baptized.

The name of the city, already at that time an important trade center, was first and foremost mentioned by an Arab merchant, Ibrahim ibn Jakub in 965, but its genealogy is much older. Archaeological research shows that the first settlements appeared on Wawel hill fifty thousand years ago. In the first half of the 11th century, almost at the beginning of the Polish statehood, Krakow became the real capital of Poland, and despite the fact that the royal quarters were moved to Warsaw in the 17th century, it formally remained the capital of the Polish Republic of the Two Nations until the decline of the Polish state at the end of the 18th century.

As the capital city, Krakow was once justifiably considered one of the most beautiful cities of Europe, and according to the opinion of the Poles it has always been the city on which the nation bestows the weight of emotions characteristic of places with a symbolic and metaphysical character.

Old Capital of the Polish Republic

How was the old capital of the powerful Polish Republic perceived centuries ago? When in 1617 the sixth volume of 'Civitates' appeared in Koln, the sights of the city were accompanied by a description of Krakow, which said: 'The city itself, through the splendor of private and public buildings, the abundance of everything that is classified as a need or comfort in life, and through the number, courtesy and elegance of people, not only holds first place among the towns of the north, but can also compete with the most famous towns in Germany, Italy and France'.



The Main Square, Cloth Hall & Town Hall Tower

Two years later in Amsterdam, a panorama of Krakow appeared in a series of great copperplate engravings presenting the greatest and most famous metropolises of Europe at that time, with a characterizing commentary: 'Cracovia totus Poloniae urbs celeberrima atque amplissima, regia atque Academia insignis' - Krakow, the most famous and celebrated city, distinguished by its royal quarters and its Academy.

This most Polish city, of which John Paul II, once Krakow's archbishop and metropolitan, said that it is 'a synthesis of everything that is Polish, the sum of Polish history', is also the most European of Polish cities in terms of architecture and culture. This results not only from its multi-century wide cultural and economic contacts with the world, but also from the fact that Krakow co-created, and not just imported, European cultural heritage.

Complex of Historical Monuments

Krakow is - as it is remarked more and more frequently - one of the capitals of European culture. It received the honorary title of capital of European culture in 2000, following a decision of Ministers of Culture of the countries belonging to the European Union before its extension in May, 2004.

Krakow is the greatest complex of historical monuments in Poland and it comprises over six thousand architectural buildings whose artistic and historical importance is impossible to overestimate. Luckily it avoided destruction during both world wars, thanks to which its invaluable historical buildings were preserved, from the Romanesque and Gothic, to those built in the 20th century. And they are, especially when it comes to examples of Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, Secession or social realism, buildings worthy of being put in a textbook. Krakow's museums, churches and monasteries hold extensive collections,



Juliusz Slowacki Theater
The Site of the 6th World Conference
of Historical Cities in 1998

frequently of a unique character. Many houses, especially those that belong to families with a long tradition, include collections which are comparable to those in museums.

Entered into the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage List in 1978

An expression of this general international recognition of the historical and artistic values, was the fact that in 1978 the Krakow Old Town was entered into the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage List, very elitist at the time because it only contained twelve specifically valuable complexes in the world. The same year, 'The Social Committee for the Protection of Krakow's Historic Monuments' was founded. Since 1985, it has had the National Fund for the Restoration of Krakow's Historic Monuments at its disposal, created by a Sejm resolution, whose aim is to restore the historic monuments of the former capital of Poland.

Krakow has been, for several centuries, a meeting place for many cultures. In Kazimierz, once a separate city situated next to Krakow, 'Oppidum Iudaeorum' was established in the 15th century - a Jewish town with its own government and laws. Historic monuments of Jewish culture, invaluable on a world scale, have survived there until today. Among them are old synagogues, the Jewish cemetery, and a unique, slightly oriental architectural layout. In Krakow there were also other, although less numerous, national and denomination groups which created their own culture and enjoyed considerable tolerance and cultural diversity.

Krakow used to be called 'The Athens of the North'. Students from many European countries studied at its University which was one of the oldest continuously working universities in the world and was already famous in Europe in the 15th century. More than one hundred thousand students are currently studying in Krakow. Academic circles from Krakow form part of the Polish intellectual elite.

Krakow was also referred to as a second Rome or another Rome (alter Roma) because of its religious importance. The city has not lost this function - it is a city of over a hundred churches, of which eight have the honorable rights of a smaller basilica, and several dozen monasteries. Among the numerous sanctuaries, the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Lagiewniki is of particular worldwide importance. Pope John Paul II has proclaimed this sanctuary the world capital of Divine Mercy.

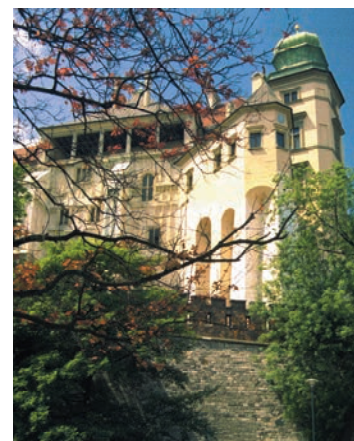
Town Planning and Renovation Works

Krakow is an active economic and industrial centre. In the last twenty years numerous industrial companies in the city and its vicinity have been closed down or modernized through the introduction of new technology. The formerly dominant heavy industry is being replaced by numerous smaller companies which are more environmentally friendly, thanks to which ecological conditions in the city have improved considerably.

Renovation works conducted mainly in the old, most valuable districts of Krakow which are based primarily on increasingly modern technologies. Each year the city becomes more and more beautiful, thanks to the impressive range of repair and restoration work on historic buildings. Some old buildings have been returned to a state in which they fulfill their former functions, others have been modernized according to the rigours of the contemporary art of renovation. The Krakow renovation school is known worldwide for its work, and artists of the highest rank take part in its activities. It is thanks to their work that the following have regained their beauty and glory: Wawel Royal Castle, Wawel Cathedral, St Mary's Church, Collegium Maius of the Jagiellonian University, St. Peter and Paul's Church and many other valuable historical buildings. At the moment, modernization and conservation work is being conducted in Krakow's Market Square, the largest and probably the most beautiful square in medieval Europe. Steps have also been taken to retain the unique historical character of the centre and the unique qualities of the cultural landscape of the whole city. The guidelines related to this are included in the 'Study of conditions and directions of town planning in the City of Krakow' and in relevant regulations of the President of the City of Krakow of 2004.

Center of Polish Tourism

Krakow - the capital of Lesser Poland, the centre of Polish tourism, is annually visited by several million tourists. No Polish city enjoys such a beautiful landscape setting - from the highly picturesque Krakow - Czestochowa Jura, through its fertile plains to the rocky Tatra Mountains, the only Alpine mountain range in this part of Europe, visible from the towers of Krakow. There is also another unique feature nearby : the Bledow Desert. The only thing missing is the sea, but it was once here and endowed this land royally, giving it its salt deposits in Wieliczka and Bochnia, towns close to Krakow, which were Poland's real treasures for centuries. **Prism of Krakow**



Royal Castle on Wawel Hill with its characteristic Hen's Foot Tower



Wawel Cathedral with the golden dome of Sigismund Chapel



Baroque church of St. Peter and St. Paul in Grodzka street

For further information
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Municipality of Krakow**

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Fax: +48-12-6161923
URL: <http://www.krakow.pl>



Bulguksa Temple

The Program of the 9th World Conference of Historical Cities in Gyeongju, 2005

Theme: Historical Cities : Today and Tomorrow
Date : October 18 - 20, 2005
Venue : Gyeongju Hyundai Hotel in Bomun Lake Resort
Official Language : English

Invitation to the 9th World Conference of Historical Cities in Gyeongju

Next conference in October 18-20, 2005

Monday, October 17, 2005

Classification	Time	Content
Pre-conference activity	9:00-18:00	Yandong Folk Village Tour

Tuesday, October 18, 2005 - Registration for the 9th Conference, 8:00-18:00

Classification	Time	Content
Workshop	9:00-12:00	Presentation by Experts
Heritage Field Trip	9:00-12:00	Bulguksa, Seokgulam, etc.
Lunch	12:00-13:00	
Workshop	13:00-17:00	Presentation by Experts
Heritage Field Trip	13:00-17:00	Bunhwangsa, Anapji pond, etc.
Opening of the 9th Conference	17:00-18:00	Cocktail Party
	18:00-19:00	Opening Ceremony
	19:00-21:00	Reception by Host Mayor

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Classification	Time	Content
Round Table Discussion I	9:00-12:30	<Historical Cities ; Today and Tomorrow> by City Representative, etc.
Lunch	12:30-14:00	
Round Table Discussion II	14:00-18:00	<Preservation & Restoration of Historical and Cultural Cities> by City Representative, etc.
Board of Directors' Meeting	18:00-19:00	For Principal Officers
Dinner	19:00-20:30	

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Classification	Time	Content
Keynote Speech	9:00-11:00	Lecture by Guest of Honor
General Assembly	11:00-12:00	Election of the new principal officer, 10th & 11th Conference City, the Declaration
Lunch	12:00-14:00	
Closing Ceremony	14:00-15:00	Signing of the Declaration, Closing Remarks
Gathering for New Board	15:00-16:00	For Principal Officers
Dinner	19:00-21:00	

Friday, October 21, 2005

Classification	Time	Content
Post-conference activity	9:00-18:00	Andong Tour
	9:00-18:00	Gyeongju Museum Tour



Seokguram Grotto,
National treasure
of Republic of Korea

Round Table is now open for application

Committee of the 9th World Conference of Historical Cities starts collecting the application for Round Table Discussion on October 19, 2005, under the title of "Historical Cities; Today and Tomorrow" and "Preservation and Restoration of Historical and Cultural Cities". Round Table will represent a unique opportunity for exchange among cities throughout the world. In view of your experience and commitment to strengthening the role of historical cities, Committee would be honored, if you could address an audience.

Registration and Accommodation Form

Enclosed with this bulletin is the "Registration and Accommodation Form". These forms explain important information; **Application, Registration Fee, Payment, Hotel Reservation, Choice of Activities, etc.** Please complete both forms and return them to Committee of the 9th Conference.

Committee of the 9th World Conference of Historical Cities

Address:Gyeongju City Hall,
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Tel:+82-54-779-6068
Fax:+82-54-779-6579
E-mail:lhc6392@gyeongju.go.kr



Official Web Site of the 9th Conference
<http://www.lhc-gyeongju.org>



Dosan Seowon Academy, bordered by Angdong Lake in front and pine forests to the rear, create a lyric scenery. [Andong]



Performance of Chajeon-nori, is an elaborate mock battle game. [Andong]



Hahoe Folk Village
The Nakdong river flows around the village in S-shape. [Andong]

*Invitation
from Secretariat
the LHC*

Hisakazu Takagi
Secretary General



As of last March 31, I retired from my position as Vice-Mayor of Kyoto. Words of appreciation seem so inadequate in fully conveying my deep gratitude for your years of support and cooperation. Taking this opportunity, I am delighted to inform you that I assumed the same position as the Secretary General of the LHC. I, therefore, look forward to continuing close relationship with you and the world.

The 9th World Conference of Historical Cities will be a very nice opportunity for the participants not only to recognize the significance of city-to-city cooperation but also to exchange experiences so as to establish new relations and further friendship. The City of Kyoto is Chair and, at the same time, takes charge of Secretariat of the LHC. With the staff members, I will try my best to support Gyeongju and Andong so as to make the upcoming conference great success. Here again, I hope that all participants will enjoy valuable fruit of international exchange

*Invitation
from the supporter city
Andong*

Kim Hwi Dong
Mayor of Andong



City of Andong set a new milestone in history last year and began its voyage for the creation of new culture. To be a member city of the LHC was the fruit of endeavors of 180,000 citizens. For advancing changes and development, Andong has placed high expectation on the 9th World Conference of Historical cities, the first conference for us. Andong has been putting forth its utmost efforts to successfully carry out our tasks. Especially, Andong is in charge of the post-conference activities, "Andong Tour" on October 21, 2005. Cultural heritages have been preserved as they were and the natural environment along with historic properties have been conserved as a traditional area. Toegyee Lee Hwang, an important leader in Confucianism, had his home here in Dosan Seowon where he taught his disciples and influenced not only Korea but much of Asia. All the citizens of Andong sincerely wish for the success of the 9th Conference and hope that the participants have a pleasant visit to

Announcement

Official Web Site of the LHC was totally renewed.
<http://www.city.kyoto.jp/somu/kokusai/lhcs>



Andong

1st Andong National Marathon in celebration of joining the LHC, the most significant event in the history of Korea's Marathons

"October 27, 2004" was the day Andong, Korea's Capital of Spiritual Culture, join the LHC and opened a new stage of its history and culture. On last 17th April, about half year after being a member city of the LHC, "1st Andong National Marathon" was held for its celebration. Mr. Yorikane Masumoto, Chair of the LHC, Mayor of Kyoto, delivered a congratulatory message, passing on his hope that this event would continue well into the future.

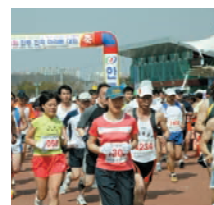
Upon joining the LHC, Andong effectively established its traditional culture on the world stage for all people to enjoy and share. This nation-wide marathon competition was held to recognize the historical significance of our joining the LHC, and about 5,000 people from across the country participated in it .

Along the lakeside, among the cherry blossoms, the fantastic marathon course and the taste of traditional food made this event even more attractive.

The marathon offered 4 courses, (3km, 5km,

10km and Half) and provided various souvenirs and medals for the participants in praise of peace and collaboration. The event also uniquely honored the elderly participants, 65 years old or older, with a "Special Prize" and the couple participants were given the "Andong Love Prize".

Andong aims at making contributions to world peace and future development, the ultimate goals of the LHC. As such, Andong will make efforts to develop this event into a world festival. Now is the time for all historical cities to share friendship and foster mutual understanding. Let's take the time to think about world peace and future development, remembering the strength of collaboration experienced in the 1st Andong National Marathon Competition. Let's run toward the development of the historical cities in the world step by step. **1st Andong**



Athens harmonizes the glorious past with the present movements and need

Athens, a city with five thousand years continued history is the place, where democracy is born. In ancient times, it was confined to the site of Acropolis, the symbol of Athens, the link that connects the magnificent ancient civilization with the modern. By the 5th century and as a result of Pericles's vigorous and imaginative public works program, Athens beauty came to equal its political prestige and preeminence in the Greek world.

During several historical periods, after wars and under a long succession of foreign rules, Athens has always preserved its reputation as the great center of learning, thus its academies of philosophy were held in high esteem. In the following years, Athens was transformed from a medieval village to the capital of Greece. The Turkish enslaved Athens for 366 years. In 1822, Athens was

liberated and after 12 years was proclaimed the capital of Greece. Throughout the 19th and 20th the centuries, Athens grew at a normal rate trying to harmonize the glorious past with the present movements and needs. City of Athens, the historic of Europe and first Olympic City of the third millennium has been gained the reputation as the biggest cultural center of ancient world and still today it is the indicative symbol of a distinctive culture, which has substantially influenced the humanity's cultural development. Athens is identified with so many words and concepts like harmony, music, art, sophistication, architecture and democracy.

Now it is the lore of history that brings foreign travelers to the Greek capital. Modern Athens is a vibrant city with great appeal and charm. It is still one of the safest and most affordable cities of the world, as well as one of its most beautiful, hospitable and exciting cities.

Athens harmonizes the glorious past with the present movements and need



Athens





Culture in Paris

Putting arts in the heart of the city, favoring people's access to culture, developing cultural heritage, and opening to international cultural exchanges are the main directions, which City of Paris is working on to be a place where arts and culture live and flourish. Lots of places in Paris are dedicated to culture, such as museums, public libraries, theaters, artists' workshops, etc. These places offer a number of events and services all year long. The cultural facilities of the city will be improved by openings of new sites dedicated to arts, like the "104 rue d'Aubervilliers", a new multidisciplinary place for contemporary creation, and the "Theatre de la Gaite Lyrique", a new place for digital arts. Museums are renovated, such as the "Petit Palais", the museum of Fine Arts of the City of Paris, the "Musee d'Art Moderne", and the "Musee Cernuschi" for Asian arts. Considering all cultural events programmed in Paris, several events should be introduced :

1."Itinerance Rue" gives, twice a year, professional street art companies the

opportunity to take place for some time in various districts of Paris to develop projects inspired by the history and the space of the district.

2."Paris-plage" creates, since summer 2001, from the 21st of July to the 18th of August, between Tuileries quay and Henri IV quay, a beach along the river Seine and offers millions of visitors to participate to sport and artistic activities; such as a swimming pool, games for children, ball games, etc.

3."Nuit Blanche" invites, each year since 2002 on the first Saturday of October, about a million people to an artistic night journey dedicated to contemporary creation and rediscovering Paris through artists' look and imaginary. It has already spread across boundaries to Brussels, Rome and Montreal, and soon to Madrid, Helsinki, and



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Unique Panorama and Preservation Strategy of Prague

Prague is the capital of Czech Republic. Into its present-day shape, it has been developing for eleven centuries. Nowadays it covers a total area of 496 square kilometers with 1.2 million inhabitants. Almost 3 million tourist come to visit Prague every year. The historical center with a unique panorama of the Prague Castle is an urban conservation area or UNESCO.

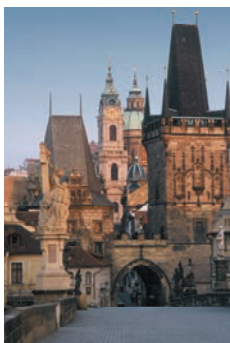
Part of the City of Prague is a particularly valuable urban complex. Governmental regulation from 1971 declares the center of this complex to be a conservation area.

In 1992 the Prague conservation area was added to the UNESCO list and became the

largest urban conservation area in the world, covering the area of 8.6 km².

Prague's main goal is a complex preservation of monumental and cultural values of the city. It is in particular the monumental fund within the Prague conservation area, where you can find 1348 structures begin immovable cultural monuments, and then 28 out of them, being national cultural monuments.

The monumental values in preservation strategy is based on particular legal adjustments and on efficient grant policy; the use of financial means granted every year by the City of Prague. Another preservation means is an active promotion and presentation of the monumental fund among the citizens, above all among children and youth. This is also the purpose of the web site Monumental care in the City of Prague, offering useful information. **Unique**



Lesser Town Bridge Towers

Powder Tower (left) and Municipal House (right)



Prague Bridges



United to raise about the protection of
our common heritage
UNESCO World Heritage Center: Mr. Alessandro Balsamo



Alessandro Balsamo
Nominations and Tentative Lists Manager,
Policy and Statutory Implementation
Unit, UNESCO, Paris, France

Mr. Alessandro Balsamo works at the UNESCO World Heritage Center since 1996 and reviews the incoming nominations and tentative lists, assists States Parties to the World Heritage Convention in the preparation of such documents. He also manages the information concerning the properties inscribed on the World Heritage List.

The LHC of 1994 and the UNESCO World Heritage Convention of 1972 have a lot in common, as they both deal with the challenge of conservation of heritage, even if the League focuses on cities and the Convention broadens its wings of protection also on natural heritage. Many of the cities associated to the LHC are inscribed on the World Heritage List. Cities are covered by the text of the World Heritage Convention in a more broad-spectrum definition as "groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science" [Article 1 of the World Heritage Convention, 1972].

From the earliest urban settlements in Mesopotamia, through the Roman model, to the great examples in South and Southeast Asia, cities are in constant physical and economic expansion and in most of the cases their demographic growth follows the same pattern. Because of this situation the conservation and management of an historic center of a city becomes progressively a complicated task. Above all in the developing countries, the conservation of the cultural heritage

is challenged every day by the necessities of social and economic progress. Organizations like UNESCO and the LHC ought to have the credit of the international community for having recognized the importance of these complex urban ensembles called cities and for taking care about their conservation to future generations. From a cultural heritage point of view, cities represent the peak of humankind's search to live in a community throughout the centuries and the continents.

The mission of the conservation touches many different aspects. It is essential to highlight that the World Heritage List is not a travel agency catalog that puts together a series of the most beautiful places on this planet. The 1972 Convention main scope is to preserve those sites that have a special significance for the whole humanity. History teaches us that cultural and identity diversity has been used by the leading powers to justify racism, exploitation, discrimination, intolerance and hatred. Very rarely, these differences have been taken into account as a huge potential enhancement of our society. The World Heritage Convention and the LHC play a key role for the spreading of this concept.

The World Heritage Convention and the LHC are designed as instruments to encourage the joint and common responsibility for the conservation of the world's heritage through the means of the international cooperation. The safeguard of historic cities centers requires the joint responsibility of the whole international community nowadays. In this sense, these two tools represent an essential resource to vehicle in the right directions the endeavors for the protection of the heritage. My wish is that the 9th World Conference of Historical Cities be the playground to hearten fruitful discussions on the numerous issues relating to the protection of cities and the possible ways to solve them. As a matter of fact, the only way to get some results in this challenging matter is to unify all our efforts to raise the public awareness that is the essential element to protect our common heritage. No other factor could be more effective for the conservation of our historic cities than the widespread sense of the importance to do so between its

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The 9th World Conference of Historical Cities

October 18-20, 2005

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The 10th World Conference of Historical Cities

October 29 - November 1, 2006

City of Ballarat, Australia

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