



Accra  
 Alexandria  
 Algiers  
 Amsterdam  
 Andong  
 Athens  
 Bad Ischl  
 Baghdad  
 Ballarat  
 Barcelona  
 Bordeaux  
 Boston  
 Bratislava  
 Brussels  
 Budapest  
 Bursa  
 Buyeo  
 Chengdu  
 Chiang Mai  
 Chernivtsi  
 Cologne  
 Constanta  
 Cordoba  
 Cracow  
 Cusco  
 Dijon  
 Dublin  
 Edinburgh  
 Fez  
 Florence  
 Geneva  
 Gongju  
 Guadalajara  
 Gyeongju  
 The Hague  
 Hanoi  
 Helsingborg  
 Hue  
 Iasi  
 Isfahan  
 Istanbul  
 Jerusalem  
 Kaesong  
 Kanazawa  
 Kathmandu  
 Kazan  
 Kiev  
 Konya  
 Kyoto  
 Lahore  
 Lisbon  
 Lutsk  
 Lviv  
 Melbourne  
 Mexico City  
 Minsk  
 Montpellier  
 Montreal  
 Mtskheta  
 Nanjing  
 Nara  
 Nicosia  
 Nis  
 Norwich  
 Norwood Paynelham & St Peters  
 Odessa  
 Osmangazi  
 Paris  
 Prague  
 Quebec  
 Riga  
 Rome  
 Santiago de Compostela  
 Sarajevo  
 Sheki  
 Strasbourg  
 Tashkent  
 Tunis  
 Ulan Bator  
 Varanasi  
 Veliko Turnovo  
 Vienna  
 Xian  
 Yangon  
 Yangzhou  
 Yogyakarta  
 Zagreb  
 Zhengzhou  
 Zurich

*Yangzhou ~Protect Cultural Heritage of the Grand Canal  
 Rebuild the Elegant City of Yangzhou ~*

*Cover Photo: View of Slender West Lake like a Scroll of Painting*

*Review of the 12th World Conference  
 of Historical Cities*

*12 - 15 Oct., 2010 in Nara Japan*



# WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

No.57: December 2010

## Protect Cultural Heritage of the Grand Canal - Rebuild the Elegant City of Yangzhou

As a famous historical and cultural city, Yangzhou has very close connections with water. 2500 years ago, a king named Fu Chai of the Kingdom of Wu first dug a canal and then built a city alongside it, which started the long history of Yangzhou as a canal city. Located in the juncture between North China and South China, taking the advantage of the convenient transportation, Yangzhou has been renowned as one of most prosperous cities in China. The Grand Canal has played an important role in the development of the city. In September 2007, the State Administration of Cultural Heritage officially authorized Yangzhou to take a leading role in the joint application for cultural heritage of the Grand Canal.

The Slender West Lake is an anabranch and an indispensable part of the Grand Canal, also an important part of the river ways inside the city. Ever since 2000, a fund of 3 billion RMB has been allocated to the Water Cleaning up Project, Comprehensive Management Project and Expansion Project of the Slender West Lake Cruise Line, which greatly changed the biological environment of the lake. Thus the Slender West Lake becomes the only one in Jiangsu Province that receives the honor of National Model Scenic Tourist Zone.

During the renovation project, we mainly take the measures as follows:



The Lake heads towards another scenic spot  
-Daming Temple

### 1. Carefully make protection plans to demonstrate the cultural heritages

The core protection zone of the Slender West Lake covers an area of 2 sq km, where the important historical and cultural heritage and classical gardens cluster. According to the standard of world cultural heritage and the requirements for the application, we give priority to the planning in order to better facilitate the protection, demonstration and renovation of the cultural heritages.

On one hand, we work hard to organize the planning process. To the requirements of urban development and protection of cultural heritage, we invited famous national designing institutes, and experts in fields such as garden, historical building, planning, tourism, economy, and landscape to make a survey on the planning ideas in earlier stage.



The Slender West Lake with Five-Pavilion Bridge and White Pagoda

# Protect Cultural Heritage of the Grand Canal - Rebuild the Elegant City of Yangzhou

Administration Commission of Shugang-Slender West Lake Scenic Area, City of Yangzhou



Floating-Duck Terrace  
on the Lake

On the other hand, we carry out protection administration and construction of the cultural heritage strictly following the standard of cultural heritage application. We make it clear that for any construction projects, as long as it is located in core zone or buffer zone of the cultural heritages, the planning department must get approval from the administrative institution of cultural heritage before the project being taken into force. There are no projects that get out of line or against planning being built inside the scenic district. By lifting balloons, we can make sure that there are no new buildings that will do harm to the visual effect in the Slender West Lake zone.

## 2. Improve the environment to better protect the cultural heritages

On one hand, we lay emphasis on the water quality of the Slender West Lake. In order to solve the problem of water supply and water pollution, we have allocated a total fund of 240 million RMB to carry out Water Cleaning up Project. By introducing the upper stream of the Grand Canal in Yangzhou to the Slender West Lake, we manage to make the lake clean and running.

On the other hand, we put the Comprehensive Management Project of the environment of the Slender West Lake into force. The relocation project concerning the residents in the scenic spot has been started with a total investment of 2 billion RMB which relocates nearly 2600 households, more than 300 factories and spares a space of 5 sq km, which greatly ameliorates the surroundings of the cultural heritages.

A constant supervision over the construction projects in the scenic spots has been carried out and the protective measures of the units of historical relics, ancient buildings, ancient trees and landscapes in the cultural heritage protection zone have been taken. The illegal conducts have been punished severely and protection administration will be the long-term concern.

## 3. Devoted to the protection of existing cultural heritages and focus on the scientific administration of cultural heritages

In the spirit of giving priority to protection, ecology and sustainable development, we strictly follow the regulations of the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Cultural Relics in terms of the ancient architectures.

Qualified designing institutions will be

invited to make plans before the restoration project is submitted to authorities according to the law. In the principle of staying loyal to the original appearance of historical relics, we try to restore the buildings as they were. Every year, we make plans to repair the important buildings in the cultural heritage protection zone, consult experts and work with professional construction control units during the whole process to make sure the authenticity and integrity of the cultural heritages, which provide scientific measures for the supervision, protection and administration of the cultural heritages.

## 4. Keep in mind that there is still a long way to go in cultural heritage protection

We are clearly aware that although the accomplishments in protection demonstration and renovation have been achieved, there still leave room for improvement.

The administrative institutions lack capacity as a subject of law. When it comes to the protection issues, the institutions always find themselves weak in executive power. There are also many limitations which hinder the demonstration of the protection work of some ruins.

The integrity of administration over cultural heritage protection and long-term mechanism still leave room for improvement. In the future, we'll aim at the application for historical heritage of the Grand Canal in 2014 to secure the foundation work, diversify measures for protection, strengthen renovations and fully realize the value of cultural heritage.



Spring Waves Bridge



Twenty-four Bridge



The Grand Canal



The Slender West Lake



Beautiful lotus flowers blossom in summer

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# Review of the 12th World Conference of Historical Cities held in Nara, Japan from 12 to 15 October 2010

The 12th World Conference of Historical Cities was held in Nara Japan from 12 to 15 October 2010 including the post conference tour to Kyoto. It has been 16 years since the last Conference was held in Japan, which was the 4th Conference held in Kyoto in 1994, when the League of Historical Cities was established.

In the 12th Conference, participants from 53 cities and 19 countries exchanged their ideas under the main theme, "Succession of Historical Cities with Creative Revitalization". Thanks to the great effort of the host city Nara, the conference ended with a great success.

In the General Assembly held on 14 October, "Nara Declaration" was adopted.

Please find the following for the body of the declaration:

## <Nara Declaration>

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

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

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

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

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

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

In order to make practical use of the results of this conference in the future, we hereby pledge to direct the above actions with great determination towards our young people - those members of society who will carry forward the next generation. Additionally, in the interests of the creative revitalization proposed by this conference, we will rise to the challenge of playing new roles in the handing down of the cultural heritage of our cities in a way that is harmonious with their future development.

Nara, 14 October 2010



Nara Prefectural New Public Hall at the Opening Ceremony

<Outline of the 12th World Conference of Historical Cities>

**Period** : 12-15 October 2010 (Pre-conference tour was held on 11 Oct.)

**Theme** : **Main Theme: "Succession of Historical City with Creative Revitalization"**

*\*Sub Theme for Round Table:*

Theme 1: "Unique City Planning Utilizing Its Historical Characteristics  
- Establishment of Identity"

Theme 2: "City Maintaining Its History - Harmonious Coexistence"

*\*Sub Theme for Workshop:*

"System Designing to Succeed Culture of Historical City"

Topic 1: Technical Succession

Topic 2: Disaster Prevention of Historical City

**Venue** : Nara Prefectural New Public Hall (Opening Ceremony), Nara Centennial Hall

**Program:**

**Day 1 (12 Oct.)**

AM Opening Ceremony

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

Noh Performance by Mr. Yasuyuki Komparu

PM Youth Forum (Presentation by high school students from Boston, Gyeongju,

Xian, Kanazawa, Kyoto and Nara followed by group discussion)

Workshop (Presentation by 9 experts under the topic of "Technical Succession")

**Day 2 (13 Oct.)**

AM Workshop (Presentation by 10 experts under the topic of "Disaster Prevention of Historical City")

PM Roundtable (Presentation by 14 city representatives)

**Day 3 (14 Oct.)**

AM Excursion to Heijo Palace Site (Board of Directors' Meeting for board members)

PM Summary of the Sessions

General Assembly of LHC

Closing Ceremony

**Day 4 (15 Oct.)**

Post-conference Tour to Kyoto (Sponsored by the City of Kyoto)

AM Visit Kiyomizu-dera Temple and Sanjusangen-do Temple

(Lunch hosted by the President of LHC, Mayor of Kyoto)

PM Visit Nijo-jo Castle

<Cities participated in the Conference>

**Member Cities**

Andong (Korea)  
Bad Ischl (Austria)  
Baghdad (Iraq)  
Ballarat (Australia)  
Boston (U.S.A.)  
Buyeo (Korea)  
Gyeongju (Korea)  
Hue (Vietnam)  
Isfahan (Iran)  
Kanazawa (Japan)  
Konya (Turkey)  
Kyoto (Japan)  
Nara (Japan)  
Norwich (U.K.)  
Norwood Payneham and St Peters (Australia)  
Odessa (Ukraine)  
Osmangazi (Turkey)  
Riga (Latvia)  
Sheki (Azerbaijan)  
Strasbourg (France)  
Veliko Turnovo (Bulgaria)  
Vienna (Austria)  
Xian (China)  
Yangzhou (China)

**Non Member Cities & Experts from Overseas**

Bandung (Indonesia)  
Beijing (China)  
Canberra (Australia)  
Camborne (U.K.)  
Graz (Austria)  
Leuven (Belgium)  
Newcastle Upon Tyne (U.K.)  
Sanliurfa (Turkey)  
Termez (Uzbekistan)  
Yogyakarta (Indonesia)

**Non Member Cities & Experts from Japan**

Ando, Gojo, Gose, Hakone, Ikaruga, Ikoma,  
Kashihara, Katsuragi, Kizugawa, Koryo, Obama,  
Onojo, Oyodo, Sakurai, Shirakawa, Tenri,  
Uda, Yamato Koriyama, Yamato Takada



Pre-conference tour to Kasuga-Taisha Shrine



Pre-conference tour to Todaiji-Temple



Participants registration for the Opening Ceremony on 12 Oct.



Mr. Gen Nakagawa, Mayor of Nara, making an opening address at the Opening Ceremony



Noh performance at the Opening Ceremony

Review of the Board of Directors' Meeting  
& General Assembly of LHC 2010  
held in Nara, Japan on 14 Oct., 2010

Outline of the Board of Directors' Meeting

*Date and Time: 14 October 9:30 - 11:30*  
*Venue: Nara Centennial Hall*

<Host City of the 13th World Conference of Historical Cities in 2012>  
The City of Hue (Vietnam) and the City of Yangzhou (China) had been expressing their will to host the 13th World Conference of Historical Cities which will be held in 2012. As Yangzhou withdrew her candidacy before this meeting, Hue became the only candidate city.

At the board meeting, Mr. Nguyen Nhien, Director of Hue City Center for International Cooperation made a final presentation to express the city's desire and appealed merits to hold the conference in Hue.

As a result, the board members approved Hue to host the 13th conference in 2012.

(The Secretariat is now looking for candidates for the 14th Conference to be held in 2014. Any city interested, please contact the Secretariat.)

<New Member Cities>

The board members discussed the new membership of the City of Chernivtsi (Ukraine), the City of Mtskheta (Georgia) and the City of Strasbourg (France).

Mr. Roland Ries, mayor of Strasbourg made a presentation in front of the board members.

As a result, all three cities were approved as member cities. The League enlarged the membership to 89 cities from 56 countries.



Mr. Nguyen Nhien (Right) from Hue answers to the question from the board members.



Mr. Roland Ries, Mayor of Strasbourg makes a presentation at the meeting.



Delegates from Vienna



Delegates from Gyeongju



(from left) Delegates from Xian and Ballarat

Outline of the General Assembly

*Date and Time: 14 October 14:00 - 15:00*  
*Venue: Nara Centennial Hall*

<Election of Principal Officers>

According to the League's covenant article 10, the principal officers of the League are one Chairperson, seven board of directors including two vice-chairpersons and one auditor. The two vice-chairpersons are to be appointed from directors by the Chairperson. The present principal officers were elected at the General Assembly held in Gyeongju in 2005. Their term of service expires at the first General Assembly held after four years, i.e., at this assembly. Therefore, the principal officers must be elected and their tenure is from the day of this General Assembly till the first General Assembly held after four years.

The results made at the General Assembly are as follows:

*Chairperson*

Kyoto (Japan)

*Directors*

\*Vienna (Austria)

\*Xian (China)

Ballarat (Australia)

Gyeongju (Korea)

Isfahan (Iran)

Konya (Turkey)

Odessa (Ukraine)

\*Vienna and Xian were appointed as Vice-Chairpersons by the Chairperson.

*Auditor*

Nara (Japan)

<Report of the Results of Deliberation at the Board of Directors' Meeting>

The Board of Directors' Meeting was held as shown left on this page. Mr. Hisakazu Takagi, the Secretary General of the LHC reported the results of deliberation at the Meeting.

<Nara Declaration>

The City of Nara proposed the Nara Declaration as the outcome of the 12th Conference. Mr. Gen Nakagawa, the mayor of Nara explained about the Declaration and the Chairperson of the League Mr. Daisaku Kadokawa, mayor of Kyoto, who took a chair of the General Assembly confirmed its approval by applauds of attended member cities' delegates.

<Signing of the Nara Declaration>

All attended representatives of the member cities went up to the stage and signed the Declaration one by one.



(from left) Chairperson Daisaku Kadokawa, Mayor of Kyoto and Secretary General Hisakazu Takagi



Mr. Kadokawa signs on the Nara Declaration.



General Assembly of the League of Historical Cities 2010 held on 14 Oct.

The Youth Forum took place for the first time in the 11th World Conference of Historical Cities in Konya, Turkey in 2008 to offer university students the opportunity to make presentations as well as to encourage the development of young people who would support the future of historical cities.

The Youth Forum at the 12th Conference in Nara was organized for high school students, for the first time in the series of forums.

60 people participated in the forum and exchanged their ideas with each other.

Also, the Youth Forum Declaration was adopted by the forum participants and was announced in front of the participants of the 12th Conference on 14 Oct., the third day of the Conference.

#### Schedule of the Youth Forum

12 Oct

13:00-15:00

8 presentations by students

(1 team each from City of Boston, Gyeongju, Kanazawa, Kyoto, Nara and Xian, 2 teams from Nara Prefecture)

15:30-18:00

Group Discussion and adoption of a Youth Forum Declaration

13 Oct.

Exchange program between high school students from overseas and from Nara (school visit), visiting Todai-ji Temple and Kasuga-Taisha Shrine

14 Oct.

Tour to Nara Palace Site, Announcement of the Youth Forum Declaration in front of the participants of the 12th Conference



#### <Youth Forum Declaration>

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

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

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

This is a role for which we need more awareness and a greater sense of pride. Each one of us, from our individual homes and hometowns, will give serious thought to what we can contribute towards 'creative revitalization'. While the power of a single individual may be small we believe that, collectively, our individual efforts can accumulate to generate a large force.

We therefore make the following declaration:

1 We are committed to continue our conscious learning of the essential qualities within the history and culture we possess.

2 We actively convey to the world what we have learned and noticed as a member of historical city to carry forward.

3 We will deepen and broaden the exchanges made between us by drawing upon this day's encounter for vital nourishment.

Nara, 12 October, 2010

# Review of the Youth Forum for High School Students held in Nara, Japan on 12 -14 Oct., 2010



Main Hall of Nara Centennial Hall, the main venue of the Conference

# Review of the 12th World Conference of Historical Cities Gen Nakagawa : Mayor of Nara, Host City of the Conference



**Gen Nakagawa**  
Mayor of Nara, Host City of the 12th  
World Conference of Historical Cities

In order to attend this 12th World Conference of Historical Cities, around 250 people traveled to Nara from a total of 53 cities in 19 countries. As mayor of the host city, I deeply appreciate everybody's participation.

The Roundtable session was given over to mainly presentations detailing the specific measures carried out by various historical cities and the problems these cities confront. In the Workshop session researchers gave presentations in which they announced thought-provoking research results and made proposals.

Both sets of presentations were rich in substance and content. Thanks in no small way to their host of perspectives and different approaches to realizing the main theme of the conference, namely the "Succession of Historical City with Creative Revitalization," this year's gathering turned out to be a very high-quality conference indeed. Once again, I would like to express my appreciation to all the presenters for their sincere efforts on behalf of the conference.

During the course of almost two and a half years, Nara City was preparing for this conference in two main ways; firstly, relating to planning the conference operation itself, and secondly, relating to how to best to convey the city's unique charms to all participants to ensure they would always be entertained during their stay. I hope that everybody who took part found it to be a worthwhile use of their time.

In addition to organizing the conference itself, we established a variety of programs with the goal of encouraging the participants to deepen their understanding about Nara and its long history by creating opportunities for them to experience various elements of the city's tangible and intangible cultural heritage. We planned

these programs so that the participants would see examples of not only tangible heritage (such as temple and shrine buildings and statues), but also of intangible cultural heritage such as traditional performing arts that have been handed down continuously since time immemorial. The principal reason why Nara has been able to preserve so much of its essential historical heritage is that the city has passed through the centuries comparatively peacefully and, for the most part, escaped large-scale wartime destruction. We wanted the participants to feel this 'in their bones', so to speak. Accordingly, our own determination to protect our historical city leads us naturally to embrace a spirit of wishing for peace.

Also, the Youth Forum for high-school students, a program for young people on which Nara City has placed a strong emphasis, was conducted in order to hand down this wish to the next generation. At this forum, high-school students proudly made presentations about the main theme of "Succession of Historical City with Creative Revitalization" from their own standpoints. Before delivering their presentations at the conference, they first had to think out their ideas by themselves, create the presentation contents, and then produce them on PowerPoint. I believe this process was important. The high-school students participating from overseas home-stayed in Nara throughout the conference period and carried out various forms of cultural exchange. I hope that all of these things will remain deeply in their memories as precious experiences that will develop, bud, and one day blossom into flowers.

The World Conference of Historical Cities is held once every two years. I would like it very much if we could carry the results of this year's conference over to the next conference. It is my fond hope that the spirit of the Nara Declaration, which was adopted as one of the chief results of this conference, will be incorporated into the urban policy of each historical city and in its own style, and also that its message will be transmitted widely throughout the world.

Finally, I fully expect that the activities of the League of Historical Cities will develop much further in future and that the results of each successive conference will be put to good use. I also expect that closer cooperation will be built between each of the participating cities. Thank you and best wishes.

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## The 13th World Conference of Historical Cities in 2012 City of Hue, Vietnam

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Imperial City of Hue