

# WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES



The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

No.80: September 2019

Accra  
Alba Iulia  
Alexandria  
Algiers  
Amsterdam  
Andong  
Ankara  
Athens  
Bad Ischl  
Baghdad  
Ballarat  
Barcelona  
Bordeaux  
Boston  
Bratislava  
Brussels  
Budapest  
Bursa  
Buyeo  
Cartagena  
Chengdu  
Chernivtsi  
Chiang Mai  
Cologne  
Constanta  
Cordoba  
Cracow  
Cuenca  
Cusco  
Dijon  
Dublin  
Duijiangyan  
Edinburgh  
Fez  
Florence  
Geneva  
Giza  
Gongju  
Guadalajara  
Gyeongju  
The Hague  
Hanoi  
Hebron  
Helsingborg  
Hue  
Iasi  
Isfahan  
Istanbul  
Jerusalem  
Kaesong  
Kamakura  
Kanazawa  
Kashan  
Kathmandu  
Kazan  
Kiev  
Klaipeda  
Konya  
Kurunegala  
Kutaisi  
Kyoto  
Lahore  
Lisbon  
Ljubljana  
Lutsk  
Luxor  
Lviv  
Melbourne  
Mexico City  
Minsk  
Montpellier  
Montreal  
Mtskheta  
Naha  
Nanjing  
Nara  
Neyshabur  
Nicosia  
Nis  
Norwich  
Norwood Peyneham & St Peters  
Odessa  
Osmangazi  
Paris  
Prague  
Quebec  
Rome  
Riga  
Sanliurfa  
Santiago de Compostela  
Sarajevo  
Semnan  
Sheki  
Shiraz  
South East Region of Malta  
Strasbourg  
Suwon  
Tabriz  
Taichung  
Tainan  
Tashkent  
Termez  
Tunis  
Ulan Bator  
Varanasi  
Veliko Turnovo  
Venice  
Vienna  
Vigan  
Wuxi  
Xian  
Yangon  
Yangzhou  
Yazd  
Yogyakarta  
Zagreb  
Zhengzhou

117 cities from 65 countries and regions  
(As of August, 2019 )



# Welcome to Kazan to participate in the

## 17<sup>th</sup> World Conference



**Period:** June 18 (Thu) – June 20 (Sat), 2020

**Theme:** Historical and cultural heritage  
as the basis of national and regional identity

**Subthemes:** Ethnic Costumes  
Ethnic Dances  
Ethnic Harmony  
Native Language  
Historical Gastronomic Values  
Folk Traditions

**Venue:** Kazan Ratusha  
(Town Hall of the City of Kazan)

**Program (tentative):**

Day 1 (June 18)	
AM	Opening Ceremony, Keynote Speech
PM	Round Table Discussion Youth Forum & Exhibition
Day 2 (June 19)	
AM	General Assembly of the LHC
PM	Closing Ceremony Excursion Program
Day 3 (June 20)	
AM	Cultural Program The LHC Board of Director's Meeting
PM	Cultural Program

\*More details and registration procedures will be provided in future.

\*Non-member cities are also welcome to participate.

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## WELCOMING ADDRESS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LEAGUE OF HISTORICAL CITIES

**Ilsur Metshin**  
Mayor of Kazan



Dear friends!

The capital of the constituent Republic of Tatarstan, the hospitable city of Kazan, has been chosen as the venue for the next 17<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Historical Cities. It is a great honor and responsibility for us.

For the first time in the history of the League of Historical Cities, the World Conference will be held in Russia. And not just simply in Russia, but in the center of Eurasia, which our city has always been considered to be. Kazan stands on the route that connected the East and the West more than three thousand years ago. It was a meeting point for cultures, traditions, lifestyles of the West and the East.

Among the world megacities, Kazan is a monument of a unique scale, which has preserved the historical center in some essential ways and surrounded itself with magnificent suburban ensembles.

For generations and over 1,000 years, our people have been passing on a caring attitude towards our cultural heritage treating them as the spiritual, cultural, economic and social capital of irreplaceable value. Our citizens are our main wealth; they are active, creative and friendly. Kazan loves and knows how to welcome its guests. We will create all conditions to host successfully the 17<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Historical Cities.

The Conference is included in the Federal and Republican action plans for the preparation and organization of the Republic of Tatarstan 100th anniversary celebration. 2020 is a landmark year for the Republic of Tatarstan, because it was exactly 100 years ago that we got the opportunity to preserve the original culture of all the peoples living in Tatarstan and our native languages have become the national property.

Our city, as well as the League of Historical Cities, is a combination of different cultures and traditions, unique architectural monuments, rich historical heritage. Kazan is one of the apt examples of how people of different nationalities and religions live peacefully in one city, in an atmosphere of friendliness and tolerance. Ethnic and religious diversity in the capital of Tatarstan has been preserved for more than a century.

The World Conference of Historical Cities provides us with a great opportunity to share our ongoing initiatives aimed at preserving the traditions, customs, language, culture and history of the regions. We have something to show the participants of the Conference, and we are ready to organize many interesting events so that all our guests can learn from our positive experience.

One of the most unforgettable and colorful events of the summer of 2020 will be the National Costumes Parade. Representatives of 115 nationalities living in Kazan will march along the central streets of the city, and the Parade will end on one of the squares where it will be possible to participate in festivities and taste dishes of different cuisines from all over the world. We invite our guests from the League of Historical Cities to bring also their national costumes and take part in celebrations.

We hope that the 17<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Historical Cities will become not only a bright event in the life of each participant, but also a platform for active discussions and the development of new strategies of maintaining national and regional identity for future generations.

Kazan has everything: new ideas, new impressions, the past, the present, and the future. And we are ready to share all this with the Conference participants!

Welcome to Kazan!

# Summary of the LHC Board of Directors' Meeting for FY 2019

The LHC Board of Directors' Meeting for FY 2019 was held on June 21-22, 2019 in Kazan, Russian Federation. It is convened every year and the following cities serve as the board of directors and an auditor in 2019.

Position	Name of the City	Assumed since
Chair	Kyoto (Japan)	1994
Deputy-Chair	Xi'an (China)	1994
	Konya (Turkey)	2010
The Board of Directors	Ballarat (Australia)	2005
	Gyeongju (Korea)	2005
	Ljubljana (Slovenia)	2014
	Bad Ischl (Austria)	2018
	Shiraz (Iran)	2018
Auditor	Kanazawa (Japan)	2018



The cities in attendance are Kyoto, Xi'an, Konya, Gyeongju, Bad Ischl and Shiraz. Ballarat and Ljubljana were not able to attend but submitted their Delegation of Powers along with their ideas. The main topic of the meeting was about the 17<sup>th</sup> World Conference in 2020 and its brief summary is given below.



## The LHC Secretariat's Report on its Operation, Budget and Account Settlement

The Secretariat reported on its operation such as issuing newsletters and pamphlets, maintaining the website, Kyoto City's activities to promote LHC, and the account settlement for FY 2018. Also, they have proposed FY 2019 budget and activity plans and the use of the LHC's reserved fund for renovating its official website. All of those were approved at the meeting. Accordingly, the Secretariat will renovate the LHC's official website to raise awareness of the LHC and to vitalize its activities.

## Candidates for the 18<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Historical Cities

The Secretariat made an interim report on candidate cities that wish to host the 18<sup>th</sup> World Conference in 2022. The candidate cities as of August 2019 are Chengdu and Dujiangyan as a joint host (China), Shiraz (Iran), and Odessa (Ukraine).

\*The host city will be officially chosen by vote after hearing presentations by all candidate cities at the next Board of Directors' Meeting in Kazan in June 2020. The Secretariat continues calling for candidacy. If any of you are interested in hosting the 18<sup>th</sup> World Conference in 2022, please contact the Secretariat.

## The 17<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Historical Cities

The City of Kazan made a presentation on a conference theme and the schedule. As a result of discussions, "Historical and cultural heritages as the basis of national and regional identity" has been adopted as the main theme. (please refer to P.2 for details of the 17<sup>th</sup> World Conference).

For further information, the Secretariat will post it in the next newsletter and on the LHC website.



## *Celebrating the 80th Anniversary of the Establishment of Kamakura City: Discovering the Present Culture of Kamakura*

This year marks the beginning of a new era “Reiwa” and the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of Kamakura City.



We have implemented various cultural projects based on the “Kamakura City Cultural Promotion Plan 21” that was formulated in 2003. In order to widely introduce the values of relatively unknown cultural assets of the city to citizens and the people in Japan and the world, we have launched an annual project entitled “Unknown Kamakura” this year. We would like to introduce two main events of the “Unknown Kamakura” project.

### **UNKNOWN KAMAKURA**

#### **The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition of Elena Pavlova's Arrival in Japan at Kamakura Station Underground Gallery**



Elena Pavlova

#### **The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the mother for Japanese ballet, Elena Pavlova's Arrival in Japan**

Japan has become one of the world's leading countries for ballet. The history began when Elena Pavlova, who had come to Japan in 1919 from Russia, established the first ballet school in Japan in Kamakura Shichirigahama. Many dancers were trained in the school and they became leaders of the Japanese ballet. Related exhibitions are being held at Kamakura Station Underground Gallery, City Hall Gallery, Kamakura House of Culture and History from July through November 2019 displaying mementos and photos etc. to show her trace.





## Showcasing Kamakura Sengaku Collection to recognize the Reverend Sengaku and Nobutsuna Sasaki for their achievements in the study of *Manyoshu*

*Manyoshu* is the oldest collection of poetry and the name of new imperial era, Reiwa, is taken from one of its verses. Kamakura is depicted in four pieces of poetry in *Manyoshu*. There stands a monument at Myohon-ji temple in Omachi to commemorate the Reverend Sengaku for his achievements in the study of *Manyoshu* in the Kamakura period (12<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> century). He arranged copies of *Manyoshu* to complete the most reliable manuscript at present called “*Nishihonganjibon Manyoshu*.”

Nobutsuna Sasaki succeeded Sengaku to pursue further study and established the base of modern study on *Manyoshu*. In 1921, he owned a cottage called “Sokawa Soudou” in Omachi for writing, educating his pupils and having exchanges with intellectuals based in the city.

Grounded on the history related to *Manyoshu*, we aim at succeeding studies on “*Kokin Wakashu* (The Collection of Ancient and Modern Japanese Poems)” and “*Genji Monogatari* (*The Tale of Genji*)” that followed *Manyoshu* and have launched an annual project celebrating our 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary to organize the Kamakura Sengaku Collection and related events.

### *Manyoshu*

*Manyoshu*, which literally means a collection of ten-thousand leaves, is the oldest anthology of poems from the 8<sup>th</sup> century during the Nara period including earlier works. The collection includes poems by not only nobles, but also people of various social classes.

### Related stone monuments



at Myohon-ji Temple



by the Yuigahama Beach



at Amanawa Shinmei Shrine

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