

WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

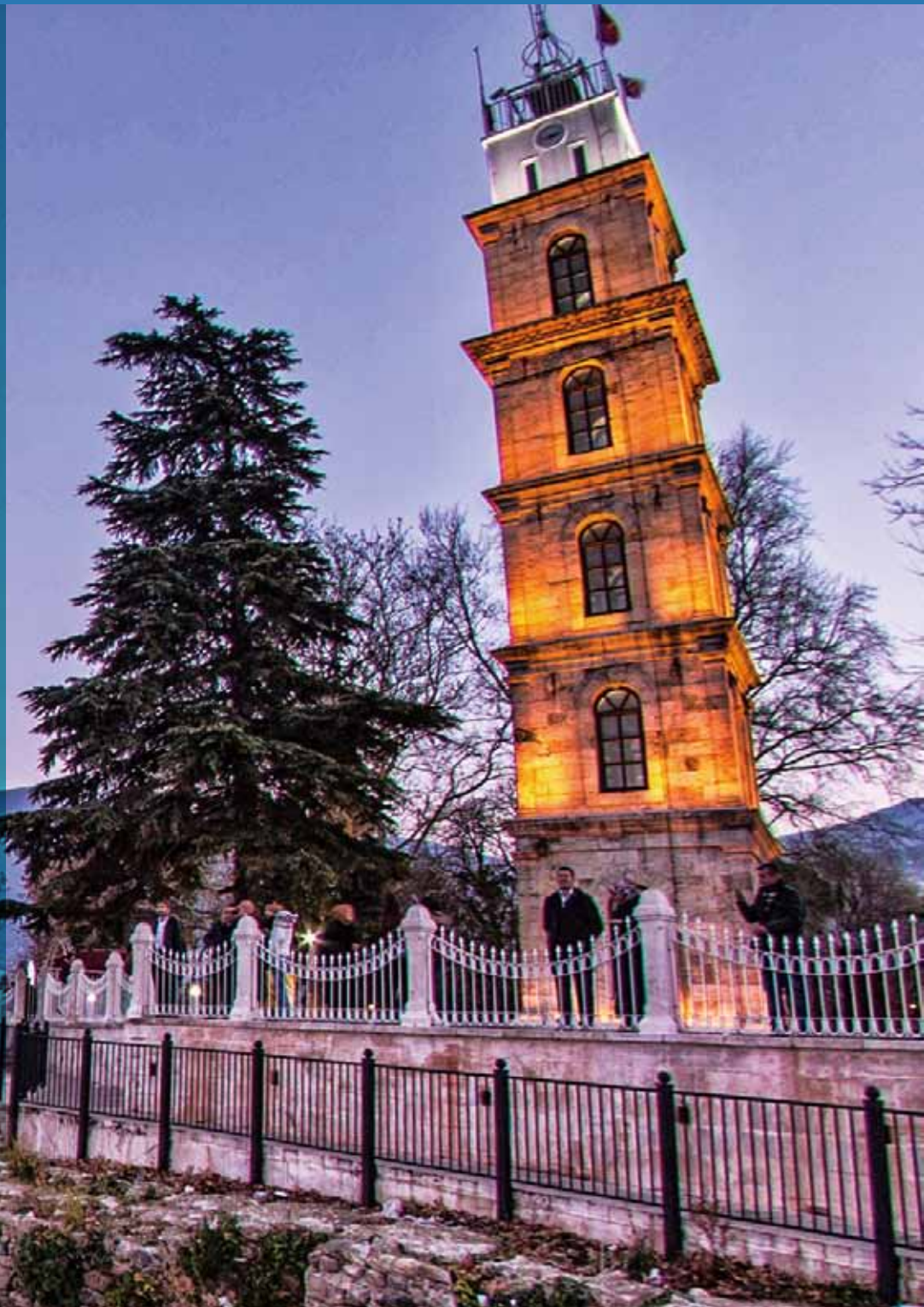


The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

No.77: March 2018

Accra
Alba Iulia
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Algiers
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Brussels
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Bursa
Buyeo
Cape Town
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Chengdu
Chernivtsi
Chiang Mai
Cologne
Constanta
Cordoba
Cracow
Cuenca
CUSCO
Dijon
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Dujiangyan
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
Kutaisi
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Montreal
Mtskheta
Naha
Nanjing
Nara
Neyshabur
Nicosia
Nis
Norwich
Norwood Peyneham & St Peters
Odessa
Osmangazi
Paris
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Quebec
Rome
Riga
Sanliurfa
Santiago de Compostela
Sarajevo
Sheki
Shiraz
South East Region of Malta
Strasbourg
Suwon
Taichung
Tainan
Tashkent
Termez
Tunis
Ulan Bator
Varanasi
Veliko Turnovo
Venice
Vienna
Vigan
Wuxi
Xian
Yangon
Yangzhou
Yazd
Yogyakarta
Zagreb
Zhengzhou

115 cities from 65 countries and regions
(As of March, 2018)



Invitation to the 16th World Conference of Historical Cities held in Bursa, Turkey on 7th to 9th September, 2018

Dear Colleagues and Mayors,

We are delighted to be the host city for the 2018 World Conference of the League of Historical Cities, an esteemed network promoting permanent and multifaceted exchanges, as well as friendship and trust between Historical Cities.

Bursa is a city that has blended its rich historical, natural, and cultural values. It is a city that has a strong entrepreneur spirit, where civilizations were established and history is made. Bursa has always been a center of attraction throughout its 8,500 years of history, which has provided a diverse culture and values from the Lydian, Bithynian, Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman civilizations; in addition to its unique natural beauty, which reflects Bursa's modern urbanization skills. Bursa on the one hand has preserved its traditional values and brought them into modern times and on the other hand created its future with an inspiration from its past.

Bursa is one of the founding members of the Turkish Historical Cities Association and Turkish Healthy Cities Association, and has pioneered their development. Bursa is also a member of European Historic Thermal Towns Association and a part of European Historical Thermal Towns Destination. During the 38th World Heritage Committee meeting in 2014, with its Khans Region, Orhan Gazi Complex and surroundings, Sultan Complexes, and Cumalıkızık Village, Bursa was inscribed to the UNESCO World Heritage List as the 998th World Heritage Site.

The League of Historical Cities, with 115 members from 65 countries and regions has an important role in preserving and developing historical cities, promoting historical heritage, and sustainable tourism. The activities of the League to share knowledge and experiences between cities, increase their welfare, promote cooperation for culture and tourism deserve admiration. We are proud to be a part of such activities.

I believe the activities of the League with all its members, including İstanbul, Ankara, Şanlıurfa, Osmangazi, Konya and Bursa from Turkey, will inspire other historical cities throughout the world.

I invite you to Bursa, which is an open-air museum, to witness the magnificent harmony of history, nature, and modernity.

Alinur AKTAŞ

Mayor, Bursa Metropolitan Municipality



Mayor Alinur Aktas

Information about the 16th World Conference

Period: September 7th to 9th, 2018

Please visit the conference website <http://lhc2018.bursa.bel.tr> for further details and registration.

Registration Fees:

Accommodation included	Price
Early bird registration (before June 10, 2018)	400 US dollars
Regular registration (on and after June 10, 2018)	475 US dollars

*This registration fees cover the expenses of all the items from 1 to 6.

Accommodation NOT included	Price
Discount Fee covers only participation to the conference without accommodation and transportation	250 Turkish Lira (or the equivalent in US dollars)

*This registration fee covers the expenses of all the items from 1 to 3.

1. Participation fee
2. Meals and coffee breaks for 3 days
3. Bursa City tour
4. Intra-city transportation during the conference
5. Accommodation fee
*Room charges for four nights (6th to 10th September 2018 including breakfast)
6. Transportation from İstanbul to Bursa and vice versa.

Payment Method:

Payments will be made by bank transfer to the conference accounts indicated in the online registration form.

Presenters for Round Table WANTED!

The City of Bursa expresses an invitation for talks to be given on the following themes:

Main Theme: "The impact of globalization on culture and way of living"

Sub themes:

- Economic development models and methods focusing on tourism in historical cities
- The role of local governments to maintain cultural diversity and identity in a globalizing world
- Efforts of historical cities in using new communication tools including social media in a global society

- To apply for a presentation, please submit the name of the presenter and the title of the presentation by the end of June 2018.
- An abstract of the presentation (in English, under 1,000 words) should be submitted by the end of July, 2018
- Each presentation should be no longer than 15 minutes.
- If we have too many applicants, screening might be conducted based on the abstracts submitted.

Applicants for Children's Painting Competition WANTED!

The City of Bursa expresses an invitation to a Children's Painting Competition.

Theme: "Colorful Touch to History"

Size of Pictures:

Short side minimum 30 cm, long side maximum 50 cm

Technique & Style: free

Due Date: 27th July, 2018

Target Age: 10-13 years old

Delivery Address:

Bursa Büyükşehir Belediyesi, Tayyare Kültür Merkezi,
Orhanbey Mah. Atatürk Cad. No: 62 Osmangazi - Bursa / Turkey

Note: The competition is open to applicants residing in member cities of the LHC. Each member of the LHC can send the maximum number of 10 pieces of work. For terms and conditions please visit <http://lhc2018.bursa.bel.tr>



If you have any questions or requests, please feel free to contact the City of Bursa.

City of Bursa

Tel (Mobile). +90-534-011-84-46 E-mail: Lhcs2018@bursa.bel.tr

Contact Person • Mr. Ercument Yilmaz (Office: + 90 224 716 37 75)
• Mrs. Ozge GuMEN (Office: + 90 224 716 37 69)

Candidates for the 17th World Conference of Historical Cities 2020 & the New Board of Directors Cities 2018-2022

1. Following the official procedure the host of the 2020 world conference will be decided by the board of directors vote at the conference in Bursa. In order to confirm candidacy, a letter from each city's mayor must be sent to the LHC Secretariat before the end of June.
2. Following the official procedure the new Board Directors will be decided by the vote of all member cities at the General Assembly (Term 2018-2022). In order to confirm candidacy, please let the LHC Secretariat know your intention before the end of June.

If you have any questions or requests, please feel free to contact the Secretariat of the League of Historical Cities.

The League of Historical Cities Secretariat

Tel. +81-75-222-3072 E-mail: Lhcs@city.kyoto.lg.jp

Bursa, the beautiful city of all times



Green Tomb



Inkaya Historic Oak Tree



Narli Social Center



Nicaea Basilica



Ulucami Mosque



Night View

Cities are places, where civilizations disappear and emerge, and where their inhabitants make persistent social, cultural, political and economic impacts. Cities that are both the makers and witnesses of history, and these memories shape civilization. Today, cities do not only shape states or civilizations, but also the world through globalization.

Bursa has shaped history. It pioneered many innovations thanks to its character and 8,500-year background in urbanization.

Bursa was the capital of the Ottoman Empire for one and a half centuries, and today is one of the most prominent cities in Turkey. One important reason derives from its geographical position, as Bursa is a junction for civilizations and cultures. All the civilizations that existed in and around Bursa have enriched the city by creating and adding new values over the existing ones and turning the city into an attractive destination for world travelers.

All the beauty of the region has been seemingly melted in one pot to create the texture our historical heritage, which is felt uniquely and deeply in Bursa.

Bursa is the first Turkish city to receive the title of European City. It has perfected an economic and social harmony; has vast natural beauty, curative hot springs, winter sports, and a rich historical heritage. Decorated with unique monuments from the Christian and Ottoman periods, Bursa has large rural areas with waterfalls, caves, and authentic Ottoman villages waiting to be explored. The bathhouses of Bursa are healing centers that have been used since the Roman period.

Bursa is located at the southern part of the Marmara Region, creating a bridge between Asian and European civilizations, and thanks to its vast forests it is the only place in Turkey referred to as the Green City. In addition to its rich natural surroundings, the city also has strong automotive, machinery and foodstuff sectors.

Bursa is a historical treasure and

proudly shows its heritage represented in the unique spatial and architectural features of the Byzantine, Ottoman, and Republican periods.

Bursa proudly serves numerous tourists every year with its grand bazaar, and Irgandı Bridge, which was built in 1442 becoming the first bridge in the world with a bazaar.

Some places to visit and explore include the Aras waterfalls of Uludağ, 1,700 meters in height and the ancient Mysian Olympus, and the seaside district of Mudanya to taste fresh fish, olives, olive oil, and enjoy the area's blue bay and green forests. Bursa also has a large congress center and annually hosts many important national and international conferences. Additionally, the first cable car line in Turkey was constructed in Bursa, and after its recent renovation it has become the longest in the world. There are parks, hot-spring bathhouses, mosques, madrasahs, museums and more all located in Bursa.

Aside from its rich history, Bursa also has a rich cuisine that has been perfected since ancient times. Bursa's cuisine is known for its unique dishes and desserts, which are famous all around Turkey for specialties such as, Döner kebab, İnegöl meatballs, Kemalpaşa dessert, pita kebab, walnut buns, sesame pita, and candied chestnuts.

Today Bursa is advancing into the future with a new governance that is bringing to life many projects from strong transportation solutions to cultural events, from infrastructure projects to sports, from urban renovation to social responsibility projects. All these steps hope to turn Bursa into a promising European city, a world brand with unique features strengthened with the knowledge and experiences shared by our sister cities in Turkey and abroad, and the contributions via domestic and international networks. In this city, traditions and the future are melted in the same pot. Bursa continues to develop while preserving its history.

New Member City

Introduction of Vigan City (Philippines)



Abel Loomweaving



St. Paul Metropolitan Cathedral



Enjoy sumptuous local food al fresco at Calle Crisologo



Graceful dancers in Abel Clothes



Appreciate the unique colors of dusk while riding the calesa at Calle Crisologo

The Heritage City of Vigan is a virtuous example of cooperation between local communities to ensure the preservation of its tangible and intangible heritage. Even before its inscription as a World Heritage Site and its recent success as one of the New 7 Wonders Cities, Vigan has already a strong relationship with the local community through engagement in the planning and management of programs and innovative heritage management practices. The local communities and other stakeholders have been a dedicated, knowledgeable and passionate partners to the city as they work together in all aspects of implementation and development of heritage conservation.

In 1995, Vigan was a 2nd class municipality with an annual revenue of 27 million pesos, hardly enough to defray the salaries of its employees let alone deliver the most basic services. It was a diminishing community adversely affected by historical misfortunes beyond her control.

To improve on this seemingly hopeless situation, the local government collaborated with all stakeholders in the formulation of a vision and action plan that would transform Vigan, using the conservation of our heritage as the major tool for development.

Vigan was able to organize and empower the local community to become primary stakeholders and keepers of their tangible and intangible cultural heritage. The sustainability of Vigan's conservation management lies in its ability to engage the local stakeholders, the local community – the owners of the heritage houses, teaching institutions, artists and craftsmen, and business owners to instill the value of their heritage, which stems from being the primary trading post in Northern Philippines during the Spanish era. Throughout the decades, the local government has maintained its focal position in engaging all stakeholders and leading development through heritage conservation-based policies. This strategy may be useful for other sites as Vigan has proven that empowering the community and local stakeholders is

key to ensuring that they are committed in conserving heritage as they are its primary guardians.

Heritage appreciation is instilled early on with the incorporation of heritage education in the formal education system. Local organizations, such as the Homeowners Associations are engaged through capacity building measures which enable them to repair and restore their houses by means that are compliant with conservation standards and are cost-effective.

The development of heritage-based tourism and the empowerment of local artisans and craftsmen have been likewise key in ensuring a self-sustaining city, where revenue is both generated for the private individuals to fund the maintenance of historic buildings and for the city, to ensure that the machineries to monitor conservation and sustainably develop the site are in place.

To date, Vigan proves to be a primary destination in the Philippines, where visitors marvel at a glimpse of the country's past and enthuse on seeing that heritage conservation and progress are possible through sustainable development. Vigan would not become what she is today without the collective efforts of her people. The city has achieved good management practices in spite of very limited resources. Participation from the community is well integrated and it is a multi-faceted effort in sustainable conservation and development.

Today, Vigan is home to proud Bigueños who welcome everyone with warm smiles to the city where traditions blend with the demands of the times. Images and sounds of modernity have established their presence, however, the stillness and elegance of the past is still vivid. Vigan has opened itself to change, but has not sacrificed the wealth of its heritage. It is the ability to cope with the present amidst the bounds set by a centuries-old legacy and the active involvement of its people that makes Vigan a living, historic city.

Introduction of Dujiangyan City (China)



Source of the Land of Abundance



The Most Secluded Place Mt. Qingcheng



Dujiangyan Qingming Water-Releasing Festival



Panda Valley



South Bridge-the First Bridge of the Land of Abundance-

Located in southwest China's Sichuan Province, Dujiangyan City, with an area of 1,208 km² and population of 680,000, is renowned as the "source of the land of heavenly blessings." Sichuan itself is the land of abundance – the ancient river management system after which Dujiangyan is named is the continuing source of that blessing.

The Dujiangyan Irrigation System, which was constructed in 256 BC and is still in full operation, functions without any damming of the rivers and makes full use of natural resources to benefit the people. As the only example of such an ancient ecological project that exists, it still functions properly, transforming flood threats into benefit, thus achieving the harmony among people, land, and water.

Dujiangyan is blessed with famous mountains, Mt. Qingcheng in particular. Reputed for its greenness and tranquility all year round, Mt. Qingcheng is the birth place of Taoism founded 1,800 years ago (and the only native religion in China). Its highest altitude reaches 2,434 m.

In addition, Dujiangyan is also part of the home range to the giant panda, the national treasure of China. Currently, there are two panda bases in Dujiangyan. One is the Dujiangyan Field Research Center for Giant Pandas (Panda Valley), and the other one is the Dujiangyan Base for China Giant Panda Protection Research Center (Panda Park). Currently about 50 pandas live in Dujiangyan.

On Nov. 29, 2000, Mt. Qingcheng-Dujiangyan was selected as a World Cultural Heritage Site and on July 12, 2006, as one of the 18 administrative units of Sichuan Giant Panda Habitat, the Mt. Qingcheng Scenic Area of the Mt. Qingcheng-Dujiangyan National Scenic Area was selected as a World Natural Heritage Site by UNESCO.

As a city with profound culture and time-honored history, Dujiangyan hosts multiple influential festivals throughout the year, among which Dujiangyan

Qingming Water-Releasing Festival is a unique folk-custom festival held only in Dujiangyan. It boasts a history of more than 1,000 years. The festival coincides with Qingming, which is one of the national Chinese traditional festivals, also known as Tomb-Sweeping Day (on April 4, 5, or 6). Every year, on this special date, a grand ceremony is held to celebrate the successful maintenance of the Dujiangyan Irrigation System, and of the beginning of spring ploughing. It also commemorates Li Bing, the designer and engineer of the Dujiangyan Irrigation System. On May 20, 2006, Dujiangyan Qingming Water-Releasing Festival was included in the first batch of the National Intangible Cultural Heritage List authorized by the State Council.

Dujiangyan enjoys a favorable climate and an advantageous geographical location, with an average annual temperature about 15.2°C, and precipitation around 1,200 mm. Thanks to its forest coverage rate reaching 52.8% for the whole city and 40.4% for the urban area, Dujiangyan is dubbed as the "Natural Oxygen Bar", acting as an important ecological barrier for the upper reaches of Yangtze River. Due to its location in the natural transitional zone of Chengdu Plain and Northwestern Plateau, Dujiangyan has a step-like terrain, which is higher in northwest and lower in southeast, with mountains covering 60% of the total area, rivers 10% and land 30%.

Dujiangyan is easily reached by train or bus from Chengdu; also it is only a 45 minute drive from Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport.

Dujiangyan, Holy Water
Mt. Qingcheng, Taoist Shrine
Welcome to Dujiangyan City!