

WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES



The League of Historical Cities Bulletin

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Accra
Alba Iulia
Alexandria
Algiers
Amsterdam
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Ankara
Athens
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Ballarat
Barcelona
Bordeaux
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Bratislava
Brussels
Budapest
Bursa
Buyeo
Cape Town
Cartagena
Chengdu
Chernivtsi
Chiang Mai
Cologne
Constanta
Cordoba
Cracow
Cuenca
Cusco
Dijon
Dublin
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
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
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 December, 2017)



Open Invitation to the 16th World Conference of Historical Cities!



Bursa Cityscape



Exterior of Conference Venue



Conference Room

Dates:

Friday September 7- Sunday September 9, 2018 (3-days)

Theme:

The Impact of Globalization on Culture and Way of Living

Location: Tayyare Culture Center in Bursa, Turkey

Address:

Osmangazi Mahallesi, Atatürk Cad., Uçak Sok. No:1,
16020 Osmangazi/Bursa

Website:

<http://www.bursa.bel.tr/tayyare-kultur-merkezi/sayfa/41/>

Program (tentative):

Day 1 (September 7)	
AM	Opening Ceremony Keynote Speech
PM	Roundtable Discussion
Day 2 (September 8)	
AM	Roundtable Discussion Experts Workshop, etc.
PM	Continuation of Sessions Excursion Program
Day 3 (September 9)	
AM	Board Meeting of LHC Directors
PM	General Overview of Roundtable Discussion Experts Workshop, etc. Closing Ceremony

*During the conference an exhibition of children's picture books is planned.

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

Non-member cities are welcome to participate.

We look forward to seeing you all in Bursa, Turkey!

Contact Information

Bursa

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Summary of the September 2017 Board Meeting of the League of Historical Cities



The Board Meeting of the LHC Directors was held on September 6-7, 2017 in Bursa, Turkey. Representatives from four of the seven Board Member Cities of Kyoto (Japan (Chair)), Bagdad (Iraq), Ballarat (Australia), Konya (Turkey), and Ljubljana (Slovenia) were in attendance. At the Board Meeting the main topic of discussion was the 16th World Conference of Historical Cities. The outcome of the meeting is as follows:

New Member Cities

Board members confirmed the city of Klaipeda (Lithuania) as a member of the LHC. As of September 2017*, there are 113 member cities from 64 countries and regions.

*115 cities from 65 countries and regions (As of December 2017)



Candidates for the 17th World Conference of Historical Cities

Current candidates for the 2020 17th World Conference of Historical Cities were reported. The candidates are as follows (in order of notification):

Kazan (Russia), Tainan (Chinese Taipei), Chengdu (China), Alba Iulia (Romania), Shiraz (Iran)

*Based on official procedure the host of the 2020 conference will be decided based on a vote by the board of directors to be held in September 2018 at the 16th World Conference in Bursa. All candidate cities must give a presentation. (In order to confirm candidacy, a letter from each city's mayor must be sent to the LHC Secretariat before the end of June 2018.)



16th World Conference of Historical Cities

Bursa gave a presentation about the main theme and dates of the conference. After discussions finished, members confirmed the theme as “The Impact of Globalization on Culture and Way of Living” (more details about the 16th World Conference are provided on the previous page). Further information will be provided on the LHC website as it becomes available.



Introduction of Klaipeda City (Lithuania)



Theatre square. Monument to the poet Simon Dach
"Ann from Tharau"



"Art yard" – arts and crafts space in Klaipeda



Jugendstil ("youth style") building near the Liepu Street.



Girls in traditional dress

The first mention of Lithuania dates back to the 11th century. The town of Klaipeda (Memel) in Lithuania was founded in 1252. Klaipeda is a unique Lithuanian city by virtue of its colorful and turbulent history. Also, the Old Town's architectural style is similar to many western European cities with which it had close links.

The history of the city dates back to the time when the Livonian Order built a castle called Memelburg. A town grew around the castle close to where the waters of the Curonian Lagoon flow into the Baltic Sea.

Klaipeda is Lithuania's only gateway to the sea, and the most northerly ice-free port on the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea. The seaport is popular with investors and foreign partners because of its attractive and competitive conditions to develop industry and promote small and medium businesses.

It is said that Klaipeda will become increasingly important, because of its direct links with other European and worldwide ports and it is a sea transport center where regular shipping lines and fast modern motorway routes merge together.

Tourism is becoming increasingly important to Klaipeda and its hinterland; major investments are being made to promote it. Being the only Lithuanian port on the Baltic Sea, Klaipeda is very proud of opening a new cruise ship terminal in the heart of the city in 2003, able to handle a max. draft of 8.5 m. and a max. cruise ship length of 250 m.

Klaipeda is famous for its fine maritime traditions, for example since 1934 on the last weekend of July the Sea Festival has been held in the town. The Koppalis Fort, built in the 19th century, houses the Maritime Museum which has the largest display on maritime nature and the history of navigation. Large audiences come to the Aquarium and Dolphinarium to see shows featuring trained dolphins and Californian sea lions. Also of great interest is the Museum of Clocks and Watches, which has a wide range of exhibits with objects dating back to the 16th century. On weekends at noon visitors can hear a concert of carillon music coming from the tower of the old post-office building. The Blacksmith's Museum houses a display of beautiful metal crosses and fences from the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries. Furthermore, many original sculptures created by some of the best sculptors in the country can be seen in the Klaipeda Park of Contemporary Sculpture.

Klaipeda is the town suitable for rest, recreation, and entertainment. Additionally, in Klaipeda and along the entire coast of the Lithuanian Baltic Sea there are excellent white sandy beaches.

Visits from Member City Mayors to Kyoto!



① Shiraz (Iran) Date: May 23, 2017 Mayor Alireza Pakfetrat (at the time)



② Tainan (Chinese Taipei) Date: Aug. 9, 2017 Mayor Lai Ching-Te (at the time)



③ Cologne (Germany) Date: Oct. 27, 2017 Mayor Henriette Reker

Mayors from member cities of Shiraz, Tainan, and Cologne visited Kyoto City Hall, and met with various representatives including Mayor Kadokawa and City Assembly Chairperson Terada for informal talks where they agreed to deepen the friendships between their cities through activities within the League of Historical Cities.

Shiraz joined the League in 2014, and is one of five member cities from Iran to join the LHC. Kyoto is experiencing a steady annual increase in the number of tourists from the Middle East and the city is currently advancing policies towards creating a friendly and inviting environment for Muslim tourists.

In 2012, Tainan joined the LHC. In April of 2016, Tainan and other cities in Chinese Taipei quickly declared programs to support areas affected by the Kumamoto Earthquake.* This year, Tainan City restored their Japanese garden located in a city park based on advice from a Kyoto gardener. Also, vigorous exchanges have been taking place between the Tainan City Council and the Kyoto City Assembly.

Cologne is a founding member of the League and has been a member since 1994. Cologne is also one of Kyoto's sister cities and this year marks their 54th anniversary. While Mayor Reker was in Kyoto, she visited the World Heritage Site Nijo-jo Castle, Murin-an famous for their Japanese garden, Vila Kamogawa a German cultural organization, and an electric automobile manufacturer start-up. She confirmed ties between Cologne and Kyoto along with advancing exchanges in the areas of the environment along with culture and arts.

Kyoto City hopes to welcome all members of the LHC from around the world.

* A series of major earthquakes with epicenters in Kumamoto Prefecture that inflicted major damage to a wide area of the island of Kyushu, Japan.

Lanterns displaying LHC mayors' messages of peace were installed during Kyo no Tanabata in Kyoto



Kyo no Tanabata (The Star Festival in Kyoto) was held over the period of August 2-16, 2017 at various locations within Kyoto City; at the entrance of World Heritage Site Nijo-jo Castle lanterns were installed displaying mayors' messages of peace from LHC member cities.

Tanabata or Star Festivals are held once a year with wishes and prayers offered to the summer sky, and these wishes are written on a long thin strip of paper like Japanese poetry. It is said that wishes made during this time come true.

The League of Historical Cities was established based on the desire to make contributions to the attainment of world peace which is a wish of all people for the future of humanity, as well as bringing together historical cities based on shared ties and to promote common exchanges.

With this in mind, for the "We Wish for World Peace" project the 40 messages received from LHC member city mayors were displayed on paper lanterns together with a photograph of each mayor.

Many people visited Nijo-jo Castle and viewed this beautiful display of 4 large lanterns containing messages from mayors located around the world while they were exhibited at the castle entrance, a place in which Kyoto considers a symbol of peace as the castle has never been a place of war during the structures history.

Kyoto City will continue to capitalize on the LHC network strongly transmitting messages for world peace, and Kyoto City hopes that more member cities will participate next year.

