



123 Member Cities

AFRICA

Alexandria / Algiers / Fez / Giza / Luxor / Tunis

ASIA

Andong / Buyeo / Chengdu / Chiang Mai /
Dujiangyan / Gonju / Gyeongju / Hanoi /
Himeji / Hue / Kaesong / Kamakura /
Kanazawa / Kathmandu / Kurunegala /
Kyoto / Lahore / Matsue / Naha / Nanjing /
Nara / Suwon / Taichung / Tainan /
Ulaanbaatar / Varanasi / Vigan / Wuxi /
Xian / Yangon / Yangzhou / Yogyakarta /
Zhengzhou

EUROPE

Alba Iulia / Amsterdam / Athens / Bad Ischl /
Barcelona / Bordeaux / Bratislava / Brussels
/ Budapest / Chernivtsi / Cologne /
Constanta / Cordoba / Cracow / Dublin /
Edinburgh / Florence / Geneva / The Hague
/ Helsingborg / Iasi / Izhevsk / Kazan / Kiev /
Klaipeda / Kutaisi / Lisbon / Ljubljana / Lutsk
/ Lviv / Minsk / Montpellier / Mtskheta /
Nicosia / Nis / Norwich / Odessa / Paris /
Prague / Riga / Rome / Santiago de
Compostela / Sarajevo / Sheki / South East
Region of Malta / Strasbourg / Syzran /
Tashkent / Termez / Veliko Tarnovo /
Venice / Vienna / Vladimir / Zagreb

LATIN AMERICA

Cartagena / Cuenca / Cusco / Guadalajara /
Mexico City

MIDDLE EAST

Ankara / Ardabil / Baghdad / Bursa / Hebron
/ Isfahan / Istanbul / Jerusalem / Kashan /
Kong / Konya / Nayshabur / Osmangazi /
Sanliurfa / Semnan / Shiraz / Tabriz / Yazd

NORTH AMERICA

Boston / Montreal / Quebec City

PACIFIC

Ballarat / Melbourne / Norwood Payneham
and St. Peters / Whanganui

WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES



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November

14-16, 2022

Theme:
**Future-Oriented Historical City
Based on Community**

Sub-themes:

1. Communication and Empathy : Regeneration
2. Digitalization for Utilization : Smart Historical City
3. Sustainability for Future : Community-centered Historical City

Program (tentative)

Day 1 (Nov.14)

- AM On-site Registration
- PM Opening Ceremony & Keynote Speeches

Day 2 (Nov.15)

- AM Round Table Discussions (I , II)
- PM Expert Meeting, Technical Tour

Day 3 (Nov.16)

- AM Technical Tour
- PM Board of Directors' Meeting
General Assembly & Closing Ceremony

Youth Programs

- UCC (User-created Contents) Video Contest
- Mask Art Design Contest

Welcome to Andong, the Capital of Korean Spirit!

The 18th World Conference of Historical Cities
at Andong International Convention Center

Greetings from the Mayor of Andong



Dear members of the League of Historical Cities,

On behalf of 160,000 citizens of Andong, I would like to convey my sincere appreciation with honor to host the 18th World Conference of Historical Cities in Andong, the Capital of Korean Spirit.

Andong, located in the southeastern region of the Korean Peninsula, boasts a unique natural environment with the mountains surrounding its vicinity and the Nakdonggang River, the longest river in Korea, flowing through the nation. Especially Hanok, the traditional Korean houses with hundred years of history, are built all around the city and gorgeously complements nature, creating the beauty of the Orient and offering subtle picturesqueness. One of the best tourism cities in Korea, Andong attracts countless tourists to the city annually.

Since Andong became a member of the League in 2004, the city has made tremendous efforts in cultural heritage preservation to share outstanding universal values for all humanity in the present and future: Hahoe Village was registered for the World Heritage Sites in 2010 and so was Yugyocheokpan, Confucian printing woodblocks for the Memory of the World in 2015. Additionally, Bongjeongsa Temple was registered in 2018, so were Dosanseowon Confucian Academy and Byeongsanseowon Confucian Academy, which are educational institutions for teaching the Confucianism, for the World Heritage Site in 2019. Also, the city is called a "roofless museum" as many other cultural assets including the Hahoe Village-inherited Hahoe Byeolsingut Mask Dance exist all around the city.

These precious historic heritages have been developed being considered as a significant evidence of the world's footprints. The diverse cultural heritages of Andong have been transformed at times, blended, and passed down from the ancient times to the present, and our unique spirit and local identities have always existed in our community throughout our history with various experiences.

The past connects to the present, and we create history every day. Our lifestyle, philosophy, customs, etc. in the present are embedded in our communities. This is why we learn about our local communities and re-illuminate the values of the historical properties for future generations.

The 18th World Conference of Historical Cities will be held under the theme of "Future-Oriented Historical City Based on Community." We agree with UNESCO's emphasis on the importance of the role of a local community in overcoming the severance of traditional culture or the consciousness of crisis amid the COVID-19 pandemic. We would like to encourage sharing unprecedented challenges faced by the historical cities amid the pandemic and attempts, such as the use of digital technology, and to actively facilitate a discussion of the model for sustainable historical cities.

I promise that Andong will be ready to welcome you with many programs to promote the advancement and strengthen our fellowship, taking the League to the next level of progress.

I, together with the community members of Andong, will sincerely welcome you in Andong in 2022.



KWEON Young-sae
Mayor of Andong

Exchange & Cooperation Team
Administrative Support Office
Andong City Hall
82-54-840-6689, 5081
globalandong@korea.kr

New Member Cities



A City with Cultural Assets and Geoheritages in Harmony with Its Rich Nature

Matsue is the capital of Shimane Prefecture, located in the southwest of Japan. The northern part of the city is laid on the Shimane Peninsula, facing the Japan Sea, and it is rich in nature with mountains and rias coastlines which are designated as a part of national park. The central part of the city has brackish lakes called Lake Shinji and Lake Nakaumi, and a river connecting the lakes runs in the middle of the city. The Daikonshima Island lying in the Lake Nakaumi is a volcanic island composed of basalt from the eruption occurred approximately 190,000 years ago, and it has lava tunnels which are designated as Special Natural Monuments. The southern part of the city has mountains with over 200 - 600m in height reaching out to the Chugoku Mountain Range and plains with vast paddy fields which create a beautiful rural landscape; moreover, the area is blessed with hot springs. Likewise, the whole area of Matsue is rich in nature and has geoheritages, and with Izumo, a neighboring city, it composes the Shimane Peninsula and Shinjiko Nakaumi Estuary Geopark, which is designated as one of the national geoparks.

Matsue has developed as a hub of transportation and exchange and as the political center in the region since the ancient times. It was at the forefront of importing new civilizations and rice farming techniques from the continent across the sea, and tumuli for the leaders of the Izumo region were constructed in the area. The area continued to function as the center for economics and politics after the medieval period so that the Matsue Castle was built. It has kept its status afterwards and has developed not only as the capital of the prefecture but also as one of the core cities along the Japan Sea.

The city comprises various districts characterized by their different backgrounds and culture; a castle town district developed around the Matsue Castle, a National Treasure; Kashima district where the *Sadashinno Noh*, a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage is performed; and some other districts where rich cultural assets of Izumo remain and where an atmosphere of a port town or a post town is maintained. All these districts are preserved by the support of the local residents.

In order to preserve Matsue's important traditional culture, the city enacted an ordinance called the "Ordinance of Town Development based on Matsue's Power of Culture" in March 2021. Based on the principles of the ordinance, the city formulated the "Matsue City Cultural Properties Preservation and Utilization District Plan" in December 2021 to place the city's history and culture at the core in its development and carry out initiatives to make the city a "place where everyone can feel proud of having Matsue for its history and culture and enriched in mind."

Thanks to the writings of Lafcadio Hearn (KOIZUMI Yakumo), Matsue's charms had been widely introduced overseas, and in 1951 the city was designated as an International Culture and Tourism City following Kyoto and Nara. We will continue to do our best to make the city a world-renowned historical city.

Matsue (Japan)

The historical City of Ardabil is one of the ancient cities that maintained its social existence despite its extensive devastation by human elements and destruction by natural forces. Its history not only narrates its complicated historical upheavals during the ancient and Islamic eras, but also portrays its rich development and flourish among the Iranian cities, especially in the Northwest of the country.

The ancient areas of the city spread over 300 hectares, and the archaeological layers in different locations vary from 5 to 12 meters in depth. According to the latest archaeological excavations of Friday (Atiq) Mosque, the city's history at the present location dates back to 2,500 years ago. With a minimum 92 hectares of historical areas, the city can be counted as one of the most significant historical cities of the Northwestern Iran. The Balikhli River played an important role in forming the city and surrounded it like a stronghold before the main streets, Ali Qapu Street in particular, which were constructed, in a manner that the original city center was to be formed and expanded with different architectural manifestations between these two main sections.

Recent archaeological research estimates that many of the districts have had residents and have been the city's social centers since the Arsacid Dynasty. The unearthed historical remains in a vast area of the city recall its expanded population and developed residential spaces all over the old parts of the city, during the Umayyad and Abbasid Eras, until the multiple attacks by the Mongols.

The heritage district of Ardabil is a congregation of urban colonies and ancient communities, which once lived at a distance in over seven historical areas. The connection of the hills in the central area of Ardabil Plain resulted in the formation of the city. The currently designated and limited historical areas of the city have been actually established on a thick archaeological layer of over 10 meters deep. Various cultural and historical monuments in the city have been identified, documented and listed among national ones at the highest level, and the most important ones belonging to the 8th Hijri Century to present day include the historical bazar complex, Friday (Atiq) Mosque, Imamzadeh Saleh, Temple of Sheikh Safi (Global Heritage), the Church, and the historical mansions around the Uchdukan District.

After completing the initial studies, the Comprehensive Special Project for the Ancient Districts of Ardabil was approved by the National High Council for Architecture and Urban Development in 2000, and various research programs have been conducted in the past three decades in order to safeguard the historical texture and prevent deterioration.

The Pardisan Project is one of the major projects to renovate the historical caravanserai and invest for its operation in accordance with the regulations of the National Cultural Heritage Organization. The next phase, of the project covers historical mansions such as the Sadeghi Mansion in the Uchdukan District, along with studies and archaeological research in different areas of the city including the ancient area of the Friday (Atiq) Mosque and Moravvej Mansion for the Late Imam of Friday Prayer. Moreover, the city utilizes its distinctive features for tourism: the cultural route of the city, connecting the Friday (Atiq) Mosque to the Temple of Sheikh Safi, and the Shorabil Lake designated as a Prominent Tourist Zone.

Zahra Ghadri
Tourism Expert



Behnam Fathi
Master of Tourism Planning

Ardabil (Iran)



Ardabil - the Ancient City of Iran

A New Initiative in Kyoto as a Historical City

The City of Kyoto has created a web page on its official website to appeal for donations from overseas to support its historical initiatives financially. This newly launched initiative is to support the city's practices for preserving the heritage, landscape and culture in Kyoto for future generations. Please visit [the website](#) for further information.

Kyoto Revitalization Section, General Policy Office
kyotososei@city.kyoto.lg.jp



Call for Candidacy

-The 19th World Conference Host City-

The Secretariat has started accepting candidacy for hosting the 19th World Conference, which is scheduled in 2024. Any interested cities shall send the Secretariat an official letter addressed to the Chairperson by June 30, 2022. Any candidate city shall comply with the following conditions:

1. A candidate must be a member city of the League.
2. Its delegates shall attend the 18th World Conference in Andong in 2022 and give a host city presentation at the Board of Directors' Meeting.
3. Once officially determined as the host city, it shall hold the Board of Directors' Meeting in 2023, a year prior to the 19th World Conference in the city and arrange an inspection tour for the Directors and the Secretariat.



A movie on the 17th World Conference
is now available on You Tube!

Note: The aforementioned events may be requested to be organized online due to travel restrictions or other unavoidable circumstances.

Check [the official website](#) for further information such as expenses which the host city shall bear.

We look forward to receiving your application!