The Asian Academy for Heritage Management (AAHM) is a network of institutions throughout Asia and the Pacific offering professional training in the field of heritage management. The mission of the AAHM is to strengthen professional capacity to sustainably manage heritage resources by providing a regional platform for institutional cooperation in training, research, and exchange. Under the guidance of UNESCO and ICCROM, the AAHM promotes integrated, holistic and multi-disciplinary management of heritage resources, including both tangible and intangible expressions of culture.

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Message from the Secretariat
Welcome to this year’s fourth edition of the Asian Academy for Heritage Management Newsletter. We would like to thank those who submitted news and articles for their contributions. Please print and post this newsletter to allow all staff and students to read it. The secretariat is now accepting articles, news, research announcements and events for our next issue. Please submit all items to asian-academy@unescothkk.org.

We would like to wish you all a merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year. Please contact us at asian-academy@unescothkk.org.

AAHM News
Field School on “Cultural Impact Assessment & Maritime Archaeology” and Experts’ Meeting on “Underwater Cultural Heritage”

Field School; Galle, Sri Lanka, 1 - 9 April 2007
Experts’ Meeting; Galle, Sri Lanka, 9 - 11 April 2007

The UNESCO-ICCROM Asian Academy for Heritage Management is organizing its third Annual Field School, entitled “Cultural Impact Assessment & Maritime Archaeology”, to be held in Galle, Sri Lanka, from 1 to 9 April 2007. The events are being organized in collaboration with the Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology (PGIAR), University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka and Flinders University, Australia.

The upcoming Field School will focus on integrated conservation management in an underwater context. It will provide the opportunity to study heritage conservation in real-life situations with the guidance of leading experts in this field. The curriculum will be divided into lectures, group work and field trips and address technical issues as well as legal and political frameworks, participatory models and heritage interpretation.

In conjunction with the Field School an Experts’ Meeting will be organized from 9 to 11 April 2007. The Experts’ Meeting will be attended by forty high-level delegates from the Asia-Pacific region, representing national archaeological organizations and national agencies responsible for the protection of coastline and marine resources. The meeting will focus on the practical application of The UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage.

Please see our website for more information: http://www.unescobkk.org/index.php?id=4944

Cultural Heritage Specialist Guide Programme in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS)
Luang Prabang, Lao PDR, 6 – 14 October 2006

The second sub-regional Train-the-Trainer Workshop for GMS countries was organized from 6 to 14 October in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR by AAHM in collaboration with the Institute for Tourism Studies (IFST), and the Lao National Tourism Administration (LNTA) under the framework of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Mekong Tourism Development Project (MTDP). Representatives from the tourism and heritage sectors from GMS member countries took part, including Cambodia, China (Yunnan), Lao PDR, Myanmar and Thailand.

Following the workshops, UNESCO received expressions of interest from both public and private stakeholders in the tourism and culture sector to launch the programme at the national level.

Please visit our website to download the report of the workshop and sample training materials at: http://www.unescobkk.org/culture/asian-academy/heritageguides
AAHM Research Conference: Asian Approaches to Conservation
Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, 3-4 October 2006

We would like to thank all participants and our organizing partners from Chulalongkorn university for their contributions to the first AAHM Research Conference that was held in Bangkok on 3 and 4 October 2006.

Participants from 13 nations presented 24 research papers on the theme of “Asian Approaches to Conservation”. The presentations were followed by discussions that focused on issues such as the practical application of proposals in the Asia-Pacific region; community participation; technology and conservation; tourism and heritage management; heritage law; human rights and intangible cultural heritage.

Thanks to the generosity of Chulalongkorn University the proceedings of the conference will be published early next year.

For more detailed information please contact us at asian-academy@unescobkk.org or visit: http://www.unescobkk.org/index.php?id=836

New Graduate Programme in Cultural Heritage Management at Flinders University from 2007

Application Deadline: 31 May 2007

Flinders University announced the introduction of a Graduate Program in Cultural Heritage Management which will start from Semester 1 in March 2007. Submission for applying to Semester 2 is 31 May 2007. The course is run jointly by the Department of Archaeology and the Department of Cultural Tourism, with assistance from experts in legal studies, professional studies and environmental management.

Further information about the programme can be obtained from the Course Coordinator Dr Lynley Wallis or from the Flinders University website: http://www.flinders.edu.au/courses/pstgrad/cult.herit.mgmt.htm

HeritageWatch and Ministry of Tourism Sign MoU

HeritageWatch and the Ministry of Tourism of the Kingdom of Cambodia, on December 5th, 2006, signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the Heritage Friendly Tourism Campaign. The Purpose of the campaign is to promote responsible tourism and business in Cambodia and to encourage tourism to the Kingdom.

For more information visit: http://www.heritagewatch.org/hnews.php?theId=25

ICCROM News

ICCRM Course Announcement: Architectural Records, Inventories and Information Systems for Conservation

Rome, Italy, 12 September - 12 October 2007

ICCRM announced that the training course on Architectural Records, Inventories and Information Systems for Conservation (ARIS07) will be held in Rome from 12 September to 12 October 2007. This course is offered by ICCROM and the Getty Conservation Institute. The course aims to improve architectural conservation practice through the use of methods and tools of recording, documentation, inventories and information management. The deadline for applications is 16 February 2007.

CollAsia 2010 Field Project on “Teamwork for Sustainable Collections Care”

Hanoi, Vietnam, 8 January - 9 February 2007

The CollAsia 2010 field project on “Teamwork for Sustainable Collections Care” will take place in Hanoi, Vietnam from 8 January to 9 February 2007 (four weeks). Following the first successful field project, this project will aim to provide “didactic and practical tools and skills” for delegations from South-east Asia to achieve concrete improvements in their home institutions. It will also aim to make concrete improvements in the conservation conditions of the National Museum of Vietnam’s History (NMVH), which will lead to the long-term safeguarding of the collections in the museum.


Asia-Pacific Heritage News in the Press

Preservation of Cultural Heritage in Vietnam

“The Cultural Heritage Laws, in effect since 1 January 2002, have inarguably facilitated the preservation of cultural sites, according to the Ministry of Culture and Information. At a meeting to review the implementation of the Cultural Heritage Laws held recently in Hanoi, the Ministry of Culture and Information reported that such laws have been effective in preserving tangible and intangible cultural heritages, minimising the number of cultural sites illegally encroached upon.”

VietNamNet Bridge – 8 December 2006
http://english.vietnamnet.vn/travel/2006/12/642155/

Iran Links Cultural MoUs with 110 countries

“Director General of the Asia and Pacific Department of the Culture and Communication Organization Abouzar Ebrahimi on Wednesday said that Iran has so far signed memoranda of understanding with 110 countries with an aim of expanding cultural relations.”

Islamic Republic News Agency – 29 November 2006

Pakistan Senate to Take Tangible Steps to Protect National Cultural Heritage

“The Senate Standing Committee on Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs and Tourism has directed the Ministry of Culture to re-double its efforts for proper maintenance, up-keep and preservation of the archaeological sites in the country in addition to taking tangible steps for projecting and promoting the country’s soft image. This, it said, could best be done by arranging cultural shows and festivals, both at home and abroad.”

Onlinenews.com.pk – 19 October 2006

UNESCO Asia-Pacific News

UNESCO Dhaka along with USG organizes an exhibition to add impetus to the “Save Shakhari Bazaar” movement

“UNESCO Dhaka and the Urban Study group (USG), a voluntary organization formed by a group of architects, organized a four-day long exhibition based on the drawings and images of Shakhari Bazaar, one of the oldest surviving neighborhoods in Dhaka.”

Please contact Shamim Ahsan Khan, UNESCO Dhaka Office at dhaka@unesco.org for more information.

UNESCO/AHPADA Announce Awardees for the 2006 Seal of Excellence for Handicrafts

An international panel of judges and experts in design, marketing and handicraft production gathered in Ayutthaya in early September to judge the Southeast Asian submissions for the 2006 UNESCO/AHPADA Seal of Excellence in Handicrafts.

Of the record 129 submissions received this year from ten ASEAN nations, 26 handicrafts have been awarded the Seal based on their ability to meet six key criteria: excellence; authenticity; innovation; eco-friendliness; marketability and social responsibility.

The 2006 Seal-awarded products were displayed at the Bangkok International Gift fair from 17 to 22 October at Impact Exhibition Centre Hall alongside a selection of Seal winners from previous years.

This display area was donated by the SUPPORT Arts and Crafts International Centre of Thailand (SACICT) who has strongly supported UNESCO and AHPADA on this programme.

For the press release and a full list of the 2006 Seal awarded products, please visit: http://www.unescobkk.org/index.php?id=483
**Opportunities for Students**

**Residential Research Grants for Overseas Scholars: Institute For Tourism Studies (IFT), Macao SAR, China**

The aim of this IFT initiative is to bring in talents from all around the world to help build up a strong research base at IFT. The Institute will provide not only monetary support for sound research plans but also an exciting exchange opportunity for overseas scholar to experience tourism development in the heart of Asia and witness the swift current of changes that have yet to take place in the west of the Pearl River Delta, in Macao SAR.

These grants are for:

- Overseas scholars with proven teaching and research record in the areas of tourism and hospitality
- Postgraduate students with research capability who are eager to embark on an academic career and to gain some research and teaching experience in the Asia-Pacific

Topics of relevance to the Asia-Pacific, with special reference to Macao SAR, will be on the top of the preference list. Suggested topics include: heritage resource management; cultural tourism; tourism destination management and marketing; and professional training and education needs in the region.

For more information visit:  
http://www.ift.edu.mo/news/grant.htm

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**Asia-Pacific Calendar of Events**

**Call for abstracts: The 3rd Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative (ECAI) Congress of Cultural Atlases: Time & Space in Eurasia**

ECAI will hold the 3rd Congress of Cultural Atlases: Time & Space in Eurasia in conjunction with the 7th International Conference of the Historical Sources of Eurasian and North African Civilizations: Computer Approaches. The conference will include workshops on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Virtual Reality (VR) applied to the study of culture and history, humanities computing in the 21st century and sessions on the development of cultural atlases. The deadline for submitting the abstracts is 10 March 2007.

Guidelines for papers and details of the conference are available from Kimberly Carl at kcarl@berkeley.edu and at:  
http://ecai.ras.ru

**New Architecture and Urbanism: Development of Indian Traditions**

New Delhi, India, 12 – 15 January 2007

The International Network for Traditional Building, Architecture & Urbanism (INTBAU) India with the support and sponsorship of the Nabha Foundation, will hold the first conference on "New Architecture and Urbanism: Development of Indian Traditions" in New Delhi, India. The conference themes will be divided into three areas: new ways of looking at heritage; sustainable places; buildings and communities and continuing traditions in new architecture and urbanism.

Further details on the conference can be found at:  
http://www.intbau.org/indiantraditions.htm

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**AAHM Research**

**Can Public Participation Fill the Gap of Inadequate Measures for Protection and Management of Heritage Places and Their Settings in Developing Countries?: Case Studies from Old Dhaka, Bangladesh**

By Sharif Shams Imon, (Institute for Tourism Studies, Macao SAR, China) Lynne D. DiStefano and Lee Ho Yin, (Department of Architecture, the University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China)

Using case studies, the paper discusses how management of heritage places in Old Dhaka (the historic core of Dhaka) depends heavily on the existing legal and administrative mechanisms that are mostly ineffective and how better management may be achieved through an alternative approach. The case studies chosen were Bara Katra and Shakhari Bazar.

Bara Katra, built in 1644, was an imposing site on the bank of the Buriganga River and included resting quarters for traders and 22 shops. Much of the site fell into ruins after the Mughal period. It is now a “Protected Antiquity” under the custodianship of the Department of Archaeology. However since its listing as a protected site, no effective measures for its conservation have been undertaken.

The other case study chosen was Shakhari Bazar, which developed along a 300-metre long and three to four metre wide street and is one of the earliest settlements in Old Dhaka. It is famous for its main trade, shakha, an ornament made from conch shells, after which the place is named. Shakhari Bazar, like many other Old Dhaka localities, was formed around the main trade of the residents. Rather unfortunately, during the long history of Old Dhaka, many other localities have relinquished their traditional trades and adopted new ones. Shakhari Bazar is the only place in Old Dhaka where a traditional craft is still practised. The socio-cultural and economic life of the mainly Hindu community in one way or the other is tied directly to this profession.

The paper considers good management as a process where both heritage sites and their settings are treated with equal importance and argues that effective implementation of legislative, regulatory, administrative and management measures depends largely on how grounded such measures are in the socio-political dimensions of specific places. The case studies demonstrate that protection and management measures should consider the needs and aspirations of local communities and allow public participation in the process.

"The participation and the involvement of the residents are essential for the success of the conservation programme and should be encouraged. The conservation of historic towns and urban areas concerns their residents first of all."


For more details, please contact us at:  
asian-academy@unescobkk.org
Book Review

**ART | ARCHITECTURE | HISTORY, BHUJ**


“Unfortunately, historic urban settings in general – the communities of people who live around and in these historic buildings – do not receive the attention or support they deserve to maintain a vitality and quality characteristic of historic areas...Written in the aftermath of the 2001 earthquake in Kachchh this book attempts to show that the planner can very well behave like an anthropologist in the field, and that he has a responsibility to listen to stories told to him by residents.”

*Dr Suvit Yodmani, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center*

Large parts of the 16th century city of Bhuj, a city in Kachchh district in the state of Gujarat, western India, were reduced to rubble by a devastating earthquake in 2001. Residents shook their heads with disbelief, awed at the prospect of reconstruction. Five years after that unforgettable morning, this book narrates the city’s story of urban development over 450 tumultuous years.

Illustrated with pictures and stories obtained from residents, museums, and local organizations in Bhuj, the book combines ethnography, a comment on the relationships between craft and city-building, and a thought provoking critique of present day development trends. Rare 19th century and 20th century photographs complement the book’s narrative, which describes the fascinating economic role that the arts have played in city building, and the prospects ahead to marshall them as instruments of future development. It is a book for citizens and visitors wanting an unconventional introduction to Bhuj, and a portfolio of evidence for city planners, policy makers and investors in the city- disaster or no disaster.

The author, Azhar Tyabji, is an art historian and urban planner at the Environmental Planning Collaborative (EPC) in Ahmedabad, India.

To purchase the book please visit: [http://www.mapinpub.com/bhuj](http://www.mapinpub.com/bhuj)

**New Members**

*Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune – Shri Balmukund Lohia Centre of Sanskrit and Asian Studies, Pune, India*

*Sun Yat-sen University – School of Tourism Management, Guangzhou, China*

We would like to welcome our new institutional members from India and China. Shri Balmukund Lohia Centre of Sanskrit and Asian Studies at Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth offers for the Postgraduate Diploma and the MA programme Heritage Management and Tourism. The School of Tourism Management at Sun Yat-sen University offers a heritage tourism management course for its MA programme.

The AAHM now has 45 institutional members. We would like to extend our warmest appreciation to our existing members and we hope our new members will reap great benefits from being partner of the AAHM network.

Want to join the AAHM?

Signing up for the Asian Academy is easier than you think. Simply go to the “Members” page of the AAHM website and download the documents your institution requires. Upon acceptance your institution will be eligible for all the benefits of the AAHM. Contact the AAHM at asian-academy@unescobkk.org for more information.

**Staff News**

We would like to welcome Mr Jeffrey Withaya Campbell who recently joined our team. Mr Campbell is nearing completion of his Master’s Degree of Sustainable Heritage Development at the Australian National University and is currently working in support of the AAHM Secretariat and its activities.

**Internship Opportunities**

The AAHM internship programme is open to all students with relevant educational backgrounds. The internship applications and other relevant information is available on our website: [http://www.unescobkk.org/index.php?id=923](http://www.unescobkk.org/index.php?id=923)

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