



# 2014



JCIC-Heritage

Japan Consortium for International Cooperation  
in Cultural Heritage

## Japan's International Cooperation in Heritage Conservation





JCIC-Heritage

# WHAT IS JCIC-HERITAGE?

Cultural heritage is a cultural testament that has been created over humankind's long history. This heritage overcomes the barriers of space and time to inspire us in important ways. We are responsible for passing on to future generations this cultural heritage as an asset shared by all people.

Due to destruction accompanying conflicts, natural disasters, environmental degradation, and changes in social structure, many treasures of cultural heritage are in danger of not being passed on to future generations if we fail to preserve our heritage. This would be a great loss for all humanity.

In June 2006, Japan enacted the Law on the Promotion of International Cooperation for Protection of Cultural Heritage Abroad. Japan is expected to contribute to the advancement of diverse cultures throughout the world by further promoting international cooperation regarding cultural heritage.

We have established the Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage with the aim of creating a common base for coordinated and collaborative international cooperation. The Consortium brings together a wide variety of institutes and individuals who share a common desire to preserve cultural heritage. In this way, we hope to contribute to the sustainable development of international cooperation related to the preservation of cultural heritage.

## OUR MISSIONS

### **Promoting human relations among consortium members**

Promoting relations among the Consortium members conducting workshops and symposia or through the use of an interactive website—thus enabling our experiences/expertise to be shared, contributing to better coordination of international cooperation.

### **Expediting the collection and exchange of information concerning international cooperation**

Expediting the collection and exchange of information concerning international cooperation, providing a database of heritage preservation projects undertaken by Japanese organizations, both private and governmental.

### **Carrying out case studies and research on international cooperation in cultural heritage**

Carrying out case studies and research on international cooperation in cultural heritage. Through research results, we play a role as an advisory body for international cooperation on cultural heritage preservation.

### **Publication and dissemination of activities on international cooperation in cultural heritage**

Publication and dissemination of activities on international cooperation in cultural heritage. Established website for the Consortium and published cultural heritage preservation case studies online.





## THE OPERATION SYSTEM

Various agencies organizations cooperate with each other to support the conservation of cultural heritage. They are called upon to collaborate with the aim of energizing international cooperation related to the preservation of cultural heritage. The consortium holds meetings targeting overseas regions respectively, and shares the most recent research on international cooperation for cultural heritage.

## International Cooperation Projects in Heritage Conservation by Japanese Experts

Japan has consistently played an active part of in safeguarding the world's cultural heritage through cooperation, human resource development, and joint research schemes for more than twenty years. To widely disseminate these efforts, the Japan consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage introduces Japan's diverse international cooperation activities for the preservation of cultural heritage via its website. (<http://www.jcic-heritage.jp/>)

Japan has engaged in over 2,000 international cooperation project related to cultural heritage. These projects have taken diverse forms, such as the provision of equipment necessary for the preservation of cultural heritage; the implementation of academic studies; value assessment, conservation activities for specific heritage site; and the promotion of expert development activities and awareness-raising programs intended for local residents who are the bearers of cultural heritage. Financial assistance for these projects have also taken diverse forms, including ODA (Japan's Official Development Assistance) funds, ministry and agency budgets, scientific research grants, and other contributions and funding from the Japanese government, as well as subsidies from private foundations and funds generated by companies through social contribution activities.

Implementing such project requires the participation and mutual cooperation of people and organizations from various realms in both the public and private sectors. For example, people are needed to study the value and history of cultural heritage; to develop specific plans and technologies for the conservation of cultural heritage; to promote institutions and policies for safeguarding cultural heritage; and to build capacities in local people to effectively utilize cultural heritage, develop their community, and engage in conservation activities. Based on this awareness, the Consortium is committed to supporting and strengthening the partnership among all players in the international cooperation for cultural heritage, to ensure effective cooperation.

In this pamphlet we introduce some examples of Japan's effort in the international cooperation for the world's cultural heritage.





## Survey and conservation of the Western Prasat Top Site



Full view of the Western Prasat Top Site

### Cultural cooperation in Cambodia

Background to the project: In Cambodia, the end of the civil war in 1992 prompted efforts for reconstruction of the country, and conservation and restoration of the Angkor monuments became a matter of urgent concern. The monuments were inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1992 and simultaneously on the World Heritage in Danger List. In 1993, projects for conservation and restoration of the Angkor monuments were launched by various countries with the cooperation of the international community. Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties also launched a joint research project for human resource development in 1993 under commission from the Agency for Cultural Affairs. It has continued the project as an independently-implemented international cooperation project after becoming an independent administrative institution, and expanded the scope of the project to include survey and restoration activities.

Overview of the monument: The Angkor monuments are situated in the northwestern part of Cambodia, and are mostly famous for the Angkor Wat and Angkor Thom, which occupy the center of the entire site. The project initially began as a survey of Banteay Kdei, but expanded to include the survey and conservation of the Tani Kilns and eventually the Western Prasat Top Site inside Angkor Thom in 2001. An inscription dating from the end of the 9th century was discovered at Western Prasat Top, but detailed surveys indicate that the site took on its present appearance during the 14th to 15th centuries. In the third medium-term plan, which was launched in 2011, dismantlement and restoration of the southern sanctuary was begun, and the lower base is now being dismantled.



Condition before the survey of the Western Prasat Top Site



# Survey and restoration of the Western Prasat Top Site

Background to the project: In May 2008, during the two-phase ten-year survey of the Western Prasat Top Site that began in 2001, some 40 stone elements fell from the top of the central sanctuary. As this caused the entire sanctuary to become unstable, temporary supports were applied in December using scaffolding materials. Leaving the sanctuary in this state for a prolonged period of time was not considered favorable neither in terms of conservation nor aesthetics, so it was decided to be dismantled and restored upon consultation with APSARA (Authority for the Protection and Management of Angkor and the Region of Siem Reap), the local organization for protection of cultural properties.

Project planning and cooperating parties: Arrangements with research institutes and other relevant parties were completed by 2010, and dismantlement and restoration work was begun in fiscal 2011. Based on the awareness that dismantlement would reveal many facts, it was agreed that thorough examination would be conducted accompanying the dismantlement, based on the awareness that many facts would be revealed in the process, and the project was named "Survey and restoration of the Western Prasat Top Site." The project is being implemented with the cooperation of Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties; the Foundation for Cultural Heritage and Art Research; Asahi Shimbun Company; Tadano Ltd.; and Mr. Shoji Sano, who possesses considerable experience in the restoration of stone monuments.

## Future plans for the survey and restoration of the Western Prasat Top Site

The dismantlement and restoration of the southern sanctuary and northern sanctuary is planned to be completed during the five years from 2011 to 2015 that are covered by the third medium-term plan, and the dismantlement and restoration of the central sanctuary is planned to be completed during the five years from 2016 to 2020 that are covered by the fourth medium-term plan.

With many foreign survey teams having accumulated experience and achievements at various archaeological sites to date, various survey and restoration methods that ought to be considered standard practices have been established. These standards will be further universalized and employed in the restoration of Western Prasat Top, and project organization and implementation knowhow will be accumulated to ensure sustainable survey and restoration in the future, as well as to contribute to sustainable restoration of the site by Cambodian staffs.

(Hiroshi SUGIYAMA, Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties)



Dismantlement and restoration of the Western Prasat Top Site 1



Dismantlement and restoration of the Western Prasat Top Site 2



Temporary supports and the Southern Sanctuary before dismantlement



Excavation of the Southern Sanctuary

## Support for development of a legal framework for cultural heritage in Bhutan



Scenery in Bhutan

### Why Bhutan? Why a legal framework?

#### Bhutan's cultural heritage

In Bhutan, virtually pristine nature that varies according to altitude and traditional landscapes composed of small villages that adapted to this natural environment are found throughout the country. Amid an environment surrounded by traditional houses and farmland and pastures that follow the shape of the natural terrain, the local people developed a lifestyle that placed great value on their distinctive culture, customs, religious spirituality and tradition of mutual support. This lifestyle is not something that has been sustained by special protection measures, but is a wholly natural aspect of present-day Bhutan. The 2,000 some temples throughout the country, regardless of whether they are ancient or new garner the deep faith of the people and play an important role as a center of each community. The magnificent dzongs, which serve as both administrative centers and homes of Buddhist monks, are not only a heritage of Bhutan's history since the 17th century, but exist more as properties that continue to mark new chapters in the future history of the country. There is nowhere else in the world where the tangible heritage (architectural buildings) and intangible heritage (tradition and faith) merge and co-exist in such a chaotic and dynamic manner.

#### Necessity of a legal framework for cultural heritage

This dynamism ensures the continued existence of Bhutan's cultural heritage in the hands of its people, but it also signifies that any changes in traditional lifestyles will directly lead to modifications of the country's tangible heritage (such as rebuilding and renovation of the architectures). Ancient buildings have been continuously altered in response to needs for more space to accommodate an increasing number of monks and followers and for upgrading their functions, and have also increased their magnificence as a display of merit or other religious reason at every opportunity. However, given today's rapid trend toward modernization, relevant authorities in Bhutan face a large issue on how best to reconsider this cultural dynamism, which has heretofore been backed by traditional spirituality, within the administrative scope of cultural heritage protection. Thus the development of a legal framework for cultural heritage is strongly sought as an effective tool for the comprehensive protection of cultural heritage in Bhutan.



Memorandum of understanding exchanged between the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs of Bhutan and UNESCO



Drafting of the law



# Methods to develop a legal framework and the results achieved up to now

## Project background

In the winter of 2010, we had the opportunity to meet with a UNESCO personnel and learned about present situations in Bhutan. We felt a need to see the country with our own eyes and thus we visited Bhutan and witnessed both its beauty and its rapid development. In a meeting with a high-level officials in the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs of Bhutan, we were informed of three issues –namely, protection of ancient documents, protection of tangible cultural heritage (excluding movable cultural properties, for which laws already exist) and protection of intangible cultural heritage –and we promised to cooperate. Fortunately, we were able to launch full-scale activities with funding from the Official Development Assistance Grant for UNESCO Activities provided by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), and have been able to receive the grant over three years so far. To further solidify our activities, a three-party cooperation agreement was exchanged between Kyushu University, UNESCO New Delhi Office, and the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs of Bhutan.

## Methods and the achieved results

In regard to the protection of ancient documents, we began by critically examining a draft law that already existed, which had issues in the unification of concepts and structure. There was a complete lack of reviewing the concepts regarding historic buildings and intangible cultural heritage. Thus after obtaining information on present situations from an official in the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs and making an onsite inspection, we discussed the scope of the law at length and engaged in activities to formulate the structure and specific articles of a draft law. We have taken the approach to rely on a local officer to examine the formulated articles, which the results will be further critically examined and revised. In other words, a fundamental method will be adopted, which would allow proper conceptualization of local needs through an accurate understanding based on continuous discussions.

## Towards the future

### Achievements made thus far

We were fortunate to receive the previously-mentioned grant from MEXT for the last three years, which led to the completion of a Cultural Agency draft for the protection law of the ancient documents. With respect to the protection of tangible cultural heritage, we have been able to practically complete the text for the law concerning historical buildings and engage in examination for regulation proposals concerning cultural landscapes. With respect to intangible cultural heritage, we conducted a survey of relevant governmental authorities, and are presently working on compiling the results.

### Future outlook

This year marks the third year of our project, and we have begun to see our way to completion of a draft law for tangible cultural heritage protection within this fiscal year. We will also direct our efforts to formulating enforcement regulations for the law for protection of tangible cultural heritage, as well as to formulating a law for intangible heritage protection. As Bhutan is a signatory of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and has submitted three cultural properties to the World Heritage Tentative List in fiscal 2012, we also hope to provide our assistance in defining their authenticity and integrity as World Heritage Sites, as required by the Convention.

(Toshiyuki KONO, Kyushu University Graduate School of Law)



Landscape from the Dzong



Ruined Dzong near Paro City



Traditional view of Bhutan



Meeting for the cultural heritage law drafting at the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs



Punakha Dzong

Networking Core Centers for International Cooperation on Conservation of Cultural Heritage Project

## “Training Workshop for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Central Asia”



Excavation training at Ak-Beshim

### Project background

Central Asia is situated in the center of the Silk Roads, and is home to a large number of landmarks and properties of high cultural value. However, after the fall of the Soviet Union, Russian researchers who led research until then left Central Asia. This left a lack of experts who could assume a leadership position, and deprived young researchers engaging in cultural heritage protection of opportunities to acquire experience at actual sites of excavation, conservation and restoration work.

Based on this understanding, the Japan Center for International Cooperation in Conservation in the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo received a commission from the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Japan in 2011 to launch this project—Networking Core Centers for International Cooperation on Conservation of Cultural Heritage Project “Training Workshop for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Central Asia”—with the objective of developing young researchers for cultural heritage protection in Central Asia and ultimately safeguarding the cultural heritage of Central Asia.

The Kyrgyz Republic was selected as the host country of the project, as the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo has previously established an academic relationship with the Institute of History and Cultural Heritage in the National Academy of Science of the Kyrgyz Republic, and the relationship facilitated the planning and implementation of the project.



Training in the archaeological survey



Training in drawing of excavated artifacts (pottery)



## Overview of the project

The project aims to train young researchers engaging with cultural heritage protection in Central Asia jointly with the Institute of History and Cultural Heritage in the National Academy of Science of the Kyrgyz Republic and Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties.

A series of human resource development workshops on four themes—“documentation”, “excavation”, “conservation”, and “site management”—are planned to be continued over a period of four years, with a focus on the medieval city of Ak-Beshim (known as Suyab in ancient times) along the Chuy valley in the Kyrgyz Republic as the site of training. By studying these four themes, participants are expected to acquire not only knowledge in a specific area such as archaeology, conservation and restoration and architecture, but also wide-ranging, comprehensive knowledge needed for cultural heritage protection. Furthermore, by inviting participants from the five Central Asian countries, the project aims to create a network of young researchers for cultural heritage protection in Central Asia.

In fiscal 2011, two workshops were held on “archaeological surveys” and “drawing of archaeological objects” as topics under the theme of “documentation of cultural heritage,” and training was provided in traverse measurement and levelling, creation of topographical maps, drawing of pottery, stone tools and clay objects, and photo shooting of artifacts.

In fiscal 2012, two workshops were held under the themes of “excavation” and “conservation,” and training was provided in excavation methods, measurement and photo shooting of archaeological features, measurement and photo shooting of artifacts, lifting of fragile artifacts, removal of soil stratigraphy, conservation of metal items, and reconstruction of pottery.

In fiscal 2013, two workshops are planned to be held on the themes of “excavation,” “conservation” and “site management.” The first workshop has already been held from August 27 to September 12, and included practical training in excavation, conservation, and lectures on site management. The second workshop is scheduled to be held in mid-February 2014.

These five workshops were attended by a total of more than 50 young researchers not only from the five Central Asian countries, but also from Afghanistan and Armenia.

In fiscal 2014, the final year of the project, similar workshops are scheduled to be held under the theme of “site management.”



Excavation training



Training in the lifting of fragile artifacts



Training in the photo shooting of excavated artifacts

## Future issues

The five workshops that have been held so far highlighted the lack of experience of young researchers in Central Asia. Compared to experts in their 40s and 50s, who received training during the Soviet era, there is no denying that young researchers in their 20s and 30s largely fall behind their predecessors in terms of knowledge, experience and skills.

Nevertheless, the young participants showed strong enthusiasm toward the series of training that have so far been provided and a strong will to actively acquire relevant skills, and the project was able to respond to their needs with detailed training, owing in part to their small number. The training on conservation, in particular, seemed to be viewed as a novel field of study, as no conservation experts yet exist in the country, and captured the participants' avid interest. Another fruitful result of training was the bonds of interaction that developed among young researchers from the five Central Asian countries.

In Central Asia, there are strong hopes that monuments related to the Silk Roads will be inscribed on the World Heritage List next fiscal year. However, documentation and development of the nominated sites is lagging. For this reason, authorities in Central Asia are voicing their hopes for the continuation of a similar training program after fiscal 2014.

Continued assistance in the field of cultural heritage protection is thus needed in the countries of Central Asia.

(Masashi ABE, Japan Center for International Cooperation in Conservation, National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo)



Training in the conservation of metal artifacts



Training in the reconstruction of pottery

## Workshop on textile conservation at the History Museum of Armenia



History Museum of Armenia

### Textile heritage protected by Armenia's embroidery and carpet making technique.

#### Armenia

The Republic of Armenia is an inland country situated in the South Caucasus region, bordered on the west by Turkey, on the north by Georgia, on the east by Azerbaijan, and on the south by Iran. Armenia attained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. Mount Ararat in the Armenian highlands is famous for the legend as the final resting place of Noah's Ark. Armenia was the first in the world to declare Christianity as the official religion of its country in 301, and allowed the Armenian Orthodox Church to develop its own doctrines and architecture. Moreover, the Armenian Orthodox Church in Echmiatsin, which is the headquarters of the Armenian Church, and church buildings in the surrounding area dating from the 7th century have been designated as World Heritage Sites. In their treasure rooms lie numerous vestments designed with elaborate embroidery, and offer a glimpse of the textile culture that speak deeply of the relationship between Christianity and embroidery in Armenia.

#### Conservation of historic textiles at the History Museum of Armenia

The History Museum of Armenia stands facing the Republic Square in the capital city of Yerevan. It showcases the history of Armenia from the Stone Age to the present, and has exhibition rooms for ethnic costumes, embroidery and carpets. Because Armenia was ruled by Mongolia, Turkey and Persia during the Middle Ages, garments show the influence of the round-neck Mongolian attire that is worn left over right, and Persian printed cotton. They are characteristically decorated with elaborate embroidery, and in particular with needle lace called "janyak", in which connecting circles are created by looping thread with a needle. The carpets on display feature patterns related to Armenian myths and religion made with skillful sophistication. Among the textiles is a leather shoe and wool fabrics dating from 3500BC. Textiles in the museum have been restored using embroidery and carpet making techniques by a textile conservator who received training during the Soviet era, and a carpet restorer under her guidance. After the end of the Soviet era, there was nowhere to learn conservation, and these two staff are actually the very few in all of Armenia who are capable of conserving ethnic costumes and carpets as cultural properties. The training of conservation experts is thus a pressing issue in the continuity of Armenia's historical textile heritage.



Carpet restoration



Noah's Ark produced by janyak(needle lace)



## Sponsoring of a workshop on conservation of historic textiles at the History Museum of Armenia

Japan has supported Armenia's cultural heritage through provision of equipment to the Matenadaran Archives and the National Gallery of Armenia. The Armenian Ministry of Culture sought further assistance from Japan, hence the Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage (hereafter referred to as JCIC) implemented a status survey in 2011 and identified the need for assistance in the conservation historic textiles. To formulate a detailed assistance plan, the project leaders received funding from the Hirayama Ikuo Silk Road Museum in April 2010 and investigated major museums near the capital city with the cooperation of the Agency of Museums in the Armenian Ministry of Culture. As a result, the History Museum of Armenia was selected to be the host institution and human resource development workshops intended for the staff of the History Museum and other museums were decided to be implemented. In October 2010, the first workshop was held jointly with the History Museum of Armenia as a cultural cooperation (sponsorship) project of the Japan Foundation, to be continued until fiscal 2013.

The Armenian side sought difficult-to-obtain information on conservation, rather than conservation and restoration techniques, so an Armenian textbook (with English translation) was translated from Japanese. Using the textbook, existing knowledge and new information were systematized, and a workshop was held that provided a hands-on approach to conservation and restoration technologies.

Lecturers on the Japanese side included Mie Ishii (visiting researcher at the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo; expert in textile conservation), Makoto Arimura (associate professor of Western Asian archaeology at Kanazawa University); and Midori Yokoyama (embroidery instructor at NHK Culture Center). The participants on the Armenian side were a group of 8 to 12 curators, ethnologists, archive managers, and conservation and restoration experts of textiles, manuscripts, and archaeological artifacts from the History Museum of Armenia, the Matenadaran Archives, the Echmiatsin Armenian Orthodox Church, the National Museum of Armenian Ethnography and History of Liberal Struggle, and the National Gallery of Armenia.

## Transmission of technique via workshops and future issues

Workshops featuring lectures and hands-on training were held twice a year, over a period of about ten days each. Through continuous participation, the participants from various museums deepened their understanding of conservation and restoration concepts and improved their skills. Conservators of textile at the History Museum of Armenia, in particular, readily applied their newly acquired knowledge to their actual work and exhibited observable changes in their approach to the conservation and display of the museum's collections.

The workshops were a forum that brought together the staff of major museums in Armenia who engage in the conservation of Armenia's textile heritage, and have been appreciated as providing an opportunity for network building. The project has been designated a "20th anniversary project commemorating the establishment of diplomatic relationship between Armenia and Japan," and through the Armenian Ministry of Culture, the workshops have been introduced on the ministry's website, national TV and newspapers, to raise awareness among the general public about the significance of international exchanges between the two countries through cultural heritage protection. The project will end this fiscal year, but the workshop textbook will be re-edited and distributed, conservation projects will be displayed in the History of Museum of Armenia, the project results between Armenia and Japan related to the protection of Armenia's textile heritage will be made public.

This exchange project has begun to strengthen awareness on the Armenian side regarding the protection of textile heritage and the training of experts. As ties with Japan have also deepened, it is necessary to create a long-term support framework in preservation of cultural heritage in Armenia.

(Mie ISHII, Japan Center for International Cooperation in Conservation, National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo)



Embroidery and carpet market



Opening ceremony held in the ethnic costume exhibition room



Training in dyeing



Study of a fabric using a microscope



Carpet exhibition room in the National Museum of Armenian Ethnography and History of Liberal Struggle

## Archaeological Excavations and Development of Resources for Tourism at Beitin (Bethel), Palestine



Main area of Beitin (view of the tell from a Byzantine-period reservoir)

### The High Place of a “Golden Calf”—National Shrine of the Northern Kingdom of Israel

#### Beitin

Beitin, the subject of the project, is an archaeological complex located 5km northeast of Ramallah in Palestine and 14km north of Jerusalem. In a small village with a population of a mere 2,000 lie an ancient tell (archaeological mound), necropolis from various periods, ruins with an ancient tower (called Burj Beitin), water reservoirs from the Byzantine period, and pre-modern agricultural facilities. These archaeological features provide a broad overview of the history of the region from around 3,500 BC to a hundred years ago.

#### Significance of the City of Beitin (Bethel)

The site of Beitin, particularly that of the Bronze and Iron Ages, has been identified with the city of Bethel, which appears frequently in the Hebrew Bible, and is thus an invaluable site in understanding the faith and world of the Bible. It is a place where Patriarchs Abraham and Jacob, the forefathers of Judaism, Christianity and Islam stayed and particularly identified with the place where Jacob dreamt of angels coming up and down a ladder. When the United Monarchy separated into north and south, a national temple of the northern kingdom was built at Beitin and a “golden calf” is said to have been placed there to stand against the Temple of Jerusalem in the southern kingdom. Thereafter, written records show that people who returned from Babylonian captivity formed a community at Beitin (Bethel), and the area prospered as a pilgrimage site during the Byzantine period. Today, as more than half of the world’s population are believers of these religions, Beitin is expected to become a place of interest to many people and attract tourists from around the world.



Location of Beitin



# Renewed Archaeological Researches and Tourism Development in Palestine

## Excavations and Conservation to Date

In recognition of its significance, Beitin was already a focus of attention in the first half of the 20th century, and excavated by archaeologists W. F. Albright and J. Kelso. Their excavation report, however, has been criticized and is inadequate considering the development of archaeology in the following 50 years. Archaeological researches and conservation of sites in Palestine have been largely suspended after the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948 and its effective control of Palestine. In recent years, however, the political situation in Palestine became relatively stabilized. Palestinian Authority became a member of UNESCO in 2011, and is actively promoting the development of the tourism industry focused on archaeological sites through such activities as registration of Bethlehem as a World Heritage Site and designation of Tell el Balatah (Shechem) as a national park.

## Joint Project between the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Palestine and Keio University

The archaeological excavations and tourism development project at Beitin was launched in response to such current trend, as a joint undertaking by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Palestine and Keio University. During fiscal 2012, contour maps and distribution maps of various archaeological features were created and activities to establish a relationship with the local community and to raise local awareness of the site were conducted. As a result, possible existence of a slightly raised acropolis on the northern side of the tell was realized and multiple dwelling phases until the Islamic period were recognized at Burj Beitin. The valley on the southern side of the village was found to be a necropolis where more than 60 graves were detected. From 2013, archaeological excavations started at the necropolis and Burj Beitin. Graves from c. 2,000 BC (Middle Bronze Age I period) and 1st century AD (Roman Period) were found at the necropolis. A large Christian facility which has a delicately made gate with curved ashlar stones and mosaic floors was unearthed together with residential remains from the Mamluk period at Burj Beitin.

## Beitin as Resources for Tourism

### Expected Results of the Excavations

This project has just begun, but on-going excavations will shed light on the nature of the ancient site of "Bethel." Clarification of the character of Patriarch Jacob's holy place and the shrine of the northern kingdom of Israel will be particularly important. It is also meaningful to understand how the pilgrimage sites commemorating these events developed and to find out the changes brought to the region after the Muslim invasion. Tombs from different periods will provide hints for appreciating the nature of respective societies.

### Towards the Development of Beitin's Resources for Tourism

Based on the results of archaeological excavations, the project also aims to help making the sites in the village of Beitin into an archaeological park. In fiscal 2013, a three-party committee for tourism development was established among the Palestinian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Beitin village office, and Keio University, welcoming the minister of the Palestinian Authority's Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities. The committee will build tourism strategies such as preparing pamphlets of the site, installing guideboards, developing walking trails, and establishing a visitor center using a historic architecture in the center of the town. The project also conducts awareness-raising activities among the local community, such as having elementary school children to participate in archaeological excavations as a part of their school lessons and creating pamphlets in which the locals appear, because they need to have proper appreciation of the site in order to maintain and manage the archaeological park after its establishment.

(David T. SUGIMOTO, Faculty of Letters, Keio University)



A tower at Burj Beitin



Scene of surface survey at Tell Beitin



Examples of rock cut tombs scattered throughout Wadi Tawaheen



Gate at Burj Beitin



Excavation members lined up in front of an old building in the center of the village

## Survey of Tazumal archaeological park and development of young researchers



A pyramid at Tazumal archaeological park

### Pyramids that symbolize national identity

#### Archaeological site of Tazumal in Chalchuapa

Chalchuapa is home to the oldest archaeological sites in El Salvador, and is composed of a number of sites, such as Tazumal, El Trapiche, and Casa Blanca. People began living in Chalchuapa in the early Preclassic period and built the largest pyramid structure in El Trapiche during the Middle Preclassic period. Thereafter, the town center was moved to Casa Blanca in the late Preclassic period, and then to Tazumal in the early Classic period. Tazumal flourished as the center of Chalchuapa until the Spanish conquest, but its people have continued to live in Tazumal during and after the period of Spanish rule. The main pyramid in Tazumal was depicted on a large denomination note (100 colón) before the colón was substituted by the U.S. dollar. Today, it is featured as the background image on ID cards, and symbolizes the identity of the people of El Salvador. The Tazumal site has been made into a national archaeological park.

#### Archaeology in El Salvador

When we visited El Salvador for the first time in the 1990s on a survey tour, there were no archaeologists who graduated from a university in El Salvador, largely because no universities in the country offered a major in archaeology, and students who wished to study archaeology went to a foreign university. Given this situation, a major in archaeology was offered for the first time in the country at Universidad de San Jorge. In 1997, it undertook the role of providing practical training in archaeology and other relevant courses in an archaeological survey that was implemented by Kyoto University of Foreign Studies with funding from the Grant-in-aid for Scientific Research. Later, however, the five archaeology majors at Universidad de San Jorge transferred to Universidad Tecnológica de El Salvador (UTEC).



Salvadoran and Japanese students who participated in the archaeological survey at Tazumal



Researchers from the Department of Archaeology and students engaging in conservation and restoration activities in Tazumal archaeological park



# Exploration of Southeastern Mesoamerica with young researchers

## Archaeological surveys in El Salvador by Japanese researchers

Kyoto University of Foreign Studies conducted an archaeological survey in Casa Blanca from 1997 to 2000, with a focus mainly on the study of the spreading of the Teotihuacan civilization, considered the largest urban civilization in Mesoamerica. However, much remained unknown about the history of El Salvador, located at the southeastern end of Mesoamerica. For example, questions regarding the origination of royal power and the physical scope of Mesoamerica remained unanswered. To clarify these questions, Nagoya University launched a survey at the archaeological site of Casa Blanca in Chalchuapa in 2000. The survey expanded into Tazumal archaeological park in 2004 and is still ongoing. With the participation of students from Nagoya University and Universidad Tecnológica de El Salvador and researchers from the Department of Archaeology in Dirección Nacional de Patrimonio Cultural, the excavation survey is being continued with the hope of clarifying the development history of pyramids in El Salvador.

## Development of young researchers

The development of local young researchers was one of the objectives of the archaeological survey implemented by Kyoto University of Foreign Studies. The efforts made in the survey and the cooperation of Japanese researcher employed by governmental research institutions in El Salvador produced the first five archaeologists in the country. Inheriting this tradition, Nagoya University accepts students from Universidad Tecnológica de El Salvador and provides practical training through the implementation of surveys, with the aim of training Salvadoran students and developing young researchers. We also encourage the participation of Nagoya University students toward establishing long-term international academic exchanges.

## Toward the implementation of archaeological surveys and cultural property restoration and conservation by the people of El Salvador

### Conservation and restoration activities by Salvadoran researchers

Diverse buildings and artifacts of academic significance were found in the archaeological survey conducted at Tazumal archaeological park. At the same time, efforts were made to allow Salvadoran researchers to conserve and restore cultural properties by themselves. In 2012, the conservation and restoration of a pyramid structure was undertaken for the first time by Salvadoran researchers from the Department of Archaeology in Dirección Nacional de Patrimonio Cultural at the Tazumal and Casa Blanca archaeological parks, with the participation of a large number of students from the architectural department at Universidad de El Salvador (UES). The project ran for several weeks, and represented the first joint undertaking for cultural property protection by researchers and students in El Salvador. We hope to continue providing our help to support local efforts for the protection of cultural properties.

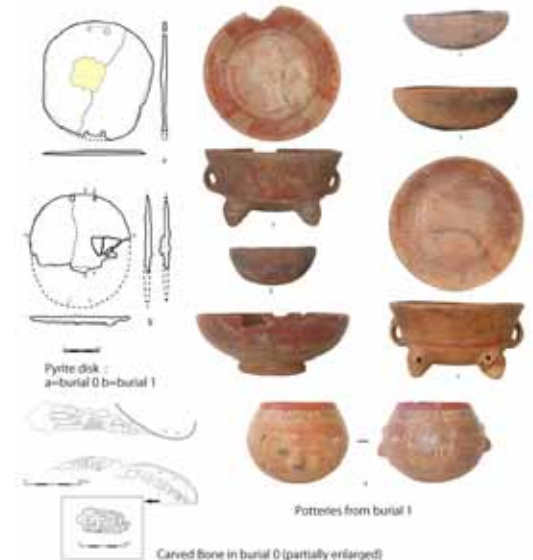
### Regional development of Chalchuapa city

In 2012, a joint survey started in El Trapiche, an archaeological site that displays an older culture than Tazumal, mainly by the initiative of the Department of Archaeology in Dirección Nacional de Patrimonio Cultural. As the El Trapiche site is located in a private estate (San Antonio coffee plantation), the survey is being conducted with permission from the landowner. The landowner is a member of the Chalchuapa tourism association NGO, and is involved in planning the development of Chalchuapa city through tourism. Preparations are also being made to create an exhibition room in the plantation, to be open to the public. Additionally, we are hoping to establish a tourist route through Chalchuapa's cultural heritage by connecting the two national archaeological parks in Chalchuapa (Tazumal archaeological park and Casa Blanca archaeological park) and also by organically connecting the private land in El Trapiche. In such ways, we are considering extending our cooperation to contribute to the implementation of archaeological surveys and to positive movements regarding culture.

(Nobuyuki ITO, Nagoya University Graduate School of Letters)



A turquoise and jade necklace found in burial 0 (estimated restoration)



Offerings found in burials 0 and 1 that were found in the "buried main temple"



Offerings found on the southern side of a pyramid



Salvadoran and Japanese students performing an underground radar probe in El Trapiche

## Country Assistance Study in the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka



Meeting at Ministry of National Heritage in Sri Lanka

### A glittering country's cultural heritage

Sri Lanka's six World Cultural Heritage Sites are historical testimonies to the development of the country over many centuries under the strong influence of its neighboring states.

Sri Lanka flourished as a Buddhist country since around the 3rd century B.C., then the historical propagation of religions such as Hinduism, Islam and Christianity as a result of cultural exchanges with such neighboring countries as India, Southeast Asia, Arabia and Rome, built a culturally diverse, unique society that is now home to diverse ethnic groups and religions. Moreover, such blending and harmony of different cultures produced a cultural heritage unique to the island country, and nurtured tangible heritage such as architectures, sculptures, paintings, crafts and literature, and intangible heritage such as religious ceremonies. Rich cultural heritage, mainly represented by Buddhist monuments, is actively protected by the state and are also utilized as valuable resources for tourism.

Sri Lanka experienced the European colonial rule from the 16th century, war for independence in the 20th century, and a period of ethnic conflict after the independence. The ethnic conflict continued for 25 years until it ended in 2009, leaving devastating scars throughout the country, particularly in the northeastern region. Cultural properties in the area of the country were left abandoned without proper protection or management, and suffered tremendous damage.

The civil war also took a drastic toll on tourism, which is Sri Lanka's principal industry. Thus, from the perspective of economic cooperation, Japan has also been economically supporting the promotion of tourism centered on the development of a museum at the World Heritage Site of the Ancient City of Sigiriya. However, as the security situation in the northern part of the country has remained volatile even with the end of the war, the area was inaccessible until recently.



Archaeological site in Thiriyai



Ancient city of Sigiriya, the world heritage site



# Cultural heritage in danger due to the civil war and development

Northern and eastern Sri Lanka were incapable of access for more than 25 years because of the civil war, which led to scarce survey and research of cultural heritage in the region. Reflecting on such situation, the necessity to investigate the cultural properties within the region is starting to be heard. In specific, information related to listing the remaining cultural properties, the impact of the civil war on the heritage, as well as the possible assistance for the preservation and utilization of cultural properties were needed. Hearing surveys to the professionals of cultural heritage in Sri Lanka were done in Japan before the onsite investigation but updated information regarding the area was scarce. The targeted area is only recently accessible after demining efforts have been effective enough for civilians to also enter the region. The governmental officials of Sri Lanka also lacked information regarding the northern region of Sri Lanka. Considering such current state of Sri Lanka, the Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage has sent a research mission to grasp and examine current situation of cultural heritage in the northern and eastern regions of Sri Lanka.

The recent mission was conducted in the area around Jaffna, as it could be considered the center of the northern region. Jaffna is currently experiencing a surge of economic development and the damaged buildings due to the civil war are razed. Simultaneously, we were informed that historical buildings and other such cultural properties are facing the danger of being destroyed without any plans for their examination or protection. The recent survey was conducted with the cooperation of the Sri Lankan Department of Archaeology, and the status of protection of cultural properties was examined based on a list of known properties prepared by the Bureau. A visit was also made to a museum managed by the Bureau, to study the state of protection and display of artifacts excavated from archaeological sites.

## Towards the utilization of cultural heritage for peace and stability

Result of the mission showed that Buddhist monuments dating from years before Christ and cultural properties of various eras up to the colonial period exist even in regions affected by civil war, and are mostly in critical state. In order to protect and remain such cultural heritage for the posterity, it could be necessary to accurately grasp of the situation through further detailed surveys. Given the fact that there are many monuments that remain unaccounted for even by the Sri Lankan government, urgent response is sought against the rapid tide of development. As the removal of land mines is expected to advance hereafter and widen the scope of areas that could be surveyed, there are many areas where Japanese experts could cooperate in large part by conducting detailed surveys of buildings and monuments.

The efforts of local residents are indispensable to cultural heritage protection, and it is necessary for local residents to gain an accurate understanding of the value of their cultural heritage. As matters stand, it is difficult for local residents to identify the dilapidated historical buildings that are found throughout their towns as cultural properties, since there are no information boards attached to them that describe their significance and are thus considered trivial. Accurately educating local communities of values of such properties and providing a ground for them to be incorporated in the active protection of cultural properties are urgent matters.

In post-conflict countries, museums play an important role in the education of the country's history to create peace – Sri Lanka also has its potential to utilize the opportunity in the post-civil war status. Jaffna Museum was protected by the efforts of local residents during the civil war. Thus, developing the museum hereafter and utilizing it for the purpose of introducing the multicultural history of northern Sri Lanka, is also considered an important issue for the future.

Despite the civil war that continued for many years, universities and other educational institutions in Jaffna have maintained a high level of education and have also produced talents in cultural heritage protection. Japan's expertise could also play a part in the development of such human resources in Sri Lanka.

It has not been long since the civil war that lasted over a quarter of a century came to an end. To prevent similar conflicts from ever occurring again, large expectations are placed on future cooperation for peace through cultural heritage protection, all the more because Sri Lanka is rich with culture.

(Tomomi HARAMOTO, Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage)



Jaffna old Kachcheri Building damaged due to conflict



Deserted historical building in Jaffna



Ongoing clearance of landmine on the way to the northern province



Meeting at University of Jaffna



Staffs at Jaffna Museum

# International cooperation and training at the National Museum of Ethnology and Lake Biwa Museum

JICA group and region-focused “Comprehensive Museology”



National Museum of Ethnology



Lake Biwa Museum (Shiga prefecture)

## Background of implementing the “Comprehensive Museology Course”

Human resource development for museums in developing countries and regions

In many developing countries and regions, the culture and natural heritage of the country/region are gradually being lost without proper protection, due to top priorities being placed on development and economic growth. Under such a situation, museums play an important role in establishing national and ethnic identity by collecting, conserving and displaying cultural heritage, and introducing the region's culture to the world. It is also a fact that museums contribute to regional economic growth as a cornerstone of tourism promotion. Moreover, they serve as educational facilities and centers of post-war or post-disaster reconstruction. Nevertheless, few institutions in the world provided comprehensive training in the theory and practice of museology.

### Predecessors of the “Comprehensive Museology Course”

The National Museum of Ethnology, along with Lake Biwa Museum, plans, operates and supervises a museology course as a three-year project that began in fiscal 2012 under commission by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). It is a course that provides practical skills specifically to manage museum operations. Compared to the predecessor course, “Intensive Course on Museology” (FY2004 – 2011), it is more strongly linked to tourism-related programs from multiple countries. Prior to these courses, a “Museum Management Technology (Collection, Conservation, Exhibition) Course” was offered from fiscal 1994 to 2003 mainly by the National Museum of Ethnology under the sponsorship of JICA, with the aim of developing leaders in museum management and operations who can contribute to promoting tourism and creating a foundation for education and culture from a broad perspective.



Participants of the fiscal 2013 JICA museology course



# Overview of the “Comprehensive Museology Course”

## Course objective and eligibility

The museology course aims to provide practical skills that are necessary for museum operations, including acquisition, documentation, conservation, exhibition planning and museum education, and to develop personnel who can actively contribute to cultural promotion in developing countries through museums. Eligible participants are experts of museum activities who have more than three years' practical experience in acquisition, documentation, conservation, exhibition planning, museum education and other related fields, and who have received government nomination of their country. The positions are open for university graduates or those who have equivalent academic qualification, and are over 25 and under 46 years of age, in principle. Proficiency in English conversation, reading and writing is also a requirement. Fiscal 2013 participants included ten members from Armenia, Ecuador, Egypt, Guatemala, Palestine, Peru and Myanmar.

## Training program

The course consists of a General Program (approx. 10 weeks) composed of lectures, practical training and study tour related to museum activities as a whole, and a Specialized Program (3 weeks) in which a different theme is selected every week. Selected themes for fiscal 2013 were “Preventive preservation,” “Exhibition design,” and “photography” for the first week, “Conservation and restoration of the objects,” “Museums and local communities,” and “Filming” for the second week, and “Excavating and controlling archaeological resources,” “Management of a local history museum,” and “Documentation and databases” for the third week. Participants have an opportunity to give a presentation on museum situations in their own country (Museum Report, Public Forum) or their areas of specialty (Specialty Report), and are expected to engage in mutual interaction through discussions.



Practical module of the General Program (Lake Biwa Museum, fiscal 2013)



Public Forum “Museums in the World 2013” (National Museum of Ethnology, 25 May 2013)

## New developments in international cooperation and training

### International network

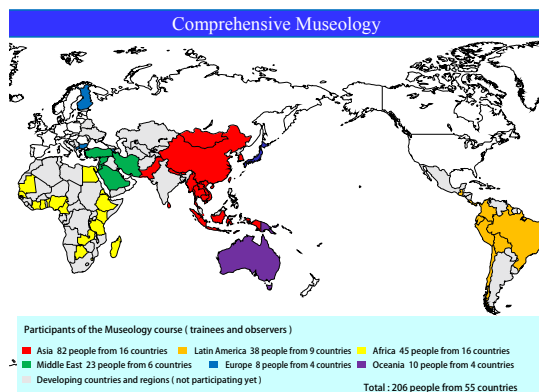
National Museum of Ethnology has more than 60 researchers who conduct field surveys throughout the world. Through these researchers, the museum has accumulated a wealth of research and information in various countries and regions, and provides an environment conducive to building sustainable cooperative relationships. Over a period of 20 years from 1994, museology-related courses offered by the museum have developed an international network of some 206 participants and observers in 55 countries. Among these countries, domestic networks created by past participants have also emerged, of which some of those play a central leadership positions in museology and museum activities in their countries. Through mutual cooperation among museums, a foundation is gradually emerging for promoting international exchanges and new developments.

### “New Horizons in Asian Museums and Museology”

As a new international network initiative, National Museum of Ethnology is implementing a project on “New Horizons in Asian Museums and Museology” (funded by the Japan Society for Promotion of Science (JSPS); Core-to-core Program B: Asia Africa Science Platform) under a three-year plan from fiscal 2012. The project pursues educational research on museology in Thailand, Myanmar and Mongolia with the cooperation of past participants and experts who play a central role in museum activities in their countries. It aims to create new museology and museum research befitting Asia's cultural and social background and establish a foundation for voluntary and sustainable museum activities and human resource development in these countries. A joint workshop and public seminar have been held in Mongolia in fiscal 2012 and in Myanmar in September 2013.



Presentation of Specialty Report and discussion (National Museum of Ethnology, fiscal 2013)



Participants of the Museology course (1994 to 2013)

(Naoko SONODA, National Museum of Ethnology)

## Project List



Survey and conservation of the Western Prasat Top Site, Cambodia



Support for development of a legal framework for cultural heritage in Bhutan



Networking Core Centers for International Cooperation on Conservation of Cultural Heritage Project

"Training Workshop for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Central Asia", Kyrgyz Republic



Workshop on textile conservation at the History Museum of Armenia



Archaeological Excavations and Development of Resources for Tourism at Beitin (Bethel), Palestine



Survey of Tazumal archaeological park and development of young researchers, El Salvador



Country Assistance Study in the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka



International cooperation and training at the National Museum of Ethnology and Lake Biwa Museum

JICA group and region-focused "Comprehensive Museology"

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