

The Annual Conference of ICMAH (International Committee for Museums and Collections of Archaeology and History) will be held in **Kyoto, Japan, on October 2nd-4th, 2018**. The subject of this year is;

RECONSIDERING MUSEUMS VERSUS CONTEMPORARY ARCHAEOLOGY

PRESENTATION OF THE THEME

ICMAH being one of the oldest committees in ICOM, is also inclusive of the largest theme in museums by its professionalism on archaeology and history. Keeping the memory of all times and all traditions, archaeology and history museums and their collections are always missioned to transmit the knowledge of the humanity for future generations since centuries.

During this year's annual conference, ICMAH would like to examine anew the role of archaeological and historical museums in contemporary archaeology. In any country, a lot of museums used to be the center of archaeological activities and studies, and many are still.

However, the traditional relations between museums and archaeology changes with the practice of preventive - salvage (or contract) archaeology and other archaeological research practices that increase and disperse in number. The diversity of archaeological organizations modifies also the access to the resources and the data in the same region. In these circumstances a number of collections are commonly exhibited outside museums nowadays. On the other hand, the public has still the perception that the place to keep and to research of archaeological objects, findings and collections is a museum.

How should we consider this gap? How can we keep our museums active, updated and attractive as a 'hub' in contemporary archaeology? How should museums and associated organization work together with the local community to provide rich archaeology and history consciousness? This inclusiveness of theme proposes also a very wide evaluation of the museums as a 'cultural hub' in their location. The essential approach is to open visions on the missions of archaeology and history museums to serve to their communities in the future.

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SESSIONS

1st session - Archaeology, Collections and Research

How should and/or can museums be involved with preventive (or salvage, or contract) archaeology, enrich and research their collections under the constraints of time, money and resources?

How museums cope with the fragmentation of collections and data, and manage to integrate them as 'valuable' collections as to represent a 'hub' of archaeology in the region? How do they relate to other institutions (universities, academic institutions, archaeological units and etc.) in this matter? What challenges do they encounter when they make data accessible to the public as well as experts? Or salvage archaeology and associated discoveries do not necessarily matter if the museum can secure resources for their collections in other ways?

2nd session - The exhibitions matter

The exhibition techniques in museums are using new approaches for better understanding. What are the challenges and benefits of integrating technologies into history and archaeology museums? How do archaeology and history museums' networks (or using social networks) value the sites and collections for the need of a wide audience (thematic, virtual, Red lists and etc)?

3rd session - The Mediation options

Museums are missioned to serve as an education milieu for the communities: what are the relations of museums with their communities? How museums through their collections offer debates and participation to the communities? Do archaeology and history museums constitute today an efficient 'cultural hub' for their locations?

4th session - Discussion about the concept of cultural hubs in archaeology horizons:

This particular session of our annual conference will be on exposing the viewpoints about the concept of 'cultural hubs' in relation with archaeology and history museums. What is a cultural hub? What was it in the past, what is the perception of today and what are the visions for future? The case studies on specific aspects of archaeology and history museums will be welcomed. At the end of this session a common round table will be organized with participants of this session to prepare a general evaluation on the subject from the point of view of history and archaeology thematic. This session's presentations will also be in the paper format.

PROGRAM

Being aware of the dense program of ICOM tri-annual meeting the annual conference of ICMAH will be held in three afternoons during 3 days after plenary sessions.

2nd of September - Archaeology, Collections and Research

3rd of September – The exhibitions matter / The mediation options

4th of September – The discussion / Elections of the board

5th of September – Off-site meeting

OFF-SITE MEETING

ICMAH Off-site Meeting will take place in Osaka (Museum of History and Osaka Castle) for 50 persons maximum, on inscription.

The participation to the off-site meeting is free of charge; you are invited by ICMAH. A registration is needed to fix the number of participants. The priority is to the ICMAH members.

Osaka Museum of History opened in 2001 is a History Museum with archaeological remains (6th century) of the ancient Palaces on which it is built; the 10th floor of the Museum is dedicated to the rebuilt Naniwa Palace. It is devoted to the urbanization of the city since the earliest to modern times.

Osaka Castle (at 20 minutes walking from the Museum) is one of the most famous castles of Japan. It played a major role in Japan Unification in 16th century, during one of the last rebellions against the Tokugawa.

The pre-program is the following:

Thursday 5th September

9:00 AM: Departure from Kyoto (meeting point to precise later) to Osaka Museum by bus (bus of 50 persons maximum)

11:00 AM: Arrival to Osaka Museum

11:00 AM to 1.00 PM:

- Welcoming from the Director of the Museum, Archaeologist,
- Presentation of the Museum collections and History, (20 minutes)
- Guided tour of the Museum with the museum curators (1 hour)
- Meeting with our colleagues, questions and exchanges (40 minutes)

1:00 to 3:00 PM: Lunch (Japanese lunch box) and free time in Osaka

3:00 to 5:00 PM: Guided visit to Osaka Castle and Castle Museum

6:00 PM: Departure to Kyoto by the same bus

8:00 PM: Arrival to Kyoto, end of the visit.

PARTICIPATION INFORMATION

The language of the conference is **ENGLISH**. No translation will be available due to the budget concerns.

The participation to the ICMAH's annual conference is free of charge. The travel and accommodation expenses of participants could not be taken in charge by ICMAH.

All presentations will take place in the online publication which will be published on ICMAH's official web site.

A registration is required for participation to the conference and especially to the off-site meeting

For further information and details about the conference please visit our web site <http://network.icom.museum/icmah> and download the conference booklet <http://network.icom.museum/icmah/events/coming-conference/>

You may also follow our news in [fb.me/ICOMICMAH](https://www.facebook.com/ICOMICMAH)

PAPER PROPOSAL AND REGISTRATION

The timetable of proposal sending and registration is:

31st of March 2019 – deadline for paper proposals

If you send your paper proposal before, it will be evaluated the answer will be given within 10 days maximum to let you prepare your travel.

1st of July 2019 – deadline for registration for the conference and for the off-site meeting

PAPER PROPOSITION FORM

Personal information

Name:

Surname:

Country:

Organization:

E-mail:

Phone number:

Address:

Session:

Abstract: 200 words max.

Please submit the document to icmahsecretary@gmail.com **before 31st of March 2019**

REGISTRATION FORM

Personal information

Name:

Surname:

Country:

Organization:

E-mail:

Phone number:

Address:

Registration information

Dates of journey:

Accompanying person information:

Questions about travel (if you desire more information):

***Off-site meeting participation: Yes / No

Please submit the document to icmahsecretary@gmail.com **before 1st of July 2019**