

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

The Future of Bamiyan



Date: September 30 (Sat.), 2017 13:00~17:30
(Doors Open: 12:00)

Venue: 6th Hall, 4th Building, Faculty of Music, Tokyo University of the Arts

Organizers: The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, UNESCO, Tokyo University of the Arts
Endorsement: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan, Agency for Cultural Affairs, Japan, Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage, United Nations Information Centre, National Federation of UNESCO Associations in JAPAN, JAPAN ICOMOS National Committee
With the Support of: UNESCO/Japanese Funds-in-Trust for the Preservation of World Cultural Heritage (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan), Foundation for Cultural Heritage and Art Research



*Japanese-English Simultaneous Interpreting
*Registration Fee Free. Seating Capacity: 200 persons
*On-line Registration: <https://bamiyanfuture.com/apply-1-1/>

*A lottery may be held if there are more applicants than spaces available.
*Official website: <https://bamiyanfuture.com/>



Background

In 2001, two giant Buddha statues in Bamiyan, Afghanistan was destroyed, causing massive global public outcry and condemnation. Furthermore, the growing number of acts of intentional destruction of cultural heritage in the Middle East inspires a discussion on the feasibility of revitalization for seriously damaged cultural heritage in conflict and non-conflict situations. During the 40th World Heritage Committee in 2016 in Istanbul, Turkey, the Government of Afghanistan has also requested that at least one of the Buddha statues is reconstructed.

However, the reconstruction of destroyed monuments remains a contentious and polarising subject among heritage practitioners. Is the reconstruction of cultural heritage based on historical evidence? What sort of ethical norms should be applied to the reconstruction? How dose local community accept the reconstruction? A variety of considerations would be associated with the acts of the reconstruction of cultural heritage.

This symposium provides a platform for the arguments about the site of Bamiyan, Great Buddhas and Afghanistan, considering the results of a scientific technical meeting of The Future of the Bamiyan Buddha Statues: Technical Considerations and Potential Effects on Authenticity and Outstanding Universal Value that will be held at Tokyo University of the Arts from 27th to 29th September, 2017. The revitalization plans of the Eastern Buddha proposed at the technical meeting will also be demonstrated at the symposium.

Contact

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PROGRAM

Opening Session

13:00-13:30

Tokyo University of Arts, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan, Agency for Cultural Affairs, Japan, Ministry of Information and Culture, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, UNESCO

First Session

13:30-14:30 《Key-note Lecture》

Preserving Afghanistan's Cultural Heritage in the past 50 years

Kosaku Maeda, Visiting Professor,
Tokyo University of the Arts

14:30-14:40 《Coffee Break》



Second Session

14:40-15:00

Recent discussions of the revitalization of the Bamiyan Buddha niches in the recent World Heritage Committee sessions and a summary of a Scientific Technical meeting of the Eastern Bamiyan Buddha Statue on 27-29 September, 2017

Masanori Nagaoka, Chief of Culture Unit, UNESCO Kabul Office

15:00-15:20

Government position on the potential reconstruction of the Eastern Buddha statue

Mohammad Rasoul Bawary, Acting Minister, Ministry of Information and Culture, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

15:20-15:30 《Coffee Break》

15:30-17:30

《Panel Discussion》

The Future of the Bamiyan Statues

[Moderator] Kazuya Yamauchi, Professor, Teikyo University

[Panelists] Tahir Zuhair, Governor of Bamiyan

Deborah Klimburg-Salter, Emeritus Professor, the University of Vienna

Michael Petzet, Honorary President of ICOMOS

Michael Jansen, Professor, GUTech University of Technology

