



ACCU NARA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CULTURAL HERITAGE 2024

# World Cultural Heritage and Authenticity



**FREE ADMISSION**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

**SIMULTANEOUS  
INTERPRETATION JPN-ENG**

2024

**18 Dec - 19 Dec**

**10:00 ~ 17:00**

**9:30 ~ 17:00**

**VENUE** Nara Prefectural Convention Center

**SEAT CAPACITY** 30 persons per day (No limit for Online simultaneous distribution)

**ORGANISERS:** Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan (Bunkacho); Cultural Heritage Protection Cooperation Office, Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU Nara); World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO (WHITRAP Shanghai)

**COLLABORATORS:** International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM); National Research Institute for Cultural Properties (Tokyo and Nara); the Institute of Disaster Mitigation for Urban Cultural Heritage at Ritsumeikan University; the Nara Prefectural Government; Nara City

**SUPPORTER:** Japan Consortium for International Cooperation Cultural Heritage



World Heritage Institute of Training and Research  
for the Asia and the Pacific Region  
under the Auspices of UNESCO



# World Cultural Heritage and Authenticity

In 1994, the *Nara Conference on Authenticity in Relation to the World Heritage Convention* (hereafter Nara Conference) was held, marking its 30th anniversary this year. The *Nara Document on Authenticity*, adopted during the conference, continues to significantly influence the field of cultural heritage protection three decades later. However, it has also given rise to various interpretations across different countries. Therefore, it is necessary for World Heritage practice to reconsider the meaning of 'authenticity' as understood in the Nara Document. In response to this, the conference aims to clarify the original intentions and objectives of the creators of the Nara Document, and to provide a platform for participants to share insights on what has been accomplished and what challenges remain.

Authenticity, discussed as the "essential qualifying factor concerning values" in the Nara Document, was intended to serve as a tool for value assessment in World Heritage practices. However, specific guidelines for its implementation

remain unclear, hindering the fulfilment of its original purpose.

The first day of the conference aims to clarify the original intentions and objectives of the creators of the Nara Document. The second day will focus on the restoration and reconstruction of National Treasure-class historic sites and buildings during post-disaster recovery. The focus on cultural heritage classified as national treasures lies in the fact that, during the processes of restoration and reconstruction, it becomes evident what each country considers to be the "most important value" of its cultural heritage. This situation enables us to assess value from various perspectives, allowing for a broad discussion about "authenticity."

Through this discussion, we hope to effectively share the extensive knowledge and examples from Japan, a country frequently affected by disasters, while also providing an opportunity to exchange thoughts on the actual situation relating to the "theory" and "practice" in different countries.

## PROGRAMME

\*Programmes may be subject to change without notice.

### 18 December (Part 1)

#### EXAMINING THE ISSUES OF AUTHENTICITY IN WORLD HERITAGE PRACTICE

- 10:00 Opening Remarks by Organisers and Supporting Organisations  
 10:20 Introduction of Guests and Participants  
 10:30 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS** \*Online lecture  
**Christina CAMERON**  
*(Emeritus Professor, University of Montral, Canada)*  
 11:15 **PRESENTATION I**  
**Gamini WIJESURIYA**  
*(Special Advisor to the Director General, ICCROM)*  
 11:55 Break  
 13:20 **PRESENTATION II**  
**Kristal BUCKLEY**  
*(Emeritus Professor, Deakin University and former Vice-President, ICOMOS)*  
 14:00 **PRESENTATION III**  
**Rohit JIGYASU** *(Programme Manager, Sustainable Urban and Built Heritage Conservation, Disaster and Climate Risk Management and Post-Crisis Recovery, ICCROM)*  
 14:40 **WRAP-UP OF PART 1**  
**INABA Nobuko** *(Emeritus Professor, University of Tsukuba)*  
 15:00 Break

#### 15:30 PANEL DISCUSSION [PART 1]

[MODERATOR] INABA Nobuko [RAPPORTEUR] Rohit JIGYASU  
 [COMMENTATORS]  
 NISHI Kazuhiko  
*(Chief Senior Specialist for Cultural Properties, Office for International Cooperation on Cultural Heritages, Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan)*  
 SHAO Yong *(Professor, Tongji University, and Director, WHITRAP Shanghai, UNESCO Category 2 Centre)*  
 EJIMA Yusuke *(Programme Manager, Programmes Unit, ICCROM)*  
 KANAI Ken *(Head, Resource and Systems Research Section, Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties)*  
 Alejandro MARTINEZ *(Associate Professor, Kyoto Institute of Technology)*  
 UENO Kunikazu *(Emeritus Professor, Nara Women's University)*  
 NAITO-AKIEDA Yumi Isabelle *(Member (Former Board Member), ICOMOS Japan)*  
 and All Presenters

17:00 End of Part 1

### 19 December (Part 2)

#### EXAMINING THE CHALLENGES OF AUTHENTICITY IN THE POST-DISASTER RECOVERY PROCESS

- 9:30 Opening Remarks  
 9:40 **PRESENTATION IV - JAPAN**  
**MOTONAKA Makoto**  
*(Director General, Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties)*  
 10:20 **PRESENTATION V - FRANCE**  
**Eric PALLOT**  
*(Chief Architect of Historic Monuments and President, ICOMOS France)*  
 11:00 **PRESENTATION VI - CHINA**  
**KOU Huaiyun**  
*(Associate Professor, Tongji University, WHITRAP Shanghai)*  
 11:40 Break  
 13:00 **PRESENTATION VII - NEW ZEALAND** \*Online lecture  
**Amanda OHS**  
*(Senior Heritage Advisor, Heritage Team, Christchurch City Council)*  
 13:40 **PRESENTATION VIII - KOREA** \*Online lecture  
**JO Sangsun**  
*(Director, Jungwon National Research Institute of Cultural Heritage)*  
 14:40 **WRAP-UP OF PART 2**  
**INABA Nobuko** *(Emeritus Professor, University of Tsukuba)*

#### 15:30 PANEL DISCUSSION [PART 2]

[MODERATOR] INABA Nobuko [RAPPORTEUR] Rohit JIGYASU  
 [COMMENTATORS] All Commentators and Presenters

- 16:50 Closing Remarks  
**MORIMOTO Susumu** *(Director, ACCU Nara)*  
 17:00 Conclusion of the Conference

**VENUE**  
 Nara Prefectural Convention Center  
 Address: 1-691-1, Sanjo-ji-cho, Nara-city, Nara,  
 630-8013, Japan

## REGISTRATION



Please apply via the QR code listed on the left or ACCU Nara website.

\*For on-site venue, registration will close when capacity is reached.

\*Pre-registration is required for both on-site and online participation.

ACCU NARA WEBSITE <https://www.nara.accu.or.jp/english/>

### REGISTRATION CLOSING DATE

**Sunday, 15 December**

## INQUIRY

Cultural Heritage Protection Cooperation Office,  
 Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU Nara)  
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