



Journalist Salon – a Good Learning Opportunity

Last Thursday afternoon, The Beijing Cultural Heritage Protection Center received a group of special guests – more than 20 journalists from the media field, including editor journalists from national level medias such as *CCTV (China Central Television)* and *China National Radio*, from mainstream medias such as *Guangming Daily*, *China Culture Daily*, *Beijing Youth Daily*, *The Economic Observer*, *Southern Weekly*, *Wen Hui Bao*, *China Daily*, and *The First*, as well as editors and strategy planners from such cultural heritage protection related medias as *Chinese National Geography*, *China Cultural Heritage*, *Chinese Heritage*, and *World Heritage Magazine*.

INTERNEWS and the Beijing Cultural Heritage Protection Center (CHP) co-sponsored this well-organized Journalist Salon for these media friends. The theme of the salon was citizen society; aiming to provide a more effective communication channel for our media friends in order to allow for a better understanding on how NGOs in China's cultural heritage protection field work. To that end, we also invited friends from Memory of China and Tufeng Project, so that together we could introduce our work in the cultural heritage protection area from different angles. A written transcript of speeches given by Memory of China, Tufeng Project and CHP is available for [download](#).

Following the introduction of the three organizations, some of the media friends shared their thoughts and opinions regarding the related topics. Based on the questions raised by these media friends during the event and the answers from the completed questionnaires, the media's interest in cultural heritage protection work is much stronger than previously expected. Below, we selected two representative Q&A sections from the questionnaires.

Question: What are the main challenges you meet in reporting issues on the cultural heritage protection problem?

Answer: Half of the respondents answered that the "challenge of knowledge" was their main problem, while a considerable amount of respondents emphasized the lack of deep analysis when working on the subject of cultural heritage protection. Additionally, lack of familiarity with the "laws and regulations" in cultural heritage protection area, as well as the related "management system" were considered to be a major problem.

Question: What do you expect to gain and benefit from attending similar journalist salons in the future?

Answer: While all respondents agreed that to be up-to-date in the cultural heritage protection field and to know more insiders in the field would be the most beneficial, we think it's more worthwhile to discuss an improved reporting method mentioned by two of the journalists in attendance. One of these journalists pointed out that in the future he/she hopes to have more opportunities to "analyze the misunderstandings and mistakes in existing reports, in favor of writing more constructive reports". This may be one of our focuses in future journalist salon activities.

Admittedly, regarding the organizational work of this event, there are things we need to improve. However, we take it as a great beginning. Based on the feedbacks of our journalist friends, we hope to do better in the next journalist salon and keep on making great efforts to provide more accurate, timelier, and more transparent information on cultural heritage protection.

Beijing Cultural Heritage Protection Center

Announcements

New Website to Come

Dear friends of CHP, with the collaborative efforts of our volunteers, the design work of our new website is almost complete, so we can expect to see our new website soon!

The new website will greatly assist us in establishing an information center of cultural heritage protection in a variety of forms including related news and knowledge. Whether you want to know about the status quo of cultural heritage, or to express your own feelings and thoughts, you will always be able to find what you want from the new website!

We would like to show our most sincere appreciation to all of the friends who have made great efforts in building our new website!

Meanwhile, with the establishment of our new website, we have also increased our workload capacity in data collection, editing, and website maintenance. So we would like to recruit volunteers for assistance in these areas.

Below are the details:

Basic requirements: guarantee of agreed working hours, conscientious completion of work.

Deadline: February 17, 2008

Group	No. of Volunteers Needed	Job Description	Requirements	Estimated Workload
Literature Editing	Group leaders: 2 Group members: 4-6	Proofreading of scripts including submitted manuscript of volunteers, manuscript of lectures, etc.	Previous editing work experience, journalists are preferred.	20 hours/month
Data Collection	Group leaders: 1 Group members: 3-5	Newspaper clipping, collection of information	Regular reading of certain newspapers, or regular reading of on-line news	8 hours/month
BBS Moderator	Group leaders: 1 Group members: 3-5	Management and maintenance of BBS.	Familiar with BBS operation	Flexible
Activity Promotion	Group leaders: 1 Group members: 2-3	Announce CHP's activity information	Sufficient on-line time, familiar with information editing on BBS and Blog websites.	4 hours/month

Note: The group leaders' workload may increase within proper limits.

If you are interested, please register for different positions based on your situation. Concurrent posting is only available for BBS Moderator and Activity Promotion. Otherwise each person can only apply for one single group. Please send which group you are interested in applying for, your contact information, as well as the exact time/period you are available for the volunteer work to Mr. Yao at yaozhengang@bjchp.org.

Beijing Cultural Heritage Protection Center (CHP)

Media mobilization

Editor: CHP Intern – Jennifer Hinz

Note: CHP is not responsible for accuracy of any of the media reports listed below:

Buildings and their builders in Life Magazine

Posted by Joel Martinsen 2007-Nov-11 Source: Danwei.org

http://www.danwei.org/magazines/china_under_construction_life.php

Chinese Government Releases New List of Protected Buildings

By Jian Xubo 2007-Dec-21 Source: Beijing Today

<http://english.qianlong.com/article.jsp?oid=26404426>

Beijing's Modernization Minus Utopia

By Edwin Heathcote 2007-Dec-28 Source: Financial Times

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/12eec626-b4ed-11dc-990a-0000779fd2ac.html>

Renovation of a Beijing Hutong

By Chen Jia 2008-Jan-11 Source: China Daily

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2008-01/11/content_6386087.htm

Destruction of Qianmen Street in Preparation for Upcoming Olympics

By Rowan Callick 2008-Jan-15 Source: The Australian

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,23052059-28737,00.html>