

SICOT/SIROT 2008 XXIV Triennial World Congress

SICOT Pre-Congress Meeting in Xi'an, China

20-23 August 2008

Xi'AN: Places of historical interest

Xi'an was known as Chang'an from the Han Dynasty to the Ming Dynasty (2nd century B.C. – 14th century A.D.). It was one of China's six ancient cities and served as the capital for thirteen feudal dynasties, including the Zhou, Qin, Han, Sui and Tang, for more than 1,062 years. During the dynasties of Han and Tang, it was world famous for being the city where the Silk Road started. Strolling about Xi'an is like being in a natural Chinese history museum, which houses a complete array of historical sites from different historical periods.

Museum of Qin Terracotta Warriors & Horses

Emperor Qin Shihuang's Terracotta Warriors consist of 7,000 terracotta figures including horses, chariots, infantry and cavalry. The figures in the three pits are arrayed in a strategic battle formation with commanders facing east, as if they were ready to conquer the other six countries. The amazing and mysterious underground army of 2,000 years ago is attracting a continuous flow of visitors from both home and abroad.



The City Wall of Xi'an

The oblong-shaped city wall stands in the central urban area of Xi'an. It has a history of 600 years and is one of the largest, most solid and complete ancient city walls still existing in China. A moat, wide and deep, runs around the city wall, so the whole city is strongly fortified. Between 1374 and 1378 during the Ming Dynasty, the city wall was rebuilt to a larger size on the site of the palace wall of the Tang Dynasty.

Shaanxi History Museum

The Shaanxi History Museum is located south of Xi'an, 4km from the city. The museum was constructed over an area of 60,000m² to imitate the architectural style of the Tang Dynasty. It keeps varieties of unearthed relics that amount to 370,000 pieces. Quite a few are rich national treasures.

Scientific Programme (2008/08/21)

<i>Time</i>	<i>Issue</i>
08:30-08:35	Welcome speech
08:40-10:00	Section I, Spinal degenerative disorder
10:00-10:20	Coffee break
10:20-11:50	Section II, Joint surgery
11:50-12:00	End of symposium

The pre-congress meeting is focused on the spine and joint degenerative disease. Please submit the abstracts of scientific papers to wangzhe@fmmu.edu.cn or spine@fmmu.edu.cn with the registration form.

Agenda

2008/8/20

– Check-in and registration, at Shangri-La Golden Flower Hotel (five stars), Xi'an, China.

2008/8/21

08:30-12:00 – Scientific symposium at hotel (please see below).

14:00-18:30 – Half-day city tour, (City Wall of Xi'an, Shaanxi History Museum).

18:30-20:30 – Welcome banquet and night sightseeing at Tang paradise garden.

2008/8/22

08:00-09:00 – Visit to the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Xi'Jing Hospital, the fourth military medical university.

09:00-17:30 – Tour of the Museum of Qin Terracotta Warriors and Horses and the Huaqing hot spring.

18:00-21:00 – Banquet and Tang Dynasty music and dance show, at the Shaanxi grand opera house.

2008/8/23

– Check-out and departure for Xi'an XianYang International Airport.

Registration fees for participants include:

- Scientific session (half day).
- Room for 3 nights at Xi'an Shangri-La Golden Flower Hotel (five stars).
- Tour arrangement above (including transportation, entrance fee, guide).
- Banquets, two buffet lunches, and music and dance show fee.
- Transportation from and to the airport.

Fee deadlines

- Early fee (until and including 15 March 2008): EUR 550
 - Early fee for one participant and one accompanying person (double room): EUR 900
- Normal fee (between 16 March and 31 May 2008): EUR 600
 - Normal fee for one participant and one accompanying person (double room): EUR 950
- Late/on-site fee (after and including 1 June 2008): EUR 650
 - Late/on-site fee for one participant and one accompanying person (double room): EUR 1,000

Payment

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