

**Report**  
**ICOM Triennial Conference, Kyoto**  
**1-7. September 2019**

Dear DEMHIST Board:

I would like to start by expressing my gratitude for being selected by DEMHIST for the ICOM Young Professionals Travel Grant enabling my attendance and participation at the 2019 Kyoto ICOM Triennial Conference. It was a valuable opportunity to connect with the many professionals that I have come to know through my involvement with DEMHIST who also love house museums. I extend particular thanks to Elsa Rodrigues (DEMHIST Chair) and Remko Jansonius (DEMHIST Secretary) for their generous guidance and efforts, as well as to Mr. Mohit Tabatabaei (ICOM Iran chair) and Dr. Gholinejad Pirbazari (ICOM Iran Treasurer) for their support.

My connection to Historical house Museums and DEMHIST started with my experience in transforming the important Sarhang Iraj historic house into a leading and innovative center in the field of cultural heritage, handicrafts and tourism in the Middle East. After a year of professional restoration, the first innovation center of the Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Research Institute was opened. As we approach the second stage and prepare for the restoration of an additional part of Sarhang Iraj's historical house, I found attending this conference particularly timely and important. Meeting historical house professionals and hearing their stories, learning from their experience has given me important insights and motivation for the restoration of the second yard of the house, scheduled for completion by 2022. The panels presented at the conference and the experience of historic house professionals provided me with new ideas for the restoration of the second part of this historic house.

The many site visits gave me the opportunity to experience and understand how a non-Western country conceptualizes and operates house museums. These visits in Kyoto and Tokyo enabled me to understand more about how the country conceptualizes their museums, historic structures, and landscapes.

Upon my return, I shared with my colleagues the experiences I had gained from this conference in the many meetings I had at my workplace (Deputy of Technology and Pragmatics of the Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Research Institute).

As Hillary Walker, a fellow member of DEMHIST said in her presentation at the Kyoto conference: Although history is manufactured, by plotting the evolution of stories and traditions we learn about both the past and the present.

Sincerely,

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