

50th Anniversary of the Promulgation of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage

On 16 November 1972, the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage was adopted by the 17th General Conference of UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) held in Paris. The Convention has defined Cultural and Natural Heritage, and also standardized the protection measures at both national and international levels. Later, a World Heritage Committee was established in accordance with the Convention to regularly select cultural and natural heritage sites from countries and regions around the world as the “World Heritage Sites” that need to be protected, and inscribe them on the “World Heritage List”. As of the end of 2021, 1154 sites have been inscribed on the “World Heritage List” globally, including 56 sites in China.

World Heritage Sites are non-renewable common properties belonging to all mankind. Whether they are nature’s masterpieces or the outstanding creation of skilled craftsmen, they all convey human emotion and mental outlook, as well as wisdom and aesthetic pursuit. Meanwhile, they have witnessed the footprints of human beings through history and space. The rich world heritage sites in China, featured with their own outstanding and independent existence, have jointly manifested the grandeur and splendour of Chinese culture from different perspectives. At the same time, as a part of world civilization, they have demonstrated the historical tracks of material and spiritual creation by human beings.

The richness and universality of the World Heritage Sites have enlightened us: love and respect for local and national history and culture is inseparable from love and respect for foreign history and culture. Based on this, we will have a broader vision and a more ambitious goal for the protection, management, utilization, publicity, education and communication of world heritage sites.

On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Promulgation of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau has specially issued commemorative stamps to promote the spirit of the Convention.

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