



**PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE  
ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE  
CONVENTION**

**SECTION II**

**State of Conservation of specific World Heritage properties**

**State Party: JAPAN  
Property Name: Buddhist Monuments in the Horyu-ji Area**

## PERIODIC REPORTING FOR WELL PLANNED HERITAGE PRESERVATION

### Background

The twenty-ninth General Conference of UNESCO, held in 1997, decided to activate Article 29 of the World Heritage Convention concerning the submission of periodic reports on the state of implementation of the World Heritage Convention (Section I) and the State of Conservation of World Heritage properties (Section II). The national authorities are invited to report on Section I, while Section II shall be prepared for each property inscribed on the World Heritage list by the person(s) directly in charge of the property's management.

The periodic reports prepared by the States Parties will serve a three-fold purpose:

- ❖ to assess the current state of all World Heritage related issues in a State Party,
- ❖ to help focus the Committee's as well as the State Party's future activities and funds,
- ❖ to strengthen sub-regional and regional co-operation between States Parties.

### The Periodic Reporting Questionnaire

In 1998, at its twenty-second session, the World Heritage Committee approved *Explanatory Notes*, designed to be read in conjunction with the *Periodic Reporting Format*, in order to outline the information expected to flow from the periodic reporting exercise. To facilitate the preparation of the report, a *Questionnaire* was developed that the States Parties are encouraged to use. It closely follows the subjects referred to in the *Explanatory Notes*, but in contrast to the latter splits the subjects up into short questions to be answered in a few sentences or paragraphs. A second type of question requires the indication of YES or NO by circling or underlining the appropriate answer. All questions are clearly identified with a little number in the right hand column of the *Questionnaire*. To make the reporting results meaningful every one of these questions has to be answered. If no answer is possible, the reasons should be given. If the available space is not sufficient for the answer, the response should be continued on a separate sheet of paper, clearly indicating the number of the question the text refers to (e.g. 006).

### Benefits for the States Parties

The *Questionnaire* was developed in such a way as to allow to extract and compile or compare relevant information from different States Parties or properties, facilitating the process of preparing the regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. The YES / NO questions make it possible to evaluate the reports quantitatively, but only the details that should be supplied in the related 'open question' make the answers meaningful and can be the basis for concerted actions to preserve a State Party's most valuable heritage for its transmission to future generations.

The information collected in this way will help the States Parties to assess their own strengths and weaknesses concerning the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, putting them in a position to (re)define policies and to request assistance in order to finance projects and / or training. On the other hand it allows the World Heritage Committee to collect information needed to devise *Regional Action Plans*, give well-informed advice to States Parties and to focus funds as well as attention on the region(s), States Parties and / or properties that need the collective support of the international community.

The preparation process of the regional periodic report will furthermore enhance regional co-operation through information meetings as well as through the better availability of regularly up-dated information on activities as well as contact addresses etc. The identification of the State Party's strengths makes it possible to exchange experiences and look for solutions to problems (e.g. of site conservation) within the region.

### **Conclusion**

Periodic Reporting is a participatory exercise, aiming to collect information on World Heritage related issues on a national as well as on the property level. The individual State Party reports will be collated into a regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. This information will enhance cooperation between the Committee and the States Parties and allow to focus funds and activities more efficiently, allowing the States Parties to protect their most valuable heritage more effectively for transmission to future generations.

## **PERIODIC REPORTING ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

**(FORMAT)**

### **SECTION II: STATE OF CONSERVATION OF SPECIFIC WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

##### **II.1 Introduction**

- a. State Party
- b. Name of World Heritage property
- c. Geographical coordinates to the nearest second
- d. Date of inscription on the World Heritage List
- e. Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of the report
- f. Date of report
- g. Signature on behalf of State Party

##### **II.2. Statement of significance**

##### **II.3. Statement of authenticity/integrity**

##### **II.4. Management**

##### **II.5. Factors affecting the property**

##### **II.6. Monitoring**

##### **II.7. Conclusions and recommended action**

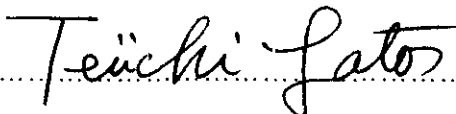
- a. Main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above)
- b. Main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see Items II.4 and II.5. above)
- c. Proposed future action/actions
- d. Responsible implementing agency/agencies
- e. Timeframe for implementation
- f. Needs for international assistance.

##### **II.8. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section II**

##### **II.9. Documentation attached**

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

II.1. Introduction

a.	Country (and State Party if different): Japan	001
b.	Name of World Heritage property: Buddhist Monuments in the Horyu-ji Area	002
c.	<p>In order to locate the property precisely, please attach a topographic map showing scale, orientation, projection, datum, site name, date and graticule. The map should be an original print and not be trimmed. The site boundaries should be shown on the map. In addition they can be submitted in a detailed description, indicating topographic and other legally defined national, regional, or international boundaries followed by the site boundaries.</p> <p>The State Parties are encouraged to submit the geographic information in digital form so that it can be integrated into a Geographic Information System (GIS).</p> <p>On this questionnaire indicate the geographical co-ordinates to the nearest second (in the case of large sites, towns, areas etc., give at least 3 sets of geographical co-ordinates):</p> <p>Centre point: Latitude: 34°50' 07" N Longitude: 134°41' 50" E</p> <p>North-west corner:</p> <p>South-east corner:</p>	003
d.	<p>Give the date of inscription on the World Heritage List and subsequent extension (if applicable):</p> <p>11<sup>th</sup> December 1995</p>	004
e.	<p>Organisation(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of this report.</p> <p>Organisation(s) / entity(ies): Nara Prefectural Board of Education, Cultural Assets Preservation Division</p> <p>Person(s) responsible: ISHIMOTO Takao (Director of Cultural Properties Protection Section)</p> <p>Contact person: MORITA Yuki (Cultural Properties Protection Section)</p> <p>Address: 30 Noborioji-cho , Nara City, Nara Prefecture</p> <p>City and post code: 630-8502</p> <p>Telephone: +81 742 22 1101</p> <p>Fax: +81 742 27 5386</p> <p>E-mail: bunkaz@pref.nara.jp</p>	005
f.	Date of preparation of the report:	006
g.	<p>Signature on behalf of the State Party</p> <p>Signature: </p> <p>Name: Teiichi SATO</p> <p>Function: Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegation to UNESCO</p>	007

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

**II.2. Statement of significance**

<p>At the time of inscribing a property on the World Heritage List, the World Heritage Committee indicates its outstanding universal value(s), or World Heritage value(s), by deciding on the criteria for which the property deserved to be included on the World Heritage List. Circle the criteria retained for the inscription:</p> <p>Cultural criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> i - <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ii - iii - <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> iv - v - <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vi</p> <p>Natural criteria: i - ii - iii - iv</p> <p>Were new criteria added by re-nominating and/or extending the property after the original inscription?                  NO</p> <p>If YES, please explain:</p>	<p>008</p> <p>009</p> <p>010</p>
<p>Please quote observations concerning the property made by the Advisory Body(ies) during the evaluation of the nomination:</p> <p><b>Qualities</b></p> <p>The monuments in the Horyu-ji area are of outstanding importance in terms of their contribution to the development of Buddhist architecture. They also represent the oldest and some of the largest wooden structures in the world.</p> <p>Conservation work of the highest order has been carried out for nearly a century there. The management of the monuments is irreproachable and the protection afforded to them is comprehensive, stemming from a series of overlapping national, regional, and local ordinances.</p> <p><b>Comparative analysis</b></p> <p>The Horyu-ji temple complex is the oldest and most complete in Japan. Whilst the design and techniques originated in China, Japanese wooden temple architecture represents a cultural tradition that is wholly distinctive and unique.</p> <p><b>Additional comments</b></p> <p>This group of monuments was visited by ICOMOS expert mission in September 1992 and April and August 1993.</p> <p>Quote the decisions and observations / recommendations, if appropriate, made by the World Heritage Committee at the time of inscription and extension (if applicable):</p> <p>None</p> <p>Identify the actions taken as follow-up to these observations and/or decisions:</p> <p>None</p>	<p>011</p> <p>012</p> <p>013</p>

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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 Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

*II.2. continued*

<p>Please propose a statement of significance by providing a description of the World Heritage value(s) for which the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List. This description should reflect the criterion (criteria) on the basis of which the Committee inscribed the property on the World Heritage List and it should also detail what the property represents, what makes it outstanding, what the specific values are that distinguish the property as well as what its relationship with its setting is, etc.:</p> <p>These historic buildings are also outstanding not only from the point of overall design but also from the sophisticated design of details like the large pillars with entasis the cloud-shaped bracket arms. In this sense, they meet criterion (i).</p> <p>Among these buildings, the Kondo (main hall), Gojunoto (five-story pagoda), Chumon (inner gate), and Kairo (semi-enclosed corridor), which were constructed from the seventh to the beginning of the eighth centuries, possess characteristics common with Chinese structures dating back to the sixth century or earlier, about which information can be obtained through wall paintings in cave temples and from other pictorial materials.</p> <p>Influences of the new Tang style may be seen in the design of the Kyozo (sutra repository), Jikido (refectory), Todaimon (great east gate), Yumedono (octagonal hall) and Denpodo (lecture hall), which were constructed in the eighth century following the completion of the first group of buildings. In this way, the Buddhist buildings in the Horyu-ji area were witness to the close cultural interchange between China and Japan and in East Asia at the time. Moreover, there is no other example in which outstanding wooden structures of different ages beginning with the seventh century and extending to the nineteenth century are concentrated in one area and preserved. It may be said that cultural properties that express the long, rich history of the wooden Buddhist temples of East Asia, as well as the history of the Buddhist religion itself, are gathered here. In this sense, these properties meet criterion (iv).</p> <p>It was the mid-sixth century when Buddhism was introduced to Japan from India by way of China and Korea. Prince Regent Shotoku who founded the original Horyu-ji, was highly instrumental in the introduction and spread of Buddhism in Japan at that time. Horyu-ji, with its collection of temple buildings which date back to the age when Buddhism was just beginning to flourish in Japan, holds a very important position in the history of Japanese Buddhism. In this sense, the properties in the Horyu-ji area meet criterion (vi).</p> <p>As examples of the oldest Buddhist structures in Japan, the groups of Buddhist structures in the Horyu-ji area have influenced the development of temples at different ages throughout 1,300 years of tradition. They are very important cultural properties in promoting the understanding of the culture of Japan and meet criterion (ii) in this sense.</p> <p>Since there are no other examples of historic buildings in Japan or in the world that possess the characteristics mentioned above, it is not possible to make a comparison of the state of preservation. However, it may be said that buildings are in an extremely good state of preservation for wooden structures.</p>	014
<p>For the extension of a property or the inclusion of additional criteria a re-submission of the property may be considered. This might be regarded as necessary in order to recognize cultural values of a natural World Heritage property, or vice-versa, become desirable</p>	015

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>following the substantive revision of the criteria by the World Heritage Committee or due to better identification or knowledge of specific outstanding universal values of the property. Should a re-nomination of the property be considered? <span style="float: right;">NO</span></p> <p>If YES, please explain:</p>	016
<p>Are the borders of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone (still) adequate to ensure the protection and conservation of the property's World Heritage values: <span style="float: right;">YES</span></p>	017
<p>If NO, please explain why not, and indicate what changes should be made to the boundaries of the property and / or its buffer zone (please indicate these changes also on a map to be attached to this report):</p>	018

**II.2. continued**

<p>Is the State Party actively considering a revision of the property boundaries or the buffer zone? <span style="float: right;">NO</span></p>	019
<p>If YES, indicate what is being done to that end:</p>	020

**II.3. Statement of authenticity / integrity**

<p>Have the World Heritage values identified above been maintained since the property's inscription? <span style="float: right;">YES</span></p>	021
<p>If NO, please describe the changes and name the causes:</p>	022
<p>What was the evaluation of the authenticity / integrity of the property at the time of inscription? (Please quote from the ICOMOS / IUCN evaluation):</p> <p>Authenticity</p> <p>Work carried out since 1895 has been to the highest standards of contemporary conservation practice. From 1934 onwards new techniques have been developed for the conservation of wooden structures, and especially in the case of interventions involving dismantling and reconstruction (which is a fundamental component of the Japanese conservation ethic.)</p> <p>Japanese conservation practice conforms with established principles of authenticity in design, materials, techniques, and environment. The use of new materials is rigorously controlled, and all proposals have to be submitted to specialist committees construction of Japanese wooden structure, reconstruction and replacement involve a minimum amount of conjecture. Special attention is paid to the use of traditional tools and techniques in conservation work.</p>	023

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*II.3. continued*

	Have there been changes in the authenticity / integrity since inscription? <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	024
	If YES, please describe the changes to the authenticity / integrity and name the main causes?	025
	Are there (further) changes foreseeable to the authenticity / integrity of the property in the near future? <span style="float: right;">NO</span>	026
	If YES, please explain and indicate how these changes might affect the World Heritage values of the property:	027

**II.4. Management**

	How could the arrangements for the protection and the management of the property best be defined (more than one indication possible)?	028
	Legal (X) Contractual ( ) Traditional ( )	

*II.4. continued*

	Please describe and assess the implementation and effectiveness of these arrangements for the preservation of the values described under item II.2 at the national, provincial and/or municipal level:	029
	<p>National Government:</p> <p>All the cultural assets included in the property which are located in Ikaruga Town are protected under Articles 43 and 80 of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, which prohibit alteration to the existing conditions without permission from the national government.</p> <p>Nara Prefecture:</p> <p>Under Article 103 of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, Ikaruga Town submit documents through Nara Prefectural Board of Education to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs. Nara Prefectural Board of Education adds its opinions to those documents when it forwards them to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology or the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs.</p> <p>The buffer zone is also protected through designations of Conservation District and Special Preservation District of Historic Natural Features under Articles 17 and 18 of the Law Concerning Special Measures for Preservation of Historic Natural Features in Ancient Cities and Scenic Zones under the Nara Prefectural Ordinance for Scenic Zones. The value of the property is therefore sufficiently conserved through requirement of prior permission or</p>	

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<p>notification of any development activity, based upon these legal instruments.</p> <p>In addition, a certain group of activities are controlled by the City Planning Law through requirement of prior permission from the Governor of Nara Prefecture.</p> <p>In general terms, can this legislative, contractual and/or traditional protection be considered sufficient? <span style="float: right;">YES</span></p> <p>Please explain:</p> <p>Legal regulations for conservation of the property and maintenance of landscapes in the buffer zones have been complied with since inscription; therefore, protection can be considered sufficient.</p>	<p>030</p> <p>031</p>
<p>Provide a list and summaries of laws and regulations concerning cultural and natural properties protection and management (including extracts of relevant articles from the Constitution, Criminal Law, Law/Regulations on Land-use, Environment Law and Forestry Law, amongst others). Please also attach any documentation available concerning these points:</p> <p>The Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties</p> <p>A comprehensive law regarding the protection and promotion of cultural properties.</p>	<p>032</p>

*II.4. continued*

<p>Describe the administrative and management arrangements that are in place for the property concerned, making special mention of the institutions and organisations that have management authority over the property as well as of the arrangements that are in place for the coordination of their actions:</p> <p>The property is under the ownership of a religious juridical person which is established under the Religious Juridical Persons Law and this organization is in charge of the management as the owner. The Agency for Cultural Affairs and Nara Prefecture provides financial supports and technical advice for conservation repair of the buildings included in the property.</p>	<p>033</p>
<p>Please indicate under which level of authority the property is managed:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Property (X)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Regional ( )</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">National ( )</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Other (please describe):</p> <p>Please provide the full name, address and phone/fax/e-mail of the entity(ies) directly responsible for the management (conservation, preservation, visitor management) of the property:</p>	<p>034</p> <p>035</p>

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>Horyu-ji: religious juridical person, Horyu-ji 1-1 Horyuji -sannai, Ikaruga-cho, Ikukoma-gun, Nara Prefecture Tel. +81 745 75 2555 Fax. +81 745 75 0102</p> <p>Hokki-ji: religious juridical person, Hokki-ji 1873 Okamoto, Ikaruaga-cho, Ikukoma-gun, Nara Prefecture Tel. +81 745 75 5559</p>	
<p>Is it necessary to revise the administrative and management arrangements for the property? NO</p>	036
<p>If YES, explain why this is the case:</p>	037

*II.4. continued*

<p>Is there a management plan for the property? YES</p>	038
<p>If YES, please summarise, indicating if the plan is being implemented and since when:</p> <p>The organizations indicated in the answer to Question 035 have been responsible for and implementing the preservation and management of the cultural assets included in the property since before inscription through the traditional management framework.</p>	039
<p>Please report on legal and administrative actions that are foreseen for the future, to preserve the values described under item II.2 (e.g. passing of legislation, adjusting administrative and management arrangements, implementing or drawing up of a (new) management plan, etc.):</p> <p>None</p>	040

<p>Please provide detailed information, particularly in cases where changes have occurred since the inscription of the property, on the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Conservation</u> Make reference to all major interventions at the property and describe its present state of conservation:</li> </ul> <p>Horyu-ji: Repair of the Shoryoin (From 1996 to 1997) Repair of the Saionin Kyakuden, the Agetsuchimon, and the Karamon (In 1998) Repair of the Hojuin Hondo (In 1998) Repair of the Sangyoin and the Nishimuro (In 1998)</p>	041
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	Roofing repair for Kitamuroin Hondo, the Taishiden, and the Omotemon (In 1999)	
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*II.4. continued*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Ownership</u> Make reference to all major changes in ownership of the property and describe the present state of ownership:</li>   <li>No change</li> </ul>	042
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	<p>Please, give a detailed description of the staffing of the site:</p> <p>Nara Prefectural Board of Education, Cultural Assets Preservation Division : 22 staff members</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Office of Cultural Assets Preservation : 29 staff members</p> <p>Ikaruga Town Board of Education, Lifelong Learning Division : 8 staff members</p> <p>Religious juridical person, Horyu-ji</p> <p>Religious juridical person, Hokki-ji</p>	043
	<p>Is the staffing level sufficient for adequate management of the property?                YES</p>	044
	<p>If NO, what should be done to improve the situation?</p>	045

*II.4. continued*

	<p>Does the staff need additional training?    YES</p>	046
	<p>If YES, what are the training needs for your staff?</p>	047
	<p>In order to improve the skills of the technical staff and pass those skills to following generations, training for technicians for the conservation repair of cultural property buildings (by the Agency for Cultural Affairs or conservation groups of Selected Conservation Techniques) is necessary.</p>	

	<p>Describe the funding and financial situation of the property, indication sources, level and regularity of financing:</p>	048
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	<p>Sufficient finance for the conservation of the property is available from subsidies from the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Nara Prefecture and Ikaruga Town together with admission fees to the cultural assets included in the property.</p> <p>Is the available funding sufficient for adequate management of the property?      YES</p> <p>If NOT, describe the financial resources that would be required for the management of the property:</p>	<p>049</p> <p>050</p>
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	<p>Indicate International Assistance from which the property has benefited:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World Heritage Fund: None</li> </ul>	<p>051</p>
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*II.4. continued*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNESCO International Campaign: None</li> <li>• National and/or regional projects of UNDP, the World Bank or other agencies: None</li> <li>• Bilateral co-operation: None</li> <li>• Other assistance: None</li> </ul>	<p>052</p> <p>053</p> <p>054</p> <p>055</p>
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	<p>Describe the IT (computer) equipment of the site and/or management office and assess its effectiveness:</p> <p>It is effectively utilized through email communication with expert staff members in the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Nara Prefecture and Ikaruga Town regarding technical consultations for preservation and management.</p> <p>Are you using (multiple indications are possible):</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">PC (X)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Apple ( )</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Mainframe ( )</p> <p>Please, give the number of available computers:</p> <p>Ikaruga Town Board of Education, Lifelong Learning Division: 5</p> <p>Nara Prefectural Board of Education, Cultural Assets Preservation Division: 25</p>	<p>056</p> <p>057</p> <p>058</p>
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	Does an operational access to the Internet exist? YES	059
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*II.4. continued*

	Is e-mail used for daily correspondence? YES	060
	Is there a Geographical Information System (GIS) for the site? NO	061
	If YES, what software do you have and how is the GIS used?	062

	<p>List scientific studies and research programmes that have been conducted concerning the site:</p> <p>Academic study and investigation are continually carried out on the occasion of repair works of the property.</p> <p>For example, reports are available for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Repair of the Horyu-ji Shoryoin;</li> <li>Repair of the Saionin Kyakuden, the Agetsuchimon, and the Karamon;</li> <li>Repair of the Hojuin Hondo, the Sangyoin, and the Nishimuro; and</li> <li>Roofing repair of the Kitamuroin Hondo, Taishiden and Omotemon</li> </ul>	063
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	<p>Describe financial and human resource inputs for the research programmes and or facilities:</p> <p>Financial and human resource inputs for research programmes: Religious juridical person, Horyu-ji</p>	064
	<p>Describe how the information / results are disseminated?</p> <p>Since these academic studies and researches are too small, no information dissemination is carried out for them.</p>	065

*II.4. continued*

	Are there any visitor statistics for the site? YES	066
	<p>If YES, please summarise the statistics and attach to this report:</p> <p>The number of tourist (Ikaruga-cho)</p> <p>1,026,000 / In 1996</p>	067

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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902,620 / In 1997 793,000 / In 1998 689,356 / In 1999 682,000 / In 2000	
What visitor facilities do you have at the property?  “Horyu-ji i (information) Centre” is established, where information on the Horyu-ji and the Hokki-ji can be obtained.	068
What visitor facilities are you in need of?  None	069
Is a public use plan (tourism / visitor management plan) in existence for the property?  YES	070

*II.4. continued*

If YES, please summarise, if NO explain if one is needed:  Nara Prefecture has compiled the 2 <sup>nd</sup> action plan for a new comprehensive development plan (“Nakaken Shin Sogo Keikaku, Koki Jisshi Keikaku”), in which the protection and the utilization of the World Heritage are set as the prefectural policy targets along with the maintenance and promotion of the historical cultural resources and the rich natural resources in the prefecture and the creation and provision of comfortable space.	071
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Indicate how the property’s World Heritage values are communicated to residents, visitors and the public (please attach examples of leaflets, videos, posters etc. and print-outs and/or the address of a web-page):  The values are communicated widely to the public through the Internet, symposiums and seminars. URL: <a href="http://www.town.ikaruga.hara.jp/">http://www.town.ikaruga.hara.jp/</a> Brochure titled “Taishi Roman Ikaruga no Sato”[Town of History – Ikaruga]	072
Are there educational programmes concerning the property aimed at schools? YES	073
If yes, please describe:  To give an example, there were school visits to Horyu-ji visit by elementary school children of Ikaruga Town and in 1998 “the Second World Heritage Meeting International Youth Forum 1998” was held with participation for young people from various countries.	074

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>What role does World Heritage inscription play for the site concerning the visitor number, the research programmes and/or the awareness building activities?</p> <p>World Heritage inscription has contributed to raised awareness of the property and higher motivation for protection. On the other hand, it did not have influence on the number of tourists.</p> <p>As the diversification of tourism needs advances, there is a tendency for conventional types of tourism such as visits to shrines and temples to decrease. Particularly, the total number of tourists has decreased, which can be ascribed for the most part to the decrease of school excursions to this area.</p>	075
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**II.5. Factors affecting the property**

<p>Please comment on the degree to which the property is threatened by particular problems and risks, such as development pressure, environmental pressure, natural disasters and preparedness, visitor / tourism pressure, number of inhabitants. Also mention all other issues that you see as problematic.</p> <p>The development pressure in the areas around the property is controlled by the provisions under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, the Law Concerning Special Measures for the Preservation of Ancient Cities and ordinances of local governments. As for changes in the surrounding settings and natural disasters, efforts have been made to prevent them from affecting the property through the maintenance of the surrounding environments and the installation of disaster prevention facilities. These measures are considered to be appropriate.</p>	076
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*II.5. continued*

<p>Is there an emergency plan and / or risk preparedness plan for the property in existence?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>YES</b></p>	077
<p>If YES, please summarise the plan and provide a copy:</p> <p>In order to cope with the largest risk to a wooden structure, i.e. fire, the automated fire alarm system, fire hydrants, and lightning conductors have been installed. In addition, private fire brigades are organized by the Horyu-ji and the Hokki-ji, which would work in cooperation with public fire offices.</p>	078
<p>If NO, describe what is being done – and by whom – to counteract the dangers that threaten or may threaten the property:</p>	079

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).



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<p>Indicate areas where improvement would be desirable and/or towards which the State Party is working:</p> <p>It is our recognition that, in order to prepare ourselves for and cope with unpredictable situations, it is important to ensure that the above mentioned measures function by any means. Therefore, disaster drills and the framework for the protection of cultural properties including the Horyu-ji through participation of local people are to be continued and reinforced.</p>	080
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***II.5. continued***

<p>Give an indication if the impact of the factors affecting the property is increasing or decreasing:</p> <p>The attached “Key Indicators for Monitoring the State of Conservation” (refer to Appendix 4) is to be compiled every year for the purpose of monitoring the status of conservation for the property</p>	081
<p>What actions have been effectively taken, or are planned for the future, to address the factors affecting the property?</p> <p>The framework for the protection of the World Cultural Heritage against fire and other risks (refer to the answer to Question 080) is to be continually improved and reinforced.</p>	082

**II.6. Monitoring**

<p>If applicable, give details (e.g. dates, results, indicators chosen) of any previous periodic or reactive monitoring exercises of the property:</p> <p>None</p>	083
<p>Is there a formal monitoring system established for the site? <span style="float: right;">YES</span></p>	084
<p>If YES, please give details of its organisation:</p> <p>Refer to Question 029.</p>	085

***II.6. continued***

<p>If not already in place, is the establishment of a formal monitoring system planned? <span style="float: right;">YES</span></p>	086
<p>If YES, please outline the functioning of that system, taking into consideration the key indicators you will be asked to define below (see 089 / 090):</p>	087
<p>Are there any indicators established for monitoring the state of conservation of the property?</p>	088

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	<p><b>YES</b></p> <p>If YES, please provide up-to-date information with respect to each of the key indicators established and/or used. Care should be taken to ensure that this information is as accurate and reliable as possible, for example by carrying out observations in the same way, using similar equipment and methods at the same time of the year and day. Name and describe the key indicators for measuring the state of conservation of this property:</p> <p>The attached "Key Indicators for Monitoring the State of Conservation" (refer to Appendix 4) is made every year, which contributes to monitoring the status of conservation for the property</p> <p>If NO indicators have been identified and / or used so far, please define key indicators for future use in monitoring:</p>	<p>089</p> <p>090</p>
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*II.6. continued*

	<p>Indicate which partners, if any, are involved or will be involved in the regular monitoring exercise:</p> <p>Ikaruga Town Board of Education Nara Prefectural Board of Education The Agency for Cultural Affairs (Cultural Properties Department, Monuments and Sites Division and Architecture and Other Structures Division)</p> <p>Identify the administrative provisions for organizing the regular monitoring of the property:</p> <p>Provisions of The Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties</p>	<p>091</p> <p>092</p>
	<p>Describe what improvement the State Party foresees or would consider desirable in improving the monitoring system:</p> <p>The current system based on the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties is working sufficiently effectively.</p>	<p>093</p>
	<p>In specific cases, the World Heritage Committee and/or its Bureau may have already examined the state of conservation of the property and made recommendations to the State Party, either at the time of inscription or afterwards. In such cases the State Party is requested to report on the actions that have been taken in response to the observations or decisions made by the Bureau or Committee. Give details, if applicable:</p> <p>None</p>	<p>094</p>

**II.7. Conclusions and recommended actions**

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above):</p> <p>There are no similar historic buildings to those represented by the Horyu-ji not only in Japan but also in other areas of the world. Furthermore, the property is in an extremely good condition of preservation as a wooden structure.</p> <p>Since the time of inscription of the property on the World Heritage List, its value as the World Heritage has been appropriately maintained through the strict implementation of procedures based on the domestic laws.</p>	095
<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see items II.4. and II.5. above):</p> <p>The legal protection based on the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, the Law Concerning Special Measures for the Preservation of Ancient Cities, and the Nara Prefectural Ordinance for Scenic Zones will be maintained; conservation repair and disaster prevention by the owners in cooperation with governments, will be continued in order to preserve the value of the property.</p>	096
<p>Give an overview over proposed future action / actions:</p> <p>Incessant efforts will be made for the conservation of the World Heritage value through preservation work, repair work and installation of disaster prevention facilities.</p>	097
<p>Name the agency responsible for implementation of these actions (if different from 005):</p> <p>According to the Law for the Protection of the Cultural Properties (refer to Question 035), these actions will be carried out by the owners in co-ordination and cooperation with the Ikaruga Town Board of Education and Nara Prefectural Board of Education. The Agency of Cultural Affairs is to provide instructions and advice as necessary.</p>	098
<p>Give a timeframe for the implementation of the actions described above:</p> <p>Throughout the year.</p>	099

*II.7. continued*

<p>Indicate for which of the planned activities International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund may be needed (if any):</p> <p>None</p>	100
<p>Are there any contacts with management units of other properties within or outside your country?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES</p>	101

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>If YES, please explain:</p> <p>“The Meeting of Directors of Prefectures with World Heritage” and “The Meeting of Cities with World Heritages in Japan” are held every year. Nara Prefecture is a members of the former meeting and Ikaruga Town is a members of the latter meeting. At these meetings, information and opinions are exchanged on effective preservation and promotion of the World Heritage.</p>	102
<p>Please indicate which experience made during the periodic reporting exercise and/or during the on-going conservation / protection efforts of the property could be shared with other States Parties dealing with similar problems or issues:</p> <p>Disaster prevention measures for wooden cultural properties can be shared with other States Parties.</p>	103
<p>Provide the name(s) and address(es) of organization(s) or specialist(s) who could be contacted for this purpose:</p> <p>Agency / Organisation: Ikaruga Town Board of Education (Lifelong Learning Division) Person responsible: MIZUTA Yoshifumi (Director of Lifelong Learning Division) Address: 3-7-12, Horyuji-nishi Ikaruga-cho, Ikoma-gun, Nara Prefecture City and post code: 636-0198 Telephone:+81 745 74 1001 Fax:+81 745 74 6784 E-mail: info@town.ikaruga.nara.jp</p> <p>Agency / Organisation: Nara Prefectural Board of Education, Cultural Assets Preservation Division Person responsible: ISHIMOTO Takao (Director of Cultural Assets Preservation Division) Contact person: MORITA Yuki (Cultural Assets Preservation Division) Address: Noborioji-cho 30, Nara City, Nara Prefecture City and post code: 630-8502 Telephone:+81 742 22 1101 Fax:+81 742 27 5386 E-mail: bunkaz@pref.nara.jp</p> <p>Agency / Organisation: The Agency for Cultural Affairs (Cultural Properties Department, Monuments and Sited Division and Architecture and Other Structures Division) Persons responsible:</p>	104

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>OKI Takahito (Director of Monuments and Sites Division) KAMEI Nobuo (Director of Architecture and Other Structures Division) Contact persons: NAKATA Naoki (Monuments and Sites Division) Address: 3-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo City and post code: 100-8959 Telephone:+81 3 3581 1726 Fax:+81 3 3591 0293 E-mail: nakata@bunka.go.jp</p>	
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**II.8. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section II**

<p>Was sufficient and adequate information made available to the responsible authorities and individuals during the preparation phase of the Periodic Reporting exercise (information given, meetings etc.)?</p> <p>Meetings for explanation were held as appropriate and detailed information was provided to relevant prefectural governments. The information is shared with relevant prefectural governments through briefing sessions.</p>	105
<p>Was the questionnaire clear and did it help to comply with the reporting requirements of the State Party?</p> <p>It is useful for the establishment of a conservation monitoring system covering a wide range of issues concerning conservation based on a fixed standard or a viewpoint, regardless of the differences between countries in terms of national character and climate.</p>	106
<p>What are the perceived benefits and lessons learnt of the exercise?</p> <p>This exercise provided a good opportunity to review the implementation of World Heritage Convention in Japan.</p>	107
<p>Please describe the expected outcome of the Periodic Reporting exercise and the desired follow-up by the World Heritage Committee:</p> <p>If the public understanding about the efforts for the protection of the World Heritages in Japan, the status of preservation and international cooperation could be further deepened, the current framework will take deeper roots to the extent that excellent conservation activities by the international standards are expected to be achieved.</p>	108

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

**II.9. Documentation attached**

The State Party is invited to supply the materials listed below. Please check those items that were attached.

1.      (Xv)   Maps and plans showing the general location of the property, its boundary and buffer zone as well as the necessary detail of the property itself (see question 003 for specifications)
2.      (X)     Photo of general view (aerial view) of the property
3.      ( )     Illustrations of the state of conservation of the site (photographs, slides and, if available, film/videos)
4.      (X)     Details of the important aspects of the property (landscapes, animal and vegetable species, monuments etc.)
5.      ( )     Photos illustrating the main threats to the site and its surroundings
6.      (X)     Extracts of relevant laws and regulations concerning the protection of cultural and natural heritage at national, provincial and municipal levels
7.      ( )     Copies of the management plan of the site as well as extracts and/or copies of other plans relating to the site (e.g. emergency plan, use plan, etc.)
8.      ( )     Indicative bibliography

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).