Forum on Hakka Tulous: Lessons to Be Learned, Past, Present and Future
+Launch of the International Hakka Tulou Alliance (IHTA) (in Mandarin & English)

Time: June 24, 2009, 2:30 -6:30 PM
Place: Xiamen University, Xiamen, China

Organized by
Constructed Facilities Center, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia, USA
ASH-Autonomous & Sustainable Housing Inc, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
School of Architecture and Civil Engineering, Xiamen University, Xiamen, Fujian, China

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Introduction: Rammed earth is a sustainable construction material due to many benefits for the environment including: 1) natural (non processed) material, 2) universal availability, 3) durability, 4) recyclability, 5) low embodied energy, 6) low CO2 emissions, 7) high thermal mass, 8) traditional construction method, and 9) low cost for material, construction, transportation. Hakka Tulous in Fujian Province of China, reflect the importance of historical precedents, universal evolution, emerging innovation and advancement in the science and engineering of rammed earth construction, from 8th century to 20th century. Tulous can be considered as “EcoVillages” of best practices for planet earth’s sustainability in their planning, design, construction, lifestyle, resource management, micro industries, renewable energy, recycling of human and animal waste, and a low ecological footprint. This forum will interest leading academics, architects, builders, developers and suppliers.

Objectives: This forum will serve to demonstrate how the sustainability of Hakka village architecture built hundreds of years ago and still in partial use today, bridge the past, present and future, with exemplary lessons for our modern world. This forum will also serve as the official launch of the International Hakka Tulou Alliance to help save, preserve and revitalize Hakka Villages for our common world heritage and a more sustainable future of planet earth.

Co-Chairs: Hota Gangarao, Professor and Director, CFC-WVU
Ying Lei, Professor and Associate Dean, ACE-XMU

Agenda: (Each presentation will allow 3 minutes for questions and discussions.)

2:30 - 2:40 Opening Remarks and Introduction – Ying Lei
2:40 - 2:50 Speech by Ms Zhang, Deputy Mayor of Longyan City, Fujian Province, China
2:50 - 3:10 Overview of Hakka Tulou Architecture – Minoru Ueda, Japan
3:10 - 3:30 Fujian Tulou and Science: A NSF Project Prospectus – Liang and Hota, U.S.A.
3:30 - 3:50 UN Hakka Biosphere and Tulou Retrofit – Jorg and Helen Ostrowski, Canada
3:50 - 4:10 Learn from Tulou – Shaosen Wang, China
4:10 - 4:20 Break (Refreshments served)
4:20 - 4:40 Traditional Environmental Knowledge in Hakka Vernacular Architecture - Kawai/Kobayashi, Japan
4:40 - 5:00 Fujian Tulou: Past, Present and Future – Xiaodong Lai, World Heritage Fujian Tulou Yongding Site
5:00 - 5:20 My Field Experience: Hakka and Weilongwu Culture – Fang Xuejia, China
5:20 - 5:40 Applying Hakka Wisdom to Future Sustainable Structures: Proposal - Liang/ Ostrowski/Lei/Hota
5:40 - 5:50 International Hakka Tulou Alliance (IHTA): Proposal – Ostrowski/Liang
5:50 - 6:00 Speech by Shuzhi Lin, Chief Engineer, Xiamen Construction and Administration
6:00 - 6:10 Concluding Remarks – Hota Gangarao
6:30 Banquet for invited guests only

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