



Talal Abu-Ghazaleh – Confucius Institute

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Chinese Visa Section TAG-Visa

TAG-Confucius & TAG-Visa NewsletterIssue 51 - August 2020

Talal Abu Ghazaleh-Confucius Institute:

The Institute was established in September 2008 to introduce the Chinese language and culture, as well as achieving a greater mutual understanding between the Arab and Chinese cultures. This unique initiative is based on the cooperation agreement between TAG-Org and Confucius Institute in China. The Institute has been named after the great intellectual, mentor and philosopher, Confucius, whose ideas had influenced China and other regions around the world for over 2,000 years.

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TAG-Confucius Institute is the first institute accredited by the Chinese Government to teach Chinese language in Jordan.

<u>TAG-Confucius Institute</u> is holding a new course to teach the basics of the Chinese language for beginners:

- A. Threshold Level for Adults: starting 07/09/2020 Schedule: Sunday - Tuesday from 6:00 - 8:00 pm
- B. Threshold Level for Kids : starting 05\09\2020 Schedule: Sunday - Tuesday from 6:00 – 8:00 pm

*All Chinese language teachers are from China specialized in teaching Chinese language for foreigners and accredited by the Confucius Institute in China.

TAG-Confucius Institute Held Award Ceremony of the 19th "Chinese Bridge" Chinese Proficiency Competition for College students in Jordan



Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the award ceremony of the preliminary round of the 19th "Chinese Bridge" Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign College Students in Jordan and the 11th "Great Wall-Petra Cup" Chinese Proficiency Competition for Jordanian College Students was postponed. After Jordanian government announced that educational institutions could resume offline classes, TAG-Confucius Institute (TAG-CI) held the award ceremony of the competition on July 26.

The contestants gathered at TAG-CI and received the long-awaited prizes and their joy was beyond expression.

It's worth mentioning that the final competition was held online on May 31. The 10 contestants with the most scores among the 23 contestants in the semi-final competition qualified for the final competition.

The result of the final competition was that Alaa Jamal from CI at Philadelphia University won the first prize, Ershed Al-Sharayah from the University of Jordan won the second prize, Nada Alhawamdeh and Rama Jarwan from TAG-CI won the third prize and excellence prize respectively. All the contestants were awarded certificates.

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'Abu-Ghazaleh Confucius Institute' Renews Cooperation Agreement with Chinese Shenyang Normal University





AMMAN – HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, founder and chairman of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Global (TAG.Global); president of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Confucius Institute (TAG-Confucius), and Dr. Hao Deyong, President of Shenyang Normal University (SNU), signed an agreement renewing joint cooperation between the two sides.

The agreement renewal comes in response to the growing demand for learning Chinese language and culture of which TAG-Confucius Institute is entrusted being the first official center for teaching Chinese language and the first official center for conducting Chinese proficiency tests (HSK) in Jordan. That is in addition to assisting students who wish to receive scholarships to pursue their studies at Chinese universities. The renewal of the agreement signals the growth of Sino-Arab relations especially in economic fields.

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh expressed his happiness for renewing the partnership with Shenyang Normal University which has been ongoing since 2008. "The future is in China and we should be prepared for it," he said, expressing his pride that TAG. Global has been offering visa services to Jordanians and Arabs willing to travel to China, under the supervision of the Chinese Embassy since 2009. "Our deep belief and confidence in the significance and impact of the Chinese culture, civilization and technology was the main driver for us to become one of the leading international corporations to establish branches in China. Therefore, TAG. Global opened three fully operational offices in Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong, along with two representative offices in Guangzhou and Chengdu to offer our world-class services," Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh said.

TAG-Confucius Institute is currently preparing a strategic plan to teach Arabic language in China as per an accredited program and certificate entitled 'Fluency in Arabic Language Skills'. It also aims at enhancing and promoting teaching of the Chinese language and culture in Jordan based on a cooperation agreement signed with Chinese entities; mainly with Shenyang Normal University and other partner universities.

TAG-Confucius Institute works under the supervision of Chinese International Education Foundation and Center for Language Education and Cooperation (CLEC) of the Ministry of Education of China. TAG.Global has been offering various services in cooperation with China, mainly the TAG-Chinese Visa Center.

Chinese Architecture



Chinese architecture demonstrates an architectural style that developed over millennia in China, before spreading out to influence architecture throughout East Asia.

Since the solidification of the style in the early imperial period, the structural principles of Chinese architecture have remained largely unchanged, the main changes being only the decorative details.

Starting with the Tang dynasty, Chinese architecture has had a major influence on the architectural styles of Japan, Korea, Mongolia, and Vietnam, and a varying amount of influence on the architectural styles of Southeast and South Asia including Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and The Philippines.

Chinese architecture is typified by various features; such as, bilateral symmetry, use of enclosed open spaces, the incorporation of ideas related to feng shui such as directional hierarchies, a horizontal emphasis, and allusion to various cosmological, mythological, or other symbolism.

Chinese architecture traditionally classifies structures according to type, ranging from pagodas to palaces. In part because of an emphasis on the use of wood, a relatively perishable material, and due to a de-emphasis on major monumental structures built of less-organic but more durable materials, much of the historical knowledge of Chinese architecture derives from surviving miniature models in ceramic and published planning diagrams and specifications.

Some of the architecture of China shows the influence of other types or styles from outside of China, such as the influences on mosque structures originating in the Middle East.

Although displaying certain unifying aspects, rather than being completely homogeneous, Chinese architecture has many types of variation based on status or affiliation, such as dependence on whether the structures were constructed for Emperors, commoners, or used for religious purposes. Other variations in Chinese architecture are shown in the varying styles associated with different geographic regions and in ethnic architectural design.

The architecture of China is as old as Chinese civilization. From every source of information literary, graphic, exemplary—there is strong evidence testifying to the fact that the Chinese have always enjoyed an indigenous system of construction that has retained its principal characteristics from prehistoric times to the present day. Over the vast area from Chinese Turkistan to Japan, from Manchuria to the northern half of French Indochina, the same system of construction is prevalent; and this was the area of Chinese cultural influence. That this system of construction could perpetuate itself for more than four thousand years over such a vast territory and still remain a living architecture, retaining its principal characteristics in spite of repeated foreign invasions military, intellectual, and spiritual—is a phenomenon comparable only to the continuity of the civilization of which it is an integral part.

— Liang Sicheng, 1984

Throughout the 20th century, Chinese architects have attempted to combine traditional Chinese designs into modern architecture (usually government), with great success. Moreover, the pressure for urban development throughout contemporary China required higher speed of construction and higher floor area ratio, which means that in the great cities the demand for traditional Chinese buildings, which are normally less than 3 levels, has declined in favor of modern architecture.

However, the traditional skills of Chinese architecture, including major and minor carpentry, masonry, and stonemasonry, are still applied to the construction of vernacular architecture in the vast rural area in China.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_architecture#:~:text=The%20earliest%20walls%20and%20 platforms,dynasty%20(1368%E2%80%931644).



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