## Michael Petzet

## Introduction

Opening speech held in Xi'an, March 22, 1999

We have come together here in Xian, the old Chinese imperial city, on the occasion of the discovery of the First Chinese Emperor's world-famous terracotta army 25 years ago. Eleven years ago I travelled to the People's Republic of China for the first time together with Dr. Döll from the Federal Ministry of Research and Technology and with Dr. Weidemann, my colleague from the Roman-Germanic Museum in Mainz. On this journey first arrangements for the cooperation with representatives of the Province of Shaanxi were made. I had no idea then how and to what extent these agreements would have an effect on matters of conservation practice. Today, I am especially pleased to see that many of the representatives with whom these arrangements were made are present. I am sure they can remember as well as I do how we started this cooperation together. I am particularly grateful to name, as representatives of many others, Minister Zhang Tinghao and Director Wu.

Ten years ago the People's Republic of China was facing tremendous transformations. Most of all the economic changes of the past decade in China continue and affect the lives of millions of people with breathtaking speed. In Germany, as well, the reunification of both German states has caused many changes. Furthermore, the overall structure of Europe has been transformed. I am not here to talk about international politics. However, conservation practice and archaeology in particular are closely related to politics, to economy and the development of states in general - a relation which is much closer than normally assumed. The new building of the Xian Museum, for example, would not have been possible without the economic upturn in China, and the new airport of Xian is directly linked to the archaeological discoveries in Lintong. The majority of the sensational archaeological discoveries not only in the Province of Shaanxi but everywhere in China, cannot be separated from the terrific economic development. In our modern world conservationists here in the Province Shaanxi are faced with tasks and problems unheard of until then. These problems include the sheer amount of archaeological finds and their exceptional quality, the question of financing, logistic and administrative tasks. And here, apart from the daily tasks which those who work for conservation offices or museums in China have to cope with, the readiness of China to cooperate internationally was, from my point of view, an important prerequisite for managing the problems of preserving the monuments and archaeological sites. As President of ICOMOS Germany I am familiar with conservational challenges in many countries. Therefore, I may emphasise that the results of our joint efforts, some of which discussed in our conference, are extraordinary and deserve international attention.

Our cooperation resulted not only in contacts with the relevant German institutions, but also in contacts with colleagues in Switzerland, France, Italy, Japan and the United States. Conservation practice and archaeology and, in this context, science and research in the widest sense have a common responsibility to protect the historical heritage of mankind, in particular the monuments and sites on UNESCO's list of the world's cultural heritage. One of the most beautiful and impressive monuments of this category is undoubtedly the tomb of the First Chinese Emperor. The unique terracotta army is not merely a gigantic example of the antique burial culture, but, in fact, it is also the largest complex of antique sculptures discovered so far. With this spectacular discovery China has gained an outstanding position in the history of sculpture and is thus equal to the other antique civilisations in Greece, Rome or Egypt. The terracotta army has enabled China to fill people all over the world with enthusiasm about the Chinese civilisation and to redefine the status of Chinese culture. Well-known as the Chinese Wall may be, being the only building that can be seen from space, for the last 25 years Chinese civilisation worldwide has most of all been identified with the terracotta army. For millions of people the chance to see these sculptures in the original remains a lifelong dream. The opportunity for me and my colleagues not just to visit these monuments but to actually take part in their preservation has been one of the most wonderful experiences of my career.

Antique sculptures were polychrome. Not only in China but also in other antique civilisations sculptures were painted in colours. Although this has been known among experts since the 19th century, scholary work, analysis of the technique and the interpretation of the meaning of polychromy are still at the beginning. Therefore, we are still far away from a comprehensive idea of what antique sculptures originally looked like. The lectures at this congress will focus on such questions as the materials. Considering the fact that these sculptures were in wet soil for over 2000 years the analysis is a challenge even to modern science. All over the world natural science in our days is confronted with unprecedented radical changes. Despite spectacular scientific achievements research on archaeometry has only just started. Advances in natural science need to be made use of for our aims. It gives me great satisfaction to know that for our joint research on the polychromy of the terracotta army we have been able to employ the latest methods and technologies and that on the occasion of this project, the restoration workshops of the Bavarian State Conservation Office have been equipped with these technologies. In the following lectures we will learn a great number of details of these modern methods.

Not only antique sculptures but also antique textiles were coloured. An understanding of the polychromy of antique sculpture is therefore only possible by understanding the types of antique clothing. Knowledge of antique clothing is a prerequisite for the understanding of the painted surfaces of the warriors. Some of the lectures on this topic will try to bring coloured sculpture and textiles together and thus bridge the gap between two isolated fields of research. Knowledge of real textile finds can be supplemented by the "documentation" as found in the colour scheme of antique sculptures — a method that has been used far too rarely. It is high time that classical archaeology pays more attention to the results of textile research. Due to its

silk production the old Chinese Empire again had an outstanding position, whose influence on late antique and early Christian cultures cannot be overestimated. The history of the silk route has not yet been written comprehensively. Recent findings along this trade path offer new clues to the understanding of the cultural exchanges in the Antiquity. The idea that antique China was totally isolated from the other antique empires is completely outdated and is disproved by each new discovery.

As far as I know, it is for the first time that an international congress is held which focuses on the polychromy of antique sculpture in a global context. Usually, research concentrates on regional problems and developments, and only very rarely a scholar who, for instance, is working on aspects of the classical Greek period, can get an overall view of the latest results of contemporaneous civilisations. Xian, starting point of the antique silk route, is also for that reason predestined to hold a conference where relations, connections, interdependences, but also cultural differences in the antique world can be discussed.

The congress "Polychromy of the Terracotta Army of the First Chinese Emperor Qin Shihuangdi", organised by the Museum of Terracotta Warriors and Horses, the Bavarian State Conservation Office and ICOMOS Germany does not, of course, show all the results of a decade of German-Chinese collaboration in the field of conservation practice. This collaboration has been generously supported by the German Federal Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Technology and recently also by the Bavarian State Government. It is therefore my privilege to send

you the regards of the Bavarian State Government and in particular of our Minister of Science and Art, Hans Zehetmair. An important result of our cooperation with the Office for the Protection of Cultural Goods in the Province of Shaanxi has been the realisation of a conservation concept to preserve the unique grotto temple of the Great Buddha of Dafosi near Binxian. The results have already been published by our Conservation Office. The results of our collaboration with the Museum in Lintong on questions of preserving the terracotta army will also be published soon.

The opening of our conference is another occasion to thank Minister Zhang Tinghao and all Chinese colleagues, especially Wu Yongqi, the director of the Museum in Lintong, as well as his predecessor, the famous archaeologist Professor Yuan Zhongyi. Moreover, I have to thank all those colleagues from the Bavarian State Conservation Office who have been involved in the China project, particularly Prof. Emmerling and Prof. Snethlage.

I am glad that this congress here in Xian has been made possible and I am convinced that it will be a great success. Perhaps it would even be interesting if the topic of our conference could be discussed again in Xian in ten years time, exchanging once again the latest results. Apart from that, a special concern also will be to further develop the friendship that arose in the course of the last years between the Chinese and German colleagues, using our combined efforts to seek ways to preserve our great cultural heritage.

佩策特

序言

1999年3月22日在西安开幕式上的讲话

值世界闻名的秦始皇兵马俑发现 25 周年之际,我们汇聚到 西安这座古老的中国皇城。 11 年前,我第一次来中华人民 共和国旅行,同行的尚有联邦德国研技部的德尔博士和我的 同事,古罗马-日尔曼中央博物馆的魏德曼博士。此行为与 陕西省的单位合作拉开了序幕。我们签订的协议将会如何和 在何种程度上,对文物保护方面的合作产生影响,对此我当 时尚无明确的概念。今天,当我看见许多当年参加我们会谈 的伙伴也在场,欣慰之情,油然而生。我敢肯定,他们同我 一样,对我们合作的起步还记忆犹新。在这里,请允许我怀 着由衷的谢意,提代表许多人的两位的名字,张廷皓局长和 吴永琪馆长。 十年前,中华人民共和国面临巨大的改革。过去十年 里,中国发生的经济变革最为显著,这一变革没有终止,而 且正以惊人的速度改变着成千上万人的生活。在德国,两德 统一也带来了某些变化,连欧洲的整体结构也变了。我在这 里并不想谈论国际政治,但是,文物保护,尤其是考古与政 治、经济和国家的整体发展不无联系,其联系比一般人想象 的要紧密得多。没有中国的经济发展,譬如就不可能有西安 的陕西历史博物馆的新馆,而西安新机场的建成,则与临潼 的考古发现息息相关。不仅陕西省,而且在中国各地,大量 令人惊异的考古发现均与飞速的经济发展有着不解之缘。当 今世界,文物保护工作者在陕西省所面临的任务和问题都是 空前的。问题不仅在于这儿考古发现的数量之众,质量之精,而且涉及经费、后勤和管理。姑且不论中国文物保护工作者和博物馆专家所要对付的日常任务,在我看来,中国愿意进行国际合作,乃是有效解决古迹和考古遗址的保护问题的一个重要前提。作为德国国际古迹遗址协会的主席,我熟谙许多国家的文物保护工作。因此,我可强调指出,我们双方共同努力的成果是非同寻常的,应受到国际上的重视,在这次研讨会上,我们将有机会对部分成果进行讨论。

我们的合作单位不仅包括有关德国的专业机构, 而且还 有瑞士、法国、意大利、日本以及美国的同事。文物保护和 考古,在这一点上,还有最广义的科学和研究,都要共同对 保护人类的历史遗产、尤其是联合国科教文组织名单上的世 界文化遗产负责。毋庸置疑,这一级别中最美、给人印象至 深的文物之一,就是秦始皇陵。举世无双的兵马俑不仅是古 代墓葬文化的巨制, 而且事实上也是迄今为止所发现的古代 雕塑中最大的群体。由于这一引人瞩目的发现,中国在世界 雕塑史中也获得了显著地位,可与古希腊、罗马和埃及文明 相媲美。通过兵马俑, 中国能唤起世人对于中国文明的热 情,中国文化的地位因此也要重新定义。尽管中国长城妇孺 皆知, 她是太空中可见的唯一建筑, 但在过去 25 年里, 世 界上大多数人均把兵马俑与中国文明作等量齐观。亲眼目睹 真实的兵马俑, 对成千上万的人来说, 乃是毕生的愿望。至 于我和我的同事不仅有机会参观这些文物, 而且竟然能亲身 参与保护它们,这不能不说是我事业中最美好的经历之一。

古代雕塑是敷了彩的。不单在中国,而且在其它古文明中的雕塑均经过彩绘。即使这一事实自 19 世纪以来已为专家所了解,但科学研究、技术分析乃至对彩绘意义的阐释仍然处于起步阶段。因此,古代雕塑的外貌究竟如何,我们的认识还是非常不全面的。这次研讨会上,将有报告专门探讨诸如有关彩绘材料方面的问题。鉴于这些雕塑在湿土下埋藏了 2000 多年,即使对现代科学而言,分析工作也并非不是一种挑战。当今世界各地,自然科学都面临空前彻底的变革。尽管这些科学成就引起轰动,可是考古定年学的研究才刚开始。为了我们的目标,我们要充分利用自然科学的进步。我感到十分欣慰的是,在共同研究兵马俑的彩绘时,我们成功地使用了最新的方法和工艺,项目着手之际,巴伐利亚州文物保护局的修复车间已掌握了这一工艺。在下面的报告中,我们将会更多地了解这些先进方法的细节。

不仅古代雕塑,而且古代纺织品也都上过彩。因此,只 有理解古代服装的形式,才能理解古代雕塑的彩绘。对古代 服装的认识又是了解兵马俑表面彩绘的前提之一。这次会上的有些报告将围绕这个专题,在彩绘雕塑和彩绘纺织品的结合观察上进行尝试,从而消除两个孤立的研究领域之间的隔阂。对出土纺织品的认识可以作为补充文献,来说明古代雕塑的彩绘配色,然而难得有人使用这种方法。古典考古学应立即更加重视纺织品的研究成果才是。古代中华帝国因其丝绸生产也占优先地位,她对古代晚期和早期基督教文化的影响再怎样评价也不会过高。全面的丝绸之路史尚未有人撰写。这条贸易之路迄今仍在使用,沿路最近的考古发现会对我们了解古代文化交流提供新的线索。那种古代中国与其它古代帝国彻底隔绝的观点业已完全过时,这一点在每次考古新发现中都得到了证实。

据我所知,举办以世界范围的古代雕塑彩绘为题的国际研讨会,这还是第一次。通常情况下,研究集中在地区问题和发展上,象一个如从事研究希腊古典时期的学者,又能通观同时期其它文明的最新成果的,实在是凤毛麟角。西安是古代丝绸之路的起点,也是基于此因,注定要在这儿举行研讨会,来探讨古代世界不同文化的关系、交往、相互依赖以及彼此差别。

这次"秦始皇兵马俑彩绘"研讨会系由兵马俑博物馆、巴伐利亚州文物保护局和德国国际古迹遗址协会共同举办、她当然不能展示这十年德、中两国在文物保护领域合作的所有成果。这一合作得到了德国教育、科学、研究和技术部的经济援助,新近又得到巴伐利亚州政府的赞助。因此我很荣幸向你们转达巴伐利亚州政府、尤其是我们的科学和艺术部的汉斯·策厄特迈尔部长的问候。我们和陕西省文物事业管理局合作的一项重要成果,是实施保护独特的彬县大佛寺的维修方案。该成果已由我们保护局出版。我们与临潼秦俑馆合作保护兵马俑的成果,也将会不久出版。

置研讨会开幕之际,我想向张廷皓局长和所有的中方同事、特别是临潼秦俑馆的吴永琪馆长及他的前任、著名的考古学家袁仲一教授致以谢意。此外,我还想向参与中国项目的巴伐利亚州文物保护局的所有同事、尤其是艾默林教授和史奈特拉格教授表示感谢。

这次研讨会能在西安举行,我很高兴,我相信,她一定会取得圆满成功。倘若十年后,又在西安讨论我们研讨会的专题,重新交换最新成果,那也许是饶有趣味的。此外,我们特别关切的是,继续发展多年来在中、德双方同事间建立的友谊,经过我们共同的努力,去探索保护我们伟大的历史遗产之途径。

(英译中: 陈钢林)