

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT: XXIVth ISFR CONFERENCE

The XXIVth World Conference of the International Society for Fluoride Research will be held at Piazza Ohmi in Otsu, Shiga, Japan on September 4-7, 2001. The meeting will be hosted by Professor Kazusada Yoshitake and the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery of the Shiga University of Medical Science.

Otsu, the conference venue, is an attractive city situated alongside "Biwako", Lake Biwa. Lake Biwa is Japan's largest freshwater lake and was once called "Nio-no-Umi", Sea of Grebes. It is located near the centre of Japan and from early times has been used for fishing and the transportation of goods. Some 14 million people use its water every day and the people living around Lake Biwa and those in Kyoto and Osaka are dependent on it. Since ancient times, many writers were inspired by the city of Otsu because of its beautiful surrounding landscape.

Otsu has a rich historical heritage, and the traditions of a vibrant culture characterize the city. For a brief period thirteen hundred years ago, Otsu was the capital of Japan. Later when the capital was moved to Kyoto, Otsu developed into a gateway city to eastern Japan and as a centre for land and water transport. It also became a centre for Buddhism with many major temples such as the Enryakuji Temple located there. In the Warring States Period, about 500 years ago, Otsu was involved several times and many local Samurai had their names etched in history. During the Edo Period, from 1603 to 1868, Otsu was the largest gateway city between Tokyo and Kyoto. Since that time, Otsu has remained the capital city of Shiga Prefecture.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The second announcement will include the list of invited speakers, the overall conference program, directions for preparing abstracts, and information about accommodation. Requests for the Second Announcement and registration forms for the conference should be received by May 14, 2001. Please send requests for the second announcement and correspondence to:

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The Secretary General for the conference will be Associate Professor Gaku Yamamoto at the same address.