

**“Eco-City: The Philosophy of Symbiosis
-From the Age of Machine to the Age of Life-“**

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It was in 1959 just after the collapse of CIAM movement, I declared that the world will make a shift from the Age of Machine Principle to the Age of Life Principle. Then I began metabolism movement in 1960.

Since 1960, my architecture and city planning have been designed with the keywords ‘metabolism,’ ‘recycling,’ ‘ecology’ and ‘symbiosis’ in mind. These are all the most important keywords of the life principle.

At the beginning of the 21st century, my prediction that the world will make a shift from the age of machine principle to the age of life principle, has gradually proved true.

If the machine represents an age of homogenization, economy and globalism, life represents an age of pluralism, or diversity, culture and economy.

And so following the architecture of the Age of Life is an expression of this age of diversity.

An intercultural age, the value system and lifestyle of the west and many other cultures of the world, exists in symbiosis, is dawning on us.

The doctrine of humanism that has made man the rational being second only to God, and given him control over other living things and the natural world, is facing a crisis.

We have gradually come to realize that the survival of humanity, even from an ecological perspective, depends solely on the symbiosis of the many life forms or ecosystems on our planet.

Eco-architecture and Eco-city are perhaps the goals of the Age of Life. We can no longer believe that the machine, scientific technology, and the human intellect are almighty.

My Plan for the new capital of Kazakhstan won the first prize in an international competition and was formally approved by the Parliament of Kazakhstan in June 2001.

This plan was created to achieve a number of themes including symbiosis of history and the present day, symbiosis of the city and nature, symbiosis with other organisms, or life systems, recycling of water (rain and groundwater), recycling of waste material, and sustainable growth.



Road Network



Existing Building

The new capital city of Astana will be a City of Symbiosis with History, by preserving old streets and architecture in the existing neighborhood of Akmola along with the new city on the left bank of the Ishim River.



Existing Wet-land, Rivers, and Lakes

It will also be a City of Symbiosis with Nature thanks to the River City Plan that change the role of the Ishim River from the edge of the city as waste water channel to its center for living

with nature, and the plan for an artificial forest that will protect the city from the winter winds.



Green Network



Master Plan 2010



Master Plan 2030

It will also be a completely new City of Symbiosis where the forest, Ishim River, and the urban parks are incorporated in a network by Eco-Corridors creating spaces that serve as both public parks for the citizens and as habitats for other organisms, insects, butterflies, and birds.

Discharged sewage water will be purified and recycled underground for use in irrigation of farmland.



Guide plan



Master Plan

Plan for a new city of 1500 ha with a population of 1.5 million at east of existing Zhengzhou City, which is my most recent plan, won the first prize at an international competition in December 2001.

The plan preserves all the 34 existing rivers and restores their green vegetation to create riverside parks that are incorporated in a network of Eco-Corridors.

Plan for these Eco-Corridors that link isolated ecosystems is an important method of preserving biological diversity and is an important theme in the Symbiosis City concept.

It uses an existing fish breeding pond to form an artificial lake with a surface area of 700 ha. I gave this lake the name Dragon Lake because of the shape of the lake and there is a legend about a dragon in this region.

The City of Zhengzhou will be reborn as a City of Symbiosis with Nature, where lakes and canals that are artificially created natural features are emphasized.



Bird eye view-south



Bird eye view-north

The core of the new city is planned as a ring city without a center, and the new city is planned based on the cluster method so that it will grow like cells.

This Symbiosis City or Eco city will be in a symbiotic relationship with the natural environment of its rivers and lakes and with the 3,500 year old Central Chinese cultural traditions of the old city—will begin in 2002 and be completed in 2015.