



Using Time Travel to Explore Turning Points in History Bridging Ages conference in Tallinn, Estonia, 3 - 5 June 2011



Welcome to the warm atmosphere in the Old Town of Tallinn!

The conference is organized by Bridging Ages.
International Organization in Historic Environment Education
and Time Travels together with the Tallinn City Museum.

How do we deal with turning points when writing our history? Is the turning point a way to make peace with/understand the past, a way to healing and reconciliation after a conflict? Or is it only the victor who writes the "new" history? What local sites and stories are connected to the turning point? At the Bridging Ages conference in Tallinn we are going to explore how we deal with Turning Points in History in today's society. We will use the Time Travel method to experience the changes in Estonian history in the 1980s.

Some of the key questions

- How should the past be told and whose stories and perspectives are important?
- In what way can turning points in the past promote social cohesion and peace today?
- How can local historic sites and events be used to explore turning points in history? What is the role of museums, schools, universities, municipalities and community organizations?
- What educational methods are useful in understanding and learning from changes and turning points in the past? Studies-story telling-Time Travels-...



Tallinn Old Town (photo by Mari Ollino)

Program

2nd of June -Thursday

Arrival, informal meeting at Tallinn City Museum

3rd of June - Friday

08:30 – 09:15 Registration at Hopners House (Raekoja plats 18).

09:15 Opening. Introduction.

10:15 From the "Cradle of Mankind" to the defeat of Apartheid. *Gulshera Khan, Port Shepstone, Twinning Association, South Africa*

11:15 *Coffee break*

11:45 Presentations

12:45 *Lunch*

14:00 Regaining independence of Estonia as a turning point – through the changes in history teaching. *Mare Oja, History Didactics, Tallinn University, Estonia* + Presentation

15:30 *Coffee break*

16:00 – 18:00 Visit at Estonian History Museum in Maarjamäe. Watching documentary shots

20:00 – 22:00 *Dinner at restaurant Olde Hansa*

4th of June - Saturday

09:00 – 14:30 Time Travel to 1986

(including transport, lunch and reflection)

16:30 Parallel sessions (Kiek in de Kök tower)

18:00 *Evening program: a tour in the passages under the bastions (permanent exhibition "Time Travel: Tallinn 1219 – 2219") or in the armoury of Kiek in de Kök tower*

19:30 *Light meal (Kiek in de Kök)*



Kiek in de Kök tower (photo by Jaan Künnap)

5th of June - Sunday

09:00 Turning Points and Lifestyle of the Samburus and other People in Northern Kenya.

Steven Labarakwe, Education Officer, Laisamis district, Joseph Lekuton, MP, Kenya + Presentation

10:30 *Coffee break*

11:00 Parallel sessions and workshops

12:30 *Lunch*

13:45 Panel discussion

15:45 Closing the conference

6th of June - Monday

09:00 – 16:00 Excursion program:

A tour in Northern Estonia (visiting museums and sightseeing, including lunch)

Time Travel to 1986 at a school in Tallinn!

In the Time Travel 4th of June we will explore the mid 1980s, when the big change and turning point in Estonia is on its way. We meet students and teachers, take part in lessons at a Soviet school of the time. And behind the surface there are discussions about a change in society. What is the way to go? Can we work together towards more freedom and independence? What is our way in Estonia? What is my contribution?

List of accepted presentations (in alphabetical order):

Time Travels – a powerful tool for learning. *Helen Eklund, Kalmar County Museum, Sweden*

Turning points in Italian History: the invasion of the Lombards in Northern Italy AD 568. *Eugenia Bolognesi Franceschini, Associazione Palatina-Istanbul, Italy*

Venice, the meeting place of humanity and cultural between Eastern and Western civilizations. *Cecile Franchetti, Manueala Savoia, University of Cà Foscari, Venice, Italy*

Museums as Study Environments in Teacher Training at the University of Tartu. *Igne Lembinen, University of Tartu, Estonia*

Building Blocks of Democracy. *Kedi Lerefolo, Potchefstroom Time Travel Committee, South Africa*

HAMN – a local and regional development arena in Fisksätra 2010-2013. *Sirje Miller, Cultural Project Coordinator, Nacka, Sweden*

Turning Points from the grave: Can funeral services serve as a yardstick to measure the turning points in the socio-economic history of South Africa? *Radikobo Ntsimane, University of KZN, South Africa*

The turning points in the past and in the role of the museum today. *Agrita Ozola, Tukums Museum, Latvia*

Presentation of Stundars Virtual Time Travel. *Gunilla Sand, Stundars Open Air Museum, Finland*

Finding Balance Between the Stories We Tell and How We Tell Them at a Small Historic Site. *Terry Swanson, Gibbs Museum, St. Paul, Minnesota, USA*

Narva Museum's Northern Yard as a way of time travelling and edutainment. *Jevgeni Timoštšuk, Narva Museum, Estonia*

Sustainable Tourism Works in Bornova. From Neolithic Period up to Today. *Ümit Tuncag, Bornova municipality, Izmir, Turkey*

The picture of a civil war – 90 years later. *Annina Ylikoski, The Ostrobothnian children's culture network BARK, SOLF Finland*

More information about the conference:

<http://linnamuseum.ee/linnamuseum/en/using-time-travel-to-explore-turning-points-in-history/>
or www.bridgingages.com

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Tallinn by sea.

“Living with differences”

San-Khoi Time Travels in the Cederberg mountains, South Africa, October 2010

A group of hunter-gatherers (San) meet a group of pastoralists (Khoi) in the year 1410

Three schools in the Cederberg mountains close to Clanwilliam - Kweekkraal, Elisabethfontein and Grootkloof Primary schools - all part of Bridging Ages South Africa, each held their own Time Travel in October 2010. All three schools were supported by staff from the Kalmar County Museum in Sweden, Cape Nature, Cederberg municipality and Clanwilliam Living Landscape Project.

The common theme for all the Time Travels were “Living with differences”. Is it possible for a group of hunter-gatherers and a group of pastoralists to live together in spite of that they look different, speak different languages, have different customs, use different resources of the landscape etc

Elisabethfontein school traveled back in time to a wedding ceremony, a Namaqua (pastoralist) boy wanted to marry a /Xam (hunter-gatherer) girl. Is that possible? Maybe the groups will benefit from the marriage?

In the Kweekkraal school Time Travel there was an argument between some Namaquas and /Xam over a couple of stolen/lost sheep. How can we settle this dispute and not turn it into a real fight? How do we encourage better relations between our groups?

The Grootkloof school involved the whole community in their Time Travel - a /Xam (hunter-gatherer) gathering, where a group of Grigiriquas (pastoralists) turned up. This Time Travel also included some courtship.

In all three Time Travels the learners and the adults were divided, about half the group became hunter-gatherers and half the group pastoralists. While working they discussed: “Can we get along?” “If I teach you how to make a painting, you teach me how to use the bow and arrow.”



Professor John Parkington, University of Cape Town and Rupert Koopman, Cape Nature explain the history in the landscape. Learners from Grootkloof School and community members in Algeria prepare for the Time Travel to 1410 AD.

For the learners as well as the teachers their first Time Travels were an experience that will never be forgotten. The teachers soon realized this powerful educational tool and how it is connected to the social science curriculum. This was also a way for the learners (and adults) to understand their cultural roots. The mere thought that their ancestors did the same activities that they were doing was a mindblowing experience.

*Chester Davids
Principal Kweekkraal Primary*



Everybody needs a necklace for the wedding ceremony between a hunter-gatherer girl and a pastoralist boy. Time Travel with Elisabethfontein School close to some rock paintings.

Reflections from learners:

“Today I learned that we must respect others because we can learn from each other.”

“Life at that time was simple because everyone ate from the veld and meat didn’t have any spice”

“I was very far away. There were no TV’s, cellphones and tapes and I did not even miss it.”



New rock paintings are made as a symbol of friendship between the hunter-gatherers and the pastoralists. Time Travel to 1410 at Kweekkrall School.

Gibbs Museum of Pioneer and Dakota Life Minnesota, USA

Gibbs Museum of Pioneer and Dakota Life is an 8-acre historic site that celebrates the life and times of Jane Gibbs (1827-1910) and her family. Gibbs Museum is a program of the Ramsey County Historical Society, which also operates a research facility in the historic Landmark Center in St. Paul, MN and produces Ramsey County History, a quarterly publication.

Educational programs are central to the mission of Gibbs Museum. Over 15,000 children in grades K-5 visit the seasonal museum (May-October) each year for pioneer and Dakota field trips. Additionally, hundreds of children attend our day camp programs each summer.

Back to School

This past winter we created a new educational experience, Back to School, which was designed for home-schooled children. We ran the program for three weeks, with 68 children participating. The program is especially rewarding because the home-school model closely parallels the tradition of one-room schoolhouses in the nineteenth century.

We have good documentation about the Gibbs' one-room schoolhouse, which opened in 1873 across the street from their home. Mr. Gibbs was instrumental in forming the school district; hiring the teacher, Mary Lake to teach area children; and providing living quarters for Miss Lake for several years.

As children arrived at the site they picked a pioneer name, donned period clothing and set off across the prairie to the schoolhouse. Miss Lake greeted the children and welcomed them back after the Christmas break. During the four-hour program children focused on reading, writing and arithmetic, but there were also games, an outdoor science project and a spelling bee. All lessons were taught at different grade levels just as in the nineteenth century. The school rules and chores assigned to the children are the things most discussed in the evaluations.

We have scheduled *Back to School* for a 10-week period in 2011 to run from mid-January through March and expect to reach 250-500 children.

Terry Swanson, Gibbs Museum of Pioneer and Dakotah Life, Minnesota, USA



The First National Bridging Ages Conference in Turkey

21- 22 June 2011



A Time Travel to 1533 in the Darüssifa, hospital, next to the Sultan Mosque in Manisa. This Time Travel in September 2010 was organised for the Manisa Time Travel committee. In the conference in June 2011 there will probably be more than 150 persons who seek cure for their diseases in 1533 (2011).

The first national Time Travel conference in Turkey will be hosted by Bayraklı, Bornova and Karşıyaka municipalities from İzmir, and Manisa municipality. It is supported by Bridging Ages International and Union of Turkish Municipalities (TBB).

The conference aims to present the Time Travel Project, that has been going on for three years in the four Turkish municipalities together with Kalmar municipality/ Kalmar County Museum in Sweden.

In the conference there will be participants from universities, museums, municipalities, students, those interested in historic environment education all over Turkey, and also our project partners from Sweden. A book prepared in the same context, on the experiences of Time Travels in Turkey so far, will be handed out to the participants.

On the first day of the conference, the presentations will be given and on the second day there will be a Time Travel to 1533 in the Darüşşifa (hospital), Sultan Mosque.

We will be happy to see everyone who is interested in our national conference, Time Travels and heritage education, in Manisa and İzmir 21-22 June, cities where you can see natural and historical beauty together.

Conference program in the beginning of May on www.bridgingages.com

*Ebru İltenmiş
Manisa Municipality*

Bridging Ages

International Organization in Historic Environment Education and Time Travels

Bridging Ages is an international organization utilizing nearby history to understand life and society of today, recreating the past in an educational setting. Bridging Ages consists of people from schools, communities, museums, local historic societies and everybody who is interested in the local heritage. People from twenty countries in Europe, America, Africa and Asia are part of the organization.

Historic Environment Education and Time Travels

- It focuses on local sites and the stories of the sites
- It has a bottom up perspective, history from below
- In the key questions today and the past are connected
- There is an interaction with the community and the schools in research, education/studies and Time Travels
- A Time Travel always has a reflecting dialogue; learning by doing, reflection and challenging

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