



Final Report

2011 Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term
Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts
Osaka Foundation of International Exchange
(OFIX)

2011 年度 大阪府海外短期建築・芸術研修生招聘事業
大阪府国際交流財団



OFIX
ANDO
2011



大阪府国際交流財団（OFIX）

〒540-0029

大阪市中央区本町橋 2-5

マイドームおおさか 5階

TEL:06-6966-2400

FAX:06-6966-2401

E-mail: info@ofix.or.jp

Osaka Foundation of International Exchange(OFIX)

5F My Dome Osaka

2-5 Honmachi-bashi, Chuo-ku, Osaka-city

540-0029 Japan

TEL : (81)6-6966-2400

FAX: (81)6-6966-2401

E-mail: info@ofix.or.jp

Preface

This program is funded by Mr. Tadao Ando, a world-class architect from Osaka, who was awarded and the first recipient of Carlsberg Architectural Prize in May, 1992. Mr. Ando, with his deep interest in the internationalization of Osaka, donated all of the prize money to the Osaka Prefectural government. OFIX received his donation through the Osaka Prefectural government and, in accordance with the wish of Mr. Ando, established the "Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts" as a Tadao Ando - Carlsberg Architectural Prize-Winning Memorial Program.

Also there are companies and organizations who support the program's objective of inviting about 10 students from various Asian countries who are majoring in architecture and art. This program is held every autumn for a period of one month.

The program started in 1993 and as of 2011 has accepted 19th groups of trainees. Since its establishment, it has accepted more than 169 participants from 19 countries. It has been highly rated among young Asian aspiring architects as the only program that can offer what other programs cannot.

We at OFIX deeply appreciate the cooperation of Mr. Ando, Corporate Members, training host companies, volunteers and other sources of this program.

This publication compiles records of the 2011 Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts program. We hoped that the report will serve as a reference not only for people involved in the program, but also for the 2011 trainees and young Japanese who will play a global role, to help enhance future mutual exchange.

Osaka Foundation of International Exchange
Chairman of Board of Directors
Takeshi Matsui

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface

I . Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term Overseas Trainees in Architect and Arts

1. Program Overview	31
2. Profile of Tadao Ando	33

II . 2011 Training Schedule

1. Program Schedule	34
2. Host Company Profile	35
3. Report	
Discussion (Yusfan Adeputera Yusran)	37
Company Training: Takenaka Corporation (KanchanaNyaichyai)	41
Company Training: Obayashi Corporation (Wang Wenya)	44
Company Training: Zenitaka Corporation (Tran Hoang Kien)	47
Company Training: Daiwa House Industry (Gadkari Mayura Mukund)	50
Asia Youth Symposium on Architectural Interchange Program	53
(Oryza Angga Irawan)	
International Understanding Education (Hetti Arachchige Amal Priyantha Peiris) ...	55
Others (Rachaniporn Tiempayotorn)	57
4. Special Thanks	58

Annex

1. List of 2011 Trainees
2. Discussion Report & Presentation
3. Symposium Report & Presentation
4. Final Presentation
5. Photographs

I. Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts

1. Program Overview

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Title | 2011 Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts |
| 2. Purpose | This project uses donations from the Osaka native architect, Mr. Tadao Ando, and companies who support the purpose of this program to invite overseas students majoring in architecture or arts to Osaka. The objectives of the program are to bring about a better understanding of Japanese culture and architecture and to support the development of architecture and arts in the trainees' countries. |
| 3. Eligibility | Trainees must be of Asian nationality and currently residing in Asia and aged under 35 with having high English proficiency ability.
(1) Must be currently enrolled in OR a graduate of Master and Ph.D program majoring in architecture or related field.
(2) Persons recommended by institutions or organizations approved by OFIX
(3) Persons who receive the approval of the Osaka Foundation of International Exchange (OFIX). |
| 4. Countries | 8 trainees
China (1), India (1), Indonesia (2), Nepal (1), Sri Lanka (1), Thailand (1), Vietnam (1) |
| 5. Duration | September 20, 2011 to October 18, 2011 (29 days) |
| 6. Host | Major general construction companies in Osaka and Osaka Foundation of International Exchange (OFIX) |
| 7. Activities | (1) Weekday practical training sessions and visits to a construction site of one of the top general construction companies in Japan.
(2) Group discussions with young architects and Japanese students majoring in architecture or art.
(3) Weekend trips to see buildings designed by Mr. Tadao Ando and urban and historical sites in Osaka and the Kansai region.
(4) Home-stay with OFIX volunteer families.
(5) Participation into International Understanding Education Event |
| 8. Official Languages | English |
| 9. Expenses | OFIX bears the costs of the trainees' accommodation, living expense, basic travel insurance, and a round-trip economy-class ticket. |
| 10. Coordinators | Osaka Foundation of International Exchange (OFIX)
5F My Dome Osaka 2-5 Honmachibashi,
Chuuou-ku, Osaka-city, 540-0029, Japan
Phone: (+81) 6-6966-2400 Fax: (+81) 6-6966-2401 |

11. Program History & Participants (The past 15 years)

FY1995 (1 st half)	July 24 - August 12, 1995 (20 days) Bangladesh (1), China (1), Indonesia (1), Vietnam (1)
FY1995 (2 nd half)	March 25 – April 13, 1996 (20 days) Laos (1), Mongolia (1), Nepal (1), Thailand (1)
FY1996	October 19 – 27, 1996 (9 days) China (1), India (1), Malaysia (1), Mongolia (1), Philippines (1), Singapore (1), Thailand (1)
FY1997	November 10 – December 8, 1997 (29 days) China (1), Laos (1), Nepal (1), Sri Lanka (1), Vietnam (1)
FY1998	October 5 – November 3, 1998 (30 days) China (3), Indonesia (2), Korea (2), Laos (1), Nepal (1), Singapore (1), Sri Lanka (1), Thailand (1), Vietnam (1)
FY1999	October 7 – November 5, 1999 (30 days) Cambodia (1), China (1), Indonesia (1), Korea (2), Nepal (2), Philippines (2), Sri Lanka (1), Thailand (1)
FY2000	October 5 – November 3, 2000 (30 days) China (2), Hong Kong (2), Indonesia (2), Korea (1), Nepal (2), Taiwan (1), Thailand (1)
FY2001	September 6 – October 5, 2001 (30 days) China (1), Hong Kong (1), Indonesia (2), Korea (1), Nepal (3), Taiwan (1), Thailand (2), Turkey (1),
FY2002	October 3 – November 1, 2002 (30 days) Cambodia (1), China (1), Indonesia (2), Korea (2), Nepal (3), Sri Lanka (1), Taiwan (1), Thailand (1),
FY2003	September 18 – October 17, 2003 (30 days) Cambodia (1), China (1), Indonesia (3), Korea (2), Nepal (3), Thailand (2)
FY2004	September 9 – October 8, 2004 (30 days) China (2), Indonesia (3), Korea (1), Nepal (3), Taiwan (1), Thailand (1), UAE (1)
FY2005	September 5 – October 4, 2005 (30 days) China (1), Korea (1), Indonesia (3), Laos (1), Nepal (2), Sri Lanka (1), Taiwan (1), Thailand (1), Vietnam (1)
FY2006	November 7 – December 6, 2006 (30 days) China (2), Hong Kong (1), India (1), Indonesia (2), Korea (1), Malaysia (1), Mongolia (1), Nepal (1), Thailand (1), Vietnam (1)
FY2007	October 16 – November 14, 2007 (30 days) China (2), Hong Kong (1), India (1), Indonesia (2), Korea (1), Nepal (1), Sri Lanka (1), Taiwan (1)
FY2008	October 7 – November 11, 2008 (30 days) China (1), Hong Kong (1), Indonesia (2), Korea (1), Nepal (1), Sri Lanka (1), Taiwan (1), Thailand (1), Vietnam (1)
FY2009	September 29 – October 28, 2009 (30 days) China (2), Indonesia (2), Korea (1), Nepal (1), Sri Lanka (1), Taiwan (1), Thailand (1), Vietnam (1)
FY2010	September 14 – October 13, 2010 (30 days) China (2), Indonesia (2), Korea (1), Mongolia (1), Nepal (1), Sri Lanka (1), Taiwan (1), Thailand (1)

2. Profile of Tadao Ando

- 1941 Born in Osaka, Japan
- 1962-69 Self-educated in architecture
Traveled in U.S.A., Europe and Africa
- 1969 Established Tadao Ando Architect & Associates

Awards

- 1979 Annual Prize, Architectural Institute of Japan
“Row House, Sumiyoshi”
- 1985 The 5th Alvar Aalto Medal, The Finnish Association of Architects, Finland
- 1989 Gold Medal of Architecture, Académie d’ Architecture
(French Academy of Architecture), France
- 1993 Japan Art Academy Prize, Japan
- 1995 The Pritzker Architecture Prize, U.S.A.
- 1996 The 8th Premium Imperiale
- 2002 Gold Medal of the American Institute of Architects, U.S.A.
Honorary Degree, Università Degli Studi di Roma, Italy
Honorary Degree, Tongji University, Shanghai, China
The Kyoto Prizes, Japan
- 2003 Person of Cultural Merit, Japan
- 2005 Gold Medal of Union Internationale des Architectes
- 2010 Order of Culture

Affiliations

- 2002 Honorary Academician, The Royal Academy of Arts in London

Academic Activities

- 1987 Yale University, Visiting Professor
- 1988 Columbia University, Visiting Professor
- 1990 Harvard University, Visiting Professor
- 1997- The University of Tokyo, Professor
- 2003- The University of Tokyo, Emeritus Professor
- 2005 University of California, Berkeley, Regent Professor

Representative Works

- 1983 Rokko Housing I, II (1993), III (1999) Kobe, Hyogo
- 1989 Church of the Light, Ibaraki, Osaka
- 1992 Benesse House/Naoshima Contemporary Art Museum & Annex (1995), Naoshima, Kagawa
- 1994 Chikatsu-Asuka Historical Museum, Kanan, Osaka
- 2000 Awaji-Yumebutai (Awaji Island Project), Higashiura, Hyogo
Komyo-ji Temple, Saijo, Ehime
FABRICA (Benetton Communications Research Center), Treviso, Italy
- 2001 Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts, St. Louis, U.S.A.
ARMANI/TEATRO, Milan, Italy
Sayamaike Historical Museum, Osaka-Sayama, Osaka
- 2002 Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, Kobe, Hyogo
The International Library of Children’s Literature, Taito, Tokyo
Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, U.S.A.
- 2003 4 x 4 House, Kobe, Hyogo
- 2004 Chichu Art Museum, Naoshima, Kagawa
Langen Foundation, Hombroich Museum, Neuss, Germany
- 2006 Omotesando Regeneration Project (Omotesando Hills) Shibuya, Tokyo
The Palazzo Grassi, Venice, Italy
- 2007 21_21 DESIGN SIGHT, Tokyo
- 2009 Aqua Metropolis General Adviser (Aqua Metropolis Osaka 2009)
- 2010 CHASKA CHAYAMACHI

II. 2011 Training Schedule

1. Program Schedule

No.	Date	Day	Program	Coordinator
1	Sep-20	Tue	Arrival in Osaka / Orientation	OFIX
2	Sep-21	Wed	AM: Opening Ceremony Courtesy Call to Osaka Pref Gov, Osaka Disucussion PM: Welcome Party - Visit to Companies	
3	Sep-22	Thr	Presentation & Discussion	Mr.Gunter Nitschke
4	Sep-23	Fri	Kyoto Study Tour	
5	Sep-24	Sat	Self-Study	
6	Sep-25	Sun		
7	Sep-26	Mon	Practical Training Session	Host Company
8	Sep-27	Tue		
9	Sep-28	Wed		
10	Sep-29	Thr		
11	Sep-30	Fri	Ando Study Tour (Shibaryotaro Museum, Sayamaike,etc)	OFIX
12	Oct-1	Sat	Homestay at OFIX Hostfamilies	
13	Oct-2	Sun		
14	Oct-3	Mon	Practical Training Session	Host Company
15	Oct-4	Tue	AM: Practical Training Session PM:Courtesy Call to Ando Office	
16	Oct-5	Wed	Practical Training Session	Host Company
17	Oct-6	Thr		
18	Oct-7	Fri	Asia Youth Symposium On Architectural Interchange with Kobe Design University	OFIX
19	Oct-8	Sat		
20	Oct-9	Sun	Self-Study	
21	Oct-10	Mon		
22	Oct-11	Tue	Practical Training Session	Host Company
23	Oct-12	Wed		
24	Oct-13	Thr		
25	Oct-14	Fri	International Understanding Education	OFIX
26	Oct-15	Sat	Self-Study	
27	Oct-16	Sun		
28	Oct-17	Mon	Closing Session, Farewell Party & OFIX NEWS Interview	OFIX
29	Oct-18	Tue	Departure from Osaka	

2. Host Company Profile

■ Daiwa House Industry Co., Ltd.

Head Office

Founded: 1955

Employees: 13,482 (as of April 1, 2011)

3-3-5, Umeda 3-chome, Kita-ku, Osaka 530-8241

URL: <http://www.daiwahouse.co.jp/>

■ Obayashi Corporation

Founded: January 1892

Employees: 9,246 (As of March 2011)

33, 4-chome, Kitahamahigashi, Chuo-ku, Osaka 540-8584

URL: <http://www.obayashi.co.jp/>

■ Takenaka Corporation

Head Office/Osaka Main Office

Founded: 1610

Employees: 7,780 (as of January 2011)

1-13, 4-chome, Hommachi, Chuo-ku, Osaka 541-0053

URL: <http://www.takenaka.co.jp/>

■ Zenitaka Corporation

Head Office

Founded: 1705

Employees: 1,276 (as of March 31, 2011)

Naniwasuji Twins West, 2-11, Nishi-Hommachi 2-chome, Nishi-ku, Osaka 550-0005

URL: <http://www.zenitaka.co.jp/>

3. Report

This report was made up by the 2011 Trainees, each one covering a different event of the 2011 Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term Oversea Trainees in Architecture and Arts. These reports tell of what they have learned, experienced, and felt, expressed in their own words. As each content reflects each of the trainees' character, please note that there will be differences in the style of writing.

.....

Discussion	(Yusfan Adeputera Yusran)
Company Training: Takenaka Corporation	(Kanchana Nyaichyai)
Company Training: Obayashi Corporation	(Wang Wenya)
Company Training: Zenitaka Corporation	(Tran Hoang Kien)
Company Training: Daiwa House Industry	(Gadkari Mayura Mukund)
Asia Youth Symposium on Architectural Interchange Program	(Oryza Angga Irawan)
International Understanding Education	(Hetti Arachchige Amal Priyantha Peiris)
Others	(Rachaniporn Tiempayotorn)



Discussion

By Yusfan Adeputera Yusran , Indonesia

The development of current architecture leads to modernization of construction methods, which is very influential in shaping human character and way of life. Individualism is seen as the real implications of technological developments and information especially in architectural style. As one of main parts of Ando Program 2011, we, as the trainees, have to present some issues from our country about sustainability. The program was supervised by Günther Nitschke, Director of Institute for East Asian Architecture. At the beginning of this session, Mr. Nitschke made a presentation on how Japanese people preserve their cultural identity. From the story about Kyoto to Tokyo, Osaka to Nara, he showed us how the cities in Japan evolved from imperial ages to modern times. Kyoto, as the old capital city of Japan, has a significant influence toward urban development because Kyoto itself was once a political capital, national capital, cultural capital, and tourist capital. With the philosophy of Chinese geomancy, Kyoto developed as the most strategic city in Japan, which until now still retains the culture such as the temples, and shrines, structured into the shape of every district in Kyoto which is based on *cho*.



After Mr. Nitschke's presentation, he gave us the opportunity to present the sustainable issues from our countries. Starting from Yusfan Adeputera Yusran, trainee from East Java – Indonesia, he proposed about renewed thinking of conservation. In his presentation, Yusfan showed a case study from Waerebo, Indonesia where the reconstruction of a five storey traditional house called *mbaru niang* was conducted. The reconstruction itself was a form of an encouraged effort to transfer knowledge about the procedures either before, during or after the development process in conserving a building. Conservation effort in Indonesian traditional architecture should be responsive to the building needs developed through an appreciation of local traditions, rather than trying to implement universal design solutions, regardless of the disparity of aspirations and culture. Furthermore, participatory methods in conservation efforts need to be encouraged because basically this concept is philosophical democracy meaning of indigenous peoples on *Nusantara*. When individuals have a stronger sense to their community, they will respond positively in solving their community problems, and would be willing to donate their time and ability to meet their community needs. Their contribution in the community can be an inspiration to others to be motivated in protecting and improving their meaningful places. Sustaining both the traditional village and its traditional house with such a program so that

there will be an assimilation of form with the new function (rearchitecture). Besides being able to promote ecotourism, the program could sustain village existence as well as a reference for future development.

The second presentation hosted by Mayura Gadkari from India. Mayura's assumed that besides demolishing the historical district to increase urban area, gentrification should also be the result of changing functions of the inner city. Transformation of the city ensue changes in all aspects and the result is the city will start to decay. Mayura proposed an urban renewal concept with back to the roots approach. With a case study in Amedabad city where there is a typology of clustered residences with 'Pols' and numerous places which still keep the heritage value. Pols in Amedabad are unique neighbourhoods consisting of clusters of houses around narrow streets with common courtyards, community wells and *chabutaro* (raised platforms for feeding birds). According to Mr. Nitschke, the bird feeder pole is a embodiment of the sense of place. Sense of place are important to identify a place and make the place identifiable by nonresident people. Also the sense of place increase sustainable communities that value healty ecosystems, use resources efficiently and actively retain heritage value.

The third presentation was delivered by Kanchana Nyaichyai from Nepal. She proposed planning for sustainable urban ecological development of the historical town and river front of Kathmandu. Unfortunately, the unmanaged sewerage connections, solid waste dumping and development of uncontrolled squatter settlements along the river banks have damaged the environmental conditions in Kathmandu. Some trends show that humans had abandoned their culture in their way of life. Nowadays, people do not know how to preserve water resources, or how to keep the soil remain fertile, or how to maintain the traditional house, which are the essence of how to live with nature harmoniously. Mr. Nitschke gave us some views that basically the main problem faced by Kathmandu city is the water and the behavior of its people because river fronts are the main point for all kind of activities of south Asian people (for daily activities and ritual ceremonies).

Next presentation brought by Tran Hoang Kien from Vietnam. Kien's presentation was about the return of natural material in Vietnamese modern architecture. He assumed that natural materials have their own advantages especially in the term of environment-friendliness. Besides being readily available, natural materials have much lower carbon emission levels and can achieve adequate microclimatic performance passively. In Vietnamese contemporary architecture, natural materials reappear in finishing, wall and structure which are made from wood and bamboo dominantly. Furthermore, the effort in rediscovering traditional architecture can be achieved by optimizing the use of natural materials in current buildings so that young architect can appreciate and determine the uniqueness of Vietnamese architecture.

Oryza Angga Irawan from Bali – Indonesia presented his on-going project in Bali. Ayoman Hills project expected to accommodate either economical or environmental responsibility and adopt the local character.

To accommodate the goverment regulations of Bali, this project optimizes the contour of the site. Besides that,



this project connects human, animal and plant as inhabitants of the ecosystem so the building in the site has three layers: the human zone, animal zone and plant zone. Local materials like riverstone were used also for this project to minimize transportation cost as well as to empower local communities. With the typology of Balinese house, Oryza and his team using simple technology (bamboo module) for cost-effectiveness and also to facilitate the local workers in construction. Recycled ironwood were used for the structure as posts, beams and deckings and also for thatched roof for effective insulation.

The next presentation was delivered by Hetti Arachchige Amal Priyantha Peiris from Sri Lanka. He presented about a hotel sustainability project at Sri Lanka. In his presentation, Amal showed us the green concept of The Heritance Kandalama Hotel. Heritance Kandalama has gone to great lengths to safeguard the delicate eco system and environment in which it rests. The hotel is built in the configuration of the outspread wings of a bird and located between two rocks so that the foundation and the columns are clearly seen resting on natural rock. At the point of building the hotel, the natural landscape was used as the main ingredient to flow freely from the mountainside into the Kandalama Lake. Native plants and the grounds were not disturbed as much as possible. The eco design has accommodated maximum natural light enabling more energy conservation. With green philosophy, Kandalama hotel tries to: help local communities, increase economic benefits, assist local crafts, and also revive disappearing traditions. The hotel does not deprive the communities of basic resources at all, but has very actively provided basic resources. This has created tremendous impact in boosting basic services and economic activity in the village. The conservation and recycling processes of the hotel are also designed to assist the social and economic growth of the villagers who live close to the hotel.

Rachaniporn Tiempyotorn from Thailand presented her proposal project in Bangkok named Lan Chalerm Prakiet; a new urban space in the historic center of Bangkok. This project aims to enrich the cultural identity, to increase the green space, landscape and open spaces in the historic center and to create a connection between the community and the city. So, Racha and her team first analyzed the character of *lan* (plaza). In the past, people share the outdoor space, which is *lan*, as their everyday space for working and meeting, an extension of the living and dining room. From this step, Racha wanted to integrate the historical aspect at the site in Ratchadamnern with the custom of Thai people. The project could be the bridge of two different places with different activities and characteristics. So, the key solution for the project was to create a place that is full of life and also provide spaces for holding events that attract people from day to night. This project was presented in a competition and won the 2nd best prize.

And the last presentation was presented by Wang Wenya from Shanghai – China. She also presented a project that she was involved in. The project was located in Doland street, downtown of Shanghai. In essence, this project sought to protect a cultural heritage building area. In the overall design process, in order to enhance the region's recognition and identification, the planning had to be harmonious with the overall appearance. This is done by identifying the node of the design, spatial patterns and building colors. But the final result does not seem to be in harmony with the buildings that have been there before. Design of the building seemed to dominate and cover the old buildings. Mr. Nitschke gave some suggestions on how to combine the new and the old. He expected us not to get too euphoric with modern styles that can make the face of the city into a concrete forest. We have to recognize our culture and implement that not only on the face of building that faces the main road, but also on how building works so that the humans inside can also recognize the culture.

At the end of this symposium, Tran Hoang Kien from Vietnam and Mayura Gadkari from India received some prize from Mr. Nitschke for their liveliness in the discussion. On the next day, Mr. Nitschke took us to Kyoto and showed us what he had presented in the discussion, about how Japanese people preserved their culture, how the *cho* was formed, and we visited many heritage places like temples and shrines, also traditional houses that still keep life with its activities. Although tired from moving from one place to another on foot, we could gain various kinds of information and see and feel the sensation of history.

We would like to express our appreciation and gratefulness to Mr. Günther Nitschke and his assistant Esther Tsoi for their guidance at Discussion Session and all the valuable information about Japanese people and culture and also the jokes and laughter during the tour. Aside from them, to Suenaga-san (Our Japanese Oto-san) and Alvin (Oni-san) for encouraging us with jokes during the tour despite being tired. It was always just fun.



Company Training: Takenaka Corporation

By Kanchana Nyaichyai , Nepal

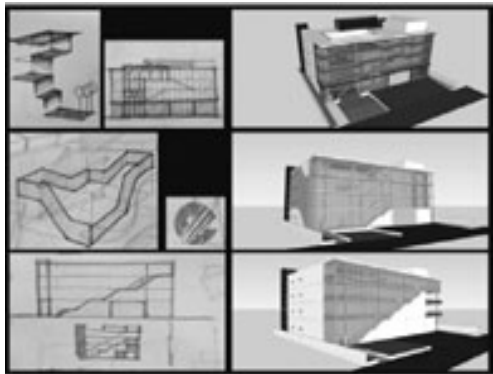
It was our (Kanchana Nyaichyai and Oryza Angga Irawan) very first experience to have an international program. We are very thankful to OFIX for selecting us as trainees in Ando's Program. We have three weeks training session in a Japanese Construction Company. Our host company was **Takenaka Corporation**. I Kanchana Nyaichyai from Nepal and Oryza Angga Irawan from Indonesia were selected to have training at the Design Section of Takenaka.



Oryza belongs to the **Yushita's Group (Design section I)** and I belonged to **Ishiko's Group (Design Section II)**. Mr. Oryza worked with the team of **Yamada san** and my field coordinator was **Saito san**.

Takenaka is one of the top construction companies among the 5 big construction companies in Japan. The company has the history of 400 years. The Takenaka family belonged to a carpenter family in ancient times of Japan. The main objective of this construction company is to give quality service to the client from design to construction. Takenaka provides a wide range building service expertise as well as skilled architects. Takenaka believes in the concept of creating environmentally conscious, safe, comfortable and people-friendly architecture.

As Oryza and I were in different section so we did a different task within the training session. My group Ishiko's group main theme for me is **"Enjoy Japan and learn its art and architecture from visiting different places"**. And Oryza worked within the office. On the very first day of the training session we were introduced to our own design team and section and were shown the different projects of Takenaka and its history. Takenaka is making great effort in the modern technology, buildings as well as heritage conservation. We were introduced to studio design process, working process and also in the actual current building sites. We were also shown the library where I found lots and lots of



architectural documents, books and historical books etc. I liked the collection of Historical cultural books but I could not read it because of the language. I liked the GA Documents collection the most from which I saw lots of architectural design of top architects in the world and read their biography as well as their interview from which I came to know about the architectural trend in the world. Oryza was involved in one industry design project.

According to him, the name of the project is **ENDO PROJECT**. The concept of the project is **to make a connection between the space inside the lab and the outside environment**. So, the front facade was proposed to be transparent (made by glass) and also proposed another concept by making the

connection of the spaces between the inside and outside through a **"green waterfall"**. The project chief was Yamada san. From this project we learned the design studio process.

Every Monday there was a meeting in each Design section to give a progress report of the project. I and Oryza also attended the meeting although we could not understand the whole meeting due to the language problem, but we enjoyed the meeting and tried to learn about the design team consultation through the Design team meeting. I was very much interested in the Roof Garden, which we saw in the Takenaka office building. It was incredible and somehow they tried to give a Green feature within the building. Mr Saito San made a schedule to visit another Building constructed and Designed by the Takenaka with the Roof Garden with the designer Mr. Fujita San.

I and Oryza went together to visit Kansai University to see the buildings constructed by the Takenaka with the Roof Garden. The main objective of the visit was not only to see the architectural design but also to know and learn university culture in the Japan. When we went there, students were preparing for the annual cultural program like preparing for the stalls etc. After the Kansai university visit we went to Expo 70's commercial park. This expo park is one of the famous parks. The Expo70 Commemorative Park is about 260 Hectares. In the huge park, there remain parts of the facilities of the Expo 70, such as the Japanese Garden and the Japan Folk Crafts Museum. The park has five areas; the Japanese Garden, the Natural and Cultural Gardens, cultural institution area, sports and recreation area, and the parking area. We traveled by Mono Rail to reach there. It was quite exciting and enjoyable.



Fig: Kansai University (RINPUKAN), Commercial Expo Park

We had a construction site visit at Tennoji, which is the one of the biggest and ambitious project of Takenaka as the tower is going to be the tallest tower in Japan. The project name is **A-project, Abeno Harukas**. The external design was done by the world-renowned architect **Ceser Pelli**, who has designed numerous landmarks and skyscrapers. The buildings height will be 300m. They considered a lot of engineering technology like earthquake resistance, wind resistance etc. They considered environmental sustainability as well. Community harmony was also incorporate in this design. The targeted completion year is 2013.

Similarly we went to another construction site visit at Kyoto, **"Kyoto Sangyo University"**. The main concept of this university was derived from the city planning of Kyoto itself using the grid iron pattern. We learned about the construction procedure, working style and construction management from this visit.

One of the most impressive tours for me is the Himeji Castle. Himeji Castle is listed as a World heritage site. It is said that Himeji Castle is the best Castle in Japan. The renovation work is going on during my visit but we could see the construction process and renovation work. Collection and management of the lord's stuff like clothes, weapons, the building materials etc were very impressive. From this I saw the management skills and preservation skills for ancient things. I also visited the Rokko Housing and Hyogo prefecture art Museum designed by Ando. Rokko housing was designed on the hill side.



We had a Kyoto Tour to visit Katsura Palace. It was our last site visit organized by our host company Takenaka. We went together with Ms Yoko Onishi. We entered the palace and we saw the entire complex with the help of the guide provided by the Palace. The Katsura Imperial Villa or Katsura Detached Palace, is a villa with associated gardens and outer buildings in the western suburbs of Kyoto, Japan. It is one of Japan's most important large-scale cultural treasures. Its gardens are masterpieces of Japanese gardening, and the buildings are even more important, one of the greatest achievements of Japanese architecture. The palace includes a shoin ("drawing room"), tea houses, and a strolling garden. It provides an invaluable window into the villas of princes of the Edo period.

When we saw each building, which was made for the Tea ceremony, we realized the importance of the culture of tea ceremony. We saw different buildings built in different time periods. According to the period, we saw a difference in architecture. We are very much indebted to our host company Takenaka and Saito san for arranging such a beautiful trip to **Katsura palace(Katsura Imperial Villas)**.

What we learned from the Takenaka

◆Working Together

Design team
Engineering team
Construction team

◆Working Pattern

◆Importance of High technology

Realized after visiting A-Project
Earthquake resistance
Wind resistance
Some environment considerations

The Great opportunity to know the Japan, Japanese people, Japanese culture. And help to build our confidence level up.

Company Training: Obayashi Corporation

By Wang Wenya , P.R. China

We are honored to have the opportunity to become trainees at Obayashi Corporation. Obayashi is a world-famous company in the architecture and construction field, which has a history more than 100 years.

During the 13-day trainee life in the design department of Obayashi, we had a busy but nice time. We knew many new friends and had a further understanding of some advanced technology. Our training life included two parts, the design work for the first 8 days and the site visit for the last 3 days.

■ Design work

The design project is a building located at one university in Nishinomiya, Hyogo Prefecture. It will be a research facility for the Asian culture research center for local and international students and an International Exchange Hall for 500 persons. We took part in the project design in the team as architects, working with local architects, structural engineer, MVP engineers and landscape designers.



Figure1: A view of the building site

It was very important to discuss the features that we have taken for this project in consideration of the surrounding environment. Since the houses are located closer to the building site it is very important not to have large volumes or huge structures close to the residential area.

At the beginning the designer was informed by the client that the open space should be the center of the university. If we carefully notice the flow patterns to the building, there are many walkways from the west side to the new building. Someone can enter the new building through the open space or choose to use the overpass bridge (which connects the media library building). But considering the east side there is only one walk way. Therefore we decided to locate the face of the building perpendicular to the person's eyesight.

We have gone through all these issues by identifying the surrounding environment and the circulation, after that the orientation of the building was decided.

Based on the site survey and analysis of the surrounding area, we tried to answer: what kind of space shall we create for both international and local students? At the beginning of design, we had a rough concept about the project, first of all, making an active communication space both inside and outside. Then we considered achieving the transition of public space

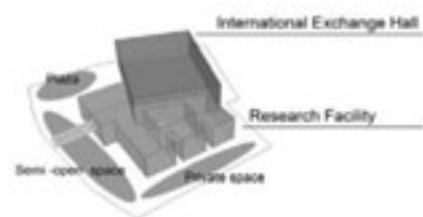


Figure2: Main concept of site plan

----semi-public space ----private space, and the interaction between the media library and the new building.

The plaza was set in the northwest, where there is a hall and research facility to organize people. The corridor rounding the yard connected the inner rooms. People can go inside the yard, and it also can provide natural lighting and ventilation. Then we considered using the existing sloping topography for the location of the Hall in the north part.



Figure3: Image of the design building

When the conceptual plan was made, we discussed with the coordinators in the team. Through the discussions every day, much useful advice was gathered, which made the design better and more practical. For example, the structure of the exchange hall was complicated; the engineers gave us some options, which focused on different points. After careful examination, the buttress and concrete system was chosen. We also talked more about the natural ventilation, lighting system, installation of solar panels which were beneficial measures for reducing the burdens of building.

During the short 8-day design work, we harvested not only the work itself, but also enjoyed the process of team cooperation. The communication with other Japanese architects and engineers expanded our way of thinking. Meanwhile, the efficient working atmosphere and the earnest attitude of Japanese colleagues touched us deeply.



Figure4: Colleagues of design work

■ Site visiting

After finishing the design work, we visited some construction sites. The advanced construction technology and project management experience impressed us very much.

On the first day, we went to University site office. The total floor area is about 28,415 m². The project is one of the four clusters in the campus. Building Information modeling (BIM) was introduced which distinguish the information rich architectural 3D modeling. This method was fresh for us.

The manager showed us the fantastic view of 3D modeling of the various systems of the project. Particularly, BIM had the ability to keep information up-to date and accessible in an integrated digital environment giving architects, engineers, builders and owners a clear overall vision of all their projects, as well as the ability to make informed decisions faster. Actually, it's a effective way to coordinate work in a complicated construction.

Then we visited Hanshin Expressway Minami-Jima Site Office the next day. The project is construction of Hanshin Expressway Yamatogawa Route, which is Cut and Cover tunnel, 6.5m~6.8m high, 22.1m-39.5m wide, 755m long. Following the open-cut excavation, a box culvert was being constructed and buried with earth and sand. The staff introduced us the wall-type diaphragm method in the site. For this method, it had three main processes: driving of cutter post into the ground, excavating/mixing, and driving cores into the soil. A shield machine for the ramp section will be used later. We were amazed by the many methods applied in this project.

On the last day, we went to the Takarazuka High-Rise Residential Tower Project. The building had 28 floors and 29,868 m² total floor area. The structure type was a Dual Frame System, which is a unique vibration control structural system by connecting two structural systems, the stem and the frame parts. Dampers were installed between the stem and the frame structures, which would absorb enough energy of the earthquake.

The construction team focused on two main subjects, quality control and schedule control. In the limited duration, they carefully planned the 8day cycle to avoid delay occurrence.

The last project we visited was the Hanshin-Koshien Stadium. This stadium was opened on April 1, 1924 and renewed from 2007 to 2009. The designer told us about the concept of the renewal, including inheritance of history and tradition, improvement of safety and comfort. It's a micromesh renewal project; both the façade of the brick masonry cavity wall and the interior design were attractive.

We found a common interesting point in the construction sites; they were well-ordered and very clean. The three-day visit enabled us to realize how high quality constructions and good design make excellent buildings. In these respects, we still have a long way to go in our own countries. Although the trainee life ended, we'll remember the meaningful time at Obayashi. Please allow us to extend our sincere thanks to all our colleagues who helped us, thank you very much!



Figure5: the site visiting members

Company Training: Zenitaka Corporation

By Hoang Kien Tran , Vietnam

In the Osaka Invitational Program for Short-term Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts 2011, 8 trainees from various Asian countries including myself were assigned to 4 host companies: Zenitaka, Takenaka, Daiwa House and Obayashi. Along with fellow landscape architect Rachaniporn Tiempayotorn, I was assigned to the Design Department, Zenitaka Corporation.

During the training session at Zenitaka, we were exposed to many helpful information, among which, the working atmosphere and efficiency in a Japanese firm is the most outstanding feature to us. In the training program in the company, we were brought to visit distinct buildings constructed by Zenitaka, remarkable buildings in Osaka, masterpiece architecture by Tadao Ando sensei as well as charming traditional Japanese architecture in both temples and civilian houses quarter.

Osaka landmarks

Sky Building



National Museum of Art



NHK



Kaiyukan



Namba Parks



Sky Building, NHK broadcast station, Namba Parks, Kaiyukan, National Museum of Art, etc. are among the must-sees when one visit Osaka. Each of these buildings sport a unique feature that can't be seen in any other building in the world. We have extracted a lot of lessons from both the construction technology of the buildings and the philosophy behind them.

Constructions by Zenitaka

Kiki Kyobashi



We were also brought to quite a few buildings under Zenitaka, both already finished and famous building like the Church of Light's Sunday Hall, popular theater Kiki Kyobashi and under construction sites like Meiji Margarine Factory, Coop Distribution Factory, Abeno HARUKAS Tower (Consortium) which is going to be tallest in Japan. From inside these construction wonders, we could learn about the precision and efficiency in Japanese construction industry. Safety is put on top of everything and productivity is ensured by effective management.

From what we have seen, Zenitaka is a company of great capacity and have delivered a lot of works range from small scale to big scale like super high-rise buildings, a university, a hospital, etc. to delicate masterpieces like churches, traditional renovation and preservation.

Ando sensei masterpieces

Suntory Museum



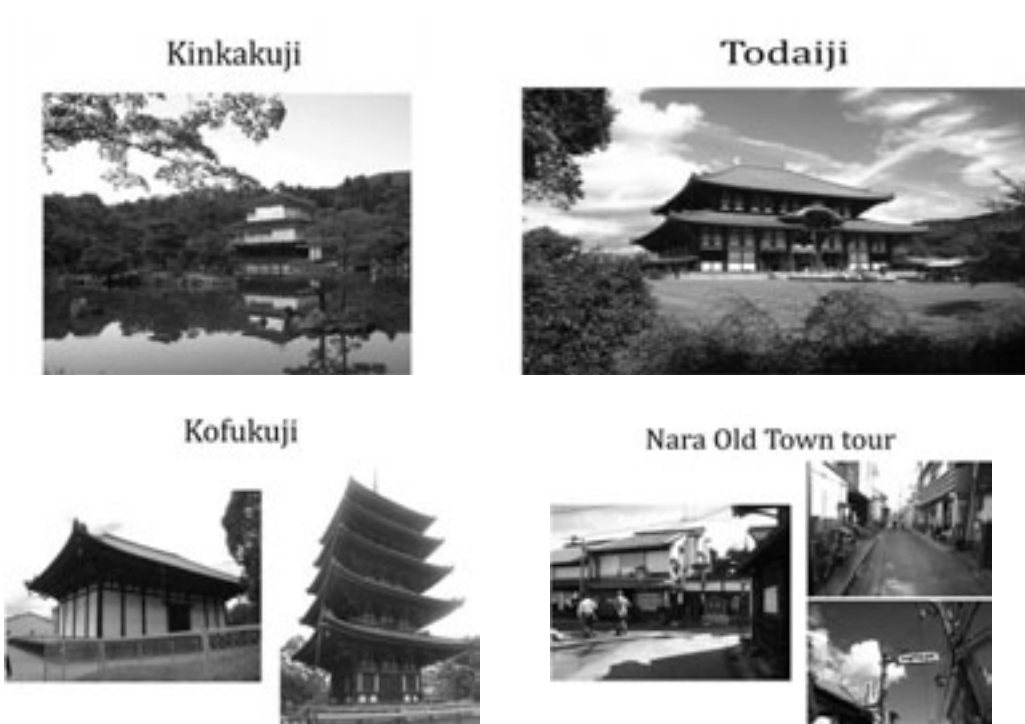
Church of the Light



The masterpieces of Ando sensei are the attraction force to architects like us and we were very eager to see them. Zenitaka brought us to several work designed by Ando sensei. Those buildings include but not limited to Suntory Museum, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, and the famous Church of Light. These moments were an awe-inspiring experience. We spent hours just sitting inside the Church and enjoy the calm and serenity.

All the designs from Ando sensei is bound to its *genius loci* or spirit of genuine location. That is why they feel like belonging to that place alone, harmonically at one with the surrounding with no conflict at all.

Traditional experiences



The latest construction technologies are not the only thing we learned. We also had the chance to admire the centuries-old traditional pieces of art. Most noticeable of them all were Kinkakuji and Kiyomizu temples in Kyoto, a small but colorful city with many temples and Todaiji, Kofukuji and the whole Nara Old Quarter. Unlike Osaka, a likely, dynamic and business city, Kyoto is charming with rich cultural attractions and Nara is like a park-garden-city with ancient palace and temples.

Conclusion

Thanks to the program, we had a wonderful yet short participation in a Japanese architecture firm to have opportunity to see many aspects of Japanese art and architecture. This training program has brought us a lot of valuable experiences and lessons.

Company Training: Daiwa House Industry

By Gadkari Mayura Mukund , India

In Japan the elderly population greatly increased, bringing a serious problem in the development of a new generation. Daiwa House Industry Co., Ltd., which has been a leading housing company in Japan for many years established new innovation for safety & comfort, speed, welfare, environment, health, information-communication technology and agriculture to help rehabilitate, reconstruct and rebuild as quickly as possible.

We are very grateful to be part of Daiwa eventhough only as trainees. From the training we gained a wide understanding about company strategies, current projects and the most importantly research and technologies. The practical training at Daiwa House Corporation was co-ordinated for us by Mr. Hiroki Yonetani and he was assisted by Ms. Yuri Ota. An interpreter, Mrs. Yuko Nakai from the Kansai Mini Wings also accompanied us.

The training at Daiwa House Corporation started with a presentation by Mr. Suzuki on the general organization and work of the company. He also gave us an idea of the company's history and how they began making pre-fabricated houses. The Human Resources department arranged a tour of the headquarters. Mr. Hara and Mr. Hasegawa showed us the recycle plant in the basement, the chillers on the terrace and the overall function of the headquarters following the ecological point of view.

The overseas department arranged a lecture to explain the current overseas projects. Mr. Tokuda of the Housing Design department lectured about the traditional Japanese houses and how the principles are incorporated in the present designs. He also discussed some of the modern house designs in Japan. Then it was our turn to show the housing designs practiced in our respective countries. It also included the traditional housing designs and the traditional construction techniques.

We also learned the new software used by the Daiwa House Corporation- DREAM PITT (Presentation Information Technology Tool) and recreated the model of traditional houses from our respective countries using the software. The DREAM PITT team was lead by Mr. Aoki, Ms. Koto and Mr. Saito. Mr. Ashizawa presented the 'Development of Industrialized Housing' with the process of 'Planning to Product'. It included the target strategy, the survey statistics, material fabrication requirement and customer satisfaction, and PEST (Political Economical Social Technological) Analysis. He also explained the concept of XEVO (zero CO2 emission) house.



Daiwa House Corporation does not only excel in the housing and construction industry, but they also lead in the Robotics division and Lithium batteries. Lithium batteries are manufactured along with solar panels and other devices that conserve energy and make their housing designs ecologically responsive.

Daiwa House Corporation's Laboratory at Narayama exhibits all the research that the company is involved in. The X-brace systems used in earthquake resistant houses is displayed with the technique of visco-elasticity (polymer) used for the friction resistance. There is also a module comprising of earthquake resistant and earthquake isolation technique. The earthquake resistant module uses a friction damper in the foundation whereas the earthquake isolation module uses ball bearing between the foundation and super-structure.



Nara factory

Daiwa House Corporation's factory at Nara is involved in making the pre-fabricated materials for the construction of the Daiwa House product. The staff in the factory directed us to each section of the factory where different parts of a structure are manufactured. Although we spent only a few hours there, we felt true Japanese generosity from all the staff of factory.

Besides lectures and office activities, we were also invited to visit several places, such as:



Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Arts is a municipal art gallery which opened in 2002.



Chaska Chayamachi-Maruzen and Junkudo book store: Chaska Chayamachi is a multi purpose building. It houses a book store, residential apartments, a hotel and a wedding chapel



The condominium construction site visit at Kobe was another enriching experience. It was also interesting to see the very intelligent incorporation of services in the construction of the building. Daiwa model house at Kobe as well was an example of excellent compact interior planning by Ms. Noriko Kondo.



Mr. Shibagaki and Ms. Chiyaki Hamada from the City Planning department took us to a residential cluster planned in Kobe. The planning technique they had used for the particular residential complex was of ‘Machi Zukuri’. Attention was paid to every detail including the road drainage, garbage collection station, street lighting, landscaping, etc.



Daiwa House branch office at Kobe. We saw the construction of floor, walls and ceiling with the pre-fabricated materials manufactured in the factory. And also the convenience store construction was done using the pre-fabricated materials from the factory and assembled on the site.

Acknowledgement. We want to express our gratefulness to all staff of Daiwa house company for giving us a golden opportunity to gain a lot of knowledge from yours company. We are very impressed with all of your hospitality and kindness from headquarters, Narayama laboratory to Nara factory. Since we came here, we had learned many things. First, Daiwa house have great people and independent in running the company. They have a strong passion and responsibility to each of the jobs assigned to them. Second, to achieve success, we must be earnest, have focus, be patient, careful and sincere. And third, it is not wrong if we dream too far because with the dream at least we have a target. As Ishibashi-san said to all of you with only one word that is yume (dream). Thank you very much to Daiwa company, all of its supervisors, and all of you which had taught us how to become a part of Daiwa House Co., Ltd.

2011 Asia Youth Symposium on Architectural Interchange Program

By Oryza Angga Irawan , Inodnesia

The Asian Youth Symposium on Architectural Interchange Program is usually held annually and this year it took place at Kobe and Awaji island. The purpose of this program is to provide a venue where the participants could exchange and share about their information and ideas. It was divided into two sessions in two different places, Kobe Design University (KDU) and *Westin Awaji Yumebutai* (designed by Mr. Tadao Ando). The Participants consist of students from KDU and trainees from OFIX, constituting of people from various countries in the world (Tunisia, Japan, Boznia-Herzegovina, India, Iran, Brazil, Indonesia, Thailand, China, Nepal, Srilanka, and Vietnam).

The discussion agenda was fascinating; some participants presented their anxiety in arts, cultures, design management, architectural design, urban planning. Every participant paid attention to each other and also gave feedback, it looked like an interactive discussion. It gave new experience and perspective and at the same time it added new insight to us who came from various countries.

After the discussion, a staff from Tadao Ando Architect and Associates took us on a tour around *Westin Awaji Yumebutai* building and Water Temple. We were impressed by the design of the building and the temple. Finally the program closed with a photo session.

Participants :

Trainees from Asian Countries : 8 participants
Kobe Design University Graduate Students : 7 participants (5 international students)
Professor and Assistant from Kobe Design University : 6
Member from Tadao Ando Architects and Associates : 1
Osaka Foundation of International Exchange (OFIX) staff : 2
Mr.Güenter Nitschke

Date and Schedule

Friday, 7 October 2011

Time	Activity
10:00	Arrival at Kobe design University
10:00 – 11:00	KDU Campus tour for the trainee and Ofix staff
11:00 – 11:30	Break
11:30 – 12:20	Welcome reception
12:20 – 13:45	Self introduction, workshop
14:00 – 15:00	Session 1 : KDU students : Sami Ben Fradj, Saki Nishida Trainee : Mayura Gadkari, Oryza Angga Irawan
15:00 – 16:00	Session 2 : KDU students : Bruna Bajramovic, Thungnung Khuplianlam Trainee : Rachaniporn Tiempayotorn, Wang Wenya

16:00 – 16:30	Overview
16:30	Departure for Westin Awaji Yumebutai designed by Tadao Ando
17:00	Visiting Awaji service area (by Kengo Kuma)
17:30	Arrival at Westin Awaji Yumebutai
18:00 – 19:30	Dinner (round table discussion)
19:30 – 21:30	Night session, discussion

Saturday, 8 October 2011

Time	Activity
07:00 – 10:00	Breakfast
10:00	Check out
10:30 – 11:30	Session 3 : KDU students : Sara Hojjat Trainee : Yusfan Yusran, Kanchana Nyaichyai, H.A. Amal Priyantha Peiris
11:30 – 12:20	Session 4 : KDU students : Nana Hamada, Janayna Velozo Trainee : Hoang Kien Tran
12:30 – 13:00	Overview
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00	Westin Awaji Yumebutai tour
16:00	Departure from Westin Awaji Yumebutai
16:30	Visiting Water Temple designed by Tadao Ando
17:00	Departure for Kobe Design University

Presenter from Kobe Design University

No.	Name and Country	Presentation
1.	Sami Ben Fradj (Tunisia)	Asia : From exchange to Universality
2.	Saki Nishida (Japan)	What is the Architecture Improving Environmental Consciousness ?
3.	Bruna Bajramovic (Bosnia-Herzegovina)	Single-family Housing Communities in the urban environment – Sustainable principles found in the example of Bosnian mahala in Sarajevo City
4.	Tungnung Khuplianlam (India)	4T_ Vertical Village
5.	Sarra Hojjat (Iran)	A Glance to Symbols of past and current Iranian Architecture comparing with Japanese Architecture
6.	Nana Hamada (Japan)	Duality
7.	Janayna Velozo (Brazil)	Synergic Design Teams : A Case Study in India & Dubai

Presenter from OFIX Ando Trainees

No.	Name and Country	Presentation
1.	Mayura Gadkari (India)	Synergetic Effect of Diverse Asian Designs
2.	Oryza Angga Irawan (Indonesia)	Reinterpretation Local DNA as A Design Strategy (case study : MGM Grand Sanya and Ayoman Hills)
3.	Rachaniporn Tiempayotorn (Thailand)	Low-rises : High Value Architecture in Asian Cities
4.	Wang Wenya (China)	Regional Expression of Window in Modern Architecture
5.	Yusfan Yusran (Indonesia)	Unite Asia Through Construction Design Technology
6.	Kanchana Nyaichyai (Nepal)	Synergetic Effect of Diverse Asian Design (case study : Nepali and Japanese Architecture)
7.	H. A. Amal Priyantha Peiris (Srilanka)	Lessons from Asian Architecture and Art to the World
8.	Hoang Kien Tran (Vietnam)	Internetworking Synergy in Architectural Design

International Understanding Education

By Hetti Arachchige Amal Priyantha Peiris , Sri-Lanka

This is one of the greatest experiences we had during our training program. On 14th October 2011 all of our trainees and some of OFIX staff visited Osaka University. There we had a rare opportunity to meet Japanese students who specialized in different fields. Most of them specialize in English. Therefore it was very easy to communicate among ourselves. In the self introduction session all the trainees and Osaka University students did short self introduction.



Fig 01: During self introduction session (Osaka University students)

After the self introduction session, we had a relaxation session (radio exercise) before start the program. Students helped and explained about this exercise and it was very helpful to us, as we were bit tired due to long travel and hard rain. Then we were divided in to four main groups and students from Osaka University joined us to strengthen each team even though they had lectures.



Fig 02: During group activities

Each team discussed the topic assigned to them. The topics were **“How to make more international students come to Japan”** and **“How to make more Japanese students go overseas to study”**.

In the first part, we discussed how to attract more foreign students to Japan, what the difficulties, problems are for that and how to correct them and what the alternatives are. There were so many suggestions from every group. Basically they pointed out to reduce the living cost in the country, increasing the number of scholarships for foreign students, and conduct every course in the international language (English).

In the latter part of our discussion, we discussed how to send more Japanese students to overseas for their study. According to the current situation, statistical data shows that the number of Japanese students who study overseas are decreasing every year. Why? We had to find the reasons and solutions for that. After 20 minutes of discussion every group did a final presentation.



Fig 03: During the final presentation

The program was concluded by speeches from two trainees. The topic was **“cultural shock in Japan”**. After nearly one month of staying in Japan, as trainees, we had lots of experience to share with University students. Japanese people’s dress, meals & life style were discussed. Finally, we had a tea party in the hall and that helped us get together and make our eternal friendship more powerful.



Fig 04: Presentation on cultural shock in Japan & tea party

Other Events

By Rachaniporn Tiempayotorn , Thailand

The moment that I was accepted to be one of trainees, I was so excited to be a part of the program sponsored by the master of architecture. I was also very pleased to visit Japan without knowing what greater experiences beyond my expectation were going to happen during my one month from September until October, 2011.

On the first day of the OFIX program on the 21st of September 2011, we were scheduled to meet the Osaka Vice Governor at the Osaka Prefectural Government office. It was a great honor to discuss and exchange views of cultural experiences among each other. We felt that we were greeted gracefully and impressively by the Osaka people.

On the 23rd of September 2011, we went on a Kyoto Study Tour with Prof. Günter Nitschke. We were excited to learn about Kyoto Architecture through a walking tour. Prof. Nitschke lectured us about the history of architecture and Japanese beliefs that are related with Japanese architecture. While we were walking around Kyoto, Prof. Nitschke taught us not only the architectural theories but also his experiences of being in Japan. That was an interesting way of learning Japanese culture through architecture.

From the 1st-2nd of October, 2011, the trainees were sent to stay over a night with Host Families. That was the first time that we got a chance to experience Osaka alone by ourselves. At first we are all nervous, but at the end, each of us had a once-in-a-lifetime great experience. I spent a normal weekend with my host family but I think this is the best way to learn true Japanese culture, from their daily life. After that weekend, I made my first Japanese friend and we became good friend until these days.

The most exciting day for this program would be the day that we were scheduled to meet Mr. Tadao Ando on the 4th of October, 2011. We went to the Ando office and had a small discussion with Mr. Ando's staff and with Mr. Ando himself. We asked him some questions and he replied us with only a few sentences. But all the words that he said to us have a deep meaning. I believe we have all learned many things from his thoughts.

Finally, the most impressive experience for us was the great time that we, all the trainees, spent with the OFIX staffs. They took care of us the best. We felt that they were our family back there. And I believe that it was the destiny that we met. Since, I gained a lot of good and bad experiences through this program. I believe that I have grown up and become a greater person because of the OFIX program. I would like to thank you and looking forward to see all of you again, my OFIX family.



4. Special Thanks

The organizers of the 2011 Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts would like to thank the following organizations and individuals for their invaluable cooperation and support.

(All names within each group are listed in alphabetical order.)

Tadao Ando Architect and Associates

Corporate Sponsors of the Ando Fund

Asahi Glass Bulwall Nishi Nippon Co., Ltd.	Obayashi Corporation
Cosmo Securities Co., Ltd.	Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.
Daiko Electric Company Ltd.	Panasonic Corporation
Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc.	Shimizu Corporation
Kansai Sekizai (Stones) Co., Ltd.	Suntory Ltd
Kinki Nippon Railway Co., Ltd.	Taiyo Kogyo Corporation
Kubota Corporation	Takenaka Corporation
Maeda Corporation	Toyobo Co., Ltd.
Naigai Energering Inc.	Zenitaka Corporation

Coordinator

(Discussion and Kyoto study Tour)
Günter Nitschke

Assistant

(same as on the left)
Esther Tsoi

Homestay Volunteers

Makoto Ijiri	Eiichi Tsujio
Terumi Shimaoka	Sanae Ueda
Kenichiro Takashiba	Hiroko Wada
Yasuko Tomita	Jun Yanagimura

Language Volunteer

(Kansai Mini Wings)

Yukio Aoshima	Makoto Okino
Nobuaki Goshima	Hitoshi Shimada
Hiroko Kawasaki	Chiyoko Sudo
Ikuko Nakai	Morihisa Sugiyama
Shigetada Nishimura	

Corporate Organization

Kobe Design University	Osaka University Pankyo Revolution
------------------------	------------------------------------

**Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term Overseas Trainees
in Architecture and Arts**

2011 Final Report

2012 March

Published by: Osaka Foundation of International Exchange (OFIX)

Program Secretariat: Planning and Promotion Group, OFIX

Masanori Suenaga, Yuka Yoshikawa, Machi Ishida, Miyuki Kasuya

Edited by: Alvin Tan Tapia, Yuka Yoshikawa, Miwako Tateiwa,
Machi Ishida, Eri Shiota, Kana Ito