

# The Ando Program Final Report

2012



二〇一二年度

大阪府海外短期建築・芸術研修生招聘事業

財団法人 大阪府国際交流財団



## Osaka Invitational Program for Short Term Overseas Trainees In Architecture and Arts 2012

(Tadao Ando – Carlsberg Architectural Prize-Winning Memorial Program)

Osaka Foundation of International Exchange (OFIX)

平成 24 年度大阪府海外短期建築・芸術研修生招聘事業

(安藤忠雄 – カールスバーグ賞受賞記念事業)

公益財団法人 大阪府国際交流財団 (OFIX)

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## Preface

Funded by Tadao Ando, the first recipient of the Carlsberg Architectural Prize in May, 1992, the entire amount of his winnings was donated to support the internationalization of Osaka, his childhood home. Through the Osaka Prefectural Government, The Foundation of International Exchange, and, in accordance with the wishes of Mr. Ando, The Osaka Invitational Program for Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts was established.

Along with the support of a variety of corporations and organizations, the program hosts approximately ten student participants from neighboring Asian countries for one month in the autumn every year.

Since its inception in 1993 the program has hosted 20 groups of trainees and a total of 177 participants from 19 different countries. Highly rated among aspiring architects, the Osaka Invitational Program for Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts offers what no other program can.

We at OFIX would like to express our deep appreciation for the cooperation of Mr. Ando, the sponsoring corporations and training companies as well as our volunteers and all those who have helped to make this program a great success.

We hope this report will serve as a reference not only for those involved with the program but also serve the 2012 trainees and their Japanese counterparts who will play a major part in our continuing globalization and foster future mutual cooperation and exchange.

Osaka Foundation of International Exchange  
Chairman of the Board of Directors

*Yukio Shibaïke*



Sayamaike Museum,  
Sept. 21, 2012

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Cover Design by Hareesh Haridasan



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



## Program Overview

### Purpose

Utilizing donations from Mr. Tadao Ando and a variety of corporate sponsors, the primary purpose of this program is to invite overseas art and architecture students to Osaka. The objective is to create and foster a deeper understanding of Japanese culture, art, and architecture in addition to supporting architectural development in the participants' home countries.

### Eligibility

Trainees must be of an Asian nationality, currently living in Asia, and under the age of 35 with a high level of English proficiency. The participants must also be:

- Currently enrolled in or a graduate of a Masters or Doctorate program in architecture or a related field.
- Holding a Bachelor's degree and currently working as an architect or in a related field.

### Participants' Nationalities

Chinese, Filipino, Indian, Indonesian, Nepalese, Sri Lankan, Thai, Vietnamese

### Program Duration

September 19, 2012 –October 16, 2012 (28 days)

### Program Hosts

Osaka Foundation of International Exchange along with top tier general construction companies

### Activities

- Practical training sessions with visits to construction sites.
- Group discussions with architecture and art students as well as professional architects.
- Excursions to visit buildings designed by Tadao Ando and historically significant sites in Osaka and the Kansai region.
- Home-stay with OFIX volunteer families.
- Participation in International Understanding Education Event(English Project).

### Program Language

English

### Expenses

Expenses for the participants' accommodations, living expenses, basic travel insurance, and round-trip economy class ticket are provided by OFIX.

### Program Coordination

Osaka Foundation of International Exchange (OFIX)

## 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 Metropolises General Adviser (Aqua Metropolises Osaka 2009)
- 2010 Chaska Chayamachi

## 2012 Training Schedule

Date	Day	Event	Coordinator	Accomodation
9/19	Wed	Arrival in Osaka / Orientation	OFIX	Cityroute Hotel
9/20	Thu	AM: Opening Ceremony , Courtesy Visit to Osaka Prefectural Government, Osaka Discussion PM: Welcome Party, Visit Host Companies	OFIX	
9/21	Fri	Ando Study Tour (Chikatsu-Asuka, Sayamaike, Shiba Ryotaro Museums)	OFIX	
9/22	Sat	Self Study		
9/23	Sun			
9/24	Mon	Practical Training Session	Host Company	
9/25	Tues			
9/26	Wed			
9/27	Thu	Presentation and Discussion	Gunter Nitschke	Homestay
9/28	Fri	Kyoto Study Tour	Gunter Nitschke	
9/29	Sat	Homestay with OFIX Host Families	OFIX	
9/30	Sun			
10/1	Mon	Practical Training Session	Host Company	Cityroute Hotel
10/2	Tues			
10/3	Wed	AM: Practical Training Session PM: Visit to Ando Office	OFIX	The Westin Awaji
10/4	Thu	Asia Youth Symposium on Architectural		
10/5	Fri	Interchange with Kobe Design University		
10/6	Sat	English Project at Osaka Prefecture University		
10/7	Sun	Self Study		
10/8	Mon			
10/9	Tues	Practical Training Session	Host Company	Cityroute Hotel
10/10	Wed			
10/11	Thu			
10/12	Fri			
10/13	Sat	Self Study		
10/14	Sun			
10/15	Mon	Closing Session/ Farewell Party	OFIX	
10/16	Tues	Depart Osaka	OFIX	

## Host Companies

### **Obayashi Corporation**

Founded 1892

Employees: 8,365 (March, 2012)

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

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



### **Zenitaka Corporation**

Founded 1705

Employees: 1,178 (March, 2012)

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

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

**Zenitaka**

### **Takenaka Corporation**

Founded 1610

Employees: 7,570 (January, 2012)

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

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



### **Daiwa House Industry Co. , LTD**

Founded 1955

Employees: 13,592 (April, 2012)

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

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





## Trainee Profiles



**Liu Xudong**

Shanghai, China  
Shanghai Construction Design &  
Research Institute, Co., Ltd.  
Architect



**Cabatac Raquel  
Angelique Morena**

Manila, Philippines  
**Edward Co Tan & Architects**  
Interior Designer



**Hareesh Haridasan**

Mumbai, India  
Cept University  
Graduate Student



**Rathnayaka Mudiyansele  
Shyanaka Dananjaya**

Peradeniya, Sri Lanka  
Peradeniya University  
Graduate Student



**Hilda Multi Artarina**

West Java, Indonesia  
Institut Teknologi  
Sepuluh Nopember (ITS)  
Graduate Student



**Korkiat Kittisoponpong**

Bangkok, Thailand  
Integrated Field Co., Ltd.  
Architect



**Shakya Suman**

Kathmandu, Nepal  
Tribhuvan University  
Pulchowk Campus  
Graduate Student



**Bui Quoc Thang**

Hanoi, Vietnam  
Hanoi Architectural  
University  
Architect/ Lecturer

## Training Reports

Training reports were submitted by the 2012 trainees, each one of them covering a different event of the program. Please understand that the writing style of each report reflects his or her own experiences, learning, and voice, and may differ.

### Company Training

- Obayashi Corporation
- Zenitaka Corporation
- Takenaka Corporation
- Daiwa House Industry Co., Ltd

Rathnayaka Mudiyanseelage Shyanaka Dananjaya (Sri Lanka)

Cabatac Raquel Angelique Morena ( Philippines)

Hareesh Haridasan ( India )

Shakya Suman ( Nepal )

- Discussion Program

Bui Quoc Thang ( Vietnam)

- Asia Youth Symposium on Architectural  
Interchange with Kobe Design University

Korkiat Kittisophonpong ( Thailand)

- English Project with  
Osaka Prefecture University

Hilda Multi Artarina ( Indonesia )

- Other Events

Liu Xudong ( China )



## Company Training Obayashi Corporation

Submitted by Rathnayaka Mudiyanseelage Shyanaka Dananjaya Sri Lanka



Japan, a country with honorable and courageous people who are very friendly and open-minded, invited us, 8 different, unique, and talented individuals from Asian countries, for a 28-day training program. Each and every day spent in Japan was different and valuable for each and every one of us. But among those 28 days the 11 days spent at the Obayashi Corporation were one of the most precious times.



**Obayashi Museum**

The very first day we went to Obayashi we had the valuable opportunity to visit the Obayashi museum.

The visit to the Obayashi museum helped us know the very first technologies they used when Obayashi started construction, until the latest technologies used at “Sky Tree”.

On the second day we were assigned to the design department at Obayashi. We were given a team to work with including Architects, Structural Engineers, M&E Engineers, etc. We were given an actual project to design a dormitory for a commercial company.

The first day we went for the site visit. It gave us the true feeling that we will be working on a real project. One architect and one mechanical engineer accompanied us to the site and they described the surroundings and gave us good knowledge about how the dormitory should be in the point of view of Japanese people. After coming back to the office we were given several criteria about the client’s requirements. But the best thing is they gave us the total freedom to design the building depending on our own

ideas. “A Japanese dormitory based on the concepts from two different countries”.

Once every two days we had an internal meeting with the team members where we expressed our ideas and received comments from the professionals and also their suggestions. Working as a team with people from different fields was really interesting.

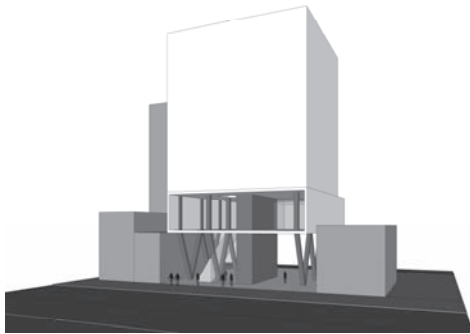
It was a big challenge to achieve the goal within 7 days. But we could achieve it because of the teamwork and the awesome support given from the people at Obayashi. Most of the time there was at least one person looking at what we were doing and giving their comments and ideas. They also wanted to do something new as we did. We had the same idea of designing a building with different new concepts. That combination worked marvelously.

At the end of the seven days we had to do a presentation about our design project to the people at Obayashi. Most of the key people - directors, chief designers, and chief engineers - in Obayashi attended the event and they were really happy and impressed with our proposal. That was one of the happiest moments in our whole life for us. More importantly, they gave us an enjoyable and memorable farewell party that will be in our hearts forever.



**At Construction Site**

## Obayashi Corporation



**Design Project**

The construction sites were amazingly clean and neat. And all the people who were inside the construction site wore safety equipment. The new arrangements to make the building more sustainable were really interesting and valuable. The hydraulic system used to absorb the earthquakes was very valuable since we don't have that technology implemented in our country yet.

On our final day we went to a civil construction site. The site is the construction of the Hanshin Expressway, Yamatogawa Line. They showed us some very interesting methods used to do the construction underneath a railway line and a road without disturbing them. It was really fascinating to learn that.

In conclusion, the eleven days we spent at Obayashi and the other seventeen days spent in Japan were like living in a dream. We were able to experience everything: new technology, new culture, friendly openhearted people, etc. This would definitely be a once in a lifetime opportunity for all of us. I'm pretty sure that we won't find a program like this in the whole world ever again. So I would like to state my sincere gratitude to all the people who helped to organize this thrilling program.

The tenth day, we were taken on a building construction site visit. The project was the Northgate project. Both the Obayashi, and the Takenaka Corporation were cooperatively constructing three buildings. We were amazed to see two large companies working together on 50-50 basis. First we had three presentations about the project. It gave us a sound knowledge about the design, construction methods and the special arrangements about the building. Then we were taken to the site visit.

## Company Training Zenitaka Corporation

Submitted by Cabatac Raquel Angelique Morena  
Philippines

# Zenitaka

During the Osaka Invitational Program for Short-term Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts 2012 Ando Program, 8 trainees of different Asian nationalities were given a chance to experience Osaka both on a cultural and professional level. Two trainees were assigned to each of the 4 host companies: Daiwa House Industry, Obayashi Corporation, Takenaka Corporation and lastly, Zenitaka Corporation. Each trainee looked forward to the welcome ceremony where our host company representatives would meet us. I was assigned to Zenitaka Corporation together with the person from Vietnam, Mr. Bui Quoc Thang. During the welcome party, we met Isobe-san from the design department and Iwai-san from the personnel department. They were later joined by Mametsuka-san, the head of the personnel department. After the welcome party, we proceeded to the Zenitaka office together with our interpreter for the day, Kawasaki-san.

Zenitaka Corporation was literally a very short walk from our hotel. On our first day, I envied the trainees who would be taking the subway because I thought they'd be seeing more of Osaka as compared to us. However, everything changed when they gave us the schedule during our orientation. I was really expecting hands-on training on building design and technical drawings but the schedule was far from what I had in mind. The schedule had different areas in Osaka grouped together making it more like an everyday study tour for us. As we went through the orientation, my worries about not being able to explore Osaka were completely gone. Each day had a representative from Zenitaka's Design Department and an English interpreter to help us with our questions on the places we'd be visiting.

### The Journey of 10,000 Steps

The first day of the training was quite a shock. We did not expect we could walk around Namba and still have the energy to go down to the Kaiyukan, the aquarium in Osaka. We spent some time going around Dotombori discovering interesting alleys with Tanaka-san and Goshima-san. We also walked around Namba Parks,

inspired by the Grand Canyon. One interesting fact is that it was formerly a baseball field converted into a mixed-use complex. As my field is focused more on interior design, I must say, Japanese visual merchandising is very competitive conceptually and aesthetically. We also explored the Tenpozan area, the Suntory Museum and the Kaiyukan. We



**This mark is a reminder that Namba Parks was a former baseball stadium**

were given the background of the places we visited, the architect of each building, the time it was constructed, the construction technology during the time and the concepts involved during the design process. It was a pretty long day for us but nevertheless we gained new insights from each area.

I will not elaborate on the remaining days of the training as I have illustrated above more or less how we spent the rest of the 9 days with Zenitaka Corp. Before I go into what I've learned from the training, the most striking lesson for me would be the Japanese work ethics. Before I'd only heard on TV about the Japanese people always being on time. Culturally, it's the opposite from where I come from as we have something we call Filipino time, where most people arrive later than the agreed meeting time. During my stay in Osaka and the host company, time was very important and people would always arrive 10 or 5



## Zenitaka Corporation

# Zenitaka



**The crane on top of the building delivering pre-cast concrete panels for the façade.**

minutes early. Punctuality is also not limited to arriving on time. During our training, we had a chance to meet with the president of the Zenitaka Corporation despite his busy schedule. The meeting went according to schedule. It started and ended on time, no extra minutes were wasted and everything was in order. Next is the office culture or that certain politeness towards colleagues and the dedication towards work. The architects and engineers in the Zenitaka design department were very hard-working and efficient. If we had unanswered questions on site, they would research it and give us the answer the next day we went to the company.

They always did their best to explain to us what we wanted to know, with or without interpreters and provided us with materials for reference. And lastly, as our training was mostly composed of training outside the office, we literally had a journey of 10,000 steps or more in one day. I really admired the effort and dedication of the Zenitaka design team and the interpreters who joined us on this journey. The definition of hard work and perseverance was indeed represented by the people we worked with.

### **The Pre-Cast Efficiency**

Japanese construction as a whole is very far from what I see in our local construction sites. During our training, we visited the construction site of the Sakai Regional Common Government Office Building, commissioned by the Kinki

Regional Bureau in Sakai City. It is a government office building for public prosecutors and lawyers. Before entering the site, we had a briefing with the construction manager, Mr. Mori. He gave us the basic information about the building and the current status of the construction. With our hard hats on, we were ready to go and explore. The tour started from the top floor to see how the construction progressed. The building was made of reinforced steel aside from the 2 basement floors, which were made of concrete. The steel beams had provisions for the utilities particularly for the vents that will go through it. Less manual work goes on around the site as the workers only had to secure the pre-cast panels delivered by the cranes. They also had power tools to make work easier and faster. As we went down each floor, we were able to see each stage from the bare steel support, applying insulation and fire-proofing, installing electrical and mechanical utilities, up to the dry wall installation and painting of the walls. The site was very neat for a construction site. The supplies were in one corner of the building, neatly piled. Wires were not scattered around and the tools were in their proper places. From the street level, the construction area is neatly covered for safety of the pedestrians. Everyone who entered the site was required to wear proper safety gear. Safety was also one of the main concerns we noticed during our visit. For a construction site, it was very organized starting from the people and the process itself.

### **Kansai a Blend of Past and Present**

Osaka has plenty of public places to offer to both foreign and local tourists. The most notable perhaps are the shopping districts, the Umeda and Namba areas. Some of the most memorable places we went to were the Namba Parks, Kaiyukan, Umeda Sky Building, Hep Five, National Museum of Art, NHK Building, Osaka Castle, Oyamazaki Villa Museum and of course, Ando-sensei's breathtaking Church of Light. Despite the contemporary designs of these buildings, Japanese culture and tradition are well preserved in the museums and traditional houses around Osaka. They co-exist with these modern spaces as part of

## Zenitaka Corporation

# Zenitaka

the charm and character of the city. Small shrines are found in the small alleys of Namba. Bits of history can be viewed inside Osaka Castle Park. The Koutoku Ryo is a traditional house for Zenitaka guests and employees in the middle of a business district. Traditional tea houses can be found along the streets of Sakai City. These small details blend the traditional spaces in the fast growing city keeping the culture alive. However, our company training was not exclusive to Osaka only. We were lucky enough to get a glimpse of the rest of the Kansai region, particularly, Kyoto, Nara, and Kobe.

Kyoto and Nara temples were a stark contrast to the modern high rise buildings of Osaka. They are very rich in cultural practices and history and a lot of both domestic and international tourists visit the temples. Traditional construction techniques are as impressive as contemporary ones. Preservation of these districts is highly supported by the government, which is very commendable. Kyoto has a handful of world heritage sites; the Kinkakuji and Kiyomizu temples are must-see sites in the area. Despite the cultural overload of the old streets of Kyoto, the Kyoto station creates a totally different world with its contemporary steel structures. Nara on the other hand is more of a laid-back old town area where you can relax, go to temples, or simply feed deer. It was surprising to see a lot of deer in the Todaiji Temple area just wandering around with the tourists. On the other hand, Kobe's famous Akashi Bridge was really an engineering marvel. I remember watching the construction process in National Geographic Channel while I stood under the observation deck. There is also the Hyogo Prefectural Museum also designed by Ando-sensei. It frames a certain area as you walk by the mass of concrete and suddenly chance upon a window or a door looking to the outside. I thought of it as little surprises as I went around the museums.

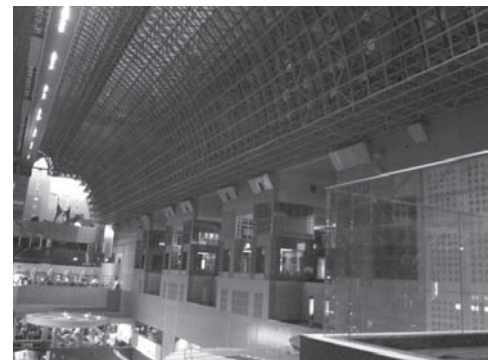
### Conclusion

Overall the training for 10 days with Zenitaka Corporation was very relevant to my professional experience. Exposure to different designs is one important aspect of our field. It provided new insights on both traditional and contemporary architecture in a Japanese context. The training was also

successful in immersing us trainees into Japanese culture, beliefs and practices. We gained plenty of interesting ideas and a new perspective on how design and architecture relates to its users. We also learned about how the government encourages green design policies such as giving incentives to those who use solar panels. There were also plenty of ideas regarding preservation and how it is done in places like Kyoto and Nara and how these spaces co-exist with modern society. Throughout the training, I have realized the importance of culture in the creation of architecture. Japanese architecture whether the style is mixed with other design styles considers universal design above all. It also breathes a certain aspect that exclusively answers to the cultural needs of the people. I hope all of the trainees will be able to utilize and share the knowledge we gained in Osaka in all our future endeavors. We are very lucky and thankful for this once in a lifetime opportunity.



**Todaiji Temple view from entrance with plenty of students going on school trips.**



**JR Kyoto Station's modern design is a complete contrast to the temples and old streets.**

## Company Training Takenaka Corporation

Submitted by Hareesh Haridasan India



### Introduction

The Takenaka Corporation is one of the oldest companies with its main interest in design, consulting and the construction industry. It is one of the major contributors in the construction industry in the market. The company was founded in the year 1610 in Nagoya, Japan. It was in 1899 that the company was officially established and its head office was moved to Osaka in 1923. It has a legacy of master craftsmanship in its field. Their craftsmanship can be seen in their earlier buildings, mainly shrines. It is this craftsmanship that kept this company motivated through the ages. The company has achieved phenomenal success in the field of construction and design. This success can be attributed to their enduring research in design, engineering and technology. The hard work has paid this company many dividends in the form of famous landmarks not only in Japan but also in the world.

As a part of the Ando Program 2012, Hilda Multi Artarina from Indonesia, and I were assigned to The Takenaka Corporation as the host company for training. Through this report I would like to put forth what we gained from this training session.

### Location

The Head Office of The Takenaka Corporation is in Osaka. We were placed in this head office in Osaka's Hommachi area near Midosuji.

### Expectations from Takenaka Corporation

Before joining Takenaka Corporation we trainees had different opinions and objectives. But there was a common denominator. This common denominator can be put down as understanding architecture in Japan. To understand present day architecture we need to understand the history to a certain extent, both social as well as architectural. We also needed to know more about the construction techniques and technologies used in Japan now and then. Sustainability is one of the

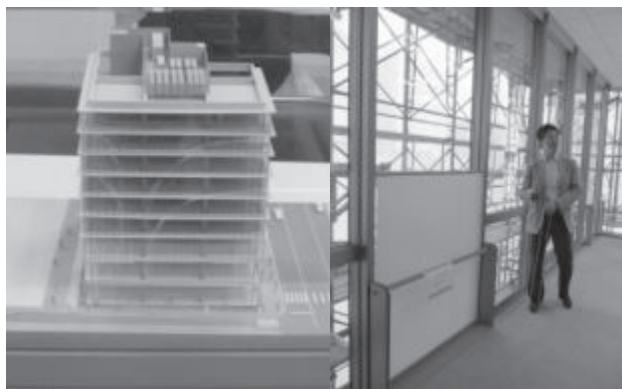
most important topics of discussion everywhere in the world. We also wanted to learn about the sustainable approaches undertaken by this company. In Japan concrete is used extensively, and this has increased the rate of construction to a certain extent. It was also important for us to understand the complexities of the construction site and its co-relation with the design process.

### The Training Session

The duration of the training session was 10 days. In these 10 days we needed to grasp many things from this organization. Many activities were planned for us. The first day was an introduction session with the design department and about the history of the organization. The different design departments had different styles of work. We were placed in the Design Department Section 1 (Group 3) and the Design Department Section 3 (Group 3). Section 1 (Group 3) mainly deals in the design of retail and commercial spaces while Section 3 (Group 3) deals in the design of factories and industrial facilities. Section 1 (Group 3) is headed by Mr. Noumi and Mrs. Mizuno (Miss Ohtake). Section 3 (Group 3) has Mr. Kurata as the manager while Mr. Doi assisted in the training process. We were exposed to the design process in the design group. We got to observe group meetings, which also formed an important part of the decision-making process.

Apart from the sessions within the office, visits were arranged where we could learn about the co-ordination between the design done on paper and the design that is executed.

## Takenaka Corporation



The model of Kishimoto Building ( left ) , The architect of the project, Mr. Suga, explained the systems incorporated in the building (right)

### Visit to Kishimoto Building

The first site visit was to the Kishimoto Building near Tennoji Station. This building, once completed, will be used for commercial purposes.

The architect of the project, Mr. Suga, explained the project to us. The main highlight of this visit was the base isolators. This feature is to counter the frequent earthquakes in Japan.



The site office of Abeno Harukas

### Visit to Abeno Harukas

The site of Abeno Harukas is near Tennoji station. This project, when completed, will be the tallest building in

Japan. Through this project we were exposed to the complexities involved in the design and execution of tall buildings. Mr. Ken Takahashi, the designer of the project, guided us in this visit. He explained the design of the building as well as the structural systems that were incorporated in such buildings.



The Endo Lighting Corporation building and the lighting systems on display

### Visit to Endo Lighting Corporation

The Endo Lighting Corporation is one of the projects handled by the Design Department Section 1 (Group 3). The site is located in Takaida. Since this project is for a company specializing in lighting products, the design also reflects that. The façade of the building utilizes materials like glass and steel so that it gets more space and better display. Section 1 staff members Mrs. Mizuno and Mr. Yamada coordinated this visit.

### Visit to The Takenaka Carpentry Tools Museum, Kobe

Carpentry has been an important building craft in Japan and the Takenaka Corporation also has a heritage associated with this building craft. This particular visit was very educational in terms of understanding the traditional architecture of Japan along with the traditional techniques of construction. Mr. Nakamura, a researcher at this museum, guided us in this visit. We learned about the Sukiya carpenters, those who specialized in making tea houses, the process followed by them in making tea



## Takenaka Corporation



houses and the difference between the Sukiya carpenters and Miyadaiku carpenters (shrine builders). The museum has a well-documented collection of carpentry tools and their evolution over the period.

The visit to The Takenaka Carpentry Tools Museum was coordinated by Mr. Sugimoto, the manager of the Information Management Section.

Apart from these site visits we also had an opportunity to attend a lecture by renowned architect Shigeru Ban. In his lecture, he talked about the projects he had undertaken and the use of paper as a building material in his work. The other site visits were arranged to the Umeda Sky Building, the Rokko Housing Project, by Tadao Ando, and others. Through these projects we saw some different glimpses of the city.



The Takenaka Carpentry Tools Museum



### Conclusion

The training process was a good opportunity to learn more about architecture from a new place and different people. We were able to understand the functioning of a large organization. Through the site visits we were able to understand the management process involved in the projects. We also had a chance to understand the design process. The discussion session helped us in developing design ideas. The design process is a never-ending process. It constantly evolves with interaction between the designer and the user.

Through this training we were able to understand the diverse and complex field of architecture, especially as how it relates to Japan. Architecture is a wide field and one needs to explore it all. One must try new permutations and combinations, while at the same time considering the practical constraints. And last, but certainly not least, understanding the clients' requirements and giving the necessary output. These are just a few of the lessons we learned.

The well-equipped library was helpful in giving a clear perspective about architecture in Japan. The respective team members were helpful in all aspects even though we had difficulties with the native language. Without their help understanding the entire session would have been difficult.



## Company Training

### Daiwa House Industry Co., Ltd

Submitted by Suman Shakya Nepal



The Ando Program came to me as a surprise. While I took the flight to Japan, I had many doubts besides the excitement of visiting a foreign country. As my family members had visited Japan earlier (my brother obtained his doctorate degree from Tokyo), I was assured it's a very safe and clean place though language may be a problem. The biggest doubt was about the job training as I wasn't sure what I was supposed to do in it.

With all the excitement and bewilderment, I landed in Kansai International Airport on Sept 16, where I met Suenaga-san and Yoshino-san along with other trainees waiting for me. The arrival day was kind of a relaxing day and getting to know each other. From the next day, there were a series of programs including job training, study tours, discussion, symposiums, courtesy calls, and farewell. The schedule was so tight that we forgot all our tiredness and enjoyed every bit that was in store for us. I had heard that Japanese were very particular with their timetable and time management, and it was through this program that I realized what I had heard was not an exaggeration. The way they get things done within the time frame and punctuality is what impressed me the most, and the smile they had was a testimony of gratitude they had for their job. Hard work, courtesy, good manners were some of the good impressions I had from this country. So I was determined to develop this attitude for my work.

Almost all the programs were quite obvious from the time schedule provided. But I was a bit anxious and confused with what the job training was going to be like as even OFIX didn't have a proper answer on this aspect as we were assigned to different host companies. The Chinese participant, Mr. Liu Xudong and I were assigned to Daiwa House Industry; and every effort was made by the people in Daiwa House Industry to make our training fruitful. In the beginning, I was thinking we would be helping in some projects in the design section. But I was surprised that our program consisted of a series of lectures. The lectures were scheduled such that we get a complete idea of what

Daiwa House Industry does including its business and technical aspects. And as a graduate student and a professional architect working in a design and construction firm, the lectures were very relevant for my learning and profession. Besides, the training had much more for us like study tours and site visits that enhanced our knowledge on Japanese architecture and history for which the Ando Program stands.



Attending lectures in the head office

The training didn't just teach us the technical aspects of our profession, but it taught a few core truths of life imbedded in it. The first thing we were made aware of was about Japanese manners, and we were taught two basic words of greetings "Yoroshiku Onegaishimasu" and "Arigato Gozaimasu" with a 45 degree bend before and after any lecture as gratitude for each learning session. The head office was two subway stations away from the hotel we were staying in, from Honmachi to Nishi Umeda; and every trip through the subway we took, showed us the busy Japanese life with people rushing for the trains at a fast pace.

Though Daiwa House Industry is a high earner in its field, the objective it has set is very down to earth, "Creating Dreams, Building Hearts." Perhaps it sets an example for the emerging companies not to ignore their role in society, and provide society what it really needs. And perhaps that sets a benchmark for the success of any company. The lectures were very specialized, consisting of various aspects of the company including its introduction, history, overseas business, design

## Daiwa House Industry Co.,Ltd



principles, and construction technologies. The lectures were not just company briefs, but introduced us to the newer concepts prevailing in Japan like the concept of rental housing. Most of the lectures were given in the head office (on 22<sup>nd</sup> floor) and a few given in the construction sites for a better understanding of the subject matters. The visit to the technical research center in Nara for the technical knowledge on Daiwa House Industry's research and innovation was another important aspect of the training.

As an architect, I was very interested in the lectures involving the designs and construction of buildings. The major business of Daiwa House Industry is single house dwellings, which interestingly is what I do for a living in my country. So I had many queries during these lectures that were answered every time with a smile. Daiwa House Industry brought the concept of pre-fabricated houses that is the real demand of the society. This started with the first product of Daiwa House Industry, the Pipe House, which is a house composed of prefabricated materials using iron pipes and bolts. The single dwellings of Daiwa House Industry are mostly prefabricated with factory-made components like wall and roof panels that provide a quality assurance and speedy construction with a concept that every client gets the same quality product. In its designs, it considers the Japanese life style and architecture and has compact spaces and tatami rooms that represent the space efficiency pioneered in Japanese architecture. Similar features were seen in its apartment designs. As my background was much on the construction side, I had queries more on the construction side whereas Mr. Liu had much consideration in the space planning which made our association very efficient as we made queries from different aspects, enhancing our learning.

Similarly, other interesting lectures included design of commercial facilities, apartments, and housing lots. As an architect, I'm employed in a big construction company of Nepal known as CE that has been involved in many prestigious projects of the country. I've been mostly involved in single-family houses and housing projects of the

company. Hence, the visit to the housing project of Hannan Sky Town in Hannan City designed by Daiwa House Industry was very rewarding for me. I learned much from the lectures ranging from the planning aspects to individual lot development and construction technologies. We were shown the model homes, the marketing office with cozy sitting spaces for the clients, and their marketing strategies which were the kind of work my company does. Similarly, a special mention goes to the demonstration of the PITT software that is used for the quick conceptual designs of the single dwellings in fast and efficient ways. We had a lot of fun drawing some 3Ds of our designs through this software. The things I learnt here, I was able to share enthusiastically to my fellow colleagues of the office; and personally inspired me to work more enthusiastically in the future.

Besides the lectures in the head office and the visits to the buildings, the visits to the construction sites were the best part of the training for me. We visited around 3 construction sites where we were briefed about the technologies they use and the way things are managed in the sites; and through these visits I found how fast and convenient Japanese construction was. It was very different from my country as brick isn't used at all, instead light construction was used, which saves time and contributes to space efficiency, such as plaster board instead of brick walls saves much of the internal spaces in the apartments. Similarly, use of steel beams and columns instead of RCC was also very different from construction sites in my country. The concern towards fire, heat, and sound insulation were some of the most remarkable features of Japanese construction we saw in the company.

The visit to the Technical Research Centre in Nara was also a major aspect of the training; and it gave us an opportunity to travel much in Japan on our own. For a couple of days, we left the hotel at 8 am and took the JR line to Nara and had a few fabulous looks at Japan's old capital city. In the research centre too, we were given lectures and were shown simulations of the innovations

## Daiwa House Industry Co.,Ltd



brought by Daiwa house Industry. Some of the major learning from this visit was the technologies devised by Daiwa House Industry to make their construction earthquake resistant through techniques like vibration control devices and roller systems and energy efficiency used in each of its designs. The world's population is increasing and the earth and its resources aren't increasing; so energy efficient designs are the only solution we can go for. The use of solar panels, lithium ion batteries, rain water harvesting, and earth air tunneling all demonstrated their energy efficiency in designs. Similarly, demonstration of material recycling in the head office too highlights this aspect.

Besides the regular lectures, we were shown the labs and museums around the Research Centre, including the D'Museum, Nobuo Ishibashi Memorial Museum and Techno Gallery. In these blocks, the research of the company was demonstrated as simulations and life scale models such as the earthquake resistant structures, thermal and sound insulation that are used in the Daiwa House Industry Products. Besides, the founder's vision and the company history were presented through the displays of time lines and life scale models to the CAD software they used in the past. Display of the Agri-Cube was another interesting innovation from them, which is the technology of growing vegetables in an indoor box that provides a solution to urban agriculture as agricultural land is getting scarce in the urban areas. It felt rewarding to learn this technology and luckily, I got to plant some coriander seeds on my own. Perhaps it was one of the major urban issues I studied in the training.

As mentioned earlier, to my understanding, Daiwa House Industry is not just a housing or a construction company that's happy with its profits. It has envisioned its role in society that I believe makes its position prominent in modern society. Through its prefabricated buildings and earthquake-resistant buildings, it has provided society a safe abode. Besides a safe dwelling, it's striving to improve the living conditions of people through the healing robot suits and PARO, which protected many victims in the

aftermath of earthquakes. Furthermore, its attempt to save energy and nature is really commendable.

Besides the introduction to the company perspective, we were taken on study tours during our training period. These visits included two remarkable buildings by Mr. Tadao Ando, The Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art in Hyogo Prefecture and the Chaska Chayamachi in Umeda. Besides, during our visit to the technical research centre, we were taken to some historical sites of Nara, including Yakushiji Temple and Todaiji Temple where we were briefed about the glorious history of Japan and its culture. So on a whole, training in Daiwa House Industry was very different from my expectation. Within the short span of the training period, I got to know and interact with the professionals of Daiwa House Industry and learnt how they are practicing their profession. The best thing I learnt from this training was the necessity to be innovative and address the necessities of society. Within the short period I was able to understand the business and working policies of a big company like Daiwa House Industry; and since the business it does is similar to the company I work for, I think the knowledge gained here has been truly beneficial for me to become a better professional in the future.



**Life size model of Pipe House, the first product of Daiwa House Industry (above) Model home in Hannan Sky Town (right)**



## Discussion Program

### “Renewal and Preservation in a Sustainable Global Environment”

Submitted by Bui Quoc Thang *Vietnam*

Nowadays, in most countries around the world, in order to satisfy the housing needs of the people under pressure from the process of urbanization and the level of population growth, the demand for renewal and preservation work in a sustainable global environment is one of the big challenges with which leaders and professionals are faced.

However, urban renewal and preservation is a fairly broad concept that can best be understood as the process of redeveloping deteriorated sections of the city, often through demolition and new construction. Although urban renewal may be privately funded, it is most often associated with government-sponsored renewal programs. This is a program of land redevelopment in areas of moderate to high-density urban land use: programs designed to clear, rebuild, and redevelop urban slums. Critics contend that although they bulldoze slums, urban renewal programs often have led to their replacement by office buildings and by apartment houses for the well-to-do. The rehabilitation of city areas by renovating or replacing dilapidated buildings with new housing, public buildings, parks, roadways, industrial areas, etc., is often in accordance with comprehensive plans. Moreover, there are many other definitions of urban renewal and preservation with a different scale that is also reflected in part in the report of the trainees in the 2012 Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts. On a large scale, the report "Hoi An Eco-City" by Bui Quoc Thang (*Vietnam*), the report "Case Studies: City Kampung of Surabaya" by Hilda Multi Artarina (*Indonesia*) and on a smaller scale, "Urban Rejuvenation of a Traditional Newar Town" by Suman Shakya (*Nepal*) discuss this. The similarities of these cities are the ancient urban areas and their valuable and important role in terms of the history of the country, which is

home to many indigenous cultural and architectural artifacts.

The process "Renewal and Preservation" in the "Urban Rejuvenation of a Traditional Newar Town" is focused on:

- Preservation of the traditional monuments;
- Establishment of land-use regulations;
- Promotion of the use of local materials and employment of local artisans and laborers.

The process "Renewal and Preservation" in the project "Hoi An Eco-City" in order for Hoi An to become "a living laboratory of Vietnam" is a holistic solution oriented towards a development-friendly and sustainable environment as well as developing tourism potential while ensuring the sustainability of the historical value through a series of efforts:

- To select suitable land use structure that links with urban space development and direction for city and architectural development;
- To build and develop technical infrastructure;
- To build social infrastructure;
- To preserve local cultural identity and to ensure social progress;
- Green system development;
- To protect biodiversity and to appropriately use natural resources;
- To develop economic sectors of the city in a sustainable direction;
- To prevent, to make use of, or to appropriately adjust the natural disadvantages.

Along with the proposed support:

- To educate and communicate with people to raise awareness





## Discussion Program

- To develop and adjust planning; to boost the implementation of related programs and projects
  - To pool financial resources
  - Management organization, human resources and assignment for implementation
- And also with other similar activities in the "Case Studies: Kampung of Surabaya " they are:
- Maximizing any space available for green space;
  - Waste management and water treatment;
  - Applying the reduce-reuse-recycle concepts;
  - Optimizing the special product or special offerings of the Kampung;
  - Establishing strong community participation.

One of the prominent activities in this process is the preservation of urban heritage values and benefits that provide for the creation of jobs for the local people, the most important element of economic development strategies, jobs. The construction industry in general has an important job-creating capacity. But analyses in Europe, North America and the Middle East have demonstrated the significant job-creating ability of rehabilitation over new construction.

On a smaller scale are the reports, "Case of Ahmedabad and Alandi" by Hareesh Haridasan (*India*), and the report "An Overview of the Filipino Vernacular Architecture" by Cabatac Raquel Angelique Morena (*Philippines*), and the report by Korkiat Kittisoponpong (*Thailand*). These reports refer to the renewal and the improvement of the urban areas as a program of land redevelopment in areas of moderate to high-density urban land use or programs designed to clear, rebuild, and redevelop urban slums. Critics contend that although they bulldoze slums, urban renewal programs often have led to their replacement by office buildings and by apartment houses for the well-to-do and the rehabilitation of city areas by renovating or replacing dilapidated buildings with new housing, public buildings, parks, roadways, industrial areas, etc., in the direction of developing the tourism industry.

One thing to note in the process "Renewal and Preservation" in these examples is the need to clearly identify what the historical and cultural values are, from which we can offer the

direction for a reasonable and effective way of preservation, and in which a question arises: what is it and what factors in the original value should be first? We can see the economic potential when the original value of the city is preserved: they are small business incubation, jobs and heritage-based tourism. Lessons should be drawn from other cities in the region that have grown quickly. Singapore, Hong Kong and Shanghai are all Asian cities now prosperous and fully integrated into the global economy. But in retrospect, all these now regret they didn't save more of their heritage when they had the chance. In order to avoid a similar mistake, the preservation of heritage sites should merit the highest priority on the part of decision makers for cultural, social, aesthetic, environmental and educational reasons.

On the scale of individual buildings are the reports "Learning from Nature" by Liu Xudong (China) and "A Sustainable Clothing Factory in Sri Lanka" by Rathnayaka Mudiyansele Shyanaka Dananjaya (*Sri Lanka*). These case-studies gave us a very specific example of the renewability of individual buildings. It is the choice of a sustainable building location, the selection of a suitable design space, favorable climatic conditions, colors and materials used in harmony in the design as well as the use of clean renewable energy resources that when calculated in detail and specifically would show if the process "Renewal and Preservation" was done correctly. If so, it will bring sustainable development not only for buildings but also for urban areas or cities. With favorable conditions available, it seems that the actual conditions are idealized in this case study though we are still in doubt about the ability to widely apply this solution in larger works in terms of size or scale for a city such as:

- The costs for the establishment of a comprehensive system solution of reusable sources of energy or use of clean energy sources;
- The ability to apply the same model in other developing countries or in countries where land is scarce and too expensive;



## Discussion Program

- The efforts in providing solutions to reduce energy use;
- Sustainability sometimes depends on the surrounding circumstances and conditions, which do not have advanced technology or modern processing systems;
- The impact of natural disasters should also be calculated in the process of the construction of such buildings.

For preservationists safeguarding the past through its physical remains is reason enough in itself to justify preservation efforts. But, for those without prior involvement with such efforts, there are many other more tangible reasons why historic preservation matters. Historic preservation involves much more than simply saving and restoring old buildings and sites of historic importance; there are economic, cultural, environmental, and educational benefits of historic preservation, all of which are inextricably connected to one another and to the living character of the community.



### **Economic Benefits from Preservation/Renewal**

One important economic benefit is heritage tourism. Many people enjoy a deep fascination with sites of historic and architectural importance, as well as with the history held within these sites. Billions of dollars are earned every year from heritage tourists, whose travel focuses on historical sites of interest, and are among the fastest-growing group of tourists. Heritage tourists' travels provide hundreds of millions of tax dollars, and billions for the hospitality and travel industries.

Heritage tourism has also been a factor for hundreds of cities across the nation engaged in urban renewal and revitalization. Historic preservation efforts are playing a vital role in creating vibrant, interesting, and thriving spaces for individuals to live and work, keeping both people and businesses in engaged communities.

### **Cultural Benefits**

Historic preservation helps keep communities beautiful, vibrant, and livable, and gives people a stake in their surroundings. It connects people with their past, and with one another. History is a great educator, and coming to know the history of a community and its historical sites fosters an individual's sense of belonging and community pride. Old structures and historic spaces often present the human scale of history. Their design and construction tell us much about the cultures that created them and about the traditions and events from which the communities and nation grew.

### **Environmental Benefits**

It is often more environmentally friendly to rehabilitate existing structures and maintain and improve existing infrastructures than to simply destroy and replace them. Each existing building is an investment of energy, time, and resources. If these structures are destroyed that investment is wasted. Also, active historic preservation efforts can curb detrimental environmental effects of suburban sprawl, including increased traffic, energy consumption, and environmental degradation. By safeguarding the historic cores of towns and cities and encouraging reinvestment in them, many adverse effects of growth can be greatly reduced.

It should be considered that the process of development and modernization of the cities in the world have caused the disappearance of heritages; this is not just a shame for a city or country, but also a regret for all humanity.

Therefore, sustainable renewal and preservation in these cases, in accordance with the application of scientific and technological progress as in the use of clean energy sources, renewable energy sources also conserves the architectural and non-architectural heritage value while at the same time providing solutions to improve life for the people in historical areas and not to just bring them back as "Open Museums".

## 2012 Asia Youth Symposium on Architectural Interchange

Submitted by Korkiat Kittisoponpong *Thailand*

It was one fine day, a bit cloudy yet not too cold. We all got on the bus at the Cityroute Hotel, our headquarters, at 8:30am and headed to Kobe Design University for the Asian Architectural Youth Symposium (with design students there). We arrived at KDU around 9:30am.

We officially started our day around 10:00am with the KDU campus tour by Prof. Konno and Prof. Kawakita. Walking through the campus gave us a glimpse of what a design school in Japan looks like. It is a very nice and creative environment in which to study. We were shown some work by the students and the professors. It was very interesting to see how each one of them approached their projects. One of the projects reflected how bad memories from one 4<sup>th</sup> year student's childhood inspired him. Along the way around the design department, we could see the projects from different students and different classes. It is a creative learning environment. There are a lot of departments in KDU including the Manga Media Department and it made me realize that I'm actually in Japan right now. After that, we went to the reception party around 11:00am. It was a formal, but relaxing and friendly party. We had several

kinds of food along with a chat with KDU students and professors. We started to get along better at the 'self introduction' activity after the reception party. Each group, consisting of the Ando trainees and a KDU student, were assigned to come up with solutions to protect an egg being dropped from the 7th floor of the building with the materials provided. It was quite a fun icebreaker.

At 13:30pm, we moved to another building and started the first session of the presentations with Kazuma Yamada-san from KDU titled, "Why Was Criticized Collective Housing Proposed by Toyo Ito?" It was about how Ito-san is doing his design at a time after the effect from the Great East Japan Earthquake. It gave us an idea of what we should be concerned with when we work from now on. The second presentation was given by Hareesh Haridasan, from India, with the topic "Revitalization and Disaster Prevention: India's Efforts Toward Disaster Management." All the Ando Trainees were requested to share each country's efforts to prevent disasters or to revitalize after a disaster. Therefore, Hareesh showed us the overall picture of the process in India during a disaster. The interesting part I found was the rehabilitation effort by the participation of local people after a disaster hit the area. Afterwards, Raquel Angelique Cabatac, from the Philippines, spoke on the topic "Rebuilding Towards a Resilient Filipino Community." She told us that most natural disasters that happened in the Philippines were the result of typhoons. The worst one named "Haikui" flooded Metropolitan Manila for 3 days. One very useful piece of information I found was that the most efficient and accessible tool during this hard time turned out to be the radio, rather than the television. The social network is also another effective tool. The last speaker of the first session was Shyanaka Dananjaya, from Sri Lanka. He wrapped up this session with the question "Life is the most important thing, so how to reduce death, as an architect?" After that, we had a short discussion about topics from the 1<sup>st</sup> session and then a short break after that.



Prof. Kawakita showed us some of the interesting projects ( above )

Students' projects ( below )



## 2012 Asia Youth Symposium on Architectural Interchange

The second session of this symposium started with Wang Yang-san, a KDU student from China. He presented us the project called “Redesigning the Nippon Steel and Sumitomo Metal Factory in Kamaishi.” It was interesting because the site he picked was near where the Great East Japan Earthquake hit last year. People around there don’t use that area as a residential area anymore. Yet, he wanted to use this discarded factory as a waterfront of the city, a natural park of the city or a mixed site in the city, to create liveliness for the city. This presentation was followed by a presentation from Tungnung Khuplianlamsan, a KDU student from India. His presentation was “REHAB-3.11 (Minamisanriku), Safe and Beautiful Village towards Tourism Revitalization.” It’s an urban planning concept for the collateral sustainability of the city and region. And then we had the last presentation of the day from Hilda Multi Artarina, from Indonesia.

She discussed the case of “Post-Tsunami Reconstruction in Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam.” She showed us some of the prefabricated housing models used for the rebuilding process. We had another short discussion after that and ended our second session around 4:15pm.

At 4:30pm, all of us left for Awaji Island on a bus. Along the way, the atmosphere was getting more relaxing with the intimate space and snacks. After we crossed the long suspension bridge to the island, we stopped by the service building designed by Kengo Kuma-san and spent some time there. The weather and view were very nice. Then, we arrived at the Westin Awaji Island Hotel and checked-



Awaji Yumebutai

in to our rooms. It was a Japanese traditional room for 5 persons with tatami mats and futons to sleep on. After we dropped off our bags in the room, we went for dinner and the night session. With a good and funny game, the night session brought out more inner part of everyone. By the end of the session, everyone seemed to be getting along very well. That led to the real night session for some of us as the first night of a memorable day ended.

We got up in the morning and went for breakfast. Everybody seemed to have a good rest the night before. The symposium continued with one new member added, Prof. Nitschke, who couldn’t join us the day before. The 3<sup>rd</sup> session contained a KDU student from Russia, Kyalunziga Elena, the Ando trainees Bui Quoc Thang from Vietnam and Suman Shakya from Nepal, followed by a discussion and a short break. Kazuki Ohmichi-san from KDU started the 4<sup>th</sup> session with an interesting topic, “Possibility of Sustainable Disaster Prevention Education



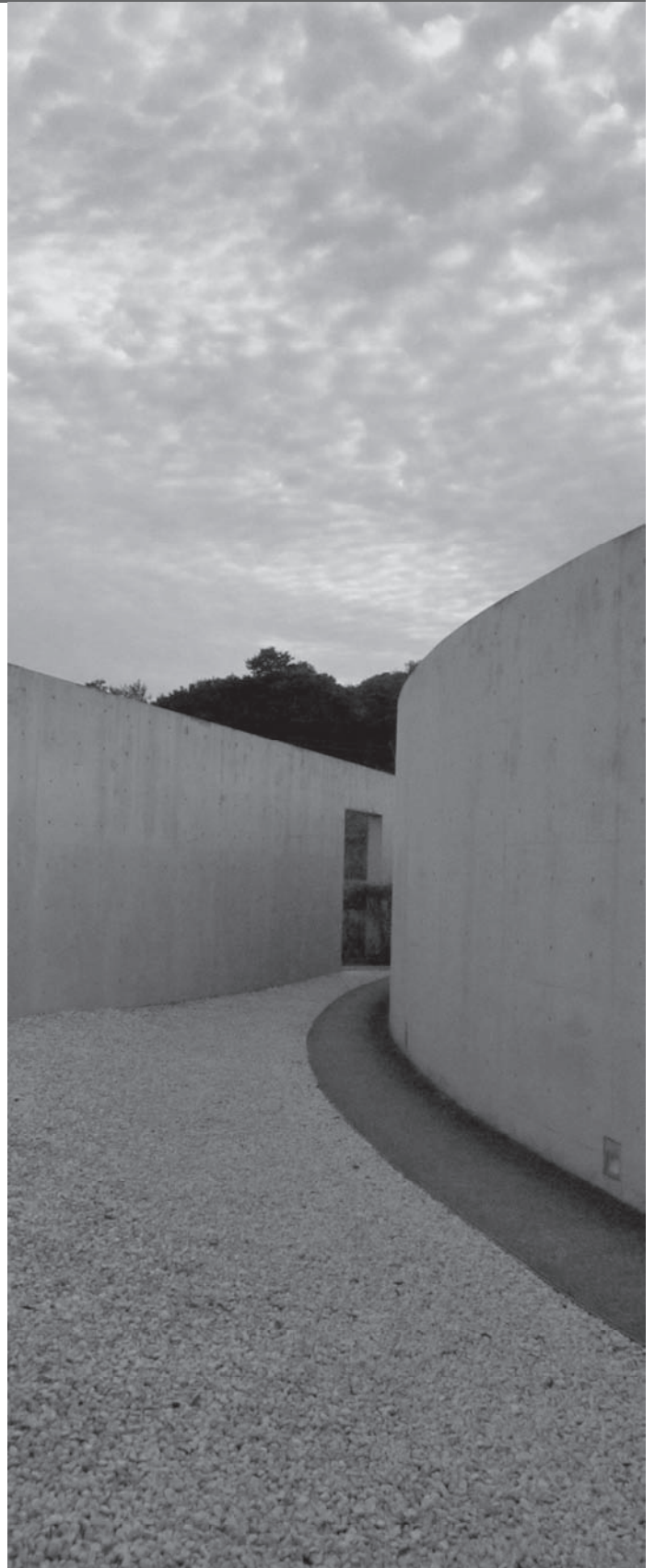


## 2012 Asia Youth Symposium on Architectural Interchange

by Matsuri.” He proposed an idea to treat a tsunami or any other disaster evacuation drill as a Matsuri or festival, so that people would remember the drill automatically when the real incident happened. Bruna Bajramovic from KDU was next with a presentation to encourage people to contribute more in “Role of a Community in Disaster Management.” And then, I told a little story about how Thai people are dealing with those natural disasters that happened lately, such as the Tsunami in 2004 or the big flood in 2011. We finished our session with Liu Xudong from China. He reminded us how people had been thinking that man can conquer nature and how we could change that way of thinking with “art.” The last session ended after another discussion and then we had lunch together.

Moriyama-san from Tadao Ando Architect & Associates was introduced after lunch. He took us through Awaji Yumebutai and Water Temple (Shingonshu Honpukuji), two of many significant projects by Ando-san. At Awaji Yumebutai, we were walking along the forest Ando-san meant to restore after part of the mountain was used as a part of Kansai International Airport construction. He encouraged the planting in that area and now it surely looks nothing like back in 1994, full of greenery and life. We walked through each area of this big project, such as the “100 Steps Garden” and the “Tea Ceremony Room.” Since we didn’t have that much time, we stepped up our pace through each area and headed for the Water Temple. I believe that each person would have a different impression toward this unique architecture. For me, I found this place one of the most stunning and inspiring places I’ve ever been to. “Less is more” might sound cliché but it surely suited this place. I found that I could hear myself more clearly while I was walking through the temple. This place really did make my day.

We went back to KDU and had our farewell there. We left for Osaka by bus and arrived at Cityroute hotel safely. That was the end of another memorable trip we had during our stay in Japan.



## Symposium Schedule

	<b>Thursday, October 4</b>
10:00	Arrival at Kobe Design University
10:00-10:45	KDU Campus Tour
10:45-11:00	Break
11:00-11:50	Welcome Reception
11:50-13:15	Self Introduction; Workshop
13:30-14:10	<Session One> KDU Student: Kazuma Yamada (Japan) Trainees: Hareesh Haridasan (India), Cabatac Raquel (Philippines), Shyanaka Dananjaya (Sri Lanka)
14:10-14:50	Q&A Discussion
14:50-15:20	<Session Two> KDU : Wang Yang (China), Tungnung Khuplianlam (India) Trainee: Hilda Multi Artarina (Indonesia)
15:20-16:00	Q&A Discussion
16:00	Overview
16:30	Depart KDU
17:00	Tour Awaji Highway Service Area designed by Kengo Kuma
17:30	Arrival at Westin Awaji Island Hotel
18:00-19:30	Dinner round table discussion
19:30-21:30	Night Session Discussion
	<b>Friday , October 5</b>
9:30	Check out
10:00-10:30	<Session Three> KDU :Kyalunziga Elena (Russia) Trainees: Bui Quoc Thang (Vietnam), Suman Shakya (Nepal)
10:30-11:10	Q&A Discussion
11:10-11:50	<Session Four> KDU : Kazuki Ohmichi (Japan), Bruna Bajramovic (Bosnia and Herzegovia) Trainees: Korkiat Kittisoponpong (Thailand), Liu Xudong (China)
11:50-12:30	Q&A Discussion
12:30-13:00	Overview
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00	Visit Awaji Yumebutai
16:00	Depart Awaji Yumebutai
16:30	Visit Honpukuji
17:00	Depart Honpukuji
17:30	Arrival at KDU/ Farewell Greetings
18:00	End of Program



## Presentation Schedule

	<b>Thursday, October 4</b>	
	<b>&lt;Session One &gt;</b> <b>Speakers</b> Kazuma Yamada Hareesh Haridasan  Raquel Cabatac Shyanaka Dananjaya	<b>Presentations</b> “Why Was Criticized Collective Housing Proposed by Toyo Ito?” “Revitalization and Disaster Prevention : India’s Efforts Toward Disaster Management” “Rebuilding Towards a Resilient Filipino Community” “Life Is The Most Important Thing, So How To Reduce Death As an Architect?”
	Q&A Discussion	
	<b>&lt;Session Two&gt;</b> <b>Speakers</b> Wang Yang Tunngnung Khuplianlam  Hilda Multi Artarina	<b>Presentations</b> “Redesigning the Nippon Steel and Sumitomo Metal Factory in Kamaishi” “REHAB-3.11(Minamisanriku), Safe and Beautiful Village Towards Tourism Revitalization” “Post-Tsunami Reconstruction in Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam”
	<b>Friday, October 5</b>	
	<b>&lt;Session Three &gt;</b> <b>Speakers</b> Elena Kyalunziga Bui Quoc Thang Suman Shakya	<b>Presentations</b> “Disasters and Sustainability: Nature Teaches Us a Lesson” “Revitalization and Disaster Prevention: Each Country’s Efforts” “Revitalization and Disaster Prevention : A Case of Nepal”
	Q&A Discussion	
	<b>&lt;Session Four&gt;</b> <b>Speakers</b> Kazuki Ohmichi Bruna Bajramovic Liu Xudong  Korkiat Kittisoponpong	<b>Presentations</b> “Possibility of Sustainable Disaster Prevention Education by Matsuri” “Role of a Community in Disaster Management” “Revitalization and Disaster Prevention: Salvage Human Ecological Disasters with Art” “Revitalization and Disaster Prevention: Thailand’s Efforts”

## English Project at Osaka Prefecture University

Submitted by Hilda Multi Artarina *Indonesia*

### Design Our Campus

On October 6, 2012, 8 trainees of the Ando Program 2012 had a great occasion to collaborate with 18 students from Osaka Prefecture University (OPU) in an English Project held in OPU Nakamozu Campus in Sakai City. This project was a workshop conducted in English under the theme "Design Our Campus". Under this theme, the Ando Program trainees and OPU students were assigned to landscape the Fudai Pond area in the OPU Campus. Fudai Pond is a large pond inside the campus. The main objective of the workshop was for the Ando Program trainees and OPU students to discuss and work side by side to propose design ideas for the pond and its surrounding area that can strengthen its existence as well as improve its function as an oasis for the community.



### A warm welcome

The first meeting between the Ando Program trainees and OPU students was exciting. The OPU students welcomed the trainees with bright smiles and by holding a small board that represented each trainee's national flag. The participants were then divided into four different groups that consisted of two Ando Program trainees in each group. Group A consisted of Bui Quoc Thang and Hilda Multi Artarina, group B was supported by Hareesh Haridasan and Shyanaka Dananjaya, while in group C were Raki Cabatac and Suman Shakya, and group D had Korkiat Kittisoponpong and Liu Xudong .

The workshop was officially opened by the Director and Vice President of The International Exchange Organization, Masahiro Terasako, who gave a brief explanation about the

assignment. The next session was to introduce each member in each group.



This session was very fun and interesting as each member introduced themselves using materials they had prepared before that best represented their unique and distinctive personalities. The introduction session that continued by having lunch together successfully established a good atmosphere among the participants as they started to chat in a more open and friendly way. It seemed that everyone shared the same enthusiasm to get to know each other and to treasure them as new friends.

### The group work

The group work started with each group conducting site observation at Fudai Pond to have a better view and understanding of the actual condition and to identify the problems. Intense discussion arose as the groups walked along to observe the pond area. Since each group consisted of members with various study backgrounds (not only architecture students), they were able to get a broad range of input and ideas as well as various problems to be identified. The on-site discussion continued in the classroom where all groups were needed to summarize their site observation and pin down the problem statements to be presented afterwards. The presentation session was divided into two sessions, the first session was to identify the problems and the second session was to propose the solutions.

All groups mainly identified some similar problems according to their site visit, that were about safety issues,

## English Project at Osaka Prefecture University

pond cleanliness, and some potential spots around the pond that were still undeveloped.

Group A emphasized their presentation by raising the issue about the lack of connection between the people and community in the campus with Fudai Pond. Since the perimeter area of the pond was neither safe nor supportive for people to get closer to the pond, group A proposed a plan to develop the perimeter area of the pond by designing a promenade in one side of the pond that was facing the student cafeteria, and open a new connection from the parking lot to the pond to make it more connected.



Group B proposed an interesting idea to launch a “Friends of Fudai Pond” campaign to raise awareness in the community of their pond. With this campaign, it is hoped that students and the community in the campus volunteer to take care of the pond, because it will be better if the University uses their in-house expertise to find a solution rather than looking outside. Besides that, group B also proposed a plan of installing a water fountain in the pond. This idea has two reasons: (1) it oxidizes water and reduces the growth of algae, which was one of the major issues found, and (2) the fountain will produce sound that could act as a sign of existence of the pond, or the idea of sense of place.

Group C categorized the problems and proposed solutions to it as follows:

- Cleanliness: cleaning up the pond and trimming down the plants sprawled around it.
- Landscaping: introducing plants from all seasons to make the place attractive, not only during spring but

also all year round.

- Safety issues: making the place more accessible for all ages. Covering up the drains and putting railing around the area
- Japanese theme: to make the area known, ideas proposed were to use additional architectural elements that are valuable culturally to the students, such as putting Toro-like lamps for lighting, some Japanese tea house seating for the outdoor eating area and an observation platform near the students’ cultural clubs.



Group D proposed solutions related to the idea of sense of place. That is, how to make people realize that there is a pond there, because it will not be any use if we create a very good atmosphere but nobody knows. They also suggested providing pond maintenance along with the creation of aesthetic, such as a fountain or add some aquatic life to enrich the ecosystem of the pond.

### The Final Session

Finally after all works had been presented by each group, the OPU president, Mr. Taketoshi Okuno, gave a final review and delivered a presentation about OPU future plans. The final session, followed by the most awaited group photo, officially ended the one-day workshop. The English project held by OPU students that collaborated with the Ando program trainees was definitely a great opportunity to promote and strengthen the international cooperation between the participants. As everyone was determined to interact and work together side by side, we could improve our knowledge while making new friends in such a great experience.

## Other Events

Submitted by Liu Xudong *China*

How time flies! What the month left me are not only some fond memories, but also many achievements and emotional sighs. I regard this workshop tour as a marvelous moment of my career life.

From September 19 to October 16, members from 8 different countries participated in this workshop. For me, the learning process was very useful. I learned a lot of things. Some things gave me a very deep impression, especially the construction of Osaka and the citizens of Osaka.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2012, we met the Osaka Vice Governor Mr. Shinsaku Kimura at the Osaka Prefectural Government office. All the participants introduced themselves. From the top of the office, you can see all of Osaka.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2012, we went on a Kyoto Study Tour with Prof. Günter Nitschke. The buildings in Kyoto are very beautiful. Many of the buildings preserve the original characteristics. The professor's explanation was very wonderful and all the students were very interested in his lecture. While we were walking around Kyoto, Prof. Nitschke taught us not only about architectural theory, but also his experiences of being in Japan. That was an interesting way of learning Japanese culture through architecture.

From the 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> of September, 2012, in order to make us experience Japanese life better, the trainees were sent to stay over night with host families. Through this chance, I experienced Japanese culture, diet, living habits and so on. I was surprised that they are very interested in Chinese culture and also can speak Chinese! So, it makes us more friendly. I spent a normal weekend with my host family and I think this is the best way to learn true Japanese culture, from their daily life. During those days, I felt very relaxed.

The most memorable day for this program would be the day that we were scheduled to meet Mr. Tadao Ando. He is very famous in China and he has a lot of projects in Shanghai. Although the time for exchange with Mr. Ando was only one

hour, we learned a lot of things. He suggested to us that a designer should make models, not completely relying on the computer. Sometimes the computer will deceive people's feelings.

Although the one-month workshop tour is a short period of time, I was able to experience such characteristics as the Japanese architecture, culture and humanities. In addition, I was also able to establish endearing friendships with members from various countries, thus making tremendous achievements. I really miss you, Osaka; I miss you, OFIX; I miss you, all my dear friends !



With Mr. Tadao Ando at his office

## Afterword

This year marks the twentieth anniversary of the start of the Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts, and, in this milestone year, eight trainees from eight Asian nations successfully completed the twenty-eight-day program. As the editors of this report, we wish to thank the host companies, and all of the people who made the program a success, and all those who provided valuable assistance in publishing this report. We hereby wish to express our heartfelt appreciation.





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