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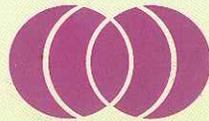
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NOV/DIS 2001

TEMAN BARU



Taishacho, Izumoshi, Shimane Prefecture: Rejective wall of Izumotaisha shrine



The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur
(Japan Cultural Centre)
(Japanese Language Centre)
Homepage: <http://www.jfkl.org.my>

THE 5th ASIAN CARTOON EXHIBITION

About 90 works by famous Asian cartoonists from China, India, Indonesia, Korea, Myanmar, The Philippines, Thailand, Japan including ten works by Malaysian, Mr. Mohamad Hanafiah Ibrahim or his pen name *Kerengge* were displayed during the exhibition held at The National Art Gallery from 22 September until 7 October 2001. The theme of this year's exhibition is "Human Resources in Asia".

The works were first exhibited in Tokyo and some other major cities in Japan last year. After which the exhibits will travel and be displayed over a period of one year to the seven countries in Asia.

While in Malaysia the exhibition will also be held in Museum & Art Gallery in Penang and State Library in Ipoh from 20 to 31 October and 3 to 18 November 2001 respectively.

For details please call Ms Nakama at Consulate-General of Japan Tel: 04-2263030 and Puan Suraya at Perak State Library Tel: 05-2553734.

EXHIBITION OF - The World Heritage in Japan

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur in-cooperation with Kelantan State Museum Corporation held an exhibition of *The World Heritage in Japan* from 25 September to 7 October 2001 at the main gallery of the State Museum. It was officiated by the Honorable Mr. Takiyuddin bin Hassan, Chairman of the Kelantan State Museum Corporation. The Japan Foundation represented by Assistant Director, Mr. Takiguchi Ken at the ceremony on 24 September.



The exhibition displayed 54 colored photographs by Kazuyoshi Miyoshi taken from various sites of Japan, including temples, castles, gardens, etc. Those places were proclaimed as World Heritage by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization).



In conjunction with the exhibition, a workshop on "How to take good photographs" was held on 26 September by Mr. Arase Sugawara, a professional photographer based in Kuala Lumpur. It was attended by more than 20 participants where majority of them are photographers. This was the first time such a workshop being held there.

After Kelantan the same exhibits will be displayed in Terengganu from 22 October. The exhibition is now on going at Terengganu State Museum. The Museum is also organizing a photo contest with the theme - *Terengganu Heritage* in-conjunction with the exhibition of *The World Heritage in Japan* there.

PESSIMISM, OPTIMISM AND REALISM OF THE CURRENT JAPANESE ECONOMY

By Prof Hideo Suzuki

In leading the Japanese out of recession, several alternatives have been analyzed and deemed necessary. To further discuss on the development of the Japanese economy, the discussion will be on the victory of LDP Koizumi's, a strange calm in the early 90's, accumulation of public debts, growth of pessimism, drastic actions and financial crisis and last but not least is looking on how realistic is the pessimism.

Koizumi was able to deliver powerful and brave speeches, which was accepted by the people of Japan. With his rhetoric words "no genuine economic recovery was possible without fundamental structural reforms of the economy, which would unavoidably be painful" which sounded fresh to the ears of the public who felt fed up with the inaction and ineffectiveness of the successive governments in facing the serious economic trouble in the last half a century. Japanese people perceived that their voices were heard and they were participating in the decision making process of the national importance. These feelings of participation within the people made them push Koizumi to the leadership in April.

The pendulum of social mood swings from one extreme to another in Japan. When the Japanese people feel optimistic, they go very high and when they feel low, they go very low. How economy behaves depends largely on how the society feels and at the moment, the Japanese are feeling very low. However, to examine what extent the people's pessimism is justified by the overall conditions of the economy may be an interesting exercise.

The public lecture was held on 29 September 2001 at Mingcourt Vista Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. The same lecture also took place in Penang on 27 September 2001 and Kota Kinabalu on 1 October 2001.

HIDDEN JAPAN - A Photography Exhibition

A total of 85 black-and-white photographs by Kijuro Yahagi were exhibited in this exhibition from 5 to 14 October 2001, which was organized by Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia and the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur.



His viewfinder catches stunning picturesque scenes from around Japan. "I wondered if, by taking a candid look at nature in Japan, I could also bring the modern face of Japan life through the photographs," says Yahagi. As a result of his 20,000 km journey throughout Japan, this collection of photos is compile and gives valuable insights into Japan.

Mr. Yahagi was present to give a talk about his photographs on 6 October 2001 at Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur in-conjunction with the exhibition.

The exhibition will also be held in **Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, from 1 to 9 December 2001**. It will open daily from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. at Hotel Hyatt Regency. The exhibition in Sabah is co-organized with the Consulate-General of Japan in Kota Kinabalu.

Please contact Mr. Negishi at Tel: 088-254169 for details.

THE JAPAN FOUNDATION PROGRAM - Application Forms

For Coming Fiscal 2002 - 2003

Interested applicants for the above programs are reminded that the closing date to submit application forms is 3 December 2001. Earlier submission is encouraged. However, for those who wish to apply, the Program Guidelines and Application Forms are still available. Please contact Puan Nik at 03-21612104 for details.

THE WEEKEND JAPANESE FILM SHOWS (November)

All films are with English subtitles and will be screened at The National Art Gallery at 3.00 p.m. Admission is free.

3 November – Nowhere Man

Directed by Takenaka Naoto, 1991, 107 min. Color, Vista

Sukezo used to be one of Japan's premier *Manga* comic artists. Now he sells rocks. This is somewhat misleading, for there is a long tradition in Asia of appreciated the subtle colors and forms of stones. Sukezo does everything he can to be successful at rocks. His family takes their crop to a rock auction. However.....



10 November – Take me out to the Snowland

Directed by Baba Yasuo, 1987, 98min. Color, Vista

Yano Fumio is a young businessman working for a trading house in Tokyo. He is a quiet man in the office, but when it comes to skiing, he comes alive and his ability approaches the professional level. Christmas. On a skiing trip to Nagano, Fumio meets and falls in loves with a young secretary, Ikegami Yu.

Coming Events in Early Next Year

CONTEMPORARY JAPANESE CRAFT EXHIBITION

The Japan Foundation is currently collaborating with Galeri Petronas KLCC in organizing a craft exhibition in March-May 2002. If you are interested, you may contact Ms Mas Zetti Atan of Galeri Petronas at 03-2065000.

DANCE WORKSHOP

The Japan Foundation in collaboration with Five Arts Centre and Actors Studio will be organizing a Dance Workshop by Pappa Tarahumara from Japan from 5 to 9 February 2002. Details of the workshop will be announced later.

KYOGEN PERFORMANCE

The Japan Foundation will organize a Kyogen Performance at Actors Studio in Bangsar on 5 & 6 March 2002. Kyogen is one of four major Japanese traditional performing arts, namely Noh, Kabuki and Bunraku.

CHURA ASIAN TOUR 2002 - Okinawa Dance & Song

The Japan Foundation will be organizing Okinawa Dance & Song Performances in collaboration with 'Chura' dance group from Japan at the Istana Budaya on 17 and 18 March 2002. Details will be announced later.

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur.

(Japan Cultural Centre)

(Japanese Language Centre)

Suite 30.01, Level 30, Menara Citibank,
165 Jalan Ampang, 50450 Kuala Lumpur.

Japan Cultural Centre Tel: 03-21612104 Fax: 03-21612344

Japanese Language Centre Tel: 03-21612304, 03-21615302

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