

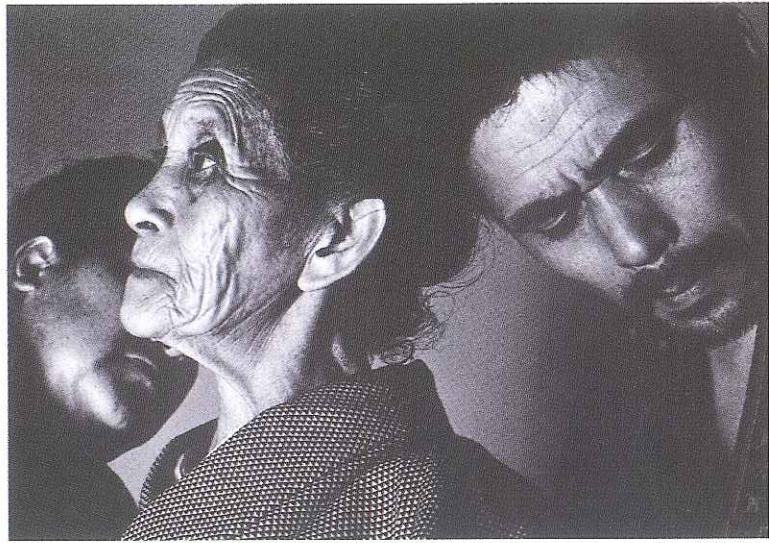


ISSUE NO. 34 June - July 07

JAPAN FOUNDATION

THE JAPAN FOUNDATION, KUALA LUMPUR

Temam Baru



Kamaitachi 7 (left) & Kamaitachi 32 (right) by Eikoh Hosoe

Contemporary Photography in Japan and Malaysia



Contemporary Photography in Japan & Malaysia

Celebrating this special Malaysia's 50th Year of Independence and 50th Year of diplomatic relations between Malaysia and Japan, The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur and Central Market proudly present 'Counter-Photography' Exhibition by Japanese and Malaysian contemporary photographers.

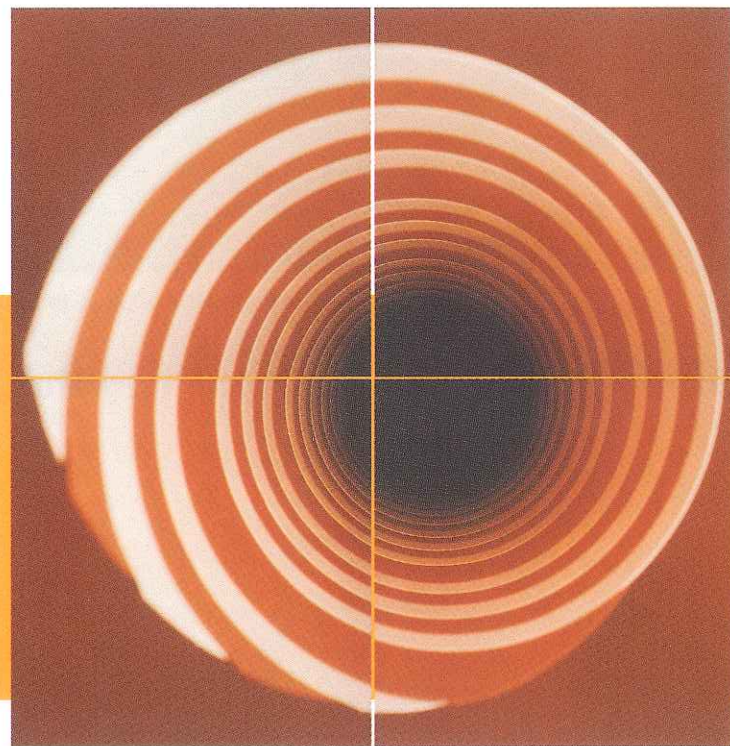
Photography is generally known as a medium that accurately records reality. In fact, however, its unparalleled ability to faithfully reproduce reality can also be put to exactly the opposite effect. This characteristic of photography has given rise to the desire to reveal objects that cannot be seen with the naked eye - in other words, to photograph the invisible world.

With the end of modernism, conventional value systems have crumbled, and the communal frameworks that sustained such value systems have been revealed as mere fictions. Insight into alternative values, such as those of the invisible world that lies hidden behind physical reality, is fervently sought. One good place to begin the search for such values is the concrete, individual medium of photography.

This exhibition introduces the works by 11 Japanese and 8 Malaysian photographers, including **Eikoh Hosoe**, **Hiroshi Sugimoto**, **Akiko Sugiyama** (from Japan) and **Bernice Chauly**, **Sharon Lam**, **Nasim Esa** (from Malaysia), who are attempting to express the value in things that are not yet visible or concealed in material reality in an era in which a spiritual foundation has been lost.



Kamaitachi 28 (top) & Kamaitachi 8 (bottom) by Eikoh Hosoe



In-spiral by Akiko Sugiyama

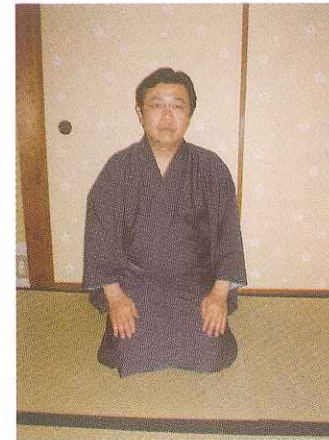
The details of exhibition as below:-

- Date:
12 (Thu) - 29 (Sun) July 2007
- Time:
11am - 7pm [Mon-Sun]
- Venue:
Top Floor Gallery,
Central Market Annexe, KL
- Admission:
FREE

For further details, please contact The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur at 03-2161 2104, email to jfcc@jfkf.org.my or log on to <http://www.jfkf.org.my>; or Central Market at 03-2031 0399.



Japanese Tea Ceremony



Mr. Soryuu Kidzu

We are delighted to invite you to join a Japanese Tea Ceremony, which will be conducted by a tea master, Mr. Soryuu Kidzu from Mushakouji Senke School. Mr. Soryuu Kidzu, Mushakouji Senke Tea Master, has been performing the art of Japanese tea ceremony in many countries around the world and written several books and articles about tea ceremony. Mushakouji Senke itself is one of the major tea schools in Japan, based in the heritage city of Kyoto. The tea ceremony will begin with a demonstration and explanation made in English. Participants will then be served with the authentic ocha or Japanese tea together with wagashi, the traditional Japanese delicacies specially brought from Japan for this event. Details about the tea ceremony are as follows:

- Date & Time : 14 (Thu) June 2007 [6pm~7:30pm]
: 15 (Fri) June 2007 [3pm~4:30pm]
- Venue : Tatami Room @ The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur
Suite 30.01, Level 30, Menara Citibank, Jalan Ampang, KL
- Participation Fee : **RM5 per person** (for tea & Japanese delicacies)

Ticket redemption period: **29 May to 8 June 2007**

● Please be informed that one person is allowed to purchase the maximum of 4 (four) tickets only. Reservation can be made by a phone call, but you are required to pick up the tickets at our office by 8 June 2007, or otherwise your reservation would be cancelled.

The number of participants is limited. For any inquiry, please call us at 03-2161-2104 (Mr. Hafiz). We are looking forward to serving you with the authentic atmosphere and elegant manner of Japanese tea ceremony! You can also enjoy the photo exhibition of Kyoto sceneries at our gallery, next to the Tatami Room. Admission for the photo exhibition is free.



Supported by:



The 23rd Japanese Speech Contest for Open Category

The much-awaited annual Japanese Speech Contest for Open Category is back. Do not miss out the opportunity to win attractive prizes that awaits you!

Sign up now!!!

Celebrating the Japan - Malaysia Friendship Year 2007, the organizers made a special exemption in allowing those who stayed more than 90 days in Japan to compete in this year's open category of the Speech Contest. Contestants will compete under 2 classes, namely the "General Class" (who have not stayed more than 90-day in Japan) and "2007 Special Class" (no limitation on the length of stay in Japan)".

The closing date for entry submission is **9 July 2007**.

Kuala Lumpur Preliminary

Date : 5 (Sun) August 2007
Time : 1pm
Venue : The Japan Club Kuala Lumpur

National Open Category

Date : 26 (Sun) August 2007
Time : 1pm
Venue : The Japan Club Kuala Lumpur

This event is organized by The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur, The Japan Club Kuala Lumpur, Japanese Chamber of Trade and Industry, Malaysia (JACTIM) and the Embassy of Japan in Malaysia, in cooperation with Japan Graduate's Association of Malaysia (JAGAM), sponsored by Panasonic (M) Sdn Bhd & Kokuyo International (M) Sdn Bhd.

For details and application form, please log onto www.jfkl.org.my or contact Mr. Nobli / Mr. Honjo at 03 21612304

JFKL Regional Seminars: East Malaysia Region

For Japanese language teachers!!!

The JFKL Regional Seminar is held annually in 3 regions; namely Northern, East Coast - Southern - Central and East Malaysia. The Regional Seminar (formerly known as Caravan Seminar) has been redesigned to cater to the specific needs among the various groups of Japanese language educators across Malaysia. Below are the details of the two seminars. Admission is free of charge.

Seminar 1 - "A Closer Look on Teaching"

30 (Sat) June 2007

"A Closer Look on Teaching" sessions are held to upgrade Japanese language teaching methodology among its teachers across Malaysia and are open to any Japanese language educators registered with our Japanese Language Department.

Seminar 2 - "Language Brush Up"

1 July (Sun) 2007

"Language Brush Up" sessions are designed to maintain and improve language proficiency among non-native Japanese speakers.

For seminar content and details, log onto www.jfkl.org.my

Result of the 4th Japanese Speech Contest for Secondary School 29 April 2007

The 4th Japanese Speech Contest for Secondary Schools that was recently held saw 10 selected contestants nationwide contending for the winning title. Our congratulations to the below winners: -

Grand Prize

Ms. Tina Lu Ting Chih (Tshung Tsin Secondary School, Sabah)

- Represent Malaysia at the 12th Japanese Speech Award, Japan & Study Tour Award to Japan

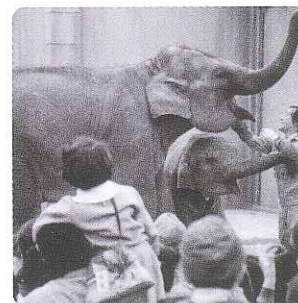
Special Prize

(1) Mr. Muhammad Yusuf Safwan Bin Mustadza (Sekolah Sultan Alam Shah, Putrajaya)

(2) Ms. Anis Syazwani Binti Basri (SM Sains Tuanku Syed Putra, Perlis)

- Study Tour Award to Japan

The Weekend Japanese Film Show



"Little Elephant" Saturday, 2 June starting 4:30pm

Directed by KINOSHITA Ryo, 1986, 106min, Colour

It is a year before the Pacific War breaks out that Japan's first baby elephant is born in a Tokyo Zoo. Shota Tanabe takes care of the little elephant as if it were his own child. As the tide of war turns against Japan, the War Ministry demands the zoo kill its ferocious animals for a security reason. Colonel Akimoto who comes to the zoo with the order happens to be Shota's friend. Tokyo begins to suffer air raids, and the slaughter of the ferocious animals becomes an urgent matter. Lions, tigers, leopards, bears and pythons are killed. The elephants, too, are designed to die.

admission is FREE!!!
with English subtitles
at Mini Auditorium,
Malaysia Tourism Centre (MTC)

"Hachiko" Saturday, 16 June starting 4:30pm

Directed by KOHYAMA Seijiro, 1987, 108min, Colour

A puppy is sent to Professor Ueno. Although his daughter promised to take care of it, she soon marries and leaves home. It is left to Professor Ueno to look after the dog. He names it Hachi.

Hachi soon reigns supreme in the neighborhood and wins not only the love of the professor, but the affection of the other residents as well.

The professor's nearest station is Shibuya, and Hachi makes it a practice to accompany him there in the morning and also to trot back to wait for him there in the evening. But one day, the professor suffers a fatal stroke suddenly and passes away. Not knowing the professor will never come back, Hachiko keeps waiting for the professor at the station...



"The Shimanto River" Saturday, 7 July starting 4:30pm

Directed by ONCHI Hideo, 1991, 111min, Colour

A boy named Atsuyoshi grows up along the Shimanto River, which is known as the last backwater of rural legend and superstition, catching eels and running along the forest paths. His family runs a grocery shop, but his father, Hideo, spends much of the time away from home as a construction laborer. One day, Hideo is sent to a hospital with a big injury.

Atsu helps the shop when possible, but he also attends school and play with his friend, Taichi. Atsu is disturbed by his father's absence and his mother's overwork. He depends on his elder sister Atsuko. When the sister announces she will leave school and go work in the city to make extra money, Atsu throws a fit.

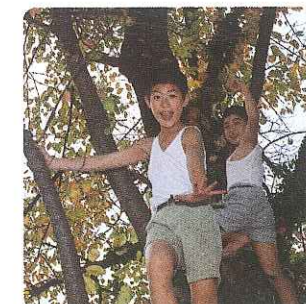


"The School in the Woods" Saturday, 21 July starting 4:30pm

Directed by NISHIGAKI Yoshiharu, 2002, 108min, Colour

Near the Mount Sasayama in Tanba, around the time of the World War II. As usual, the excited voices of playing children reverberate around a quiet castle town surrounded by mountains. Though frequently scolded by the townsfolk, the children merely continue their mischievous pranks unabated.

Their leader, Masao, is the third of six children, all of whom are boys. Even though Masao is the most naughty of them all, he occasionally develops a fever, and is often absent from school. He feels increasingly inferior to his high-performing brothers as he can't follow the lessons at all because of his absence. While his teachers are concerned about his tardiness at school, his parents quietly support him. They feel that health is more important than anything, and that everyone develops in their own way.





Library News

Japanese Books

Language



『絵でわかる日本語使い分け辞典 1000 (英・中・韓・日四力国語対応)』

著者: 荻原稚佳子 アルク 2006年

Library call number: 814.5

この本は、『日本語ジャーナル』の「似ているけど ちがいが違う」という記事(2003年4月号～2005年3月号)をまとめたものです。

「話す」と「しゃべる」はどうちがうのでしょうか。「似ているけど ちがいが違う」ことばが上手に使い分けられるようになると、人の行動や物事のようす、人の気持ち、わかりやすく相手に伝えられるようになります。

また、この本では、ことばの勉強をしながら、日本の季節の行事や、くらしも知ることができます。

Culture



『創って揚げる 手づくり和風入門』

著者: 大橋栄二 山海堂 1990年

Library call number: 759.9

凧は、いまから約2000年ほどまえに中国でできたと言われてます。日本には、奈良時代(710～784年)に中国から伝わってきたようです。

凧は「高く揚がる」ということで、生まれた子供が元気に成長することを願って、子どもの日(5月5日)に揚げたり、お祝いのおくりものにする習慣もあります。

この本には、日本各地の凧の作り方が書いてあります。



『しぐさのマナーとコツ』

著者: 井垣利英 絵: 伊藤美樹 学習研究社 2006年

Library call number: 385.9

この本は、姿勢、手の動き、動作など、ふだんの自分を印象よく見せるポイントとコツをイラストで紹介しています。

また、日本の結婚式や葬式などの作法や、公共の場でのマナーもわかりやすく説明しています。

Children book



『だめだめネコはこまったゾウ』

著者: はらだゆうこ 訳: 芳岡倫子 旺文社 2001年

Library call number: 726.1

Language: Japanese-English

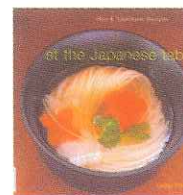
なかわ 仲よく輪になって踊っている動物たちに、ネコが言いました。「みんなのかたがバラバラで輪がきれいにみえないよ！」

ネコは、そう言いつづけるうちに、とうとうひとりぼっちになってしまいました。

けれども、ひとりひとりのちがいがあから、おたがいに助けあえるのだと、気づきました。

ちがいを否定しないで個性として認めあう気持ちを、教えてくれる絵本です。

English Books



At the Japanese Table

[Lesley Downer. San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1993]

Library call number: 641.5952 DOW

Over 90 exquisite recipes that cover every aspect of modern Japanese meals from elaborate kaiseki dinners to simply prepared noodle bowls for a casual family supper. The dozens of step-by-step technique illustrations make preparing even the most complicated dishes as easy as *ichi, ni, san*. Vibrant color photographs take fans of Japanese cookery on a culinary tour of the country, exploring the feasts and festivals, restaurants, sushi bars, street stalls, and even the temples for a taste of this intriguing land. Along the way discover why, as a result of his or her diet, the Japanese live longer than anyone else in the world. *Itadaki masu!* Enjoy.

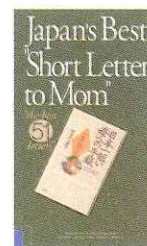


Myth and Masculinity in the Japanese Cinema:
Towards a Political Reading of the 'Tragic Hero'

[Isolde Standish. Richmond, Surrey: Curzon, 2000]

Library call number: 791.43 STA

The book examines the role of the 'tragic hero' narrative as a figurative structure through which the Japanese people could interpret the events of World War II and defeat, offering spectators an avenue of exculpation from a foreign-imposed sense of guilt. Also considered is the fantasy world of the *nagare-mono* (drifter) or *yakuza* film. It is suggested that one of the reasons for the great popularity of these films in the 1960s and 1970s lay in their ability to offer men meanings that could help them understand the contradictions between the reality of their everyday experiences and the ideological construction of masculinity.



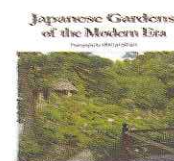
Japan's Best "Short Letters to Mom": the Best 51 letters

[Patricia J. Wetzel (translated by). Tokyo: Taikoshu Publishing, 1995]

Library call number: 816 JAP

Bilingual: Japanese-English

230 letters selected from the original 32,236 entries contest, whose theme was "A Letter to Mother", published in this book. The collections of these letters tell us many things. They may express the gratitude a person feels towards his mother, for instance, the affection a person feels towards his family, or perhaps how a loved one is missed.



Japanese Gardens of the Modern Era

[Haruzo Ohashi (photograph by). Tokyo: Graphic-sha Publishing, 2000]

Library call number: 712.60952 JAP

The Japanese garden is held in great esteem throughout the world, but it succeeds by blending opposites, energy of line and material worked with great restraint; nature expressed in the driving force of a waterfall or in pebbles swept into patterns around a boulder. Both concentrate on nature in its own right, and invite the visitor to find refreshment in the atmosphere of quiet beauty.

Japan's noted garden photographer, Haruzo Ohashi, here demonstrates his knowledge and sensitivity to this subject, and Japanese Gardens of the Modern Era, is an appropriate sequel to the classic landscapes of Japanese Garden. Here the time span is from the end of the Edo Period to Showa. Some gardens are shown in seasonal variety, but all combine energy and serenity, the contrasts and harmonies of the design principles.

Theme of the month

In the library, we have a special corner to display books or any other display items according to the theme of the month.

Our theme for the month of June & July is "**Japanese Festival**".

Japan has an abundance of local festivals (*matsuri*) connected with shrines and temples throughout the country. Most are held on an annual basis on a particular set date. Japan's festivals often celebrate the changing of the seasons, special historical events or are connected with fertility or prayers to the gods for good health. Most festivals in Japan are colorful, lively and joyous affairs often involving a procession with participants in period dress or *happi* coats carrying through the streets a *mikoshi* - a special, decorated palanquin containing the local Shinto *kami* (gods). Many festivals in Japan may also involve large, decorated floats (such as the famous Gion Matsuri in Kyoto), exhibitions of martial arts such as archery and horse-riding, music, dancing and copious quantities of food and drink served up from *yatai* - street stalls.
(Source: Japan Visitor at: www.JapanVisitor.com)

Among titles on Japan Festival can be found in the library such as: -

- **Japanese Festivals by Hideo Haga**
- **Matsuri: Festivals of a Japanese Town by Michael Ashkenazi**
- **The great Festival of Japan: Spectacle and Spirit by Hiroyuki Ozawa**

Library Holidays

Please be informed that JFKL library will be closed on the following day:-

2 June 2007 (Sat) - Birthday of Yang DiPertuan Agong (King's Birthday)



Educational Visit to JFKL

いらっしや〜い

Japanese Cultural Activity + Japanese Language Activity + Guided tour to JFKL library

Students from **Faculty of Management and Economics of Universiti Malaysia Terengganu** had made an educational visit to our center on 29 April 2007. Majority of the students present were Japanese language learners.

The students were briefed on the role of The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur. In the cultural activity, the students had fun with '*origami*', while in the *Nihongo* session; they were divided into small groups and played a language game. Each team tried to outplay the others by guessing the correct Japanese sentences or words their team member try to convey through drawings.

The students were later taken on a guided tour to our library and were shown the various resources on Japanese culture and language. Their short stay ended with group photos taken with our Director, Mr. SHIMOYAMA Masaya.

To find out more on "Visit Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur", please contact Mr. Azizul at 03-2161 2304



Report

Experience in Japan as a JF fellow

By Prof. Rosnani Hashim (Institute of Education, International Islamic University Malaysia)

I was elated when I discovered that the Japan Foundation had awarded me its fellowship for a three month stint in Tokyo to do my fieldwork on the use of English Language in Japan in a comparative study with Malaysia. Having been there on several brief occasions attending seminars and encounters with Japanese colleagues had endeared Japan, in particular the Japanese a soft spot in my heart. Having read the works of scholars on the economic success of Japan within a short time span, its disciplined masses and its educational achievements in TIMSS despite its negligence of the English Language had also moved me to know more about this country, especially its education and culture. For this fellowship, I was fortunate because I managed to get Associate Professor Ryoko Tsuneyoshi from the University of Tokyo with whom I had been collaborating in a previous research to be my advisor during the study. She also assisted in the visiting professorship status for me to facilitate my use of the library, office facilities and workspace during the stay.

There are a couple of things I have learned about doing fieldworks in Japan during this period which I would like to share with other future fellows, especially in establishing contacts. In my case, I targeted three categories for interviews, namely the school teacher or principals and students; the university professors and students; and the business industry human resource executives. I also observed classes in progress in schools. I spent almost three weeks in the beginning to establish contact and make appointments. In the beginning I faxed letters in English to a few giant companies through fax numbers obtained from the internet and gave my email for them to respond. There were no responses after several days. After follow-up calls, I managed to get 2 responses. In a few instances the company had to find an English speaking officer to handle my call and I managed to talk to the officers who gave their emails to resume our communication. Next, I had to change my strategy and that was to fax to other companies with an accompanying letter in Japanese from my advisor and also with the stamp of the University of Tokyo. You know what? The response was very good but instead of emailing to me, the companies emailed my advisor. I guess the Japanese find it more comfortable to work with someone of their own culture than a foreigner. But the case was different with the Professors whom I managed to communicate directly through emails. Communicating with the public schools was also a bit difficult. Again there was no response to my earlier faxed letters until a repeat with an accompanying letter in Japanese from my advisor. What I have learned though is that to get the consent to visit a school in Japan, one does not need to go through

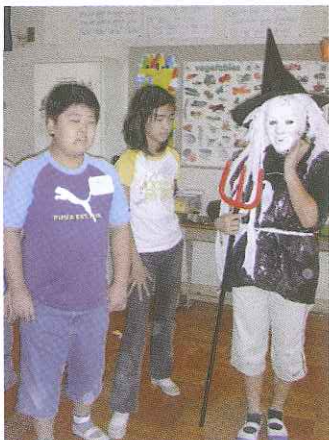


the bureaucratic procedure but can contact the schools directly. I made the mistake of assuming that the practice would be like that of Malaysia where one would need to get the consent from the Ministry before one can do a study in schools.

A distinctive feature that I noticed among the Japanese with regards to appointments is their extreme concern for punctuality. For some interviews and school observations I went alone but for some others, that are either fixed by my advisor or the company had requested for an interpreter, I was accompanied by either Dr Ryoko, her graduate student, Izumi Mori, En. Shamsul, a Malaysian Ph.D student or his wife, Kiyommi. I noticed that when I go with either of them, they either prefer to arrive at least 15 minutes earlier or got panicky when we were delayed because we lost our way.

One of the things that baffled me in the beginning of my study was the advice of Dr Ryoko that I should bring an interpreter when I visit a typical public junior high school to observe the English class. It was only after sitting in the class that I understood the reason - the teachers used English instructional materials for the lesson but the class spent time on translation into Japanese and when it came to explaining the grammar, the dialogue

continued>>>



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between teacher and students were basically in Japanese. Thus, the interpreter was necessary to assist me in understanding the class. In fact, a teacher took great length to instill moral values after reading the passage on "organ donation". I would not have understood that without the presence of an interpreter. On the other hand, in the private or international schools I visited, the students spoke with an American accent and one would think that they have been living in the United States when in actual fact they have not. What a contrast!

Another thing I realized which is best for the researcher while doing social science research in Japan is the ability to speak the Japanese language. With the exception of the academia, English language is hardly used. My one semester of Japanese was not good enough. It was only good enough to ask for directions, or whether I was on the right train! I could hardly read the Japanese characters. So this posed a difficulty in living in Japan

especially when one is looking for answers from the Japanese themselves to the many questions one has that can help complete the jigsaw puzzle. It is interesting to see non-Japanese such as Americans, Asians and Africans speaking in Japanese in metropolitan Tokyo and not in English as would be the case in Malaysia. This is an indication of the assimilative rather than the pluralistic policy of Japan. It is only now that Japan feels the importance of other foreign languages, in particular English.

Being a Muslim, Tokyo surprised me with quite a number of mosques because I thought there were few Muslims living in Tokyo. In fact, I managed to have Ramadan Iftar (breaking of the fast) in one of the mosques. However, the mosques are quite far away from home. Imagine traveling for 2 hours from Koganei City to Chiba just to attend a talk by Yvonne Ridley, the English reporters released by the Taliban at the Chiba mosque! That would really require a lot of stamina and will and a sacrifice of time!

In conclusion, my experience in Tokyo has really enriched my understanding of Japanese education, language, people and culture through interviews, observations and the literature available in the Japan Foundation and the University of Tokyo libraries. I don't think this short article can express it all.

The Japan Foundation Annual Grant 2007-08

The Japan Foundation provides grant in the following three major categories: 1) Arts and Cultural Exchange, 2) Japanese-Language Education Overseas, 3) Japanese Studies Overseas and Intellectual Exchange, under the Annual Grant Program. The program is announced annually in August. The grantees that have been selected for this fiscal year are as follows:

Category: Japanese Studies Fellowship

Grantee / Institution

Dr. Lim Kim Hui (Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Institute of Occidental Studies)
Research Title: A Comparison of Discourses on Cultural Ethos in Japan and Malaysia



Grantee / Institution

Mr. Phar Kim Beng (Researcher)
Research Title: Analytical Understanding of the Forms and Sources of Soft Power in Japan Viz China

Grantee / Institution

Ms. Yap Yuet Ngor (Translator)
Research Title: The Research Regarding the Acceptance of Murakami Haruki Literature in Malaysia and Singapore

Category: Support for Organization of Japanese Studies

Grantee

University of Malaya, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Department of East Asian Studies

Project 1: Research and Conference Grant (Title: Japan in ASEAN Plus Three-Moving Towards an East Asian Community)

Project 2: Library Support

*For further details regarding The Japan Foundation Annual Grant Program please contact us at 03-2161 2104 or visit our website at www.jfkl.org.my

**Please contact our Japanese Language Department for information on Japanese-Language Education Overseas Program

Report

"Hutan Kenangan" by Malaysian & Japanese Disabled Performers

With 10 physically disabled casts and 18 KUROKOs (non-disabled stage assistant), theatre production "Hutan Kenangan" received warm applause from the audience at Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre (KLPac), 6 - 8 April 2007.

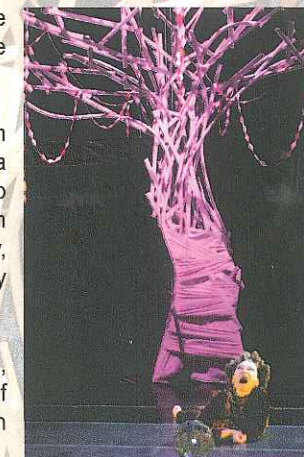
This year was the final phase of this 3-year-project (2005-2007), "Taihen in Malaysia" organised by the Japan Foundation and the Actors Studio. This was a collaborative project with Performance Troupe Taihen, a performing arts group consists of the disabled casts and non-disabled staff in Japan, and Malaysian disabled participants. Workshops for non-disabled volunteers were held in January, and then five days a week rehearsal was started from 12 March for 3-day performances.

For 1st year, we did inspections to understand the situation of Malaysian disabled, followed by a solo performance "My Mother" by Ms. Kim Manri, artistic director of Taihen, and workshops by Taihen members for the disabled and non-disabled in the 2nd year.

One of two characteristics of this project was to create a theatre piece utilising casts' disabled bodies. It was not aimed for them to get closer to non-disabled. And through the workshops and rehearsals, Malaysian casts were encouraged to express themselves, such as giving instruction to volunteers for necessary support, expressing their feeling which were hidden deep inside of them... The other was a key word thrown to KUROKOs, "do not control the disabled." It helped volunteers to listen to the voices of the casts and to pay attention to each one of them more carefully than before.

Using this opportunity, we would like to express our sincere gratitude for those organisations and numerous individuals who supported or, were involved in this project. The same goes to Performance Troupe Taihen, starting with its leader Ms. Kim, and many members of them dedicatedly worked on this project.

Many audiences came for the performances and we got quite positive and encouraging feedbacks. Now, some of participants are working to establish their own group having Ms. Maryani as a leader. We hope many people will pay attention to them and give some hands when they will need it. Ms. Maryani's blog "<http://mariannie-missycat.blogspot.com/>"



Photos by Chen Wee Ling

Cubism in Asia

After the success of last exhibition, "Cubism in Asia: Unbounded Dialogues", which toured Tokyo, Seoul, and Singapore between August 2005 to April 2006, the Japan Foundation has decided to reconfigure the original exhibition to show at Japan Cultural Centre in Paris, France from 16 May to 7 July 2007.

The exhibition will show the result of collaborative academic research and the reception of Cubist movement in Asia, this time the European audiences can see those works at a location where cubism was originally conceived in early 20th century. Two artworks were chosen from Malaysia to participate in the exhibition. They are Lady Musician (1950's) by Chuah Thean Teng and Mother's Love (1965) by Abdul Latiff Mohidin.

The Japan Foundation hopes that this event will shed new light to the relationship and exchanges among artists in both Europe and Asia, as well as to instigate new art historical discussion on modernity.



The Japan Foundation - Group Tours Program For Secondary School Educators 2007

The Japan Foundation Headquarters in Japan is inviting four secondary school teachers and one administrator from Malaysia to visit Japan from 21 June to 4 July 2007, under the Japan Foundation - Group Tours Program for Secondary School Educators 2007. The four teachers are Mr. Ahmad Nasaruddin Bin Ahmad, Mr. Abu Mansor Bin Sathri, Mr. Vasuthevan A/L Palanivulu and Ms. Nurul Binti Mohd Saad. The administrator is Mr. Abdullah Bin Mad Yunus.

Teachers from other Asian countries who will be invited to Japan together with Malaysia are Mongolia, East Timor, Brunei, Myanmar and Laos as well as other countries. The total number of participants and countries invited for this year are 204 participants from 54 countries.

This program is intended to provide opportunities for secondary school teachers and administrators from all over the world to observe first-hand look of education system, society of Japan and to contribute mutual understanding and goodwill between Japan and their countries.

Participants will also be given opportunities to receive training, conduct inspections, exchanging opinions with their Japanese counterparts, and introduce their own cultures to Japan.

Besides visiting schools, institutions, visiting places of interest in other prefectures, the participants will also experience to stay with Japanese foster parents.

Participants from Malaysia will be given an orientation on 20 June 2007 at 10am at The Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur prior to their departure on the same evening.



JFKL Gallery

JFKL Gallery space is open now!

We will be holding exhibitions that relate to Japan time to time, and our next exhibition is "Kyoto" photo panel exhibition, which showcases 30 beautiful photos used for JR TOKAI's advertising posters.

Opening Hours:-

Mon : 10:30am - 4:30pm

Tue-Fri : 10:30am - 6:30pm

Sat : 10am - 6pm

Closed on Sundays, Public holidays and JFKL holidays

Admission:

FREE



JAPAN FOUNDATION

"TEMAN BARU" is distributed to JFKL members.

JFKL membership is available upon application. Membership fee is RM10 per year.

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