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India

Study Tour Report

Osaka University Students' International Affairs Study Group

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1. Outline of the Tour Kenji Okada

Objective

Our objective for the study tour was to understand the difference of thought between Indian and Japanese. This was also to reconsider the Japanese way of thinking by grasping the Indian way. We picked up the contents as politics, economy and education in India and visited Indian and Japanese people who are making efforts for the development of India. As well as this objective, since we also visited South India, we set the second objective to understand the difference between South and North and the diversity in India.

Schedule

Date	Activity
3/9 Sat	Leave Japan
	Arrive at Delhi Airport
4/9 Sun	Lecture by Madam Tripathi
5/9 Mon	Sightseeing in Agra
6/9 Tue	Rest
	Watching traditional dance with Madam Tripathi
7/9 Wed	Discussion in Delhi University
8/9 Thu	Visit TIPL and TJPS Gurgaon Office
	Leave Delhi
	Arrive at Chennai Airport
9/9 Fri	Visit TJPS Chennai Factory

Date	Activity
10/9 Sat	Sightseeing in Mahabalipuram, Puducherry
11/9 Sun	Sightseeing in Chennai
12/9 Mon	Leave Chennai
	Arrive at Delhi Airport
	Lunch with Mr. Sagawa
13/9 Tue	Sightseeing in Delhi
14/9 Wed	Sightseeing in Jaipur
15/9 Thu	Visit Ministry of Finance
16/9 Fri	Visit Embassy of Japan in Delhi
	Leave Delhi
17/9 Sat	Arrive in Japan



(Taken at Tripathi Madam's Private Residence)

Participants: all members are studying in Osaka University.

Mr. Yuto Kijima [Leader]

Portuguese Major, 5th grade

Ms. Aoi Yamada

International Public Policy Major, 2nd grade

Mr. Kenji Okada

Chemical Engineering Major, 2nd grade

Ms. Yumi Kobayashi

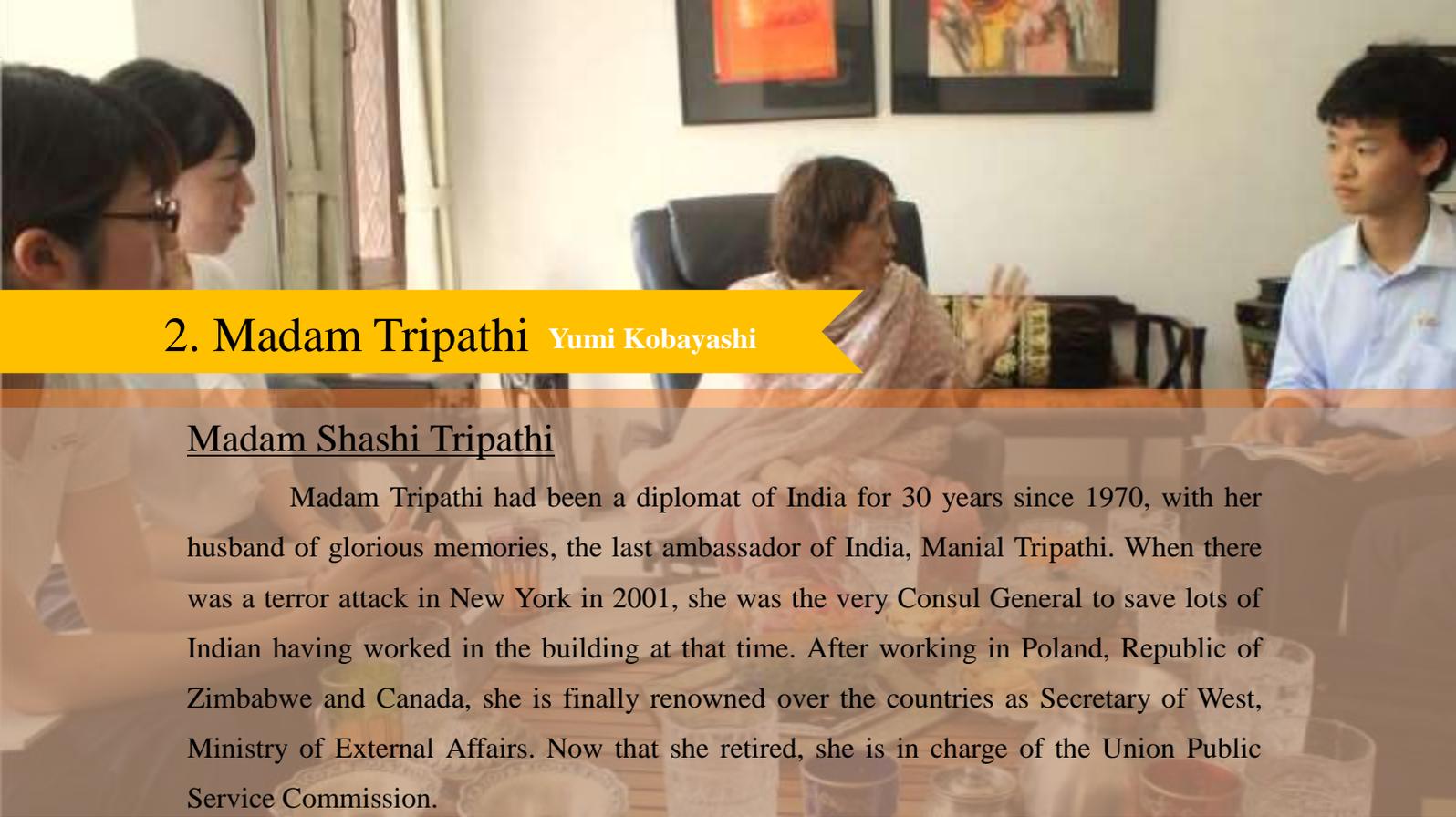
International Public Policy Major, 2nd grade

Ms. Hinako Tasaka

International Public Policy Major, 1st grade

Mr. Yuya Sakai

International Public Policy Major, 1st grade



2. Madam Tripathi Yumi Kobayashi

Madam Shashi Tripathi

Madam Tripathi had been a diplomat of India for 30 years since 1970, with her husband of glorious memories, the last ambassador of India, Manial Tripathi. When there was a terror attack in New York in 2001, she was the very Consul General to save lots of Indian having worked in the building at that time. After working in Poland, Republic of Zimbabwe and Canada, she is finally renowned over the countries as Secretary of West, Ministry of External Affairs. Now that she retired, she is in charge of the Union Public Service Commission.

Our History with Madam

The relationship with Madam has been proceeded by SWADOM's descent members from the founding father and mother, Mr. Kurazo Sakamoto and Ms. Kana Ogi, for 14 years with their devotion to develop the newer generations.

What We Learned from Madam's Lecture

On September 4 at her home, we discussed academic topics which we are interested in. Then in order to get their fixed image vividly, we learned what Indians have been: it was to clarify "the differences of thinking style between Indian and Japanese", the theme in this tour. The discussion was going on based on the knowledge from the books, "the discovery of India", written by Jawaharlal Nehru for telling his daughter the Indian history from a jail, and "No Full Stops in India": a journalist describes the social affairs in India. As part of the discussion on India's history, culture, world view and foreign policy, we were told how India had never aggressively gone to war against any country, about India's colonial past and the way in which it had impacted India's thinking and global responses. In reply to a question on why India had decided to go nuclear, Madam Tripathi said it was due to India's colonial experience and desire to have minimum deterrence so as never to be subjugated again. India has a responsible and credible nuclear doctrine which includes the element of ' no first use '. India's foreign policy is based on Panchsheel or the

five principles of peaceful co-existence. We also discussed India's growing relations with Japan and the USA.

Indian Philosophy

The interesting thing is the philosophy cultivated in India we heard from Madam. In this report, I pick up three most impressive characters from those. First thing is that 'time is linear'. This can be more advantageous against Japanese who are punctual even in negotiations. Indian knows the longer they spend in negotiations, the more Japanese get into trouble and then, Indian have many strategies. Next point is that 'they move before planning'. It was explained historically: by the colonial rule of Britain, they were just ordered and followed what British decided and then they became much better at taking an action than making a plan. However, as you can see, such a great Indus valley civilization showed how they were capable to plan and to execute. This can especially be seen in the fact that in such extent the highest level of draining system was functioned.

Finally, we learned that “they stubborn against any orders.” Some Indian seem to take these characters as their virtue, but Madam does not. Rather, she recognizes it as their weakness. Indeed, following upper decisions makes things efficient in any organizations. However, sometimes the decision was made without enough research or consults. In Japan, generally we are strict with orders, but I think there always lies the task to decide how much opinions are listened to, listed on and adapted to in any organizations, regardless of their levels.

Madam's Personality

Indian says that every guest is the god and we knew that thinking style. But once you learned it from heart, you will be astonished by such a wordless affection as we experienced. It is her personality that she always opens her mind and try to understand our thinking even though our English or logic are poor. Her response was really clear in her beautiful English. We are greatly motivated by her vivid examples from her practices, noting the importance on logical communication in English and could get the incentive to positively talk with her. Initially we plan to meet her once during the tour. However, we saw her three times having been driven by our desire to communicate her again. Every time we asked her schedule, she gently gave us her precious time.

Summary

We ate the most delicious Indian food at her place and found ourselves happy with the great meal. The time with madam presented us an ideal character to live this human world as well as the knowledge or education. We learned a lot not only from the contents of the lecture but also from madam's behavior. She told us about her schooldays. She was studying in the department of literature so she got to know various foreign thought and learned the skill to summarize, all of which was essential for working as a diplomat, she said. We recognized our student life meaningful and could get the motivation to design it.

Most honorable thing was that she generously accepted our offer to become the super advisor of SWADOM. It is an utmost pleasure for us that we could build an official relationship to have madam's lecture. We promise to hand this precious bond down to our juniors.

3. Discussion at University of Delhi Hinako Tasaka

We have had a contact with Dr. Balatchandirane Govindasamy, associate professor of Department of East Asian Studies, University of Delhi since this July to hold this discussion with students at the University. Dr. Balatchandirane gathered 5 students and arranged this precious opportunity for us.

The big theme of this discussion was “education”, which is decided by us, Osaka University students. In recent years, expectation to children by their parents is getting overheated in both countries, India and Japan. Therefore, we wanted to deal with “education” as the discussion theme. And we settled discussion topic as “decision of course and occupation” and “how to teach by teachers” in order to promote the discussion more actively.

Decision of Course and Occupation

At first, Indian students gave a presentation. They said that in India, students who are 16 or 17 years old have to choose from three courses: Science, Commerce and Humanity. However, they cannot change the course once they choose their own one, so they do not have flexibility. Indian students regarded such an Indian education system as

the biggest problem and called the education system “Streaming” which means that they cannot get out of the course in the middle.

After the presentation, we moved on to the discussion part; “When should we decide course and occupation?” In Japan, students can change the course in the middle, especially in entrance exams of universities. Compared to Japan, students in India have to decide their course earlier than in Japan, and it leads them to narrow down their choices in the future. Some students who took part in the discussion said that it is too early for 16 or 17 years old students to do so. In order to avoid such case, schools should supply information of occupation, and set some counselors to help students to consider their course or occupation.

Next, we gave a presentation and explained specialized education in Japan. After that, we discussed, “If you have a child in Japan, which way do you want your child to choose from elementary school to job hunting?” Through the discussion, we realized the difference of how to think about primary education between India and Japan. Indian students pointed out that while Japanese government gives homogeneous education all over Japan, the quality of compulsory education in India is different from one state to another state, especially in North part of India. Therefore, Indian students have big reliance on private schools. In addition, Indian government supports low-income families by giving a subsidy of tuition, so more students have access to high quality education of private schools. I think this is a good mean to cut off a chain of poverty.



How to Teach by Teachers

After the short break, Indian students gave a presentation about the above discussion topic. In India, with wide ranging diversity, students study through English as a common second language. Through the presentation, they used the word such as “heterogeneity” and “secularism”, which are not familiar to us, living in Japan.

In the discussion time, we discussed “Should teachers teach their students uniformly who have various background such as languages and religions, and if yes, how do they teach them?” At the discussion, some Indian students told us the term “Unity in Diversity” which hold Indian people together. We Japanese students could learn a lot from this thought. Some students said that students should study based on same system such as a time schedule and school uniforms and indicated that it is the most important thing in order to keep a unity in the country. Their attitude sounds like some kind of pride as Indian people.

Next, Japanese students gave a presentation about teachers in Japan. We told that Japanese teachers should take the common exam and obtain a certification of teacher and they need to teach through the common curriculum given by the government. Therefore, Japanese public schools can give equal education to all students around Japan. In addition, Japan is a “homogeneous” country, because more than 99% people use Japanese as their mother tongue. Hence, Japanese teachers do not have good command in English. They have many troubles to teach students who lived in foreign countries and who use Japanese as a second language. In recent years, it is a big problem in Japan.

We could not have discussion after that presentation, but we could tell the state of language in Japan which is totally different from India.

Impression

This time, we had several discussion topics, so we did not have enough time for each discussion. However, I made sure that we could exchange precious information about education and understand the problems each country holds.

I appreciate members of SWADOM who supported me to plan this discussion, and students of University of Delhi who welcomed us and discussed with us actively. Moreover, I am deeply grateful to Dr. Balatchandirane for all his warm cooperation.

4. Visit TOSHIBA Yuya Sakai

Arrangements for Visiting

We went to a local company and asked Japanese and Indian officers some questions about the differences of work style and how to overcome them. Fortunately,

Ms. Kana Ogi, who established our group, works in Toshiba JSW Power Systems Pvt. Ltd.(TJPS) as local resident, so she supported our tour overall. Thanks to her, we could visit not only TJPS, but Toshiba India Pvt. Ltd. (TIPL). TJPS is capable for engineering, design, procurement, manufacturing, construction and commissioning of thermal power project. TIPL has many kinds of services especially consumer electronics in India. These days, it comes to have social infrastructure and semiconductor business.

TOSHIBA Gurgaon Office

Gurgaon is located near Delhi, rapidly developing city and many foreign companies set the office. TIPL and TJPS is set, too. We visited them on September 8. At first, Mr. Tomohiko Okada, who is Managing Director of TIPL, directly talked about the company. After that we listened to many stories from the president, Japanese residents and Indian officers. I will introduce the most impressive story given by Japanese residents. It is that Indian people are not good at “planning”. Unlike Japanese who make plan whatever to do, Indians tend to make importance of “execution”. There is a thought “Jugaad” in India. This meaning is inventing something with the resources already exist, and this thought is increasingly accepted in India. When India was the colony of United Kingdom, UK side basically planed work and Indian only do execution. Perhaps this relic has remained till now.

And, Indian characteristics often appear in negotiations. Japanese spend more time preparing before negotiation. Indian also prepare but they often change the plan flexibly. Furthermore, in price negotiation, Indian haggle significantly from the beginning.

On the other hand, Indian officers said that Japanese officers don't say what they think, and they answered “Yes”, even if it is not exactly “Yes”. So misunderstanding occurs in the match of understanding. Therefore, if Japanese say “Yes”, they have to write it down.



TJPS Chennai Factory

The next day, September 9, we visited TJPS turbine factory in Chennai. In the day, at first, we were given the explanation about company and the factory by Mr. Yoshiaki Inayama, who is Managing Director of TJPS, and we saw the inside of the factory. After the tour of the factory, we had a question time for Mr. Inayama. After that we discussed with local Indian officers. Finally, we had lunch with Japanese residents and listened to their story.

First, in the tour of factory, it was very kind of Mr. Inayama to guide us. In the factory, they make not only wings of motor, but also heat treatment of parts, ultrasonography, sharpening, and assembly. So the factory has large cranes and carts to move big parts. Assembled generator stator is 400t, and it is moved by 16 axes of trailer to distribute the weight when moving to port.

Next, in the discussion with Indian officers and lunch with Japanese residents, we talked about the difference of working style between Japanese and Indian. As transfer technology from Japan, Japanese residents should pay attention to explain in detail so that Indian officers understand it correctly. And they need to accept Indian religious mind. They also mentioned the difficulty of full localization.

I would like to introduce two impressive stories heard from Japanese residents.

First story is about the difference of rationality. Japanese work paying attention not to waste time and break relationship with colleagues in one system. While, Indian do not stick to system but work flexibly.

Second one is about change of jobs. In Japanese society, lifetime employment is common. However, Indians regard career change as normal. According to them, they change jobs not to pursue one thing like Japanese, but to get a lot of skills and experiences. In addition to this, other factors of career change are that they cannot get actively enough severance pay and many companies recruit people on the Internet in India. Indians also negotiate about salary when they get new job and they often get 1.3 times the salary of the previous one. That is why Indians change jobs for growing up themselves and raising their salaries.

We heard more stories. There are expressions which are said to represent Indian characteristics well. These are TTT(Talk Talk Talk), MFA(Me First Attitude),and PTB(Pass the Buck). These means are “they speak a lot.”, “they think their situations at first.”, and “they pass the buck.” It is said that an Indian company is going to change these Indian

characteristics to LLL(Listen Listen Listen), CFA(Customer First Attitude), and BSH(The Buck Stops Here).

Impression

In this tour to TOSHIBA, I noticed how Japanese companies are localized in India and make system which take advantage of their abilities. I am certain that using each advantage of Japan and India and making up for weakness of each other can be a big benefit not only in business, but also in politics.

In this study tour, we visited Gurgaon office and Chennai factory. Managing Directors and many other officers spared precious time for us. We very much appreciate that they warmly welcomed our visit although we are students. We decided to make the best of this experience for our activities and study much harder.

5.Sightseeing Aoi Yamada

Intense Impression at Taj Mahal

Most impressive place in India is, you might know, Taj Mahal. Taj Mahal is the most famous Islamic architecture located in Agra, northwest of India. It was built in 1653, and it took about 22 years to finish constructing this pure white and splendid building, and it was finally completed. Shah Jahan, the 5th emperor of the Mughal Empire, built it up as the mausoleum of Mumtaz Mahal, his beloved wife. It is the biggest construction we saw in India. Since it was a weekday, many people visited it regardless of their nationality. We are convinced that nobody can help being fascinated by that shining enormous marble.

We visited Taj Mahal in order to see it with sunset. At sunset, it seemed as if it had colorful windows, but it was actually made of processed marble. The designed marble showed us various view of Taj Mahal. When I sat around the mausoleum until sunset, an Indian family asked me to take a picture. They seemed interested in me in Panjabi suit. I was simply pleased to realize that wearing local clothes helped me talk with local people. After that, we could see the sunset soon. Taj Mahal illuminated by graceful, yellow light captivated all the people there. I felt the time that passed me gently in India, which I had never felt in Japan and warm humanity of local people.

Ganesh Chaturthi

Ganesh Chaturthi, a traditional festival, also much impressed me. Ganesh is the Hindu god on wisdom and academy. Every year, each town makes big figure of Ganesh. And then, people put it on a public square and pray. Finally, at the day of a full moon, they float the figure of Ganesh on the river for fortune.

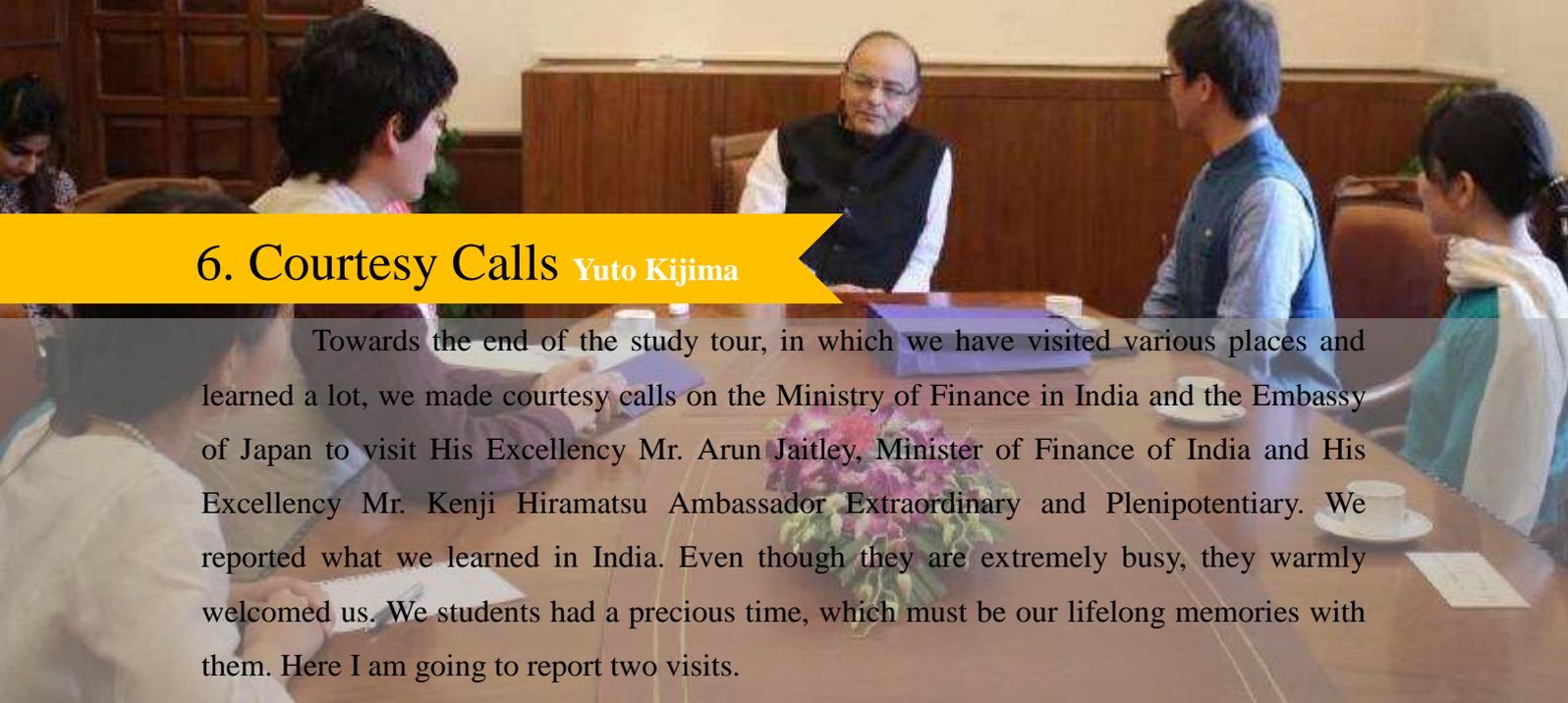
In Chennai, people held the festival on September 11, and we stayed there at that day. They floated the Ganesh on the sea instead of the river. Figures on trucks came to the beach one after another. There were a lot of men who were beating drums and singing songs. After they lowered the big figures and cleansed with fire, they finally carried the big figures into the sea. The sea was rough, so they soon flew to a wave. However, people tried to take them as far as possible. The festival was very lively, and there were also many women and children to see the Ganesh. Every Ganesh was colorful, and people tried making their own towns' figures more conspicuous. I found that this Indian unique festival has something in common with Japanese festivals in the point of the unity of community wishing prosperity of future.

On the other hand, nowadays, Ganesh Chaturthi makes an environmental problem. The Ganesh is made of plastics and paint, so the floating figures may pollute the sea. I think it is important to preserve the festival environmentally friendly.

What We Thought through the Sightseeing

We realized that Indian culture has something in common with Japanese one, as they have some differences. We came to feel familiar with India through this visiting. However, many Japanese people assume India is a unique and mysterious country. Actually, only 30,000 or 40,000 people per year visit India from Japan. We must tell real attractions that we felt bodily there to Japanese people who have never been to India.





6. Courtesy Calls Yuto Kijima

Towards the end of the study tour, in which we have visited various places and learned a lot, we made courtesy calls on the Ministry of Finance in India and the Embassy of Japan to visit His Excellency Mr. Arun Jaitley, Minister of Finance of India and His Excellency Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. We reported what we learned in India. Even though they are extremely busy, they warmly welcomed us. We students had a precious time, which must be our lifelong memories with them. Here I am going to report two visits.

The Ministry of Finance

To mention our relationship between Finance Minister, it must start from the special lecture His Excellency gave in Osaka University on June 2. In April in 2016, our official adviser, Dr. Toshiya Hoshino received a call from Mr. T. Armstrong Changsan, Consul General of India, and was requested to organize a lecture of Finance Minister. Then, Professor Hoshino gave us an opportunity to work for the lecture since SWADOM has an experience of organizing the lecture of Her Excellency Ms. Deepa Gopalan Wadhwa, the former Ambassador of India in Japan. So we were honored to be a member of organizers. Therefore, we made a courtesy call on Finance Minister to express our appreciation for the lecture.

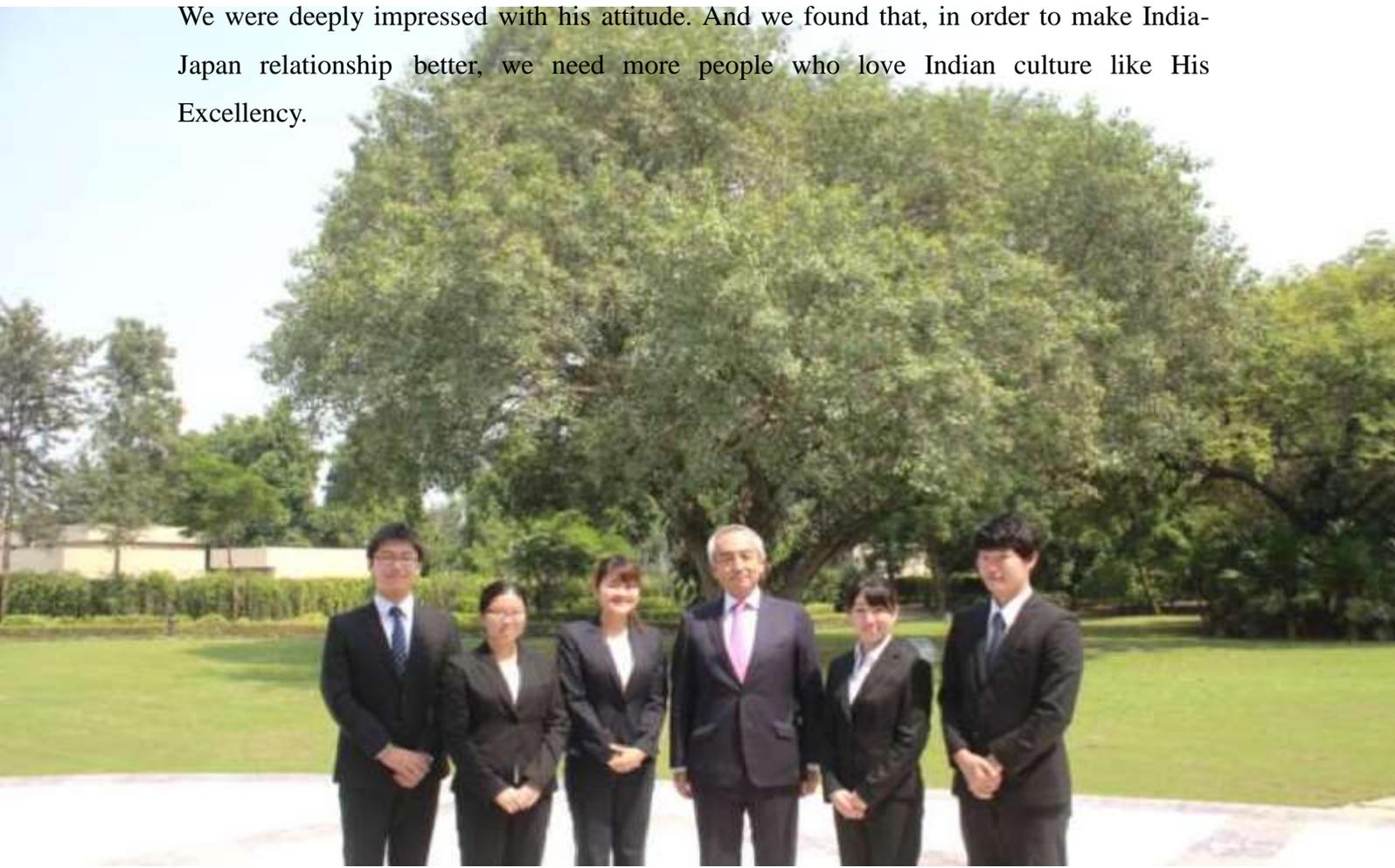
It was September 15 that we visited, but until the day before we struggled to prepare for the visit and rehearsed many times. During the visit, all of the members were in a tense atmosphere. However, in front of Finance Minister, each member has done his/her role completely and felt that we had become more confident during the stay in India.

To Finance Minister, we expressed our appreciation for the lecture and gave souvenirs from Japan, a Japanese fan of Kyoto, photographs of his special lecture (taken by Mr. Kenzo Saeki), and a message from the students. His Excellency liked the fan very much and smiled. That made us so relieved. Then we reported what we learned in India. We felt so glad that Finance Minister carefully listened to our report with his eyes pointed at us. At the end of the visit, we were delighted that our request, to warmly welcome our juniors in the nearest future, was accepted. It was approximately 1 hour that we stayed in Ministry of Finance but we had the most precious time which has no substitute.

The Embassy of Japan

On the last day of our tour, September 16, we also made a courtesy call on His Excellency Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and reported the study tour. For this visit, we had a helpful advice from Yurie Inoue, one of our alumni who is now working in Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, to ask the arrangement to Ms. Noriko Miyamoto, also an officer of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. Then she introduced us Mr. Daisuke Kodama, the First Secretary of Embassy of Japan in India and he thankfully helped us to make an appointment. Though one of the members, Yumi Kobayashi, had met His Excellency. Last year at a ceremony in Tokyo, for the rest of us, it was the first time to meet His Excellency. However, we felt somehow familiar with him because he had graduated from a high school in Osaka and studied in the library in Osaka University for the entrance exam of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Firstly, when we reported what we learned about the deference of way of thinking between Indian and Japanese people, His Excellency told us his experiences that he had struggled in the political negotiations with Indian officers. But he also told us that the friendships he had made in those experiences are still valuable treasures for him. Secondly, we gave our opinion of cultural exchange, especially young people between India and Japan. His Excellency agreed and introduced us the project on which His Excellency is working. Seeing His Excellency telling these stories, we realized how much he loves India. We were deeply impressed with his attitude. And we found that, in order to make India-Japan relationship better, we need more people who love Indian culture like His Excellency.



7. Looking Back on the Study Tour Kenji Okada

Through the study tour we learned the difference between Japanese and Indian: thought towards career, national character and time sense. We would like to sum up these differences as the end of this report.

The People - Indian and Japanese

We saw the two notable differences between Indian and Japanese: sense of time and how they define themselves. In terms of the time sense, it is said that Japanese has become one of the most punctual people but on the other hand, Indian is magnanimous towards time. They see the time as a string without beginning or end, which may arise from Indian philosophy.

We also found it different how Indian and Japanese define themselves. Indian regard themselves as the definite existence which cannot be interfered by other existences and this can be seen in the “Me First Attitude”. This attitude comes from the will to ensure their ranks in the group and makes it clear who is in charge of the work. On the contrary, Japanese tend to look themselves as the relative existence changing in the relation between others. Therefore, Japanese tend to have much more psychological distance to protect themselves than Indian who tends to be friendlier to others.

The Country – India and Japan

India: As the notable feature, India is expressed as the country with “Unity in Diversity”. Its diversity differs from that of developed countries which consist of immigrants in that there exists various religion, language, folks and culture from way back.

We consider that the strong authority in each state keeps the “Diversity” in each region such as language and religion. India has the tolerant systems of the diversity such as a fair education for all religion. Regarding the idea of “Unity”, it may be brought by English in terms of the language and Hinduism as the religion. In addition to these two factors, the representative position of India in international affairs with outstanding development, the history they become independent from United Kingdom and the value of democracy they won from that experience may unite India.

We stated the factors for “Unity in Diversity” as above, but there must be other things that firmly unite the people in India, considering the situation that “Unity in Diversity” has a kind of fragility with such problems as the conflict between religions, poverty, caste system or environmental pollution. However, with these concerns, India still has so gigantic energy that they can drive the country, which indicates that Indians can make quick decision and attempt to deal with the issue and they have excellent human resources to lead the country. While India has been developing drastically, we wonder how they will change what India is today.

Japan: Compared to India which is drastically developing country, it is true that Japan is the highly developed industrial country. However, Japan is also the country which was westernized and lost some of its unique features in the process of development in contrast to India. For instance, it took the “humanity” or “warmth” away, which seems to be the common feature in Asia. Additionally, most traditional architectures made of wood were reconstructed as anonymous skyscrapers, and cultural diversity, such as dialects are now being lost.

Though the product or food is getting common bilaterally between India and Japan, it is true that there hasn’t been much human exchange and we should mutually deepen our understanding. In order to promote the human and cultural exchange, we have to give more good impressions of India towards the people unfamiliar with India. The word His Excellency Mr. Hiramatsu, Ambassador of Japan gave us that we the young are the key to connect India and Japan encouraged us that we can contribute to the bilateral relationship by spreading our wonderful experience in India.

Acknowledgments

With greatest support by all of those who have helped us we could achieve the implement of this study tour. We would like to show our greatest appreciation to Dr. Toshiya Hoshino, official advisor of SWADOM, Mr. Taro Nakayama, the supreme advisor of SWADOM, His Excellency Mr. Hiroshi Hirabayashi, President Representative Director of The Japan-India Association, Mr. T. Armstrong Changsan, Consul General of India, Osaka-Kobe, Ms. Noriko Miyamoto from branch office in Osaka, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Ms. Kana Ogi, the founder of SWADOM and an employee of TJPS.

We also would like to express the deepest appreciation for taking your precious time while our stay in India to Madam Shashi Tripathi, Dr. Balatchandirane at University of Delhi, the members in TIPL and TJPS including Mr. Tomohiko Okada and Mr. Yoshiaki Inayama, His Excellency Mr. Arun Jaitley, Minister of Finance of India, His Excellency Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and Mr. Daisuke Kodama from Embassy of Japan in India. With all of your help we could have so valuable time that we cannot have by ourselves.

Through this study tour we sincerely felt that the current India-Japan relation is established by numerous people. We would like to work towards promotion of bilateral relations between India and Japan as a student and a member of society.

Cover and Text Design : Erika Tanaka



Osaka University

SWADOM

Students' group of International Studies

The SWADOM (Osaka University Students' group of International Studies) consists of 19 students. It was established in December 2011 and became an official student group of Osaka University in 2015. We as SWADOM organize study seminars and manage lectures in order to become students highly interested in international issues who can argue their own opinions. In 2016, we organized the lecture in Osaka University by His Excellency Arun Jaitley, Minister of Finance of India. With this deep connection with India, we decided to carry out this study tour.