

VOICE OF THE PARTICIPANTS

OCEANOGRAPHY AND DATA PRECESSING



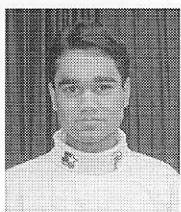
Ms. JIA, Yan-Shuang (CHINA)

Good Morning Japan

A land surrounded by the sea, its handsome footballers, latest fashion, delicious food that is not only meant to be eaten but also appreciated for its elegant presentation, these were all I had known about Japan before I came. And I found myself full of joy in the thought that I would soon be able to explore this exciting country running on a fast track. This is my first visit to Japan. However, so far, I don't feel like a stranger here, except for the language. I am comfortable staying at Tokyo International Center(TIC) of JICA because its facilities are quite convenient, attending to every aspect of our lives.

Indeed, I am so new to Japan that I have managed to put myself in some funny and somewhat clumsy scenes here. On my first day, I had some comical experiences. I took the elevator to go to the front desk, but I was not sure on which floor it was located and I went up and down several times before I was guided to the lobby. The good thing was that this gave me the opportunity to thoroughly check out the floor arrangements of the building. All the people here are friendly and warmhearted. They help others adapt to this new environment, regardless of what his or her nationality is. In addition, the hard-working and ever-improving atmosphere also touches me deeply. Being with the JHD staff, I was profoundly infected by the initiative and drive they showed for the well-being of the country as well as the rest of the world. There is no doubt that all of this work we are doing, which contributes to mutual communication and better understanding, is worthwhile and priceless.

Our study group is made up of nine members from nine countries, that is nine different cultures. We study developed technologies together, do scientific research together, share our ideas and thoughts with each other and share our cultures as well. Imagine the meeting of nine different cultures and being able to directly expose yourself to so many exotic features and stories. This is something you can never get from books or TV.



Mr. Salman Ahmed KHAN (PAKISTAN)

My classes are held at the Hydrographic Office and attending a course there is an honor for me. Easy access to the latest developments, modern equipment and a chance to see the practical implementation of new techniques and ideas are some of the attractive features of following a training course in Japan. I am one of a group of the most informative lectures delivered by seasoned professionals, there exists a free flow of information among the participants about the methodology and various approaches to the profession being practiced in their respective countries. I have full confidence that at the end of this course I will have sufficient knowledge and skills to fulfill my departmental requirements and to bring in some major changes to improve the current system.

It is only the beginning of my course in this dreamland, and apart from my professional quest I wish to explore all the beautiful sites, enjoy the exquisite food, and learn about the nation who has built this pyramid of hope and inspiration to developing countries. I have yet to quench my thirst for knowledge and satisfy my curiosity of this wonderful land and nation, but from all of what I have seen I can simply describe my experience as a dream come true.