

REFLECTIVE JOURNALS

Leung Kam Fung, Rian

It is excited, if not fantastic, that I had an exchange program when I was a student. In secondary lever, books and exercises are the major study tools. There are no communication and sharing at all. However, outdoor study is the most important for student to know more about the application of their knowledge. It is grade for me to participate in this program.

In this program, I had learnt three different significant factors to make my life better.

First of all, you have to be brave so as to make more new friends. Japanese are shine. I tried to communicate with them using my poor Japanese. However, they were afraid to talk with strangers. They would avoid meeting strangers as possible. However, if you are brave enough to open the topic, they are nice and willing to talk.

Being brave to talk with other, you will have a better social circle in your life. Actually, this attitude is a must in our daily life. When you wish to enhance your social circle, please be brave to talk with others. The more friends you have, the more interesting things you can enjoy. You can not only enjoy different cultural activities such as eating or drinking, but you also broaden your horizons.



They are my schoolmates.

They are my schoolmates.



In the right hand side, he is the first friend that I make in Japan.

Second, respect is important in our daily life. Japanese are well educated that they should obey each other. They esteem foreigners as treasure. As a result, foreigners in Japanese are welcomed and well served. Being a Hong Kong citizen, I admire this attitude. It is because this attitude leads to many happy memory when I am in Japan. For example, although I am foreigner, neighbor said "good morning" and "welcome back" every time when I went to school or came back. However, this attitude lost in Hong Kong. People always put emphasize on the benefit. After this trip, I think that we should pay more passion to our neighbor in order to become better than before.

Last but not least, more skills help you to have a better life. Knowledge not only increases the income, but also improves your living standard. Learning more skills such as music, you can improve your mental health. In Japan, extracurricular activities are required for Japanese students. In order to sharpen their skills, students spend their time after school. This motivation boosts students to spend more time on mental activity instead of physical activity. Therefore, they have a fruitful life that they can enjoy their mental life. The more skill you have, the better entertainment you enjoy.

To conclude, this trip gave me a lot of notes to improve my life. It is crystal clear that students have to meet the world. We have to meet more people so as not to be the frog in the well knows nothing of the great ocean.



Excellent food in Japan.



In my right hand side, he comes from Taiwan.

Lo Wing Yu, Penverly

For the Osaka exchange trip, I would describe it as impressive, valuable and unforgettable. To further explain what I learnt, it can be divided into two categories.

First of all, it is the knowledge domain. Throughout the two weeks exchange at Osaka Institute of Technology, I had totally five lessons every week including calculus, probability and statistics, linear algebra, information retrieval, and Japanese. It is interesting to experience study life in Osaka due to big differences with Hong Kong. For instance, teachers use chalk and blackboard instead of powerpoint. Also, students keep absolute silent during classes without discussing with classmates. Although I have learnt some of these subjects, the lectures further consolidate my knowledge. While for Japanese lesson, it was useful and practical with aid of some teaching materials. Since all lessons were carried out in Japanese, my Japanese improved a lot in speaking, listening and writing undoubtedly.

On the other hand, cultural exchange is also important and enlightening. By interacting with local Japanese and experiencing their lives, I discovered that Japanese are very considerate and kind-hearted. One impressive incident was that the janitor brought few umbrellas for us after we left the dormitory on a rainy day because he worried about us. This is so heart-warming. Moreover, through experiencing their trash recycling, I understood the responsibility on protecting our environment. Even though there are only few rubbish bins on the street, streets in Osaka are still very clean which proves their strong morality. In my opinion, it would be a good idea to carry out trash recycling in Hong Kong in order to promote civic responsibility and environmental-friendly. Apart from the culture of Japan, I also shared Hong Kong culture with new friends from Taiwan, China, South Korea, Thailand and Saudi Arabia.

To round up, two weeks Osaka exchange made me grow in terms of knowledge, communication skills and independency.



OIT Campus



OIT Lecture Room



Teacher was teaching with chalk and blackboard



OIT Library



Janitor at the International House



Owner of a Japanese Restaurant



New friends from Taiwan, China, South Korea and Saudi Arabia.



Ng Ching Yee, Zoie

First of all, I would like to give my sincere thanks to Osaka Institute of Technology and CCCU for offering me this wonderful chance to join this two-week exchange study. The teachers and students there are very friendly and helpful. They not only took good care of our learning environment, but also our itinerary. They do suggest and teach us a lot about the unique culture and famous spots of Japan.

What I learnt in this two weeks exchange study? Personally, I think it is beneficial for me to learn about and distinguish the major cultural differences. Academically, after attending several lesson in Japan, I do love the learning atmosphere there. Because students there are extremely attentive and on one talked during the lecture. On the other hand, the teaching method in Japan is quite different from Hong Kong. Personally, the teaching method in Japan tend to be teacher-centered while Hong Kong tend to be more student-centered. In light of this, in most of the lectures I attended, lecturers rarely asked students question and used visual aids during lectures. But what I have experienced in Hong Kong is lecturers always adopt different electronic tools during lecture, for example projector, PowerPoint. And when students faced any difficulties, they will ask lecturer immediately and directly.



Having statistics lesson.

Apart from the academic differences, the attitude to cultural landscapes is different from Hong Kong as well. All citizen have strong sense of cultural preservation and they cherish their cultural landscapes very well. What I learnt from Japanese students is that all cultural landscapes have been regularly well-maintained by the authority. I believe that these actions and attitudes should be used as reference for Hong Kong citizen and the authorities.

Finally, this exchange study program is undeniably the most fruitful experience during my associate degree.



The exterior appearance of Osaka Institute of Technology.



One of the well maintained World Cultural Heritage - Nijo Castle



The University Library is systematic, comfortable and with plenty of books.



Thanks the two new friends who guided us to travel different spots, like the Osaka Castle.



Our Janitor is super friendly and humorous.



"Torii" in fushimi inari shrine.



Cute deer in Nara Park



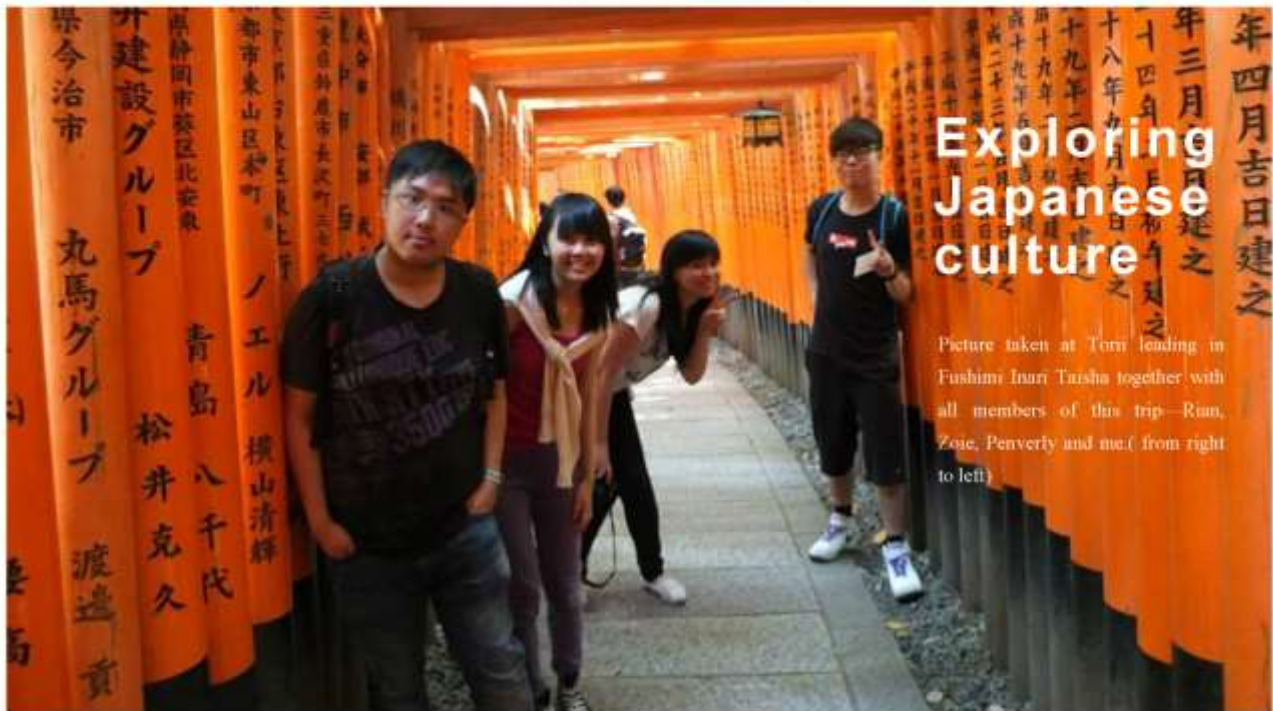
Tombori River Cruise

Osaka Trip

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25/5-6/6

By Tse ChunKit, Darlton



Picture taken at Torii leading in Fushimi Inari Tarsha together with all members of this trip—Rian, Zoue, Penverly and me.(from right to left)

Before this trip, I have never visit Japan in the past although I am interested in Japanese culture and studying Japanese language on my own. I was always wondering that what is the difference between university life in Hong Kong and Japan. This trip provided me a best chance to explore myself to a whole new experience, it may means a lot for my future study and career.

“ **This trip provided me a best chance to explore myself to a whole new experience, it may means a lot for my future study and career.** ”

On the first day we arrived in Osaka, we have received a heart-warming welcome from Mr. Tanaka, a local staff of OIT (Osaka Institute of Technology), and Mr. Haba Masashi, the manager of Josho Gakuen Educational Founation International House. They introduced us with the layout of our rooms, and then had a short briefing on the rules we needed to follow as long as we were staying there.



During the period we were staying in Osaka, Mr. Haba was the most helpful and friendly guide that helped us to solve any daily problems we met. For me, I usually had a talk with him in the morning before going to university and he had given me many advices about the trip.

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Having a taste on OIT

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After a day-long settling in the International House, we started our short studying in OIT for two weeks on Monday. The campus we visited was pretty small when comparing with CityU's campus. The reason is that this campus was only for students who were major in computer-related subject, and the main campus was located elsewhere. The location is quiet and away from train station which made up a suitable atmosphere for students to study.

During all lectures, lecturers only used Japanese to explain the content. They were appreciate to wrote



The front entrance of OIT campus

“ The most memorable moment in lecture for me is that the lecturers controlled a small robot to walk across the lecture room. ”

on blackboard rather than using computer slides. They also loved to give out classwork keeping students busy during the lecture. The most memorable moment in lecture for me is that the lecturers controlled a small robot to walk across the lecture

room, in order to demonstrate how robot detect the surrounding by GPS.



Travelling with overseas students

We were so lucky that the overseas students living in International House were very nice. It did not need a long time, we became friends and shared our travelling experiences and homeland information. Most of them are came from Thai and Taiwan for exchange about a month.

Besides talking in communication room at night, we also travelled to Nara with one of our Taiwan friend, Deron Tsai, to visit Fushimi Inari Taisha, Tōdai-ji and Kasuga Grand Shrine. These places are not just normal tourist spots but they were also recorded as World Heritage. It was worth to visit if you have chance travelling to Japan.



It is clean and comfortable inside bus and train of Japan



featuring



Nice local waitress



This picture is taken when we were having farewell party with overseas students.



Yummy ramen

When

hen there are days without lecture to attend in university, I had spent my time on travelling the downtown of Osaka and Kyoto personally. I usually did not plan details about where to go and what to do, but depend on the suggestions from local people or the guideline book received in train station. It was both fun to travel together with friends or alone because you can share joy with others when you are travelling with friend, on the other hand, you can enjoy freedom and independent when you are travelling alone.



Japanese lesson classmates



Local restaurant lady

Time to say goodbye

Two weeks is quite a short period for a exchange program to take place, and it was the time to go home. I am grateful that I had take this precious chance to have a try on myself, so that I could enjoy so much memorable moment of travelling, building friendship with international people and local Japanese, and experiencing foreign education in OIT. It had been a amazing adventure during my stay in Osaka. At last, I would like to say thank you to everyone I met in Osaka especially Mr. Haba, because he was really care us for everything in any moment.



And more.... In my Google+ album



I shall be back!!
To Osaka