

Reflection on the 5th East Asia Junior Workshop, 2013

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Before the workshop, I was little afraid that I have to prepare presentation in English. Also I had a prejudice against the 'workshop'. For me, the workshop or the symposium means something very boring and too stiff or literary. But at the same time, I had expectations of making new foreign friends and going to Kyoto.

Consequently, I had been unduly worried, and the workshop was the best and special memory during this summer vacation. For the beginning, we had field trip before the 2days of workshop and it was beyond my expectations. Especially it was kind of scholarly workshop, so the places we visited on the field trip were meaningful. We had visited not only Imperial Palace but also yanagihara bank, higashikujo, and Rakutoen Nursing home etc, and there were the places that I could feel the histories, cultures and the life-styles of people in the area. It was quite sad that my English listening was not good, so I couldn't understand the whole explanations about the area. But I could walk on my foot, see what it was, and feel the atmosphere in the places. Especially in the Nursing home, I was impressed by peaceful smiles of senior citizens and the careful concerns on every little thing of the nursing home. Next, the 2days of Workshop was also really great experience for me. First, it was nice that I could see and listen to presentations of other countries' students. Through the workshop, I could know that the differences and similarities of the three countries; Korea, Taiwan and Japan. Actually more than the contents itself of presentations, the thing that I could have knew what other students in other countries are thinking and studying was interesting. Also all of students in three countries were studying sociology, so it was good to me that we could share the academic thinking and different opinions. Moreover, comments of each professor were really intellectually stimulating to me.

Anyway, thanks to all friends that I met and thanks to professors and staffs, and I really look forward to join the next East Asia Youth Workshop. ☺