

## **Understanding Japan**

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I write this report to describe a week away program in Kyoto university. Also I would like to report my feelings and achievements in Kyoto University Summer School.

Through this visit, I have understood Japan's works in ASEAN countries and I have known of Japan's powerful affection in ASEAN. In my opinion, it was based on experiences which were accumulated in colonizing periods. However, I have learned that the Japanese government efforts such as Japan's former Prime Minister Takuda's 'heart to heart' contact for southeast Asian countries. Besides, I am inspired about their efforts to be a leader of the world after WW2 as a late comer. As Japan is a leading country in Asia, they are finding their responsibilities to develop ASEAN. Even non-commercial sectors, Japan is continuously researching and studying for their future development.

For a week, I visited many places with my faculty members and Kyoto university professors. Many historical places such as shrines were indeed beautiful and eye catching. Also I have gained much heartfelt insight of the Japanese hospitality and kindness. For a week, I have made over 10 Kyoto University friends for a week. For a week we shared lots of our academic ideas each other. I still cannot forget their hospitable manner for us. If I they come to Thailand again, I will do my best to take care of them.

Wherever I visited, people always smiled and tried to share as much information as possible with me. When I took a train to Kyoto, I asked for a direction to a Japanese girl who was determined that our language barrier would not impede her from showing me the correct way. She tried her best to give the correct information. I was almost moved with her persistence and kindness.

The curriculum of Kyoto university was perfect. I have got a plenty of information thanks to erudite professors. All the contents were informative to me. I have got much infection through every single different subjects, which are history, economy, business and so on. Especially, I was inspired about each professor's thoughtful consideration. They tried to answer all student's questions even convoluting questions. They were quite different compared with typical professors who I have met before. They were always ready to listen all students saying.

As I am a Korean student who is studying ASEAN and southeast Asia countries, this long visit to Kyoto university will certainly play a part in my current and future career. This is because ASEAN is a powerful business force to be reckoned with, as huge and influential industries are associated with Japan. Therefore, understanding Japanese culture and businesses are almost mandatory when penetrating the Asian (and possibly the Southeast Asian) market. So I have got much motivation to study more about relations between Southeast Asia and japan. It must be helpful to find ways to develop relations between Southeast Asia and Korea. Base on those understandings, I would like to contribute to develop regional relationship in ASEAN+3 areas. My perspective and insight have certainly increased after this memorable visit.