Plan for the Development of Japanese Studies Institute
Thammasat University

by Banyat Surakanvit
Acting Director
Japanese Studies Institute

1. The Genesis

Thailand had been having a close relation with Japan in such area as economic transaction, political transaction and cultural exchanges, knowledge on Japan for the Thai is of great interest and significance. However, Japanese studies in Thailand are still scanty and have not yet been systematized. Of the few researchers there are, they are scattered and co-ordination of efforts is absent.

Therefore, a committee was formed to work on the establishment of the Japanese studies Institute at Thammasat university. The committee consisted of qualified professors in various discipline. It was charge with the function to bring the idea of a Japanese Studies Institute into reality.

2. Objectives of the Institute

The objectives of the Institute are as follows:

(1) To accumulate basic knowledge about Japan
(2) To expand graduate and undergraduate studies on Japan
(3) To provide both public and private organization in Thailand and other neighbouring countries with information on Japan
(4) To promote faculty members, students and people interested in Japanese Studies to have a greater role in the society.
(5) To promote better relations among institution and scholars of Japanese studies
(6) To collect data and statistics on Japan.

In order to achieve the objectives mention above, Thammasat University has established an executive committee and its activities have already been started since 1981. At present, the Institute office's is at the main campus in Bangkok.

3. Japanese Studies Institute Construction Plan

3.1 Construction

In response to the request of grant aid for the construction of a fully equipped building for the Japanese Studies Institute of Thammasat University, the Government of Japan decided to extend grant aid for the construction of the Institute at new Rangsit Campus and the supply and installation of equipment for the total amount of 1,150 Million Yen.

The “Exchange of Notes” between the Governments of Japan and Thailand was concluded on December 8, 1983. In accordance with the Exchange of Notes, the construction work will start from March 1984 and will complete within 12 months.
3.2 Design
The Japanese Studies Institute is a building complex consisting of office, research, seminar-meeting, library, sound-lab, hostel and canteen sections. The design system of the Institute is the mixture of modern design technique and ancient Japanese architecture which is based on the “GARAN HAICHI or Buddhist temple layout” and by incorporating with some of the characteristics of the “SHINDEN ZUKURI or Noble residence layout”. The design work was done by KISHO KUROKAWA Architect & Associates.

3.3 Facilities
The planned building complex contains the following facilities: The office section includes offices for the director and other rooms necessary for administrative works.

The seminar-meeting section consists of a large seminar room with an interpreting system for 120 persons, 4 training rooms for 30 persons each, 1 seminar room for 40 persons, and a detached house of Japanese room.

The sound-lab section consists of an L.L. room for 30 persons, an audiovisual room for 30 persons and a storage/personnel room.

The library section consists of a library room for 20 persons, a reference room, a librarian’s room, a research collection room, and a book stock room.

The research section consists of 25 researcher’s and assistant researcher’s room, and a meeting room.

The hostel section consists of 30 double guest rooms, a lounge, an administration room, and a laundry/storage room.

The canteen section consists of a dinning room for 60 persons and a kitchen.

3.4 Equipment
The planned equipment consist of such main items as interpreting units, L.L. equipment with a V.T.R. system, VTR equipment, projectors, sound equipment, printing equipment and others.

3.5 Floor area
The proposed floor area of each section is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Floor Area (M²)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Office section</td>
<td>347.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Seminar-meeting section</td>
<td>741.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Sound-lab section</td>
<td>151.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Library section</td>
<td>252.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) Research section</td>
<td>492.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) Hostel section</td>
<td>900.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7) Canteen section</td>
<td>144.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8) Others</td>
<td>1,695.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,723.6 M²</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Operational Plan of the Institute

4.1 Organization

The Japanese Studies Institute is an organization attached to Thammasat University under the administration of the Rector. Its internal organizational structure consists of the Executive Committee which set up its policy. The Executive committee is formed by the chairman and 8-15 members who are appointed by the University Council from well-qualified and knowledgeable persons both outside and within the university. The University Council appoints the Executive Director. The Executive Committee and the Executive Director stay for a term of four years.

Organization Set-up and Distribution of Function

- University Council
  - Rector
  - Executive Committee
    - Executive Director
    - Academic Section
      - Research
      - Seminar and Training
      - Teaching
      - Publication
      - Information Center
    - Administrative Section
      - General Administration
      - Treasury and Book Keeping
      - Office Work
      - Typing and Printing
      - House Keeping
4.2 Staff of the Institute

Under the Executive Director, the Institute staff consist of two groups: the academic staff and non-academic staff. The number of staff will increase year by year as shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Executive Director</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Deputy Director</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Academic Staff</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Researchers</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Assistant Researchers</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Librarian</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Non-Academic Staff</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Secretary</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Office Personnel</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Sound-lab Personnel</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Janitors</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.3 Plan for manpower Development

In order to increase the number of experts related to Japanese Studies and upgrade the quality of Japanese Studies in Thailand, scholarship for Thai’s staff to continue their studies, researches, and specific training in Japan are needed, especially in the field of Japanese Studies, business administration, agriculture economics, education, history, literature, culture and sociology.

Two scholarships per year are required for the period of 5 years from 1984 to 1988.
5. Activities of the Institute

The plan for activities of the Japanese Studies Institute is divided into 8 categories as follows:

5.1 Research Projects

The Institute will arrange to provide financial support for both the urgent projects and the general projects which are conducted by faculty members of Thammasat University and scholars in other educational institutions all over the country, and which are selected through open competition.

About 5-10 research projects per year will be selected. Themes of research for the 1984-1985 period are as follows:

(1) The Role of Management Personnel in Japan and Thailand.
(2) Japanese Multinational Corporation in Thailand.
(3) The Improvement of Thai-Japan Trade Relation.
(4) The Impact of Japanese Aid on Thai Economy.
(5) Rural Development in Thailand and Japan.
(7) The Role of on the Job Training : Japanese Experiences.
(8) Japanese Literature : Post War Development.
(9) The Future Prospects of Japan-ASEAN Relation.
(10) Thai People's Attitude toward Japan's Economic, Political and the Potential Military Roles in Asia.
(12) Contribution of Female Workers in Industrialization Process.

5.2 Seminars and Training

Seminars: Four types of seminars are to be carried out as follows.
(1) Annual Symposium (one per year)
(2) International Conference (one per year)
(3) Current Issues Seminars (4 times per year)
(4) Regular Seminar and Public Lecture (6 times per year)

Training: Five categories of training are to be carried out as follows:
(1) Japanese Language Training (15 courses per year)
(2) General Knowledge About Japan for the General Public (3 courses per year)
(3) General Knowledge About Thailand for Japanese (4 courses per year)
(4) Education and Living in Japan (one per year)
(5) Special Training on Specific Issues (to be designated)

5.3 Publication

The Institute will publicize academic works related to Japanese Studies and activities of the Institute. They include publication of translated materials, research reports, journal, Thai–Japan Studies Journal, newsletter, seminar papers, Japanese language textbooks and Thai–Japanese dictionary, etc.

Plan for publications is as follows:

| (1) Book | 5–10 Volumes/year. |
| (2) Research Report | 5–10 |
| (3) “Tawaan” Journal | 4 |
| (4) Thai–Japan Studies Journal | 4 |
| (5) Newsletter | 12 |
| (6) Seminar papers | 10 |
| (7) Japanese Language Textbooks | 2 Volumes |
| (8) Thai–Japanese Dictionary | 1 Volume |

5.4 Personnel and Student Exchange Program

The Institute will promote the exchange program between Thai and Japanese experts and students.

Plan for personnel exchange program is 6 persons per year for the period of 3 months to one year.

Plan for student exchange program is 20 students per year for the period of one week to one month. Through cooperation with universities and institutions in Japan, it is expected that the goodwill and close cooperation between Japan and Thailand will be developed.

5.5 Information Center

The Institute will establish a Japanese Studies documents center in its library. About 10,000 copies of books and documents, 5,000 copies of reference works and some periodical journals will be collected. Exchange of informations and publication documents between the same kinds of institution will be promoted.

5.6 Dissemination of Knowledge on Japan and Japanese by radio and Television Program

At present, the Institute is organizing a Japanese language program at Thammasat Radio Station, once a week, for a period of 30 minutes.

And Video program on Japan will be also shown in some special occasions.
5.7 Occasional Activities

Periodical activities include exhibition on Japanese culture, film show on Japan and Japanese speech contest for the student will be acrrried out occasionally.

5.8 Plan for Japanese Studies Course in Thammasat

The Institute has a plan for creating graduates with a minor in Japanese Study for under-graduate students at Thammasat University in order to enable them to have knowledge on Japan in general and in specific focus.

6. Budget

The Institute 5 years budget plan (1984–1988) has been set up according to the scope of activities and other projects that the Institute will organize each year in 6 categories: research, seminar and training, documentation and publication, personnel-exchange, operation and maintenance of the facilities of the Institute, and staff salary.

Finances for the operation and maintenance of the Institute come mainly from the ministry of University Affairs, and the budget of Thammasat University as well as other sources as follows:

- Financial aid from foreign countries
- Fees for training and seminars
- Accommodation charges of the hostel
- Financial contribution from the private sector
- Interest from Japanese Studies Fund.

As the cost for the first year of operation and maintenance as well as the budget for the activities of the Institute after the open of the Institute building complex is estimated to be 6.35 million Baht, the problem of financial resource is of great concern.

According to the budget plan for the period of 5 years, the salary of staff of the Institute will increased considerably, this is because of the increasing in numbers of full time staff. Up to the present time, the Institute has only 4 full time staff. Administration works and activities of the Institute were also pursued by the executive committee’s members. And some activities were jointly organized with other institutions which have many staff that could solve the problem. However, at the new Rangsit Campus and with a relatively big scale building complex, the Institute has to have its own full time staff to manage all the activities, the operation and maintenance of the Institute itself.
Budget plan

(Unit: 1,000 Baht)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Research</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Seminar and Training</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Documents and Publication</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>840</td>
<td>990</td>
<td>1,040</td>
<td>1,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Personnel Exchange</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Operation and Maintenance Cost</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>1,470</td>
<td>1,470</td>
<td>1,470</td>
<td>1,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Staff Salary</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>2,050</td>
<td>3,050</td>
<td>3,800</td>
<td>4,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>6,350</td>
<td>7,650</td>
<td>8,550</td>
<td>9,300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Future Prospect

After the completion of the construction of the Institute, it is expected that the study of Japanese language and culture as well as research on Japan will be more effectively carried out and will become popular in Thailand in the future. The Japanese Studies Institute will also be an Institute for improving and developing Japanese Studies in Thailand, helping Thai people to have sufficient information in the correct form regarding all aspects of Japan, and thereby further developing friendly relationships between the two countries.

However, in order to operate and maintain effectively and to fully utilize the functions of the Institute building, it is also necessary to put more considerable emphasis upon the financial resources, manpower development and the directions for future development of the Japanese Studies Institute which will have tremendous implications in the Thai-Japan relationship as well as in the history of the development of Japanese Studies in Thailand and in other countries, especially in Asian countries.
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