

## Flying to Istanbul from Japan -2016-

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Name: Fujishita Kazuhiro

Affiliation: Tokyo Institute of Technology, Architectural and Building Engineering

Grade: D2

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### Out-line of the program

Turkey is very close country for me because I stayed in Turkey for 6 months (From 1. September, 2014 to 28. February, 2015), and I tried experimental research in Istanbul Technical University. Turkish security was not so good nowadays, therefore, I was afraid a little to visit Turkey on this workshop before visiting. However, the condition of city was not so different compare with condition on the previous staying time, and Turkish people was so energetic.

#### **21. February: Bosphorus cruise and Walking around Ortakoy**

From Bosphorus, I saw the detail of the shape of buildings along the Bosphorus. The buildings along the Bosphorus had windows mainly of Bosphorus side, therefore, maybe these buildings have eccentricity on their plan and we should care about that if we plan structural retrofit of these buildings. I considered like that things on the deck of reserved ship.

#### **22. February: Poster Session and Workshop**

I attended lecture on workshop. I belong to structural engineering of architecture therefore, the presentation about nuclear engineering is very impressive for me and it expanded my perspective. And I thought that the research field integrating nuclear engineering and architecture is interesting, because the cost-effective and safe construction or deconstruction method of nuclear power plant is necessity both Japan and Turkey. In the poster session, I could exchange opinions with Turkish students and professor belonging to other department or university and it was very exciting time for me.

#### **23. February: Workshop and Learning Turkish**

From yesterday on, the lectures were held on the workshop. There were discussion time At the last of workshop, there are some discussion about collaboration between Japan and Turkey. I had carried out collaborative research between Tokyo Tech and Istanbul Technical University and the chairman of the discussion was Prof. Oguz C. Celik who is principal investigator of the collaborative research. Therefore, he designated me as a speaker on the spot. However, my speech was faltering. I should practice English more to train the instantaneous power of speaking my opinion in English. On the Turkish lesson, it was very fun to communicate with other students and I was moved the fluent Japanese spoken by Turkish teacher.

**24. February: Site Visit: Ersel Heavy Machinery-Manufacturing Plant – Gebze and Eurasia Tunnel Construction Site – Kadikoy**

Seeing the Eurasia Tunnel Construction Site was most amazing part for me. This is meaningful national project because there are only two bridges between Asian side and European side of Istanbul as by-pass of cars and it causes traffic congestion everyday. On the observation, we entered to tunnel from the entrance of Asian side. The diameter of shield tunnel is about 14m which is almost same as the diameter of tunnel of Aqua line of Tokyo bay and the depth is 100m and the construction is challenging. I felt strong power of developing country of Turkey.

**25. 26. February: Visiting Laboratory of ITU**

I had a meeting with Prof. Celik, Assist. Prof. Fatih, Kurtulus and Ahmet on Laboratory of ITU and we were able to proceed collaboration study continuing from the previous internship.

**27. February: Visiting Princes Islands**

Princes islands were calm place that carriages ran on the road and I enjoyed the atmosphere of this place was very different with the downtown of Istanbul. It was interesting that there are starbucks on the rural scenery and I felt the strength of foreign-owned enterprise. I thought that it's a kind of resort place for people living in Istanbul or some other city.

What I gained through activities during the program

I learned from that internship about the importance of leadership. Host students of Turkey including our host student Kurtulus kindly guided us from morning to night during our staying in Istanbul with considering our limited range of activity. Their attitude was looked like very matured and self-confidence compare with me and their decision was very quick and it also had the flexibility by considering our condition. Thanks to them, our staying in Turkey became very enrich days. It is difficult for me to quickly decide or select something like Turkish students still now, that's because my leadership based on the self-confidence is still not enough. I considered such kinds of things through the exchanging activity with Turkish students and I thought I would like to offer hospitality to Turkish students like that on next time and to maintain the friendship with Turkish students from now on.

Suggestion for improvement / any other comments

Thank you so much for giving such a great exchange opportunity with Istanbul Technical University. I think the maintenance of the friendship between Japan and Turkey is very important issue from the aspect of diplomacy and economy because Turkey is developing country. I hope that Japanese people will get deeper the understanding against the Turkish culture and Islamic region though today's a little difficult condition and the collaboration field of the two country will expand to wider range in the future workshop.