

INTERVIEW SERIES WITH ALUMNI OF  
'LOOK EAST POLICY'

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BIN ISMAIL**

**Tell us about your study in Japan**

I feel very grateful for being able to continue my studies in Japan. This is because not only was I able to gain sophisticated technological knowledge, I was also able to feel and see the culture of the very disciplined Japanese people. For the first year I only studied Japanese intensively and the basic subjects of mathematics and science at the International School of Kita Shinjuku. After that, I went to Ichinoseki College in Iwate Prefecture for 3 years to study chemical engineering and continued 2 more years at Nagaoka University of Technology in the same major.

**What surprised you in Japan**

Before that, I only heard the news about the greatness of Japanese people but after living in their society it turned out to be very true and very exciting. God willing, with the little experience of being in Japan for almost 6 years, I will bring this best experience and tell the children of my nation. Apart from that, I have found many positive character traits that have been outlined by Islam. It has been proven by Japanese society. For example, being on time, Islam has taught the Muslim community to follow the time, but in reality it is clearly visible to the Japanese community who practice it well.

## Look East Policy & you

In fact, I never thought that I would be involved with this look east policy program because I was not sure about continuing my studies abroad. My first ambition is to become a medical doctor and want to go to Universiti Sains Malaysia in Penang. But, one day I got an offer to continue my studies in Japan through this program. There was fear, there was also horror to go abroad, but my late father once said that this opportunity only came once and if I didn't take it, it would be quite difficult to get a second chance. So, I have decided to follow this program in Japan and thankfully because there were many positive things that I have learned while in Japan and this program is very meaningful. It is not only an opportunity for us to gain knowledge but the experience of living with a society that is so disciplined and has a high fighting spirit means a lot to me. To be honest, this kind of program should be maintained and given more opportunities to the next generation.

## Your favourite:

### Person

Yuji Oda, Honami Suzuki, Yousuke Eguchi

### Place

Teradomari, Hakone, Akita.

### Food

Tempura, Udon, Soba, Unagi Bento.

### Custom

- Mutual respect for each other
- On time
- Make hard work
- Cleanliness everywhere
- Efficient vending machine system

## Future of Malaysia & Japan

I expect the cooperation between Malaysia and Japan to continue to last and be beneficial because through this program not only knowledge can be spread widely but our experience in Japan is very meaningful.

## Additional

A program that can humanize people is the best that comes from this kind of program, Look East Policy Program.



Visit Ueno Park during Hanami 1992



Travel to Ryujin Cave 1994



Travel to Huis Ten Bosch 1997



Convocation at Nagaoka University 1998