

Dear Swapan,

I'm leaving DL today. My wife, my son, and I all want to tell you thank you very much for everything.

In Japan, I had thought I could work more in Japan than in foreign country. My group leader in KEK and my former tutor in the university, however, insisted that I would stay in a foreign country and live life there. They said that experiences at foreign country might totally change my view of life. Now I know that they are right and I was completely wrong.

From academic aspect, I really have learnt so many things here. In Japan, I had almost no idea about ERL. But now, I know a bit more about ERL; what is important or crucial, what should be simulated and what can be neglected, what kind of diagnostic tool is essential, what kind of setup is never straightforward... I have learnt so many things, indeed. I think ALICE is very fruitful and educative especially for young scientist like me. All essential technologies for future accelerators are concentrated in ALICE. These experiences are so precious and irreplaceable.

For family life, we really enjoyed our life here even without a car. We have been to York, Conwy, Windermere, Buxton and Edinburgh for several nights trip. We also frequently visited Chester, Liverpool, and Manchester. Around here, we enjoyed walking around Keckwick Hill, Daresbury Firs, Brigdewater Ways, and Walton Hall & Gardens (by using bus to Walton Arms). My son especially loves locomotives; we have visited National Railway Museum at York, Museum of Science and Industry at Manchester (very frequently), Lakeside and Haverthwaite Railway at Windermere, Birkenhead Tramway Museum, Crewe Heritage Centre, North West Museum of Road Transport at St. Helens, East Lancashire Railway at Bury, and Halton Miniature Railway at Runcorn. (We also have been to Blue Planet Aquarium at Ellesmere Port, Chester Zoo, and Gulliver's World.) Because buses are nearly always on-time (believe me) and timetables with journey planners are very well arranged on the internet, there is almost no difficulties to go anywhere by public transport (only if there are public transport). I feel our life become rather more humanly (sometimes a bit nostalgic) life directly in UK atmosphere. My wife also enjoyed beautiful scenery, historic architecture, religious architecture, culture, and of course especially shopping. My son like watching children's television programs like CBeebies (BBC) and Milkshake! (Channel Five). Since we already know "Thomas, the Tank Engine" from Japan, "In the Night Garden" and "Peppa Pig" become my son's favourite here.

For the bungalow, central heating, double glass window, large bathtub, large room, wide kitchen, walk-in closet, huge backyard, fireplace, automatic boiler...comparing with our old shabby governmental apartment in Japan, everything is so dreaming. Country life with squirrels, rabbits, birds and sometimes horse (escaped horse came backyard twice!) was really interesting, peaceful and comfortable. Even when something was wrong in the bungalow, like fallen squirrel behind fireplace, or some fault in home electronics, peoples in the laboratory dealt with them very quickly and kindly. We appreciate every kindness of all people in the laboratory. By the way, DIY abilities of UK people are so surprising for us. We heard that many people usually do carpentry and, sometimes, plumbing by themselves. I have a little experience of them in Japan, which always results in proof of my lack of ability.

UK was the first foreign country I have visited in my life. In spring 1998, just before finishing my bachelor course, I have been London for sight seeing for two weeks. At that time, I almost have visited National Gallery and Tate Gallery every day. I cannot forget paintings, street view and its atmosphere. My second visit was for EPAC 2006 at Edinburgh. (I also cannot forget the first moment when I saw the castle in the taxi from airport.) After the conference, I visited here.

Besides me, many Japanese visited UK and also many UK people visited Japan. Especially among modern history of Japan at around the time of Meiji Restoration (from about 1870s~), many Japanese professors and engineers visited UK to study modern civilization, and also many UK people invited to Japan as an instructor (especially to and from Scotland for heavy industry as steel manufacture and shipbuilding). For example, Japanese financial year begin in April, which is introduced from UK. All Japanese roads are "driving on the right-hand side". All Japanese railways, except Shinkansen, have narrow gauge tracks (which are, however, almost abolished in UK...). Scottish engineer, RH Brunton, built many lighthouses in Japan and designed port of Yokohama (my birthplace). He is called "father of lighthouse" in Japan. Besides him, there are many famous UK engineers and professors appearing in modern Japanese history.

By the way, KEK ("National Laboratory for High Energy Physics" at that time) was transformed into independent agency of "High Energy Accelerator Research Organization" in 2000. (As well as KEK, all national universities, hospitals and research institutes were transformed into independent agencies at that time.) These transformations are exact imitation of UK governmental policy introduced by Prime Minister, Mrs. Thatcher.

For accelerator itself, the method of SRS normal cells upgrade was introduced to Photon Factory for low emittance upgrade in 1996. Among Japanese history, recent governmental policy, and even in accelerator itself, we indeed have learned so many things from UK.

Back to KEK, in this April, light source division is moved from Materials Science Lab to Accelerator Lab (with other several large scale inter-laboratory reformation). Now we are in the same Laboratory with KEKB, ILC, STF, ATF and J-PARC. Our transformation is only for ERL project. We already got budget and began working for building reconstruction with infrastructure upgrade (ERL site is former counter hall of Proton Synchrotron), for new cryogenic system, and new injector system including booster module(s).

Many tasks are already waiting for me in Japan. On 1st, Oct, we will begin operation of PF-AR (6.5GeV single bunch storage ring, operated by PF and KEKB joint team), and on 7th, Oct, Photon Factory (2.5GeV our main storage ring). Because my boss (who recommend me to come here) was promoted to be a light source division head, I am now main commissioning personnel for them (without any promotion and salary up, of course). My other storage ring jobs are maintenance and management for DC magnet system (B, Q, SX, COR) including power supplies and cabling, fast local bump system for undulator helicity switching, and pulsed multipole magnet injection system. For ERL, design of recirculation path was my main task when I departed Japan. During this one year, many progresses are already made, situation has totally changed and probably new tasks will be assigned to me. Indeed, I received several meeting memo mentioning new tasks with reference to my name...

I miss everyone. I miss everything; family life and academic life, peoples and laboratory. After go back to Japan, I cannot forget even smallest thing and definitely will wish to come back here again. I really don't know how to thank you. You gave me more than I deserve. I shall never forget. Thank you very much.

Yours sincerely,

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