

The International Internship
In Thai, Suranaree University of
Technology

3th September - 1th October, 2013

Faculty of Engineering, Dept. of
Information Engineering, Mie University

By Suguru Hosoda

1. Purposes and Introduce

In the beginning, the purposes of this passage were an international internship. I wanted to get working experience and to know Thai people think about their working. But because of some circumstances, I decided to change my purpose of this passage from an international internship to studying abroad. So, I went to Thailand to study English. Of course, I also wanted to improve communication skills, to talk each other about our life customs and to eat a lot Thai foods. In addition to that, I wanted to know the culture of Thailand. Fortunately, thanks to Suranaree University of technology (SUT)'s agreement, I could achieve my purposes.



2. About Thailand

Location: Thailand is situated in the heart of the Southeast Asian mainland, covering an area of 513,115 square kilometers and about 1,620 kilometers from north to south and 775 kilometers from east to west. Thailand is larger than Japan (Japan covering area of 377,900 square kilometers) Thailand borders the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Union of Myanmar to the North, the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Gulf of Thailand to the east, the Union of Myanmar and the Indian Ocean to the West, and Malaysia to the south.

Capital: Bangkok

Major cities:

North: Chang Mai,

South: Songkhla,

Central region: Phra Nakon Si Ayutthaya and Chon Buri,

North Eastern: Nakon Ratchasima and Khon Kaen

Climate: Thailand is a warm and rather humid tropical country with monsoonal climate. Temperatures are highest in March and April with average temperature of 28 degree Celsius to 38 degree Celsius and humidity averaging 82.8 percent to 73 percent.

Language: The national and official language is Thai while English is widely spoken and understood in major cities, particularly Bangkok in business circles.

3. About Nakohn Ratchasima

I went to Suranaree University of technology in Nakohn Ratchasima. Nakohn Ratchasima is located in the northeastern part of Thailand. (Shown in red in fig. 1 is the Nakohn Ratchasima) Nakhon Ratchasima is also known as Korat. Nakohn Ratchasima is a distance of about 250 kilometers from Bangkok and there are two national parks. (Khao yai national park and Thap Lan national park) Population of Nakhon Ratchasima is about 2.5million people.



Fig. 1

4. About Suranaree University of Technology(SUT)

Suranaree University of Technology (SUT) is a science and technology oriented university aiming at researching, adapting, transferring and developing national research universities in 2009 and “Excellent in research and very good in Teaching” in 2006 by Thailand’s Commission on Higher Education. SUT is site of national Synchrotron Research center. SUT’s academic year is divided into three trimesters, each lasting 13 weeks. The University admits graduate students each trimester; admission criteria include educational background, academic and work experience.

SUT has been selected as 1 of 9 National Research University in Thailand in 2010. Academic majors at SUT offering both domestic and international cooperative education come from a wide range of disciplines such as engineering, information technology, agricultural technology, and sciences.

SUT was established in 1990 and began accepting its first batch of students in 1993.



Fig. 2

Fig.2 is a monument in the university. This is the monument was made in honor of the founder of this university. And, this monument also serves as a motif of the logo of the SUT. In front of this monument, there were a lot of offerings. Also, it seems that some people come to pray sometimes.



Fig. 3

Fig.3 shows the library of the SUT. This library is very large, and there was a variety of facilities there. For example, there are cafes to rest and space to rent movies, and space to watch a movie that rented. Other, there are exhibited at the panel the history of Nakohn Rachasima, and also where the uniform of the University on display. Surprisingly, there was a place where Japanese Kimono are on display. It was donated by Kyusyu University in japan.



Fig. 4

Fig.4 is a dormitory that I lived a month. The room was very large and I was able to use the wireless LAN, so I stayed comfortable. However, if I leave the leftover food, hordes of ants came immediately. So I was annoyed to be bitten by ants often. And also here laboratory for me to learn. While at the university, I was in the three-gate (3G) laboratory.



Fig. 5

Fig.5 is a state in the 3G-laboratory. On the first floor of the dormitory, here was convenient so close from the room. The opposite of this room, there is a room of Professor of this laboratory. I spent in this room most of the time at the university.



Fig. 6

Fig.6 shows the butterfly park that was in the university. There were butterflies of various types. In addition, there were specimens of various insects. For example, a tarantula and stag, and beetle. Is in, there is also such as insects that are not in Japan, it was very interesting. The butterfly park is likely not open at any time. So, I was lucky to be able to visit here.

5. Place that I have visited

I went to various places in Thailand. So I'll say about the place I visited.



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

Fig.7 shows the market near the University. Here is the market of the largest among the Nakohn Ratchasima. People are called the “Sebu-one market”. This market is open on every Tuesday and Wednesday. In this place, various things are sold. For example, Food, clothing, electronics, books, toys, and DVD. When I visited this market, insect dishes were selling in the food department. I was very surprised, but the people of Thailand had bought them normally. In addition, the film industry is so very active in Thailand. So many movie DVD ware sold here. And, what items were also sold very cheap compared with japan. So, prices in Thailand are cheap compared with Japan.

Fig.8 is a café called “Dragon coffee” the about an hour’s drive from university.

This cafés, many arts on display in the garden. Art of all that are exhibited in the here is, are made from scrap materials of such as an automobile. IF you look near the art of these, you can see such gear and pipes are being used. There were works of variety of genres there. For example, animals, Dragon, aliens, robots, and Great person in history. There was also a character of Japanese animation. People other than me were also taking a lot of pictures.



Fig. 9

Fig.9 is a reservoir on the inside of Nakhon Ratchasima prefecture. In addition, wind turbines visible in the background are a thing of the wind farm nearby. This reservoir is under construction still, construction vehicles had come even when I visited. In addition, there was at the higher elevations this reservoir. So, overlooking from here was very beautiful. At this time, started to rain unfortunately. However, the rain cloud close in, so looked beautiful, I was very impressed.

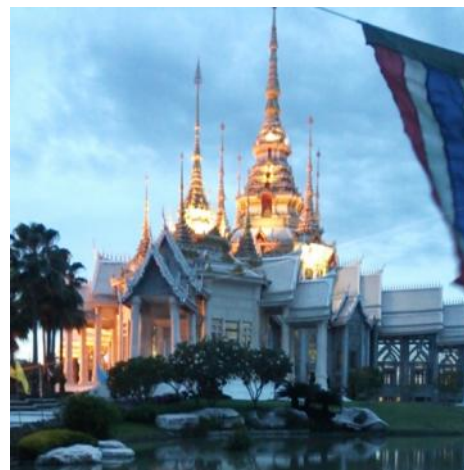


Fig. 10

Fig.10 is a temple in Nakhon Ratchasima prefecture called “Mahawiharm Temple”. There is a famous temples in Nakhon Ratchasima, and here are worshiped famous Buddha in Nakhon Ratchasima. I didn’t put in when I visited unfortunately, a large Buddha statue seems some in the temple. In addition, the Buddha is worshiped some outside the temple. Buddha statue in Thailand, those lying the difference between Japan is often. This, many of the Buddha in Thailand because a reclining Buddha. Person of the supervisor made together was playing to Buddha. Also, I drew a fortune in there. There is no lid to box fortune of Thailand, I will see the number of the bar tan out shaking back and forth a box. Also, to my surprise, the results of fortune were written in Thai and classical Chinese. I did not read both, but the supervisor told me it is a good result.

Fig.11 is BangSean beach near Bangkok. This beach is near from Bangkok, but it takes about 4 hours to drive from Nakhon Ratchasima to go to there. Din no one is



Fig. 11



Fig. 12

swimming at this time. However, there is a banana boat and jet skiing in the ocean, there were people who are riding them. In addition, it is not to swim but there were a lot of people soak in the sea. There are a lot of umbrellas on the beach, below it has to break space. Unlike Japan, rest space is a mechanism to ensure the place by paying money. Others have to fly a model airplane such as the photograph when there is wind. There are many restaurants in this coastal, there was a lot of seafood. Among them, there was a restaurant that deals with oysters. I was surprised because I didn't think being eaten oysters even abroad. At the same, it was interesting is some people are working to apply a cloth in the window of the car parked. Perhaps, I thought it will be that I think the car does not become hot, but with a sight not seen in Japan.

Fig 12 is a statue located right in the middle of the city of Nakhon Ratchasima. I came in late at night, but some people had a prayer in front of this statue. There was also a place where floral tributes and photo shop are selling close. Person of the supervisor that took me was also a player here. I did not hear it in detail, the person in this statue seems to those who made a significant contribution to the development of Nakhon Ratchasima. Thus, photos and imaged of the great people were decoration in many Buildings in Thailand. This is also interesting though unlike Japan.

Fig.13 is a photograph in the Korat Fossil Museum. This photo looks like a stone, but this is what wood is fossilized. This is known as petrified wood. This petrified wood seems to have been found common in Nakhon Ratchasima. In addition to this photo, petrified wood a handful of great have been exhibited in the Museum. Is in, there is also a beautiful petrified wood like a jewel, I was impressed. In addition, I had to show videos process petrified wood is to be.



Fig. 13



Fig. 14

In this museum, as well as petrified stone, such as dinosaur fossils were also have been exhibited. There were a lot of description and fossil elephant and mammoth particular. There was not only fossil, an exhibition such as bone and mammoth tusks. Also I saw a video of the process of evolution to modern elephants from Mammoth. Surprisingly, there was a space that is on display at the Japanese in this museum. It was about Fukui Dinosaur Museum in Japan. Staff of Fukui Dinosaur Museum, seems to have carried out a joint excavation in Nakhon Ratchasima. I was surprised at the connection between Japan and Thailand in the surprising part.

Fig.14 is a photo of a zoo in the Korat. First, I was surprised that this zoo is a very large. Surprisingly, it has been moved by bicycle in park. It had borrowed bicycle moving at the zoo. Other, bus for movement had run in the park. There were animals of various kinds to the park. In addition, there were also animals that are free-range in the park as shown in the photograph. There was also a place where snakes and location for which you have exhibition fish as aquarium is kept. Were some animals that cannot be seen under construction unfortunately.

6. About Thai food.

I ate a variety of Thai food in Thailand. I will discuss some of them.

First, it is very spicy a lot of Thai food. And of coriander herb has been used in many dishes. There are many foods fish sauce is used. In addition, the seasoning has been placed on the table must be in a restaurant in Thailand. The seasoning is placed is pickled pepper and sugar, pepper powder, and nampla. It is, in Thai, state pungent, sour, and sweet blend in cooking one, brings on complex taste is because is a delicious. It is common to eat by adding in their own seasoning of these dishes provided in Thailand. I was surprised because there is not much to add a lot of seasoning in cooking provided in Japan. In addition, to eat and lift the tableware in Thailand it will be breach of manners. I was a little puzzled because this is also different from Japan. However, I was able to eat so easy to eat with a spoon and fork many dishes. Also I ate using chopsticks in the same way as Japanese cooking

some.



Fig. 15



Fig. 16

Fig.15 is a dish that is stir-fried water spinach. This is known as “Ba Bappun”. This is a very popular dish that I saw in many restaurants. I think this dish to suit Japanese taste. Because, fish sauce that used in this dish is similar to soy sauce in Japan. In addition, resistance to the teeth was very good this vegetable.

Figure 16 is Boil up Tofu in egg soup and papaya salad. The papaya salad is also known as “Som Tam” in Thailand. This dish is also very major cuisine in Thailand. Many people had to order this salad. However, this salad was too spicy for me. So, I was not able to eat most of salad. There were also people who eat it with other dishes to the source of this salad. Cooking next to the salad, I forgot the name. This dish, were like egg binding of Tofu. Tofu in Thailand, were like egg-Tofu in Japan. This was also a taste that seems to match the mouth of the Japanese.



Fig. 17



Fig. 18

Fig.17 is a photograph of a Thai-style omelet. This is called “Kaichiao”. This omelet can be found to be seasoned with nampla. And, ground meet has been used for this omelet. In addition, rice and side dishes will be provided with a set often like this photo in Thailand. Rice is eaten in Thailand is different from that of Japan. Thai rice has dried out compared with Japan rice. So, Thai rice each grain are crispy feeling. So, I eat rice with a spoon instead of chopsticks in Thailand.

Fig.18 is referred to as “Tom Yam Tare” soup to representative Thai food. “Tom” means to a boil, and “Yam” means to the mix. “Tare” at the end means seafood. Shrimp called “Kun” in Thailand. If the ingredients are shrimp, it is called “Tom Yam Kun”. This “Tom Yam Kun” is well known in Japan. This soup is characterized by acidity with lemon grass. It was fun to eat because I knew this dish since I’m in Japan. However, when I actually eat, acidity distinctive did not fit in my mouth. So I did not eat much Tom Yam Kun.

7. English Fun camp

To 15 September to 13 September, I took part in the English camp. This camp is to get an opportunity to students of SUT to learn English. I was allowed to participate in the form of observer. Other some people had participated as an observer. They were people have a nationality other than Thailand. For example, there were people in the America, Philippine, Canada, South Africa, and Vietnam. Student of SUT to create a group, observers went into the group.



Fig. 19



Fig. 20

I was active in that group basically camp. In camp, I made a play and games in English.

Fig.19 is a photo of the English Theater. In the play “Snow White”, each group was done. All groups were very interesting to have twist to story. For example, there was a lot of princess, played a man the princess role, and prince cannot kiss the princess.

Fig.20 is a photo of the person who participated in the camp. Woman on the left is Ms. STOP. She has been studying Japanese, I was able to simple talk in Japanese. In addition, English was also good at her. So, I was easy to talk much with her. Woman on the right is Ms. JIM. She can speak Japanese, too. She has been teaching Japanese in the SUT. So, her Japanese was very good. In addition, she knew well about Japan. So, I talked a lot also about Japan. In addition, there were

people that will visit as an exchange student in Japan. He is going to stay in the University of Tsukuba. I was asked about things to be careful about in Japan. I did a lot of talking with students of SUT elsewhere. In addition, I was able to hear a lot of native. So, English camp was a very good experience for me.

8. About life in Thailand

This time, with one month living in Thailand, and did a lot of different experience from Japan.

First there was no paper in the toilet many of Thailand. So, there is a shower or tub filled with water in the toilet. Instead of wipe paper, I flow with in Thailand. In addition, it is not swept away in the toilet even if there is toilet paper, then discard in the trash. I was puzzled at first, but was able to get used somehow. At the same, do not have the habit of soak in the bath in Thailand. So, there was only shower in the room. In addition, there was only cold water shower. So, shower on a rainy day it was cold.

Next, pick-up truck was running so many in Thailand. Then, it was running on the road in a state where a lot of people got on the loading platform. There were some people sleeping in the back of the truck running on great speed.

Finally, religious atmosphere is strong in Thailand. There are temples everywhere. In addition Thai monks are very respected. Any temples have enshrined the Buddha, there was a person with a prayer. In addition, souvenirs modeled the statue of Buddha in the shop most had sold.

9. Acknowledgment

I was supported by a lot of SUT University's people. I am deeply grateful to Dr.Kanit, supervisors in 3G-rab, and my friends who helped me. I would also like to express my gratitude to the Center for International Education and Research in Mie University for this support.