



Origami; Japanese Paper-based Artwork for Lao Kindergarten Teachers



Ms Kyoko Ito instructed how to fold papers in the class

The Lao-Japan Center held a class of *Origami*, which is one of Japanese traditional artwork, *folding papers*, to the Lao kindergarten teachers on 14 June. Ms Kyoko Into, ex-JOCV volunteer, and other three Japanese taught them how to fold papers, and participants made cranes, airplanes and balloons made of papers.

Participants are expected to teach the *Origami* to their students in the kindergartens to cultivate their creativities.

Shodo: Japanese Calligraphy



Mr Chiba's instruction on *Shodo*

On 3 May, more than seventy participants enjoyed Japanese calligraphy, *Shodo*, in the Lao-Japan Center.

Mr Atsumasa Chiba, JICA senior volunteer, instructed the participants how to write characters by special brushes and inks.

Lao-Japan Friendship Football Game

On 14 June, Lao-Japan Friendship Football Game was held at the stadium in Dongdok. Faculty of Economics and Management (FEM) and the Center alliance team was defeated by JICA and Japan Embassy alliance team with a score of three to five.

Contents	
Exchange Programs	--- 2
GMSBF Training Course	--- 2
Pimai Lao Celebration	--- 2
Announcements	--- 3
Ceremonies of Completion	--- 4
Special Lecturers	--- 4
Japanese Course for Staff	--- 4
Service of Lending Books	--- 5
Publish Leaflets	--- 5
Preparatory Class of	--- 6
Japanese Language Course	
On Going Courses	--- 6
Schedule (Summary)	--- 6

Sports-Chanbara; Martial Arts



A Sports-Chanbara Match with Mr Takahashi (referee)

Lao young participants tried newly introduced Japanese sports, *Sports-Chanbara*, at the Lao-Japan Center. Mr Tsutomu Takahashi, JICA project coordinator of the Center, conducted the trial class of the new sports on 28 Jun.

Chanbara has been one of the popular plays among Japanese children for a long time. Children has simulated the fight of traditional war with swords, and made it their own play. *Sports-Chanbara* was born from the play, and became sports of Martial Arts.

The participants not only enjoyed the new sports, but also learn manners and politeness that Martial Arts have.

Exchange Programs between Japanese Course Students and Expatriates

Japanese Language Course of the Lao-Japan Center held Exchange Programs, Koryuukai, on 7 and 21 June. The students of the Course and Japanese expatriates in Laos played games and enjoyed conversation in Japanese language. The exchange programs aims to encourage students of the Japanese Language Course to learn Japanese.

More than 60 students and expatriates took part in each program. They were separated into small groups and talked each other verbally and non-verbally. This has been precise opportunities for both the students and Japanese expatriates to understand mutually.



Participants enjoyed a game on the exchange programs

Training Course on Managerial Economics for Lao Entrepreneurs



Opening Ceremony at the Lao-Japan Center on 20 May

On 20 May, Greater Mekong Sub-regional Business Forum (GMS-BF) launched the training course on Managerial Economics for Lao Entrepreneurs. The two-days training course aims to improve skills and knowledge of Lao entrepreneurs and economic officials by providing the key concepts in managerial economics, namely customer demand, production cost, competition environment and pricing strategy. The course was jointly organized by UNESCAP, GMS-BF, GMSARN, JICA and NUOL.

Mr Somchit Inthamith, Director General of Economic Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Mr Itsuo Hashimoto, Ambassador of Japan Embassy, and other guests made speech in the opening ceremony.

Pimai Lao in the Center

The Lao-Japan Center celebrated Pimai Lao, Lao New Year on 11 April, before national holiday. The staff of the Center and the Faculty of Economics and Management, National University of Laos, took part in the ceremony.



Pimai Lao Celebration at the Lao-Japan Center

After the ceremony, the participants were pouring water to each other as the custom of the Lao traditional celebration.

Japanese Songs and Film in the Course

Japanese Language Course held the special programs on Japanese songs and film for the students on 5 April and on 31 May. Students are expected to enjoy the Japanese modern cultures with upgrading their language skills.

Onigiri/Misoshiru; Japanese Food on 5 July*Onigiri and Misoshiru*

Japanese Language Course will introduce Japanese Food, *Onigiri* and *Misoshiru*, to its Course students on 5 July.

Participants will try to make and eat *Onigiri* and *Misoshiru*.

Seminar on Physical Education for School Teachers

The Lao-Japan Center will organize the special seminar on physical education for primary and secondary school teachers from 8 to 18 August.

Business Course**■ Regular Course****1st Term 2003/2004 from 15 September**

The new term, 1st Term 2003/2004, will be started on 15 September. Courses subjects will partially be upgraded. The details will be announced around the beginning of coming August.

■ Special Lectures

All participants of the Business Course are welcomed.

Management Strategy: Mr Takiguchi

Mr Masaoki Takiguchi
Business Solution Co.,LTD., Japan
Scheduled on 13,15,26,29 August and 3 September

Human Resource Management: Prof Takahashi

Prof Yoshiaki Takahashi
Chuo University, Japan
Scheduled on 18,20,22 August

Marketing: Prof Sato

Prof Yoshinobu Sato
University of Distribution Science, Japan
Scheduled on 2,5,9, September

■ Intensive Courses**Technical School of Vientiane Province (TSVP)**

The Center organizes a one-month intensive course to the teachers of Technical School of Vientiane Province TSVP from 7 July to 12 August.

This is the second time to organize the intensive course in TSVP.

Japanese Language Course**■ Regular Course****Term 2003/2004 from October**

The new term, 1st Term 2003/2004, will be started on October. The details will be announced around the beginning of coming August.

Preparatory Class

The Japanese Language Course will provide preparatory class to the people who will begin to study Japanese and attends the coming regular course. The class will teach how to read and write Japanese specific characters, *Hiragana*, and how to pronounce them. The details of the class schedules are in the Appendix 1.

■ Short-term Course**Guide Course on August**

The Center organizes a one-month course for hotel personnel and tourist guides. This is the second time to organize the course. The details will be announced soon.

Computer Course**■ Regular Course****Ceremony of Completion: 3rd Term 2003**

The ceremony of completion of the 3rd Term Computer Course 2003 will be held on 21 July at the Multi-purpose Room of the Center.

Ceremony of Completion: 2nd Term 2002/2003 Business Course



The participants of the Advanced Course are awarded the certificates

The Center held the ceremony of completion, the 2nd Term 2002/2003 Business Course, on 9 May.

Sixty-nine participants received the certificates from Mr Shin-ichi Suzuki, Chief Advisor of the Center, and Dr Manisothe Keodara, Acting Director of the Center.

After the ceremony, the participants and lecturers joined a small party to celebrate their completion.

Two Special Lectures from Lao Private Sectors

Business Course organized two special lectures to invite key persons from Lao private sectors.

Mr Khammouane Xomsihapanya, Dy Director General of Enterprise of Telecommunication Lao (ETL), conducted a special lecture on Management Strategy on 13 June, while Mr Bounkhan Kounlabouth, Marketing Manager of Lao Brewery Co., LTD., on Marketing on 20 June.

The participants had precious opportunities to learn practices from the businesspersons in Laos. After the lectures, the participants raised questions to the lecturers.



Mr Khammouane Xomsihapanya,
Enterprise of Telecommunication Lao



Mr Bounkhan Kounlabouth,
Lao Brewery Co., LTD.

Japanese Language Course for the Center Staff

Japanese Language Course organized a special course for the Lao-Japan Center Staff. The course was held once a week and started from 26 April. On 21 June, the course was completed with the final examination.

Ceremony of Completion: 1st & 2nd Term Computer Course

The Center held two ceremonies of completion for 1st and 2nd Term Computer Course 2003, on 9 April and 4 June.

Twenty-eight participants on 1st Term and thirty-seven on 2nd Term received the certificates.

3rd Term 2003: Computer Course

The 3rd Term 2003 Computer Course started on 9 June. The course provides the University staff with basic computer literacy, such as MS Word and Excel.



Computer Training Room in the Center

Center Launched Service of Lending Books for the Public

The Center launched the service of lending books for the public on 12 May. All public can take out books maximum three books in a week with registration.

As of 1st of July 2003, more than three thousand books including about seven hundred Japanese books, ten newspapers (Lao/English/Japanese) and twenty-three magazines or journals (Lao/English/Thai) are located in the library.



Lao-Japan Center Library

Registration and Regulations for Library Services

[Registration]

Registration Fee

- 3,000 kips for the University (NUOL) staff and students
- 5,000 kips for others

Fee for Issuing Membership Cards

- 10,000 kips each

[Regulations (Partially)]

- Maximum three books at once
- Duration is maximum one week.

For further information, please contact the library reception of the Center

From the Center Library

The Center provides the followings;

Newspapers

- ◆ Pasason
- ◆ Vientiane Mai
- ◆ Nihonkeizai Shinbun (Japan)
- ◆ Yomiuri Shinbun (Japan)
- ◆ Vientian Times
- ◆ Nation (Thailand)
- ◆ Daily Yomiuri (Japan)
- ◆ The Japan Times (Japan)
- ◆ The Asian Wall Street Journal (H.K.)
- ◆ The Financial Times (U.K.)

Magazines/Journals

- ◆ Army
- ◆ VT Business
- ◆ Sunday
- ◆ New Champa
- ◆ Trade
- ◆ Lao Youth
- ◆ Savanh Develop
- ◆ Labour
- ◆ Business News
- ◆ Security
- ◆ Lao Women
- ◆ Vannasinh
- ◆ Lao Tour
- ◆ Vientiane Province
- ◆ Party Construction
- ◆ Aloun May
- ◆ Propaganda
- ◆ New Education
- ◆ Bird Learn to Fly
- ◆ Newsweek (U.S.A.)
- ◆ Discover (U.K.)
- ◆ Nation Magazine (Thailand)
- ◆ Update

Center Issued First Leaflets; Lao, Japanese and English

In May, the Center issued the first leaflets to explain the overview of the Center facilities and activities. The leaflets, consisted of three language versions, Lao, Japanese and English, are available at the reception of the Lao-Japan Center.



Center Staff with Three Versions of Leaflets

Appendix1. Detailed Schedule of Preparatory Class of Japanese Language Course 2003/2004

	Date(1 st Term)	Date(2 nd Term)	Hours	Contents
1st Session	28 June	16 August	9:00 - 11:00	Pronunciation & Reading Hiragana
2nd Session	5 July	23 August	9:00 - 11:00	Reading & Writing Hiragana
3rd Session	12 July	30 August	9:00 - 11:00	Reading & Writing Hiragana Words (1)
4th Session	19 July	6 September	9:00 - 11:00	Reading & Writing Hiragana Words (2)

Appendix2. On Going Courses

Course	Term	Until	Ceremony of Completion
Business Course	Regular: The 3rd Term 2002/2003	9 September	12 September
Japan Language Course	Regular: The Term 2002/2003	15 July	5 August
Computer Course	The 3rd Term 2003	16 July	21 July

Appendix3. Quarterly Schedule: July to September 2003

Date	Events	Host Organization	Participants
28 June to 19 July	Preparatory Class (1st)	Japan Course	Japan Course Candidates
5 July	Introduction of Japanese Food; Onigiri/Misoshiru	Japan Course	Japan Course Students
7 July to 12 August	Intensive Courses for TSVP	Biz Course	Teachers of TSVP
7 July to 31 Jan. 04	Training on Education in Shizuoka, Japan	Shizuoka Pref. Government	Ms Bountoun Thammavongsa
August	Guide Course	Japan Course	Hotel Personnel and Tourist Guides
8 to 18 August	Seminar on Physical Education	Lao-Japan Center	Primary/Secondary School Teachers
13 Aug. to 03 Sep	Special Lecture on Management Strategy	Biz Course	Biz Course Participants
16 Aug. to 6 Sep.	Preparatory Class (2nd)	Japan Course	Japan Course Candidates
18 to 22 August	Special Lecture on Human Resource Management	Biz Course	Biz Course Participants
2 to 9 September	Special Lecture on Marketing	Biz Course	Biz Course Participants
15 Sep. to Dec.	1st Term 2003/2004 Business Course	Biz Course	Biz Course Participants
October to July 04	Term 2004 Japan Language Course	Japan Course	Japan Course Students

* Japan Course: Japanese Language Course

* Biz Course: Business Course

