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The 29th Global Seismological Observation Course Began By IISEE

The Global Seismological Observation Course began on January 8th.

This year, five researchers and officials from four countries participated - El Salvador (1), Kazakhstan (1), Nepal (2), and St. Vincent (1) - and five people from Indonesia also participated as observers in the seminar course.

At the opening ceremony held at the Building Research Institute, Mr. BASNET Deepak from Nepal, who was participating in the course, gave a speech on behalf of the participants, after the welcoming speeches.

This course, which aims to foster human resources capable of detecting nuclear tests, has been held since 1995 with the cooperation of the CTBTO, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, JICA, the Japan Meteorological Agency, and other related organizations.

This year's course is the 29th to be held, and to date, 297 participants from 78 countries have completed the training.

The participants have been actively engaged in their studies to acquire knowledge about global earthquake observation and advanced earthquake analysis techniques.

The training period will end on March 3rd, and when all the participants have completed the course, 302 participants from 80 countries will have completed the course.



Dr. SAWACHI Takao,
President of BRI



Mr. TASKAHSHI Makoto,
Director General,
Tsukuba Center, Japan
International Cooperation Agency



Ms. SATO Aoi, Assistant Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Division, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Science Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan



Mr. BASNET Deepak (Nepal)



Group Photo



Scene from Inception Report Presentation

From the Exchange of Opinions with Former Participants (IISEE Online Alumni Association) 《Serialization, Part 1》

We will publish a series of speeches given at the exchange meeting with former participants (IISEE Online Alumni Meeting) held on December 6th last year, together with the GRIPS/BRI co-hosted symposium.

Speech by Alkut AYTUN, Ex-participant IISEE, 1965-1966 (Earthquake Engineering Course), and Katibe AYTUN, Ex-participant IISEE, 1972-1973 (Advanced Course, Seismology)



I am Alkut AYTUN from Turkey. And I was in Tokyo in IISEE and earthquake engineering course in the years 1965 and 1966. Quite a long time ago, isn't it?

Afterwards, I worked in the Ministry of Reconstruction and the knowledge I have gained in Japan helped me to progress in my profession. Later, I started to work at the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey, and then after retirement, I started giving lectures at Ankara University.

Now, I am still continuing this activity. I prepared a curriculum for engineering seismology, and I taught this course for more than 10 years. Then, I left this course to a younger person who was trained before, and I started to give the lecture on structural dynamics and soil-structure interaction. I am still continuing in this position.

I have produced quite a number of instruments to measure the natural periods of buildings, small vibration tables for education purposes, recording vibrations, and evaluating vibrations. Finally, I designed a full-scale Earthquake simulator, which has a mobile platform, seven meters by four meters and it can vibrate in three dimensions: x, y, and z, and you can give the acceleration data to the equipment and the simulator assembly translates this to signals to command the vibration of this shaking table. This was in service in about the year of 2000. It means this simulator has been in service for more than 20 years.

And students, engineers, and rescuers come here and get earthquake training.

I'm still working in this area, and I am very thankful to IISEE for providing me with the knowledge and motivation to work in this field and sitting by me is my wife, Katibe AYTUN. Would you introduce yourself?

Hi, I attended IISEE program in 1972 and 73, seismology and advanced seismology course both at the same year. And I worked for some time in earthquake engineering. But then I moved to the Turkish national oil company, And I worked in this field. Whatever I had got in IISEE helped me very much in my profession. Thank you.

Reports on Study Trip - Global Seismological Observation Course -

By Mr. IGIBAYEV Ulan (Kazakhstan)

Impressions and Lessons from Visiting Hiroshima's Memorial Sites

My journey to the memorial sites in Hiroshima became not only a profound personal experience but also an important lesson for me as a person living in a country that has also experienced tragic moments in its history. Every place I visited left an indelible mark on my soul.

The stories of the people who survived the nuclear explosion, their pain, and their struggle for survival were depicted with stunning sincerity. I deeply felt how crucial it is that such tragedies should never happen again, and how much effort must be made to ensure a future without war.

Earthquakes and natural disasters are an inevitable part of our lives, but how humanity deals with these challenges is a reflection of our strength and resilience. This trip allowed me to view the nature of catastrophes from a different perspective. I reflected on how Kazakhstan, too, must be prepared for natural disasters and how important it is to develop safety and warning systems.

I realized that it is not only important to remember the past but also to learn from it, so that the future can be better than the present. Kazakhstan, like other countries, must learn from the mistakes of the past, strive for peace, and ensure safety for all its citizens and for the world as a whole. On this journey, I came to understand that the world ultimately depends on us, on how we teach our future generations to value life, respect one another, and protect our home – Earth.

*"He who has a why to live
can bear almost any how"*

Friedrich Nietzsche



In front of the Atomic Bomb Dome

By Mr. B K Nabin (Nepal)

The Nostalgic Time during My Study Trip

From January 30 to February 2, 2025, we, the participants of the Global Seismological Observation course, were engaged in the four-day study trip to different parts of the Hiroshima, Kobe, and Kyoto regions.

During our study trip, at first, we went to the Atomic Bomb Dome and the surrounding area, which was destroyed during World War II; after that, we attended a lecture by Ms. Keiko Ogura, an atomic bomb survivor of Hiroshima, on August 6, 1945. She described the situation after the atomic bombing, the state of survivors who were burned and injured, the psychological and physical traumas they had experienced, and the devastation of Hiroshima city. Her remarks, 'After the war, we rebuilt the building and infrastructure, but we couldn't restore the loss of life', were truly touching and made me emotional.

While she narrates her story, I am reminded of my early years. When I was a child, a civil war happened in Nepal, resulting in death and injuries. It also affected the country's infrastructure, healthcare, education, and economy. After the civil war in Nepal came to an end in 2006, it left deep scars on the Nepalese people. The war and conflict not only highlighted the physical devastation and loss of life but also the survivor's long-term psychological, physical, and social effects. It provides important lessons and aids in preventing the future recurrence of similar activities.

As a part of our study trip, we went to the Hokudan Memorial Park. The 1995 Kobe earthquake that struck the Hanshin area on January 17, 1995, at 5:46 am (Local time) measured Mj 7.3. The earthquake severely damaged many buildings, highways and houses in Kobe and Awaji Island area. The fault plane that appeared on the ground surface has been well preserved and is on display in situ in the Nojima Fault Preservation Museum. We closely observed the geology of the area, including its structure and surface rupture pattern with displacement.

The museum is a natural monument that showcases various structures, including an earthquake-affected house and its fallen cabinets in the kitchen, as well as displaced boundary walls that were shifted due to the movement of active fault and the earthquake. The VR earthquake experience and all of these things reminded me of the Gorkha earthquake. I have experienced the Gorkha earthquake (MI 7.6 struck Nepal and its surroundings on April 25, 2015, at 11:56 local time) and its aftershock. So, I have been a victim myself. This made me curious about earthquakes and their mechanisms and disaster science. From this site visit, I gained valuable knowledge about mechanism of earthquake, active fault systems, damage pattern, disaster preparedness plans as well as post disaster response strategies and reconstruction models. This experience provides me with valuable insights into the planning and execution of similar work plans and strategies in my country.



VR Earthquake Experience in Nojima Fault Preservation Museum

(Short Report) International Friendship Party

By IISEE

On February 3rd, we held an international friendship exchange luncheon with all the participants from the year-round and the Global Seismological Observation courses currently enrolled.



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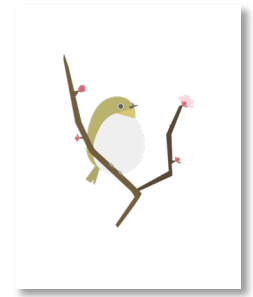
The IISEE Newsletter is intended as a go-between for IISEE and ex-participants.

We encourage you to contribute reports and articles to this newsletter. Please let us know your current activities in your country.

We also welcome your co-workers and friends to register on our mailing list.

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