



ASEAN - JAPAN

COOPERATION

BUILDING THE FUTURE

BY

Ginandjar Kartasasmita

Speaker, House of Regional Representatives

Republic of Indonesia

OPENING REMARKS

PERSADA ^{かんけいしゃ}、関係者の ^{みなさま}、皆様、 ^{なら}、並びに、^{れっせき}、ご ^{みなさま}、列席の ^{みなさま}、皆様、ASCOJAの ^{かいぎ}、会議
にご ^{しゅっせき}、出席 ^{いただ}、戴き、 ^{まこと}、誠に
ありがとうございます。 ^{こころ}、心から ^{かんげい}、歓迎 ^{もう}、申し
^あ、上げます。

また、アセアン10ヶ ^{こく}、国からご ^{さんか}、参加 ^{いただ}、戴
いている ^{おおぜい}、大勢の ^{もとにほん}、元日本 ^{りゅうがくせい}、留学生
の ^{みなさま}、皆様、 ^{こころ}、心から ^{かんげい}、歓迎 ^{もう}、申し ^あ、上げます。

^{みなさま}、皆様ご ^{ぞんじ}、存知の ^{とお}、通り、 ^{わたくし}、私も ^{もとにほん}、元日本
^{りゅうがくせい}、留学生ですので、 ^{にほんご}、日本語で ^{あいさつ}、ご ^{いただ}、挨拶
させて ^{いただ}、戴きます。

^{ほんじつ}、本日

ジャカルタでPERSADAがホストとなって、こうしてAS
COJAの ^{だいじゅうななかい}、第17回の ^{かいぎ}、会議
とASCOJAの ^{さんじゅう}、30 ^{しゅうねん}、周年 ^{きねん}、記念 ^{かいぎ}、会議

を^{かいさい} ,開催^{でき} ,出来ます^{こと} ,事を^{こころ} ,心から^{うれ} ,嬉しく^{おも} ,思
って^お ,居ります。

わたくし^{せんきゅうひやくろくじゅう} ,私は^{ねん} ,1960^ご ,年から^{ねんかん} ,5^{ねん} ,年間
、^{とうきょう} ,東京^{のうこう} ,農工^{だいがく} ,大学に^{りゅうがく} ,留学し^{おお} ,多
くの^{まな}ことを^{きこくご} ,学びました。^{ねん} ,帰国後は^{かん} 40^{ねん} ,年^{かん} ,間
に^{わた} ,亘ってインドネシア^{せいふ} ,政府の^{かくりょう} ,閣僚
として、また^{げんざい} ,現在は^{ちほう} ,地方^{だいひょう} ,代表^{ぎかい} ,議会
^{ぎちょう} ,議長として、インドネシアの^{はってん} ,発展に^{どりよく} ,努力
して^お ,居ります。^{ちほう} ,地方^{だいひょう} ,代表^{ぎかい} ,議会
といえますのは、^{にほん} ,日本では^{さんぎいん} ,参議院
、アメリカでは^{じょういん} ,上院に^{そうとう} ,相当する^{ぎかい} ,議会
です。これらの^{しごと} ,仕事において、^{にほん} ,日本で^{まな} ,学
んだ「^{つね} ,常にベストを^つ ,尽くす」と^い ,言う^{せいしん} ,精神
が^{おお} ,大いに^{やくだ} ,役立って^お ,居ります。^{さら} ,更に^{わたくし} ,私
にとって^{きちょう} ,貴重な^{ざいさん} ,財産となったのは^{りゅうがく} ,留学
を^{つう} ,通じ^{おお} ,多くの^{にほん} ,日本の^{ゆうじん} ,友人を^え ,得
たことと^{おお} ,多くの^{ゆうしゅうな} ,優秀な^{りゅう} ,留^{がくせい} ,学生
の^{なかま} ,仲間と^{した} ,親しくなれた^{こと} ,事です。^{よんじゅうご} ,45^{ねん} ,年

いじょう た 経った いま 今でも、この ゆうじん 友人 たち 達
とは たいへん 大変 した 親しい つ 付き あ 合いが つづ 続いて お 居
ります。

また わたくし 私 は まいとし 毎年 に がつ 2 月、 わせだ 早稲田 だいがく 大学
だいがくいん 大学院アジア たいへいよう 太平洋 けんきゅうか 研究科
において きょうじゆ 教授として じゆぎょう 授業を う 受け も 持
って お 居り、 にほん 日本との かんけい 関係も い じ 維 持
しています。

まさに「こころ 心と こころ 心」の せいしん 精神で つな 繋
がっていると かん 感じて お 居ります。

さて、この さき 先も にほんご 日本語でお はなし 話
をしていくと、 き 聞いている みなさま 皆様の なか 中には すこ 少
しつらいと おも 思われる かた 方も お 居
られるでしょうから、この あと 後は えいご 英語で つづ 続
けさせて いただ 戴きます。

Ladies and gentlemen,

Dear friends,

We gather here today to hold the 17th Asean Council of Japan Alumni (ASCOJA) Conference. But, the conference has a special meaning: we are also commemorating the 30th anniversary of the founding of ASCOJA.

Therefore, this is a good time for us to look into our journey so far, and learning from our past experience, chart our future together.

We, member ASCOJA are volunteers who contribute our time and effort without material reward. We are bound by sentiment of once being *ryugakusei* in various universities and training centers in Japan. We appreciate the love and kindness we received from our host, our *oyasan* or guardians, and our teachers and Japanese fellow students. Many of us regard Japan as our *daini no sokoku* or second home country.

It all started before the World War II erupted. Among *ryugakusei* from Southeast Asia, unconsciously deep emotional ties have developed from hardship they experienced during war time. The idea of "someday being united" actually already emerged in 1945 when a number of *ryugakusei* from Sumatera, Jawa, Celebes and other islands (now Indonesia), Malaya (now Malaysia), the Philippines, Burma (now Myanmar), Thailand and Vietnam were put under very extreme condition. Hand in hand they had struggled to survive under bombardment of Tokyo and atomic bomb on Hiroshima.

After the war, under the war reparation schemes, thousands of students and trainees were invited to Japan from Southeast Asia. The first batch of student from Indonesia arrived in Japan in 1960. During the period ending 1970 Indonesia alone sent over one thousand students and trainees.

They were enrolled in various universities all over the country, many of them in prestigious state universities and private universities. They experienced how the Japanese people stood up from the humiliation as war loser, worked very hard and then like a miracle succeeded as the world's economic super power. *Ryugakusei*

during the period 1960-1970 also learned Japanese martial arts particularly karate, *syorinji kempo*, judo and aikido which they took back to their home countries and now have spread having millions of disciples.

It is with such emotional ties that on June 10th, 1977, in Manila our *sempai* formally established ASCOJA with the support of Japanese political, business and education leaders. The late Takeo Fukuda, former Prime Minister of Japan launched the *Kokoro* to *Kokoro* or Heart to Heart doctrine as the *tamashi* or the spirit of this organization. Since then ASCOJA has encouraged and assisted its members in exploring, planning and executing various programs that are either undertaken bilaterally or as ASEAN with their Japanese counterpart ASJA International (formerly JASCAA).

Some country member organizations like PERSADA, OJSAT and JAGAM have established university and high learning institutions that provide education and training to the young people in their respective country. They carry the color of Japan in the teaching of language, technology and management. They have ties with their Japanese counterparts and receive technical and financial assistance from Japanese governmental and corporate institutions. In the case of PERSADA its *Universitas Darma Persada* has now entered its 18th years and being managed by PERSADA members. To assist needy students, certain charity foundations established by PERSADA members provide scholarship.

In social activities, it has already become a tradition that each member of ASCOJA becomes a partner of the local Japan Foundation, the Japan Club or the Japanese Embassy in undertaking cultural festivals, Japanese language speech contest, language competency test and sport events.

ASCOJA has also sent many students to Japan with the sponsorship of ASJA International. There is no obligation that they should serve the association after graduation, but some have actually become active in the organization. Every year senior members are invited to visit Japan under the *tsudo*i or reunion scheme. Junior exchange program has also become a routine activity.

Entering the 21st century we could feel the quick changes in social and cultural paradigms that are not predictable a few decades ago. Science and technology have

advanced to an amazing level, but disparity of income among strata of communities in one country and disparity among countries are widening. Even in developed economy like Japan we heard a phenomenon called working poor: they who remain poor despite working harder and longer. Frequency of earthquakes, typhoons, tsunamis and climate changes are increasing, and the effect of global warming caused by rampant use of fossil fuels is threatening the life in this planet.

Most countries within ASEAN still need to find and apply fundamentals of a sustainable developing economy namely good governance, entrepreneurship and efficient *monozukuri* (making goods). Such values are actually available in Japan and also in some of us, among ASEAN countries.

These items perhaps can be taken as agenda to be addressed by ASCOJA and by its member organizations in the future. There are certain values that we can bring in from Japan, adjust and develop them to suit local conditions, and applied in creating further values and materials. We have learned first hand about Japanese code of conducts like politeness, work ethics, orderliness, appreciation of beauty, responsibility, perseverance, respect to the elders, patriotism, humanism, love to the nature that are basic to their society. These basic values were accumulated and refined by the Japanese people throughout their history, and have made them a strong nation. These values are applicable to any nation and could provide a strong foundation for a sustainable growth and prosperity.

Perhaps the role of ASCOJA is to encourage its members to form professional networks and take the initiative in building links with Japan. Our partner ASJA International which is backed by various powerful governmental institutions and corporations may be requested to scout and introduce Japanese professionals or entrepreneurs to ASCOJA members. They should be encouraged to create joint ventures or joint undertakings that will benefit each other for a long period of time. There are some examples of joint ventures and business cooperation operated by former *ryugakusei* that have brought great added values to both sides. With good preparation and training the former *ryugakusei* will not necessarily end as employees or part timer to Japanese companies, but as real partners.

On larger scale Korea and China had from the beginning directed their *ryugakusei* as entrepreneurs. A decade ago five out of six giant business performers in Korea are Japan graduates. China apparently has strengthened its human resources foundation by sending huge number of *ryugakusei* to Japan and utilizing the values they brought in at real working place or *genba*. In return China is now supplying high quality goods to Japan at much lower price. China also sent large number of small and medium scale factory workers to Japan to fill the need of skilled labor in certain sectors there. China and Japan has really established an effective bridge, a golden bridge of values.

Why not we ASEAN and Japan build a golden bridge? Though it is full of twist and turn it is feasible. The Nobel laureate Professor Koshiro says: *Yareba, dekiru*.

It is my feeling that Southeast Asia could become a stronger and more trustworthy and long term partner for Japan, than any other regions in Asia. Because, although this region also suffered during the Japanese occupation, we have put all those suffering behind in the bin of our history and not become trapped by them. We learned from the past, but always look into the future.

We recognize how important Japan is in Asia as well in the world as an economic power. We realize that Japan can really support our nations to overcome present economic constrains and help us thrust ourselves into the future.

On the other hand, geopolitically the Southeast Asia region is also important for Japan. In Asia we observe there are certain regional powers that have to be taken into consideration in political and economic relationships. We have the Northern Asia developed countries, like Japan and South Korea. We have China as the awakening giant, we see India which is also a rising star and has proved itself to be a power to be reckoned with. And of course Southeast Asian countries, which are associated as a regional grouping in ASEAN. ASEAN as a regional block is situated on one of the most strategic locations in the world, has almost half a billion population, covering a large area of territory both continental and maritime and endowed with large natural resources.

The peace and prosperity of the Asia region very much depend on the relationship and interplay among its sub-regional powers. I am not saying that other power like the United States or Russia are not relevant, they are, but the direction of our region in to future will be very much decided by ourselves and how we cooperate among ourselves in the Asia region.

Among the regional powers, the most natural and having the potential sustainability of relationship are Japan and ASEAN. These two regions complement each other and more or less adhere to the same political principles. We are democratic countries applying market economy. And from the perspective of distance, we are practically neighbor. ASEAN and Japan do not pose as a threat to each other, and will never be, because the two regions have no conflicting geopolitical as well as economic interests.

What I am trying to say or emphasize is that the relationship between our two regions, ASEAN and Japan, is more than just beneficial but is necessary to both Japan and ASEAN. It is in the interest of our peoples to form an ever closer and harmonious relationship, whether political, economic or cultural.

And we as former *ryugakusei* should become the natural bridge – the *kakihashi* between our two regions.

Hopefully this 17th conference of ASCOJA could help construct the strong foundation for the bridge, and encourage and allow more traffic on this political, economic and cultural bridge. I wish you a good and successful conference.

CLOSING REMARKS

みなさま、皆様ご^{せいちょう}、清聴^{ありがと}、有難うございました。
ASCOJAの^{ますます}、益々の^{はってん}、発展と^{ほんじつ}、本日お^{あつ}、集
まりの^{みなさま}、皆様の^{ますます}、益々のご^{かつやく}、活躍
とご^{けんしょう}、健勝をお^{いの}、祈り^{もう}、申し^あ、上げて、^{わたくし}、私
のご^{あいさつ}、挨拶とさせて^{いただ}、戴きます。
こんかい、今回のASCOJAの^{かいぎ}、会議が、^{せいこう}、成功
することを^{こころ}、心から^{ねが}、願っております。

TERIMA KASIH.