

COMPLETION REPORT

The influence of Japanese Architects in the Southeast Asia(1970-2010)

Dr. Charlie Qiuli Xue,

Associate Professor

Division of Building Science and Technology

City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

In this study, we focused on the Japanese architectural design works in Singapore and Malaysia. We investigated around 20 buildings designed by Japanese architects since 1970, and visited the stakeholders of local architects and observed the building performances. We found that the Japanese architectural design was imported to the Southeast Asia mainly through two routes – government and civic development. Attentions were particularly paid on works of Kenzo Tange and Fumihiko Maki. Their design activities since the 1960s were studied and traced. To compare Maki's design of the 1970s and now, we visited his designed building in Okinawa, which best reflects his ideas of mass form. Meanwhile, we dug and read the relevant books and articles published in Japan, Singapore and the UK and document a line of Japanese architecture in the Southeast Asia from 1970 to the 21st century. Two prominent campus plans in Singapore were investigated: Nanyang University of Science and Technology, designed by Kenzo Tange (1982) and Republic Polytechnic, designed by Fumihiko Maki (2006). We visited the campus and users and checked how the students and teachers appreciate and comprehend their learning environment. Individual building designs were recorded.

Based on these understanding, we wrote our research paper, 'Japanese Modernity Deviated: Its Importation and Legacy in the Southeast Asian Architecture since the 1970s', which was submitted to the prestigious international journal '*Habitat International*', which has been published by Elsevier in the UK since 1972. The journal editor and anonymous reviewers have given many constructive opinions. We revised according to their criticism and suggestions. It was eventually published, first online, then included in hard copy of *Habitat International*, and will be read by readers all over the world. Meanwhile, we compiled an inventory of Japanese architectural works in the Southeast Asia and relevant literature database.

In the past, Japanese architects' works in Japan were widely published through magazines and books. Their influences in foreign countries are rarely studied. This study fills this gap and draws a clear picture of how Japanese architecture was accepted along with the development of Southeast Asian countries in their pursuance of modernization in the 2nd half of the 20th century. The researcher heartily thanks the kind support of Sumitomo Foundation for fulfilling this great research task.

Publication of the Results of Research Project:

Verbal Presentation (Date, Venue, Name of Conference, Title of Presentation, Presenter, etc.)
Thesis (Name of Journal and its Date, Title and Author of Thesis, etc.) Xue, Charlie Q. L. and Xiao, Jing, Japanese Modernity Deviated: Its Importation and Legacy in the Southeast Asian Architecture since the 1970s, <i>Habitat International</i> , Elsevier, Vol. 44, 2014, pp.227-236, DOI: 10.1016/j.habitatint.2014.06.011 (Published paper is attached with this completion report.)
Book (Publisher and Date of the Book, Title and Author of the Book, etc.)