

JENESYS Programme 2008

Reflection

Wong Nga Ting

Christian Alliance SC Chan Memorial College

Time flies. Nine days in Japan is past. I miss everything in the trip, especially blue sky in Japan, teammates in the trip, tour guides in the trip and host family I visited during the trip. Back to Hong Kong, it is time to reflect what I have learnt.

At the beginning of the trip, the first impression that Japan gave us was surprisingly simple and comfortable. What we expected from a fashionable city was the feeling of modern, high-tech and commercial. However, Japan successfully maintained her harmony and simplicity. That was totally different from our original perception. We even hesitated whether the place we were staying was Japan. These nine days, we really got a new insight into Japan.

First of all, none of us can deny that Japanese are polite. They were used to bow and say 'Thank you'. You can hardly find one who is rude. Moreover, Japanese were nice to foreigners, although some of them could not speak English fluently; they still tried their best to lend a helping hand to foreigners. In our trip, we got a valuable chance to live with a Japanese family. It was really exciting for us to have a close contact, as close as living together, with Japanese family. All of us could feel their warm welcome. They were all keen on welcoming us. I really felt like I am one of the members in the family. Though we only stayed with the families for one day and one night, I can never forget the touching scene when we had to leave our family. Only tears could express our feeling at that time.

- There are three main reasons why Japanese are polite and nice. First, being polite and nice is a habit of Japanese, that is what they are used to do so. Their first reaction is naturally being polite. Even if they are crushed by others, they will still apologize immediately. It helps to maintain harmony in the society; therefore, they are conserving this culture.
- Second, family education does matter. Parents in the family never allow children to be impolite. Children are required to respect every family members especially those the elder generation. They have to bow to them too. Besides, since parents in the family is used to be polite and nice all the

time. They act as models to children.

Secondly, the conservation work did by the Japanese Government impress us a lot. We appreciate their determination in conservation. There is a huge investment in recycling, in which a recycling plant is built to centrally collect and treat all the recycling materials. The system of recycling involves creative methods and modern technology to deal with the recycling materials. Besides, Japanese Government has included conservation in its consideration of land use plan. It shows that the Government is willing to invest on conservation. We highly appreciate the devotion of Japanese Government in conservation. It shows their responsibility on global issue.

- Regarding Japanese Government's involvement in conservation, WE, Hong Kong people should also review our attitude towards conservation, in general, global issue. We are used to think from our own points of view first and consider only our advantages and gain. It is a usual phenomenon in Hong Kong, a commercial society. However, if we want to make our society in progress, we should improve our present status in the world by being a city willing to bear social responsibility.
- All parties in Hong Kong should be involved, including the Government, organizations, companies and individuals. I guess we generally know how we can contribute to conserve the environment. Shall we begin to take action now? WHY NOT?