



Open New Horizon for Post-Modern Civilization on the Earth
The 121st AIT Graduation Ceremony
May 23, 2014 Bangkok

It is my pleasure and honor to present a few words in the occasion of the 121st graduation ceremony of AIT.

We are living in a final stage of the Modern Era which started in 18th century. It was originated in Western Europe and propagated all over the Globe for succeeding three centuries. At the starting period of the Modern age, 18th century, world population was only about 1 billion. I was taught in primary school in 1940s that "world population is 2 billion and that of Asia is 1 billion ". It was just before Pacific War started. After the World War II, in a half century the world population had been inflated astonishingly to 6 billion and that of Asia reached as high as 4 billion. It had been contributed mainly by developing regions obtaining independence and freedom from colonial burdens and alike. It is estimated to reach 10 billion planet in coming 22nd century.

This 21st century is thought to be a transitional period from the Modern world which inflating both population and its economy to Post-modern sustainable civilization. In the Postmodern civilization, matured stable state of society with natural cycling systems with least amount of energy consumption and intense resource conservation are anticipated. The rapid expansion of the modern society is driven by consuming huge amount of fossil energy and various non-renewable resources originated by Energy Revolution, Industrial revolution and following various innovations. Sciences and technologies improved life mode of modern peoples greatly, but the limitation will soon be arrived by use up of non-renewable energy and resources on the earth. Even for the water resources, supported by steady natural hydrological cycles, inflating demands to meet with rapidly increasing population and human activities on the earth makes situation difficult. Food production is confronting fatal imbalance as had been

proposed by Malthus in his essay of "An Essay on the principle of Population" as early as 18th century.

In the developing Asian regions peak population will appear 2050 with 5 billion and soon after that population decreased rapidly. Population onus in economy will start from then. In Japan this situation started as early as 2010, and China will experience in 2027 and many other Asian nations in 2030's or 2040's with much sever state with small birth rate and large senior population requesting much investment to deliver welfare and health care?

Today, globalization is going on this planet widely enhanced by rapid development of ICT and rapid bulk transportations. However, in reality, our world is consisted of three heterogeneous regions such as in "Post-modern matured phase" (G7countries, GDP\$45,000/p), "Developing phase" either Western Modern or Modified Modern (G20-G7Countries and a few, GDP\$5,000/p up) and "Pre-modern, non-developed phase"(GDP\$500/p). This regional skew in historical time scale may bring about miscellaneous regional conflicts. These difficulties will only be solved when development stages of various regions will reach "Post-modern Matured phases". However in any pathway to reach the post-modern phase, symbiotic behavior with people to people and that of people to natural belongings are essential. This may request a series of hard task for human beings to reduce excess population and activities which once reached over shoot stage in the modern world.

You, young Asian elites, have responsibility for future Asia and world. "Reduce excess resources consumption" and "Finish endless competition of societies", "Originate symbiotic society and Enhance natural recycling systems" with "Orthodox science and engineering measures" with "High Ethics to overcome ugly competition". We have responsibility to generate new harmonious civilization for future human beings.

The 21st century is a most important turning over era in human history of the world.

And you are the main player to carry Post-modern revolution for future

generation in Asia and the world.

I do hope your lifetime will be devoted sincere contribution to generate new human history to bring the world into Post-Modern new harmonious civilization. I wish for your good luck in your faithful life.

Professor Norihito TAMBO, D.Eng.

President of Hokkaido Research Organization.

Professor Emeritus of Hokkaido University (15th President)

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