

The Mita Campus

KEIO UNIVERSITY
1858

'calamus gladio fortior'

INTERVIEW(I) Mr. Takeo Fukuda



TAKEO FUKUDA FORMER PRIME MINISTER TALKS ABOUT GLOBAL CRISIS

By Akio Suzuki

Former Prime Minister, Takeo Fukuda is one of the most acknowledged elder statesmen of Japan today. He has been leading the Liberal Democratic Party (L.D.P.) as the head of the Fukuda faction. His political philosophy seems to be standing firmly on his lofty ideal for world peace of the coming century. As chairman and "key holder" of the OB Summit, he has mainly concentrated on trying to find ways to solve many problems, (the North-South problem, the population problem, military problems, etc.).

In this interview, he talked about the military problems concentrating on its economical side.

Excerpt:

Staff: It is said that over twenty countries of the world are sending their danger signals of economy now. To what extent do you think this is serious?

Mr. Fukuda: Some say this economic crisis is the greatest since the last war, but I say that the danger we are facing now is the greatest crisis ever since the history of mankind.

Every problem or danger has its fitting answers or countermeasures, and history tells us that 'wars' were often used as effective countermeasures to crisis, even though history had told that war was more tragic than effective. Now nobody can guarantee that the nuclear weapons are thought not effective and not to be used, and if they are used, we might end the history of mankind. We must find more peacefully corrective measure such as economic policy or politics which includes military affairs.

Staff: How does the economic crisis influence society and politics?

Mr. Fukuda: First of all, I want you to remember economic crisis had always led to social crisis for each nation and anxiety for politics. In the case of World War II, the economic crisis of the U.S. was the main cause. As you know, in proportion as the U.S. economic crisis had spread to Europe, many European countries suffered great economic damage. This world crisis had decreased 30% of the world GNP and 40% of the world's amount of trade during the four years from 1929 to 1933. In Japan, Germany and Italy, this paralysis of economy gave their governments ways to systemize rebellious but aimless young people of middle classes to invade other nations in seeking for jobs and new markets. Wars have always been deeply connected to the paralysis of economy.

Staff: You mentioned that the danger we are facing is the greatest ever. Would you give some of its main points in detail?

Mr. Fukuda: Before speaking of the status quo, let me explain the history of world economy and politics after World War II in brief.

When we set our eyes on the economy, the most noticeable troubles we experienced were the Nixon Shock in 1971 and the Oil Shock in 1973. After the collapse of the Breton Woods structure and the world economy, we still can not find any stable economic order yet. The U.S.A. seemed to have succeeded in overcoming the inflation but its economy is still stagnant. The same

thing can be said of European countries. On the other hand, many developing countries are now out of breath in inflation and unfavorable balance of payment which is roughly one trillion dollars in all. To make matters worse, interest rates are so high that there is less hope for the debtor nations to pay them back. This is one of the biggest headaches that make recent world economy unstable.

As I have mentioned before, there is another pillar that has big influence upon world peace... it is the politics including military affairs. The history of world politics can be represented by the history of the confrontation between the two superpowers. Between these two nations, the relation itself has not changed, but the content of its structure has been undergoing changes in these 39 years. Sometimes the tension was eased but most of the time it was not, and unfortunately, I should say now is the time of high tension again. This aspect has appeared since the middle of the 1970's. Since then, many problems have occurred in Africa, South East Asia, Central America, and Afghanistan. I think all these problems must be understood as eruptions which I call "fukidemono" of the confrontation between East and West.

Staff: Would you explain the structure of the connection between economy and military affairs of the United States?

Mr. Fukuda: The biggest problem which the U.S. is facing now is the 200 billion dollars deficit. They tried to cure this deficiency by

public bonds but it was in vain, because the savings rate in the U.S.A. was too low for it. However, they can't raise taxes either, since the Reagan Administration has pledged so. What they are doing is gathering foreign capitals by the high rate of interest. Also, it is said the U.S. is to become a debtor country from a creditor country this fall according to the aggravation of the balance of international indebtedness. What they must do is to diminish the government expenditure, which means to cut the military budget. This is the most effective countermeasure for the deficit financing. Can you imagine that 15% of the U.S. budget and 50% of the U.S.S.R. budget are assigned to military expenses? This high rate of military expenses causes the deficit finance, and the deficit finance causes the high rate of interest which obstructs the activation of the world economy. In short, military expenses is the greatest obstruction for the reactivation of the world economy. If this tension between East and West is not to be eased, we can't hope for world peace nor even remedy the "fukidemono" around the world.

Staff: Being Japan's elder statesman, what are you doing for world peace of the coming century, when you see those serious problems?

Mr. Fukuda: When sovereigns try to do something effective for the world profit on their backs and besides they are too busy. Somebody must

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INTERVIEW(II) Mr. Michio Ochi

By Tetsuya Kawabe

Mr. Ochi, a member of the Ministry of Finance, is very concerned with Keio. Fortunately, the Mita Campus, was able to interview him about the recent issues of the financial revolution of the United States and the recent economic problems.
Excerpt:

Staff: It is said the U.S. will lose its position as a creditor nation this fall to become a debtor nation due to the "Internationalization of the Yen." What effects will this have on the U.S.?

Mr. Ochi: I don't think that this is the result of multiple elements caused by the excessive debt. At the end of 1984, the accounts of the U.S. was about even, but this year, the liabilities seem to exceed its assets, though the mount of the debt will account millions of dollars. However, for the authority, it doesn't seem to be significant because of the red figure of the trading accounts. I should say the dollar won't be cheap.

The high value of the dollar will continue under the Reagan administration, because it is based on the predominance of military power and the high rate of interests which attracts foreign capitals. However I can clearly state that such an economic condition is not so stable but filled with undefined elements.

Staff: What influences would the U.S. financial revolution have on Japan?

Mr. Ochi: From our understanding, we consider the "financial revolution" as "de-regulation" which means reduction of regulations to stimulate the economy. For instance, the loan interest's slide system in the U.S. where short-term financial markets dominate.

Considering this, we think that Japan will gradually approach a similar state by the administrative reformation. In fact, "arrangement in advance" by the government and the banking facilities is decreasing.

The fundamental problem is the impossibility of estimating troubles after liberalization of the deposit

JAPANESE TECHNOLOGY JUST AN APPLICATION



interest. Owing to the differences in ability of each banks, it is possible that money will flood into bigger banks which can raise their deposit interests higher than smaller banks. Originally such kind of crisis of banking facilities have been solved by mutual cooperation but after liberalization of deposit interest, a fear aroused that the interest comparison would bring "survival" and destruction of mutual cooperations. The U.S. side has been stressing the solution of crisis by the deposit insurance system but that of Japan is too small in scale to work effectively. So we are afraid that the financial revolution would destroy the Japanese financial orders.

Staff: Is there any possibility of American rule on Japanese economy by freezing Japanese assets while preparing inflow of its capital into Japan in advance? Could the request of financial liberalization be the U.S.' strategic policy (Such as freezing assets caused under the Iranian re-

volution in November in 1979)?

Mr. Ochi: The cause of freezing assets under the Iranian revolution was caused by investment of all capital to foreign countries. Japan also has the same case of making a profit on investment such as dollar deposit and purchasing foreign credits. But in fact, most Japanese capital invested abroad is not used because the investment is the containment of international confidence and there is fear of international troubles caused by using it.

In addition to this, Western requests of de-regulation to Japan expect more benefits and this does not mean the drain of Japanese capital. Current economic issues are the excessive inexpensiveness of the "Yen" for its real value and impossibility of dealing the "Yen" in foreign countries which is the cause of its inexpensiveness.

Western nations want to invest in "capable" Japanese markets by such method as establishing banks and

insurances and they expect this would bring the rise of the "Yen" The Reagan administration requests not of South-east Asia but of Japan, in order to realize investment. And this is why the U.S. complains to Japan about its recent state.

Japan's refusing of foreign investments also means political and military decision for the U.S. making them unwilling to protect Japan from outward pressures. After World War II, the U.S. assisted Japan a great deal on economic but Japan has already paid back its debt and the U.S. is not in the position to rule Japan economically any more. So now the U.S. is indirectly stressing that Japan should permit investments from foreign countries as Japan is in the benefit of American forces.

Staff: It is generally said that the ideal relationship between two nations is to be in a state of interdependence. In the case of Japan and the U.S., some people point out the Japanese economic superiority to the U.S., in spite of subordination to them. What do you think is the best foreign policy for Japan under such a situation?

Mr. Ochi: The idea of economic superiority should be criticized. Most Japanese technology is just an application of the foreign technology and Japan is inferior to the U.S. in this point. So I think Japan's foreign policy will face severe problems in the near future.

Staff: Lastly could you give Keio students an advice in how to lead a significant school life?

Mr. Ochi: I think that Keio has the air of freedom and vigor established by Yukichi Fukuzawa. This school tradition enables Keio students to form a good personality easily. I find that recently, private universities are losing their own spirits and airs, but not Keio. These are the motives of my idea that Keio is the best.

Under such a good environment, you have to make the decision of your life-theme. Try to do your best with confidence!

Do you know me?



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help them; I found that we, former sovereigns, can. That's why I called together former prime ministers or presidents who feel concerned for the world peace to hold the OB Summit. The main aim of the OB Summit is to let the Soviet Union and the U.S.A. talk to each other more often. This year, Mr. Shulz (former president of the West Germany), Mr. Waltwein (former secretary-general of the United Nations), another former president of a developing country and myself are going to visit Moscow in April and Washington to meet the President after that.

Staff: What do you think of Japan's role in bringing world peace?

Mr. Fukuda: At first, you have to remember how Japan had recovered from its poverty to a wealthy nation. Since Japan holds only 0.3% of all lands, we have few natural resources; nevertheless, Japan produces up to 11% of world's GNP. What made this miracle possible was Japan's continuous peace in these 40 years. The uniqueness of Japan is not only this economical miracle but also the little military expenses to the GNP, standing on the faith of peace. We can build strong military power if we wish so, but we don't do it. That is the main point, and we can be very proud of it too. Therefore I would say Japan is the most suitable country to advocate the disarmament now.

Staff: Thank you very much. Lastly we would like Mr. Fukuda to give some advice to the Keio students as an experienced "old-time".

Mr. Fukuda: There are approximately 4.8 billion people on the surface of the earth. Some of them are well off but others are not. Some of them might be happy, but also there are unhappy people. And don't forget that you can never live by yourself only. You have to be kind and be helpful to others, otherwise you cannot be happy yourself. That is the way man's life is. Don't be an egoist but be tough enough to be helpful to people and the world. ("Boys be ambitious", but don't be egoistically ambitious!)

WORLD AFFAIR

FAMINE MADE BY MAN

Natural Disaster killed thousands of people ridiculing shallow witted



Ethiopia—An estimated 100,000 people are waiting for food



Parched millet field in Senegal



Precious Water

By Takashi Sano

Only ten years after the last famine, Africa is struck by serious famine again. The last famine killed about 300,000 people and now it has killed more than 500,000 people, forcing another million to starve. Nearly 30 countries are officially listed as in a state of starvation and thousands of people are dying every day.

Famine began to spread throughout Africa about three years ago. It had quickly extended round while the government failed to take any measures. Africa has had chronic starvation and drought for thousands of years and this delayed the governments' awareness of this famine.

WHAT CAUSED FAMINE?

Officials say the desert extends about 2-3 km per year in slower parts and 10-15 km per year in faster parts. The cause has been guessed as change of climate but it has also been guessed as people's destroying nature. African people, without modern agricultural techniques and materials, struggle to facilitate drying land and desert.

Another cause of famine should be noted. African governments were tied to increasing their military powers

for border disputes and made no effort to improve agricultural production or techniques. For instance, Ethiopia poured 46 percent of its gross national product into military spending, buying almost 3 billion worth of arms from Soviet Union.

ASSISTANCE

UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) and UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) have begun food transportation. Grains are flown and have helped many. Medical assistance has been made by WHO and other voluntary people. Despite their great effort, too many are starving to be saved effectively.

Some of the officers say that the assistance was too late. Fundamental assistance to prevent starvation is still not enough. Improving agriculture and population planning should be carried out as soon as possible.

TIE UP IS NEEDED

In a society which was still in developing level, people had to and were forced to obey rules and systems of nature. The land where it could feed no more people should have been rested to

be re-fertilized. People moved to another place and started new life limiting too much growth of population. Africa before the 19th century obeyed nature's rules, and people there lived in their own territory. Without giving knowledge of agriculture and economic systems, modern imperialism gave Africa national boundary and order forcing people to settle and prohibiting moving to another place. Finally land became to be consumed and could not nourish people. In this way, civilization partly caused starvation.

SACRIFICE BETWEEN NATURE'S RULE AND CIVILIZATION

Endless struggle of civilization to rule nature has destroyed natural environment and orders. Dried land needs thousands of years to recover. Worthy lives have been lost never to return. African nations should cooperate and developed countries must assist them on agricultural techniques and population problems. Since Africa has to survive under severe natural conditions this Mosaic Continent needs to mutually cooperate and only mutual cooperation will prevent next strike of famine.

(Photo cooperated by WWP.)

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VIEWS OF OUR FOREIGN FRIENDS (SERIES 2)

WAR ONLY CREATES SORROW

By Nozomu Kitadai



Mr. Nam Joo Kim, 26, came to Japan last September from Seoul, Korea. After graduating from the department of business administration at Ensei University (a sister university to Keio), he worked for T.E.C. (Taehan Electric Corp.). At present, he is taking courses at the International Center.

Nam Joo Kim has a dream. It is to take back the know-how of Japanese business administration to his home country and introduce them to the younger generation. "I want to become a teacher and enlighten everybody on the good aspect of Japanese business management. I'm especially interested in the life time employment system here," he says in a determined but gentle manner.

His dream is very likely to come true since he is such a hard worker. Besides taking Japanese courses 10 hours a week, he regularly attends business administration lectures and spends most of his free time in the Mita library. "I'm either eating, sleeping or studying," he says jokingly.

Naturally, Nam Joo has many other interests besides "hitting the books." Some of these are theatricals, writing poetry, and traveling. He seemed to take exceptional pleasure in talking about the first.

During his years at Ensei University, acting was his passion. "What I like about putting on a play is that all the hard work is for that single moment on stage. It may sound strange but I enjoy that feeling of emptiness after it is all over... it's something like 'Matsuri no ato no sabishisa.'"

Nam Joo feels that being involved in plays has changed his character. "Usually, Korean men do not talk much but I'm an exception. Theatricals must have made me more out-going."

Although Nam Joo misses acting, at present he simply cannot find the time for it. All his energy is aimed toward entering the Keio Graduate School to get a doctors degree.

Considering that Nam Joo has only been in Japan for seven months, his Japanese is excellent. The progress may be explained by the intimacy he had felt toward Japan. "Funny, when I first set my foot down on Japanese soil, it didn't feel as though I were in a foreign land."

Nam Joo says that Keio's atmosphere is similar to that of Ensei University's. "I've heard the expression Keio Boy. This is interesting because people in Korea look at Ensei University in the same sort of way."

All in all, Nam Joo is very satisfied with the facilities at Keio and feels that the International Center has been especially helpful. Yet, he has one complaint—the test period for entering the Graduate School. At present, it is held in October but Nam Joo thinks that it would be more practical to have them in February. "With the present test period, one would have to wait for five months till April when the school year starts. I understand in other major universities the test period for graduate

school is in February."

During our casual interview, we also had a chance to discuss sensitive topics. One of them was the North-South Korean war issue. Like many Koreans, Nam Joo is not happy with the present state of the Korean Peninsula. "I would like to see North and South Korea reunite. There's no question about it. But despite its split—up, I would still like to consider Korea as a single nation," he says.

Although Nam Joo's views maybe idealistic, he is not naive. During his two year service in the military, he has directly felt the tension between North and South Korea. "When I served at the 38° parallel, I often heard sounds of machine guns and land mines exploding. That was reality. Then, for the first time, it really came home to me that we were threatened."

He also told us of all the sadness caused by the separation. "Every year on June 25th (the day the Korean war broke out), people separated from relatives in North Korea go to the border and cry... people should learn that war only creates sorrow."

Another issue we talked about was racial discrimination against Koreans living in Japan. Fortunately, Nam Joo has not experienced any sort of discrimination so far although he has heard about it. He feels that racial discrimination is not a national problem but a personal one. "If discrimination were to occur, it would only be that particular individual whom I'd contempt and not the Japanese as a whole."

Yet Nam Joo says that antipathy toward Japan is still strong among Koreans who suffered during its colonial rule. "Although historical facts shouldn't be erased, the younger generation should not carry the load of what the older generation have done or gone through. It is about time we all became constructive and stopped clinging to the

Nam Joo thinks that the best way to solve misunderstanding between Japanese and Koreans would be by having more people visit each other's country. "Geographically, we are very close, but with hostility going on forever, we'll never be really close. Therefore, we need to keep closer contact with one another. Each one of us needs to become a good diplomat."



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EDITORIAL

By Nobuhiko Arita

In the past few months, the trade dispute between Japan and the United States has become fierce. The tension between these two countries flared up after the U.S. Congress attacked Japan to open up its market. The Senate Finance Committee, under prodding by Sen. John C. Danforth, approved a bill that would force Reagan to impose the stringent penalties on the imports from Japan, if Japan refused to expand market access for U.S. products. This threatening attack led by Danforth recommended retaliatory steps against Japan forcing the government into its "seventh market opening measure."

The "seventh measure" announced on April 7th, declared to reduce tariff and to relax restrictions upon imports by the end of July. The Reagan administration praised this effort as "commendable and courageous." However, White House Chief of Staff, Donald T. Regan emphasized that "specific and concrete progress is still needed urgently. Furthermore, Danforth said "The problem will not be solved by Nakasone's single speech announcement or package of promises. Only the result are what we want." The critical flame against Japan is not likely to be put out by fire-man, Nakasone. In both countries, people tend to act emotionally but governments should calmly consider and analyze this problem and hold more talks.

First, we need to analyze this problem. Needless to say, both countries hold critical points. But first there is the misconception of the Americans that by opening up Japan's market, it will actually reduce the trade deficit which piles up at a pace of one billion dollars a day. Because of the expensive dollar caused by Reagan's "Policy-Mix" (mixing of the "Positive financial policy" and the "tight-money policy"), it is very doubtful whether opening Japan's market will make any difference. This is a point which many economists agree upon.

The second is that the very concept of "Protectionism" which Japan is criticized for, also exists in the U.S. In the 70's, "protectionism" gained ground with the decline of the U.S. economic power. This was caused mainly by Nixon's policy to stop the exchange of gold and dollar, and OPEC's rise to power which changed the world economic structure largely.

By maintaining "free and fair trade" the Reagan Administration hopes to put aside protectionism. However, the Congress pressured by Private domestic enterprises and voters continues to take protectionist policies. For the past 15 years, the trade policy in the U.S. has been drifting between "free trade" and "protectionism." And the Reagan Administration is certainly not an exception. The government has superficially obeyed the principle of free trade, while taking protectionist measures.

As many economists have pointed out, however, regulating imports by protectionism raises prices and makes it difficult to acquire goods demanded by the American consumers. This will also turn people's attention away from the basic problems: decrease of productivity and passive investment which forced the U.S. to be in a bad economic condition. More feasible influence is destroying the free trade order based on GATT and it will facilitate the economic-blocks movement and force the world economy into insecurity.

The U.S. has to avoid protectionism as the "top leader" of the world, then they can criticize Japan as in the status.

On the other hand, Japan also has many faults. One of them is the problem of the "thick wall" of the bureaucracy. Some U.S. legislators even call it "the New Bureaucrat Mercantilism." Japanese bureaucrats regulate the import of goods too much. They say it must be understood that there is a difference in the basic concept of regulation between the U.S. and Japan: Japan regulates to defend consumers from lowquality goods, while U.S. tries to reduce regulation and leave the decision about the quality to consumers. However, strict regulation is obviously an obstacle for companies which want freer activity. Thus, Japanese bureaucrats should make clear what regulation can be reduced and what can not be.

Another argument is the lack of a global view. Japanese Government never takes any measures until pressures from foreign countries are expressed. That is, Japanese Government has lacked the concept of willing to protect the world free-trade system. It seems that Japanese Government does not understand that the destruction of the free trade system will make world economy insecure. Thus, Japan has to stand on the international views and try its best to defend "free trade." The Japanese people expect Nakasone to show that Japan is willing to endeavor the protection of the free trade system.

Both Japan and the U.S. have faults. If they only blame each other, the dispute can not be solved. It is essential to calmly analyze each others faults and concede each other. Since Japan and the U.S. are key figures in the economic world, the cooperation of these two nation is "a must" to protect the free trade system.

READER'S FORUM

JAPANESE SUPERFICIAL INTERNATIONALIZATION

By Robert Masazumi Kondo

Some people say, there is no nation as interested in "internationalization" as Japan. At least on the surface this seems to hold true. Studying and traveling abroad has become so popular. More and more companies are expanding overseas. Foreign language schools are making more money than ever.

Yet, the fact remains that not many students are anxious to communicate with the foreign students in Japan.

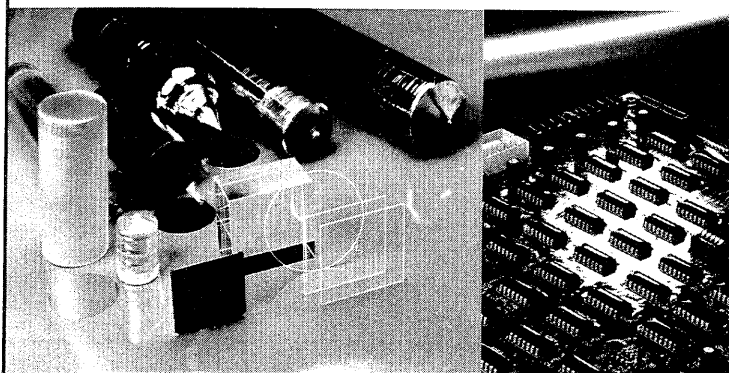
I hear there are about 260 foreign students in Keio, but how many of us are talking with them about each other's culture, history or way of thinking? Or even if students have the will to do so, do they really know that they don't have to join any club to become friends with them? There is a big paradox here. Why don't those who are interested in "internationalism," contact foreign students around them? My opinion is that "internationalization" in Japan is only superficial and that real internationalization is not being carried out. The paradox I mentioned before occurs because of this tendency, but the most fundamental cause comes from "our values", "values" are important in analyzing this paradox and therefore we must reconsider them.

Everyone has his own values and he goes by them. We tend to have the same set of values when we share the same social, geographical environment and time sequence, and we also receive the kind of education forming united values. A society having strict regulations is more liable to create "uniform-

ed persons." This is because it is difficult for a person having different values to live in such a condition. I think that for a resourceless Japan, "internationalization" (especially westernization) must have been a pressing economic need. But during this process, we must have neglected to understand the true meaning of internationalization. Furthermore, because of this, I think that the distorted "internationalization" is now expanding to a state of social restriction. With this kind of Background, "internationalization" has become so popular. Japan's "internationalization" remains to be superficial and it may even be said that we misinterpret foreigners with our crooked values. For example, it is thought to be advantageous to blend into or understand western values because our values have been engraved with their way of thinking. But on the other hand, we must admit that the same cannot be said about Eastern or African nations. The very existence of this kind of "self-interest attitude" proves that our "internationalization" is only superficial and that it is distorted by our own values.

If we wish to achieve true internationalization in the coming century, we must first realize that we are misinterpreting its true meaning with domestic values, and then strive to "straighten out" these distorted values. Lastly, I think that it is absolutely necessary to form new values based on the respect of human rights and wish the best for all human beings. Then for the first time, we will be able to achieve true internationalization, perhaps.

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ART

—Land of Civilization— Turkey

By Tokuko Fujii

"Land of Civilization, Turkey" exhibition is open from April 2 to June 2 at Idemitsu Museum (Closed on May 13). In this exhibition, about 450 important cultural treasures which are from the land around Anatolia and from the period of Neolithic age to Ottoman period, are exhibited and this exhibition has given us the best opportunity to understand the rise and fall, and the history of Anatolian culture.

The three sides of Turkey are surrounded by the Black, the Aegean, and the Mediterranean Sea. Turkey was the bridge between Asia and Europe culturally and geographically. Therefore from ancient times, many races (Turks, Persians, Iranians, Romans, Greeks, etc.) had influenced each other and had produced various characteristic cultures.

Photo No. 1, shows one of the earliest examples of a mother-goddess. This figurine was made in the Neolithic age. Figurines of goddess and female made in this period were plump, especially at the lower half of the body. A woman having a plump hip was probably worshipped as a symbol being able to bear a healthy child.

At the beginning of the third millennium B.C., the people of Anatolia had acquired the knowledge to produce bronze by combining copper with tin. From then, the Early Bronze Age had started. In this period, some small kingdoms existed and as a result, many objects have been unearthed from various sites in Anatolia, particularly from graves.

Sistrum (Photo No. 2), is one of the finds made from bronze. In the square frame, two thin parallel rods are inserted into the holes in the central section and the two sides of the frame. The ends of these rods are bent to prevent their slipping out. Four small

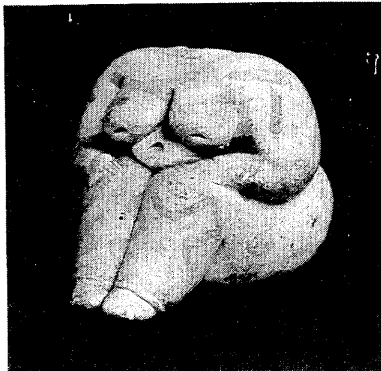


Photo No. 1 Seated Goodess— Much smaller than expected.

rectangular plates are attached to these rods so as to jingle. It must have been played during religious ceremonies. It demonstrates well the advanced level of art and technology of that age.

Kultepe is a representative ruin of middle to late Bronze Age. In Kultepe, Assyrian merchants established "Karum" in order to prosper their commercial trade. Plenty of ceremonial vessels (Rhyton) were excavated there and Photo No. 3 is stylized standing lion. Rhyton in the shape of snail, boots, cat, cat, bird are also shown. They demonstrate the deities and sacred animals of Anatolia and were used as cups for a ceremony.

Having dominated Anatolia, Seljuks were very successful in synthesizing Turkish and Islamic art.

A special feature of that time was using tiles in place of a mosaic. (Photo No. 4) The monumental doors of mosques were decorated with these beautiful tiles in black, blue or purple. The most common and popular designs on the tiles consisted of geometric patterns, stylized animals and the tree of life. The colours were beautiful as it was covered with cellophane. Especially from the tree of life, the aspiration to life after death can well be seen.



Photo No. 4 Star tiles—— Tiles in the 13th century under the Seljuk Empire

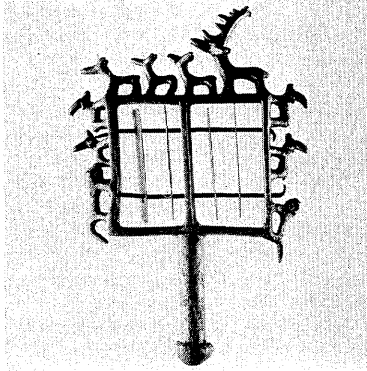


Photo No. 2 Sistrum—— A variety of animals around the frame



Photo No. 3 Rhyton

Rock crystal jug (Photo No. 5), reminds us of the great Ottoman empire, which included parts of Europe, Asia and Africa. The body and the handle of this jug are carved from a single piece of rock crystal. The rim and the foot are sheathed with gold. The lower part of the body is ornamented with gold bands set with emeralds, alternating with rows of legal texts engraved on the crystal. Imagine the Ottoman rulers wearing jeweled gown and drinking from this Rock crystal jug in the imperial court.

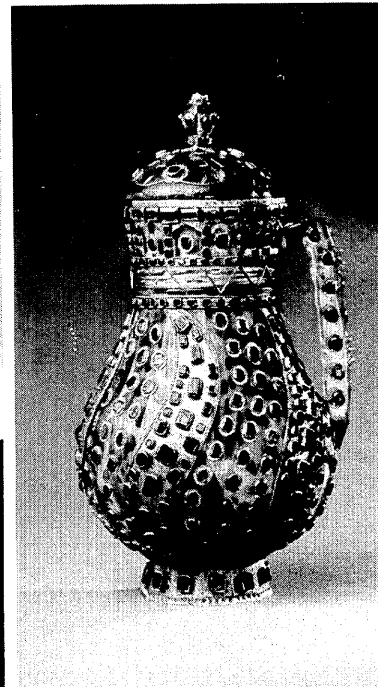


Photo No. 5 Rock Crystal Jug
— Can you estimate the price?

Since these important cultural treasures are possessed by many different universities and museums, it is difficult to see them at the same time even in Turkey. Therefore, we must not forget that the Turkish government has gracefully given Japan the opportunity of renewing its exhibition to the world since 1960. In the exhibition, about 300 of treasures were shown to the Japanese public for the first time.

The aim of "Land of Civilization, Turkey" should not be limited to observing the Turkish civilization but also to establish more friendly relation with Turkey.

(All photos cooperated by the Middle Eastern Culture Center)

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