

ITP Partner Institution: Institute of African Studies (IAS), University of Nairobi

Kyoto University Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies (ASAFAS) has concluded an academic exchange agreement (Memorandum of Understanding) with the University of Nairobi Institute of African Studies (IAS) and the two institutes are moving ahead with a variety of academic exchanges, such as exchanges of researchers and students, the implementation of joint research projects, the co-hosting of workshops, and joint publishing activities. The Center for African Area Studies (CAAS) of Kyoto University first concluded an academic exchange agreement with IAS in 1987. Following that, the agreement was taken over by ASAFAS in 2004, and this is the situation today. This ITP Program is implemented through a close cooperative relationship with IAS.

IAS was first established in 1965 as the Cultural Division, Institute for Development Studies of the University of Nairobi and became independent as the Institute of African Studies in 1970. The objectives of the establishment of IAS are given as research into prehistory and history, ethnography and social anthropology, linguistics, music and dance, and the promotion of research into traditional and modern literature, traditional and modern handicrafts, and religion. Many international researchers who are working in these research fields in Kenya are also IAS joint researchers.

When IAS was first established, a brilliant group of scholars was active in this Institute supporting Kenya's education and research in the humanities and social sciences. For example, the first Director was the historian B. A. Ogot, who was also the Vice-President of the University of Nairobi. In addition, some of the brightest intellectuals of East Africa, such as Taban lo Liyong, E. S. Atieno-Odhiambo, and Okot p'Bitek made the Institute the base of their activities. Further, a succession of Directors of the Institute, George W. Mathu, Benjamin E. Kipkorir, Chris L. Wanjala, Gideon

S. Were, and Simiyu Wandibba have all visited Japan as international guest researchers of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), and have deepened research exchange and comradeship with Japanese researchers.

The current Director is Isaac K. Nyamongo, a medical anthropologist who is a specialist in the ecological and sociological analysis of the life environment that results in infestations of malaria. Although there are 23 full-time positions at the Institute, there are currently only 17 staff working there. Their research fields are archaeology, ecological anthropology, development anthropology, gender and development, tourism issues, food security, and so on.

Contact details for IAS are as follows:

Institute of African Studies, University of Nairobi

P. O. Box 30197, Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: +254-20-374-4123 (Director's Secretary), 374-2080, 374-2078

Swahili Language Training in Kenya

The host for this ITP Program, the University of Nairobi, does offer a Swahili language course, but this university-level course is beyond the competence of beginner-level students. The University course also does not allow participation in the course from part way through the term. For this reason, the following school was chosen for the first year of the ITP Program as a result of discussions concerning alternative possibilities with IAS Director I. K. Nyamongo. Two students from ASAFAS underwent training at the Input Level in the 2007 academic year.

Anglican Churches of Kenya (ACK) Language and Orientation School

It is possible to enroll at this school at anytime and one-on-one language training is available. The basic course offered is for 60 hours, but the number

of hours can be altered. The course fees are 375 Kenyan shillings per hour (1 shilling = approximately 1.55 yen) and there is an enrollment fee of 1200 shillings.

This school offers not only Swahili, but also has classes in English and Arabic, as well as classes in several of the local languages of Kenya, such as Kikuyu, Luo, Kalenjin, and Maasai. There is also a Japanese class.

Contact details for the ACK Language and Orientation School are as follows:

Bishop's Road, off Ngong Road (opp. NSSF Building)

P. O. Box 47429, Nairobi, KENYA

Tel: +254-20-272-1893/ 271-6694, Fax: +254-20-271-4750/ 271-8442

E-mail: acklanguageschool@ackkenya.org

URL: http://www.ackkenya.org/ack_language_school.htm

Nairobi Field Station (Nairobi FS)

Kyoto University manages a field station, Nairobi FS, in Nairobi. This field station has been established to promote education and research in Kenya and Uganda. Teaching staff and students come together there to carry out intensive field work in the locality, as well as push forward joint research activities with local research institutes. Students dispatched on the ITP Program may also make use of the Nairobi FS, which is equipped with Internet facilities, computers and peripheral computer equipment, dictionaries, telephones, work desks and simple cooking facilities. Please refer to the following Internet page for further information:

http://areainfo.asafas.kyoto-u.ac.jp/nfs/stationinfo_new.htm

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Nairobi Research Station

The main purpose of this Research Station is to promote links between Japan and overseas education and research institutes, and provide support for Japanese universities and other research institutes that wish to establish

research facilities overseas. The Research Station also provides support for researchers who are visiting in the area and has close ties with the above-mentioned Nairobi FS. All students who are dispatched under the ITP Program may request that the Research Station act as the contact address for them while they are in Nairobi.

Contact details for the JSPS Nairobi Research Station are as follows:

JSPS Nairobi Research Station

c/o Mr. Itsuhiro Hazama

P. O. Box 14958, Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: +254-20-444-2424, Fax: +254-20-444-2112

Email: jsps1@africaonline.co.ke