

1. Subject of my research

This research attempts to understand the transformation of ‘Urban Culture’ in Contemporary Western India. Especially, I am doing research on *Tamāsā* drama which has been transforming into a characteristic urban culture in the Maharashtra district of Western India. The current Indian urban culture is developing within the network of ‘village-city continuum’ rather than the rural depopulation and urbanisation brought about by migrant populations. *Tamāsā* is becoming part of such urban culture. This research endeavours to understand the transformation of *tamāsā* in relation to social dynamics in the urban sphere, and also in the context of new relationships between urban and rural culture.

2. Contents of 2011’s research

In 2011, April to September, I conducted research in SOAS (Study of Oriental and African Area Studies, London University) and The British Library.

I attended to Seminar in SOAS and collecting documents in library. Moreover, I was also collecting historical documents in the British Library. In September 25th to November 30th, I conducted research and fieldwork in state of Maharashtra, West India particularly Mumbai and Pune. In Mumbai, I collected documents and Audio recording from National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA). Furthermore,

I interviewed artists of *tamāsā*, and stuff of the



[Photo 1: School of Oriental and African Studies]



[Photo 2: *tamāsā* family]

music company in Mumbai. In Pune, I researched on the *Bal Gandharv* theatre and interviewed artists and recording some dance scene. I was collecting old documents from artists house and Institute of Television and Film in Pune.

In addition, I interviewed chief of ICCR(Indian Council for Cultural Relation) in Delhi.



[Photo3 : SOAS Library]

In 2011, December 21st to March 26th, I conducted research again in the United Kingdom. I pored over the historical documents and reference for my research. Furthermore, I attended to seminar in University of Edinburg. I had not opportunity to discussion with only faculty member as

Professor's but researcher of the same generation.

3. Impression and an experiences during fieldwork

I had been to India for many times. However, I deeply experienced how British period has still power in structure of urban developing and lifestyle in Mumbai and Pune on this time. Moreover, I had opportunity of making a connection to immigrant who moving from India to the U.K. And, they do not only still keep a connection with own lineage in urban area, but rural area in India also. As a result, I acquired information about “Rural-urban-Overseas Network” for my research.



[Photo 4: South Asian Community in London]

4. Achievement and future agenda

The main purpose to this time's research in the U.K. was to place and studying on the cutting edge of South Asian Studies and Performing arts. The experience of research and discussion with variety peoples in the U.K. became a precious asset for the rest of my research life and Ph.D. thesis. Furthermore, I obtain the maximum benefit from discussion on the seminar and study session that get instructive comment and suggestion for my research.

I was already doing a presentation of part of my research in INDAS International workshop as “Media and Power in India” on December 2011. I am still going to outcome to the world and return the results of research to society.