

第12章 集落保存に対する国際協力のありかた

1 Cooperation between Japan and Vietnam in the Preservation Project of Duong Lam Village in Ha Tay Province

The Department of Cultural Heritage
Ministry of Culture and Information of Vietnam

On March 11, 2003, the Department of Cultural Heritage and the Japan Agency for Cultural Affairs signed the Agreement on technical cooperation in the field of conservation, restoration, and management of traditional village and buildings. The main purpose of this cooperation is to preserve the traditional ancient village of Duong Lam. Simultaneously, through this project, experiences of the Japanese experts in preserving traditional villages will be transmitted to experts, researchers, and culture managers in Vietnam.

Soon after the signing of Agreement, the Japan Agency for Cultural Affairs, the Showa Women's University, the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties Nara, and the Department of Cultural Heritage collaborated with the Ha Tay Provincial Department of Culture and Information, the People's Committee of Son Tay District, the Architectural Research Institute, the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, and the National University of Hanoi in implementing the following activities:

1. Field surveys and investigation on intangible cultural heritage in Duong Lam Village

The Japanese Party sent its experts to Duong Lam Village on a long-term basis for researching and collecting of related documents on history of the village, everyday life of villagers, traditional customs, work and production distribution, festivities, etc. The Showa Women's University has also coordinated with the University of Social Sciences and Humanities and the National University of Hanoi in conducting field surveys on intangible cultural heritage in Duong Lam. The field surveys have finished after three years of implementation, resulting in statistical and fully documented data on the villages' festivals, living customs, traditional handicrafts, modes of social organization of the village, systemized data of family and lineage annals, traditional costumes and tools for production, etc.

2. Investigation on traditional residential houses and public buildings (tangible culture) in Duong Lam

In inheritance of experiences from recent investigations on traditional folk residential houses conducted by the Department of Cultural Heritage (DCH) and the Showa Women's University in past years, in the preservation project for Duong Lam Village, the DCH and the Japanese Party continued to cooperate with the Architectural Research Institute (ARI) - Ministry of Construction in implementing surveys on traditional residential houses and public buildings in Duong Lam. The investigation is composed of two phases. In the first phase, preliminary surveys were conducted on architectural aspects and age of these structures. At the end of phase one, we have collected a full list of current traditional houses and public buildings in the village. Together, written documents and photographs of current conditions of the buildings were also collected and taken. Basing on the results from surveys in the first phase, Japanese experts, together with their colleagues from the DCH and ARI, made evaluations: classified and selected several residential buildings of recognized value for inscription in the list of further investigation in phase two. The DCH continued to coordinate with the ARI in the second phase with further investigation, which included making detailed measurements and drawings of buildings and garden courtyards of valued traditional houses. Results from the investigations on traditional houses and public buildings have facilitated establishment of a profile for surveys and photos of current conditions of 350 residential houses in Mong Phu hamlet, 441 houses in Dong Sang, 165 houses in Cam Think, 158 houses in Doai Giap, 03 communal houses (of Mong Phu, Doai Giap and Cam Think), 03 temples (Ngo Quyen Temple, Phung Hung Temple, and Phu Temple), Mia Pagoda, 04 shrines, 05 water wells, stopovers, village gates and paths. In addition, we have obtained a complete profile of architectural drawings and photos of all the residential houses of recognized value investigated in the second phase.

3. Making measurements and 1:500 mapping of entire Duong Lam Village

The DCH has coordinated with the Department of Geophysics, National University of Hanoi in making measurements and mapping of the entire Duong Lam Village's area, which included the hamlets of Mong Phu, Dong Sang, Doai Giap, Cam Think, and Cam Lam. The map featured the village's topography and detailed measurements of road system and existing precincts within at 1:500. Accuracy of the map was ensured by Vietnamese standards on mapping and coordinates. The establishment of a detailed map of the Duong Lam ancient village in fact gave great advantage in assessing and surveying of land usage, and precisely identifying of buildings' locations, and providing assistance in localizing protected area and building a future master plan for the preservation of Duong Lam Village.

4. Seminars

In parallel to the investigations on tangible and intangible cultural heritage in Duong Lam Village, the DCH and the Japanese Party have also conducted a number of seminars for discussing and receiving opinions and suggestions from scientists, experts, and researchers in the field of culture in Vietnam for contents of the surveys. They have also involved in various processes of evaluation, analysis, and selection of public buildings, traditional houses of historic value and artistic architectures, proposals on preservation directives, promotion of festivals and handicrafts of distinguished value, etc. The seminars were also participated by culture managers, representatives from local authorities, and especially by the villagers in Duong Lam.

The Japanese Party and the DCH have also jointly established many work teams which were participated by the Provincial Department of Culture and Information, the People's Committee of Son Tay, the Ha Tay Provincial Department of Tourism, the ARI, the University of Social Sciences and Humanities and the people in Duong Lam Village. These workgroups have worked closely in evaluating the surveyed data of tangible and intangible cultures, analyzing their values and architectural features in order to build criteria for the classification of traditional houses, their gates, and fencing walls. Based on these criteria, relevant plans for preservation, conservation and restoration of categorized buildings were proposed. The workgroups have also elaborately studied and proposed a tourist itinerary for Duong Lam Village, selected locations for vehicle parking and reception, and provided schemes for restoration and rehabilitation of landscape. Moreover, the Showa Women's University has also frequently sent its preservation experts for training of staff in the Duong Lam Monuments Management Unit on resolutions of restoration and preservation of traditional houses, measures in improving new architectural buildings that created impacts on the village's landscapes, etc.

5. Recognition of Duong Lam Ancient Village as a National Relic and Establishment of Ancient Village Management Board

Basing on collected data from the surveys on intangible cultural heritage, traditional houses and public buildings in Duong Lam Village, as well as on outcomes from the seminars, the Department of Cultural Heritage has provided instructions to Ha Tay Provincial Department of Culture and Information in filing a scientific nomination profile to submit the Ministry of Culture and Information for recognition as a national cultural heritage. On November 11, 2005, Duong Lam was designated as a national relic. In order to promote the values and to raise awareness of preservation of the ancient village, Ha Tay Provincial

Department of Culture and Information, in coordination with the People's Committee of Son Tay Town and the villagers in Duong Lam, organized a formal ceremony for reception of the certificate. This significant event was considered an opportunity for popularizing, introducing to the public both in Vietnam and overseas an ancient village of Doai land that has a long history and is enriched in cultural values. This was also the chance to recall, to raise awareness, and to give prominence to the responsibility of Duong Lam villagers in the preservation and conservation of their traditional cultural values.

In realizing the value and the responsibility in preserving Duong Lam Village, after the ceremony, the People's Committee of Ha Tay Province decided to establish the Duong Lam Ancient Village Management Board for the purpose of direct management and provision of guidelines in the preservation and promotion of this special relic. This important move has proved a concrete sense of responsibility and commitment by Ha Tay Province's authorities in the safeguarding of cultural heritage in their localities.

6. Capacity Building

The Japan Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Showa Women's University have organized field visits for several staffs from Ha Tay Province, Son Tay Town, and the Department of Cultural Heritage to Japan, providing opportunities for them to visit, to learn and to exchange experiences in the preservation and management of cultural heritage in Japan. In addition, this also provided opportunities to broaden their knowledge and to support the preservation of Duong Lam Village.

7. Evaluation on Japan-Vietnam cooperation in the implementation of Duong Lam Project

In order to achieve results in the preservation of Duong Lam Village, in the past three years, our Japanese colleagues have been actively involved in the project. Experts from Japan were frequently dispatched to Vietnam and worked closely with Vietnamese colleagues in following up and implementing specific activities. At the same time, financial support to the project by the Japanese side has also facilitated Vietnamese side to carry out a range of activities, which included investigations on intangible cultural heritage of Duong Lam, surveys and study of all traditional houses in the village, and making detailed measurements and mapping of the ancient village.

The Japan Agency for Cultural Affairs, the Showa Women's University, and the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties Nara have cooperated with various reputable institutions and universities as well as with scientists, researchers in culture as their counterparts in the investigation and research of tangible and intangible cultural heritage of

Duong Lam Village. This has resulted in increased accuracy and scientific values of the investigations. Documentation from the investigations is important scientific materials for the research and establishment of a Master Plan for the preservation and promotion of Duong Lam Village in the future. Concurrently, this will also enrich the database on Vietnamese traditional houses.

The Department of Cultural Heritage and its partner institutions highly appreciate the working method of Japanese experts, which emphasized consistent priorities on the investigation and identification of tangible and intangible values of Duong Lam Village. Carefulness and accuracy are also stressed in the research and survey work to ensure scientific, sufficient, and adequate information. Only after completion of research work, directives for the preservation and promotion of Duong Lam Village were put forward for discussions. During these discussions, the villagers of Duong Lam were invited for participation and their inputs. Therefore, the directives for preservation of Duong Lam Village received consensus from authorities of all levels and the Duong Lam villagers.

On this occasion, on behalf of the Department of Cultural Heritage of Vietnam, we would like to express our heartfelt thankfulness to our Japanese colleagues for your assistance and support in the last couple of years. We hope that in the coming years, we will continue to productively cooperate in the preservation of the Duong Lam ancient village in particular, and the preservation of the cultural heritage in Vietnam as a whole. (Dang Van Bai)