

# What can be concluded from these data?

- For all three categories examined above (numbers of institutions, teachers and students taking part in Japanese language education) Indonesia is the only Southeast Asian country that ranks high;

- Most of the countries with large numbers of Japanese language institutions, teachers and students are either the countries that share the same *kanji* character literary tradition (e.g. China and Korea) or those with a relatively high income per capita (e.g. Australia, New Zealand, U.S.).
- Indonesia's prominence in these categories therefore appears to be a particularly intriguing anomaly;

- More than 66% of the Japanese language students in Indonesia are high school students;
- This provides a stark contrast with other countries where most of the Japanese language students are concentrated in other levels of education i.e. universities or non-academic language schools;

- A sudden increase in the number of Japanese language institutions in Indonesia took place in 1984 when the language was instituted as an optional secondary foreign language at the high school level.
- The number of Japanese language institutions has declined somewhat after the Crisis, but the upward trend is expected to resume in the near future.

# Institutional Development: Colleges

- In the 1960s, Japanese studies programs at the university level were founded in two national universities, i.e. Padjadjaran University in Bandung, and the University of Indonesia in Jakarta.
- Up to 1996, a similar program has been founded in 4 state and 7 private universities.

- The Japanese Studies Program of the University of Indonesia was founded in 1967 with grant aid from the Japanese government.
- Since then, this program has produced no less than 700 graduates.

- The program is a four-year program that offers Japanese language courses as well as specialization courses in five fields, i.e. Japanese culture, history, linguistics, literature, and society.
- The courses offered by the program have been geared into humanities, but the social scientific perspectives have also been incorporated recently.

- In 1978 the University of Indonesia opened the so-called the “diploma” program in Japanese, i.e. a three-year extension program that offers practical Japanese language instruction to the general public.
- As of 1996, a similar program had been founded in 3 state and 9 private universities.

# Institutional Development: Graduate Schools

- In 1990 the University of Indonesia opened the first graduate program in Japanese Studies.
- The two-year master's program is called Program Kajian Wilayah Jepang, or the program of regional studies specializing in Japan.
- As of July 2003, the program has produced 54 graduates.

- The program continues the emphasis on humanities established by the college level Japanese Studies Program at the University, although the social scientific approach has also been incorporated.
- A doctoral program in Japanese Studies was also opened in 1994
- There have been five graduates of the doctoral program as of July 2003.

# Institutional Development: Research Center

- In 1996, the Center for Japanese Studies is founded at the University of Indonesia, with Japanese government grant aid.
- The center is intended to organize various interdisciplinary research projects on contemporary Japan.

- The Center initiated the first phase of a three year (April 1997 – March 2000) joint study project with the Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo, with technical cooperation grant from JICA.
- The first phase of the project covered the following four fields and themes:

- Sociology: Comparative studies of newly developed residential towns in Indonesia and Japan: a case study of Depok and Tama New Town.
- Economics: Transfer of technology in Japanese subsidiary companies in Indonesia: a case study of Toyota and Toshiba.
- Political Science: The dismantling of the single-party domination system in Japan and the lessons for Indonesia.
- International Relations: The basic study of Japan's ODA (Official Development Assistance) to Indonesia.

The Center is presently completing the second phase (2001 –2004) of the project covering the following fields and themes:

1. Small and Medium Scale Industry and Economic Development: A comparative study of Japan and Indonesia;
2. The Comparison of Indonesian and Japanese Style of Human Resource Management;
3. Handicraft and Socio-Cultural Change: A Study of Batik Making In Pekalongan & Cirebon;

4. The Military Reposition and The Establishing of Civilian Control in Japan (1955 – 2002);
5. Japan's ODA to Indonesia: A case study of the impact of maternal and child health handbook;
6. Local Autonomy in Urban Areas: A Comparative Studies of Local Autonomy in Depok and Tama City;
7. An Embryonic Japanese Indonesian Dictionary for Social Sciences;

Main characteristics of these studies are:

- Focus on contemporary Japan
- Social scientific approach
- Explicitly comparative perspective

# CONCLUSIONS

- The institutional development suggests the multiple directions of Japanese studies recently emerging in Indonesia.
- Humanistic approaches to Japanese studies have been enhanced by the establishment of undergraduate & graduate programs in Japanese studies
- Social scientific approaches to Japanese studies have been initiated by a research institute such as the Center for Japanese Studies.

- Further synergic effects of these multiple paradigms are expected in the future.
- Only by incorporating such multivocality, Japanese studies as an intellectual pursuit to understand multifaceted realities of Japan may demonstrate its relevance for understanding tumultuous social and economic transformations taking place in Asia.