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Historical Retrospection on the Academic Exchange in Communication Studies between Japan and Korea

Yuga Suzuki In 1991 JSSJMC (Japan Society for Studies in Journalism and Mass Communication) and KSJCS (Korean Society for Journalism and Communication Studies) started the academic exchange in the field of journalism, communications or mass communication. The first international symposium between Japan and Korea was held at Tokyo, discussing on the theme "Satellite Communication in Asian Region."

Until 2007 held in Seoul the symposium counted thirteen times and twice Northeast Asian Symposium including China which gave a chance to Japanese, Korean and Chinese scholars in almost every year for exchanging opinion on various academic themes. Those are not only typical journalism studies such as history, reporting, education, training, politics but also information technology, information society, internet, mass culture based on comparative view from among countries.

Within a first few conferences, however, we were up against serious problem of finance and language in speech and discussing themes Therefore, we concluded we can discuss each other freely in each mother tongue. And more important point is academic exchange between Japan and Korea contributes to develop the human resource in this field and to improve understanding each countries for the future.

Not only will such academic society's international symposium to exchange academicians but also growing up human resources in this field contribute to the future. There are many Koreans who had studied at universities' journalism course in Japan before the World War II, and they insisted the importance of journalism studies in Korea after their return. The author introduces a Korean founder of the KSJCS or journalism educators of Korean universities. After 1990s Korean students get a PhD degree in Japan who can understand Japanese academics and culture.

To continue exchanging academic studies among Asian countries, we have to make a try of growing up younger generation over and over again.