



# THE GREAT BRITAIN SASAKAWA FOUNDATION

*Making a Difference in UK-Japan Relations*

JSPS London Pre-Departure Seminar  
23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025

## Introduction

- Established in 1985
- Head office in London, liaison office in Tokyo
- Funding available for projects in...
  - Arts and Culture
  - Humanities and Social Issues
  - Japanese Language and Japanese Studies
  - Medicine and Health
  - Science, Technology and Environment
  - Sport
  - Youth and Education

## Our Awards

- Grants for exhibitions, performances, exchanges, conferences, research, educational events, publications...
- Intended to provide seed funding and not core funding of projects
- No minimum or maximum overall award amount.
- For travel between the UK and Japan, the maximum amount per person is £2,000 towards flights, accommodation, subsistence, etc., increased to £2,500 for stays of more than 2 weeks.
- Grants not made for consumables, salaries, fees, materials...
- Grants to be used towards activity – travel, accommodation, subsistence, workshops, etc.
- Full list of criteria available on our website
- Annual Reports on website – list of awards granted

# Annual Reports



## The Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation Annual Report & Accounts 2023

For the year ended 31 December 2023 2023 年度年報



Making a Difference 日英両国を動かす力

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### Finding solutions together — 共に解決策を見出す

Millions of people worldwide are at risk of tsunamis and urgently need tsunami resilience guidelines. A field survey by Dr Mohammad Hedayatzadeh from the University of Bath and Professor Hiroshi Takagi from the Tokyo Institute of Technology was conducted along the coasts of East Japan to study and analyse tsunami reconstruction in the aftermath of the 2011 Tohoku tsunami. The objectives of this fieldwork were to analyse the effectiveness of tsunami reconstruction by comparing before and after situations, and to take lessons from Japan's unique experience on tsunami resilience and reconstruction for dissemination to the international community. The resulting Tsunami resilience guidelines based on this joint survey, will be published as a research article and therefore openly available for worldwide communities and will significantly contribute to tsunami resilience worldwide.



The Lane Murodo Iwa which has become a symbol of tsunami resilience (Hidayatzadeh).  
Photo: Dr Mohammad Hedayatzadeh



The researcher (Dr Hedayatzadeh) posing with concrete armour defence along the coastline.  
Photo: Dr Mohammad Hedayatzadeh



Tsunami protection using coastal vegetation along the coastal barrier. The researcher Prof Takagi is seen here.  
Photo: Dr Mohammad Hedayatzadeh

世界中で何百万人もの人々が津波の危機に晒されており、津波被害に対するレジリエンスのためのガイドラインが早急に必要とされている。バース大学のモハメド・ハビダルザデと東京工業大学の教授高木孝は、2011年の東日本大震災後の津波災害からの復興について調査・分析をするため現地調査を実施した。本現地調査の目的は、津波災害からの復興前後の状況を比較することにより津波災害からの復興の有効性を分析すること、そして、津波に対するレジリエンスと復興に関する日本独自の経験から教訓を学び、国際社会に発信することの二つであった。今回の共同調査に基づき作成された津波被害に対するレジリエンスのガイドラインが編纂され、研究論文として発表される予定である。また、世界中の地域社会へ向けて一般公開され、世界の津波防災に大きく貢献することが期待される。

The belief that caring for sick individuals is inherently noisy and that little can be done to reduce this 'noise of care' has persisted for decades. Multidisciplinary teams have consistently found hospital noise levels exceeding safe guidelines. Research by Dr. Pyoung-Jik Lee from the University of Liverpool, in collaboration with AIST, Osaka University, and Professor Takumi Asakura from Tokyo University of Science, focused on noise levels in intensive care units (ICUs). Their study at Jikei University School of Medicine's ICU in Tokyo revealed noise levels significantly above WHO guidelines, potentially affecting the hearing of both healthcare workers and patients. In addition, Dr. Lee collected audio-visual recordings from temples in Tokyo and Osaka, showing that the tranquillity of these sites might help reduce stress and improve patient well-being. This initial research has led Dr. Lee and Japanese researchers to apply for a Butterfield Award to further their study.

病人のケアは本質的に騒々しいものであり、「ケアの場」に生ずる騒音を軽減するためにできることはほぼ皆無であると長年信じられてきた。学際的研究チームは、病室の騒音レベルが安全ガイドラインを上回っていることを発見した。リバプール大学のイ・ピョンジクは、大阪大学産業技術研究所、そして、東京理科大学の教授阿部泰典と共同で、集中治療室の騒音レベルに焦点を当てた研究を実施した。東京慈恵会医科大学のICUで実施された調査では、世界保健機関が定めるガイドラインを大幅に上回る騒音レベルが確認され、医療従事者や患者の聴力に影響を及ぼす可能性があることが明らかになった。さらに、東京と大阪にある寺院にて視聴覚記録を収集し、これらの場所の静けさがストレスを軽減し、患者の健康状態を向上させる可能性があることを示した。この初期の研究調査により、イ・ピョンジクと日本の研究者は、研究を継続するために当財団のバターフィールド賞に助成金の申請をするに至った。



A joint seminar at the Tokyo University of Science  
Photo: Dr Pyoung-Jik Lee



Recording of ambient sound and landscape at a temple  
Photo: Dr Pyoung-Jik Lee

## Our Awards

### Three UK annual awards meetings:

- **31<sup>st</sup> March** (for consideration in May)
- **15<sup>th</sup> September** (for consideration in November)
- **15<sup>th</sup> December** (for consideration in March)

### Two Japan office awards meetings:

- **28<sup>th</sup> February** (for consideration in April)
- **30<sup>th</sup> September** (for consideration in November)

## PhD Travel Grants

- Part of regular awards programme
- Limited travel grants to PhD students for research trip or fieldwork visit to Japan in order to complete their studies/dissertation
- Can also consider applications for PhD students to participate and present at conferences based in Japan provided plans for networking and making connections with counterparts in Japan are included
- Applications made by PhD students, but must include letter of support from supervisor
- £2,000 travel grant, increased to £2,500 for stays of more than 2 weeks
- Maximum of £5,000 for long-term fieldwork of six months or more



## **Butterfield Awards**

- High level collaboration between UK and Japan in medical research and health practice
- Any relevant field of medicine and health acceptable for consideration
- Grants not intended for consumables and clinical costs of projects
- Grants towards travel and living expenses, seminars, conferences, workshops, publications, etc.
- Small number of annual awards of up to around £10,000, for a maximum of three years of continuous project funding
- Application deadline is 15<sup>th</sup> December for decision to be made in March the subsequent year

## **Studentship Programme**

- Launched in 2014, postgraduate funding programme in Japanese Studies
- Up to 30 postgraduate studentships per year, each now worth £15,000, on the study of Japan
- Directed towards existing and emerging departments/programmes at UK universities/institutions involved in teaching and study of Japan/Japanese
- Studentships available to postgraduates whose study/research is wholly, or for the most part, on Japan
- Aims to make the UK a Global Hub for the study of Japan, and is therefore available to MA and PhD students of all nationalities studying in the UK



## Studentship Programme

- University or institution makes application and nominate candidates to receive a studentship
- Contact GBSF for further information and to confirm eligibility
- Studentships have been awarded to:

Arts University Bournemouth, Birkbeck (University of London), University of Bristol, University of Cambridge, Cardiff University, The Courtauld Institute of Art, Durham University, University of Edinburgh, University of Exeter, King's College London, University of Leeds, London School of Economics, University of Manchester, Newcastle University, University of Oxford, Oxford Brookes University, University of Sheffield, SOAS (University of London), University of St Andrews, University College London, University of Central Lancashire, University of East Anglia, University of Warwick, University of West London, and University of York.

## Summary

Funding from GBSF for UK/Japan research opportunities:

- Regular grants – academics and researchers, support for exchange visits, initiating projects or continuing collaborations
- Butterfield Awards – medicine and health, high-level collaboration, projects between institutions up to three years
- Postgraduates – studentships and PhD travel grants

For more information:

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