

Dr. Shipra BALUJA

シプラ ハレシュバイ クンダルさんは物性物理化学講座の教官として 2000 年 8 月から 2001 年 3 月まで本学に勤務されたインドの女性科学者である。生まれはウッタルプラデシュ州の古都ヴァラナシ市（ベナレスとも言う）で、名門ヴァラナシ・ヒンドウ大学に学び、大学院で博士号を得られた。そしてグジャラート州ラジコト市のサウラシュトラ大学に勤務される。溶液の熱力学が専門であるが、10 年ばかり前にポスドクとして東京工業大学に滞在し岡田勲教授（当時）のもとで分子動力学シミュレーション、その後カナダのアルバータで振動分光の研究をされた。今回の滞日では大阪大学において低温熱容量測定を経験され、また大阪市立大学理学部でも田村勝利先生と溶液熱測定 of 協同研究をされた。これはシプラさんプロパーの分野である。たいへん異なる分野の研究をこなしてこられた有能な研究者で、大阪での研究はすでに Chem. Phys. Lett. と J. Chem. Thermodyn. 誌に掲載され、または掲載決定されている。大学院の講義も 2 回を担当された。英語で聴く講義として院生に新しい体験であったと思う。

今回はご主人ハレシュさんも滞日され日本の 7 ヶ月を経験された。インドは IT の国として知られるようになったが、お二人ともコンピューターがたいへん得意で、シプラさんは、日本語はわからないといいながら日本語表示の MS-DOS を操作できるし、ハレシュさんはインターネットからグジャラート文字の新聞をプリントすることができた。滞日中にブージの大地震が起きたが、ラジコトでは比較的軽い被害で済んだこともインターネットや e メールで伝えられた。

日本の万葉文化の基層にはタミール文化があり、仏教の基層にはヒンドウ教があるそうで、信仰宗教、歴史、科学、文化、政治、経済、社会、人種、言語、自然、地理、水質、食物、香料等々をハレシュさんも交えて議論するのは楽しい経験であった。ハレシュさんは滞在された公務員宿舎の近くにある小、中学校にインド文化の紹介を頼まれて幾度か出かけられたそうである。

サウラシュトラ大学では建物によってはやはり地震の被害で教育と研究に使えないところがあるとのこと。完全な回復を願ってやまない。

（松尾隆祐）

OUR MEMORABLE STAY IN JAPAN

Dear Matsuo san

It gives me great pleasure to write about my stay in your laboratory as visiting professor.

I was in Osaka for seven and half months. From 15th August to 31st March 2001 which seems to be too short a period to learn about Chemistry and Japan. As this was not my first visit, I quickly got accustomed to my new environment. First two visits were in Tokyo where I worked with Prof. I. Okada of Tokyo Institute of Technology and this was my third visit to Japan along with my husband Haresh.

I was keen to work in the field of calorimetry and I am fortunate that you gave me this opportunity to work with you. I conducted experiments to study the thermodynamic properties of 5-iodo-9-hydrophenalenone and 5-iodo-9-deuteroxyphenalenone crystals, di-lead hexaselenodiphosphate and its solid solutions with analogous di-tin compounds. I very much enjoyed the time spent in your laboratory. The installation of sample cell was a delicate work, which you always did for me. The delicacy of instrumentation impressed me. I learnt a lot about the technique and the subject, even though I worked for a short period. My research experience in your laboratory has improved my knowledge about heat capacity measurements. I am surprised to see the working of Japanese professors; their devotion to work is amazing. I am sure that good equipment, devotion and enthusiasm are keys of their success of Japan, which many of us are lacking. Further, I have taken the IR, NMR, DSC, TG/DTA, and Mass spectra of some compounds, which are very much helpful for my further studies in India. I also studied molecular interactions in liquid mixtures by measuring densities and viscosity of some binary and ternary liquid mixtures. I am thankful to you for giving me much time to avail these facilities and to make full use of library.

I enjoyed discussions with you not only in chemistry but also about culture, habits, languages, religions and everyday life. In your laboratory and university, I received good hospitality and friendly atmosphere from you and your colleagues. I am also thankful to Dr. Inaba and Dr. Yamamuro, who always cared to explain me the routine work in laboratory and library. My thanks are

also to students of your laboratory. Although they have some language problem, they always tried to help me. I gave two lectures to master course students also.

I also participated in two conferences in Japan, which gave me opportunity to interact with other professors. Further, I worked with Dr. K. Tamura of Osaka City University on flow micro calorimeter for the measurement of excess entropy and excess heat capacities of few liquid mixtures.

My special thanks are also to Prof. M. Sorai who always cared to ask me about my comfort. He always tried to spare some time from his busy schedule and I am very thankful for his cordial hospitality.

During our stay in Japan, we visited many places and found some similarities with India in culture and tradition. Japanese people are very polite, peaceful and cooperative. Although, there is language problem, they help foreigners. We have also tried Japanese food and now we are fond of some ryories like sushi, sashimi, Tanpura, Takoyaki etc. We visited many schools also and are impressed by the facilities they have.

Last but not the least, I would like to thank you very much for our enjoyable and fruitful stay in Japan which was possible only by Kazuko san and your's jolly and helping nature. Your whole family helped us to feel at home.



Dr. Shipra Baluja
Department of Chemistry
Saurashtra University
Rajkot, Gujarat, India

シプラさんご主人ハレシュ クンダルさん。五月山公園にて 2001 年 1 月。