

Report for Institutional Program for Younger Researcher Overseas Visits, 2010
Center for Southeast Asian Studies
Kyoto University

Name : Jafar SURYOMENGGOLO	Date : 29 September 2010
Position in CSEAS : Junior Research Fellow * Check an appropriate entry (Lecturer · Assistant Professor · Research Assistant · Postdoctoral · Ph. D. Student · Master's Student · Undergraduate Student)	
Host Institute (Counterpart, Institute and County) : Trade Union Rights Centre (Mr. Surya Tjandra) *Circle the appropriate entry for host institute (University · Research Institute · Company · Others)	
Term : 15 September 2010 ~ 28 September 2010 (14 Days)	
Research Purpose : * Check any appropriate entries. ① Research/Laboratory Work ② Fieldwork ③ Seminar ④ Internship ⑤ Take course or class ⑥ Attend Academic Meeting ⑦ Earn credits ⑧ Other	
Research Area : * Circle the appropriate entry. ① Humanities ② Social Sciences ③ Mathematics and Physics ④ Chemistry ⑤ Engineering ⑥ Biology ⑦ Agriculture ⑧ Medical Science, Pharmacy and Dentistry ⑨ Integral Area of Studies ⑩ New Multidiscipline	
Outline of Overseas Visits (About 300~400 words) My research topic is about Indonesian migrant workers and their literature products. I have been collecting and reading some autobiographies, letters, novels, and other literature forms produced by the Indonesian female migrant workers, especially those who are and had been working in Hong Kong and Taiwan as maids/ domestic servants. Migrant workers have been writing and publishing a number of literature products. Indeed, during the last 5 years there has been a vast appearance and “explosion” in their existence in colouring the national literary scene. What strike me from the very beginning about their creativity in utilizing the time and space allotted to them, is the numerous paths they took in expressing the experiences, thoughts and also, dreams and desires they have. From this reading, I would like to continue my research activity to meet and interview them, as many as possible, to seek out what kind of aspirations they wish to communicate to their readers, given their working situations as third-world labour in a foreign country. It is my hope to see their lives (as a women, as a low-level worker, as a foreigner, and as an author/writer) to understand deeper the meaning of their literary creativity in giving meaning to their own lives.	
Research Achievement on this Program (300~400 Words) The fieldwork has gathered primary sources for my research. I have also met and interviewed a number of concerned people in the field for the purpose of the research. From this, I would like to draft an article ready for publication. Materials gathered during this fieldwork will be deposited to the vernacular collections of CSEAS library upon the completion of this research.	