

J-PARC Accelerator Facility + SASAKI Kichisaburo

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J-PARC Accelerator Facility

Nine years ago, High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK) and the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA) started work on a joint venture to construct a new proton accelerator at the highest beam power in the world. The new accelerator is targeted at a wide range of fields, using K-meson beams and neutrino beams to cover nuclear and particle physics and neutron beams and muon beams to cover materials science, biology and nuclear engineering, where these beams will be created by bombarding high-power proton beams on nuclei at rest. The accelerator is called the J-PARC, which is an abbreviation of Japan Proton Accelerator Research Complex, and this is the first multi-purpose accelerator facility in Japan.

The plan was to complete the project in the spring of 2009. Actually, the construction went smoothly on schedule. We had neutron beams in May of 2008, followed by muon beams in September of 2008, K-meson beams in February of 2009 and, finally, neutrino beams in April of 2009. This year, therefore, is the first year for J-PARC to open its facilities to general users. The total construction cost is over 160 billion Yen which is about 1.2 billion Euros.

J-PARC will be open to the whole world as an international facility. We already have over 400 foreign registered users in this facility from all over the world. We expect that this number increases as time proceeds. From Hungary Dr. MEZEI Ferenc, a neutron scientist, visited J-PARC together with Hungarian Ambassador, Mr. BOHÁR Ernő. Work is in progress on the preparation to accommodate all users comfortably and efficiently, under cooperation with local Tokai-Mura Village and the Ibaraki Prefecture Government.

SASAKI Kichisaburo

SASAKI Kichisaburo is my grandfather. In the early 20th century in Hungary, Sir Mr. SZEMERE Miklós (1856-1919) started to be interested in learning the secret about why Japan won the war against Russia in 1905. He suspected that Judo might be the secret behind it and decided to import Judo by inviting SASAKI Kichisaburo. Mr. SASAKI arrived at Budapest in March of 1906, by carrying many Tatami mattress and other materials that were needed for Judo with him.

He then immediately realized that text book would be needed. With a help of Dr. SPEIDL Zoltán (1880-1917), who was a founder of one of the first sports newspapers in Hungary, they completed this book in 1907.

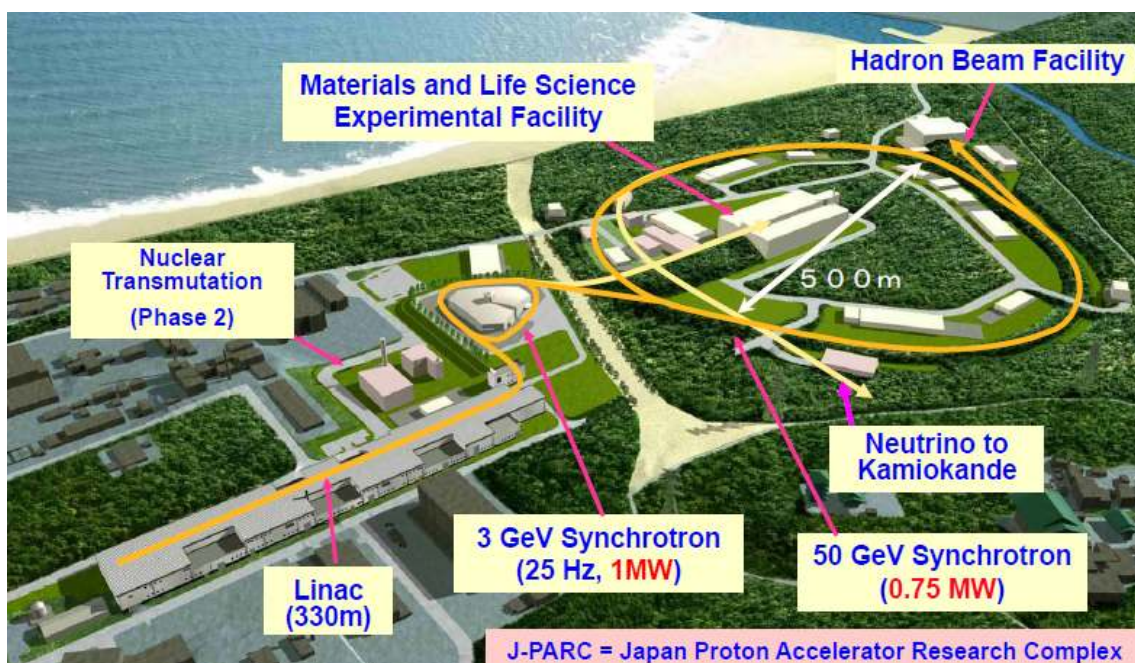
In 2005 I visited Budapest for physics meeting. At that time, I asked my friend to help me to find out if this book remains in Budapest. With many helps by Prof. CSÖRGŐ Tamás, Mrs. ZIMÁNYI Magdolna (a wife of my old friend Prof. ZIMÁNYI József), and Mr. MOLDOVÁN István, this book was discovered in National Széchényi Library. It was truly exciting for me.

Since then, many exciting things have happened. For example, I learned that SASAKI Kichisaburo taught Judo to German Prince in Berlin immediately after his one year stay in Budapest. The most exciting highlight during the past four years was the first SASAKI Cup held in November of 2007. The main organizer was Judo Master, Mr. OZSVÁR András. Many Judo players joined from both Hungary and Japan. Other exciting events were also held at the same time.

The year of 2009 is the 140th anniversary after the diplomatic connection between Hungary and Japan. Also, this year is the 50th anniversary of the resumption of the diplomatic relations between the two countries. I feel very happy to be able visit Budapest again in this year. On this occasion, I decided to publish the second edition of the book written by SASAKI Kichisaburo, which will be shown to you at the interview time.

Playing Judo was once regarded as a dangerous sports and was prohibited after SASAKI Kichisaburo left Hungary. Now, I feel very happy to see that many young boys and girls are playing Judo lively, cheerful and vividly. The Judo, helps, in fact, to bridge mutual cultural exchange between Hungary and Japan.

Other photos which might help to use



The entire view of J-PARC.



From SASAKI Cup in 2007: From left to right, TÓTH László (President of Hungarian Judo Association), VIZER Marius (President of International Judo Federation), SCHMITT Pál (Chair of Hungarian Olympic Committee; he received gold medals twice for fencing), myself and OZSVÁR András.



SASAKI Kichisaburo from my album.
Year when the photo was taken is unknown.