

Study on the Working and Living Environment of the Chinese Graduates of Japanese HEI who Work in Japan: From the Comparison with the Graduates of Other Countries and the Comparison between Those who Major in Science & Engineering and Those who Major in Humanities & Social Sciences

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In this research, a framework was made to analyze the push and pull factors related to the settlement of Chinese Graduates of Japanese HEI in Japanese society. Questionnaire and interview survey were constructed based on the framework. Through these surveys, the authors try to compare the choice of employment, perception of working and living environments between Chinese and other country graduates and those who majored in science & engineering and those who majored in humanities & social sciences among Chinese graduate in order to draw implications to promote their settlement and e their contribution to their workplaces.

As the result of the survey, Chinese graduates showed stronger tendency to seek employment related with their mother country than the graduates of other countries. It became also clear that those who majored in science & engineering attach more importance on the technological strength, competitiveness and English speaking environment in their choice of workplace than those who majored in humanities & social sciences.

As for the working environment in Japanese companies, Chinese graduates tend to have stronger discontent with promotion and consideration as foreigners than the graduates of countries. Among Chinese graduates, those who majored in science & engineering tend to work in larger companies, to have more income, more consideration as foreigners and less Japanese language requirement than those who majored in humanities and social sciences.

As the result of multiple regression analysis, setting the their perception of suitable working place as objective variable and their evaluation of various elements of working environment as explanatory variables, it was found out that among the Chinese graduates working in Japanese companies, the utilization of their expertise and Japanese language ability are the strongest elements to explain the suitability of working place while the consideration as foreigners, clarity of role & responsibility and not too strict work requirement are more important explanatory factors among the graduates of other countries. It is a good contrast that requirement of Japanese language ability and high work requirement are positive explanatory valuables for the Chinese graduates and negative explanatory variables for the other country graduates. Among the Chinese graduates

who majored in humanities and social sciences, the utilization of Japanese language ability is a positive explanatory valuable for the suitable workplace, reflecting their willingness to use Japanese ability as their advantage.

Regarding living environment in Japan, Chinese graduates tend to give higher evaluation about procedures at the government offices and medical care than the other country graduates. The overall satisfaction about living environment is higher than the overall satisfaction about working environment in both Chinese and other country graduates.

The above results indicate that Chinese graduates have higher adaptability to Japanese companies than the other country graduates, considering their positive attitude towards the requirement of Japanese language ability and high work requirement. However, because Chinese students are the largest foreigner group and have relatively higher language ability, they tend to receive less consideration as foreigners.

The understanding of these differences between Chinese and other country graduate, and between those who majored in science & engineering and those who majored in humanities and social sciences will lead to create a working & living environment which will promote their settlement in Japan.

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