

MS KIM HII OCK:

First, I will show a video made by a student in 2001.

(Video shown)

This is a poem which was presented at the opening ceremony of Haja Productions School. The person who wrote this poem was a young boy who was at Haja from the beginning when it first opened in December 1999 and participate in the school making project up to the opening of the school in December 2001. The school making project was started by young people who said, "It is not that we do not want to study. We just do not like school. Let us standardise university and centres school system". They wanted to make a fun and exciting school where they could study what they wanted and as much as they wanted. The young boy who wrote this poem called himself Kim Orura and he made a short animation film based on this poem. You saw this film.

I will talk about a few facts that many of you are curious about the Haja Centre. Haja was a project which was thought to be unsuccessful unless it was a joint effort, a project by civilian, government and the academic world. That is why young cultural artists in music, design and visual work, the young people of Seoul and humanity scholars of Yanze University worked together. Later for the global network project it was thought that it was not civilian, governments, corporate, academic came together. Every thing we -- Haja received a corporations product vision and renew its contract with city government. Right now Haja has renewed its contract three times.

Haja is located at the old labour youth centre, the building was not being used any more and upon receiving the building from the city government, designers and young people remodelled it to create the present Haja. The staff at Haja Centre know very well that much can be said through the spaces we use. City government gives the Yanze University a grant.

Yanze University was officially commissioned by city government to run the Haja Centre. The city audit asked us to check if our using people's tax money the right way, but does not actively take part in the general management of the centre.

Sixty to 70 per cent of the management budget of Haja comes from the city grant, 30 to 40 per cent from corporate funding raising, employment and other sources of income. Drop outs or young people from low income families all have the right to receive quality education and that is in fact why we intentionally received the support from the city government.

We believe that the tax we pay should be used in such projects like Haja and we think we are really using tax in good use.

Haja started out with five studios in work design, popular music, digital video and civic culture. Currently Haja is comprised of three big projects, Haja Production School, global school and Doridan, and 45 other similar experimental project. We do not know which of these smaller experimental projects will develop into bigger ones but right now the people at Haja are very much interested in the newly started weekend market.

The weekend market is a show case of the cultural products of Haja as we raise the market for others in fair trade, success for youth enterprise and few youth venture enterprises in the pilot stage.

Everyday about 120 young people came to Haja to participate in the various projects. About 2,000 come to Haja not everyday, but from time to time to learn or work through the project. It is expected that there will be an increase of people whose entry not to Haja but come to Haja every once in a while for its market, cinematic, big and small parties, open library resource centre and other community services which we intend to expand.

From this point, it can be seen that Haja started out with young people between the ages of 16 to 19, as target groups, and they are still the main groups. But from last year we have been increasing project intended for a more diverse age group. This is because it has been increasingly difficult to define the range of young people and also because we fear that there are many people from other age groups who are energised from youth centred activities.

Furthermore, it is becoming an age when life long learning is a necessity and we need a suitable learning model to meet that need.

Not all the young people are drop outs but most of the young people who come to Haja they are drop outs. But there are over 60 people who work at Haja, including instructors and resident artists and 25 full-time staff members. The work that they do comprise of not only classes for the young people but also project management of other institutions. The staff at Haja also established a global network, diverse schools domestically and internationally. This is because we believe that young people living in this global age need training to understand and live in a global society and also to know about the existence of so-called tribe in a sense of sensitivity, similar sensitivity of other countries.

The young people go to Thailand, Philippines, Laos and other countries for exposure project. Parties like seeking tribes are often held at Haja. Many people ask how we thought of making a place like Haja. Haja is a place where there is an effort for a deeper self-reflecting understanding of our society and through this reflection think and research issues and alternatives.

Haja, on the other hand, also often refers to other groups and the experience of our countries.

I will end up my speech and I will show atmosphere of Haja, present Haja market place, and the parties. So, last video, thank you very much.

(Video shown)

Thank you very much.