

## When traveling life's journey, it's good to have a sister's hand to hold on to

Division of Comprehensive Prosthodontics Simonne Salazar  
Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Andrea Rei Salazar

A sister's quote says, "When traveling life's journey, it's good to have a sister's hand to hold on to". A quote befitting our strong sibling relationship, our combined strength in going through life's happiness and travails in and out of our home turf.



We are Andrea Rei Salazar and Simonne Salazar, sisters from the Philippines. Currently, both PhD students in Niigata University, Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences.

My sister and I had dreams of visiting Japan, long before, as tourists, to witness its unique culture and traditions, view its scenic spots, hobnob with its wonderful people and relish its world-renowned cuisine. But lo! God gave us more- to study and live in Japan.



I am Andrea Rei Salazar, a first year PhD student in the Niigata University, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. I am a nurse and dentist by profession. I graduated from the University of the East College of Nursing and am a licensed nurse in the Philippines and the United States. I worked as an Emergency room; Intensive Care Unit and Operating room nurse at St. Gabriel Medical Center, a family owned hospital. While I graduated from Centro Escolar University College of Dentistry Makati Campus as a dentist, the largest private dental school in our country. I am a licensed dentist in the Philippines and had my externship at the Philippine Children's Medical Center Pediatric Dentistry Division. At the moment it is an honor for me and my sister to be among the PhD students of Niigata University.

My sister is Simonne Salazar, a graduating PhD student in the Niigata University Division of Comprehensive

Prosthodontics. She graduated from Centro Escolar University College of Dentistry Makati Campus and was a former teacher in the same University before pursuing postgraduate studies in Japan. She had her externship in the Department of Oral Surgery, in the largest government hospital in our country, The Philippine General Hospital.

Interestingly, we are both PhD students armed with positivity, a world of possibilities and courage that we could conquer the world ahead of us and as sisters we are each others light in darkness and most especially we are each other's torch in happiness and in going through life's journey.

