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NAME

Alvand Miraliakbari

ORIGIN

Iran

UNIVERSITY

Stuttgart University of Applied Sciences

STUDY PROGRAMME

Ph.D. Student

WEBSITE

www.hft-stuttgart.de

When he was six years old, Alvand Miraliakbari received a camera as a present from his parents. Photography has been Alvand's hobby since then and in a way, this present showed him the way to his professional dedication: photogrammetry. While earning his Bachelor's in surveying engineering in Teheran, Iran and thereafter, he gained five years of practical professional experience in supplying maps using techniques such as photography, field stereo check, GPS operation and laser scanning. When he discovered the Master's course brochures from the University of Applied Sciences in Stuttgart in 2005, he was attracted immediately, sent an e-mail to the course director and received a very warm and friendly answer. «I really have to thank the professors of the HfT and the staff of the international student office for their helpful advice, support and all their efforts to make my stay as enjoyable and academically effective as possible.»

In Alvand's class in Stuttgart, students from Africa, Central America, Asia and Germany came together to earn their Master's degree within two years. »It was hard work and since most of us had to earn money due to the fees and the relatively high cost of living, we couldn't go on trips very often,« Alvand recalls. »But the excursion to Bad Boll at the beginning of the course is one of my best experiences in Germany.« Growing together as a group, discussing various expectations and individual targets, learning more about teamwork through interesting games – Alvand thinks the

well-organized week is just a brilliant idea. Regular monthly city tours to destinations such as Heidelberg or Blaubeuren and academic excursions add even more benefit to the Master's course at the HfT in Stuttgart.

Alvand Miraliakbari is an ambitious graduate student: »I'm not satisfied with my Bachelor's and Master's degree. I want to proceed towards a PhD. I have taught younger students before and it is a challenge for me to become a teacher or professor at a university.« Concerning research, Alvand wants to focus on providing solutions for developing countries. »I

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want to make it cheaper and easier for poor countries to generate geomatic information. Google Earth, for instance, is a basis in which additional information could be integrated to keep maps up-to-date at all times.« But photogrammetry does not always involve long ranges such as in aerial applications. It can reach down to very small dimensions in medical and dental care applications, for example. Measurement by viewing through a camera can thus also lead to the improvement of medical care. 🐾

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