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## Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by linsi - 2007/04/20 08:22

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hi john

is it possible that there is a different page for lighter topics about asia concentrating on:

asian culture/customs and traditions  
asian family setup/ customary marriages  
asian foods/ preperations  
tropical medicines  
asian fashion and lifestyle

etc?

Just asking...

regards  
linsi

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by kayum - 2007/04/20 10:43

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Good call Linsi... I agree that there should be a balanced program in AO.  
More of the "light" stuff but not too light I hope. I'd still prefer sensibility over sensationalism... but that's me. :P

+ Asian cuisine prep... I like! :woohoo:  
+ Anything & everything Asian...

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by Sandvand - 2007/04/20 18:35

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Hello,

I am open for suggestions and welcome any discussion about which topics we should cover on Asia Observer.

Two questions from me:

- Are you proposing new content pages with news, etc, or are you proposing new discussion forums?
- If you have to choose: Exactly which 2 or 3 news topics will you suggest

I encourage everybody to join in this discussion - which I am sure will conclude with some changes.

JohnB)

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by Jacques - 2007/04/20 22:08

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What propose our friend Linsi cannot be in the news which have to be "professionnal" but created in a new box as blogs, forums or Book store.

But before that you have to complete and improving what that already exist

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by linsi - 2007/04/21 03:23

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hi kayum

thanks for that, you see when we have another page strictly for these lighter side, we all can connect easily and would definitely form a rapport as asians and french and norwegians :lol:  
for example:

when we discuss filipino dish with coconuts i definitely would say all asians have coconuts on some of their cuisines so that is one form of affinity don't you agree? :lol:

another: arrange marriages (culture) and more...:lol:

musta na? (how are you?)

linsi

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by Sandvand - 2007/04/22 18:52

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I agree we should find an arena for the "lighter" stuff - the question is how. I will give it some thought and come back with a suggestion within a few days.

Please continue the discussion in the meantime.

JohnB)

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by Jacques - 2007/04/22 22:05

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Hi Linsi

Ok for the filipino dish with coconut. Rush in the kitchen, I am coming with the french wine. Please Invite John to join us and also the contributors for this forum. A have enough wine for all of you :P

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by kayum - 2007/04/23 11:16

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John,

While you're at it, try to come up with a witty tab title for these "lighter" stuff... Definitely separate from the formal News, Blogs, etc.

Hmmm... Our food with French wine. Lovely...  
Bring it on Jacques! :woohoo:

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by Sandvand - 2007/04/23 18:02

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And what should that witty tab title be? Any suggestions?

John:P

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by linsi - 2007/04/23 18:59

hello jacques

:cheer: it is well known that france is famous for its wine, so we are expecting your wine to overflow, with or without the coconuts...:lol: all are expecting john to be at the helm. btw,what is norway famous for when it comes to food and beverages? :dry:

See? what a relief that we could share lighter moments here..

:)

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by linsi - 2007/04/23 19:02

hi kayum

may idea ka ba kung anong dapat tab title? hala :lol:

(do you have any idea for the tab title?)

:unsure:

Post edited by: linsi, at: 2007/04/23 19:05

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by linsi - 2007/04/23 20:58

Here are some suggested title tabs

I am not sure if it fits..at least i tried :lol:

Asia fair  
Life in Asia  
Windows to Asia  
A Touch of Asia  
Knowing Asia

:blush: :whistle: :unsure:

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by Jacques - 2007/04/23 23:04

What do you introduce in each tab ? Someones look identical.

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## Re: Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by linsi - 2007/04/24 13:36

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hi jacques

i thought it only needs one separate page for the lighter topics with one title tab am i right?:dry: or does the page need several tabs? correct me please.

example a separate page entitled Windows to Asia or Aisa Fair etc... then there would be topics and articles in this page about asian customs and traditions, asian fashion (example indian inspired dresses) shopping, ( Bangkok offers cheap and amazing merchandize) asian foods, etc....dry:

honestly i don't have any idea of AO's configurations.

:) I was just thinking of a separate page for lighter articles about areas i mentioned previously :)

:unsure: :dry: :blush: ;)

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## Re: Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by kayum - 2007/04/24 14:06

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One separate tab containing a scroll down menu for the 2 best \*new\* light article sections. Is that what you had in mind Linsi?

ooohh... It's taking shape.

:woohoo:

Post edited by: kayum, at: 2007/04/24 14:07

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## Re: Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by admin - 2007/04/24 16:57

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Hi everyone. I think having a "lighter" section would be great.

What do you think of doing the following:

1. Making a top menu item which would lead to the "lighter content" section (call it whatever you like, for now)
2. In this section we could have several categories of content, like Linsi mentioned (each category would display its title and the number of articles in it)
3. Under each of the categories we would have articles.

How do you like the suggestion?

After we decide on this, there is also issue of getting the articles on certain topic. And also on categories to create.

Rafael

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## Re: Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by Jacques - 2007/04/24 22:27

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Hi Linsi and others,

I have already suggested the name of entertainment for the light subjects and I don't think necessary to divide it. The titles of the articles should be sufficient

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by Sandvand - 2007/04/24 23:04

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Hello everybody,

After following this discussion closely, here is what I suggest:

We establish a forum called "Asia life" - meant for entertainment, culture, food, humour, etc, the so-called "lighter" stuff. It will be organized under the general forums.

I think adding one more forum is enough at this stage. In the future we might add more if it is a success.

What do you think? If you agree we can establish the forum tomorrow.

JohnB)

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by Jacques - 2007/04/24 23:26

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Hey John and others,

John, I agree and support your suggestion. I think that with your different kinds of users, we have to separate the "professional" news from the "lighter" ones.

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## Re:Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by linsi - 2007/04/25 00:20

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Hello John

I think my concept goes well with what Rafael just stated. I just thought it would not be just a forum page but a separate section page with articles similarly posted the way we do it in AO's homepage, with tool bars such as

Asian Fashion  
Asian Foods/Diets  
Asian herbal medicine  
Asian customary traditions  
Asian tea time whatever  
etc...

If this is possible, considering the fact that we have already General Forums section at the bottom of the homepage with 3 boards-the general, nonsense and asia observer, I was thinking about the present General Forums could also be blended or incorporated to the lighter side as suggested.

But any which way, thank you for considering my suggestions.

linsi

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QUOTE RAFAEL:

Hi everyone. I think having a "lighter" section would be great.

What do you think of doing the following:

1. Making a top menu item which would lead to the "lighter content" section (call it whatever you like, for now)
2. In this section we could have several categories of content, like Linsi mentioned (each category would display its title and the number of articles in it)
3. Under each of the categories we would have articles.

How do you like the suggestion?

After we decide on this, there is also issue of getting the articles on certain topic. And also on categories to create.

Rafael

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## Re: Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by kayum - 2007/04/25 03:16

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Hi guys!

Correct me if I'm wrong... "observers" would then be able to share articles about, let's say the latest Asian fashion trend, on this category (let's use John's Asia Life) in the same manner as we do on the Home page right? It won't have the "reply" option like we have on forums. Any further discussions or opinions that could be raised about any article would remain with the Forums section.

B)

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## Re: Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & conte

Posted by Sandvand - 2007/04/25 07:03

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Linsi,

That makes your proposal a little clearer to me. Thank you!

Whether it is indeed possible from a technical point of view to run "two instances" of the "Share articles" function on the site, I am not sure. I will discuss that with Rafael, who is our technical webmaster. (it is indeed an international team running this site, with Rafael in Serbia, Peachy in the Philippines, me in Norway, and members all over the place)

Kayum, Rafael and I have also earlier discussed adding functionalities to the "Share articles" function. One is giving people a short-cut to start discussion threads about articles that are shared. Another option, which we hopefully will implement shortly, is to have a tab in your profile page with a list of the articles you have shared, just like you have today with your forum posts.

Doing it the way Linsi suggests is probably a good idea, but I think it would take some work.

My suggestion thus is that we start with the "Asia Life" forum and go the next step a little bit later when solutions are established.

John

Post edited by: Sandvand, at: 2007/04/25 07:07

Post edited by: Sandvand, at: 2007/04/25 07:09

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## Re: Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by linsi - 2007/04/25 13:52

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Hi kayum

you said it right, that is actually my proposal.

:)

This is exactly ideal leaving an open area for forumers to post what they have in mind regarding a particular article..

Example there was this shared article entitled "a bridge too near"(referring to tsing ma bridge)- hong kongers could well relate and could post their opinions about that, through the forum sections only, leaving the article strictly for reading.

Post edited by: linsi, at: 2007/04/25 14:16

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## Re: Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by linsi - 2007/04/25 14:05

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Hi john

you suggested we start with the "Asia Life" forum and go the next step a little bit later when solutions are established.

This is a similar invitation implied by AO since my day one( 1 ), as a matter of fact it is well described in the page forums when we click Forum tool bar, but it seems many are too shy to post.

What we intend to do is for all to get in and break the ice,

Let us take a closer look at our Forum page.

It says country forums. It has all the asian countries to be precise.

What I was thinking was a discussion coming up with similarities of our cultures, food, fashion, customs in asia, and also knowing differences at the same time uniqueness of each asian countries.

There would be the article shared about the lighter side and then replies would then be posted in the general forums as what kayum suggested.

Let's take burma for example it says in the country forums:

Burma

Life under military rule giving the impression that it is only for the military junta- but burma also have her own trends in woman's outfit and small details about their women, courtship and marriage, medicine, kitchen and food preparations. I think burma is not all about military rule, life has to go on for them as a matter of fact their aspirations in everyday life are fiery from within.

When we put Asia life in the lighter side, example

We also put everything about Asian fashion, setting aside the "we" factor instead replacing it by the "us" factor" to blend and to fuse as Asians.

that is the lighter side i was thinking but then again i am grateful that this suggestion was taken into consideration by both Rafael and you.

to jaques and kayum,

am just glad that our minds meet in considering this proposal for the lighter side.:)

:) :) :)

Post edited by: linsi, at: 2007/04/25 14:27

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## Re: Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by Sandvand - 2007/04/25 19:23

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Thanks again, Linsi, for elaborating your suggestions! You make some valid points.

As I have mentioned in another forum, I will be going to the Philippines next week. Pokkha and I plan to spend quite a few hours together to discuss what improvements we can make to the site. One important issue will be the forums and how we organize them. Now we have noted many good suggestions, which we will take into consideration. I think some reorganization of the forums will follow out of this, maybe some other parts of the site as well.

We will let you all know what we suggest, probably by the end of next week. And we will follow this thread closely in the meantime.

Thanks again!

JohnB)

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## Re: Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by Jacques - 2007/04/25 23:42

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Hi admin,

As I already wrote to John in a personal message, I don't understand why we are asked to click the name of the country or countries on which we send a shared article. But if later we open the concerned country on left in the home page, we cannot find what we have sent.

For instance, for me, when I prepare a paper on a country, I would be happy to see again the articles I send because they look interesting and useful as my point of view. Currently, I am obliged to search in last month or last year among a lot of articles on a lot of countries.

It could be very useful that clicking on the name of a country, we can find also all the shared article or perhaps a another topic "Archive" of shared article country by country.

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## Re: Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by admin - 2007/04/26 11:56

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Hi Jacques,

That is a good point. We started work on the sharing pages with the intention to have ability to browse shared articles by category (country). That is why you are asked to provide the country when you share an article.

We will be working on the improvements of the sharing subsystem on the site, and this will be one of the options, for sure.

Thank you for your good suggestion.

Rafael

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## Re: Suggestions for AO layouts, designs & contents

Posted by Jacques - 2007/04/26 22:35

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Hi Admin

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Thank for your answer, This point is very important for me. If I contribute to anime A.O. I am also waiting from him.

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