



KAKEHASHI Project

Japan's Friendship Ties Program (USA) Jewish Americans

Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under "Japan's Friendship Ties Program", 15 Jewish Americans visited Japan. During the 8 days program from January 10th to January 17th, 2016, the participants studied the Japanese government, society, history, foreign policy, culture and much more. The participants aim to promote Japan through mediums such as SNS.

2. Participating Countries and Number of Participants

USA (15 Participants)

3. Prefectures Visited

Tokyo, Gifu Prefecture and Fukui Prefecture

4. Program Schedule

January 10th (Sun)	Arrival at Narita International Airport
January 11th (Mon)	【Orientation】 【Lecture】 "Japan's Foreign Policy" by the North American Affairs Bureau, MOFA 【Observation】 Meiji Jingu Shrine, Harajuku Move to Gifu Prefecture
January 12th (Tue)	【Courtesy Call】 Yaotsu Town 【History】 Sugihara Chiune Memorial 【School Exchange】 Yaotsu-cho Yaotsu Tobu Junior High School
January 13rd (Wed)	【Courtesy Call】 Tsuruga City, Fukui 【Site Visit】 Port of Humanity Tsuruga Museum, Rekbrick Warehouse, Municipal museum
January 14th (Thu)	【Visit】 Ministry of Foreign Affairs 【Courtesy call】 Ambassador Mr.Sato 【Discussion】 Think Tank Researchers(JIIE)
January 15th (Fri)	【Visit】 Israel Embassy in Japan 【Visit】 American Embassy in Japan 【Discussion】 Jewish community of Tokyo 【Discussion】 Journalists
January 16th (Sat)	【Workshop】 【Observation】 Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building

【Reporting Session】

January 17th (Sun)

【Japanese culture】 Tea ceremony experience

【Historical Architecture】 Asakusa

Departure from Narita International Airport

5. Program Photos



1/11 【 Observation 】 Meiji Jingu Shrine/Harajuku (Tokyo)



1/12 【 History 】 Chiune Sugihara Museum(Gifu)



1/12 【 School Exchange 】 Yaotsu-cho Yaotsu Tobu Junior High school(Gifu)



1/12 Discussion Session with University Students(Gifu)



1/13 【Courtesy Call】 Tsuruga City(Fukui)



1/13 【 Observation 】 Port of Humanity Tsuruga Museum(Fukui)



1/13 【 Observation 】 Tsuruga Red Bricks(Fukui)



1/13 【 Observation 】 Tsuruga City Museum(Fukui)



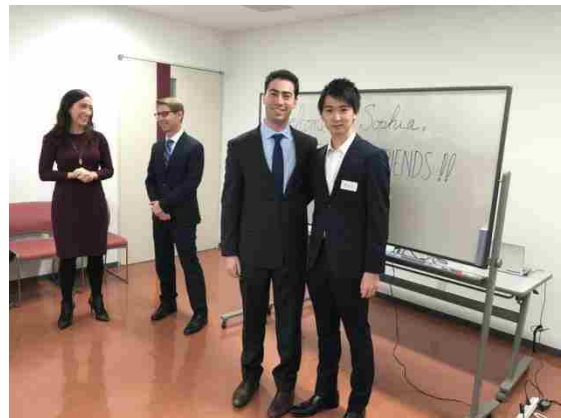
1/14 【Courtesy Call】 Ambassador Mr. Sato (Tokyo)



1/14 Discussion with Think Tank Researchers (Tokyo)



1/15 Visit to Israel Embassy in Japan (Tokyo)



1/15 Discussion/Lunch Session with Sophia University Students (Tokyo)



1/15 Discussion with a Journalist (Tokyo)



1/16 Workshop (Tokyo)

	
1/16 Reporting Session (Tokyo)	1/17 Asakusa (Tokyo)

6. Voice from Participants

◆ USA Chaperone

Impressed me most: deep sense of history and culture of the Japanese people, genuine interest of Japanese people in learning more about Jews and Israel. What I would like to share when I return home: What impressed me about the trip (see above) – I also plan to speak to AJC, organize talks at AJC for Kakehashi participants and speak with Japanese, American, and Israeli diplomats about this experience. The experience at the Junior high school was really special for the AJC Kakehashi participants. The warmth and passion we felt made us feel welcome, and really allowed us to experience the true Japanese culture.

◆ USA Student





I enjoyed a lot about this trip, especially visiting the embassies and talking with the students. Before the trip I had also never heard the story of Sugihara, which I found very interesting when we had the opportunity to talk with the students I felt like I learned a great deal about Japanese culture and daily life. When we visited the embassies I liked discussing the positions of the US and Israel in relation to Japan. I also really liked learning about the political and economic positions of Japan, and their efforts around the world trying to maintain peace.

◆ USA Student

1. Sugihara memorial museum in Yaotsu town
 - commitment to telling the story & educating Japanese culture about the Holocaust & moral courage.
2. Japanese foreign policy
 - Japanese strategy of maintain third-party status in order to mediate conflict and provide economic & humanitarian aid all over the world.
3. Japanese culture & society
 - The warm hospitality in the prefectures
 - Teen culture & fashion in Harajuku

- Strong educational system seen at Sofia university
- International focus
- The wonderful afternoon spent learning, singing, and playing with the bright & kind students at the junior high school in Yaotsu town.

7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

 <p>Amazing experience visiting Tsuruga, the entry point for Jewish refugees during WW2 #Sugihara #kakehashi2015 #AJCAPI</p>	 <p>Honored to speak today in Yaotsu #Japan, home of Sugihara. Joined here w/ mayor of Yaotsu. #kakehashi2015 #AJCAPI</p>
Twitter	Twitter
	
<p>Group A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events/Lectures • Articles • Social Media • Student Groups • AJC • Business Meetings • Shabbat 	<p>Group B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Op-eds • Presentations to student, religious, and professional groups • Networking and programs with local consulates • Social Media • Academic Papers
Action Plan	Action Plan