



Japan's Friendship Ties Program (USA)
KAKEHASHI Project
Asian American Leadership Program Report

1. Program Overview

As part of the Exchange Program “KAKEHASHI Project,” 10 Asian Americans visited Japan. They stayed in Japan from October 2 to October 9 to participate in programs aimed at promoting their understanding of Japan with regard to Japanese politics, economy, society, culture, history, and foreign policy. Through the lectures by ministries observation of the historical landmarks, and other experiences of the traditional Japanese cultures, the participants enjoyed a wide range of opportunities to improve their understanding of Japan and shared their individual interests and experiences through SNS. To wrap up the whole program they exchanged opinion with MOFA officers on the contents to dedicate for the future program

【Participating Countries and Number of Participants】

United States of America : 10 participants

【Prefectures Visited】

Tokyo, Hiroshima, Kyoto

2. Program Schedule

Oct 2 (Sun.) **【Arrival】** Arrival at Narita International Airport and Haneda Airport

Oct 3 (Mon.) **【Orientation】**

【Courtesy Call】 Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Takei

【Lecture】 Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Asian and Oceanian Affairs

 Bureau and North American Affairs Bureau

【Lecture】 Cabinet Secretariat/Office of Policy Planning and

 Coordinator on Territory and Sovereignty

Oct 4 (Tue.) **【Local Industry】** Tsukiji Market

【Observation】 Edo Tokyo Museum

 * Group A: **【Lecture】** Ministry of Justice/Japanese Regal System/Intellectual
 Property Law

【Lecture】 Cabinet Office/Measures to the Aging Population of Japa

 * Group B: **【Lecture】** Reconstruction Agency / Recovery for the Great East
 Earthquake

【Lecture】 Cabinet Secretariat / Growth Strategy

- Oct.5 (Wed.) **【Observation】** Diet Building
【Cutting-edge Technology】 National Museum of Emerging Science
【Historical Landmark】 Meiji Shrine
Move to Hiroshima
- Oct. 6 (Thu.) **【Historical Landmark】** Miyajima (Itsukushima Shrine)
【Historical Landmark】 Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park
【Traditional/Cultural Experience】 A-bomb Survivors Testimony
【Observation of World Heritage】 Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum
- Oct. 7 (Fri.) **【Regional Industry】** Japanese Sake Winery (Fushimi)
【Nature】 Arashiyama Area
【Historical Landmark】 Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion)
【Cultural Experience】 Experiencing Zazen Meditation,
Tea Ceremony & observing Japanese Garden.
- Oct. 8 (Sat.) Move to Tokyo
Opinion Exchange with MOFA officers
- Oct.9 (Sun.) Departure from Narita Airport

3. Program Photos

Tokyo



【Lecture】 Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau (Tokyo)



【Lecture】 Cabinet Secretariat/Office of Policy Planning and Coordination on Territory on Sovereignty (Tokyo)



【Courtesy Cal】 Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Takei (Tokyo)



【 Local Industry】 Observation of Tsukiji (Tokyo)



【Observation】 Edo Tokyo Museum (Tokyo)



【Lecture】 Reconstruction Agency (Tokyo)



【 Lecture 】 Cabinet Secretariat (Growth Strategy) (Tokyo)



【Reporting】 Exchange of Opinion & Wrap-up with MOFA officers (Tokyo)

Hiroshima, Kyoto



【 Observation of Historical Landmark 】
Miyajima Island and Itsukushima Shrine
(Hatsukaichi City)



【 Observation of Historical Landmark 】
Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park (Hiroshima
City)



【 Testimony of A-bomb survivor 】 Hiroshima
National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic
Bomb Victims (Hiroshima City)



【 Observation of Regional Industry /
Company 】 Gekkeikan Okura Sake Museum
and sake brewery (Kyoto City)



【 Historical Landmark 】 Kinkakuji Temple
(Kyoto City)



【 Cultural Experience 】 Zen meditation at
Taizo-in Temple (Kyoto City)

	
<p>【 Cultural Experience 】 Tea ceremony experience in Taizo-in Temple (Kyoto City)</p>	<p>【Cultural Experience】 Japanese- style meal in Mitoko Restaurant, Gion area (Kyoto City)</p>

4 . Voice from Participants

◆ USA

- How deeply embedded the Shinto and Buddhist religion are within Japanese society.
- How clean, safe, and organized the cities are (Tokyo, Hiroshima and Kyoto)
- How great and efficient the public transportation (Subway and bullet train)
- How Japan is committed toward maintaining peace and limited use of nuclear power
- How beautiful the Shinto shrines are

◆ USA


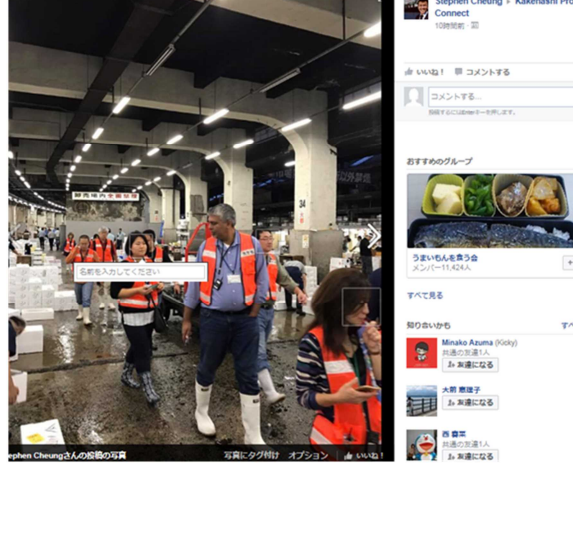
The culture and traditions of Japan are truly extraordinary! I was very impressed with Japan's respect to its long history and how the Japanese people incorporate its rich tradition in their daily lives. In this very modern society, it is more fascinating to see how Japan's history and traditions continues to influence and shape its people. Our history is less than 250 years therefore we lack the context to have a unifying culture. I think there is a lot that Americans can learn from Japan.

◆ USA

Each time I am fortunate enough to travel, especially to Japan, I am struck by the similarities we share as well as the differences that make Japan and its people unique. I was amazed and touched at the level of care and planning that was given to planning and executing our excursions and my most lasting impression will be that of the tireless efforts of staff. The extraordinary cleanliness and attention to detail that is found in everyday life in Japan aside.

It is still a city where people commute, live and play. I was deeply grateful to learn more about the spiritual and cultural values that drive Japanese society on this trip more than any others. My lasting impression of Japan is as a society with forward momentum and exceptionally kind and diligent people.

5. Dissemination by the participants

 <p>Harry Budisidhartaさんがカバー写真を変更しました。 10月7日 9:55 · 🌐</p> <p>Kinkaku-Ji ("Temple of the Golden Pavilion") in Kyoto, Japan. This is one of my favorite site during my Japan trip. The temple is very visually stunning when you see it in real-life. #Kakehashi2016</p> <p>翻訳を見る</p> <p>シェアする</p> <p>👍❤️ 40人</p>	 <p>Stephen Cheung · Kakehashi Project Connect 1088閲覧 · 0</p> <p>👍 いいね! 🗨️ コメントする</p> <p>👤 コメントする...</p> <p>投稿するに制限があります。</p> <p>おすすめのグループ</p> <p>うまいもんを食う会 メンバー1,428人</p> <p>すべて見る</p> <p>知り合いの</p> <p>Miyako Azuma (Giky) 共通の友達1人 お友達になる</p> <p>大野 麻理子 お友達になる</p> <p>西 隆宏 共通の友達1人 お友達になる</p>
<p>He reported the favorite site in Japan. (Face book)</p>	<p>He reported the excitement at Tsukiji Market in Tokyo. (Face book)</p>