

# JENESYS2016 Outbound Program (Philippines, Senior High School Students) Program Report

#### 1. Program Overview

Under "Japan's Friendship Ties Programs", 21 Japanese senior high school students and 2 teachers who are interested in introducing attractiveness of Japan overseas visited the Philippines. During the 9 days program from February 13 to 21, 2017, with the theme of "60th Anniversary of the Normalization of Diplomatic Relations between the Philippines and Japan", the participants learned the historical relationship of both countries from the lectures at Manila Shinbun and JICA Philippines. They then visited two high schools in Muntinlupa known as a place related to the theme and had fruitful exchange programs. Their presentations on Japanese culture, society and education were very exciting and attracted many of the local people. Through the flower offering and prayer ceremony for peace & harmony at Japanese Cemetery/Peace Memorial Monument where the both students altogether participated in, and the heart-warming home visit, they surely had unforgettable precious experiences to engrave into their heart. The participants are aiming to further promote the friendship of two countries through mediums such as SNS.

#### **Number of Participants**

Okayama Prefectural Tamashima Commercial Senior High School: 21 students and 2 teachers

#### **Country Visited**

Republic of the Philippines

# 2. Program Schedule

February 13 (Mon)	[Program Orientation]
	Dep. from Fukuoka International Airport~Arr. in Manila
February 14 (Tue)	[Courtesy Call] Embassy of Japan in the Philippines, National Youth
	Commission (NYC), the Philippines
	[History/Culture/Nature] Ayala Museum
February 15 (Wed)	[Visit/Lecture] JICA Philippines and Manila Shimbun
February 16 (Thu)	[School Exchange Program 1] Muntinlupa Science High School
February 17 (Fri)	[School Exchange Program 2] Muntinlupa National High School
	[Exchange Program on Theme] *Flower offering and prayer ceremony
	for peace & harmony at Japanese Cemetery/Peace Memorial Monument
February 18 (Sat)	[Home Visit Program]
February 19 (Sun)	[History/Culture/Nature] Intramuros *Lunch at "Uniquease" restaurant
	run by NPO to support street children
	[Workshop]
February 20 (Mon)	[Reporting Session] / [Commercial Facilities]

# 3. Program Photos



2/14 【表敬訪問】国家青少年委員会(NYC)



2/14【日系企業訪問】まにら新聞:テーマ「E 比国交正常化 60 周年」に関する講義

[Courtesy Call]
National Youth Commission
(with NYC commissioner)

[Visit/Lecture] Manila Shinbun: Receiving the lecture specific to the Theme by a senior journalist



2/16【学校交流】モンテンルパサイエンスハイスクール:日本の伝統文化「昔あそび」の紹介



2/17【市内視察】モンテンルパ市の日本人墓地・慰霊碑/平和祈念塔:テーマ「日比国交正常化 60 周年」両国学生による平和祈念セレモニー

[School Exchange Program 1]

Muntinlupa Science High School:

Introducing Japanese traditional games

【Exchange Program 2 on Theme】
Muntinlupa National High School:
Flower offering and prayer ceremony for peace & harmony at Japanese
Cemetery/Peace Memorial Monument



2/18 【ホームビジット】



2/20 【報告会】

[Home Visit Program] [Repo	orting Session]
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### 4. Voice from Participants

# ♦ Okayama Prefectural Tamashima Commercial Senior High School Student

There are two things that I left in the impression. The first one is to have dedicated flowers and offered prayers for peace and harmony at the memorial monument for the Japanese soldiers and Filipino soldiers including Buddhist Priest Kagao Syunin with our buddy students of the Philippines. We learned about Mr. Kagao for the first time in our prior learning before coming to the Philippines. I learned that he was a hero who came to the Philippines to support a lot of Japanese soldiers put in prison. However, when I learned from the lecture at the Manila Shinbun that some Filipinos would still think that he is a bad guy as he saved the Japanese soldiers who claimed many of their fellow lives, I realized how cruel things Japan did in the past. I thought that such atrocities should not be repeated again. In such circumstances, I was able to swear peace with our Filipino friends, so I'd like to convey the young generation of Japan that such a tragedy will never be happened again.

The second one is the warmth of people in the Philippines. Everyone who participated in this program now know that Filipinos are very kind and interesting. I can speak a little English, but I always smiled naturally. There are a lot of such people as communicating with each other beyond words. Some people kindly keep controlling air condition in the room for us, and others taught a lot about the Philippines. Compared with Japan, it may be rude to compare, though, Filipinos can be so kind and caring in details. I would like to take this back to Japan and convey such great experiences to my friends and families by SNS. I would also like to recommend people who have never been to the country that they should visit the Philippines!

#### Okayama Prefectural Tamashima Commercial Senior High School Student

I learned a lot of things through this program. What made me surprised the most was the warm heart of the people of the Philippines. Their smiles and hospitality different from Japanese way impressed me so much. Actually, I couldn't hold my tears.

I came to know that the Philippines and Japan have been deeply related since long time ago. Therefore, I would like to do something for our better lasting relationship based on the experience I had in this program.

We had a lot of fun when we played Japanese traditional children's games with Filipino students. Everyone smiled at each other. I strongly hope that Japan and the Philippines will be good friends forever.

Even if it is very difficult to realize, I would like to study abroad and make the best use of what I have learned in this program and what I will learn and experience in the future for the world. I think that English is amazing. Languages are amazing. English makes my vision wider and helps me to express my feelings. I would like to study English more seriously. I would like to keep in touch with the friends I met through this program and also the ones I made friends in Facebook, and make efforts to meet them again.

### Okayama Prefectural Tamashima Commercial Senior High School Student

In this program, I was so much impressed by the good nature of Filipinos. When we visited a school, my buddy willingly escorted me and I felt that my worries were blown away at once. I experienced a lot of things that I could not imagine when I was in Japan. Before going to the Philippines I learned history and current situation of the country, but while I actually stayed there, I learned more things that could not have been learned, unless I go there. Since I was told to be careful not to get pickpocketed, I thought that it must be a very dangerous country. In fact, I didn't have any of such bad experience and everyone rather spoke to me very kindly. I was so glad when people talked to me with smiles instead of getting frustrated with my poor English.

This experience made me want to visit more foreign countries. To do so, I want to study English harder. I was very surprised when some Filipinos spoke to me in Japanese. My buddy at the school taught me a lot of Tagalog language. So I taught her Japanese language. Even though our languages and life-style are different, I was able to spend the 9 days happily, thanks to the local people who kindly helped me a lot. I think I will never forget this experience and I hope that the Filipino people met there will also not forget me. I really hope to see them again.

I would like to share this experience and memories with as many people as possible, instead of just keeping them to myself. Some people may think that the Philippines is a dangerous country, so I think we should tell many people about the good points of the Philippines. I hope that more people will feel like visiting the Philippines.

#### 5. Voice from Filipino Students

#### ♦ Muntinlupa Science High School Student

Because of this exchange program, the Philippines and Japan were able to unite with each other and communicate while exchanging information about each of our own country. The ties of Philippines and Japan's friendship are evident. The Japanese showed the history, background, culture, and it was very informative and pleasing to know. I grew to love Japan more and more and appreciated what I know. It was a fun and beautiful event. We deepened our understanding by knowing our history, religion, culture, having fun, and became friends more each other. I am really looking forward to the next opportunities.

#### Muntinlupa Science High School Student

The Japanese students were really fun to be with and appreciable. During the drum performance, I was amazed by how synchronized they were. For me, what they did seemed not easy, but they did the performance very fine enough to make me appreciate their culture more. Their ability to speak English wasn't a hindrance at all because we can teach them how. What matters most are the ideas and thoughts that they'd want to share with us. And I think they were able to portray it well that time.

The exchange program has been a great opportunity for all of us. We have learned from them as much as they have learned from us and that's considered as a great achievement.

A lot of effort was exerted for this program and I was thankful it turned out successfully. Participating in this exchange program proved to me that the best was to learn is to experience. A single thank you cannot explain my gratitude, words even. It was a great experience and I'll never get tired to do it all over again.

# ♦ Muntinlupa National High School Student

I appreciate their performance very well. Even in that day we met, they shared for what they have in Japan and those students demonstrated their talent very well, and because of that, the Filipinos and Japanese were connected to each other by spending good time together. Especially I felt very warm attitude of them to us and was happy that they chose us the Philippines as a country to visit and exchange. By sharing such experiences we came to understand more each other, and I never thought that we Filipinos and Japanese could be as one in this way.

### ♦ Muntinlupa National High School Student

They were so amazing when performing "Wadaiko" Japanese drum performance, and they were friendly and so discipline that I hoped to know more about them.

I was so happy that our school was picked up for them to visit in this exchange program. We were excited to show them our culture too. It's also helped us to communicate with another country to establish the bond. I hope this kind of exchange program will happen again.

#### 6. Information Dissemination by Participants



【日本の魅力の発信:和太鼓の実演】 太鼓クラブで練習を積んだ代表生徒の素晴ら しい演奏は、本格的な日本の伝統文化に触れ た現地生徒を魅了し、日本への感心を大いに 高めた。

【Japanese Traditional Drum Performance】
The excellent drum session by the students of school drum club attracted many local



【テーマ:日比国交正常化60周年】 ゆかりある慰霊碑/平和祈念塔にて、両国 学生は共に献花と平和祈念のセレモニー を行った。貴重な交流の機会を日比参加者 はそれぞれに SNS を通して発信した。

【Joint Program on Theme】
The students of both countries offered flowers and peace prayers altogether at

students increasing their interest to Japan.

Japanese peace memorial monument and share the precious experience by SNS.

# 7. Action Plan presented at Reporting Session



# 【アクション・プランの発表 1】

数々の気づきと経験、テーマに沿って深められた両国が共有する歴史背景、友好関係、将来の可能性、また、フィリピンへの関心等を発信すべく、報告内容をまとめ、発表への準備を行う。

[Action Plan 1] To summarize report and prepare for debriefing sessions inside and outside the school in order to disseminate a lot of awareness and experience, the historical background shared by the two countries deepened along the theme, friendship, future possibilities, good points of the Philippines, etc.



【アクション・プランの発表 2】

学内、文化祭での発表、報告資料の配付、地方テレビ局(たまテレ)との協働による特番放映など、周囲に広く認識してもらう。また、引き続き SNS を活用して、交流を継続、両国の友情を育む。

[Action Plan 2] To make presentations, distribute reports, and provide materials with local TV station (Tama Tele) to air a special program, etc. in order to share the experiences widely to surrounding people; and to continuously promote SNS communication to nurture the friendship between the two countries.