

JENESYS2017 In-bound Program 9th Batch Report
Country: Vietnam, Lao PDR, the Philippines
Theme: (Culture) Japanese Language Communication/ Exchange in Japanese Culture

1. Program Overview

22 participants from Vietnam, 18 participants from Lao PDR and 21 participants from the Philippines visited Japan from November 14 to November 21, 2017 as part of “JENESYS 2017” under the scheme of “Japan's Friendship Ties Program” and participated in the program with the theme of “Japanese Language Communication/ Exchange in Japanese Culture”.

In Tokyo, the participants attended the lecture on Japanese history and culture, and then moved to each rural region according to their group to experience a homestay there. They actually communicated with their host family in Japanese, interacted with local people and learned about the history and culture of each prefecture.

Through the exchange with Japanese people, they also gained a broad understanding of Japan, and shared their interests and experiences by social media. Based on those findings in Japan, participants made group presentations in the final session and reported their action plans, which are to be implemented after returning home.

【Participating Countries and Numbers of Participants】

22 participants (Vietnam), 18 participants (Lao PDR), 21 participants (the Philippines)

【Prefectures Visited】

Tokyo (All), Chiba (22 participants), Ishikawa (18 participants), Fukushima (21 participants)

2. Program Schedule

Vietnam

November 14 (Tue)	Arrival 【Observation of Historical Landmark】 The Imperial Palace 【Orientation】
November 15 (Wed)	【Lecture on Japanese Culture/Key Note Lecture】 【Cultural Experience】 Fukagawa Edo Museum 【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Asakusa (Senso-ji Temple, Nakamise)
November 16 (Thu)	【Visit to School】 Meiji University Surugadai Campus

- Move to Chiba
- 【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Akagi-jinja shrine
 - 【Cultural Experience】 ISSA-SOJU Memorial Hall (Tasting Japanese cake (Wagashi) and Hojicha tea)
 - 【Courtesy Call】 Nagareyama City Hall
- November 17 (Fri) 【Observation of Regional Industry/Company】 Local Shopping district (Futon shop / Tatami mat shop)
- 【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Machi-naka Museum
 - 【Observation of Regional Industry/Company】 Nagareyama Kikkoman Company (Mirin Factory)
 - 【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Sengen-jinja shrine
 - 【Meeting with Host Family】
- November 18 (Sat) 【Homestay】
- 【Luncheon】
- November 19 (Sun) 【Homestay】
- 【Workshop】
- 【Exchange Meeting with Local People】
- November 20 (Mon) Move to Tokyo
- 【Observation of Cutting-Edge Technology】 National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan)
 - 【Visit to Commercial Facility】 Odaiba
 - 【Reporting Session】
- November 21 (Tue) Departure
- Lao PDR**
- November 14 (Tue) Arrival
- 【Observation of Historical Landmark】 The Imperial Palace
 - 【Orientation】
- November 15 (Wed) 【Lecture on Japanese Culture/Key Note Lecture】
- 【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Asakusa (Senso-ji Temple, Nakamise)
 - 【Observation of the Capital】 Tokyo Tower
- November 16 (Thu) Move to Ishikawa
- 【Courtesy Call】 Kanazawa City Hall
- November 17 (Fri) 【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Kenroku-en (a strolling-style landscape garden), Kanazawa Castle Park
- 【School Exchange】 Kanazawa University
 - 【Meeting with Host Family】
- November 18 (Sat) 【Homestay】

November 19 (Sun) **【Exchange Meeting with Local People】**
【Workshop】

November 20 (Mon) Move to Tokyo
【Visit to Commercial Facility】 Odaiba
【Reporting Session】

November 21 (Tue) Departure

the Philippines

November 14 (Tue) Arrival
【Orientation】

November 15 (Wed) **【Lecture on Japanese Culture/Key Note Lecture】**
【Cultural Experience】 Fukagawa Edo Museum
【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Asakusa (Senso-ji Temple,
Nakamise)

November 16 (Thu) Move to Fukushima
【Courtesy Call】 Minamiaizu Town Hall

November 17 (Fri) **【Cultural Experience】** Snow Cavern, Maezawa Magariya Village
【School Exchange】 Minamiaizu High School
【Meeting with Host Family】

November 18 (Sat) **【Homestay】**

November 19 (Sun) **【Exchange Meeting with Local People】**
【Workshop】

November 20 (Mon) Move to Tokyo
【Visit to Commercial Facility】 Odaiba
【Reporting Session】

November 21 (Tue) Departure

3. Program Photos

(All groups: Visit to Tokyo)

	
<p>11/15 【Lecture on Japanese Culture/Key Note Lecture】</p>	<p>11/20 【Reporting Session】</p>

(Vietnam: Visit to Chiba)





	
<p>11/16 【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Akagi-jinja shrine</p>	<p>11/16 【Courtesy Call】 Nagareyama City Hall</p>
	
<p>11/17 【Observation of Regional Industry/Company】 Nagareyama Kikkoman Company</p>	<p>11/19 【Exchange Meeting with Local People】</p>

(Lao PDR: Visit to Ishikawa)

	
<p>11/16 【Courtesy Call】 Kanazawa City Hall</p>	<p>11/17 【Observation of Historical Landmark】 Kanazawa Castle Park</p>
	

11/17 【School Exchange】 Kanazawa University	11/19 【Exchange Meeting with Local People】
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(the Philippines: Visit to Fukushima)

	
11/16 【Courtesy Call】 Minamiaizu Town Hall	11/17 【Cultural Experience】 Maezawa Magariya Village
	
11/17 【School Exchange】 Minamiaizu High School	11/18 【Homestay】

4. Voice from Participants (abstract)

◆ **Vietnam, Student**

I was very happy to be given the opportunity to visit Japan. During this visit, I was able to gain a lot of knowledge and experience. In the lecture on Japanese culture, I was able to deepen my understanding of the country of Japan, Japanese people, the present situation in Japan, and Japan's good points and bad points. I thought these pieces of information would help me a lot in studying in Japan in the future. What was the most exciting part of the exchange program was my homestay. Through this homestay, I was able to learn about traditional Japanese cooking, how to behave in a Japanese home, and how to dress in a kimono. Japanese people were polite, gentle, and always kind to me, so I came to like them very much. I felt very sad when I had to part with them.

◆ **Vietnam, Student**

On a study tour of a tatami mat shop and a futon shop, I was able to gain a deeper understanding of Japanese tradition and Japanese people. It was very interesting to see

how to make a tatami or a futon. After this trip, I wanted to cherish those things craftspeople had put their heart into making.

The host family welcomed me warmly, taking care of me in a very courteous manner. The family members were very kind. Mother was a very good cook and Father was good at taking care of the children. That was the first time I'd ever felt such warmth in a house whose residents I had never met before. I was so moved that I wanted to have the same nice personality the Japanese people have.

◆ **Lao PDR, Student**

I am happy that through this visit to Japan, I learned a lot of things from Japan, and broadened my view of the world. On the first day, I visited the Imperial Palace, and there I was able to learn the history and culture of Japan. I was moved by this. And during the subsequent orientation, I was happy to meet students from Vietnam and Cambodia.

At Kanazawa University, it was really a good thing to make friends with Japanese university students. At Kanazawa City Hall, I learned about the measures adopted by the city to attract tourists, the protection of culture, and how people in Kanazawa maintain their traditional lifestyle. During my homestay, I received warm hospitality. I enjoyed the meals very much. Thanks to my kind host family, I was able to learn the Japanese way of living.

◆ **Lao PDR, Student**

In the Lecture on Japanese Culture, I learned that in product development, we can create a better product by empathizing with the people who actually use the product and understanding the needs of consumers very well.

At Kanazawa City Hall, I was able to learn the policy for the integration of development and conservation, that is, the policy in which development must be made while protecting the daily life of local people.

Through this JENESYS Program, I met not only Japanese people but also a lot of people from abroad, and I thought I had to work harder. I would like to grow more than now by utilizing the knowledge and experience I gained in Japan.

◆ **the Philippines, Student**

The school exchange is very impressive! I have learned what to do in a tea ceremony and did some calligraphy. I really love the bitter taste of Matcha. However, the time is quite limited.

The government office is also amazing. It is mostly made of their local wood! As expected from Japanese Engineers, very resourceful and never fails to amaze me.

Of course, the home stay, it was quite awkward at first but as time passes, you'll get comfortable with them since they are showing their greatest hospitality to you. I had a hard time not to cry when we are leaving.

Lastly, I was shocked when I learned about study abroad program in Japan since I would

definitely take the one!

◆ **the Philippines, Student**

On my first step at Narita Airport I never thought-expected to be this cold I am so fascinated. My most favorite part was the school exchange program the students were very friendly and at first it was very awkward because there was a language barrier. Overall it was fun and I cried because I can't-I don't want to leave!!

Meeting my foster family is very nerve wracking because it's my first time to stay in a Japanese people we don't know. My host mother cooks delicious foods and she prepares a lot and we always get full because of it. I'll surely come back here and visit them.

5. Voice from Japanese Students/Schools/Host Families/Organizations

Vietnam

◆ **Host family**

That was the first time we'd ever hosted people from abroad. In addition, we had to host a high school student, who belonged to the generation with which, at an ordinary time, I rarely interact with. At first, I thought it would be embarrassing to host such a young person, but I found it the most memorable that I was able to enjoy my daily life with him, say, cooking takoyaki at home, and going out together.

◆ **Host family**

I was really moved that she prepared meals together, and cooked Vietnamese dishes. Based on these experiences, I really would like to host a student from overseas if I have another opportunity. I am thankful for being given this valuable opportunity.

Lao PDR

◆ **Host family**

I was able to spend time together with her like a family member by going out together and having meals together. We had a wonderful time preparing breakfast together, having a conversation under the kotatsu (a Japanese heater table) while making origami. She spoke Japanese very well and was a friendly student. I myself enjoyed being with her.

◆ **Host family**

We enjoyed communicating with him because he had a good command of Japanese. We felt happy because he was satisfied with everything and expressed his gratitude.

the Philippines

◆ **Host family**



I have hosted students from overseas many times. I always find that they are very honest.

Even though we can only speak a few words in each other's language, I come to understand what they want to say after being with them for a couple of days. The students participating in this exchange program were energetic and pleasant.

◆ **Host family**

I was able to interact with them without feeling the inconvenience caused by the difficulty in making myself understood. They enjoyed the seasonality. They were very polite students.

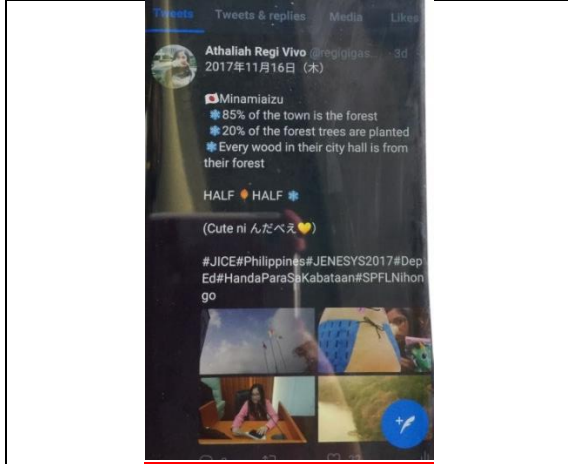
6. Dissemination by the participants

	
<p>(Vietnam) About Mirin (Facebook) On a study tour of a factory in Nagareyama City where mirin, an essential condiment used in Japanese cuisine, is produced, we learned the mirin production process and tasted three distinctive condiments—tsuyu (soup base), soy sauce, and mirin—produced in this factory. Also, in everyday meals, we enjoyed numerous dishes containing mirin.</p>	<p>(Vietnam) About homestay (Facebook) I made a lot of memories during this visit to Japan. Among them was the homestay, which I will never forget. I am greatly thankful to my host family, who made these beautiful memories for me.</p>

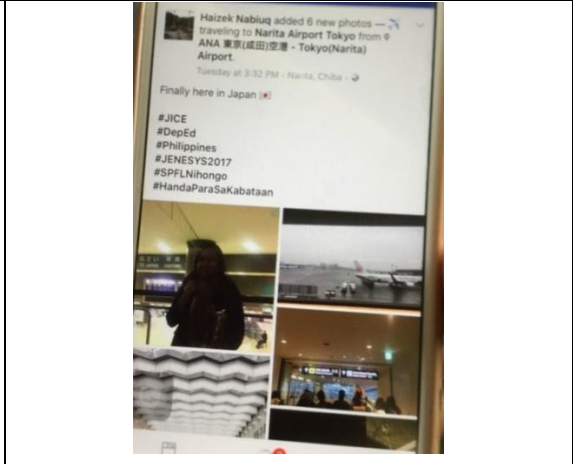


(Lao PDR) About scenery (Facebook)
Nice atmosphere! Although it is raining, it's romantic!

(Lao PDR) About Homestay (Facebook)
My host family was very kind. I really enjoyed it. Thank you very much.



(the Philippines) About Minamiaizu town (Facebook)
85% of the town is the forest, 20% of the forest trees are planted, Every wood in their city hall is from their forest



(the Philippines) About Japan (Facebook)
Finally here in Japan!