



KAKEHASHI Project (United States of America)
Inbound program for Congressional Leaders the 3rd slot
Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under the “KAKEHASHI Project” of Japan’s Friendship Ties Program, 6 Congressional Leaders from the U.S. visited Japan from March 17 to March 24, 2019 to participate in the program aimed at promoting their understanding of Japan with regard to Japanese politics, economy, society, culture, history, and foreign policy. Through the lectures, observations and interactions with Japanese people etc., the participants enjoyed a wide range of opportunities to improve their understanding of Japan.

[Participating Countries and Numbers of Participants]

United States of America: 6 participants

[Prefectures Visited]

Tokyo, Kyoto, Okinawa

2. Program Schedule

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| Mar. 17 (Sun) | Arrival |
| Mar. 18 (Mon) | 【Lecture】 North American Affairs Bureau of Ministry of Foreign Affairs 【Observation of Company】 NEC Corporation 【Lecture】 National Security Strategy 【Lecture】 Ministry of Defense |
| Mar. 19 (Tue) | 【Lecture】 U.S. Embassy in Japan 【Lecture】 Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) Headquarters at the Cabinet Secretariat Office 【Observation】 National Institute of Information and Communications Technology Move to Kyoto from Tokyo |
| Mar. 20 (Wed) | 【Observation of Company】 SHIMADZU Corporation 【Observation】 Kyoto Yaoichi Honkan, Shijō Kawaramachi |
| Mar. 21 (Thu) | 【Culture Experience】 Kodaiji Temple (Tea ceremony) 【Observation】 Shijō Kawaramachi 【Observation】 Suntory Yamazaki Distillery Move to Okinawa from Kyoto |
| Mar. 22 (Fri) | 【Observation】 Air Self-Defense Force Naha Base 【Observation】 Okinawa Liaison office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs |

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| | 【Lecture】 Special Assistant to the Minister for Foreign Affairs 【Observation】 Kakazu Koudai-Park, Tropical Beach, Kokusai Street |
| Mar. 23 (Sat) | 【Observation】 Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum ・ Memorial Monument for Okinawa 【Lecture】 Testimony of the War Survivor 【Observation】 Himeyuri Peace Museum Move to Tokyo from Okinawa |
| Mar. 24 (Sun) | Departure |

3. Program Photos

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| 3/18 【Lecture】 North American Affairs Bureau of Ministry of Foreign Affairs | 3/18 【Observation of Company】 NEC Corporation |
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| 3/18 【Lecture】 Ministry of Defense | 3/19 【Lecture】 TPP Headquarters at the Cabinet Secretariat Office |
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| 3/19 【Observation】 National Institute of Information and Communications Technology | 3/23 【Lecture】 Testimony of the War Survivor |

4. Voice from Participants

◆ I was able to learn about the present state of the Self Defense Forces and their relationship with neighboring countries. I am grateful for the straight-forward explanation of the various ministries.

◆ I observed the presentation and state-of-the-art systems organized by NEC with great interest. I have a lasting impression of eating fresh vegetables, homemade bread, steak, desserts made from in-season strawberries, and other foods in front of the rooftop farm at Kyoto Yaoichi. At Kodaiji Temple, the head priest gave us an explanation about the Zen temple, and while brief, I felt I learned a lot about it.