

JENESYS2018 ASEAN Outbound 1st Batch Program Report

Theme: Japanese Culture, Technology Exchange (Singapore)

1. Program Overview

Under the “JENESYS2018” of Japan's Friendship Ties Program, 18 Japanese university students visited Singapore from October 9 to October 17, 2018 to participate in the program aimed at promoting the understanding of Japan with regard to its politics, economy, society, culture, history, and foreign policy. This batch is held under the theme of “Japanese Culture, Technology Exchange”.

The delegation enhanced their knowledge about the relationship between Japan and Singapore, Singapore people, culture and lifestyle, through the meeting with government officials, observation of the Japanese-affiliated Company, school exchange, homestay experience, and city tour. During the school exchange program, they cultivated the friendship between Japan and Singapore youths, and they delivered a presentation of the attractiveness of Japan. They shared their individual discovery, interests and experiences through social media. In the final reporting session, they reported about both the discovery in Singapore and the action plans to be implemented after returning to Japan for government officials and local residents.

【School Names and Number of Participants】

Yokohama National University 6, Akita University 6, Osaka University 6

【Outline of presentation】

Osaka University: Japanese onomatopoeia

Akita University: Akita's Festivals and Events in each seasons, Agriculture in Akita

Yokohama National University: Japanese Matsuri

Performance: Radio Exercises, Yosakoi Dance, Festival stalls

2 . Program Schedule

Oct. 9 (Tue)	【Orientation】 , Departure from Narita International Airport Arrival at Singapore Changi International Airport
Oct. 10 (Wed)	【Courtesy Call】 Embassy of Japan in Singapore, Japan Creative Centre (JCC), 【Cultural Observation】 Merlion Park 【Observation of Japanese Organization】 Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Singapore
Oct. 11 (Thu)	【School Exchange】 Nanyang Technological University (NTU)
Oct. 12 (Fri)	【School Exchange】 National University of Singapore (NUS) 【Homestay】

Oct. 13 (Sat)	【Homestay】
Oct. 14 (Sun)	【Cultural Observation】 Peranakan Museum, Commercial Facilities, Arab Street, Little India, Chinatown 【Observation】 NEWater Visitor Centre
Oct. 15 (Mon)	【Observation of Japanese-affiliated company】 Nippon Express (Singapore) , 【Workshop】
Oct. 16 (Tue)	【Reporting Session】 , Departure from Singapore
Oct. 17 (Wed)	Arrival in Japan

3. Program Photos

	
Oct. 10 【Courtesy Call】 Embassy of Japan in Singapore	Oct. 10 【Cultural Observation】 Merlion Park
	
Oct. 11 【School Exchange 】 Nanyang Technological University (NTU)	Oct. 12 【School Exchange 】 National University of Singapore (NUS)
	
Oct. 13 【Homestay】	Oct. 14 【Observation】 NEWater Visitor Centre
	
Oct. 15 【Observation of Japanese-affiliated company】 Nippon Express (Singapore)	Oct. 16 【Reporting Session】

4. Voice from Participants

◆ University Student (Akita University)

In this visit, I was impressed by generosity of Singapore towards culture. Singapore is a relatively new country compared to other countries and has diversities in terms of food, religion and so on. Also, I was able to sense from their daily life that they mutually acknowledge each other and coexist. Japan is almost a single ethnic nation and may not be tolerant of cultural differences much as compared to Singapore. However, I thought that Japan side also needs to have foundation to accept diversity as we are disseminating Japan's charms to the world, and people will engage more and more with people from overseas. I am going to disseminate Japan's charms to the world through carrying out action plan. I personally would like to share charms of other countries which I found in this program.

◆ University Student (Yokohama National University)

Through this program, I was made to think "what Japan can be proud of". Before I went to Singapore, I thought that "Japan is a wonderful country! A developed country in Asia!", but I was overwhelmed by the high educational standards of the university, the scale of companies and the high level of technical skills in Singapore. However, no matter where I went I was asked that "Are you Japanese? Do you know this?", and they talked about Japan happily. I was proud of Japan as I looked at such people. As Singapore is said to be a young country, its history is short and there have been many elements for development. On the other hand, Japan has a long history and four seasons, regions from Hokkaido to Okinawa, have own charms. Also, there is a metropolitan city like Tokyo in Japan which has abilities to lead Asian countries. I thought Japan is a country which all these aspects are well integrated.

◆ University Student (Osaka University)

I learned about Singapore in prior to the visit to the universities, and asked questions about matters I concerned as well as characteristics of Singapore society that the local students think. I learnt a lot of charms of the country and thought it was a wonderful country. Also, I was able to tell it. I believe that it has led to further dissemination of charms of Japan since I was able to build friendship with the local students through such conversation. I think it was very meaningful for me to deepen mutual understanding with the students in Singapore and talk about differences of each society and national character of each country. In such situation, the local students said that he/she liked this part and that part about Japan and asked further questions regarding core places to visit and social systems in Japan with interest. I will continue being actively engaged in international exchanges regardless of national level or citizen level, and would like people in overseas to know the exact information and charms of Japan. I was able to re-recognize through this visit that it is important to build mutual trust by having interests and understanding of the partner. I would like to maintain contacts with the people in Singapore who have been able to build friendly relationship this time and to expand the

circle of mutual understanding.

5. Voice from local people

◆ Student (Nanyang Technological University (NTU))

I believe the JENESYS participants, both Japanese and NTU students, have gained a lot through interactions. Getting to see performances on both sides and explaining things have mutually shed light on each other's culture. But of course, I believe one exchange is not enough to understand everything, hence we, myself included, should access forward into understanding Japanese culture.



◆ Student (Nanyang Technological University (NTU))

It was engaging as they also for us to join them and interactive. The radio exercise and dance were fun. The presentation was engaging as the students engaged with the audience by asking questions to the audience and showing samples of things such as "green tea" and "Senbei (Rice crackers)". It was fun to dance and experience the radio exercise in Japan. I'm very interested in trying out the booth at the summer festivals in Japan as well. I learn a lot about Japan. Through the program I learned about the different prefectures in Japan from Hokkaido to Osaka to Akita. There was many things about Japan learned from their exchange that could not have been found out by reading online. Interacting with the students was fun and enjoyable. I feel that the biggest take away from this exchange was the experience of welcoming the students to NTU and seeing everyone's happy faces as they enjoyed the visit.

◆ Student (Nanyang Technological University (NTU))

This was my first hosting and it went really well, following the plan. I talked with a lot of Japanese students and made new friends. I also learnt a lot about the culture and am very interested to visit Japan. I would also like to visit the different universities and hope to be part of the program next year.

6. Dissemination by participants

	
Reporting Session	Exchange Program at National University of Singapore

7 . Action Plan Presented by Participants at the Reporting Session

<div>Action plan①『#日本からおはよう』 By using Instagram</div> <div><div>Field</div><div>economy, social, seasons, common of Japan</div></div> <div><div>Contents</div><div>Common life of Japan</div></div> <div><div>To whom</div><div>People all of the world</div></div> <div><div>When</div><div>Every Sunday</div></div>	<div>【Yokohama National University】</div> <div>“OHAYO from JAPAN”plan.</div> <div>We will post many articles about Japanese culture, which are common for Japanese at the first sight but actually do not know for those not living in Japan. We use Instagram, using hashtags #日本からおはよう(Hello from Nippon) and put unique and outstanding pictures, then make it easy to find our posts. Also by writing contexts in Chinese, Korean, English, Japanese and French, people who do google related words can find us.</div>
<div>The way to promote</div> <div><div>1. Social Media</div><div>Instagram,Facebook,Twitter</div></div> <div><div>2.Presentation at facilities in Akita</div><div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div></div>	<div>【Akita University】</div> <div>Our Action Plan is making use of social media continuously. We will post about Japanese life style, for example food, four seasons, custom like Oshogatsu, local festivals, scenery and songs that every Japanese know to Instagram and Facebook.</div> <div>We’re planning to post them more than once per a week. We’re going to inform people in all over the world of further exciting things.</div>
<div>Action Plan by Osaka University</div> <div><div>JapaNiche Tour for Japan Experts</div><div>Website "World culture in Japan"</div></div>	<div>【 Osaka University 】</div> <div>Our first action plan is The JapaNiche Tour for Japan Experts. In this action plan, our goal is to let people who have been to Japan find out more local places to visit. What we do for this plan is to organize and conduct a 1-day tour traveling unfamiliar local places around Kansai area. Its participants would be international students in Osaka University. Then, we will post articles about the trip for people out of Japan. We would like to contribute to Japan Creative Centre’s E-magazine</div>