

JENESYS2018 ASEAN Inbound Program 17th Batch Program Report Sports Exchange (Badminton), Country: Brunei Darussalam

1. Program Overview

14 youths (mainly university students) from Brunei Darussalam visited Japan from December 11 to December 18, 2018 under the scheme of "Japan Friendship Ties Programs: JENESYS2018" and participated in the program with the theme of "Sports Exchange (Badminton)."

The delegation deepened their knowledge about the circumstances of badminton in Japan through their visit to a theme-related facility in Tokyo and visited two schools to conduct sports exchanges with people of the same generation, deepened mutual understanding between Japan and Brunei, and cultivated friendships. In addition, they experienced homestays in Tochigi Prefecture and had the opportunity to be exposed to the Japanese people and the attractiveness of Japan directly. During the program, they externally disseminated information on each one's interests and experiences, and the attractiveness of Japan via Social Media. At the reporting session before returning home, they made a presentation on an action plan which utilizes the experience of their visit to Japan after their return to their home.

【Participating Country and Numbers of Participants】 Brunei 14 【Prefectures Visited】 Tokyo, Tochigi

2. Program Schedule

Dec. 11 (Mon) Arrival in Japan, [Orientation]

School of Daito Bunka Gakuen Educational Foundation

Dec. 13 (Wed) 【Cultural Observation】 Sensō-ji temple

[School and Sports Exchange] Nippon Sport Science University

Dec. 14 (Thu)
[Observation of Theme-related Site] Yonex Tokyo Showroom

Move to Tochigi Prefecture from Tokyo

【Homestay】 Ōtawara City

Dec. 15 (Fri) 【Homestay】

Dec. 16 (Sat) 【Homestay】

[Farewell Party with Local Residents and relevant Officials]

[Workshop]

Dec. 17 (Sun) Return to Tokyo

[Reporting Session]

Dec. 18 (Mon) Departure

3. Program Photos





Dec.12 【School and Sports Exchange】 Daito Bunka University Dai-ichi High School of Daito Bunka Gakuen Educational Foundation





Dec.13 [School and Sports Exchange] Nippon Sport Science University



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Dec.13 【Cultural Observation】 Sensō-ji temple

Dec.14 [Observation of Theme - related Site] Yonex Tokyo Showroom





Dec.15 [Homestay]

Dec.17 [Reporting Session]

4. Voice from Participants

♦ Brunei student

Everyone I met in this program was a nice person and was willing to welcome us, which makes me feel that I would like to come to Japan again and know more about the local regions of Japan rather than urban areas. I was also very happy to be able to meet other international students in Japan. I was able to talk with Japanese students and Canadian students. The foods were really tasty, fresh, and healthy. My host family was very warm-hearted and cherished us like their own daughters. They taught me how to eat meals they normally eat and traditional foods. For instance, we ate include sushi, matcha which can be enjoyed in a big tea bowl, etc. I would like to take the friendship and family bond, which I obtained here, back home as precious memories. I really appreciate everyone who allowed me to have such a wonderful experience.

♦ Brunei student

In the school exchanges and classes, I was impressed by the fact that Japanese students we met had looked up various things about Brunei and they are incorporating culture and sports into their study. Japanese schools have a spirit to keep discipline and to be punctual, which I thought is a difference from Brunei. Everyone was very kind to us and we learned a lot of things. During the visit to Yonex, it was wonderful that the history and stories such as various products and the science hidden behind them were being informed despite its small space. During a homestay, I had a very good time doing farm work, cooking, visiting sightseeing spots, etc. and learned a lot. I was happy that they also respected our religious customs and I could spend time without problems.

5. Voice from Japanese Locals

◆ **Staff** (Daito Bunka University Dai-ichi High School)

15 members of an international exchange committee were able to have an interaction in the morning, and 30 members of a badminton team were able to have the interaction in the afternoon. It was impressive that Brunei students smilingly waited for the students of our school who spoke without fluency. I have a feeling that there have been more students who gained interest/confidence in international exchanges since the exchange on this day. We have a motto of "letting all students have an international exchange" and are accepting a group visit to Japan. I was really glad as a person in charge.

◆ **Host family** (Ōtawara City, Tochigi Prefecture)

I was worried about (the acceptance because of) not having enough knowledge about Brunei Darussalam, but I was able to interact with them and I learned a lot. I really felt glad that I accepted students because everyone was touched by the largest-size of illuminations in Ōtawara City, swans (that herald) the arrival of winter, the biggest mask of Tengu in Japan, an appreciation of works of art at the Institute for Art Cultural-Studies, etc.

6. Dissemination by the Participants



On the first day in Japan, we visited Daito Bunka University Dai-ichi High School. I also learned about Japanese culture and the culture of a farther country, Canada, and after that, we played a badminton game with students belonging to a badminton club. I had a really good time, which makes me feel I would like to see them again.



On the third day, we took the body temperature of everyone (with a student from a group of Thai students visiting Japan) strictly by two people, and we saw the Thai students off for their departure after that. I was able to have cultural exchanges with Thai students, too. Then we went to Sensō-ji temple in Asakusa. In the afternoon, we took one and a half hours to get to the Nippon Sport Science University and held a badminton exchange match. Communication was difficult, but I managed to overcome it with body language and I was able to make a lot of friends.

7. Action Plan Presented by Participants at the Reporting Session



We will promote the JENESYS badminton exchange to the general public in order to ignite their interest in badminton through the JENESYS program.

- We will share this experience with the people of the Brunei Badminton Association and, with the help of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, we seek cooperation for the activities of JENESYS that we planned.
- At the exhibition booth, we will share our experiences and publicize the following badminton workshop.
- We will exhibit at weekly events held in the central square of the capital, promote JENESYS and the events we planned by the action plan, and ignite young people's interest in badminton.
- We participate in a youth conference, which is a big event for youths in Brunei. Then we inform them of JENESYS and our experiences and then encourage young people who are at that event to participate in JENESYS. It will also be utilized as an opportunity to promote events planned by the action plan.
- A badminton workshop will be held for those who are 8 to 18 years old and are not experienced in badminton. In doing so, we will also share what we learned in the JENESYS program, the history of YONEX we learned in the YONEX Showroom, the first-class badminton facilities and training in Japan, etc. and teach basic skills to beginners and high levels of skills to advanced players such that many young people become interested in badminton.
- We will hold a junior badminton competition in 2019. We will hold a tournament for those who are 8 to 18 years old every month. We will promote this activity through schools and universities, in order to increase opportunities for youths to get exposed to badminton.