

JENESYS 2020 Japan-Myanmar Online Exchange (Japanese Communication, Japanese Culture (Sub-theme: community invigoration))Report

1. Program Overview

[Objective] This program was conducted with the main objective of having people in Myanmar learning the Japanese language deepen their understanding of Japanese lifestyles, values, and the work environment and customs of Japanese companies through lectures conducted in Japanese, and to increase their interest in and affinity for Japan.

[Participants] Total: 77 undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty etc. in Myanmar who have been involved in Japanese language studies, research, and/or education for at least one year.

[Location] Tokyo

[Program Schedule]

This program was conducted jointly with JENESYS2021 Japanese Language and Culture Experience for Myanmar youths program.

Date	Program contents	Participants' questions and reactions
Location	Frogram contents	raticipants questions and reactions
October 24,	[Webinar, Q&A session]	In this lecture, details were given on
2021	1. Lecture	Japanese culture, religion, and
Tokyo	"Japanese Society and Culture"	education from the historical
	Lecturer: Ms. ANDRADE Hisami	backgrounds up to present day. Details
	2. Q&A	on Japanese people's work ethics,
	3. Commemorative photo	things to know when working for
		Japanese companies, and Japan's
		unique katakana expressions were
		shared.
		The participants seemed to be interested
		in Japanese life, customs, and remote
		education. They were especially amazed
		by the photos introduced such as the
		beautiful picture of Mt. Fuji, a company
		employee purifying his computer at a
		shrine, a whale's grave, and a memorial

tower. During the Q&A, questions were raised about Japan's food self-sufficiency, cost of living, komainu (guardian dogs), church weddings, and the influence of foreign words in the Japanese language.

2. Program Photos





October 24, 2021 [Webinar, Q&A session] Lecturer giving a PPT presentation on how people work in Japan.

October 24,2021 [Webinar, Q&A session] Participants from Myanmar attentively listening to the explanation on school education in Japan.





October 24, 2021 [Webinar, Q&A session]
Participants raising their hands asking questions during the Q&A on topics such as religious beliefs.

October 24, 2021 [Webinar, Q&A session] Commemorative photo taken after a lively Q&A

3. Voices from participants (excerpt)

♦ Working Youth

From this program, I was able to learn not only about Japanese culture but also new things about Japan. Since I am still working for a Japanese company, this lecture helped me to learn about Japanese work etiquette, which will be useful for practical use. I would like to learn more about Japanese culture and lifestyles, and I would like to learn more about specific topics in this program.

♦ Working Youth

I was able to learn a lot about Japanese culture and society. When I was a student at the University of Foreign Languages in Yangon, I had studied about Japan in the "Japanese affairs" course, but there were many things I did not know, such as the "Yaoyorozu deities, torii gate, shimenawa, komainu", which were very useful. I would have liked a longer lecture. I am grateful for the opportunity to participate.

♦ Working Youth

I was very grateful to be able to participate in this program. I truly enjoyed gaining a lot of knowledge that I did not know in today's lecture. Unfortunately, I was not able to enter a foreign language university, so I studied the language I was interested in, Japanese, at a local educational facility. I am very interested in Japanese culture. There are very few books related to Japanese culture written in Burmese, so I am very happy to hear such a lecture on Japanese culture. I would like to participate again if given the chance.

4. Voice from locals (excerpt)

♦ Lecturer

It was a pleasant surprise to see that more people than expected participated and most of them spoke very good Japanese. There were many questions on a wide array of topics, and I felt how enthusiastic the participants were. The question, "What should we do with no dreams in our current situation?" was heartbreaking, and considering the current situation in Myanmar, I was at a loss as to how to answer them, and I don't think I gave the appropriate answer. From the expressions of some of the participants on the screen, I could feel their interest in the lecture, and it became a truly fulfilling and enjoyable lecture.

5. Dissemination by the participants



October 24, 2021 (Facebook)

It was interesting to learn about 1. culture and religion, 2. education, 3. work, and 4. business etiquette.

It was interesting to learn that in the field of education, samurai education and terakoya education existed, and that some people have their computers purified at a shrine before starting a new job.



October 24, 2021 (Facebook)

Today, Ms. Hisami Andrade gave us a lecture on 1. Japanese culture and religion, 2. education, and 3. work. It was very interesting.

I'm not in this photo because I left the room when it was taken, but here is the group photo from today.

Implementation agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)