

## **JENESYS2024 Indonesia-Japan Multicultural Society Building Exchange (Invitation Program for Islamic Youths) Report**

### **1. Program Overview**

【Objectives and Overview】 Islamic youths from Indonesia were invited to Japan from January 28 to February 4 to promote their understanding of Japan and to raise awareness of multicultural society building. The participants visited Tokyo and Nagasaki, where they learned about multicultural society building, peacebuilding, religious beliefs, and Japanese traditional culture and history through site visits to relevant facilities, attending lectures, and homestays. Each participant shared what they learned in Japan through social media and other platforms.

【Participants】 Total: 16 university students and adults affiliated with Islamic organizations and national Islamic universities

【Locations】 Tokyo 16, Nagasaki 16

#### **【Schedule】**

This program was held jointly in part with the JENESYS2024 Indonesia-Japan Politics / Economy / Culture Exchange (Invitation Program) and the JENESYS2024 Indonesia-Japan Politics and Culture Exchange for Young Diplomats and Local administrative Officials (Invitation Program)

#### **■ Online Pre-study Program :**

Jan. 21 (Tue)                      **【Lecture on Japan】 “Attractiveness of Japan”**  
Lecturer: Mr. ODA Yuichi, Professor, Institute for Excellence in Educational Innovation (IEEI), Chiba University  
**【Pre-departure Orientation】**  
Set Period Prior to Arrival **【Task-based Learning (VOD)】** “Overview/Mission”, “Virtual Home Visit”, “Study Japanese Culture in Kyoto”, “Learning Japanese”

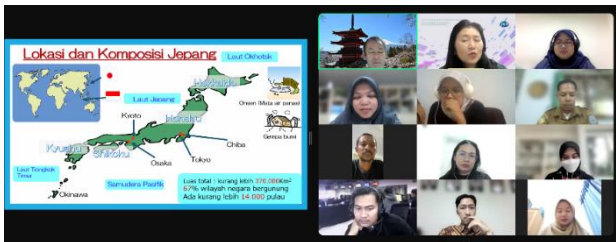
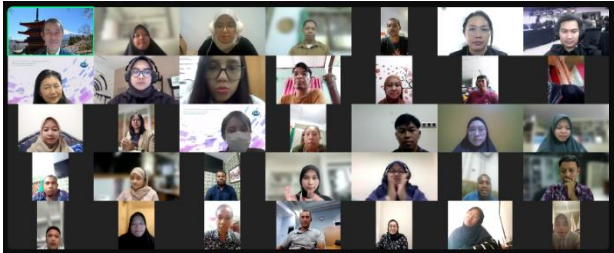
#### **■ Invitation Program :**

Jan. 28 (Tue)                      Arrival at Narita International Airport  
**【Post-arrival Orientation】**  
**【Theme Related Lecture】 “Islam in Japan”**  
Lecturer: Mr. MIICHI Ken, Professor, Graduate School of Asia - Pacific Studies, Waseda University  
**【Observation】 Asakusa**  
Jan. 29 (Wed)                      **【Observation】 Tokyo National Museum**  
**【Theme Related Observation】 Tokyo Camii and Diyanet Turkish Culture Center**



Jan. 30 (Thu)	Travel from Tokyo to Nagasaki 【 Courtesy Call 】 Mr. KAIFUCHI Hiroyuki, Director, Culture, Tourism, & International Affairs Department, International Division, Nagasaki Prefectural Office
Jan. 31 (Fri)	【Lecture】 Radiation Exposure Experience Talk Speaker: Ms. MATSUMOTO Mitoe 【Observation】 Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum 【Observation】 Peace Park 【Observation】 Dejima 【Observation】 Chinzei Grand Shrine SUWA Shrine 【Meeting with the Host Families, Homestay】
Feb. 1 (Sat)	【Homestay】
Feb. 2 (Sun)	【Farewell Party with the Host Families】 【Workshop】 Preparations for the Reporting Session (summarizing program findings, confirming social media posts, preparation of action plans)
Feb. 3 (Mon)	Travel from Nagasaki to Tokyo 【Reporting Session】 Presentation of program findings and action plans
Feb. 4 (Tue)	Departure from Narita International Airport

## 2. Program Photos

### Online Pre-study Program

	
January 21, 2025 【Lecture on Japan】	January 21, 2025 【Lecture on Japan】 Group photo

### Invitation Program

	
January 28, 2025 【Theme Related Lecture】 “Islam in Japan”	January 28, 2025 【Observation】 Asakusa



January 29, 2025 【Observation】  
Tokyo National Museum



January 29, 2025 【Theme Related Observation】  
Tokyo Camii and Diyanet Turkish Culture Center



January 30, 2025 【Courtesy Call】  
Nagasaki Prefectural Office



January 31, 2025 【Lecture】  
Radiation Exposure Experience Talk



January 31, 2025 【Observation】 Peace Park



January 31, 2025 【Observation】  
Chinzei Grand Shrine SUWA Shrine



February 2, 2025 【Farewell Party with the Host Families】



February 3, 2025 【Reporting Session】

### **3. Voices from the Participants (excerpt)**

#### **◆ Working Youth**

The homestay, which allowed me to experience Japanese culture firsthand through the daily life of a Japanese family, was the best part of the program. I also think the program in Nagasaki was unique, including a visit to the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum and hearing the story of an atomic bomb survivor. It was very moving, and it stirred my heart to want to continue maintaining peace.

#### **◆ Working Youth**

There were many programs during my stay, but the museums, such as the Tokyo National Museum and the Atomic Bomb Museum, were the most impressive. From the atomic bombing, prehistory, to modern times surrounded by cutting-edge technology, I felt how much the people and government of Japan value their history, not just the glorious eras but also the dark times.

#### **◆ University Student**

The best part of this exchange program was getting to know Japan's culture, history, people, and customs, and being able to build relationships with the Japanese people. Whether it was interacting with many Japanese people at various places we visited or spending time with the family during my homestay, every moment was enjoyable and filled with happiness. I'm so filled with joy that there are now words to express what I truly feel, but one thing is certain: every program was very meaningful and filled with new learning experiences.


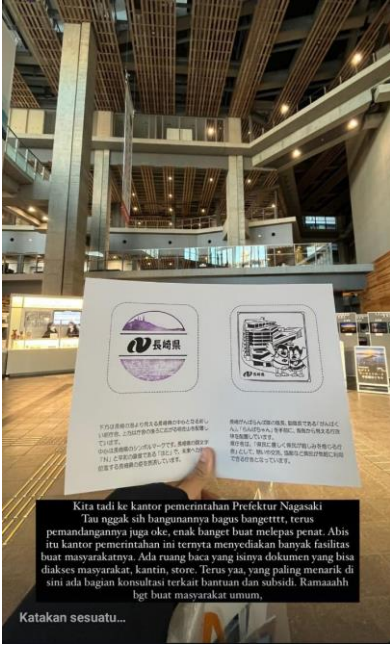
### **4. Voices from the Participants (excerpt)**

#### **◆ Host Family**

The time we spent at home was very fulfilling. We had a great time playing card games, and they were very kind to the children. When they asked to eat ramen, we went to the supermarket together to find some that didn't have pork extract, which was a bit difficult, but it became a wonderful memory. I want the children to know that kindness is overflowing all around the world, so I would love to host participants again in the future.



## 5. Disseminations by the Participants (excerpt), Articles, etc.

 <p>Waseda University: Islam dan Muslim di Jepang</p> <p>Setelah menempuh perjalanan panjang dari Jakarta, kunjungan pertama kami di Tokyo langsung dimulai dengan kuliah inspiratif di Waseda University bersama Prof. Ken Michii.</p> <p>Beliau memaparkan sejarah masuknya Islam di Jepang, perkembangan komunitas Muslim, hingga tantangan dan peluang halal food di Negeri Sakura. Diskusi ini membuka wawasan kami tentang bagaimana Islam berkembang di Jepang, serta bagaimana masyarakat Muslim menjalani kehidupan mereka di tengah budaya yang berbeda.</p> <p>Sebuah pengalaman berharga yang menjadi awal perjalanan kami di Jepang! 🇮🇩🇯🇵 #jenesys_asean #jenesys_2024 #WasedaUniversity #IslamDiJepang</p>	 <p>Kita tadi ke kantor pemerintahan Prefektur Nagasaki Tau ngak sih bangunannya bagus bangetrrrr, terus pemandangannya juga oke, enak banget buat melepas penat. Abis itu kantor pemerintahan ini ternyata menyediakan banyak fasilitas buat masyarakatnya. Ada ruang baca yang isinya dokumen yang bisa diakses masyarakat, kantin, store. Terus yaa, yang paling menarik di sini ada bagian konsultasi terkait bantuan dan subsidi. Rameaahh bgt buat masyarakat umum.</p> <p>Katakan sesuatu...</p>
<p>January 28, 2025 (Instagram)</p> <p>Working Youth</p> <p>Waseda University: "Islam in Japan"</p> <p>Our program in Tokyo, following a long journey from Jakarta, began with an inspiring lecture by Professor Ken MIICHI at Waseda University.</p> <p>The professor explained the history of Islam's introduction to Japan, the development of the Muslim community, and the challenges and opportunities of halal food in this land of cherry blossoms.</p> <p>Through discussions with the professor, we gained insights into how Islam has evolved in Japan and how the Muslim community lives within a different cultural environment, broadening our perspectives.</p> <p>It was a valuable experience, perfectly suited for the beginning of our journey in Japan.</p>	<p>January 30, 2025 (Instagram etc.)</p> <p>University Student</p> <p>We paid a courtesy call on the Nagasaki Prefectural Government. The building was magnificent, the view was stunning, and we forgot the fact that we were actually tired.</p> <p>Moreover, the prefectural government provides many services for the local community. There was a public reference section where people could access materials, as well as a cafeteria and a shop.</p> <p>What interested us the most was the consultation desk for support and grants. We felt that the administration was very kind and supportive to the residents.</p>



January 31, 2025 (Instagram)  
University Student

Let me introduce Ms. Matsumoto, one of the atomic bomb survivors in Nagasaki. When the atomic bomb was dropped, she was only three years old. She was too young to remember the events clearly, but the trauma from that time has never faded, leaving a scar in her heart even now at the age of 82.

When I asked her how she had overcome that trauma, she replied, "I keep telling myself that the world is peaceful now, so it's okay. Even if reality is different, there's nothing else I can do, so I try to convince myself that everything is going to be ok." She also shared a message for the younger generation: "Please protect peace in the world and in our surroundings so that no more victims have to suffer."

The impact of war is not only physical and material but also deeply affects the mind. Let's work together to create a safe and peaceful world for everyone.



February 14, 2025 (Embassy of Japan in Indonesia's website)

"Visit to Japan by young members of Islamic organizations, university students, and young researchers under JENESYS2024."

## 6. Presentations of Program Findings and Action Plan at the Reporting Session (excerpt)

Locations: Tokyo, Nagasaki (Presentations by a total of 3 groups)

### Group A-1



#### 【Results of the Program】

##### ◆ Learnings about Japan:

Japanese culture is gradually spreading in Indonesia, ranging from traditional elements such as Japanese cuisine and handicrafts to pop culture like manga, anime, and J-pop. During our visit to Japan, we learned about many things, including how polite and humble Japanese people are, as well as the sense of equality within families, where everyone cooperates to share responsibilities.

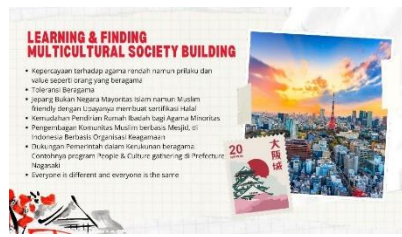
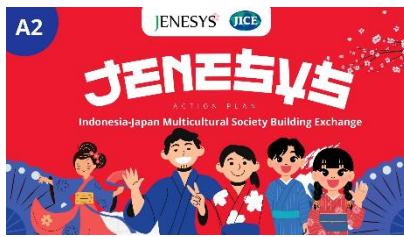
##### ◆ Learnings about Multicultural Society Building:

The Japanese people respect the cultures and beliefs of other ethnic groups and do not have a sense of superiority over other countries. Moreover, there is little social disparity, and people are guaranteed a rich and dignified life both in urban and rural areas. Public facilities are also well-equipped to accommodate people with disabilities. Japan's excellent disaster prevention system is something that Indonesia should learn from. However, finding halal-friendly restaurants in Japan is still challenging, making the strengthening of Islamic diplomacy an important issue.

#### 【Action Plan】

- Over the next three months, our entire group will submit papers and essays to academic journals and newspapers.
- In March, under the leadership of the Islamic organization Muhammadiyah, we will hold a webinar on "Disaster Risk Reduction." Japanese disaster prevention experts will also be invited as lecturers, aiming to enhance the capabilities of disaster prevention volunteers and disaster response organizations.
- The Muhammadiyah headquarters will host the "World Peace Forum" in April or May, with the goal of promoting peace and the abolition of nuclear weapons. We hope to invite representatives from Nihon Hidankyo (the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations) to give a lecture.

## Group A-2



### 【Results of the Program】

#### ◆ Learnings about Japan:

Japanese culture, such as Washoku (Japanese cuisine) and anime, has become more familiar to us. However, after visiting Japan, we discovered many fascinating aspects within the habits and values of the Japanese people. These include being disciplined, punctual, keeping the environment clean, maintaining etiquette everywhere, speaking politely, respecting one another, having a strong work ethic, and valuing history.

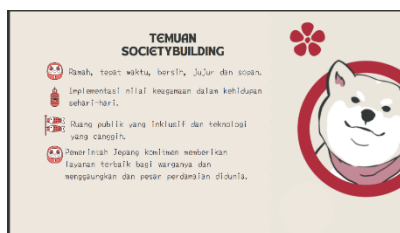
#### ◆ Learnings about Multicultural Society Building:

The Japanese people may not be deeply religious, but their behavior and values are similar to those of religious individuals. They demonstrate tolerance toward religion and provide support to maintain religious harmony, such as facilitating the construction of prayer facilities for Islam, even though the number of Muslim believers in Japan is relatively small.

### 【Action Plan】

- After returning home, for a period of three months, our entire group will share information about Japan, focusing on cultural and educational exchanges. We will use our personal social media, workplace TV stations, YouTube, and other platforms to spread awareness.
- In April, we plan to hold a talk show at the headquarters of the Islamic organization Nahdlatul Ulama, inviting representatives from the Embassy of Japan in Indonesia as guests.

## Group A-3



### 【Results of the Program】

#### ◆ Learnings about Japan:

We had heard about the discipline of the Japanese people and Japan's advanced technology, but experiencing it firsthand was truly eye-opening.

Seeing that there was no litter on the streets and that the phone and bag one of our group's members lost were quickly found made us realize Japan's strong sense of cleanliness and integrity.

#### ◆ Learnings about Multicultural Society Building:



Japan's religious landscape is highly diverse, and we realized that religious values are present in everyday life. In Nagasaki Prefecture, we observed a highly transparent administrative system and the government's dedication to providing the best possible services to its citizens. We also learned that Nagasaki continuously shares messages of peace with the world.

**【Action Plan】**

For three months after returning home, our entire group will engage in outreach activities from our respective locations. These activities will include seminars and promotional efforts, workshops, sessions to share experiences, and article submissions and publications in mass media.

Our goal is to promote concepts that we feel are still lacking in Indonesia, such as “public spaces that are accessible to everyone,” “advanced technology,” and “the development of disciplined, clean, and courteous youth, inspired by the Japanese people.”

Implementation Agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)