

JENESYS Indonesia-Japan Multicultural Coexistence Exchange (Invitation Program) Report

1. Program Overview

【Objectives and Overview】

Through this program, a group of eight young Muslims from Indonesia visited Japan from November 11 to 18, with the primary objective of deepening their interest in Japan and fostering awareness of peace and multicultural coexistence through lectures, site visits, and exchanges of views with relevant stakeholders on topics related to Japan, including traditional culture, history, and religion. The group visited Tokyo and Nagasaki, and each participant achieved the program's intended objectives. They also shared their experiences, insights, and the appeal of the places they visited during the program through social media and other platforms.

【Participants】

Total: 8 university students and adults affiliated with Islamic organizations and national Islamic universities

【Locations】 Tokyo 8, Nagasaki 8

【Schedule】

■ Online Pre-study Program :

Nov. 4 (Tue) 【Pre-departure Orientation】

Set Period Prior to Arrival 【Task-based Learning (VOD)】 “Overview/Mission”, “Virtual Home Visit”, “Message from Minamisanriku”, “Study Japanese Culture in Kyoto”, “Peace Tour in Hiroshima”, “The Host Town Initiative”, “Learning Japanese”

■ Invitation Program :

Nov. 11 (Tue) Arrival at Narita International Airport

 【Post-arrival Orientation】

 【Observation】 Tokyo National Museum

 【Observation】 Asakusa

Nov. 12 (Wed) 【School Exchange】 Kanto International Senior High School

 【Theme Related Lecture】 “Islam in Japan”

Lecturer: Mr. MIICHI Ken, Professor, Graduate School of Asia - Pacific Studies,
Waseda University

Nov. 13 (Thu) Travel from Tokyo to Nagasaki

 【Observation】 FORTHEES Co, Ltd

Nov. 14 (Fri) 【Lecture】 Passing Down Atomic Bomb Experiences

Speaker: Mr. HAKARIYA Michio

【Observation】 Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum and Peace Park

【Courtesy Call】 Mr. OKUBO Yukishige, Mayor, Isahaya City

【Lecture】 “Introduction to Isahaya City”

Lecturer: Mr. MURATA Makoto, Planning and Policy Division, Planning and Finance Department, General Affairs Department, Isahaya City

【Lecture】 “Disaster Measures of Isahaya City”

Lecturer: Crisis Management Division, General Affairs Department, Isahaya City

【Meeting with the Host Families, Homestay】 Isahaya City

Nov. 15 (Sat) 【Homestay】 Homestay and cultural experience

Nov. 16 (Sun) 【Homestay, Farewell Party with the Host Families】

【Workshop】 Preparations for the Reporting Session (summarizing program findings, confirming social media posts, preparation of action plans)

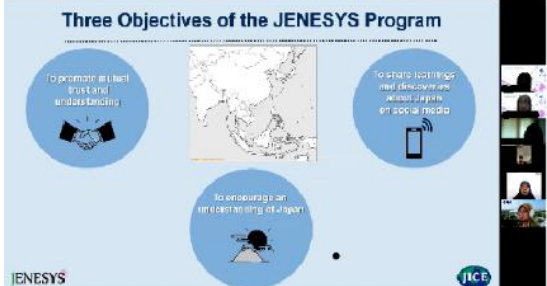
Nov. 17 (Mon) Travel from Nagasaki to Tokyo

【Reporting Session】 Presentations of Program Findings and Action Plans

Nov. 18 (Tue) Departure from Narita International Airport

2. Program Photos

Online Pre-study Program

	
November 4 【Pre-departure Orientation】	November 4 【Pre-departure Orientation】

Invitation Program

	
November 11 【Observation】 Tokyo National Museum	November 12 【Theme Related Lecture】 “Islam in Japan”

	
November 12 【Theme Related Lecture】 Campus tour of Waseda University	November 13 【Observation】 FORTHEES Co, Ltd
	
November 14 【Observation】 Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum and Peace Park	November 14 【Courtesy Call】 Mr. OKUBO Yukishige, Mayor, Isahaya City
	
November 15 【Homestay】	November 18 【Reporting Session】 Group photo

3. Voices from the Participants (excerpt)

◆ Working Youth

The most memorable part of the program was the homestay. By living together with Japanese people, I was able to see up close their everyday sense of discipline, kindness, communication style, and the way they show mutual respect. I used to have imagine that Japanese people were closed-off and not very considerate of others, but living with a host family completely changed my perspective.

They welcomed us with open arms, and they were incredibly attentive to our culture and religious needs in many thoughtful ways. I realized that warmth and kindness can be shown to others, despite any cultural differences. When hearts connect, friendship can grow beyond our imagination. That's something I deeply felt and something I do not want to ever forget.

◆ Working Youth

I was able to have so many truly amazing experiences. While learning about Japanese culture, I also tried to adapt to its emphasis on discipline and cleanliness. For example, I learned things like flushing toilet paper directly down the toilet is normal, people keep their living spaces clean, and cars on the road don't cut in people follow the rules and drive in an orderly fashion. I also noticed that not just on the roads, but everywhere, Japanese people have a habit of waiting their turn. I even started to feel that not doing the same would be embarrassing, and through these experiences, I was able to adapt to Japanese culture. It was a little chilly, but the weather was very pleasant and made for a wonderful experience. The sight of autumn leaves falling in the wind was absolutely beautiful.

◆ Working Youth

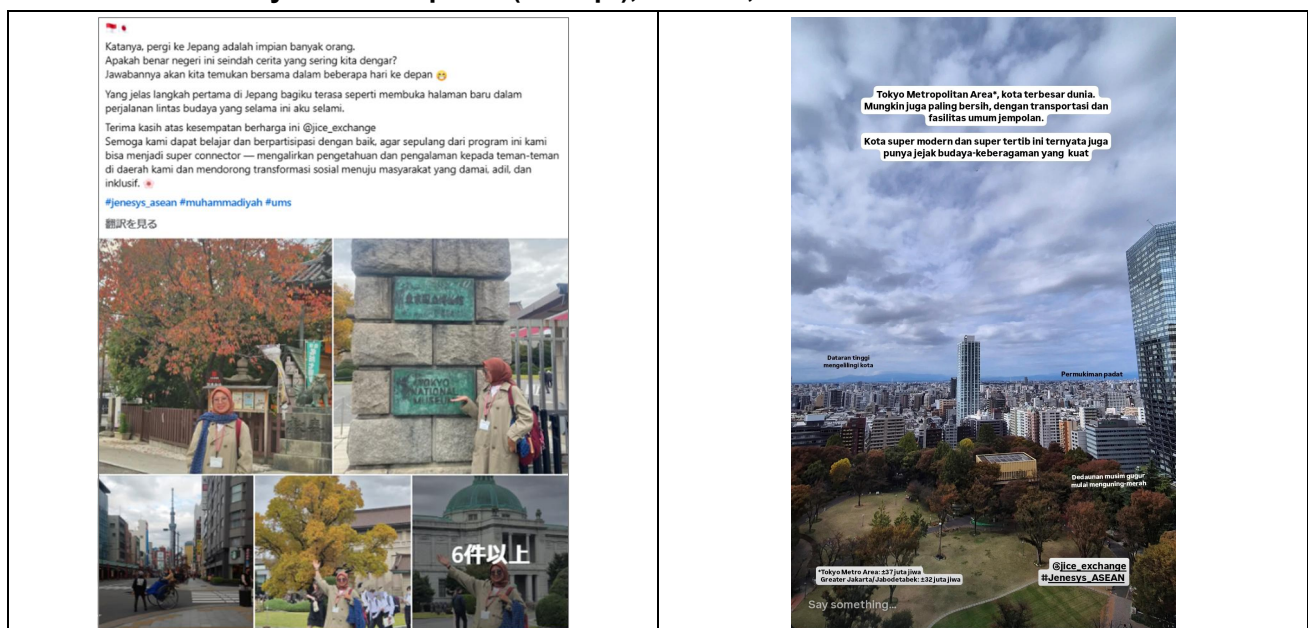
I'm glad I had the chance to learn about Japan's traditional tea culture and how matcha is made. Through this experience, I realized that the matcha we often see in everyday life in Indonesia is produced through a long and complex process. Staying with a Japanese family also gave me the opportunity to understand Japan, its culture, and the daily life of Japanese people from their perspective and not just as a tourist!

4. Voices from the Receiving Parties (excerpt)

◆ Observation Destination Representative

Thank you so much for joining us the other day for the factory tour and the matcha and green tea serving experience. We're also truly grateful for all the warm words you shared with us. Having the chance to directly talk and interact with everyone was incredibly valuable for us as well. We look forward to continuing this connection, and we'd love to welcome groups like this again if the opportunity arises.

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



November 11, 2025 (Facebook)

For many people, visiting Japan is a dream. Is Japan really as beautiful as we've always heard? We'll find out in just a few days. One thing's for sure—this program will open a new chapter in my ongoing cross-cultural research. When we return home, we hope to become a strong bridge between our two countries, sharing the knowledge and experiences we gained in Japan with those around us, and working to make our society more peaceful, fair, and inclusive.

November 11, 2025 (Instagram)

Tokyo, one of the largest cities in the world. It's probably also one of the cleanest, with top-notch public transportation and facilities. What surprised me is that beneath this ultra-modern, highly organized metropolis, there's still a deep-rooted diversity of cultures.



November 11, 2025 (Instagram)

In Asakusa, I learned how Buddhism and Shintoism coexist. Temples and shrines stand side by side, and some buildings have even survived major earthquakes and the air raids of World War II.

November 21, 2025 (Embassy of Japan in Indonesia's website)

"An Islamic group of students and young professionals visit Japan as part of JENESYS"

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

Locations: Tokyo, Nagasaki – Presentation by 1 group

Pengalaman Dari Jepang (Secara Umum) • Mengalami dan mengamati langsung kehidupan multikultural di Jepang • Menikmati langsung teknologi canggih di negara maju, canggih, dan bersih • Mengalami langsung keramahan masyarakat Jepang yang selalu mengahlihi di luar negeri • Menikmati langsung sistem pendidikan di salah satu negara terbaik dalam bidang pendidikan • Melakukan observasi pada budaya yang kuno & sejarahnya yang panjang 	Persamaan Indonesia dan Jepang (Refleksi Program Jenesys) • Kemiripan dalam toleransi beragama • Kultur tradisional & modern berakur • Negara kepulauan, luas, & berbeda tiap daerah • Sama-sama menjunjung tinggi perdamaian 	INDONESIA - JAPAN FRIENDSHIP DAY Apa yang akan dilakukan (What): Sharing Session (Sosialisasi dan Promosi) Tujuan (Why): Mengembangkan kesadaran multikultural di Jepang kepada peserta (siswa/mahasiswa/masyarakat) secara menarik, edukatif, dan relevan. Konten yang akan dikenalkan: • Budaya sehari-hari (makanan, pakaian, seni, kesehatan, dll) • Multikulturalisme dan Sistem pendidikan Jepang • Teknologi & Inovasi • Utsa kaga • Makenama individu sehari-hari
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【Results of the Program】

◆ Learning from the Program

In Japan, we saw firsthand how advanced technology is used everywhere, making life orderly and efficient. People of all ages are independent and take care of themselves. We also learned that Japanese people are honest, straightforward, and great at communication. Everything is extremely clean, highly disciplined, and there's a strong emphasis on peace.

◆ Learnings about Multicultural Coexistence

We learned that in Japan, there's a unique sense of religious acceptance—you can even find temples and shrines sharing the same grounds. There's also a distinctive form of multicultural coexistence, with foreign traditions like Christmas being embraced. Each region in Japan also has its own unique culture.

【Action Plan】

- Using our experience from this program, our group will host an 'Indonesia–Japan Friendship Day.' We will hold a pre-event in late November this year and the main event in early January next year. The pre-event will take place at Muzamzamah Darul Ulum Jombang Islamic Boarding School (East Java), and the main event will be held at the Istiqlal Mosque (Jakarta).
- The goal is to introduce Japan's approach to multicultural coexistence. For the pre-event, we expect about 200 participants, and for the main event, around 100 students and members of the public. Activities will include presentations about Japan using photos and videos from the JENESYS Program, Japan-related quizzes and games, demonstrations of Japanese etiquette, and interactive discussions.

Implementation Agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)