

# TEMAN BARU

Upcoming Programmes  
Noh Masterclass  
Traditional Music Exchange  
Japanese Classic Film Screening  
Japanese Language Education Seminar  
Japanese Language Course (May 2019 Intake)

## Japanese Traditional Music Demonstration

by **Hiromu Motonaga & Azumi Yamano**



# Japanese Traditional Music Demonstration

## by Hiromu MOTONAGA & Azumi YAMANO

Have you ever heard Japanese traditional music?

If you have a chance to spend a typical, relaxing Japanese New Year (Oshogatsu) in Japan, you might remember the sounds of *Haru no Umi* which is often used in New Year TV programs. This music was composed as a duet of shakuhachi and koto, and is one of the most familiar music played by Japanese traditional instruments.

Right after Japanese New Year, the amazing musicians of shakuhachi and koto are coming back to Malaysia, in time for the Chinese New Year! Mr. Motonaga, a shakuhachi player, has been participating in various Malaysia-Japan musical exchange projects organized by JFKL since 2015, and later performed in Kuching, Kuala Lumpur and Penang collaborating with local traditional and contemporary musicians. Ms. Yamano, a koto player, joined the project in 2016 and contributed to the mutual understanding between both countries through music together with Mr. Motonaga.

This year, collaborating with Universiti Malaysia Sabah, they will present a lecture on Japanese traditional music and instruments for the students of the Music and Creative programs, while holding a demonstration for the public at Dewan Resital, UMS on 30th January.

The duo will continue their journey to Kuala Lumpur on the next day, 31st, for another public demonstration which will be held at the intersection between LRT/MRT Pasar Seni station, in conjunction with *Arts on the Move* organized by Think City.

How about enjoying the beautiful sounds of shakuhachi and koto and thinking about Japanese Oshogatsu, in the mood of Chinese New Year celebration?

**SABAH**  
**Dewan Resital**  
**Universiti Malaysia Sabah**  
**30th January, 2019**  
**2pm-4pm**

Free, registration is required  
 Registration via email to [info@jfkf.org.my](mailto:info@jfkf.org.my) with email title "RSVP Traditional Music", containing name, no. of pax and contact no. before 20th January 2019.

**KUALA LUMPUR**  
**Intersection between LRT & MRT Pasar Seni Stations**  
**31st January, 2019**  
**5:30pm-7:30pm (including intermission)**  
**Admission Free**  
**Registration Free**



Hiromu MOTONAGA  
 Shakuhachi

Born in 1974 in Yamaguchi prefecture of Japan, Motonaga spent his childhood abroad but remains fascinated by Japanese culture. After graduating from Sophia University's Faculty of Foreign Studies and the NHK Academy for Traditional Japanese Music, he studied Kinko-ryu shakuhachi under the tutelage of Reisei OHASHI and Kuniyoshi SUGAWARA.

His shakuhachi style is based on Kinko-ryu classical music and Honkyoku meditational music. Known for creating modern music using traditional sounds while collaborating with artists of various genres, he has composed more than 20 works using Japanese traditional instruments.



Azumi YAMANO  
 Koto

Born in Yamaguchi prefecture of Japan, now resides in Tokyo. Yamano obtained her undergraduate degree from the NHK Academy for Traditional Japanese Music and participated in the Program for Nurturing Emerging Artists organized by the Agency for Cultural Affairs (Government of Japan).

Yamano currently performs as a solo musician and is also a member of Dual KOTOxKOTO, AUN J CLASSIC ORCHESTRA, and Koto Quartet Radentai. She has collaborated with the musicians and artists of various genres such as contemporary Kabuki theatre, orchestra in Russia, folk musicians of all over the world, and at times choreographers aiming to explore the diverse possibilities of koto. She performs globally in Europe, Asia and South America, while instructing the young traditional musicians and introducing Japanese traditional instruments domestically to those who are unfamiliar with Japanese traditional instruments.



Memorial concert at Dewan Budaya, USM, in conjunction with 60th anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between Japan & Malaysia in 2017



Motonaga's first visit in Kuching, Malaysia, 2015



Motonaga's first visit in Kuching, Malaysia, 2015



Yamano teaching how to play Koto

# Noh Masterclass

by Soichiro HAYASHI and Hiroyuki MATSUNO

Inviting Soichiro HAYASHI and Hiroyuki MATSUNO, JFKL is organizing a Noh Masterclass for the experienced dancers, actors, and performers in February 2019. It is a follow up to the performance of *Funabenkei* at Petronas Philharmonic Hall in 2017 by Hayashi and Matsuno to commemorate the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Malaysia and Japan. In addition to the memorial performance, they conducted a 1-day public workshop at the National Academy of Arts, Culture and Heritage (ASWARA). More than 80 participants have gathered to experience one of the oldest extant theatrical forms in the world.

In response to fervent requests from previous participants, this Noh workshop comes back as the 4-days masterclass to bring them together to explore the deeper world of Noh. Although we are targeting Malaysian performing arts practitioners, the masterclass is still open to observers. JFKL highly recommends Teman Baru readers who may be a Japanese learner or Japanese culture lover, to come and experience an unknown face of Japan. Even for those who reside in Japan, learning the arts of Noh and its philosophy directly by Noh masters is a golden opportunity!

#### Date:

25 February (Monday)	2:00p.m. - 5:00p.m.
26 - 27 February (Tuesday-Wednesday)	9:00a.m. - 5:00p.m.
28 January (Thursday)	9:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.

Venue: Rimbun Dahan (Km. 27 Jalan Kuang, Kuang, 48050 Selangor)

Admission for observers is free, prior registration is required.  
No. of observers is limited to 20 pax a day. First come first served basis.

Please register via email to [info@jfkf.org.my](mailto:info@jfkf.org.my) with email title "RSVP Noh masterclass observer", including:

1. Name, Mobile No, Organization name (if any)
2. No. of pax
3. Preferred date to attend
4. Shuttle bus preference (Mid Valley-Rimbun Dahan).

For further information, please visit JFKL website:

<https://www.jfkf.org.my/events/call-participants-noh-masterclass-soichiro-hayashi-hiroyuki-matsuno/>



*Funabenkei*, 2017



© photo by Atsushi Hitomi  
Soichiro HAYASHI  
Shite (シテ方 / principal actor),  
Kanze School of Noh



Hiroyuki MATSUNO  
Shite (シテ方 / principal actor),  
Kanze School of Noh

## Japanese Classics

In conjunction with the 15th Anniversary of the Japanese Film Festival in Malaysia, The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur (JFKL) is organizing Japanese classic film screenings with the collaboration of Faculty of Film and Television, National Academy of Arts, Culture and Heritage (ASWARA).

Two confirmed titles are "The Story of the Last Chrysanthemum" (1939), directed by Kenji MIZOGUCHI and "Late Spring" (1949) directed by Yasujiro OZU, and more will be screened in the program.

Date	: 16th – 17th March, 2019 (Saturday-Sunday)
Venue	: Pawagam Jalan Ampas, Faculty of Film and Television, ASWARA
Admission	: Free

Look out for more details in our Website (<https://www.jfkf.org.my/>) and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/theJapanFoundationKL/>)



# 2018-2019 MALAYSIA JAPANESE LANGUAGE EDUCATION SEMINAR (FOR TEACHERS)

## TADOKU - EXTENSIVE READING FOR JAPANESE LANGUAGE EDUCATION

What is TADOKU or extensive reading? Is it effective in improving language proficiency and why so?  
 What does it take to conduct TADOKU effectively in class?  
 How can we motivate and encourage learners to practise TADOKU?

### Seminar (1000-1200) AN INTRODUCTION TO TADOKU 「多読のすすめ」

Many approaches and methods have been experimented to improve reading skills. *Tadoku* is not just another, novel way. It's entirely different in that students read in great amount and what they really enjoy reading skipping over unknown words, phrases and sentences. It's so different that many teachers of Japanese find *Tadoku* hard to believe in. But the approach has helped many learners to enjoy reading in Japanese as in their mother tongue.

What makes *Tadoku* so effective? What and how do students read? Those are the questions this talk will try to address, as well as how *Tadoku* is practised in actual classes.

### Workshop (1400-1630) GET AN EXPERIENCE AND INSIGHTS ON TADOKU 「ワークショップ ~多読を体験し、多読授業を考えよう!」

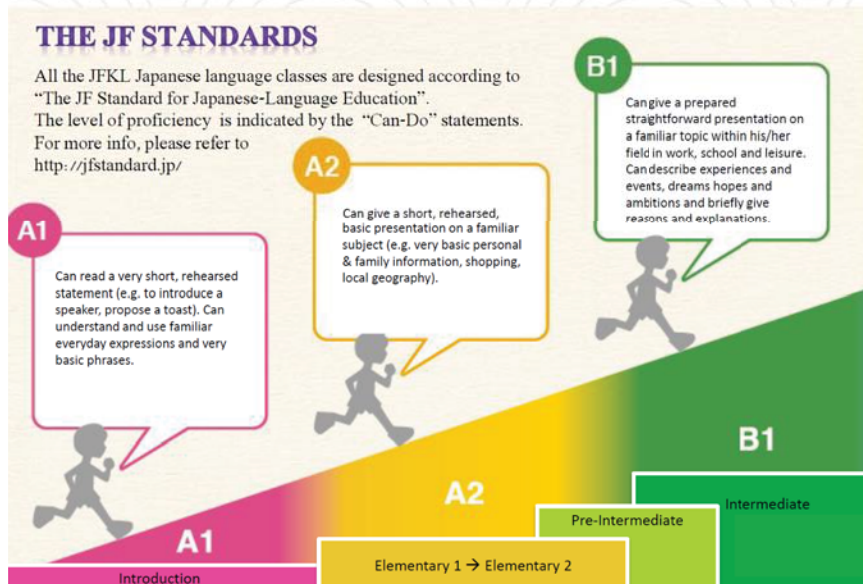
We'll ask you to actually read *Tadoku* materials. Then we'll talk in small groups about our experiences and how *Tadoku* may be incorporated in your Japanese language courses.



- Speaker Ms. AWANO Makiko and Ms. SAKUTA Nanae (NPO多言語多読 TADOKU Supporters)
- Date & Time 23 March, 2019 9:30 – 17:00 (Tentative)
- Venue The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur (18th Floor, Block B)
- ★ For more information, please refer to our website and Facebook.



# JFKL 日本語総合コース Japanese Language Course



Online registration starts around **March!**



The infographic above is for self-assessment purposes only. Updates on the date of online registration will be announced on our Facebook page and website in due course.



# LIBRARY

## Let's challenge TADOKU !

TADOKU is reading widely different genres of Japanese written materials such as books, magazines, newspapers and etc. It is said that your reading comprehension and writing skill would be enhanced through TADOKU. However, you may need to read regularly, for example: once a week.

Here are some tips for TADOKU reading.

1. Start with simple reading materials.
  2. Keep reading.
  3. Read without a dictionary.
  4. Stop reading when you do not understand the story at all.
- The most important point is that you are able to finish reading them!

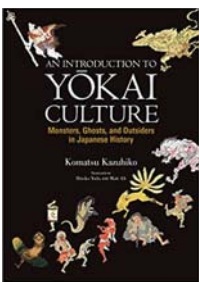
If you would like to try TADOKU, why don't you start with this series? This book series have 4 levels, from introductory (Level 0) to intermediate (Level 4) and all of the stories are written in simple Japanese. Do try to read without a dictionary! Kanji are made easy to read with its phonetic reading (Furigana). Vocabularies, sentence structures and expressions are carefully chosen to match the different levels of learners. Illustrations also help you to guess the stories even if you have difficulties with some words and expressions. Alternatively, you may try JF Kansai's "KC よむよむ(Yomu Yomu)"series. You may download stories from their webpage. Please do not hesitate to ask librarian for any assistance!

### [レベル別日本語多読ライブラリー にほんごよむよむ文庫 TADOKU Graded Readers]

アスク / N P O 多言語多読 / Library Call No.817.7 T

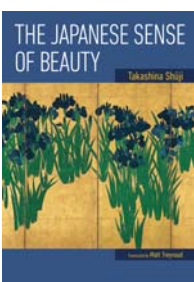


## Recommended Read



Since ancient times, the Japanese have lived with superstitions about strange presences and phenomena known as "yokai" creating a culture infused with unease, fear and divinity. For example, tsukimono spirit possession, fearsome kappa, oni, tengu, Yamauba crones, ghostly yurei and otherworldly ijin. Where did they come from and why do they remain so popular? This book written by Japan's premier scholar of yokai and strange tales is an introduction to the rich imagination and spirituality of Japan's yokai culture.

**[An Introduction to Yokai Culture: Monsters, Ghosts, and Outsiders in Japanese History]** / Komatsu Kazuhiko Translated by Hiroko Yoda & Matt Alt. Tokyo: Kadokawa Corporation, 2017. Library Call No. (398.4 KAZ)



In The Japanese Sense of Beauty, the art critic and historian Takashina Shuji reflects on the aesthetic and philosophical sensibilities underlying Japanese art throughout its history. From the earliest calligraphy and painted screens to modern masters like Hishida Shunso and Yokoyama Taikan. The Japanese Sense of Beauty is an important contribution to the study of aesthetics and cultural history. This book offers insights that will change the way you think about Japanese art.

**[The Japanese Sense of Beauty]** / Takashina Shuji translated by Matt Treyvaud. Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture, 2018. Library Call No. (709.52 TAK)

- We regret to inform you that the book lending service will be discontinued from 1st April 2020. Changes regarding library services are as follows:
  - ❖ New registration and renewal for membership are available until 31st March 2019.
  - ❖ Upon request, new registration and renewal will be accepted from 1st April 2019, but the validity dates of membership will be until 31st March 2020.
  - ❖ Other services such as browsing of materials, audio visual and reference service etc. will still be available as usual even after 31st of March 2020.
- For further enquiries and assistance, please call the JFKL Library at 032 2284 6228 (ext. 401/402/403)

# 2018 JAPANESE SKIT CONTEST RESULT ANNOUNCEMENT

Reported by Hasline Hamid, Japanese Language Department, JFKL

We are pleased to announce that The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur has successfully organized the 2018 Japanese Skit Contest. The theme of the contest was 'AI'. Congratulations to all the winners and participants for their enthusiastic response and efforts in their skit production.

The contest outline, results and the winning Finalists' skits can also be viewed via the URL links at JFKL website.  
<https://www.jfkl.org.my/events/2018-skit-contest/>

## RESULT:-

**1st Prize:** "UTHMのAI学生の一日の生活 One day life of AI student in UTHM"

AI UTHM Team (Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia)

<https://youtu.be/y5IG9VsG-VE>

**2nd Prize:** "河童との出AI Encounter with Kappa"

Kappa Team (Perak Malaysian-Japanese Friendship Society)

<https://youtu.be/8liuEWxgRXg>

**3rd Prize:** "ナノライフ Nanolife"

UMK JC Team (Universiti Malaysia Kelantan)

<https://youtu.be/fds7g3Xt6qA>

**4th Prize:** "AIとあってから After Meeting AI"

IPGKBA Japanese Language Society Team (Institut Pendidikan Guru Kampus Bahasa Antarabangsa)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ptziS8IG6UI&feature=youtu.be>

**5th Prize:** "人間とAIの相互作用 Human-AI Interaction"

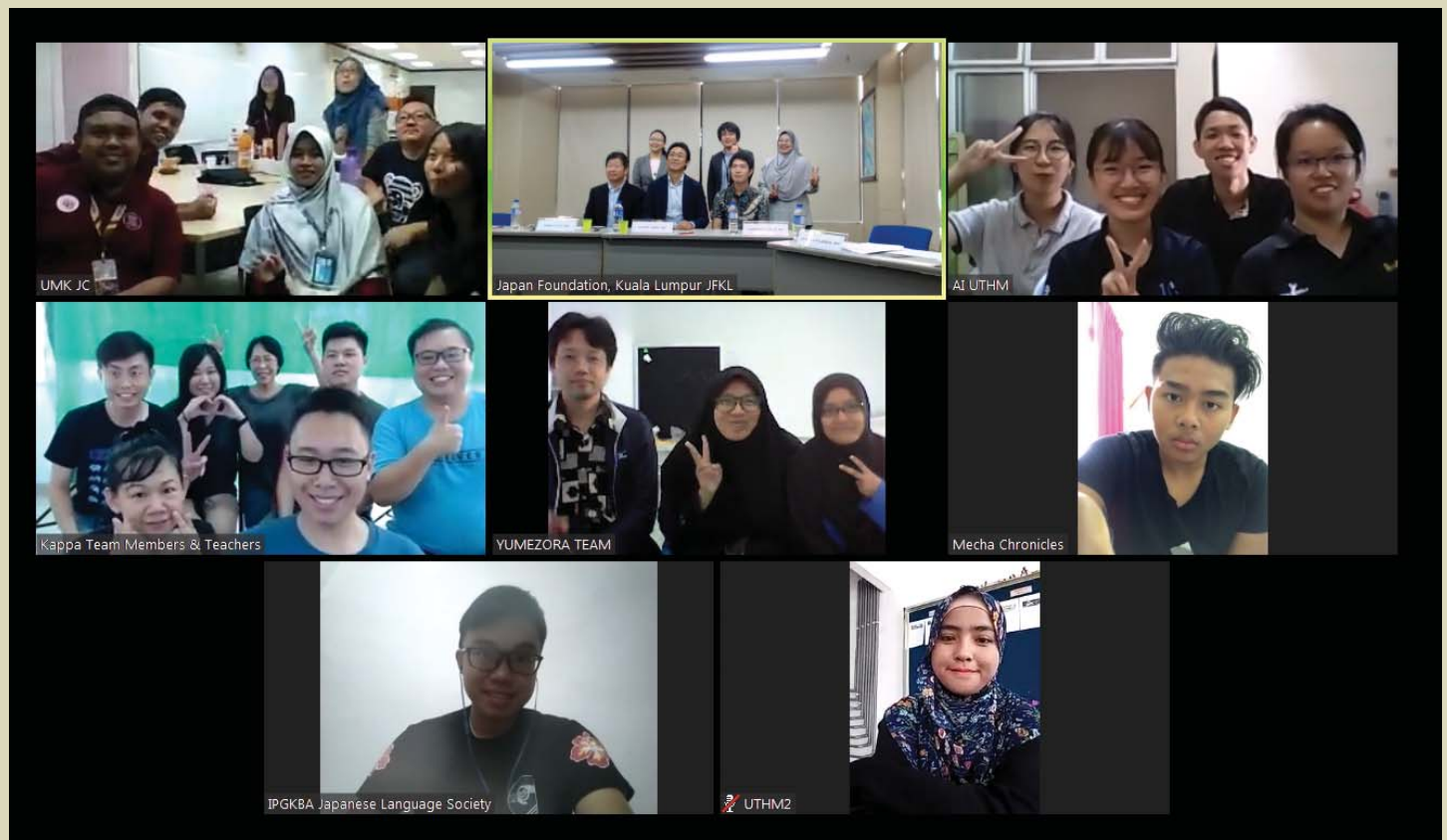
Mecha Chronicles Team (Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=2&v=1Rlar2XorwQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=1Rlar2XorwQ)

**6th Prize:** "現実生活におけるバーチャルリアリティ Virtual Reality in Reality Life"

Yumezora Team (Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin )

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4lzl-l8ekw>



# 5th Batch Nihongo Partners Programme 2019

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur is welcoming 25 Japanese natives who will be dispatched to secondary schools in Malaysia. The Nihongo Partners, also known as NP, will assist Malaysian teachers in teaching Japanese language subject. This year, the NPs will be stationed at a mix of daily and residential secondary schools in Kedah, Penang, Kelantan, Terengganu, Selangor, Negeri Sembilan, Melaka, Sabah and Johor until late September.

Aside from serving as a teaching assistant, the NPs also plays the role of mini 'ambassadors', sharing the beauty of Japanese culture as well as promoting the country ahead of the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics 2020. At the same time, this programme is also a good platform for the NPs to discover more about Malaysia, its culture and people.

Before coming to Malaysia, a pre-departure training for one month was held at the Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai, November last year. The training included presentations on useful information about life skill in Malaysia, personal safety, pedagogy of teaching Japanese, history and culture of Malaysia and intercultural communication. The NPs also studied basic Bahasa Melayu every day during the language training course to enable the NPs to engage in basic communication during their stay in Malaysia.

During their 2-weeks orientation in Malaysia, they were also introduced to local 'buddies' from the International Islamic University of Malaysia during a two-day session packed with activities involving hands-on experience of the Malaysian way of life. They were equipped with the knowledge on how to order food at a restaurant and grocery shopping in unique Malaysian style.



Pre-departure training at The Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai



Some of the activities during Bahasa Malaysia class



Group discussion



# Japanese Cultural Festival 2018 in Kota Bharu

Reported by KURIHARA Tsuyoshi, JFKL Deputy Director

On 17 November, the Japanese Cultural Festival 2018 was held at Dewan Jubli Perak, Majlis Perbandaran Kota Bharu–Bandar Raya Islam, Kelantan. It was organized by the Consulate General of Japan in Penang, together with the Kota Bharu City Council, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan (UMK), ROHM-Wako Electronics (M) Sdn. Bhd., Okayama Ryukoku High School and the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur (JFKL).

Visitors enjoyed many performances and programs such as a Japanese drum concert and workshop, Japanese traditional dance, and Japanese quiz. Many booths related to Japanese culture were also available on that day such as shodo (Japanese calligraphy), origami, Japanese animation, Japanese online game and “shateki” shooting game.

They also had a chance to try Japanese dishes such as chirashi-zushi (a style of sushi, vinegared rice with various fish) and okonomiyaki (Japanese pancake with various ingredients) which were served during the event.

As it was a cultural exchange activity, the crowd could also enjoy local tradition games and performances such as gasing (spinning top), dikir barat (a story telling in musical form involve 10-15 members singing in group while a few members will play traditional Malay musical instrument as the music background).

During this festival, JFKL also took the opportunity to organize a kokeshi dolls exhibition, as well as promoting Minato, a Japanese language e-learning platform for those who are interested to learn more about Japan.

We were pleased to be part of this wonderful festival and we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the visitors as the response from everyone in Kelantan was truly remarkable.



# George Town Literary Festival 2018

Reported by KUGAI Kyoko, Asia Centre Programme Officer

The 8th edition of the George Town Literary Festival took place from 22nd till 25th November in George Town, Penang with over 100 speakers and moderators from all over the world. Reflecting the change in political administration after the election on 9th May, the theme for this year's festival was “The State of Freedom,” covering various issues on human rights with many discussions, readings and workshops.

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur was one of its partners and supported the invitation of Japanese writer Ms. Kyoko YOSHIDA who is also a professor at Ritsumeikan University. She appeared in a panel discussions entitled “Conversations: I Have a Dream – Women, Writing and Freedom” and “Conversations: A Perfect World Versus a Better World.”



# ASIAN LEADERSHIP FELLOW PROGRAM (ALFP): Documentary Filmmaking Brings Malaysian to Japan

Reported by Ms Lydia Lubon, Producer ( Documentary Film )



On Sept. 9th 2018, as I set foot in bustling Tokyo on the first day of my 8-week Asian Leadership Fellow Program (ALFP), I was filled with hope and excitement. I could not wait to begin this exciting new chapter in my life and to meet the other seven Asian fellows who had been chosen for this amazing program.

A bit of background on the ALFP according to their official website: "In 1996 the International House of Japan and the Japan Foundation jointly created the ALFP. The program provides selected leaders in the region with an opportunity to reside for two months at the International House of Japan in Tokyo and engage in collaborative and individual research/exchange activities. Since the initiation of the program the ALFP has annually invited six to seven fellows from seventeen Asian countries and regions. There are now over 100 fellows who come from diverse professional backgrounds, including academia, journalism, publishing, law, education, the arts, NGOs and non-profit organizations."

During my 8-week fellowship, our schedule was very thoughtfully and meticulously designed especially for the fellows, taking into consideration our diverse backgrounds and personal interests. We participated in a spectrum of lectures, workshops, off-site visits and a one-week trip to Tohoku. We were also asked to travel for one week of 'individual activities' to any destination in Japan that we wished to explore or learn about. Although there were many interesting and valuable activities planned throughout the 8 weeks, we were also given ample free time to network, explore Tokyo and pursue any other research activities we desired.



ALFP lectures were spread out over the eight weeks to give the fellows a broad but in-depth understanding of Japan. Each week, invited academics or professionals spoke to us on topics that ranged from foreign worker migration to populism in South East Asia. One lecture in particular was especially impactful for me as a documentary filmmaker, it was led by award-winning Japanese photographer Kosuke Okahara. He presented his passion project entitled 'Ibasyo' which is an internationally acclaimed photo documentary highlighting young Japanese women struggling with self-harming – a taboo subject in Japan. Through this lecture and many others like this, the ALFP fellows had the privilege of seeing an intimate portrait of the country in a way being a tourist could never reveal.

On several occasions we were also taken on external excursions outside the International House. One such visit that stood out for me was the visit to a home for the elderly, where a large majority of the residents were over 80 years old! This visit highlighted the aging population issues that Japan is currently facing. With nearly 70,000 individuals alive today who are over 100 years old, the country is trying to find new ways to cope with their significant aging population.

Three weeks into our fellowship, the ALFP took us on an amazing yet meaningful trip through Tohoku. Found just north of Tokyo and made up of 6 prefectures: Akita, Aomori, Fukushima, Iwate, Miyagi and Yamagata, Tohoku boasts beautiful hot springs, snowy mountains, ancient castles and breathtaking mountain temples. But beyond its stunning beauty, Tohoku was greatly affected by the 2011 earthquake off Japan's Pacific coast which was a magnitude 9.0–9.1 undersea mega thrust earthquake. Nearly 16,000 people lost their lives and 2,500 individuals are still missing. The ALFP arranged for us to meet various individuals who have been working tirelessly towards the rebuilding of affected Tohoku regions from oyster farmers to social workers who were some of the first responders to the disaster. After meeting several individuals working towards the rebuilding of Tohoku, I was truly touched and gained a deeper understanding of how Japanese people possess a strong sense responsibility towards those in need. What this community has been able to achieve in just 7 years is nothing short of remarkable.

Our Tohoku trip was not only serious experiences though, we were also introduced to the incredible food and beverages available in the area. The ALFP so graciously arranged for a special dinner one evening where Tohoku's best dairy farmers, brewery owners and various other food and drink

specialists came to meet us to show us the best Tohoku has to offer. Needless to say, I tasted some of the best cheese, puddings, beef, sake and craft beer I have ever had in my life. I highly recommend taking a trip to Tohoku for anyone considering a holiday to Japan.



About six weeks into our fellowship program, each fellow was encouraged to travel throughout Japan; this was called our 'individual activities period.' I chose to visit Hiroshima, Miyajima, Nara and Kyoto. This individual time was a meaningful week of learning, discovering and immersion into Japanese culture. But the one experience that struck me deeply was my visit to Hiroshima. The impact of the atom bomb on the people of this area cannot be underestimated. The fact that several buildings have been constructed to serve as a constant, permanent reminder of this horrific incident, is a true testament to Japan's current commitment to peace on earth.

Back in Tokyo, although considered to be one of the most heavily populated cities in the world, what I really appreciated was the abundance of national parks found throughout the city and the sheer number of shrines and places of worship. I always knew that the people of Japan treasured and valued the relationship between human beings and nature but spending so much more time living in the heart of Tokyo, I realized how deeply Japan values green spaces and creating the feeling of 'Zen' – something Malaysia should also value more.

When it came to the end of my fellowship I honestly felt incredibly sad to leave but at the same time deeply grateful to have been given this life-changing opportunity to understand and get to know one of the most beautiful countries in the world. From the spectacular sights and temples to the warmth of the Japanese people, the ALFP was certainly a once in a lifetime experience and undoubtedly one of the best fellowships in the world. I am eternally grateful. Arigatou gozaimasu.

# Japanese Film Festival 2018

Reported by KUGAI Kyoko, Asia Centre Programme Officer

The Opening Ceremony of the Japanese Film Festival 2018 on 4th September at GSC Pavilion KL had a different atmosphere from the past years as it was also the celebration of the Festival's 15th Anniversary! To share this joy as well as to express our gratitude to those who have supported, some long-term patrons of JFF were also invited alongside with the other invited guests.

Our special guests this year were Malaysian film directors who are familiar to Japan namely Mr. Edmund Yeo, who was awarded the Best Director with his film "AQÉRAT" at last year's Tokyo International Film Festival, and Mr. Lim Kah Wai who has been based in Osaka and shot several films such as "Fly Me to Minami" and "New World" there. We had special screenings of their works as well as "Heart of Taiko" by Mr. Shamy! Othman and Ms. Lydia Lubon followed by Q&A sessions.

JFKL would like to thank all who have supported JFF throughout the years to make this 15th Anniversary possible, and we will try harder to bring great Japanese films in the years to come!



The refreshment at the Opening Ceremony of JFF2018 was served under the theme of "Summer Festival"



JFF 2018 Opening Ceremony at GSC Pavilion KL



Invited guests at the Opening Ceremony



A short talk on Japanese Films by Mr. Hassan Abd Muthalib



(From left) Mr. Hassan Abd Muthalib, Mr. Lim Kah Wai, Mr. HORIKAWA Koichi(Director, JFKL), Ms. Koh Mei Lee(CEO, GSC), Ms. KURIHARA Etsuko (Director, Japan Information Service, Embassy of Japan), Mr. Edmund Yeo lining up in front of the 15th Anniversary cake.



JFF 15th Anniversary Cake



Q&A session with Ms. Lydia Lubon



Q&A session with Mr. Lim Kah Wai



Q&A session with Edmund Yeo moderated by Elise Chong



At the Opening Ceremony in Kuching - Mr. ICHIKAWA Genichi (Chief Executive in Malaysia, General Manager of Kuala Lumpur Branch, Mitsubishi Corporation) & representatives from Mitsubishi Corporation, Datuk Lee Kim Shin (Assistant Minister, Arts and Culture, Sarawak) and Mr. HORIKAWA Koichi

# Japanese Film Festival in North-Western States of Malaysia

Reported by KURIHARA Tsuyoshi, JFKL Deputy Director

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur together with the Consulate-General of Japan in Penang organized the Japanese Film Festival at universities in the north-western states of Malaysia, Perak, Kedah, Penang and Perlis.

- Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman ( Perak ) on Nov. 9
- Universiti Utara Malaysia ( Kedah ) on Nov. 24
- Universiti Sains Malaysia ( Penang ) on Dec. 1
- Universiti Malaysia Perlis ( Perlis ) on Dec. 2

This time 3 films, "Seto and Utsumi", "When The Curtain Rises" and "The 100th Love With You" were presented with the aim of introducing the current life of Japanese youth, and all the films were received favourably by the audience, most of whom were university students. At the festival venues, various events related to Japanese culture were organized and a lot of visitors attended and enjoyed not only the film screenings but also these cultural events. We would like to thank all who came to the events with a lively interest to Japanese films and cultures!



UTAR : In the hall



UUM : Exhibition of Japanese Dolls



USM : Hope you enjoyed the movies



UNIMAP : With students group played Yosakoi Soran Dance



Dear Professors, Lecturers, Teachers, Students, Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls, all whom I met here in Malaysia.

I would like to inform you that I have been transferred to the Tokyo Head office effective 4 January 2019 and left Malaysia on 2 January 2019.

When I came here 3 years ago on 23 November 2014, I did not know what to do. It was my first experience working abroad and I had never stayed overseas for more than 2 months. I worried about leaving Japan, my English language proficiency, ability to adapt to cultural differences and so on. However, thanks to your kind support and hospitality, I have had a wonderful time here in Malaysia and it has become a lifelong memory for me.

The most memorable and wonderful 4 years in Malaysia has given me a great deal of experience as well as pleasure. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for all of your support, cooperation and collaboration. It has been a pleasure working with you all.

Although I have left for Japan, I will never forget you all, and all the experience I had been given. I believe that the unforgettable experience during the 4 years in Malaysia will be my guide on what to do as a staff working for cultural exchange in the future.

I hope I will have the opportunity to see and work with you again sooner or later.

I wish you all the best for your good health and continued success.

Nakagawa, Yoshitake  
Immediate Past Head  
Japanese Language Department  
The Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur

### Library closing and JFKL Holiday Notice

1st February 2019 | Federal Territory Day

4th – 6th February 2019 | Chinese New Year

\*JFKL Library is temporarily closed from 30th Dec 2018 – 8th February 2019 due to yearly library stock-taking and construction works.



JAPAN FOUNDATION 国際交流基金

"TEMAN BARU" is distributed to JFKL members.

JFKL membership is available upon application. Membership fee is RM10 per year.

### The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur (JFKL)

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