JAPAN FOUNDATION KUALA LUMPUR BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER





Upcoming Events The Spirit of Budo Exhibition Japanese General Course April 2020 Intake



JFKL Staff (1998)

JFKL Staff (2020)



## Past, Present and Future:

The 30th Anniversary of the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur



"2019 marks the 30th anniversary of The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur"

THE JAPAN FOUNDATION, KUALA LUMPUR

#### Dear friends of JFKL,

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur has turned 30 years old in October 2019. Over the years, we have organised and conducted various programmes and projects under our primary objective to develop mutual understanding between people of Malaysia and Japan through culture and language. We would not have been able to come this far without the kind and continued support from various organisations, agencies and also individuals since out establishment in 1989.

As a celebration of our 30th anniversary, we would like to share with everyone some of the events during the 30 years since our establishment in Kuala Lumpur.







Prince Takamado (left) with Prof. Diraja Dr. Ungku Abdul Aziz (third) from right



Opening of the Japan Foundation Language Center (now JLD) on 20 April 1995



Sheila Majid (left) and Itsuwa Mayumi (right) during the Mayumi Itsuwa Goodwill Concert on May 1992



Dr. Stephen Leong (center), former Deputy Director General and former Visiting Fellow of ISIS Malaysia with Ms. Ban Mikiko, former Deputy Director of Japan Cultural Centre, Kuala Lumpur (now JFKL)



Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad (center right) and Tun Dr. Siti Hasmah Mohamad Ali (second from center, left) with HINO Terumasa, a famous trumpeter



The late Roslisham Ismail@ISE at his "Super Fiction" exhibition

Nomura Mansai Kyogen performance



Group photo of a Speech Contest



Prof. Diraja Dr. Ungku Abdul Aziz during a Series of Talks in Japanese on "Malaysia-Japan Encounters"



Director Saitoh Takumi at JFF 2017

During the Japanese Class activity in 2014

We published a booklet to commemorate out 30th anniversary with essays contributed by individuals and organisations that have worked closely with JFKL along the way, together with voices from the public to look back on our fond memories as well as to share the exciting future plans that lie ahead, available\* at the library of the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur!

\*Only limited copies available upon request

#### The Spirit of Budo: The History of Japan's Martial Arts

"The Spirit of *Budō*: The History of Japan's Martial Arts" is one of the Japan Foundation's travelling exhibitions, and it's coming to Malaysia this April, until end of July 2020. Through this exhibition, we hope that viewers will gain an understanding of the brief history of Japanese martial arts from battlefield combat techniques (*bujutsu*) to popular sports and physical exercise tempering body and spirit (*budō*). This exhibition showcases 47 exhibits including *Kabuto* (warrior's helmet), arrows and other traditional fighting tools as well as 40 panels which explain the brief history of Japan's Martial Arts. This touring exhibition and demonstration is brought to you by The Japan Foundation. So don't miss this opportunity!

### The Spirit of Budo: The History of Japan's Martial Arts Exhibition

Duration\* & Venue\* : 2 April to 5 May 2020 – Kota Kinabalu 14 May to 22 June 2020 – Kuala Terengganu End of June – Johor Bharu (to be announced)

\* The schedule is subject to change and the venue is to be announced. For further information, please log on to our website at **jfkl.org.my** and follow our Facebook page at **fb.com/theJapanFoundationKL** 

#### What is Budō

Budō: The Martial Ways of Japan, Budō refers to the martial ways of Japan, originating from the traditions of bushidō—the way of the warrior. Budō is a time-honoured form of physical culture comprising of judō, kendō, kyudō, sudō, karatedō, aikidō, shorinji kempō, naginata and jukendō. Practitioners study the skills while striving to unify mind, technique and body; develop his or her character; enhance their sense of morality; and to cultivate a respectful and courteous demeanour. Practiced steadfastly, these admirable traits become intrinsic to the character of the practitioner. The Budō arts serve as path to self-perfection. This elevation of the human spirit will contribute to social prosperity and harmony, and ultimately, benefit the people of the world.





Armor of Mogamido haramaki type with helmet of suji-kabuto type







Han-dachi sword mounting with paulownia-leaf motif on ground of black lacquer containing ground mother-of-pearl



04

Iron-ribbed fan (tessen)



に ほん ご のう りょく し けん ●本語能力試験 ルPT Japanese-Language Proficiency Test 試験日:2020年7月5日(日曜日) DATE:JULY 5, 2020(SUNDAY) www.jlpt.jp

JLPT Malaysia 2	020 (July)		Application Period: Mar 16 – Mar 29, 2020						
<b>N1</b> (RM150)	<b>N2</b> (RM150)	<b>N3</b> (	(RM150) <b>N4</b> (RM110)		<b>N5</b> (RM110)				
ONLINE REGISTRATION: www.jlsm.org									
If ye	If you are unable to register online, please contact the following regional test centre.								
KL	JALA LUMPUR		PENANG						
	Test Centre		Test Centre						
The Japanese La	nguage Society of Malays	ia	Penang Japanese Language Society						
	www.jlsm.org		www.pjls.org						
jlsm.ei	nquiries@gmail.com		casee343ster@gmail.com						
(03) 6241	3105 or 6259 7180		(04) 226 5908 or 010-399 1903						



# 日本語通学メインコース JAPANESE GENERAL COURSE APRIL 2020 INTAKE

Application Period: 11 March ~ 25 March Online Application Form:

or



http://bit.ly/36JaLgz

Class Schedule (Part 1) April Intake:

Course	Class	Level	Part	Day	Time	Number of Lessons	Number of Hours	Fee (RM)	Duration	
Intermediate	Intermediate 2 First-half	B1-1	1	Saturday	9:30-11:45	15	30h	450	2 May 2020 – 29 August 2020	
	Intermediate 1	B1-1	1	Wednesday Friday	18:30-20:45	31	62h	930	6 May 2020 – 2 September 2020	
	Pre-intermediate	A2/B1	1	Tuesday Thursday	18:30-20:45	30	60h	900	28 April 2020 – 18 August 2020	
	Elementary 2	A2-2	1	Tuesday Thursday	18:30-20:45	33	66h	990	28 April 2020 – 1 September 2020	
Elementary	Elementary 1	A2-1	1	Wednesday Friday	18:30-20:45	33	66h	990	6 May 2020 – 9 September 2020	
	Starter	A1	1	Tuesday	18:30-20:45	22	44h	660	28 April 2020 – 29 September 2020	

### NOTE:

- Our course content and teaching approaches are adult-oriented. Therefore, you have to be at least 16 years old and above to apply.
- Acceptance into the course will be on first-come-first-served basis in accordance with the placement test results (if any).
- Elementary courses come with e-learning and Intermediate courses do not.
- Please note that the schedule is tentative and subject to change without prior notice.
- Each lesson includes a 15-minute break.
- You have to complete both Part 1 and Part 2 to receive a certitificate.

### COMING SOON

## 日本語オンラインコース JAPANESE ONLINE COURSE

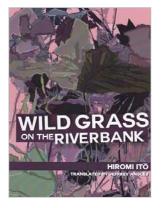
- We will also be offering online tutor-support courses through the JF e-Learning platform "Minato" this year.
- $\bullet \ \ Please \ keep \ yourself \ updated \ on \ our \ Facebook \ and \ Website \ for \ the \ registration \ announcement.$
- Please note that the schedule is tentative and subject to change without prior notice.

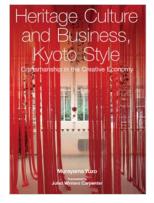
Course	Class	Level	Part	Day	Time	Number of Lessons	Number of Hours	Fee (RM)	Duration
			1	Thursday	10:15-11:00	- 6 - (+ oral test) - 6	4.5h (+ 10 min)	90	
6					18:45-19:30				
e	Elementary Starter A1				19:45-20:30				June 2020 –
				Friday	18:45-19:30				September 2020
1					19:45-20:30				
Elementary		A1			18:45-19:30		4.5h		October 2020 -
		2	Wednesday -	19:45-20:30	(+ oral test)	(+ 10 min)	90	January 2021	



For more inquiries please contact us at: japanese\_course@jfkl.org.my or call (03)2284-7228.











### WILD GRASS ON THE RIVERBANK

Hiromi ITO/ Translated by Jeffrey Angles /Action Books 2015 / Call No.895.615 ITO

ITO Hiromi is one of the most prominent poets and writers of contemporary Japan, who was invited by JFKL to the George Town Literacy Festival 2019 in Penang last November. Her unique, new, organic and seemingly spontaneous style plunges readers into dreamlike landscapes of volatile proliferation in powerful direct language.

Wild Grass on the Riverbank, published in Japan as Kawara Arekusa, was the first attempt to write a book - length narrative poem in modern Japan and won the coveted Takami Jun Prize in 2006, a literary award given to outstanding and innovative book of poetry.

Although demonized as weed (*Arekusa*), these plants serve as symbols of the vitality of displaced people who move and take root elsewhere, migrants who leave their origin, naturalize and learn flourish in harsh and lonely environments. It is just like how she herself explored her new experience as a resident in a foreign environment, having migrated to California with her daughters and settling into life in the States.

### Heritage Culture and Business, Kyoto Style - Craftsmanship in the Creative Economy -

Yuzo MURAYAMA / Translated by Juliet Winters Carpenter /JAPAN LIBRARY 2019 / Call No. 658 MUR

Traditional culture and business have developed in Kyoto, a city of creativity, where world -class high-tech industries exist alongside heritage industries. Shoyeido incense was founded 314 years ago, and Hosoo, traditional kimono textile makers, was founded 331 years ago. Venerable family-owned enterprises such as there are maintained by making culture their business, a method of preserving historical culture that is rare in the world.

What is the essence of "Kyoto style" business? A thorough study of the various unique approaches, based on interviews with managers and craftspeople, this book is packed with valuable insights, and the art of management which encourages originality and continuity for the future of businesses worldwide.

### 新にほんご敬語(KEIGO)トレーニング

Hiroyuki KANEKO / ASK 2014 / Call No. 815.8T

「いらっしゃいます。」「拝見します。」「ご覧ください。」When do you usually use honorific language? Do you have trouble using honorific language in your life and at work?

KEIGO, honorific language is vital for making interpersonal relationship go smoothly or to show respect for others.

This book provides the basic honorific words, helps you learn the key sentence patterns for honorifics, and the humble language needed for daily life for forming relationship with the people around you and for use in a business setting. There are English and Chinese translations and include a CD for listening and speaking practices.

### 1日10分のシャドーイング!就活・仕事のにほんご会話

AJALT / ASK 2015 / Call No. 336T

Have you ever heard of "Shadowing"? It has been used as a training method for simultaneous interpreters and it is one of the most effective ways to improve your listening comprehension and spoken Japanese.

This book introduces typical conversation patterns in business scenes. Just keep "Shadowing" for 10 minutes every day while listening to the CD, practicing 1 section for 2-3 weeks continuously and repeatedly. You will gradually see your skills improve!

### **CHANGE TO OUR CURRENT LIBRARY SERVICE**

After much consideration, we are pleased to inform that the JFKL membership and book lending service for certain books<sup>\*</sup> will be continued from 1 April 2020 onwards. However, there will be a change in our library services effective from 1 April 2020. For further details, please visit to our website at http://www.jfkl.org.my/library/

### "Regional TADOKU Workshop for Secondary Schools' Japanese Language Teachers and Students"

Reported by KONDO Maiko & Chan Yee Han (JFKL)









During the 2019 fiscal year, several "Regional TADOKU Workshop for Secondary Schools' Japanese Language Teachers and Students", were conducted as a series of training program for teachers. In this program, teachers were not only exposed to the new teaching approach of using TADOKU, but they also managed to see it in practice by observing their own students.

The "TADOKU" theme was selected following the success of several TADOKU programmes by JFKL. As reported on page 9, JFKL conducted various TADOKU programmes throughout the year, and we decided to expand our horizons to reach out to more Japanese language teachers in Malaysia by conducting these workshops across the country.

(Please refer to the article on page 9 or our website for more information regarding our programmes related to TADOKU: **jfkl.org.my/language/tadoku**)

JFKL conducted "TADOKU Workshop" in the following regions; Terengganu, Kelantan, Johor, Perak, Negeri Sembilan, Penang, Kedah, Sabah and Kuala Lumpur. Firstly, a host school was selected for each region (except Kuala Lumpur, which was hosted at JFKL). Then, invitations were sent out nationwide to invite all the Japanese language teachers in secondary schools allowing them to participate at the venue of their choice (host school) nearest to them. The response was overwhelming with a participation of more than 100 students for most of the selected venues. Some of the schools even rented a bus and took hours to travel to the respective venue. Hence, we would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the host schools, as well as to all the teachers and students who participated and not to forget the support from our Ministry of Education too!. Thank you! This programme has not only benefited the teachers, but it has also widened the students' perspective regarding how to enjoy reading. For example, the students were encouraged to form groups with students from other schools and practice peer reading together. Through this activity, they managed to understand how to read the TADOKU way, which is different from the usual "reading activity" in class. From the feedback, we found out that on average, the students were able to read about 4-5 TADOKU books in less than an hour.

After the TADOKU activity, the students formed groups with their friends and introduced their favourite books in their native language. Everyone took turns to talk and were interested and paying attention to what their friends were sharing.

Most of the students started to read Japanese books for the first time ever through this programme. The sense of achievement that they gained was priceless and we believe that this could serve as a stepping stone for them to start enjoy reading more Japanese books. On the other hand, the teachers also had the chance to observe how their students enjoyed TADOKU and discovered a better way to engage their students with "reading" activity in future.



## Summary of JFKL's TADOKU Events/Programs in 2019

Reported by MARUTANI Shinobu and Chan Yee Han (JFKL)

2019 was the year of TADOKU for JFKL's Japanese Language Department as we have launched and conducted many events/programs related to TADOKU.

### JFKL TADOKU Salon

TADOKU (多読) means "read a lot" in Japanese. TADOKU is a reading activity whereby one will choose books from the vast selection of graded reading materials and discover the joy of reading. TADOKU is often followed by a book-talk session, which makes TADOKU more meaningful and enjoyable.

In May 2019, the first ever "JFKL TADOKU Salon", a TADOKU reading and book-talk event, took place in the JFKL library with 43 participants, consist of the Japanese language learners and teachers. Encouraged by the favorable feedbacks, "TADOKU Salon" has become a regular monthly event in JFKL. Around 180 people have participated in 7 sessions of "TADOKU Salons" conducted in 2019. Thanks to everyone's support, we are delighted to announce that "JFKL TADOKU Salon" will continue to take place in the year of 2020. Stay tuned!





### Half-day Seminar/Workshop on TADOKU

Through conducting TADOKU Salon, we discovered that this is a very good way to give learners a chance to read and talk in Japanese, as well as to engage them in using more Japanese language. In order to share our discovery with all the Japanese language teachers in Malaysia, JFKL has organised a half-day seminar/workshop for teachers in July 2019 to provide them a lecture regarding TADOKU, as well as a hands on experience of writing their own reading material for students. As a result, many dedicated Malaysian Japanese language



teachers have managed to create a few new, unique and valuable TADOKU reading materials.

For those who are interested, you may read their creations here: https://www.jfkl.org.my/language/tadoku/malaysiabooks

#### Regional TADOKU Workshop

Following the success of "TADOKU Salon", starting from September 2019, we have expanded our horizon to reach out to more Japanese language teachers in Malaysia by conducting a series of "Regional TADOKU Workshop" for secondary schools' Japanese language teachers and students in various states. Our report on "Regional TADOKU Workshop for Secondary School Teachers and Students" could be found on page 8 of this issue.

### Newly Launched Programs: TADOKU Material Borrowing Service & Sama-sama TADOKU

In addition, JFKL has launched two new programs to support Japanese language teachers who would like to conduct TADOKU activity by themselves: "TADOKU Material Borrowing Service" and "Sama-sama TADOKU". "TADOKU Material Borrowing Service" is aiming at providing support to teachers by lending out the TADOKU reading materials. Whereas, "Sama-sama TADOKU" is aiming at providing sufficient knowledge to teachers regarding how to conduct TADOKU activity on their own by experiencing it practically here in the JFKL library with their students. To know more about the terms and conditions for these two newly launched programs, please access our website for details and enquiry: https://www.jfkl.org.my/language/tadoku#teachers

As mentioned above, we are currently conducting many events/programs related to TADOKU. For those who are interested in TADOKU in general, please visit our website for more detailed information: https://www.ifkl.org.my/language/tadoku

### **EYES Project 2019**

Reported by Siti Rahayu Baharin, EYES fellow

EYES for Embracing Diversity (EYES project) is a networking project for practitioners, researchers, and educators in the Southeast Asian regions and Japan who have been striving to create a diverse and inclusive society. the EYES project aims to deepen discussion and also promote the importance of social, religious, cultural diversity with communities and the world. For EYES Project 2019, the fellows visited Philippines and Japan, and learned about the world phenomena of "human mobility" in both countries and also had several workshops using art method in order to raise public awareness of diversity.



Siti Rahayu Baharin is a Director at Buku Jalanan Chow Kit and Principal at Sekolah Buku Jalanan Chow Kit. She was previously a lecturer for General Studies (Ethnic Relations, Moral & Ethics, Tamadun Islan & Tamadun Asia, Team Building & Community Service) at First University College before taking a leap of faith by letting go of her day job to focus on Buku Jalanan Chow Kit she helped co-found. She is also currently a part-time tutor at Open University Malaysia.

During the event, I jotted notes of every occasion for report writing because post-event academic reporting is always a norm. However, I was really mixed up after the Philippine leg. The days spent in Philippine was really mind-boggling and paradigm shifting and the subsequent experience in Japan confirmed that my journey in these two cultures was out of the world. The program was designed to allow the fellows to have a first-hand experience of the issues. EYES 2019 managed to convince me of the need for everyone to be immersed deep in a different society as it allows ones to reflect and be more compassionate and most importantly, be more human! This is my story, my view and my humble experience being in a program that brought me to amazingly fascinating cultures where the people I met ended up becoming my family.



### The Philippines Leg October 9-12, 2019

Malaysia hosted 79,358 Filipino workers and to be able to experience, learn and listen to everything related to human mobility and migration opened a whole wide spectrum of humanity and humility. Witnessing the plight of young children growing up with a parent working abroad, unwanted children born from a foreign father and many other social spectrums that resulted from migration created a sense of awareness on the need to look for solutions into the plight of migrants living in Malaysia too.

Visiting Batis, an NGO serving migrant workers and staying in Barangay Santa Rosa, Laguna furthered understanding of the issues created by human migration. The lesson learned from the Philippines is that it is a high time for every country to have a department to handle migration and its accompanying issues.

#### Japan Leg October 13 - 21, 2019 Stories of Integration & Peaceful Coexistence

Japan has always been known as a homogenous society and I was really amazed at the effort taken by many parties to create a better mode of integration in Japan. The amount of work done is numerous and different according each expertise. It shows how serious Japan **10** is as a society to promote coexistence in Japanese society.



Multicural Coexistence & Integration: The Japanese Way An Observation

#### The Visit

Community initiatives and spaces were an eye opener. It shows the effectiveness of the collaboration by local authority and NGO in community capacity building. The story of how Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza invited foreigners to be members of the community council is an excellent mode of integration. I also observed how ABC organization, Kyoto City Networking Salon and Kani International Exchange Association immersed themselves in the integration process through their numerous support programmes.

On the ground, practitioners are always lacking data and research that shows the importance of our work. The social research work by academician is the efficient symbiosis on how collaboration can create a more effective method of multicultural coexistence

### Forum "Designing Multicultural Coexistence Societies: An Asian Perspective"

The forum successfully created a healthy conversation on the need to inculcate and design an understanding of multiculturalism in order to move forward as a society.



What is next? Buku Jalanan Chow Kit (BJCK) Community Capacity Building Empowerment & Integration Through Education

After EYES, we realised the importance of local authority collaboration. BJCK is now actively engaged with the local authority to create a better & inclusive social environment for the children and members of Chow Kit community, We are working on projects that will equip our children with skills necessary to escape the cycle of poverty by providing not only free academic and skills-based programs but create a makerspace where children can tinker and innovate, and we are targeting improvements not only in academics but also in their skills, identity and livelihood. We hope to equip and empower the underprivileged community with cultural capital and living skills that can be used to uplift themselves as well as build their own resilient identity.



### Japanese Traditional Music Concert in Malaysia and Brunei Reported by TANJI Haruka (JFKL)

Award winning performers of Japanese traditional music successfully wrapped up their Brunei and Malaysia tour for 武蔵 *MUSASHI: Music From The East* at REXKL on 11 February 2020.

This band of 4 musicians for *Musashi* consisting of Mr. YAMANAKA Nobuto (*Tsugaru-shamisen*), Mr. KATANO Satoshi (*Shinobue*), Mr. TAKA and Mr. TSUKAMOTO Junya (*Wadaiko*) was specially formed for this tour as each are normally solo musicians.

Following 3 shows at the Japanese Language and Culture Festival in Brunei, they charmed some 400 attendees with a variety of songs during the Malaysia leg consisting of 彩囃子 (*Irodori bayashi*), さくら (*Sakura*), local favourites 未来へ (*Mirai e*) by Kiroro, an animation song medley of *Doraemon*, *Nintama Rantaro*, *Dragon Ball*, and *Neon Genesis Evangelion* with solo acts introducing each of the traditional instruments and an original song titled 武蔵 (*Musashi*), which harmoniously blended the sounds of the instruments. "It was really fun and interesting to be able to have a close-up look on the performance and appreciate the Japanese culture," said one of the audience member.

Mr. YAMANAKA, leader of the band said, "we are glad that we were able to reach out to such a big crowd. We really enjoyed the atmosphere of REXKL with the audience singing along to the music. We hope that everyone was able to enjoy the feeling of Japan and its culture through our sounds."

They performed on the following day at The Japan School of Kuala Lumpur to a total of over 700 students aged between 5 to 15.



KATANO Satoshi

Left: TAKA, Middle: TSUKAMOTO Junya, Right: YAMANAKA Nobuto

Concert at the Japanese School of Kuala Lumpur

**Revisiting Japanese-ness in the Kingdom of Unexpected Treasures** (Brunei: Japanese Language & Culture Festival 2020): A recap Reported by Rafaad Roslan (JFKL)



Among the conspicuous domes of the mosques, dazzlingly gilded large signs in Jawi script and prominent pictures depicting Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, at the heart of Bandar Seri Begawan, we witnessed a tumultuous event; a very truly Japanese festival at the epicentre (the Atrium, Times Square Shopping Centre). The festival lasted two days, organized by the Embassy of Japan in Brunei Darussalam and the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur, and co-organised by Times Square Shopping Centre. It was a long-awaited annual festival for Japanese-enthusiasts in the city.

8 February 2020 kicked off with an Anime Drawing Competition, amassing talents from all over the country, followed by a Japanese cooking demonstration covering the ways to prepare fish, cutting sashimi slices to a step-by-step guided demonstration on making sushi rolls (makizushi). Entertaining the event-goers next were performances by the local Yo-Splinter Club, demonstrating their skills at handling the Japanese kendama and yoyo.

After the break, the opening ceremony was officiated by Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Aminuddin Ihsan, Minister of Culture Youth and Sports. The opening ceremony was followed by a performance brought by the Japan Foundation all the way from Japan; Musashi. The band is a guartet of traditional Japanese instrument specialists who came together to perform unforgettable ensembles for the Bruneian public, including the crowd favourite, Mirai-e by Kiroro and a medley of anime songs played in Japanese traditional style.





The second day of the festival was blessed with a bigger crowd compared to the first and filled with a number of presentations and performances from international and local talent. The Japan Foundation also took the stage to promote our Japanese e-learning platform; Minato in one of the afternoon sessions. Around 250 people visited the JFKL Minato-booth to know more about the self-study website and courses that were offered online. The festival was officially sealed by a Soran Bushi performance by BJFA -University of Brunei Darussalam Chapters accompanied by the Yamanaka Traditional Band.

### **JFKL Holiday Notice:** Office:

20 March - Spring Equinox Day

Library: 1 - 31 March - Temporarily closed for renovation



"TEMAN BARU" is distributed to JFKL members. JFKL membership is available upon application\*. Membership fee is RM10 per year. \*Please refer to footnote on page 7.

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