

TEMAN BARU

ISSUE **114**

November - December 2020

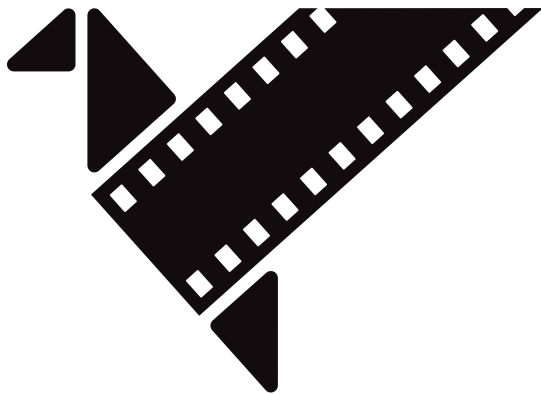
Upcoming Events

JFF 2020 PLUS ONE

Staged Reading Project

2020 Japanese Skit Contest

JFKL Japanese Online Course



JAPANESE
FILM FESTIVAL
2020 PLUS ONE



THE JAPAN FOUNDATION, KUALA LUMPUR



jf_kualalumpur



JAPAN FOUNDATION
国際交流基金

WWW.JFKL.ORG.MY



JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL 2020 PLUS ONE



Due to the current situation with COVID-19, the Japanese Film Festival 2020 (JFF) has been postponed to January 2021. But do not worry as we have a series of items in store to keep you excited before the main Festival finally begins early next year!

JFF 2020 PLUS ONE in January 2021*

Klang Valley : 7 to 13 January
 Penang : 14 to 17 January
 Johor Bahru : 21 to 24 January
 Kuching and Kota Kinabalu : 28 to 31 January
**dates are subject to change*

JFF Remote Films

2020 has been a challenging year with the COVID-19 pandemic affecting everyone across the globe but that did not stop some filmmakers from making the best of the situation. Recognising that "remote films" created using ZOOM has played an important role in the Japanese film world in 2020, we felt that they should be introduced as part of the Malaysia Japanese Film Festival this year.

We have a special page on our official JFF website, introducing two "remote films" which were created entirely remotely during the lockdown, together with an interview with director YUKISADA Isao.

- "One Cut of the Dead Mission: Remote" (d. UEDA Shinichiro)
- "Perhaps I Could Say It Now" (d. YUKISADA Isao)
- Interview with director YUKISADA Isao

You can watch them on www.jfkl.org.my/japanese-film-festival-2020/



One Cut of the Dead Mission: Remote



Perhaps I Could Say It Now



JFF Plus: Online Festival

Did you miss some of the titles shown at past JFFs? Want to watch them again? This is your chance to stream them FOR FREE! The Japan Foundation is proud to present to you "JFF Plus: Online Festival" where we bring you a series of titles from past Festivals together with some new titles you can enjoy from the comfort and safety of your home.

Broadcast period: 20 to 29 November 2020
 Region: Restricted to Malaysia (Registration is required)

Visit www.jfkl.org.my/events/jff-plus-online-festival/ for more info on the synopsis and schedule.

FILM LIST



Our 30-Minute Sessions (2020)



Lady Maiko (2014)



The Great Passage (2013)



Key Of Life (2012)

- Project Dreams - How to Build Mazinger Z's Hangar (d. HANABUSA Tsutomu / 2020 / 115 min / Drama)
- Our 30-Minute Sessions (d. HAGIWARA Kentaro / 2020 / 114 min / Romance)
- Little Nights, Little Love (d. IMAIZUMI Rikiya / 2019 / 119 min / Romance, Drama)
- Stolen Identity (d. NAKATA Hideo / 2018 / 116 min / Mystery, Thriller)
- Tora-san in Goto (d. OURA Masaru / 2016 / 114 min / Documentary)
- 0.5mm (d. ANDO Momoko / 2014 / 196 min / Drama)
- Lady Maiko (d. SUO Masayuki / 2014 / 135 min / Musical, Comedy)
- Ecotherapy Getaway Holiday (d. OKITA Shuichi / 2014 / 88 min / Drama)
- The Great Passage (d. ISHII Yuya / 2013 / 133 min / Drama, Romance)
- A Story of Yonosuke (d. OKITA Shuichi / 2013 / 160 min / Drama)
- Key Of Life (d. UCHIDA Kenji / 2012 / 128 min / Comedy)
- RAILWAYS (d. NISHIKORI Yoshinari / 2010 / 130 min / Drama)
- Peace (d. SODA Kazuhiro / 2010 / 75 min / Documentary)
- The Flavor of Green Tea over Rice (d. OZU Yasujiro / 1952 / 115 min / Classic)
- Production I.G Animation: Tokyo Marble Chocolate (d. SHIOTANI Naoyoshi / 2007 / 60 min / Animation)
- Production I.G Short Animation: PIGTAILS (d. ITAZU Yoshimi / 2015 / 29 min / Animation)
- Production I.G Short Animation: KICK-HEART (d. YUASA Masaaki / 2013 / 13 min / Animation)
- Production I.G Short Animation: Li'l Spider Girl (d. KAIYA Toshihisa / 2012 / 24 min / Animation)
- Production I.G Short Animation: Drawer Hobs (d. KISE Kazuchika / 2011 / 24 min / Animation)
- Production I.G Short Animation: The Girl from the Other Side (d. KUBO Yutaro & MAIYA Satomi / 2019 / 10 min / Animation)

- Titles above are available to stream FOR FREE from 20 to 29 November 2020.
- Registration is required before watching the films.
- Each films in each slot will be available to stream for 24 hours e.g. "Lady Maiko" will be available from 1:00 PM, 21 November until 12:59 PM, 22 November.

HOW TO REGISTER

1. Visit "JFF Plus: Online Festival" on JFCL's website.
2. Click "REGISTER NOW" to go to the official page.
3. Click "Watch" to go to the streaming page.
4. Click "Create Account" to fill in your details.

5-6 Dec 2020

Online streaming on Cloud Theatre

5 Dec (Sat) @ 8:00pm

6 Dec (Sun) @ 3:00pm

Presented by



平台計劃
PENTAS PROJECT
THEATRE
PRODUCTION

呈獻

It all starts with Ah-Q,
and it all ends with Ah-Q.

A failed hero
- a revolutionary thief,
life-saving medicine
- a killing knife,
revealing life's loathings,
ridicules, pities, laments,
which have always
come from a never despairing
expectation.

一切都從阿Q開始，也從阿Q結束。
失敗的英雄革命的賊，救人的
醫學殺人的刀，
揭露人生或可憎或可笑或可憐或可嘆，從來
都是出自那一片不曾絕望的期盼。

讀劇
Pentas
Staged
Reading
2

策展人 Curators

羅國文 Loh Kok Man

黃永益 John Wong

製作人 Producer

林偉彬 Pam Lim

導演 Director

羅國文 Loh Kok Man

劇本翻譯 Translated by

山崎理惠子 E-Run

林孟寰 Lin Meng-huan

吳明倫 Wu Ming-Lun

演員 Casts

余秋坪 Tammy Yee

李奕翰 Lee Yee Han

何文翰 Ho Mun Hann

吳欣諭 Koh Xin Yu

洪梓宗 Ang Chee Chong

李偉仲 Lee Woei Zhong

黃永益 John Wong

音樂設計與特別演出嘉賓

Music Design and

Special Guest Performance

余家相 Yui Kah Hoe

日本劇作家 宮本研 的作品
The Japanese playwright
Ken Miyamoto's work

靈感來自魯迅經典短篇小說集《吶喊》，
並以《阿Q正傳》為主軸。

"The Other Story of Ah-Q" is inspired by Lu Xun's
classical short story collection, "Call to Arms"
and is based on "The Story of Ah-Q".

[In Mandarin with English subtitles]
THE OTHER
STORY OF
AH-Q

票價 Ticket: RM23

訂購專線: 010-2195 874 (pentasproject.blogspot.com)

Ticket Inquiry: Cloud Theatre (www.cloudtheatres.com)

f Pentas Project Theatre Production

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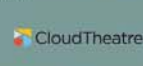
平面設計 Graphic Design: 蔡氏君 Tsui Lam

宣傳 Publicity: 譚小紅 Tammi Tam, 文穎輝 Mun Jing Kit

In collaboration with



Supported by



2020 JAPANESE SKIT CONTEST

2020 年日本語スキットコンテスト

THEME:



NEW CLOSING DATE
3 JAN 2021

Organized By:



Sponsored By:



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!!

We realised how current situation has been affecting everyone and hope our Skit Contest could be one of the many alternatives to encourage Japanese language learners to continue their learning journey in Malaysia.

We are now extending the submission date to 3 January 2021!

Details will be updated, so don't forget to check our social media platforms from time to time!

Scan the QR codes below or visit our official website for 2020 Japanese Skit Contest for more information:

For Rules & Regulations:



For Entry Form:



<https://www.jfkl.org.my/events/2020-skit-contest/>

For enquiries, email to: nihongo@jfkl.org.my

JFKL日本語オンラインコース JFKL ONLINE JAPANESE COURSE

LEARN JAPANESE AT HOME!



AIM

To acquire basic Japanese communication ability or to expand your communication ability.

METHOD

Self-study based with **Tutor Support** as mentioned below:

TUTOR SUPPORT

1. Assignments (**Writing**): **Correction from Tutors**
2. Live Lessons (**Speaking & Listening**): **Maximum of 6 students per class!**

COURSE MATERIALS

"Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture" is a comprehensive series of Japanese textbooks for adult learners of Japanese as a foreign language developed by the Japan Foundation.

<https://www.marugoto-online.jp/info/>

TESTIMONIALS FROM OUR STUDENTS (A1-1 ONLINE COURSE)

Very comprehensive activities, from learning the characters, listening and reading skills and talking with tutors and classmates. (Male, 20s)

I'd like to say thank you very much to my tutors for the support, patience and fun learning environment. I always looked forward to the bi-weekly live lessons. (Male, 30s)

I like the interesting lesson plans and video clips are very helpful as a listening exercise and to familiarize with the language used by native speakers. (Female, 30s)

The arrangement of the course content is very systematic. The knowledge or information is graduated, and the build up is steady (Female, 20s)



For course schedule and more info:

Please scan the QR Code

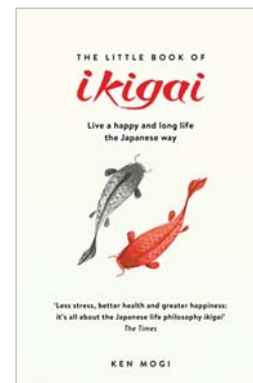
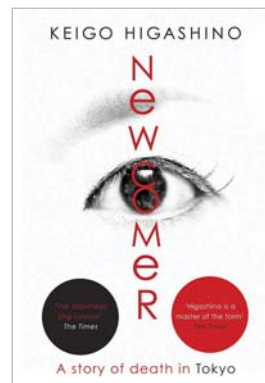
Next intake: Elementary Level (Early December)



JAPAN FOUNDATION

Inquiries: japanesecourse@jfkf.org.my

What's New: LIBRARY



日本語教師のためのアクティブ・ラーニング

By YOKOMIZO Shinichiro, YAMADA Tomohisha / Publisher: Kuroshio Shuppan 2019 / Library Call No.810.72YOK

Let's boost active learning in your class!

"I am wondering if I'm making my students be passive recipients of knowledge..." "I have heard of active learning, but what is it?" This book is a perfect reference to know details about active learning in Japanese language education.

Dr. Yokomizo and Dr. Yamada** define active learning from the viewpoint of promoting deep learning experientially and interactively, and share various ideas and some improvements in instructional approach to promote active learning. In addition, included are effective ways to utilise ICT to activate learners, such as writing assignments, presentations, reflection activities and any other tasks.

** Dr. Yamada was the keynote lecture speaker at the 17th International Conference on Japanese Language Educational in Malaysia 2020.

にほんご多読ボックス Vol.9 / Vol.10

By NPO Tagengo Tadoku / Publisher: Taishukan Shoten 2019 / Library Call No.817.7T

Konnichiwa! TADOKU fans and those who miss the TADOKU Salon.

New arrivals from Nihongo Tadoku books series are available in the library.

Both volumes contain Level 0 and 1 with a lot of illustrations and photos that help you guess the story while reading. Furigana is provided on all Kanji and Katakana. Downloadable audio files are available on the website to support your reading.

For more information on TADOKU, please visit our website and Facebook page.

Newcomer (KYOCHIRO KAGA 2)

By HIGASHINO Keigo, Giles Murray(Translator) / Publisher: ABACUS, Little Brown Book Group 2019 / Library Call No.895.635HIG

This new arrival is from the international bestselling author of "The Devotion of Suspect X", which is very popular among detective story fans and shortlisted for the Crime Writers' Association International Dagger Award Spectator Best Books in 2019.

Detective Kyochiro Kaga of the Tokyo Police Department has just been transferred to a new precinct in the Nihonbashi area of Tokyo. Newly arrived, but with a great deal of experience, Kaga is promptly assigned to the team investigating the murder of a woman. But the more he investigates, more potential suspects emerge. "Malice (KYOCHIRO KAGA 1)" is also available in the library.

The Little Book of Ikigai — The Secret Japanese Way to Live a Happy and Long Life

By MOGI Ken / Publisher: Quercus Publishing 2018 / Library Call No.158.0952MOG

MOGI Ken is a well-known neuroscientist in Japan and has published over 100 books covering popular science, essay, criticism and self-help.

Recently, the Danish lifestyle, "HYGGE," has become popular and attracted many people who are looking for happiness in their life.

Here is IKIGAI, a Japanese way for a happy life, which is a Japanese philosophy that helps you find fulfilment, joy and mindfulness in everything you do.

The author provides an absorbing insight into this way of life, incorporating scientific research and first-hand experience, and a colorful narrative of Japanese culture and history along the way. This book could help you realize and discover your own IKIGAI. Let's find out IKIGAI to live a happy and long life, shall we?

Lots more new arrivals are available in the library!

Get your JFKL Membership today and enjoy borrowing library materials (up to 5 items for 2 weeks), watching DVDs & listening to CDs at the AV corner and also having discount tickets for selected JFKL events!

LIBRARY CLOSURE NOTICE

Due to the extension of the Conditional Movement Control Order (CMCO), our library will be closed until 6 December 2020. Please stay tuned for further notice on our website, Facebook and Instagram page. Should you have any inquiries, please email us at library@jfkf.org.my.

JFKL Saturday Half-day Workshop for Teachers

Reported by SATO Osamu (JFKL)

2020年度 第2回土曜研修会



話す力、どう評価する？

—パフォーマンス評価の観点—



話す力を測るとき、
どこを見る？



A “JFKL Saturday Half-day Workshop for Japanese Language Teachers” entitled “How to Evaluate Speaking Skill: Criterion for Performance Evaluation (話す力、どう評価する？—パフォーマンス評価の観点—)” was held online via Zoom on 5 September 2020.

The topic was chosen based on the results of questionnaires at past seminars and workshops. From the surveys, we noticed that most teachers were interested in the following themes: “Conduct Japanese lesson using ICT”, “Evaluation”, “New teaching Material” and “Conversation”. Although we had conducted an online discussion session regarding “Evaluation” on 1 July 2020, keywords related to the topic such as “Rubric Sheet” and “Performance Evaluation” were not discussed in-depth. Hence, we saw a need for an in-depth lecture, which reflected the real time situation by demonstrating the “Performance Evaluation” using “Rubric Sheets” which are used in classrooms.

The goals of this workshop were as follows:

- To show that if you set a firm criteria for evaluating learners’ performance, you will be able to achieve consistency in setting students’ learning goal, planning classroom activity and doing evaluation;
- To know what you should look for when you conduct an oral examination.

In the workshop, the participating teachers were divided into small groups to discuss the current situation. After that, they gained hands-on experience by doing a performance evaluation using a rubric sheet. At the end of the workshop, they reflected on what they had noticed and learnt through the workshop.

As always, JFKL is dedicated to conducting more seminars and workshops to suit the needs of Japanese language teachers in Malaysia. For teachers who are interested in joining our next seminar or workshop, please refer to this page:

www.jfkl.org.my/language/teachers/course-for-teachers/

TADOKU - New Reading Materials and Audio are Now Ready!



Have you tried TADOKU

(TA: a-lot, DOKU: Reading) before?

TADOKU is a reading method whereby you choose a book from the vast selection of graded reading materials and discover the joy of reading in Japanese. You will be able to deepen your understanding of Japanese language, culture, society etc. through TADOKU activity.

It's a fun way to learn and totally different from the approaches of intensive reading and reading comprehension.

For Japanese learners, you can now read the FIVE newly uploaded original TADOKU books (for beginner level) on our website! For FREE!

Do you have difficulties reading in Japanese? Don't worry, you can start off slowly by reading along to the audio!

**Read a lot, listen a lot,
And get familiar with Japanese books!**



Materials are here : <https://www.jfkl.org.my/language/tadoku/malaysiabooks>

What is TADOKU?: <https://www.jfkl.org.my/language/tadoku#What%20is%20TADOKU>

2020年度 第17回マレーシア日本語教育国際研究発表会 THE 17TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JAPANESE LANGUAGE EDUCATION IN MALAYSIA 2020 (ICJLEM 2020)

Reported by MARUTANI Shinobu & Nur Diyana Abd Rahman (JFKL)

Online Conference Challenge! Looking from the Backyard of ICJLEM 2020

The Journey Begins

ICJLEM – organised by the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur (JFKL), Ambang Asuhan Jepun (AAJ) of Pusat Asasi Sains, Universiti Malaya (PASUM) and Malaysia Japanese Language Instructors Society (MAJLIS) – is held in October every year, with preparations usually beginning in January. However, with the global pandemic and lockdown this year, we had to begin with a discussion of whether it would still be possible to hold this conference in 2020.

We could not disregard the fact that this is a precious once-in-a-year opportunity to gather Japanese language educators, but nobody was able to predict what would happen in six months' time. After much deliberation, we decided that this was the right time to hold it online as it may bring a new perspective in this tough period.

What, and how? – Discussions started to heat up for this very first online conference.

“What is the most manageable method to do this when we are not experts in technology?”

Which is the best platform and tool to use, out of so many out there?

How many participants should we expect?

How many will present their papers online?

What is the best way to foster interactive interaction in the lecture and during presentations?

Is there a way to encourage participants to stay online with us for a long period of time?”

After exploring the various issues one by one, the outline of the programme was decided about two months later than usual.



Embarking the Journey

Around the globe including Malaysia, face to face lessons seemed impossible and we had to change our initial theme which we had prepared. Associate Professor Dr. YAMADA Tomohisa of Hokkaido University agreed to address the challenges amidst this global crisis in his keynote lecture through the theme, “Active Learning in an Online Environment”. We had discussions after discussions through e-mails and ZOOM meetings.

The submissions for oral and poster presentations began in June and since the period had been shortened, we were concerned about the response but in the end, 6 oral presentations and 12 poster presentations were confirmed.

Applications to participate in this conference started in early August. In 10 days, the number of applications approached 100, 20 days later it exceeded 200 and then later exceeded 300! It is impossible to cross the border into Malaysia at the moment, but because it was online, so many people wanted to join! We realised that online

implementation had its own advantages and although we were nervous of this large figure, we were also excited of this new exploration.

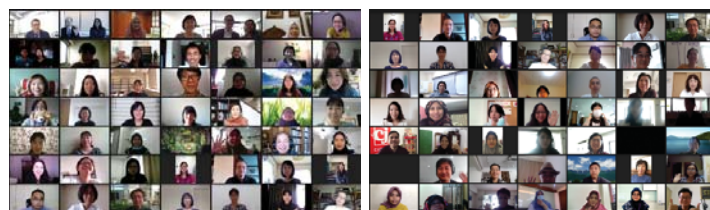
On 25 September the poster presentation started on our YouTube channel. Unlike conventional poster presentation where people gather at a fixed time and place, the ‘audience’ could watch the videos many times, write or read comments and be inspired – a platform for written exchange was created which would not have been possible otherwise. Perhaps, the implementation of an online format which is not tied to specific time or space is suitable for poster presentations after all.

As the conference day approached, 26 staff from all three organisers gathered both physically and online for a rehearsal on 30 September. During this three-hour session, everyone confirmed the overall flow and each role for the actual day. The next day, a technical check was conducted with the keynote speaker and oral presenters.

PROGRAM	HOW TO PARTICIPATE	PLATFORM
Poster Presentation via video recording on YouTube	- Presentation video and poster (PDF) are accessible from Sep. 25 till Oct. 10 on the Conference YouTube channel. - Presenters and participants will interact (Q&A and comment exchange) by using the comment section.	YouTube
Keynote Lecture via ZOOM	- Live on Oct. 3, morning . Join ZOOM to participate. - Internet connected device (PC recommended), And headphones are required to participate. Webcam and microphone are necessary to interact with the lecture in the Q&A session.	ZOOM
Oral Presentation via ZOOM	- Live on Oct. 3, afternoon . Join ZOOM to participate. - Devices required/necessary are as same as above.	ZOOM

*Teachers' Corner and the conference dinner are cancelled.

Final Outcome



The number of applications was 342, which was three times higher than usual, and the number of participants on the conference day was twice the usual number with 190 participants. They were from all over the world including neighbouring ASEAN countries and Japan, as well as the United States, Canada and Russia.

During the keynote lecture, the number exceeded 160 and around 100 participants joined each oral presentation session. The 12 poster presentations have been viewed 2,432 times with a total of 94 comments.

Beginning with a huge question mark, “Would it be possible to hold this online?” we successfully completed the first online version of our International Conference on Japanese Language Education in Malaysia safely. We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to the keynote speaker, Dr. YAMADA Tomohisa, the oral and poster presenters, and all participants.

We are not sure what new challenges lies in store for us next, but we definitely hope to see you again in the next edition of this conference!

Newly Launched Event: “Online Japanese Salon” for Japanese Language Learners/Speakers in Malaysia

Reported by Sakinah Noor Badaruddin (JFKL)

We are currently battling with an unprecedented situation, the Covid-19 pandemic, which has reduced our outdoor activities. We have had to maintain a safe physical/social distance with others, we cannot have large-scale social gatherings... the list goes on. Our life style has changed from the physical to virtual space. Although it is not easy to adjust ourselves to this new norm, we should not stop thinking of new ways to connect with each other.

We also realised that learning a foreign language is a lonely journey now because there is little opportunity to practice the language you have learnt. We feel for you! That is why JFKL has come out with a new event, the ONLINE JAPANESE SALON, which is a virtual space for Japanese language learners/speakers in Malaysia to gather and talk (online)!



What is “ONLINE JAPANESE SALON”?

ONLINE JAPANESE SALON (OJS) is a monthly event for Japanese language learners/speakers in Malaysia to gather and talk via the Zoom platform. Moreover, we will invite some native Japanese volunteers to join in the online conversation as well.

The key idea is to “Have Fun Talking in Japanese”! At this event, you will be able to talk with other Japanese language learners and native speakers in a small group based on a selected theme. You could talk about things in your life that is related to the selected theme, as well as show related photos, pictures, and figures.

This event is open to all Japanese language learners/speakers in Malaysia, from beginner to advanced level. This will be a great chance for you to casually practice (or show off) your Japanese.

The first OJS was launched on 22 August and the second OJS on 17 September with the theme:

「マイブーム」-今、自分の中で一番流行っていること/気に入っていること-

“My Boom” -The thing that I'm crazy about / The thing that I'm interested in-

「マイブーム」/“My Boom” is wasei-eigo (和製英語, “Japanese-made English”). “My Boom” is a phrase without a direct English translation, referring to something experiencing an explosion in popularity. “My Boom” was chosen as our first theme because we believed that it could bring out the curiosity and excitement from our target participants.

We received a very good response from the participants and the first round ended with lots of laughter and fond memories. Following its success, we decided to do a re-run on the same theme, for the second OJS.

Overall, the number of participants was 17 (first session) and 20 (second session) respectively. Most of the participants were college/university students and working adults. As the participants had different backgrounds, we noticed that the stories they shared were very interesting and unique. This diversity created beautiful sparks and made the group talk even more exciting. Each participant



Participants of the First Online Japanese Salon



Participants of the Second Online Japanese Salon

had his/her own story to tell. Some talked about their collection of physical things such as books, games, toys and stationeries. Others about how their “My Boom” in Japanese culture was the impetus to start learning Japanese. Some shared about “My Boom” which they have had since a young age.

As the organiser, we were very happy to see the joyful faces of the participants when they talked about the things that they are crazy about. We could really feel their passions! A big “Thank You” to everyone who joined these events!

We hope that this event will bring a unique and meaningful experience to the participants, as well as provide them with a platform to practice their Japanese speaking skills. Also, we hope this will stimulate the participants to talk more in Japanese in their daily life. Lastly, since the more the merrier, we hope more and more Japanese language learners/speakers will join and have fun together! Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates. For more information, please visit our website:

www.jfkl.org.my/events/onlinejapanesesalon



JAPANESE LANGUAGE ENTHUSIASTS BY SM SAINS MIRI

Reported by Nur Diyana Abd Rahman (JFKL)



SM Sains Miri, Sarawak organised the Japanese Language Enthusiasts (JLE) throughout August 2020 with the support of the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur under its Small Grant Programme and the Ministry of Education Malaysia. JLE offered 6 online competitions targeting not only Japanese language learners under the supervision of their Japanese language teachers in Malaysian secondary schools, but also seeking the involvement of their parents and community as well.

JLE was divided into two phases, each lasting two weeks and spanning the whole month of August. There were two categories, Category A for students 13 to 15 years old and Category B for 16 to 17 years old. Aiming to foster 21st century learning skills such as communication skills, critical thinking and creativity, on top of polishing the students' proficiency in Japanese language, the programme consisted of the following 6 activities:

- 5-min Reading
- Tell-a-tale
- Digital Poster
- Manzai
- VTuber Challenge
- Writing Train

Overall, there were almost 500 participants from 31 schools all over Malaysia.

One interesting feature of the JLE was that the programme was conducted not only by the Japanese language teacher of SMS Miri, but with the assistance of a team of students undertaking various roles including setting up their official website and Discord channel (interactive online platform), official flyer design and event moderators.

The winners of both categories were selected by judges from JFKL with many of them responding that it was quite a challenge to decide on the winners from the finalists as the submissions were impressive and inspiring.

Below are some insights from Ms. Fiona Toh Shu Chew, the main planner of JLE who is the Japanese language teacher of SMS Miri:

What inspired you and SMS Miri to organise JLE?

The necessity to motivate students by boosting their sense of achievement! We also hoped to encourage them to read more Japanese texts to improve their language proficiency so most of the activities required reading skill. With proper guidance and sufficient information, we hope to produce more independent learners.



What are the challenges when organising this project and how did you overcome them?

1. *Managing it with limited human resource – So I saw it as an opportunity to teach students not only language but also other skills like project management, teamwork, leadership and so forth. I hope to train them to be competent individuals in the future.*
2. *Financial burden was also a challenge. JFKL partly supported financially and made the whole programme feasible.*
3. *My own lack of proficiency was overcome with the guidance of the Japanese language expert from JFKL.*
4. *The risk of students not committing enough throughout the programme. I am aware of it, so I monitored closely and worked with them. I gave them sincere and honest feedbacks to help them with their conflicts.*
5. *Overwhelming participation! I did not expect to receive tremendous support from other schools. Their support has made my students excited and wanted to do better. Unfortunately, it caused an issue where we were not able to meet our deadlines as we needed time for voters to review all the submissions. We decided to have more finalists when we saw the high quality of submissions.*

What are your hopes for this project and Japanese language education in Malaysia?

I hope that this project will be able to trigger and initiate more programmes for Japanese language learning and becomes a platform for them to learn while sharing values and knowledge. We hope to encourage collaborative learning. We believe that with sheer determination, nothing can stop us from learning.

JFKL congratulates all winners, and the organising team of JLE and SMS Miri, teachers from participating schools and parents, and we hope to see more exciting projects in the future to nurture closer relationships between Malaysia and Japan.

For the list of winners, competition videos and further information on this project, check out JFKL Facebook page or Japanese Language Enthusiasts official website here:



<https://jle2020.weblum.site>

ALEPS第一回日本語作文大会

ALEPS 1st JAPANESE ESSAY CONTEST: GOOD JAPANESE VALUES

Reported by Nur Diyana Abd Rahman (JFKL)



Winners of the Competition

Winners were announced on 31 March 2020 through ALEPS' Facebook page and the award ceremony was initially scheduled for March. However, due to the nation's Movement Control Order (MCO), the ceremony was forced to postponed and finally held on 28 September 2020 at JFKL's Library. Along with Mr. Isrami, Mr. ARAKI Kaname, the Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission of the Japanese Embassy and Mr. SHIMADA Seiya, the Director of JFKL were among the honourable guests who attended the ceremony.

For ALEPS, the event was a success having achieved its objective of not only promoting Japanese language among Malaysians, but also providing a medium for learners to express themselves in Japanese while exposing readers to Japanese values.

Congratulations to all the winners, and we hope to see a greater participation in the future as ALEPS is planning to make this an annual event!

The Alumni Look East Policy Society or ALEPS, with its Vice President, Mr. Isrami Ismail as project director, successfully organised their very first National Japanese Essay Contest last February, with 'Good Japanese Values' as the topic.

The contest was sponsored by Pusat Bahasa Teikyo, with the support of the Ministry of Education Malaysia, Embassy of Japan and also the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur (JFKL) under its Small Grant Programme. There was an encouraging amount of participation, not only from the Klang Valley but all over Malaysia for its three categories; Secondary School, Preparatory Programme and Open Category.

SeaShorts Film Festival

Reported by the SeaShorts Team



Q&A session with the directors of films from *Moving Panorama*, held live on Facebook

SeaShorts Film Festival began as an event to screen Southeast Asian short films, created in hopes of bringing the region closer together through a mutual love for cinema. From humble beginnings in 2017, SeaShorts has grown over the years into a notable regional film festival.

With a programme of handpicked and curated short films, as well as forums and masterclasses, it showcases Southeast Asia's stories and emerging filmmaking talents by bringing together the arts and cultural community from the region. Originally intended to be held in Ipoh, Malaysia, the festival was shifted online due to COVID-19.

This year's edition ran from 12 - 20 September 2020, with the theme *Reimagining Short Films*, Reinventing Southeast Asia – an invitation for Southeast Asian filmmakers to come together to share their visions and stories that are both unique yet familiar to each other, and to weave the future narrative of the region while constantly challenging the idea of what a short film can be in today's media landscape.

SeaShorts 2020 saw great support with almost 600 virtual attendees from around the region, clocking in over 22,700 views across its array of programmes, including 52 films, 12 Q&A sessions, 8 forums and workshops, and 5 masterclasses.

This year's competition for the coveted SeaShorts Award saw record-high participation with 544 entries, of which 30 were selected and screened. Malaysian short *Peon* was the unanimous favourite and took home the SeaShorts Awards for Best Film and the Next New Wave Award for Best Malaysian Film, as well as Best Editing.



Film still from *Peon*, winner of the SeaShorts Award for Best Film, Next New Wave Award for Best Malaysian Film, and Best Editing Award



Film still from *BURA*, the winner of the Jury Award, the Best Cinematography Award and the Best Sound Award

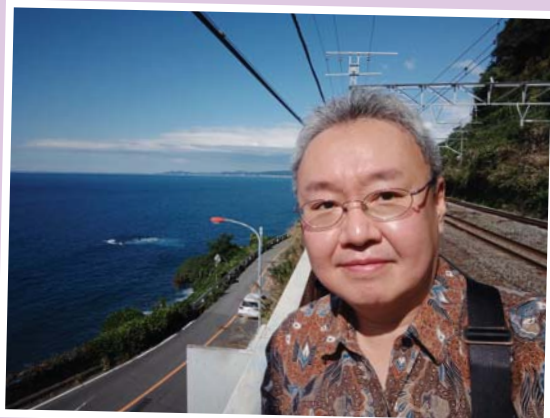
Selamat berkenalan, nama saya TOMOKAWA Kodai.

I have been working at the Cultural Affairs Department at the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur since this September as the successor of Kurihara san. I joined Japan Foundation in 2016. It's my first time working in Malaysia but I'm so excited to start.

I have two goals during this assignment at Malaysia. First, I want to go to many local places and eat lots of local food. Malaysia has a unique diversity and regional characteristic, and so I want to go to many places and experience them firsthand. I especially like physical activity like traveling, climbing, running, swimming, so I definitely want to climb Mt. Kinabalu. Second, I want to keep studying Bahasa Melayu. I am already in my 30's so it is a little challenging for me, tetapi saya akan cuba yang terbaik (Ganbarimasu). These are my two goals in Malaysia.

Also, I like Japanese culture, especially watching movies, reading Japanese manga, listening to J-pop, watching traditional performances like Kabuki and sumo. I would like to introduce all sorts of Japanese culture from through JFKL.

Saya harap dapat bekerjasama dengan anda semua!



The two years and four months in Malaysia was a really valuable experience in my life. During this period, I was able to experience fascinating aspects of a truly Asian culture and society. I was really impressed with Malaysia's multi-racial society with its wealth of diversity where many ethnic groups coexist in expressing their intellect and sensitivity, to create a culture and build their future.

Not only in daily life but also in business I always felt the kindness of the Malaysian people, which made my life in Malaysia fulfilling.

Under the current COVID-19 situation, Malaysia as well as Japan have been forced to find a new life pattern unimagined till now and to adopt it, but even under such unfortunate circumstances, the importance of cultural exchange for both countries will not be forgotten or decline, and I believe if anything it will increase. We shall take further steps to construct a new order together in this changing world.

Wishing for the further development of Malaysia, I'd like to once again express my sincere appreciation to everyone who I had the pleasure to meet.

KURIHARA Tsuyoshi

JFKL Holiday Notice:

Office:

25 December - Christmas
30 - 31 December - Year End Holiday

Library*:

14 November - Deepavali
25 December - Christmas
30 - 31 December - Year End Holiday



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.

*Due to the extension of CMCO, our Library will be closed.

Please refer to page 6 for more information.

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