

# TEMAN BARU

ISSUE **118**  
July - August 2021

Upcoming Events  
JFKL Talk Series  
ICJLEM 2021  
JF Course Intake



THE JAPAN FOUNDATION, KUALA LUMPUR



JAPAN FOUNDATION  
國際交流基金  
WWW.JFKL.ORG.MY

## JFKL Talk Series

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur would like to proudly announce the launch of its new series “JFKL Talk Series”, a programme initiated to reach out to everyone and introduce more about Japan through the lenses of professionals in various fields. Through this programme, we hope that it is able to showcase the charms of Japan and instil curiosity on the multifaceted culture of the Land of the Rising Sun.

We will be welcoming Mr. Mahen Bala for the first episode of this inaugural talk series to share about “Longing and belonging: Portraits of different people in Japan”. Mahen is a Malaysian documentarian and visual artist who has worked on documenting Malaysian culture and history for more than a decade.

### Title: Longing and belonging: Portraits of different people in Japan

In early 2020, I arrived in Japan on a research trip to explore railway heritage and history from the Japanese perspective. It was an opportunity to observe how train travel, museums, and railway history defined national and communal constructs of identity across the Japanese landscape. In this light-hearted talk, I will share my research findings, the places I visited, and most importantly the people I met. Among many others, I will tell you about my most treasured souvenirs and who gave them to me: the red plastic folder, the polka-dotted paper crane, and the golden manekineko from a ramen shop. After more than a year of lockdown and travel restrictions, I hope this lighthearted sharing session will remind us of the magic of connecting with strangers, and in the process, discover new insights into Japanese culture and history.

### About Mahen Bala

His primary interest is in investigating the human experience, and how memory shapes personal and communal constructs of history. In 2018, he published ‘Postcards from the South’, a comprehensive documentation of memory and history of the Malaysian railways. In 2020 he completed a Fellowship with the Japan Foundation Asia Center, and is currently pursuing his Masters at the University of Malaya.



**Date** : 25 July 2021 (Sunday)  
**Time** : 3:00 PM  
**Platform** : FB Live (theJapanFoundationKL)



Scan the QR code or head over to [www.jfkl.org.my/events/jfkl-talk-series/](http://www.jfkl.org.my/events/jfkl-talk-series/) to find out more!

## JFKL Mini-series – Introducing Japanese Arts and Culture in Malaysia



Our very first “JFKL Mini-series” was launched on YouTube where we bring you a series of videos introducing Japanese arts and culture in Malaysia. The main objective of this series is to share and introduce the story of Japanese culture expert based in Malaysia to the world.

Make sure to check out the two episodes on Origami and Kendama now on our official YouTube channel today!

Just scan the QR code to start watching.



## JF digital collection – Let your curiosity open the doors to Japan and the world



and Arts, Japanese language, and Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange, we hope this will serve as a way to bridge the gap between our audience, Japan, and the world. Scan the QR code or visit <http://bit.ly/JFDigitalCollection> to begin your exploration.

We are proud to present “JF digital collection”, an online platform showcasing a variety of online programmes created by our headquarters and overseas offices as a response to the pandemic that has affected everyone around the globe.

COVID-19 has not only affected many aspects of our society and individual lives, but also has greatly limited our opportunities to connect with one another. Since the pandemic began, we have been witnessing a surge in online programs worldwide – a testament that even amidst a global pandemic, people are still seeking connections that transcend culture and customs.

Consisting of events ranging from themes that encompasses the Japan Foundation’s three pillars; Culture





# THE 18TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JAPANESE LANGUAGE EDUCATION IN MALAYSIA (ICJLEM 2021)

## 2021年度 第18回マレーシア日本語教育国際研究発表会

Under the new norm due to the Covid-19 pandemic where we have difficulty holding physical events, the organizers, The Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur (JFKL), Ambang Asuhan Jepun (AAJ) University of Malaya, and Malaysian Japanese Language Instructors Society (MAJLIS) have decided to follow the previous year's practice and bring the Conference online again this year. The Conference will be conducted on 2 Oct 2021 (Saturday).

### Scheduled Programmes:

- Keynote Lecture on 2 October 2021 via ZOOM
- Oral Presentation on 2 October 2021 via ZOOM
- Poster Presentation from 24 September to 9 October, pre-recorded video on YouTube
- Teacher's Corner from 2 August to 20 September, pre-recorded video on YouTube

\*Registration required to participate. Participation fee is RM 20 per person.

Official Homepage: <https://www.jfkl.org.my/jle-conference-2021/>

Inquiries: [jle\\_conference@jfkl.org.my](mailto:jle_conference@jfkl.org.my)

### NOW CALLING for Presenters

#### [Oral Presentation and Poster Presentation]



**THE 18TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JAPANESE LANGUAGE EDUCATION IN MALAYSIA (ICJLEM 2021)**  
**<CALLING FOR PRESENTERS>**

**Oral Presentation**  
Date : 2 October 2021 (Saturday)  
Medium : Live presentation via Zoom

**Poster Presentation**  
Date : 24 Sep 2021 (Friday) ~ 9 Oct 2021 (Saturday)  
Medium : Presentation videos uploaded on YouTube

For those who wish to submit for the "Oral Presentation" and "Poster Presentation", please read the submission guidelines thoroughly before you apply. Research and practical reports related to Japanese language education in Malaysia will be accepted.

### CLOSING DATE:

**30 July 2021 (Fri) by 12:00 p.m. Malaysia Time**



<https://form.jotform.me/jldjfk/PR18>

\*Late submissions will not be accepted.

\*Kindly take note that you cannot submit the same content for both "Oral/Poster Presentation" and "Teacher's Corner".

Registration for participation will start in early August. Make sure to visit our official homepage, and follow JFKL's Facebook and Instagram accounts for the latest update.

### CALLING for "Teacher's Corner" Exhibitors, too!



**THE 18TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JAPANESE LANGUAGE EDUCATION IN MALAYSIA (ICJLEM 2021)**  
**<TEACHER'S CORNER>**

**SHARE YOUR IDEAS WITH US!**

Excellent Idea will receive commendation!

**Send us your video!**

ANYONE who INVOLVE/INTERESTED in the Japanese language education in Malaysia is welcomed to submit your idea!

Share your ideas and practices with us by sending in your freestyle 3-minute video in Japanese, English or Malay. No peer-review & format. We look very much forward to your submission!

**Submission Period: 1 June 2021 (Tue) - 31 August 2021 (Tue)**

**Exhibition Period: 2 August 2021 (Mon) - 20 September 2021 (Mon)**

"Teacher's Corner" is back this year. Let's share your ideas and materials for Japanese language education via pre-recorded videos on YouTube! Anyone who is involved or have an interest in Japanese language education in Malaysia is invited to submit. There will no peer-review process. Since "Teacher's Corner" this year is going ONLINE, presentation and submission methods will be different from previous years. Please read the submission guidelines carefully before you submit your work.

### CLOSING DATE: 31 August 2021(Tue)



**Submission Guidelines:**

**Application Form:**

\*Exhibition with commercial purpose is not allowed.

# JFKL Japanese Online Course Marugoto A1-1

**LEARN JAPANESE AT HOME WITH TUTOR SUPPORT!**

**\*Please note that this course is not a part of our JFKL General Course.**

**\*For our General Course please go to the following link: <https://bit.ly/3r4eqQe>**

## AIM

- Introductory level Japanese.
- Focuses on basic conversation including reading and writing.
- Basic communication skills in Japanese for everyday situations.

## 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

- The Materials are offered in the Japanese learning platform called "Minato".
- All course materials can be accessed online for free through this link: <https://www.marugoto-online.jp/info/>

## COURSE SCHEDULE

|         | Course Name on Minato                                       | Course Duration                   | Number of Live Lessons | Number of Hours | Day & Time of Live Lessons<br>(Choose only one) |                       | Fee (RM) |
|---------|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---|-----------------------|----------|
|         |   |                                   |                        |                 |   |                       |          |
| STARTER | Marugoto A1-1<br>(Katsudoo & Rikai)<br>Tutor Support Course | 24 July 2021 -<br>22 October 2021 | 6<br>(+ oral test)     | 4.5h            | Thursday  | 18:45-19:30 (Class 1) | 90       |
|         |   |                                   |                        |                 |   | 20:00-20:45 (Class 2) |          |

## STUDY FLOW

### Live Lesson

- Meet Tutor and Classmates
- Practice conversation
- Receive direct feedback from tutor



### Self-Study

- Learn Vocab, Grammar and etc
- Practice listening & speaking
- Submit assignments

## HOW TO REGISTER?

### STEP 1

SIGN UP AT MINATO WEBSITE

<https://minato-jf.jp/>

SIGN UP TUTORIAL

<https://bit.ly/2mk132H>

### STEP 2

REGISTER HERE:

Application will open on 29 June 2021

### STEP 3

WAIT FOR CONFIRMATION

Via E-mail from JFKL

### STEP 4

MAKE PAYMENT

Through iPay88

**\*The selection of students will be based on certain selection criteria instead of first-come-first-served basis.**

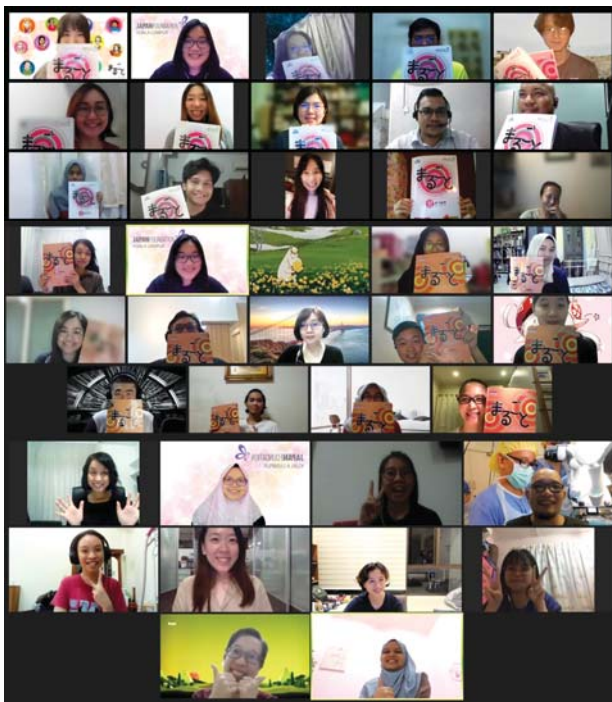
**\*Please keep yourself updated on our social medias and website for the announcement**

Inquiries: [japanese\\_course@jfkf.org.my](mailto:japanese_course@jfkf.org.my)

Minato Registration:



## JFKL General Course – The Elementary Levels (STARTER, ELEMENTARY 1 & ELEMENTARY 2)



Caption: STARTER (Tuesday Class), Elementary 1 & Elementary 2 students

### JFKL Japanese Course: Switching from Physical Classroom to Virtual Classroom

Online virtual classroom has become more and more important nowadays due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Initially, it was not easy to set up a virtual classroom, but the hard work has paid off because students staying far from KL and Selangor are now able to join the JFKL Japanese Course thanks to the borderless nature of an online virtual classroom.

### The “MARUGOTO” Textbook and Supplementary Materials

Teaching and learning resources are very important for teachers and students. Our textbook, “MARUGOTO,” developed by the Japan Foundation, comes with many FREE online resources such as “MARUGOTO Words”, “MARUGOTO Plus”, “MINATO e-Learning Platform”, etc. With these resources, our students are able to preview and review the course materials anytime and anywhere they like. For more information on online resources, please refer to: <https://www.jfkl.org.my/language/resources/>



Online resources offered by the Japan Foundation.

### What's Next?

Currently, all the classes have already commenced. For those who have missed the intake, you may like and follow our Facebook for information on additional intake (subject to availability) in the future.

Apart from general Japanese courses, we will also offer “MARUGOTO Tutor-supported Course” on MINATO platform for beginner students. For more information, please refer to Page 4.

## TADOKU - A simple way to start reading

### How to start TADOKU?

TADOKU (TA: a-lot, DOKU: Reading) is a reading method whereby the reader chooses a book from the vast selection of graded reading materials and discovers the joy of reading in Japanese. There are four basic rules.

1. Choose a book that suits your level.
2. No dictionary while reading. For difficult words, try to guess the meaning from the pictures.
3. Do not interrupt the excitement of reading. Just skip over any unknown word, phrase, or passage.
4. If you feel the book is tough or boring, simply quit that book and pick up another one.


There are 6 levels in Japanese TADOKU, Level 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5. If you are a beginner learner who has just started to learn Hiragana (one of the Japanese writing systems), you can start at Level 0, which is the easiest level. If you still have difficulties reading, no worries, you can start off slowly by reading along with the audio!

### Where can you find Japanese TADOKU books?

Tempted to read TADOKU books but don't know where to find it? We've got you covered. Head on to the JFKL website to read some TADOKU books for FREE! So, pick up a book that you are interested in and enjoy!

JFKL original materials are here: <https://www.jfkl.org.my/language/tadoku/malysiabooks>

### 4 rules to enjoy TADOKU

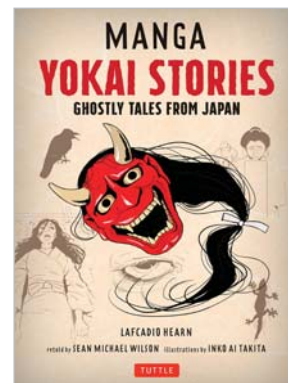
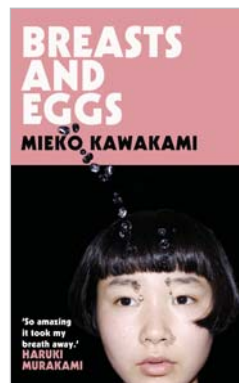
|   |   |
|---|---|
|  <p><b>Start from the easy books</b></p> <p>やさしい本からよみます</p> |  <p><b>Don't use dictionary</b></p> <p>しよ辞書をつかいません</p> |
|  <p><b>Skip over unknown words</b></p> <p>し知らない言葉はとばします</p> |  <p><b>Pick up another book</b></p> <p>べつの本をよみます</p>   |

Enjoy your reading!





# What's New: LIBRARY



## ビジネスコミュニケーションのためのケース学習-職場のダイバーシティで学びあう【教材編2】

By KONDO Aya and others / Publisher: COCO Publishing 2019/ Library Call No.336.0791KON

If you are learning business Japanese, it is necessary to learn about mutual understanding to manage interactions with the diverse range of people in work places as well as memorize vocabulary and expressions. "I am wondering why my client is so angry...", "I am confused about my boss's reaction after I mentioned about my engagement." If you are working with people from other countries, you probably have experienced confusion or frustration. This textbook is full of tasks to improve communication skills in diversity, which is based on the case method approach of Harvard business school to develop problem solving skills and build strong interpersonal relationships with people of different cultural backgrounds. It shares actual cases that happened in various business scenes between office staff, with clients, and so on.

【教材編 1】and 【解説編】 from this series are also available in the library.

## 北歐女子オーサ 日本を学ぶ

By Åsa Ekström, OGURA Tomoko and others (Supervised) / Publisher: KADOKAWA 2020/ Library Call No.361.5ASA

Why don't you learn Japanese manners with Åsa? Åsa Ekström is a Swedish comic artist, who currently resides and works as a manga creator in Tokyo. Her curiosity in Japan has never stopped. Her latest comic is about Japanese manners which she learned from experts in each field. They teach Åsa basic manners that you should know in a daily life from greetings, table manners such as rules of chopsticks usage, honorific expression called KEIGO, all the way to Japanese etiquette. Her curiosity will allow readers to have fun learning Japanese manners. We also recommend that you read 『北歐女子オーサが見つけた日本の不思議』(That's What Åsa Found in Japan) Volumes 1-3 (TADOKU Level 4) which are available in the library as well.

## Breasts and Eggs

By Mieko KAWAKAMI, Sam Bett and David Boyd (Translated)/ Publisher: Pan Macmillan 2020/ Library Call No. 895.635KAW

Mieko KAWAKAMI is one of Japan's best-selling writers and her works are highly regarded examples of the 21st century literature. This is her first full-length novel published in translation, which won the Akutagawa Prize in 2008 and was selected as the top 10 novels of 2020 by TIME magazine. As you might imagine from the title, breasts and eggs are symbols of the female body and the story is about three women, 30 year old Natsu who is single, her sister Makiko and young niece Midoriko. Intriguing conversations explore the emotional content of the female body connected to family or moral values, and quite sensitive topics are described intently with humor and sympathy such as breast enhancement surgery, fertility choice, childbirth, and motherhood.

## MANGA YOKAI STORIES – Ghostly Tales from Japan

By Lafcadio Hearn, Sean Michael Wilson (Retold), Inko Ai Takita (Illustration) / Publisher: Tuttle Publishing 2020/ Library Call No.387HEA

The Hungry Ghost Festival is scheduled to be celebrated at the end of August. How about reading thrilling Japanese ghost stories? Lafcadio Hearn was a writer better known as 小泉八雲 (Koizumi Yakumo, 1850-1904 in Japanese modern literature, and he also contributed greatly to the introduction of Japanese culture to Western countries. This comic-style collection is a compilation of seven unique ghost stories from KAIJAN, known among the Japanese as folk tales and mythological stories collected by Hearn. The stories contain multiple elements - fear, sadness, loneliness, and even happiness. Every single story will captivate horror fans and even those who are not.

**Lots more new arrivals are available in the library!**

**Get a JFKL Membership!**

**You can enjoy:**

- borrowing library materials (up to 5 items for 2 weeks)
- watching DVDs & listening to CDs at the AV corner
- having discount tickets for selected JFKL events

**\* For the latest information, please visit our website, Facebook and Instagram page.**



# Saturday Half-Day Workshop for Japanese Language Teachers

Reported by KONDO Maiko (JFKL)

JFKL has been organising the “Malaysia Japanese Language Education Seminar (MJLES)” annually. At the previous MJLES in March 2021, the invited speaker was Ms. OFUNE Chisato (大船ちさと先生) on the theme of “teaching culture”. This seminar successfully attracted participants from overseas and left a great impact on all of them. Therefore, to further discuss on the theme, as well as to rethink how to relate “culture” into our own lessons, we decided to hold a follow-up workshop.

As a result, the first JFKL “Saturday Half-Day Workshop for Japanese Language Teachers” for the fiscal year 2021 was held on 29 May with the theme “How to Incorporate “Culture” into ‘My’ Class?” (「私」の授業に「文化」をどう取り入れる?)).

We were glad to find that the sharing sessions were very active because most of the participants had experienced incorporating “culture” in their lessons. According to the feedback from the participants, it was very enlightening to listen to the ideas of others and they wanted to try them out in their own lessons.

In this workshop, we not only discussed about issues of incorporating “culture” into our own lessons, we also took a step further to discuss how “Artificial-Intelligence (AI) Translation” will affect the way we teach our students. This question managed to enlighten the participants to rethink about the importance of equipping their students with “intercultural” and “intracultural” communication skills, as well as the importance of planning lessons which will equip the students with 21st Century skills.

Moving forward, JFKL will conduct more and more workshops for teachers to discuss and explore through the sharing of knowledge. We hope to see you again in our future workshops. For more information about this program, please refer to: <https://www.jfkl.org.my/language/teachers/course-for-teachers/> or like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates.

The 1<sup>st</sup> JFKL Saturday Half-day Workshop for Teachers (2021/2022)  
A continued discussion of “2020/2021 MJLES”

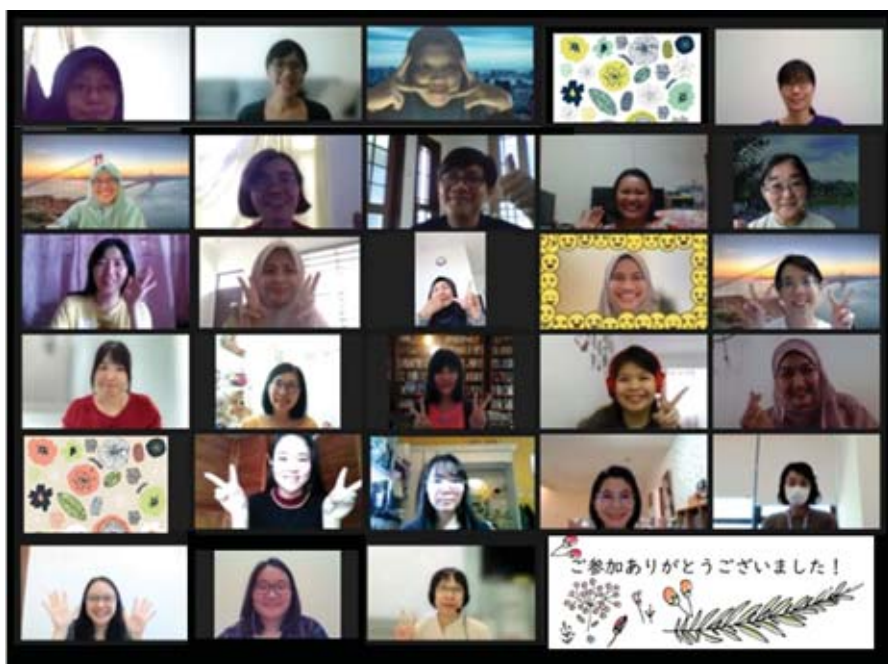
## How to incorporate “Culture” into “my” lessons.

2020/2021 MJLES was held on Mar 13, 2021 (Sat).  
Speaker: OFUNE Chisato-sensei

This time, we will discuss and discover how to relate “Culture” with our lessons and how to actually incorporate “Culture” into our lessons by looking at the real examples!

What is your focus while teaching Japanese lessons?  
How do you handle the teaching of “Big C culture” in your lessons?  
Can “Culture” be taught as a theme in Japanese lessons?  
Is it true that the teaching of “Culture” need special setting?

Date & Time: 29 May 2021 (Sat) @ 9:30a.m. - 12:30p.m.  
Platform: Online via Zoom only  
Fee: Free  
Speaker: Kondo Maiko (Ms.)  
Targets: Japanese language teachers in Malaysia, Brunei, Singapore  
(This seminar will be conducted mainly in Japanese.)  
Number of participants: Max 30 people  
(Priority will be given to the Japanese language teachers in Malaysia who have participated in “2020/2021 Malaysia Japanese Language Education Seminar” previously in March 13, 2021.)



## Participants' Feedbacks

It was a relief to know that the difficulty of incorporating culture into language lessons is not unique to me but is a common problem among non-native teachers. Through the workshop, I learned how the other teachers incorporated culture into their lessons, as well as how to improve myself as a Japanese language teacher. Language and culture are inextricably linked and it is impossible to teach one without the other, so the workshop has been really helpful to my teaching career.

I was happy and really felt glad that I participated in this online training. From the sharing of teachers and JF speakers, once again ...I was able to broaden my understanding of learning by taking up culture. As a Japanese teacher, we'll not only prepare cultural materials and topics in the lesson content, but also have to think about "how and how much we understand of Japanese cultures?" "What about the background of the culture", "how to dig deeper into cultures"... which those students cannot see. It was an interesting training and enhance my knowledge and skills indeed.

The workshop conducted by JFKL really benefited me. During sharing session among participants, there are some new experiences/ information being shared which is good to adapt and adopt for my students especially. Learning a language which requires character is not the same as a language that uses the alphabet. One of the biggest challenges is to maintain student motivation since they have to characters, and to cultivate motivation teaching a culture can be incorporated into lessons which have been shared throughout this workshop. It benefited me a lot in designing my future framework in teaching. Culture can't be separated from learning the language. Thank you JFKL for giving me this opportunity!





# オンライン日本語サロン ONLINE JAPANESE SALON



Why would you like to go there?

What would you like to do?

## 第8回テーマ

か お い くに  
「コロナ禍が終わったら行きたいところ・国」

「Place or Country that I wish to go after the Covid-19 Pandemic」



## PARTICIPANTS



Due to the pandemic, we have lost our freedom to visit the places or countries that we like, but tomorrow will be a better day.

Let's have faith and hope for better tomorrow!

### What is "Online Japanese Salon"?

A monthly event for Japanese language learners and speakers in Malaysia to gather and talk freely online. The key idea is to "Have Fun Talking in Japanese"! This event is open to all Japanese language learners in Malaysia from beginner to advanced level. Come and join us now!

Scan the QR code or check on our social media for more information.

SCAN ME



### JFKL Holiday Notice:

#### JFKL Office Holiday

20 July 2021 - Hari Raya Aidiladha  
10 August 2021 - Awal Muharram  
31 August 2021 - National Day

#### JFKL Library Holiday

20 July 2021 - Hari Raya Aidiladha  
10 August 2021 - Awal Muharram  
31 August 2021 - National Day

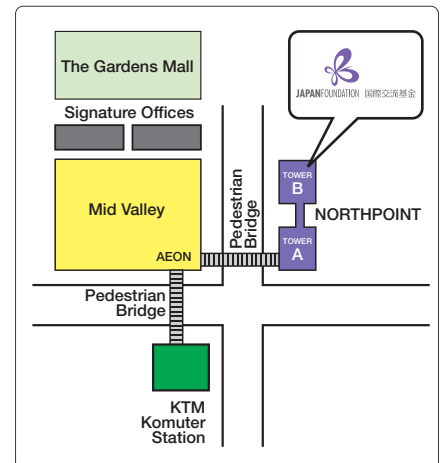


JAPAN FOUNDATION 国際交流基金

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

Due to the current FMCO/MCO/CMCO, our Library is temporarily closed until further notice. Please stay tuned for updates on our website, Facebook and Instagram page

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