

TEMAN BARU

ISSUE **121**

January - February 2022

Upcoming Events

Japanese Film Festival 2021

JFF ONLINE 2022

CROSSCUT ASIA Delicious! Online Film Festival

Photographic Images and Matter:
Japanese Prints of the 1970s

Asian Literature Project YOMU

Malaysia Japanese Language Education Seminar



JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL 2021



THE JAPAN FOUNDATION, KUALA LUMPUR



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Japanese Film Festival 2021 – Film List



It's a Summer Film! (サマーフィルムにのって)

MATSUMOTO Soushi / 松本 壮史 • 2021 • 98 min • P13

Cast: ITO Marika, KANEKO Daichi, KAWAI Yuumi, INORI Kilala

Barefoot is a high-school girl who adores samurai movies and Japanese costume drama. But she doesn't stand a chance of making a samurai movie at school, as all the film club members prefer romantic dramas. One day Barefoot meets Rintaro, an ideal actor for the lead samurai role in a movie she wrote. Together with her two best friends, Kickboard and Blue Hawaii, she persuades Rintaro to star in the movie. However, during production, Barefoot finds out that Rintaro is a time-traveler from the future!



Liar x Liar! (라이어×라이어)

YAKUMO Saiji / 耶雲 哉治 • 2021 • 117 min • P13

Cast: MATSUMURA Hokuto, MORI Nana, KOSEKI Yuta, HOTTA Mayu

Minato is a university student and isn't interested in looking pretty. She lives with her stepbrother Toru, who is handsome and a player. Minato is uncomfortable with Toru's ways with women and they have an agreement where they will not approach each other when they are outside. One day, Minato puts on make-up and wears her friend's high school uniform and happens to meet Toru. She lies to him about her identity, but Toru falls in love with her at first sight.



MASKED WARD (仮面病棟)

KIMURA Hisashi / 木村 ひさし • 2020 • 117 min • P13

Cast: SAKAGUCHI Kentaro, NAGANO Mei

Hayami Shugo is a doctor at a nursing hospital, which was once a psychiatric hospital. One evening, when Hayami is on night duty, a man in a pierrot mask breaks into the hospital with Kawasaki Hitomi, a university student who has been shot by the masked man. The masked man tells Hayami to treat Kawasaki and takes 64 people hostage in the hospital. Hayami and Kawasaki try to escape from the hospital and they encounter mysterious cases one at a time.



MIO'S COOKBOOK (みをつくし料理帖)

KADOKAWA Haruki / 角川 春樹 • 2020 • 132 min • P13

Cast: MATSUMOTO Honoka, Nao

Mio and Noe are close friends despite coming from different social circumstances. One night, a massive flood took place after a heavy rain, and Mio lost her parents and was separated from Noe. 10 years later, Mio is at 'Tsuruya', a soba noodle establishment in Edo's Kanda district where she shows off her talent as a female chef. Then one day the tough-looking Mataji, who cooks at the Okinaya, an establishment in the Yoshiwara red-light district, comes and asks Mio to cook for Asahi, the district's reigning courtesan.



Moonlight Shadow (ムーンライト・シャドウ)

Edmund Yeo / エドモンド・ヨウ • 2021 • 93 min • P13

Cast: KOMATSU Nana, MIYAZAWA Hio

Banana Yoshimoto's "Moonlight Shadow", which has been translated in more than 30 countries around the world, has been adapted for the screen by Edmund Yeo. The film depicts how a woman, who suddenly lost her loved one, overcomes her grief and moves on to the future when she learns about the mysterious phenomenon that she may be able to see the dead again.



One Summer Story (子供はわかってあげない)

OKITA Shuichi / 沖田 修一 • 139 min • 2020 • P13

Cast: KAMISHIRAIISHI Moka, HOSODA Kanata

Sakuta Minami is a second grader who swims for the school team. During her backstroke practice one day, she sees a picture of "Koteko", the protagonist of a cult TV anime series, "Buffalo Koteko is the Magical Plasterer" which she is a big fan of being drawn by Moji Shohei, another second grader and the youngest son of a calligraphy instructor who is also an avid fan. One day during their summer vacation, she unexpectedly starts a journey to find her missing father with Shohei joining her along the way.



Poupelle of Chimney Town (映画 えんとつ町のプペル)

HIROTA Yusuke / 廣田 裕介 • 2020 • 100 min • P13

Cast: KUBOTA Masataka, ASHIDA Mana, SHINOSUKE Tatekawa,

Poupelle of Chimney Town is the breathtaking story of young Lubicchi and a man made of garbage, Poupelle. Living among the thick smoke from the chimneys of his isolated town, Lubicchi yearns to see the "stars" — to know the truth — his father always told him about. Spectacularly beautiful, Poupelle of Chimney Town is filled with inspiring performances and splendid music and sound effects, and produced at Tokyo's famed Studio 4°C.



© 2020 "STEP" Film Partners

STEP (ステップ)

IIZUKA Ken / 飯塚 健 • 119 min • 2020 • U

Cast: YAMADA Takayuki, HIROSUE Ryoko, YO Kimiko, KUNIMURA Jun

30 year-old Takeda Kenichi lost his wife Tomoko who passed away at a very young age and decided to raise his 2-year old daughter, Miki by himself. He encounters various problems and obstacles but with the kind support by the people around them and the spirit of Tomoko, which he believes that still stays in the house, Kenichi strives to get over the problems.



© 2019 TALKING THE PICTURES PRODUCTION COMMITTEE

Talking the Pictures (カツベン!)

SUO Masayuki / 周防 正行 • 127 min • 2019 • P13

Cast: NARITA Ryo, KUROSHIMA Yuina, NAGASE Masatoshi, KORA Kengo, OTOO Takuma

Sometani Shuntaro is a young man who dreams to be a benshi (performer who provides live narration to silent films). 10 years later, Shuntaro is now serving a roving band of thieves as a fake benshi. When his boss is captured. He escapes and finds refuge in a provincial theater, the Aokikan. There, he proves his skills as a benshi but his rapid rise has made a rival benshi envious. He also meets his childhood crush once again but he then finds himself on the run once again...



© 2019 "THE FABLE" Film Partners

THE FABLE (ザ・ファブル)

EGUCHI Kan / 江口 カン • 123 min • 2019 • 18

Cast: OKADA Junichi, KIMURA Fumino, YAMAMOTO Mizuki, FUKUSHI Sota, YAGIRA Yuya

As his nickname implies, the Fable is an enigmatic assassin who terrorizes the underworld. He then gets an order from his boss to live the life of a normal man for one year. In incognito, the Fable is given the name, "Sato Akira" and his partner is "Yoko" start their new lives as a regular brother and sister with a pet parakeet and part-time work. He begins to enjoy a normal life but trouble comes looking for him. The Fable must survive a life-or-death situation without killing anyone. Can he ever get his peaceful life back?



© 2021 "The Night Beyond The Tricornered Window" Film Partners

The Night Beyond The Tricornered Window (さんかく窓の外側は夜)

MORIGAKI Yukihiro / 森ガキ 侑大 • 2021 • 103 min • 18

Cast: OKADA Masaki, SHISON Jun, HIRATE Yurina

Since MIKADO Kosuke was a child, he has seen ghosts. He has had a difficult time because of that. One day, Mikado meets an exorcist HIYAKAWA Rihito who tells him that if he is with him, he won't be afraid anymore. Mikado decides to take part in exorcisms conducted by Hiyakawa. They then receive a request from a detective about a serial murder case. While investigating the case, they find a cursed dead body. Based on the manga "Sankaku: Mado no Sotogawawa Yoru" by YAMASHITA Tomoko.



© 2020 Theatre: A Love Story Film Partners

Theatre: A Love Story (劇場)

YUKISADA Isao / 行定 勲 • 2020 • 136 min • P13

Cast: YAMAZAKI Kento, MATSUOKA Mayu

Playwright-cum-director Nagata runs his own theatre troupe. His avant-garde style gets scathing reviews and he anguishes between his ideals for theatre and the reality of his troupe on the verge of splitting up. Then, he spontaneously introduces himself to Saki, who he sees in town wearing shoes that match his own.



© 2020 "We Make Antiques! Kyoto Rendezvous" Film Partners

We Make Antiques! Kyoto Rendezvous (嘘八百 京町口ワイヤル)

TAKE Masaharu / 武 正晴 • 108 min • 2020 • U

Cast: NAKAI Kiichi, SASAKI Kuranosuke, HIROSUE Ryoko

They have an eye for antiques. They're competent. And their hearts are (more or less) in the right place. Koike Norio, an antique dealer, and Noda Sasuke, a potter, is reunited in Kyoto for some reason. This "antiques duo" become infatuated with a tragic kimono beauty whose father's keepsake was swindled from her, and in order to help the damsel in distress, they plan a one-shot, comeback con game on a bigshot antiques dealer.

Enjoy the Festival and Collect rewards along the way.

Watch any of the festival movies to earn stamps that you can use to redeem exclusive goodies! Get a minimum of three stamps to score your first mini gift, but don't stop there as you will get more gifts if you watch more than 8 titles.



JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL ONLINE 2022

The season of Japanese films with the Japan Foundation continues!

Japanese Film Festival Online returns in 2022 for its second edition bringing everyone the joy and wonders of the Japanese culture through the films for two weeks only FOR FREE!

The Malaysian edition this year will be bringing a lineup of 20 movies ranging from the classics, drama, thriller, documentary to animations to entice and showcase the wonderful colours of Japan and the Japanese cinema at the comfort of your own home. You can enjoy all the films in both English and Malay subtitles so all you have to do is just create an account, and you are all set for a journey of discovery!

Duration: From 4:00 PM on 14 February to 3:59 PM on 28 February 2022

Head over to <https://watch.jff.jp/go.jp> for more info. Check out some of the titles that will be available throughout the two week period!



Under the Open Sky (すばらしき世界)
d. NISHIKAWA Miwa / 126 min / Drama / 2021

The story of a former yakuza's struggles to be accepted by society, even as he tries to live an earnest life.



Her Love Boils Bathwater (湯を沸かすほどの熱い愛)
d. NAKANO Ryota / 125 mins / Drama / 2016

A tear-inducing humanistic drama about the bonds between a strong-willed and deeply-loving mother and her family.



RASHOMON (羅生門)
d. KUROSAWA Akira / 88 min / Drama / 1950

A group of murder witnesses all give completely different testimonies. One of the most celebrated films in Japanese history that questions whether there is such thing as truth in this world.



Time of EVE the Movie (イヴの時間劇場版)
d. YOSHIURA Yasuhiro / 106 min / Animation / 2010

Do androids have souls? A moving animation that considers the nature of emotions through the interactions between humans and androids.



The God of Ramen
(ラーメンより大切なもの 東池袋大勝軒 50 年の秘密)
d. INNAMI Takashi / 90 min / Documentary / 2013

A moving documentary about the man who started a legendary ramen shop in Tokyo.



AWAKE
d. YAMADA Atsuhiro / 114 min / Thriller / 2020

A thrilling coming-of-age drama depicting the fateful battle between a professional shogi player and a shogi software developer.



Until the Break of Dawn (ツナグ)
d. HIRAKAWA Yuichiro / 129 mins / Drama / 2012

If you could meet the dead one more time, who would you choose? A spiritual and moving humanistic drama.



From Chocolate by Yasmin Ahmad
©2009 Redbag Music Sdn Bhd.



©2013 MIGRANT FILMS and The DOCUMENTATION CENTER OF CAMBODIA

**Sweet and savory Asian films about "Food"
and Tokyo International Film Festival's "CROSSCUT ASIA"**

Delicious! Online Film Festival CROSSCUT ASIA

Friday, 21 January to Thursday, 3 February 2022

**Part 1: CROSSCUT ASIA special edition featuring
"delicious" films from Asia**

Part 2: Encore! CROSSCUT ASIA

Free of charge
<https://crosscutonline.jfac.jp>



Some of the films will not be
available in some countries.



©Song Sound Production



©KalyanaShiraFilms / SAFilms

Co-presented by The Japan Foundation Asia Center and Tokyo International Film Festival

Photographic Images and Matter: Japanese Prints of the 1970s

“Photographic Images and Matter: Japanese Prints of the 1970s” is one of the Japan Foundation’s travelling exhibitions, and it’s coming to Malaysia this January, until the end of May 2022. The 1970s was an era in which new trends emerged in contemporary Japanese art due to a focus on photographic images and matter. Prints were closely related to these trends, and prints of the 1970s made their mark on history. To celebrate the golden era of the print movement, this exhibition focuses on print expressions from the 1970s, as seen in the work of 14 artists who helped develop that movement in the world of Japanese contemporary art. This exhibition is divided into two sections: “The Age of Photographic Images,” which focuses on the use of photographic images in the print medium, and “Images of Autonomous Matter,” which focuses on works shaped by the intentions of matter. Brought to you by the Japan Foundation, do not miss this opportunity to view this curated set of prints!

Admission is free.

Photographic Images and Matter: Japanese Prints of the 1970s

Duration & Venue: 17 January to 27 February 2022 - Level 5, GMBB, Kuala Lumpur (Closed on Chinese New Year Day 1 & 2)

: 10 March to 8 April 2022 - Muzium & Galeri Tuanku Fauziah, USM, Penang (Closed on Sunday)

: 18 April to 18 May - Sabah Art Gallery (Closed on Monday, Labour Day, & Hari Raya Aidilfitri Day 1 & 2)

* The schedule is subject to change and the venue is to be announced. For further information, please log on to our website at jfkf.org.my and on our official SNS channel on Facebook and Instagram.



Tetsuya Noda Diary; Aug. 22nd '68



Tetsuya Noda Diary; Sept. 11th '68



Koseku Kimura Present Situation - Existence-A



Koji Enokura A Stain No.1



Shoichi Ida Surface is the Between - Between Vertical and Horizon - Stone, Paper and Stone



Lee Ufan Port of Call 1

Asian Literature Project アジア文芸プロジェクト YOMU

読んでひらく、アジア。

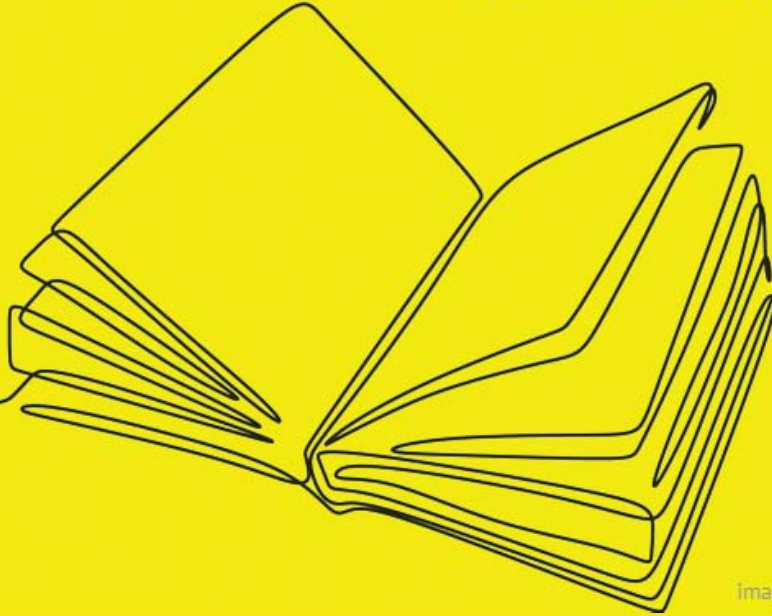


Image: courtesy of shutterstock

In the time of COVID-19 pandemic, when the world and our daily lives have drastically changed, what are the thoughts of Asian authors and what are they writing about? The Asian Literature Project "YOMU" (meaning "read") organized by the Japan Foundation Asia Center will be spinning the stories of daily lives of people in Asia—their joys, hardships and resilience—through the eyes of authors in respective countries.

In collaboration with emerging writers in Southeast Asia and India, the project will post their new literary works in English, Japanese and local languages of their own. How has the act of reading itself changed as the ways people connect with each other become more varied, for instance with the increasing use of social media? The project will also feature stories and reports which illustrate diversity and vigor of reading culture in each country that richly reflects the present state of its society and culture.

The Malaysian segment, with the project advisor and editor Amir Muhammad, will also have a separate website to introduce the following 4 stories written by 4 Malaysian writers in their respective languages, as well as the translations in other languages including Japanese.

Head over to <https://jfac.jp/en/culture/projects/p-yomu/> for more info on this project.

Scan here to read
the Malaysian segment!





TANAKA Shiho
(Vocal, Tsugaru-Shamisen)



KATO Erina
(Vocal, Tsugaru-Shamisen)



TSUKUDA Koshi
(Shakuhachi (bamboo flute))



KATO Takuya
(Taiko (Japanese drum))



KUMAGAI Daisuke
(Percussion)

MINYO – Music Concert of Japanese folk songs

In 2022, the Malaysian Government's Look East Policy, which has greatly contributed toward strengthening bilateral ties between Malaysia and Japan, marks its 40th year since it was advocated in 1982. A concert introducing Minyo, one of Japanese traditional music genres, with guest musicians from Malaysia will be organised as a cultural event to commemorate its 40th anniversary to showcase the close and friendly relations between the two nations.

Minyo is the music genre of Japanese folk songs inherited by generation to generation by ordinary folks in fisherman's village, farmers' community and etc.

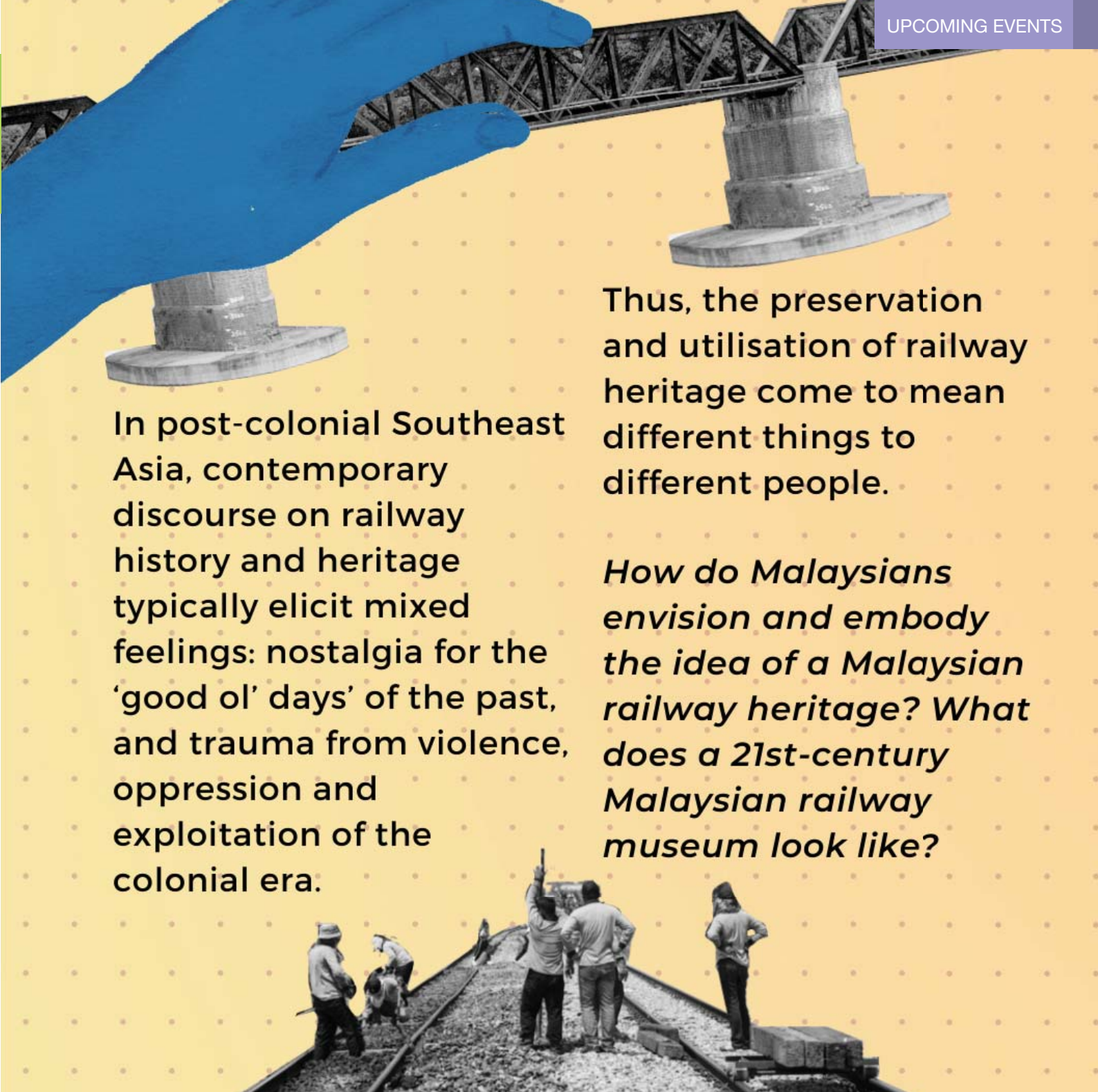
Dates and time: 8:00 PM, 4 March 2022

8:00 PM, 5 March 2022

Tickets : RM50 and RM30 (Concession: 50% off for JFKL members, seniors above 60, students & disabled)

Venue : Pentas 1, Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre (KLPac)

For further information, please check our website and SNS pages.



In post-colonial Southeast Asia, contemporary discourse on railway history and heritage typically elicit mixed feelings: nostalgia for the 'good ol' days' of the past, and trauma from violence, oppression and exploitation of the colonial era.

Thus, the preservation and utilisation of railway heritage come to mean different things to different people.

How do Malaysians envision and embody the idea of a Malaysian railway heritage? What does a 21st-century Malaysian railway museum look like?

Let's build a Malaysian railway museum at “(RE)MUSE - (RE)imagining a 21st century Malaysian Railway Museum”!

RE(MUSE) is an interactive workshop jointly organized by Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur (JFKL) and Projek Keretapi Kita - to be held at Rumah Tangsi KL on 19 & 20 February 2022.

(RE)MUSE is a process-oriented workshop at the intersection of diverse bodies of knowledge, skillsets and modes of thinking. Together, we will challenge established ways of thinking and interrogate local issues towards conceptualizing a railway museum that is localized, sustainable and distinctly Malaysian.

Participants will spend the day discussing and brainstorming ideas towards conceptualizing what a Malaysian railway museum in Malaysia would look/feel like.

The outcome of the workshop will be a collection of ideas showcasing our capacity as Malaysians to imagine and present railway history in new innovative ways.

Date : 19 & 20 February 2022
Venue : Rumah Tangsi KL

2021年度 マレーシア日本語教育セミナー

2021/2022 MALAYSIA JAPANESE LANGUAGE EDUCATION SEMINAR

Seminar Title

漢字学習方法にバリエーションはありますか？

ー明日から始められる教室活動ー

Discovering the variation of methods in learning Kanji:
The ready-to-use classroom activities

Date & Time

5 March 2022 (Sat)
09:00-15:30 (Malaysia Time)
(1.5 hours break included)

Platform: Online via ZOOM Meeting



Target Participants

Japanese language teachers & those involved in the field of Japanese Language Education in South-East Asian Countries

※This seminar will be conducted in Japanese

Seminar Outline

<Lecture> How did you learn Kanji? How do you teach Kanji? How many different ways are there to learn/teach Kanji? In this seminar, the speaker will first talk about how do learners learn Kanji and what do they think about Kanji learning. On top of sharing the various methods used by some teachers in teaching Kanji, the speaker will also propose various related classroom activities.

<Workshop> By looking at some examples of classroom activities, we will discuss and discover the classroom activities which we could start using as soon as tomorrow. Although it is not mandatory, it would be great if you could have the brush pen, colour pen, or colour pencil with you as we will be using them in the workshop.

Registration Period: 19 Jan ~ 24 Feb

Online registration is required to participate.

Website: <https://www.jfkl.org.my/events/MJLES2021-2022/>



Dr. HAMAKAWA Yukiyo specialized in Kanji teaching and learning in the field of Japanese Language Education. She obtained her PhD from Saitama University. She is also interested in the field of autonomous learning, teacher education and teacher's mental health. She is the founder and representative of the "Japanese as Second Language (JSL) Kanji Study Group", founded in 2004 and "Mental Health Study Group for Teachers and Staff Involved in Japanese Language Education", founded in 2018. She is currently teaching Japanese mainly to international students at Center for Japanese Language, Waseda University.

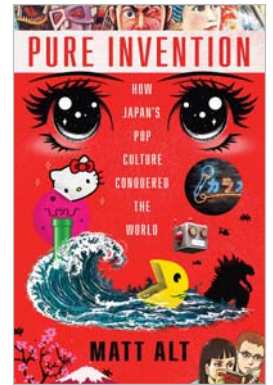
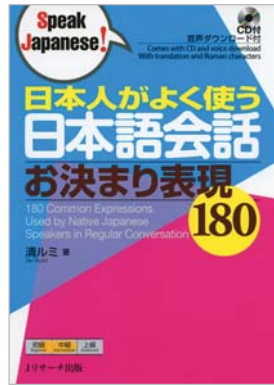
Speaker's Profile



For Inquiry: seminar@jfkl.org.my



LIBRARY



おしゃべりしながら書くことを楽しむ中級作文

By SUGIURA Chisato, KIDO Mitsuko / Publisher: Bonjinsha 2020/ Library Call No.816T SUG

"I am not good at writing." "I feel bored with the essay class." Teaching writing an essay might be the most challenging one among teacher's responsibilities, but if you have received negative reactions from learners this textbook is highly recommended to improve such a situation. "Writing an essay while talking." This is the basic concept of the textbook, which guides learners to become able to write an essay with confidence. First, as a preparation, give students free conversation time to share and develop their ideas on the topic to create an essay outline. Next, teach them the rules of composition to write correctly. After writing a draft, let them read their essays each other, check the content, and revise organization, formatting, and so on. It is suitable for intermediate level who wants to learn writing in plain form and written language. Teacher's guide is provided free on Bonjinsha official site.

日本人がよく使う日本語会話 お決まり表現180

By SEI Rumi / Publisher: J Research 2018 / Library Call No.817.8TSEI

「楽勝」(No problem), 「目がない」(have a weakness for), 「空気を読む」(read the atmosphere)... Japanese has many useful rhetorical expressions that fully convey a specific nuance through a single term. Basic verbs and adjective introduced in JLPT N4 and N5 exercise books are often used with different meanings than how they are described in these books as well. This book features some of the basic expressions among these that are particularly used frequently in daily life to enrich your expressive skills in Japanese. All texts have Romaji (English characters). In addition, the meaning, background, and usage of expressions are introduced with English translations. Free Voice data is downloadable from J-Research official site. (Registration is required)

An Introduction to Kimono (in English and Japanese)

By NAGASAKI Iwao / Publisher: Tokyo Bijutsu 2020/ Library Call No. 539.1NAG

The kimono is widely recognized as a traditional element of Japanese culture. The origins of kimono goes much further back to the Heian period (794-1185). This book focus on women's kimono and it examines how the kimono have changed in many ways over the years, as well as the variations according to the wearer's social class, how different kimonos were worn during different seasons, and how the obi and various accessories have also evolved. This book will help readers fully enjoy the beauty of kimono as a traditional Japanese culture.

PURE INVENTION: How Japan's pop culture conquered the world

By Matt Alt / Publisher: Crown, Penguin Random House 2020/ Library Call No.306.0952ALT

This book tells new insights about the Japanese pop culture revolution.

The author of this book, Matt Alt is a Tokyo-based writer, translator, and reporter, who is a contributor to The New Yorker, The Japan Times, and many other publications. This book reveals how Japan's pop-media complex remade global culture. Some of the most iconic inventions from the Walkman to the Game Boy, from anime to emoji, the creations of modern Japanese style have transformed that country and daily life around the world. The author proves in this brilliant investigation, which is an exploration of how key Japanese exports have influenced the wider world's perception of the country.

Lots more new arrivals are available in the library!

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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

RM10 (annual fee) and 1 photo (passport size) are required for new registration.

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



JAPANESE LANGUAGE WORKBOOK PROJECT: Another Milestone for Japanese Language Education in Secondary Schools of Malaysia

By Nur Diyana binti Abd Rahman (JFKL)

With the establishment of this new project, the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur (JFKL) had the pleasure of conducting two online workshops on 23 September and 6 October attended by 40 to 60 Japanese language teachers from secondary schools under the Ministry of Education Malaysia (MOE). Our Japanese language lecturers shared the reason for publishing a workbook which was to complement MOE's Japanese language syllabus by providing an alternative teaching material. It will be a supplementary teaching aid for local teachers to strengthen their students' language proficiency.



Online Workshop Part 1 via Zoom on 23 September 2021

At these workshops, teachers were given tips on how to develop good question patterns and there were also several discussion sessions for them to share their thoughts and experiences. They also had the opportunity to contribute to the development of the workbook through small group exercises with other participants. Although conducted via Zoom, the sessions were lively and we were happy to see active and meaningful interactions.

As the next step towards the success of this project, JFKL then called for applications from all teachers of public secondary schools to become members of the editorial committee. The screening was held at the end of October with the cooperation of MOE to select 15 candidates, and preparations for the first meeting started immediately after that.

The first editorial meeting was held physically at Pullman Kuala Lumpur Bangsar Hotel from 16 to 18 November as a collaborative project with MOE. The 15 selected teachers came from a variety of backgrounds throughout Malaysia including Sabah and Sarawak, from both residential and daily schools, and comprised of senior and junior teachers – providing different perspectives and strengths. The meeting opened with brief welcome speeches by our Director, Mr. SHIMADA Seiya and the MOE representative, Pn. Mariana Najmudin. JFKL also took the opportunity to introduce our two new lecturers as they had not yet had the opportunity to physically meet teachers despite having arrived in Malaysia in the middle of 2021.



Editorial committee members with JFKL and MOE officers

To comply with the SOPs and achieve the objectives of this first face-to-face meeting, members were divided into five groups of three. Each was assigned specific chapters to review and to come up with exercises or questions that were suitable for Malaysian secondary school students. Led by one of our Japanese language lecturers, Ms. TENGAN Celica, JFKL also shared some sample questions at the start of the meeting to be discussed by the members. Three of the Ministry officers with Japanese language background, namely Pn. Dayang Nor Ashikin, Pn. Mariana and En. Badrul Hisyam also participated by providing practical inputs.



Discussion and presentation in smaller groups

The meeting concluded successfully with the committee mapping out the direction of the workbook as the first stage. A second meeting is scheduled to be held in January together with a related illustration making project.

We look forward to the continued cooperation with the Ministry and Malaysian teachers so that the workbook could be published in 2022!

The 4th JFKL Saturday Half-Day Workshop for Japanese Language Teachers

Reported by TENGAN Celica (JFKL)

The 4th JFKL Saturday Half-Day Workshop for Japanese Language Teachers for the fiscal year of 2021 took place on 27 November via the online platform, ZOOM with the theme "Let's Think about 'Speaking' in the Beginner/Elementary Classes: What teacher should be aware of in cultivating students' speaking skill?"

(「初級授業の「話す」について考えよう!～学習者が「話せる」ように教師が意識したほうがいいことは?～」).

The goals of the workshop are:-

1. To think about what teacher should be aware of when encouraging the students to talk about what they intend to,

2. To think about what practices needed by the students before they can apply what they have learned in speaking,

3. To think about what activities could be done to support the students to become able to speak using the vocabulary and grammar that they have learned.

The workshop was attended by 18 participants. In this workshop, we have discussed about what we can do in the class to cultivate the students' speaking skill in the Beginner/Elementary level. In the pre-questionnaire, there was a voice that learners could not speak because they did not remember vocabulary. In the workshop, we first discussed the practice of memorize vocabulary and sentence patterns for becoming able to speak. After that, the participant was to think about how to make the conversation in the textbook into more realistic situation. Besides that, the participant also experienced role-play and information gap tasks as one of a way to do conversation activity in the classroom.

For those who are interested to view the PowerPoint Slides of the workshop, please access the URL below: <https://bit.ly/3rHakkV>



The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur
The 4th Saturday Half-day Workshop for Japanese Language Teachers, 2021



Let's think about "Speaking" in the Beginner/Elementary Classes

~ What teacher should be aware of in cultivating students' speaking skill? ~

How often do you provide an opportunity in the class for students to think and speak in Japanese? What kind of activities are you doing to encourage the students to talk? Let's think together what activities can we conduct in order to provide a situation for our students to practice the vocabulary and grammar they learned in the class. We look forward to your participation.

Date & Time

27 Nov 2021 (Sat) 9:30am-12:30pm



Target: Japanese language teachers in Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei
Limit: 50 participants
Speaker: TENGAN Celica
Fee: Free



Click the link below or scan the QR Code to register

<https://forms.gle/Jj6BbVjSjxYQGK7o8>

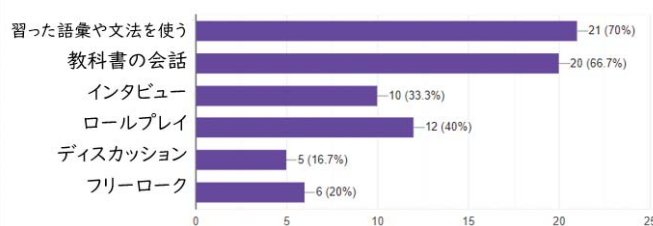
Closing date: 21 Nov 2021 (Sun)

※Application will close once we reached the participants limit.
Kindly apply as soon as possible.

※A confirmation email regarding your eligibility to participate will be sent to your email registered by 22 Nov (Mon).

Inquiry tengan@jfkf.org.my (天願 / TENGAN)

アンケート結果： 話す練習としてどのようなことをしていますか。



★参加者のみなさんの回答

We hope to see you again in the next "JFKL Saturday Half-Day Workshop for Japanese Language Teachers" in next year!

For more information about our program offered to Japanese language teachers, please refer:
<https://www.jfkf.org.my/language/teachers/>
ありがとうございました!



The Final Report of “Online NP 2021 in Malaysia”

Reported by the Nihongo Partners Team (JFKL)

Despite the cancellation of the 7th batch of Nihongo Partners (NP) in 2021, JFKL was able to conduct an alternative programme with the aim to support Japanese language education from previously dispatched NPs. In August, September and November, 84 online activities were conducted with 22 secondary schools and 2 universities in Malaysia. 1,076 students were involved in the activities with native Japanese. 98.2% of them responded to be satisfied with the online interaction. With the support from local Japanese teachers (Counterpart Teachers, CP), even the NPs gained new insight.

We include accounts from Ms. Belethambi (CP) and Ms. Konuma (NP), as well as Ms. Mee (CP) and Ms. Osako (NP). Ms. Konuma was dispatched to SMK King Edward VII in 2020 as 6th Batch NP, but COVID-19 pandemic cut her mission short. This year, she was able to reconnect with her CP and students. Ms. Mee of SMK Kota Marudu, however, had never received NP due to geographical and safety reasons, but were able to conduct Japanese class with NPs for the first time ever.

Nirmala-sensei & Ms. Konuma



Ms. NIRMALA BELETHAMBI (SMK KING EDWARD VII)

In 2020, my second NP, Ms. Konuma had to go back after only 2 months due to the pandemic. It was a great loss for us as we already planned many activities together. It was very thoughtful of JFKL to come up with Online NP Programme and I applied for it as it will definitely benefit my students as Japanese language learners. The turnout for the activities was overwhelming as some students who rarely attended my online classes showed interest to take part in the activities. I had 3 sessions with 3 different NPs and one of them was Ms. Konuma. The students still remember her and were looking forward to meet her again. She used simple words that my Form 2 were able to understand the lesson without much problems. I was pleasantly surprised with their bold incessant questions to Ms. Konuma, and she responded politely with a smile. They put the effort to speak in Japanese, and admittedly, it was a good chance for them to practice the language. My students had a wonderful time talking to the NPs, who were very friendly and entertained their curiosities.

Ms. AMI KONUMA (NP 6th Batch)

I was delighted to be given the opportunity to engage with various schools in Malaysia through this online programme, and one of them enabled me to reunite with the students of SMK King Edward VII, the school I was previously dispatched to. It was a thrilling moment, we learned “te- form” with Form 2 students. When I first met them in 2020, they were in Form 1 and just started learning Hiragana and Katakana. They had not learned Japanese words yet. But now, the students have learned numerous, that they were able to construct a short sentence! I was amazed how much they had grown and felt nostalgic. Yet, Nirmala-sensei is still the same enthusiastic teacher she was, and I could see that the students took her class seriously.

Due to the pandemic, students will continue to have bounded experience, so I am filled with respect for the teachers who tried to work around the situation to entertain the students. I would be ecstatic if the students become interested, even a little with Japan through this activity.

Mimi-sensei & Ms. Osako



Ms. LEONG SUK MEE (SMK KOTA MARUDU)

Online NP Programme was an opportunity not to be missed. It may not be the same as having a native speaker physically in the classroom, but this programme was a golden opportunity for my students to use Japanese language with its speakers. One of the activities we had was game and quiz session with Ms. Osako and Ms. Shomura. The quiz items were cleverly set into several themes that provided further knowledge on Japanese culture and opened conversational opportunities tailored to students' proficiency. Japanese food theme for instance gave the students the chance to talk about their favourite food. Although my students are inarticulate in Japanese, with some encouragement, they could speak at their own pace and capability. Since both NPs are well-conversed in English and know a bit of Malay, students were more placid when struggling with new words or expressions. They were also quick to counteract when my students were unresponsive. I am grateful for the chance and experience in collaborating with Ms. Osako and Ms. Shomura. I am looking forward to this kind of opportunity in the future.

Ms. CHIEKO OSAKO (NP 5th Batch)

Having heard that face-to-face classes and events were cancelled due to the pandemic, I participated in this programme in hope to be contributing. Instead, the experience turned out to be enlightening for me. Unlike physical dispatch, an online platform enabled us to present authentic food and virtual tour of Japan.

I was worried during SMK Kota Marudu session, as I might perform poorly in a 2-hour class. However, Mimi-sensei (Ms. Mee)'s support for the students throughout the class was splendid. The students were eager to interact that I was able to talk to each one of them. At the end of the class, everyone sang *Rasa Sayang* in sync with my ukulele, and it was vibrant. If online programmes like this recommence, learning and enjoying Japanese language and culture with NPs in areas with little opportunity will be made possible. I witnessed how students looked forward to Japanese classes and this should be credited to the teachers' enthusiasm. I hope to see the students and teachers I worked with again in Malaysia. See you all soon, jumpa lagi!

JFKL would like to thank all teachers, students and former NPs who participated in this programme. 本当にありがとうございました!
Find out more about the activities done by these NPs through #onlineNPprogram on Facebook.

Online Japanese Salon

Reported by Shahrul Fatehah Nor Basha (JFKL)



Good news to all Japanese language learners in Malaysia! The Online Japanese Salon (OJS) will continue its session in 2022 starting February!

What is OJS?

OJS is a free, monthly online activity where Japanese language learners of all levels in Malaysia can engage in a discussion among themselves using Japanese language as the main medium. The organizer will choose a different theme each time and participants can share their experience or stories based on the topic given.

The main point of OJS is to encourage the participants to talk as much as they can in Japanese while having fun without the stress of being graded. The sessions are conducted in a casual setting via ZOOM where the participants are divided into small groups and able to communicate with friendly native-Japanese volunteers who will moderate the talk session.

Since it first launched in August 2020, there has been 12 OJS sessions to date! The upcoming session will be on 19th February 2022 with the theme : 私の街/My Town.

Follow our social media platforms or visit our website to learn more about OJS and our future sessions!

Sakura Network – MAJLIS as New Member



The JF Nihongo Network – also known as Sakura Network, is one of the initiatives by the Japan Foundation since 2007 to create a string of connection with Japanese language education institutions around the globe.

Members of Sakura Network play a significant role in enhancing Japanese language education in their region by utilising various programmes and support provided by the Japan Foundation.

In Malaysia, there are 5 institutions listed as members. We are delighted to announce an additional member into this network in Malaysia – Malaysia Japanese Language Instructors Society (MAJLIS).

MEMBERS OF SAKURA NETWORK IN MALAYSIA	
1	The Japanese Language Society of Malaysia (JLSM)
2	Universiti Malaya (UM)
3	Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS)
4	Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)
5	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)
6	(NEW) Malaysia Japanese Language Instructors Society (MAJLIS)

We hope that MAJLIS, along with other institutions could prosper a broader and meaningful connection in developing Japanese language education, not only in Malaysia but also together with other regions.

JFKL Talk Series

Reported by Muhammad Nazreen (JFKL)

Two episodes of JFKL's new talk series is available to watch on our official YouTube channel!

The JFKL Talk Series is initiated to reach out to everyone and introduce more about Japan through the lenses of professionals in various fields. The first episode titled "Longing and belonging: Portraits of different people in Japan" featuring Mr. Mahen Bala was streamed via FB Live on 25 July 2021. Mahen is a Malaysian documentarian and visual artist who has worked on documenting Malaysian culture and history for more than a decade.



Photo by Mahen Bala

The second episode titled "An invitation to the subtle beauty of Japanese Literature and the World of NATSUME Soseki" was presented by Dr. Leong Yut Moy, a Japanese literary researcher from University of Nottingham Malaysia. This episode was streamed on FB Live via 31 October 2021. Through this session, Dr. Leong shared a glimpse of the beauty of Japanese literature through the life and works of NATSUME Soseki, one of the most widely acclaimed Japanese national writers in the Meiji era.



JFKL Talk Series

Bringing you more about Japan

Episode 2 with Dr. Leong Yut Moy
 An invitation to the subtle beauty of Japanese Literature and the World of NATSUME Soseki

This talk provides an overview of Japanese Literature in various forms including prose and verse, and a glimpse into the world of one of the most widely acclaimed Japanese national writers in the Meiji era, NATSUME Soseki (1867-1916). Not only did the everlasting "I Am a Cat" and "Botchan" fascinate readers in the Meiji era, but they also continued to gain their popularity in modern days while serving a special purpose in his quest of expression.



Scan the QR code to watch the two episodes and head over to www.jfkl.org.my/events/jfkl-talk-series/ to find out more about the series!



More videos coming soon!

You can now catch up on the conversation and performance sessions held for some of the previous events held throughout the past year. Stay tuned as we will be sharing more very soon! Just scan the QR code to subscribe to our official YouTube channel to get the latest updates.



TENUGUI DESIGN CONTEST

Reported by Nurul Amira Sabri (JFKL)

Tenugui is a traditional Japanese hand towel made from thin cotton. The shape is rectangular and it comes in a standard size of 35 cm x 90 cm. The long sides are finished with selvage, which prevents it from fraying. The short sides are simply cut and so the unfinished edge is part of its aesthetics. The loose threads are a part of a tenugui's appeal, and it is a mark of its authenticity. Tenugui is an endlessly useful and versatile towel and is used not only as a washcloth or dish cloth but also often used as a gift, headband, souvenir, decoration, wrapper for bottles and other items.

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur successfully organized our second Arts and Culture contest, a Tenugui Design Contest. The contest was held over a one month period from 1 to 31 October 2021 with the theme, "Malaysia + Japan," with the aim of unearthing and showcasing the talent and creativity of Malaysian in Malaysia in textile design that incorporated diverse cultural elements of the two countries. It was open to the Malaysian public aged 18 years and above as of 1 January 2021. Only one entry was allowed per individual. This contest received more than 180 applications from people of various backgrounds throughout Malaysia.

The judges for this contest were Assistant Professor Dr. Debbie Gan Siew Siew, Deputy Dean, First City University College; Nik Faiz Nik Amin, founder and creative director of Gahara; and Nini Marini, artist & creative entrepreneur.

The first place winner was Ms. Beh Sin Yen with a design entitled "Different But Same." The design portrayed the differences and similarities of Malaysia and Japan. She included torii and rumah panggung to represent the architectural styles of both countries. She also had items both cultures had in common like Tokyo Tower vs Petronas Twin Tower, maneki neko vs cat statue in Kuching and Mt. Fuji vs Mt. Kinabalu. The judges agreed that this design is was a clever visual story that used similar iconic objects from each country to create a sense of unity as well as harmonious colors in the design.

"Koi on Land" was the design title of the second prize winner, Ms. Jamie Cham. The design showed a koi fish traveling alone from water to land without a companion but meeting a hornbill halfway to its destination. The design elements have included lily pads, a stream, and falling cherry blossoms representing spring in Japan with the addition of Malaysia's national flower, the hibiscus growing on the riverbank, and hornbill resting on a branche. The judges thought that the two ancient animals symbolized the exotic and unexpected friendship. The landscape had a harmonious in character and provided a subtle range of color tones that was visually pleasing.

Mr. Yang Will Win won the third prize with his design entitled "SABAR". His design showed a mackerel, called "saba" in Japanese, which is similar to the commonly used Malay word "sabar" meaning to be patient. When two cultures come together, being patient and understanding of each other is important. The judges thought that the retro style and the fun use of the mackerel visual and the word 'sabar' as design elements was interesting! This design will spark curiosity and invite conversation with whoever receives it as a gift, and the explanation will undoubtedly bring joy and laughter between the two parties. Also, the idea of having patience when dealing with two cultures is definitely a relevant one.

The winning designs will be used by JFKL to produce tenugui which later will be used for cultural exchange programs organized by JFKL.



Different But Same
1st Winner
Beh Sin Yen



Koi on Land
2nd Winner
Jamie Cham



SABAR
3rd Winner
Yang Will Win

Scan this QR Code to read the judges comments
or visit us at <https://www.jfkl.org.my/tenugui>




JFKL SMALL GRANT PROGRAMME (CATEGORY C – JAPANESE LANGUAGE EDUCATION)


Japanese Language Festival and Japanese Language Enthusiast 2021

Reported by Nur Diyana binti Abd Rahman (JFKL)

JFKL has been offering support to various projects through our annual Small Grant Programme. Under Category C, support is provided for projects related to Japanese language education and only institutions providing Japanese language education in Malaysia are eligible to apply. The grant aims to support projects which are considered beneficial to the development of this field in Malaysia through networking and co-operation among institutions and/or groups.

Here is a recap of two past projects under the JFKL Small Grant Programme (Category C) involving Japanese language learners in Malaysian secondary schools:

 The 14th Annual Japanese Language Festival 2021 (JLfest 2021)	
Main Organiser	The Japanese Language Society of Malaysia (JLSM)
Platform	Online (Zoom, YouTube, etc)
Duration	3 months
Date	1 July to 30 September
Participants	300 registered students (As participants of the whole festival)
Activities	8 competitions
	3 workshops
	6 sessions of language game
	8 episodes of talk show
	4 sessions of online cafe
	Forum
	Blogs
Webpage	www.jlfest.my

 Japanese Language Enthusiast 2021 (JLE 2021)	
Main Organiser	SM Sains Miri, Sarawak
Platform	Online (Zoom, Discord, etc)
Duration	1 month
Date	1 to 31 October
Participants	366 contestants (Throughout all competitions)
Activities	Animated Story Telling
	Anime Review
	Manzai
	VTuber Challenge
	Ondoku
	Digital Poster
	Manga Drawing
	Writing Train
Webpage	jle2021.wordpress.com

The basic aim of both projects was to encourage interactions among Japanese language learners in Malaysia and to enhance their understanding of Japanese culture and language. The activities were also designed to cultivate their teamwork and help them acquire 21st century skills through language learning.

CATEGORY C

SMALL GRANT PROGRAMME

Projects Concerning Japanese Language Education

Total grant amount:
Up to RM8,000
to cover specified items

This grant programme covers partial expenses on a cost-sharing basis.

GRANT COVERAGE

Honorarium, major transportation costs, publicity expenses, rental fees for venue or equipment (for events), accommodation, etc.

POSSIBLE PROJECTS

Examples are such as conference, training for teachers, acquisition of Japanese language materials for library or resource centre, publication of teaching resources, etc.

APPLICATION PERIOD

Accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year and must be received by JFKL at least 1 month prior to the project start date.

Programme Guidelines is subject to changes and will be updated annually (Fiscal Year: April to March)

You may write to nihongo@jfkf.org.my for any inquiries regarding this category or head over to our website to know more on all financial support available under this grant programme:



www.jfkf.org.my/support/financial/

Look East Policy and the Japan Foundation

Reported by SHIMADA Seiya (JFKL)



The students during lecture

1. Look East Policy

2022 is a commemorative year marking 40 years since the start of the Look East Policy. Although it may be familiar to many of our readers below is a brief introduction.

The Policy's intention was to "learn the factors behind the success and development of Japan and Korea such as labour ethics, thirst for knowledge and hard work, morale, and management capabilities to help propel Malaysia's socio-economic development and establish the foundations of its manufacturing industry." Advocated by Prime Minister Mahathir in 1981, it commenced the following year. It consisted specifically of sending (1) "Students to Japanese universities and institutes of technology" and (2) "Trainees to Japanese industries and training institutes."

Although the Look East Policy was at its base a Malaysian policy, it has been created jointly by Malaysia and Japan over a long period of 40 years, and can be described as a large scale diplomatic experiment due to its quality, quantity and length of time. Today many of those who had studied in Japan under the Program hold key positions in the Malaysian government and corporations, and the alumni association, ALEPS (Alumni Look East Policy Society), now has more than 10,000 members.

2. Role of the Japan Foundation

One of the important projects under the Look East Policy has been the study abroad program where students go on to undergraduate studies at Japanese universities. Known as AAJ (Ambang Asuhan Jepun), top-tier students who have completed Malaysia's secondary education program undergo an intensive 2-year training in Japanese language required at university level and key subjects (mathematics, physics, chemistry). Those students who then pass the entrance examinations go on to start their university career at Japanese universities. The Japan Foundation has dispatched Japanese language lecturers to AAJ since it began in 1982, and there are 8 currently teaching Japanese together with their Malaysian counterparts.

Furthermore, in response to the call of the Look East Policy, residential schools which are part of Malaysia's secondary education system began offering Japanese as a foreign language in 1984. Then in 2005 Japanese was expanded to secondary schools, and now roughly 130 teach the subject. One of JFKL's important missions has been to support training program of Malaysian Japanese language teachers for these schools, and to support those already striving in the classrooms. In addition, since 2015, we have sent Japanese language education volunteers, or "Nihongo Partners," to around 20 secondary schools every year, for a period of 8 months, to assist with their classes, and actively conducted programs to introduce Japanese culture.

3. The Look East Policy 40th Anniversary Program

In 2022, which is the milestone 40th year of the Look East Policy, JFKL together with the Embassy of Japan, Malaysia, plan to organize a series of events throughout Malaysia, the Japanese Film Festival in January (see page 2) and the Japanese Folk Song Concert in March (see page 8). We very much hope to have as many people as possible join us.



During the activity session

Greetings and Farewell



I have departed JFKL in December 2021, after working for 10 years. I am grateful that I was able to participate in various projects during my days in JFKL.

The first project that I was involved in was related to JF's new textbooks "MARUGOTO: Japanese Language and Culture". Together with other project members, I worked hard to build up new Japanese language course at JFKL using these textbooks, and we conducted seminars and workshops to promote these textbooks. We've travelled to several places in Malaysia and to Singapore for promotion. After few years, we've published Malaysia-printed version of MARUGOTO textbooks which are now available at an affordable price in the bookstores in Malaysia.

The projects most challenging for me were seminar and conference for the Japanese language teachers. Managing and conducting these events were quite new to me and I had to start from the scratch. It became even harder after the Covid-19 pandemic occurred where everything went online and remote. I was not good enough to handle these events under this circumstances, however warm support and generous mind of the people around me, especially the constructive feedbacks from the participants of the event, encouraged me to go on.

I met many teachers, learners and supporters of Japanese language in many places in person and online, talked with them, spent time with them and learnt a lot from them. My 10 years as a "guru bahasa jepun" were fulfilling.

Thank you, everyone and hope to see you again!

Marutani Shinobu
Japanese Language Department



Hello everyone. Apa khabar? Nama saya MATSUZAKI Miku dari Tokyo, Japan. I'm the new program coordinator for the Nihongo Partners Program, and I'm so excited to join the team. I am very grateful to have this precious opportunity.

I love traveling new places and have visited more than 20 countries so far. Especially Malaysia is one of my favorite countries that I visit repeatedly. I was fascinated by Malaysia's magnificent beauty of nature, mosques, superb climate and people with friendly and gentle heart. I would definitely like to visit every state and federal territory in Malaysia in my life. (I'm still halfway there.)

Also, I have a sweet tooth and it is my hidden weakness. The moment I encounter delicious sweets while traveling is one of my blissful moments. My favorite Malaysian sweets are Cendol. Please let me know if you have any recommendations.

My personal goal is learning bahasa Melayu and to be able to speak Malay that I can use in everyday life. I would like to talk with you both in Japanese and Malay. Personally, I think the most enjoyable and quickest way to learn a language is to actually use it. So, let's enjoy conversation as friends who are learning languages.

I would place great importance on time that I could spend with everyone, face-to-face and/or online, so that we could communicate and get to know each other well. I hope to be your "TEMAN BARU" soon, and one day your "TEMAN BAIK".

I look forward to seeing you all.
Minasan yoroshiku onegaishimasu.
MATSUZAKI Miku

JFKL Holiday Notice:

JFKL Office Holiday

18 January 2022 – Thai Pusam
1 February 2022 – Federal Territory Holiday & Chinese New Year
2 February 2022 – Chinese New Year

JFKL Library Holiday

1 January 2022 – New Year Holiday
18 January 2022 – Thai Pusam
1 February 2022 – Federal Territory Holiday & Chinese New Year
2 February 2022 – Chinese New Year
3 February 2022 – Chinese New Year



JAPAN FOUNDATION 国際交流基金

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

For library operation notices, please refer to our Facebook, Instagram and website for the latest information.

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