

The Intlschool Network News

International School Network News from Japan

September 2013 #2

The Relations between Turkey and Japan



In November 2012, the International School Network prepared an interview with Mr. Atakan, the Turkish embassy counselor, at the Turkish Embassy in Tokyo, Japan. The embassy walls were delicately designed with elaborate Turkish tiles, and the ambassadors greeted us with great kindness.



The Turkish children had wrote heartwarming letters and drew caring pictures for the children of Japan who have suffered from the tsunami and earthquake on March 11, 2011. These letters and drawings were collected into a book called "Bridge of Love".

The first relations between Turkey and Japan started during the 19th century. A Turkish frigate, Ertugrul, had sunk off the coast of Wakayama, Japan in 1890. The surviving sailors were treated with care by the Japanese villagers, and were safely brought back to Istanbul. Diplomatic relations were established when the Republic of Turkey was founded, and the first embassies opened in 1925. 2010

marked, a great celebration: the 120th anniversary of Turko-Japanese relations.

Japanese-Ottoman relations Prince Akihito of Japan made a trip to Istanbul to present the Order of Chrysanthemum, the highest order of Japan at the time, to the Ottoman Sultan in October 1887. The government of the Ottoman Empire was pleased to be greeted this way, so they sent a ship to accomplish a goodwill voyage to Japan in return.



The Accident

At noon on September 15, 1890, Ship Ertugrul set off from Yokohama to return to Istanbul. The weather was in good condition at departure. However, starting the following morning, a reverse wind, which was growing stronger towards the evening, blew fiercely against the ship.

The ship was about to hit the rocks when the crew attempted to stop the ship by emergency anchoring. Unfortunately, the ship did not stop, causing it to hit the reefs.

The ship fell apart in midnight on September 18, 1890. Because of this accident, approximately 533 sailors, including 50 officers and the admiral, Ali Osman Pasha, had lost their lives. Six officers and 63 sailors survived. Six of them were uninjured, nine were severely wounded, and the rest had light injuries. After a rescue operation by the Japanese villagers, two of the survivors were taken to Kobe by Japanese ships, another two by a Japanese battleship, and the rest (sixty-five sailors) by German gunboats.

In October 1890, all sixty-nine survivors were taken back to Istanbul from Shinagawa, Tokyo. The Ottoman sultan allowed the Japanese battleships to enter on January 5, 1892. He was very pleased with the arrival, and so he expressed his appreciation by presenting medals to the Japanese crew.

The Forming Bond

These events have become a starting point of the bond between the Turkish and Japanese people. These acts formed a strong friendship basis of the two countries. In February 1891, a cemetery was made for the 150 people found in the sea from the sunken ship. A memorial was also built near the lighthouse located in the town of Kushimoto, Wakayama.

On June 3, 1929, Emperor Hirohito visited the cemetery, and in 1939, it was repaired by the Turkish people. In 1974, the Turkish Museum was established in Japan. It consists of a scale model of Ship Ertugrul, with photographs and statues of the sailors.

Every five years, the anniversary day of the accident in Kushimoto is celebrated as the starting day of friendship between Turkey and Japan.

I would also like to thank the innumerable people of Turkey who had greatly congratulated the selection of Tokyo, Japan as the location of the 2020 Olympics, despite the fact that Istanbul, Turkey, was a candidate city alongside Tokyo!



We enjoyed "visne", a delicious Turkish sour cherry juice!

Yokohama City Mayor Election



Foreign treaties of Japan were first established in Yokohama-city, in Kanagawa-prefecture, Japan. Yokohama, a city designated by ordinance, is one of the largest cities in Japan. The city has a population of 3.7 million (which is almost the same as the population of Shizuoka prefecture), and the biggest state budget in Japan of 1.4 trillion yen. In June 2013, the city held the 5th Tokyo International Conference on African Development, and so the citizens were able to feel close to Africa. In addition, Yokohama city was historically the place where Commodore Perry's black ships, from the US Navy, visited and concluded the Treaty of Kanagawa. Yokohama is where in Japan, the first trains ran and the first ice cream was made. The oldest international school in Asia is also located in this city; Saint Maur International School, which is the school I go to!

In Yokohama city, the election of the mayor was held on August 25th, 2013, with three candidates. I would like to introduce to you the Japanese mayor election system. After thinking over the policy and results of the three candidates, I have decided to present this through the election campaign of the current mayor, Ms. Fumiko Hayashi.

The election campaign of 2 weeks start, so the candidates put up posters on specific sign boards around the city, and start to advertise. These campaign procedures

include running an advertisement car from eight in the morning to eight in the afternoon (which is a car with posters and speakers advertising the candidate), perform speeches and shaking hands on the streets, and handing out brochures.

The city's water office workers and civil engineers also cooperate on raising the recognition of the election to the people.



On the day of the election, the citizens bring an envelope (which sent to each citizen that has voting rights beforehand) to the polling station (that is indicated in on the envelope) in order to vote. The city's public buildings, such as schools, are used as polling stations.

The citizen then proceeds to the polling table to write down the name of the candidate they chose on a ballot paper they are given, with pencil. These tables have partition panels so that the votes are confidential.

Without folding the paper, the citizen will then drop the ballot paper into the ballot box. The city citizen needs to be 20 years old or older to be eligible to vote.



The voting results will be publicized within 30 minutes after the election. This can happen because journalists go to the polling stations from beforehand to carry out an exit poll. When the results were out indicating Mayor Fumiko Hayashi's re-election, she and the people in her office started celebrating. Social media, such as television interviews and newspaper, rushed in to the room to grasp a shot of this celebration.

At the office, Fumiko Hayashi introduces her ambitions and goals for her second term as the mayor of Yokohama city.

Out of all the 3,000,000 citizens of the city who are eligible to vote, only 86,000 voted, which is unfortunately results the lowest voting rate of 29%. However, the low voting rate proves that the people of the city have no worries, and are content with the stable and successful work Ms. Fumiko Hayashi has accomplished for the city over the past 4 years.

We would like to interview furthermore about the mayor of the important city, Yokohama, so please be looking forward to future updates!



~ Photo Studio ~ Cache Cache



Japanese photo studios always have professional photographers photo shooting, so the poses, backgrounds, and items held by the models are all decided by the studio staff. Photo Studio Cache-Cache allows their customers to become the overall producer of their own photos; the girl and her friends become models, producers, stylists, photographers, and makeup artists all at the same time!

Nothing is more exciting for a girl than picking what she wears from a huge display of clothes. The choice of clothes include wedding dresses, party dresses, maid costumes, shirts, skirts, and many more outfits. The girls can also pick out jewelry,

accessories, makeup, and even wigs of their choice to suit their outfit. Not only can they choose what to wear and how to pose, they can also pick out items to hold up and how they want the surrounding room and furniture to look. The studio consists of several rooms, each with a different mood, color scheme, furniture, and layout.

Being silly can also be fun. "My mother would never allow me to dress up like this at home!" A explains, "I even tried out a blue maid outfit while wearing sunglasses, holding up an umbrella, and pretending to eat a glass of ice cream!"

Lighting and camera quality are very important when taking photos. At the photo studio Cache-Cache, there are tall lighting



equipment, professional cameras, and tripods for their customers to freely use. Using these professional equipment, the girls can easily take stunning photos.

Japanese photo studios often take hold of the photos their customers take, so they cannot receive the photo data. Therefore, the photos cannot be printed in the size they want, or edited in any way. Photo Studio Cache-Cache is also unique in the way they allow their customers to bring in their cameras and SD cards so they may freely edit, save, and share their photos. The studio also introduces free Japanese photo editing applications (also available in English language) to edit their photos.

Photo Studio Cache-Cache is a photo studio that let girls to dress up in clothes they would not usually wear, take photos of themselves wearing the clothes with their friends. This allows them to edit them by themselves at the pace and style they wish. This concept represents Japanese culture, but on the contrary, this type of studio is very unique and new.

Kanagawa International School

Kanagawa International School promotes self-esteem, equality, and citizenship among the students, encouraging self-expression and individuality. We offer an international perspective in all aspects of education and development, and strive for excellence in the academic and personal development of every child, aiming to prepare students for entry into international elementary and primary schools. We aim to embrace children of varying backgrounds and heritage, and foster an environment rich in cultural diversity while employing the use of English as a common language. Using English on a daily basis in all facets of communication and learning, we aim for each child to become equipped with the fundamental tools needed to converse with native-English speakers.

Kindergarten Classes (age 2+): Regular Class: Monday to Friday 9:00-14:30
Saturday Kindergarten Class: Saturdays 9:00-14:00
Elementary Class (age 5-12): Sunday Elementary Class: Sundays 9:00-15:00
Middle School Class (age 11-15): Sunday Middle School Class: Sundays 15:00-17:00

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Romanian Embassy Unification Anniversary Party held in Tokyo, Japan

The International School Network was invited to the unification anniversary party at the Romanian Embassy in Tokyo, Japan. At the start of the party, the ambassadors lined up to greet us and each shook each other's hands. I was able to meet many people, and enjoy delicious Romanian food, which was neatly laid out on the table.

December 1st is a national holiday of Romania. It marks the Unification Day, or the Great Union Day, which is the date in 1918 when Transylvania, Crisana, Banat and the Maramures were unified with the Romanian Kingdom (which consisted of Moldova and Wallachia), as The Greater Romania.

This was during the reign of King Ferdinand I. Since 1940, The Greater Romania has been a historical reference, because their territories were lost to other powerful nations during World War II.

This holiday is celebrated with a military parade, located in Bucharest, Romania. More than 380 troops march under the Arc of Triumph, and traffic will be closed from five in the morning to two in the afternoon.

Japan and Romania has had relations since the first bilateral diplomatic contacts in 1902. Diplomatic relations at legation level was established in 1917, and bilateral diplomatic relations were severed in 1944 and resumed in 1959. On June 1, 1964, diplomatic relations were served at embassy level. Three years later,

the President of Romania came to Japan as an official working visit. Prince and Princessa Hitachi and afterwards Princess Sayako visited Romania in the year 1995 and 2002.

2002 marked the 100th anniversary since the first contacts between the two countries. The president of Romania made a visit to Japan and signed the "The Joint Statement on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership between Japan and Romania.



Here are some photos from the party:



Project: Children Worldwide Must All Meet The Minimum Level Of Education

Elementary and middle school students in Japan tend to take a lot of privileges for granted. Japanese children go to school, where there are air conditioners in the summer and heaters in the winter. They can drink when they're thirsty, and eat when it's lunch. They can study as much as they want. However, these Japanese children do not know that in all over the world, a tremendous number of children do not have these privileges. First of all, the International School Network is willing to find out what we are able to do to help these children, and what is needed and wanted by them. Please tell us about any support and assistance that are taking place in your country. Please tell us the problems your country is facing. Please tell us how much money it takes to build a building, a water pipe, and other specific facilities. It is our duty to let the privileged children of Japan, and of all over the world, know how difficult and costly building these facilities are. It is important that we walk towards solving these problems together.

Please mail us, and we will go to interview!

Please contact us if you want to post any written work.

We are accepting advertisements! Please mail us.