

April 15, 2015

## Press Release

### *Furoshiki* Demonstration by Madame Junko Ouchi

On April 15, 2015, *furoshiki* (traditional Japanese wrapping cloth) demonstration by Madame Junko Ouchi, wife of the Consul-General of Japan in Karachi, was held at the Japan Information and Culture Center. Around 60 participants from the four *ikebana* (Japanese art of flower arrangement) groups: Ikebana International Karachi Chapter, Ikenobo Study Group, Ohara Study Group and Sogetsu Study Group, joined this cultural program.

A *furoshiki* is a square piece of cloth. It has been used for centuries in Japan to make a kind of bag for carrying or storing important objects. It makes it easy to carry things of just about any shape in any way you want. A *furoshiki* can also be used to wrap gifts in an especially courteous way. *Furoshiki* cloths come in a wide variety of designs, from a traditional pattern on some aspect of nature to the modern liking for something cute. They are generally made of cotton, silk or polyester and others, and they come in different sizes, so some can be used as scarves, others even tablecloths.

Madame Ouchi presented creative art of wrapping objects of various shapes and sizes with *furoshiki* of several fabrics and colours, considering different occasions. Madame Ouchi demonstrated how to wrap book, box, bottle, ball, flowers, etc. as well as how to do handbag and tissue box makeovers with *furoshiki*.

The participants thoroughly enjoyed the cultural event and expressed their sincere gratitude to Madame Ouchi for delivering very interesting demonstration, in which they were able to learn exquisite and artistic culture of *furoshiki*.

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*For further information, please contact the Japan Information and Culture Center at the Consulate-General of Japan in Karachi: 35220800 (Ext. 134). Also please kindly visit our web-site:*

<http://www.kr.pk.emb-japan.go.jp/> *in regard to this event.*

