

## Information Bulletin

### Highlights:

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#### **The Trio Zipang**

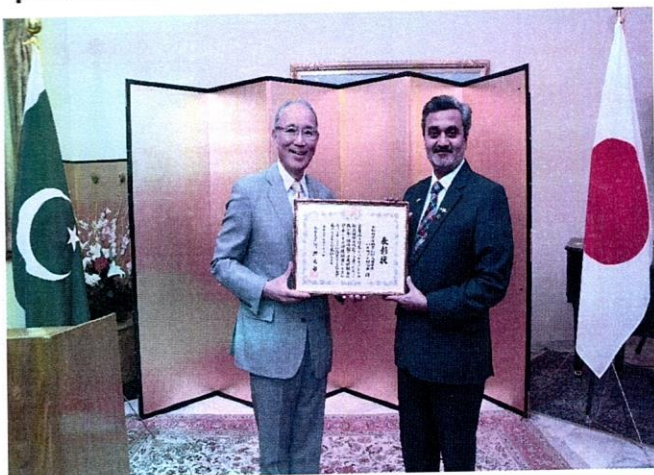
The Trio Zipang features percussionist Ayumu Takanabe, alto saxophone player Naomi Tabata, and pianist Emi Kitagawa specially flown in from Japan, the performed in Islamabad and Karachi.





## Conferment of Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendations

H.E. Ambassador MATSUDA Kuninori, on behalf of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, presented the Foreign Minister's Commendations to Dr. Nasir M Khan, President of MEXT Alumni Association of Pakistan (MAAP) and Dr. Ghazala Irfan, President of Pakistan-Japan Cultural Association Lahore for their significant contributions towards the promotion of Japan-Pakistan relations in the fields of education and culture.



Ambassador MATSUDA in a group photo with the students of Cadet College Hassanabdal before their departure to Japan on SAKURA Science Exchange Program



## Send-Off Reception for MEXT Scholarship Recipients



Ambassador MATSUDA in a group photo with the MEXT Research Scholarship direct grantees during a send-off reception.



## Economic Cooperation

### “Specified Skilled Workers” Memorandum for Cooperation Signed



H.E. Ambassador MATSUDA Kuninori, and Federal Secretary of the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, Mr Aamir Hasan, signed the Memorandum for Cooperation (MOC) regarding the “Specified Skilled Worker” at a signing ceremony held on 28 December 2019. H.E. Mr. SONOURA Kentaro, Special Advisor for Foreign Affairs to President ABE Shinzo of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan (LDP), and H.E. Mr. Zulfi Bukhari, SPAM, witnessed the signing of MOC.



Mr. SHINDO Yusuke , Chargé d' Affaires ad interim of Japan to Pakistan, and Ms. Aida Girma, UNICEF Representative in Pakistan signed and exchanged documents of new US\$ 4.5 million Japanese grant to procure Oral Polio Vaccine. Dr. Zafar Mirza, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination witnessed the signing ceremony held on 11 December 2019.



On 29 October, H.E. Ambassador MATSUDA Kuninori and UNHCR's Representative in Pakistan, Ms. Ruvendrini Menikdiwela, exchange the documents of agreement signed today about Japan's contribution of USD 2.1 million to support Afghan refugees and their host communities in Pakistan.



Mr. SHINDO Yusuke , Charge d'Affaires ad interim of Japan to Pakistan, and Mr. Ignacio Artaza Resident Representative a.i., UNDP Pakistan exchanging documents of project US\$ 3.5 million provided by the Government of Japan for capacity building of law enforcement agencies in the Newly Merged Districts of KPK (erstwhile FATA).



## JAPAN FEST 2019 IN KARACHI



One of the biggest and the most thrilling cultural events of the year, "Japan Fest 2019" was held last in Karachi at Avari.

Who would have thought you could experience a matsuri (festival) 6,300km away from Japan?

The program of Japan Fest 2019 started with the Soran Bushi dance performed by the Karachi Japanese School, followed by a jiu-jitsu demonstration by the Pakistan Jiu-Jitsu Federation. The results of the art competition "Yoshi's Iron Pencil Tournament" were announced thereafter. This was followed by a wadai-ko (Japanese drums) performance presented by the Consulate staffs led by Deputy Consul-General Katsunori Ashida. The penultimate act was a Japan-Pakistan fusion fashion show in collaboration with the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, which showcased apparel designs from both cultures.



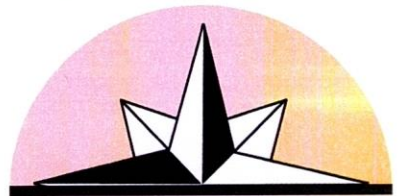
## HIGHLIGHTS

The main event of the evening was an enthralling performance by a Japanese orchestral triplet known as The Trio Zipang, comprised of Mr. Ayumu Takanabe on percussion; alto saxophone player Ms. Naomi Tabata, and Ms. Emi Kitagawa in the piano. The audience was captivated by the fascinating diversity of traditional Japanese music and the unique fusion of Japanese and Pakistani compositions, which culminated with a heartfelt rendition of "Dil Dil Pakistan."

Consul-General of Japan Mr. ISOMURA Toshikazu expresses his appreciation for the frequency of cultural interactions between Japan and Pakistan.

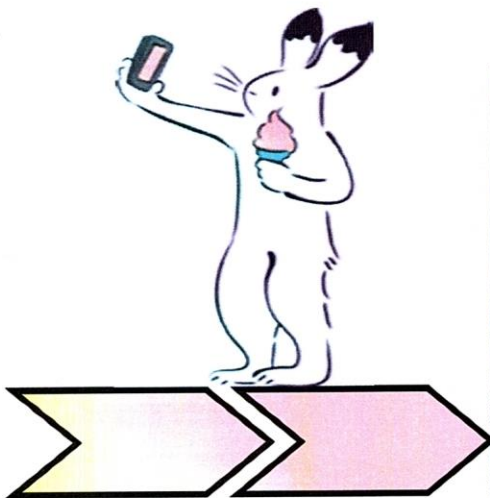






**Comments by the winner of Art Competition: Mr. Ali Hamees.**

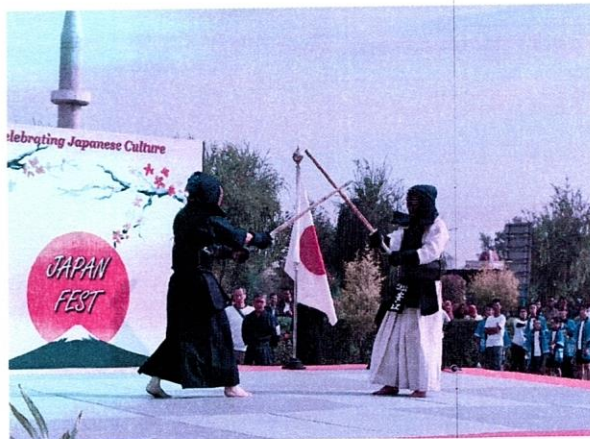
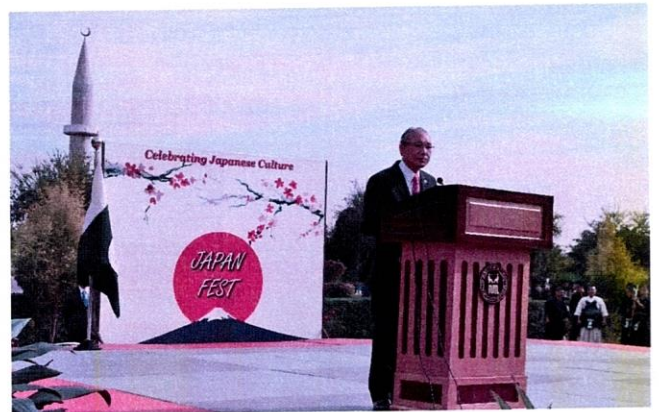
*I have been into Japanese culture for as long as I can remember, that's why Japan Fest was an enthralling experience. I'm grateful that I was introduced to this event through the Yoshi's iron pencil tournament..*





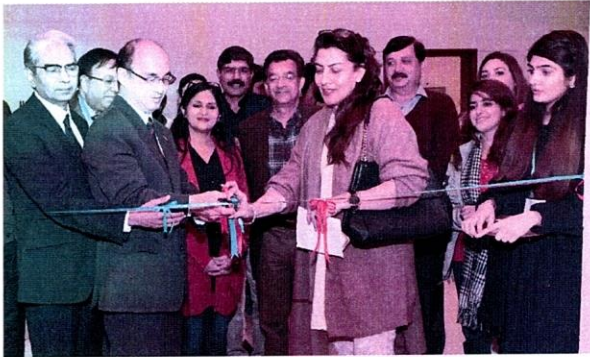
## Japan Fest 2019 in Islamabad

The Embassy of Japan in cooperation with the National University of Modern Languages organized Japan Fest at the university premises as a part of the cultural activities arranged to celebrate A Month of Japanese Culture. H.E. Mr. MATSUDA Kuninori, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, together with the Rector NUML Maj Gen. (Retd) Muhammad Jaffar inaugurated the Japan Festival 2019 .





## **“A Month of Japanese Culture” celebrated by the Embassy**



Mr. Yusuke Shindo, Charge' d' Affaires, Embassy of Japan in Pakistan, inaugurated an exhibition of photographs Japan-Through the Lens at the National Art Gallery showing Tokyo's street life, culture and city captured by the six photographers of the Photographic Society of Pakistan.



Japanese music show titled **“Nihon Unplugged-Cultural Music Performance”** was held at the auditorium of PNCA where Japanese musicians together with the local musicians gave a lively music performance.

# ایک عظیم جاپانی فلم ساز: آکیرا کوروساوا

(1910 سے 1998 تک)

عالمی سینما میں شہرت کی بلندیوں کو چھونے والے جاپانی فلم سازوں میں سے ایک معتبر نام ”آکیرا کوروساوا“ کا ہے، جن کو ہم جدید جاپانی فلمی صنعت کا ”بابائے سینما“ بھی کہہ سکتے ہیں۔ انہوں نے مصوری سے اپنے فنی سفر کی ابتدا کی، آگے چل کر یہ شوق فلم سازی کے مشغلے میں بدل گیا۔ ان کی فلموں کے لیے کہا جاتا ہے، وہ فلموں میں فریم سیٹ کرنے کی بجائے منظر کو سیٹ کرتے تھے، ان کا بنایا ہوا فریم کوئی پینٹنگ ہی محسوس ہوتا، یہ خوبی ان کی اکثر فلموں میں دیکھی بھی جاسکتی ہے، یہ ان کی مشہور سینما تکنیک میں سے بھی ایک تھی، جس کے لیے وہ عالمی طور پر شہرت یافتہ ہیں۔

40 کی دہائی میں دوسری جنگ عظیم اپنے انجام کو پہنچ رہی تھی اور ”آکیرا کوروساوا“ بطور ہدایت کار فلمی صنعت میں اپنے کیریئر کا آغاز کر رہے تھے۔ انہوں نے تقریباً چھ دہائیوں میں 30 سے زائد فلموں کی ہدایت کاری کی جبکہ 80 کے قریب فلموں کے اسکرپٹ لکھے، جن میں زیادہ تر فلموں میں انہیں کامیابی ہی حاصل ہوئی۔ 25 فلموں میں تقریباً نائب ہدایت کاری کے فرائض بھی انجام دیے۔ 17 فلمیں پروڈیوس کیں اور 11 فلموں کی ایڈیٹنگ کا کام بھی خود کیا۔ ایک آدھ فلم کی موسیقی مرتب کرنے میں بھی شامل رہے، اس طرح فلم کی سائنس کو اپنے آرٹ میں ملا کر فلم بنیوں کے لیے سینما اسکرین پر حیران کن منظر نامہ پیش کیا۔

”آکیرا کوروساوا“ اسکرپٹ رائٹنگ اور ہدایت کاری کے علاوہ ایڈیٹنگ سمیت فلم کے دیگر شعبوں میں بھی مہارت رکھتے تھے، یہی وجہ تھی، وہ فلم کے تمام مراحل سے بخوبی واقف تھے۔ 1990 میں زندگی بھر کی فلمی خدمات کے سلسلے میں لائف اچیومنٹ کا اعزازی آسکر ایوارڈ دیا گیا۔ ہالی ووڈ میں آج کے کئی نامور ہدایت کاروں، جن میں اسٹیون اسپیل برگ اور دیگر شامل ہیں۔ وہ انہیں اپنا استاد بھی مانتے ہیں۔

آج بھی ہالی ووڈ میں ان کی فلموں کے اثرات دیکھے جاسکتے ہیں، جن میں معروف مثال معروف امریکی فلم سیریز ”اسٹار وارز“ کی ہے، جس کا مرکزی خیال ”آکیرا کوروساوا کی فلم ”دی ہڈن فورٹریس“ سے اخذ کیا گیا۔ ”آکیرا کوروساوا“ کی تاریخ پیدائش 23 مارچ 1910 ہے، وہ جاپان کے شہر ٹوکیو میں پیدا ہوئے جبکہ 6 ستمبر 1998 کو اسی شہر میں ان کی تدفین ہوئی۔ 88 سال کی عمر پائی۔ ایشیائی فلمی ہدایت کاروں میں ایران کے مشہور ترین فلم ساز ”عباس کیارستی“ جبکہ انڈیا سے تعلق رکھنے والے معروف بنگالی فلم ساز ”ستیا جیت رائے“ بھی دوستانہ مراسم تھے۔

دوسری جنگ عظیم کے زمانے میں یہ ہدایت کاری کے کیریئر کو کامیاب کرنے کے لیے شدید محنت کر رہے تھے اور انہی دنوں شادی کے بندھن میں بھی بندھے۔ اس شعبے میں ان کے استاد کا نام ”کاجیرو یا ماموتو“ تھا، جن سے انہوں نے سینما کا شعور لیا۔ ان کی بہترین دس فلمیں جن کو تصور کیا جاتا ہے، ان میں سے ”سیون سمورائی“ کو ایک جداگانہ اور ممتاز حیثیت حاصل ہے، دیگر فلموں میں اکیرو، ران، راشومون، یوجیمو، ہائی اینڈ لو، دی بیڈ سلیپ ویل، تھرون آف بلڈ، اسٹریٹ ڈوگ اور ریڈ بریڈ ہیں۔ وہ پہلے خود مغربی سینما سے متاثر ہوئے اور اپنے کام سے اسی مغربی سینما کو متاثر بھی کیا۔

امریکا اور جاپان میں ان کے نام کے اعزازات نئے فلم سازوں کو دیے جاتے ہیں۔ ان کے نام سے قائم ”آکیرا کوروساوا فاؤنڈیشن“ کے تحت ایک امریکی جامعہ کے فلم اسکول میں ان کے فن کے حوالے سے تعلیم و تدریس کا سلسلہ بھی جاری ہے۔ نسل در نسل مقبولیت سمیٹنے والے اس فلم ساز کا نام عالمی سینما کے روشن ماتھے پر سنہری حروف بن کر زندہ رہے گا۔





## Japanese Film Festival



On 20 August, 2019, Japanese Film Festival was inaugurated at the Japan Information and Culture Center (JICC) at the inauguration of the Japanese Film Festival

Consul-General of Japan in Karachi, Mr. ISOMURA Toshikazu started off by greeting guests, in particular, Japanese language course students. Discussing basic theme of the movie "His master's voice," he informed the audience that Rakugo is a distinct Japanese art where storyteller narrates interesting stories to the listeners in a unique style.

Continuing the festival, one of the very interesting movie screening was held with Deaf Reach students, where the translation of the movie Chieri and Cherry was done in sign language.



## Visit to Japan on SAKURA Science Exchange Program: A Life Changing Experience

On the 14 of September, we landed at Haneda International Airport in the capital of the "Land of the Rising Sun". We ventured into Tokyo, led by Mr. Tsuda, an English Teacher, from the 'Tokyo Metropolitan High School of Science and Technology'. Over the course of those 7 days, we just tried to make sense out of all there is that Japan has to offer.



As they say, "There is an East, there is a West, and then there is Japan". It was truly different from all other places of the world. Japan, apart from the booming technology, had very accommodative people, organized city life, and apparently, a very systematic routine.



We had the time of our lives over there. We were given a very warm welcome by the school students and staff, and introduced to the system quite informatively. We visited JAXA and got a first hand experience over astronomical devices and control centers. Our visit to the Disaster Management Centre (NIED) was also equally remarkable. Visits to Miraikan and Edo-Tokyo museums also appealed to our interests a great deal.

Probably the most cherish able memory that I made during the trip was our visit to Forest Park, where we did barbeque in Pakistani style to offer to the Japanese students accompanying us. It was a wonderful experience and we got to learn a lot apart from the noteworthy exposure to scientific machinery, especially the 3D Printer.

This trip hold immense importance for me personally, as a Pakistani, because it brought into light for me what Pakistan lacks in its goal towards modernization and innovative development. This is exactly what my own personal motives state; to help my country, and after this trip, I have figured out how to do it.

**Long live Japan, long live Pakistan, and may our friendship be eternal.**

**NAME:** ABDULWADOOD ASHRAF FAZLI

**INSTITUTE:** CADET COLLEGE HASANABDAL

**CLASS:** A2



## SAKURA SCIENCE TRIP TO JAPAN



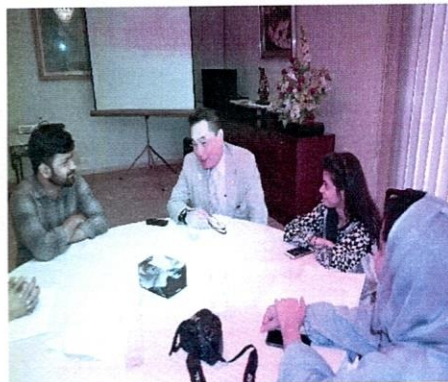
*"My experience of Chiba institute of technology was really good. We had a visit to the whole institute which was wonderfully constructed with a view of Mt. Fuji from the top floor"* - Muhammad Musharaf

*"Japan's visit was one of the most exciting and one of a kind experiences. I was amazed to see such beautiful use of technology which reduced human efforts"* - Syed Zain Jeelani



*"The University of Tokyo is one of the best institutes I have known so far, the best in terms of infrastructure, studies and environment"* - Ravi Kumar

*"I loved the people of Japan and the places I visited specially the Disney Sea and its rides which were dreamy"* - Syed Mehtab Hussain



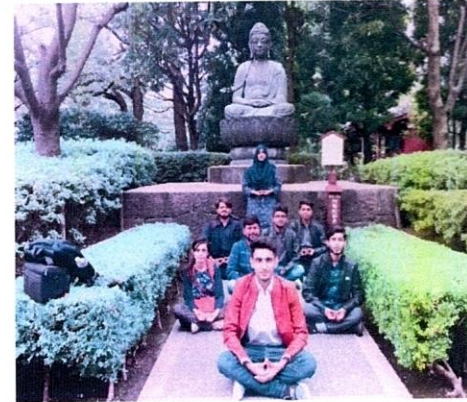
*"The heart-warming hospitality at Consulate General of Japan in Karachi and by the Professor Sato in Tokyo was completely remarkable. From the first day to the last, we packed heaps of memories"* - Maria Kartio

*"The 800-meter long Odaiba Beach is an amazing place to visit which is an artificial and extremely urban in context of its structure."* - Abdul Qadeer

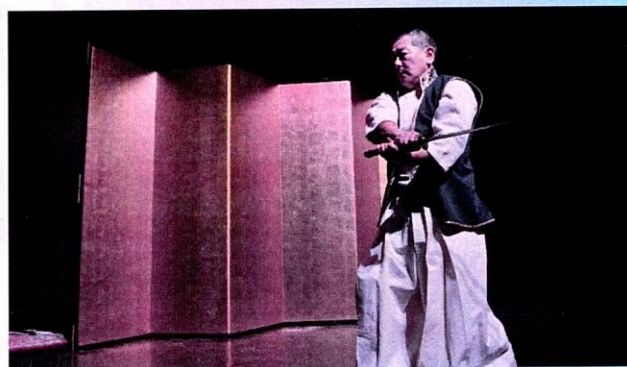


*"I had a great experience of street shopping specially in Akihabara. We all became crazy after seeing variety of electronic gadgets there"* - Bisma Soomro

*The Digital Art Museum was the master piece and took us to the borderless world giving us a mind boggling experience."* - Minhaf Zafar







## VARIOUS ACTIVITIES HELD BY THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN IN ISLAMABAD AND THE CONSULATE-GENERAL OF JAPAN IN KARACHI

### Japanese Government Offices in Pakistan

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