

5 MEMORABLE DAYS IN JAPAN, JENESYS 2.0

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Step-3

The program JENESYS 2.0 in which students from all over the world have been invited to visit Japan, as it was a cultural exchange program for Japanese learners. I was so excited after hearing that I am going to Japan under the program, JENESYS 2.0

This experience was so good and I learnt a lot of things. 6 days trip passed so fast but I enjoyed these 6 days in Japan with my group mates.

We departed from Pakistan on May 18, 2013 and reached Japan on May 19, 2013. The whole program was so well organized and well scheduled.

After reaching Japan, one night stay at Narita Tobu Hotel and next day we went to Minamiaizu Town, Fukushima Prefecture through Shinkansen (Bullet Train). I had never traveled on Shinkansen, so I was really excited to experience the traveling on Shinkansen. We reached at Resort Inn Daikura, Minamiaizu where we stayed for 5 days.

1st day we went to meet the Mayor of Minamiaizu, Mr. Sokichi Oya in Minamiaizu Town Hall, he gave a speech about Minamiaizu and told us that how the people get over that difficult situation of earthquake and tsunami 2012.

Then we went to Tajima Gion Daiko which was a Japanese traditional museum. After that we had lunch and went to the optical fiber factory, Sumita Optical Glass Company, where we learnt how lenses are formed, manufacturing process of glass, optical fiber and lenses. After the factory tour, we went to a shopping mall for some shopping and then returned back to resort and had our dinner.

2nd day we went to Nangou Elementary School and visit Arakai Elementary School. Cute little children of Grades 4 and 5 taught us how to make a frog (origami class) and how to write kanji using brush (calligraphy class). We all enjoyed a lot there. After visiting the elementary school we went to Okurairi Community center and enjoyed the beautiful and cute performances by nursery students. Had a great experience of playing Taiko drum and enjoyed the amazing Taiko drum performance. There we also presented our culture to the Japanese people. It was an awesome day which one can never forget.

3rd day we went to again to the community center and participated in Action Plan Workshop and made our own Action plan Presentation and presented it in the certificates distribution ceremony telling about what we learnt in these 5 days in Japan. We all got Tourism Ambassador Certificate.

4th day we assembled in the lobby and went to ASKUSA through chartered train, SKY TREE TRAIN. In ASAKUSA we visited the historical places, old temples shrines. Then we went to the Electronic City AKIHABARA and then GINZA where we had our last dinner. Then we moved back to Tobu hotel, Narita.

5th day we left Tobu hotel and went to Narita Airport and took our flight to Pakistan. We reached on 25th May 2013.

This whole trip has become a great memory of my life; I enjoyed the TAIKU DRUM PERFORMANCE and ORIGAMI AND CALLIGRAPHY CLASS.

I would like to say thanks to the Japan Govt. for arranging such a great trip for SAARC participants.

Thank you.