



JENESYS 2.0 'REVITALIZING JAPAN'

I felt immense pleasure when I received call from registrar office of Hamdard University, Karachi that I was selected for 'cultural exchange program' Jenesys 2.0 which was going to held in Japan, in totality there were 3 students selected for this exchange program and I was one of them. I was called for some formal interview cum discussion sort of thing at Japanese consulate, Karachi. Interview was taken by Mr. Uchiai he precisely asked about our academic and non-academic activities our interests and some of our prior knowledge about Japan. Afterwards we anxiously waited nearly 2 weeks and then there comes a time of our pre-departure orientation I was very excited because very next day I had my flight to Japan.

Me along with other 7 students from Karachi departed for Japan in Thai international airways, we had our connecting flight at Bangkok from there I met other 22 students and one supervisor they all were from Lahore together we 28 students and 1 supervisor boarded in Japan Airlines for Japan.

Collectively after traveling approx 14 hours we finally reached Japan.

Wow! We felt amazing Japan was a worth place to visit, excellent infrastructure, rules and regulations, eco-friendly people and complete peace of mind with minimum noise and air pollution. We all landed at Narita international airport we were welcomed very warmly by JICE member at airport and then we all were taken to Narita-Tabu hotel where we were lodged for overnight stay, at hotel we were again welcomed by our Co-ordinator, she was also member of JICE and she told us that she would be our facilitator for whole stay she introduced her self as Junko-Ito Sann, she was veryhelping and friendly lady, we really enjoyed her company

Then in the morning after breakfast we boarded in a bus and were taken to other hotel where we stayed 3 nights it was 'Shin Yokohama Prince Hotel' again it was amazing place where we were provided

ultimate hospitality, in the morning on 11/06/2013 we were taken to 'Nihon minkaen' to experience traditional Japanese genuine indigo-dyeing it was fun visiting there we also dyed our own piece of cloth for experience purpose, then we had our lunch boxes and in the second half of the day we were taken to 'Shibaura water reclamation center' it was very informative visit where we learned that how Japanese are recycling sewerage water to drinkable one then the best part comes it was dinner time, for dinner we were taken to Odaiba's 'Asian dining-Khazana' where we relaxed and enjoyed yumilicious dinner. The day was over and we were taken back to hotel where we had rest and share memories with our friends of whole day.

On 12/06/2013 after breakfast and temperature check at hotel we left it for 'Yokohama city municipal disaster prevention center' where we were told about how Japanese withstand disaster like earthquake after 2011 great earthquake which Japan had faced and claimed many thousand lives. The supervisor of disaster prevention center briefed us little about the different natural disasters than Japan has faced so far and what preventions are adopted to avoid serious danger, we were also given chance to experience automated earthquake jerks in small unit the range of that automated generated earthquake jerks were 6 on rector scale, Gosh that was horrible. But we all learned a lot for that visit. Then we were taken to lunch at Indian restaurant 'Gara' after that we were taken to Mitsubishi minatomirai industrial museum it was industrial museum and we really enjoyed the visit of Japanese hi-tech machinery it was awesome. After this visit we enjoyed our dinner at 'Festa Garden' international restaurant.

On 13/06/2013 after breakfast we collect our luggage and left for other hotel 'New Otani Makuhari " then we all were taken to 'Amanuma elementary school' where we indulged with Japanese children it was fun we played with them, after that Pakistan was briefly presented in front of Japanese children, after having lunch we left school for hotel and there we had lunch in near by restaurant 'Maharaja' Makuhari we enjoyed it and was back to hotel by 8 PM.

On 14/06/2013 after breakfast in hotel we left lobby where we had presentations we also presented in front of SAARC countries and their eminent bodies we were also given certificated for successful completion of the whole program by JICE president, it was a memorable day we rejoiced all our memories and experiences, then we were taken fro lunch in Indian restaurant 'Dewan' and then we were taken to Akihabara where we visited Japanese shrines and traditional shopping area after that we were brought to Indian restaurant 'Maharaja' Marunouchi. After that we were taken to hotel were we shared our experiences and our contact details with all other fellows as this was our last night in Japan.

On 15/06/2013 after our breakfast we lodged out form hotel with our luggage and then it was grieve time to say good-bye to Japan ahhhh!!! It was indeed a beautiful experience and journey to Japan.

In the end I would like to thank JICE, ministry of foreign affairs of Japan and Japanese consulate, Karachi and Hamdard University for giving us this youth-exchange chance, without any hesitation if I were given chance to visit Japan again I would go for it ☺ ☺ ☺

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