Press Release

School Visit Program by the Consulate-General of Japan

On August 28, 2014, the Consulate-General of Japan at Karachi arranged a school visit program for City School PAF Chapter, Karachi.

The school visit program by the Consulate-General of Japan is designed to introduce Japan and Japanese culture to Pakistani students, through presentations on various topics, such as school life in Japan, Japanese food culture, Japanese festivals and so on, followed by cultural workshop, such as *Origami* workshop, and interactive activities where, for example, students will have opportunities to learn basic Japanese greetings, counting numbers in Japanese and learning how to use chopsticks.

This time, the school visit program to City School PAF Chapter was held for students in Grade Nine. A total of 265 students participated in the program. A brief general introduction to Japan was given by Ms. Hiroko Tsuchiya, Consul of Consulate-General of Japan at Karachi, followed by screening of an educational DVD called "Hello! Japan", which offered a comprehensive view of Japanese culture, nature, cutting-edge technology, educational system and student's school life. The students also had cultural experience of learning how to wear yukata (Japanese casual summer kimono) and happi (Japanese traditional short-sleeved coat), as well as learning basic Japanese greetings and counting numbers.

On this occasion, four Pakistani university students, who are graduates from the City School PAF Chapter and have visited Japan under the youth exchange program called "*Kizuna* (meaning "bonds" in Japanese) *Project*" in September 2011, participated in this school visit program. They made presentations of their stay in Japan and shared their experiences.

Students expressed enthusiasm throughout the program and a lively question and answer session was held, in which students' interests were mainly related to Japanese culture, Japan's modern technology and some information in regard to studying in Japan.

Dr. Uzma Shakir, the Headmistress of the City School PAF Chapter, expressed sincere gratitude to the Consulate-General of Japan, for conducting this very informative program in which students and faculty members of the School were able to gain more knowledge and better understanding about Japan.

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