

August 12, 2009

The Hakuho Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Language Network 3rd Training Program in Japan for Overseas Teachers Participants Announced

The Hakuho Foundation (Michitaka Kondo, Chairman) has announced participants in the Training Program in Japan for Overseas Teachers, the first program of the Hakuho Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Language Network.

Thirteen foreign Japanese language instructors from elementary and middle schools in 10 countries were selected after rigorous screening by a panel of experts. (See Appendix 1)

One of four programs that comprise the Hakuho Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Language Network, the Training Program in Japan for Overseas Teachers is conducted with the cooperation of the Japan Foundation and other organizations.

Program schedule

- October 30 to November 9, 2009

Training content (subject to change)

- Enhancement of Japanese language skills and training in fresh teaching methods
- Various experiential units on traditional Japanese culture and everyday life
- Visit to a Japanese middle school
- Acquisition of regular teaching materials and *nama kyozaï* (“living” teaching materials) for use in the classroom
- Sharing of results (new discoveries and know-how gained through the program) by program participants

Overview of the training program and the Hakuho Scheme

The Hakuho Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Language Network (see Appendix 2) was inaugurated in March 2007 to offer opportunities for overseas children to understand Japan and for Japanese children to grow to become international people through experiencing each other's cultures and participating in intercultural activities through the medium of the Japanese language.

One of four programs that make up the Hakuho Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese language Network, the Training Program in Japan for Overseas Teachers invites Japanese language instructors teaching at elementary and middle schools abroad to visit Japan, with the aim of improving overseas Japanese language classroom environments and boosting teaching material availability. The Hakuho Scheme enters its third cycle with the holding of this Training Program in Japan for Overseas Teachers.

Subsequent Hakuho Scheme programs will give students of teachers participating in this program opportunities to interact with their Japanese peers.

The Hakuho Foundation was established in 1970 under the approval of the then Ministry of Education to support the fostering of rich human qualities in children, the leaders of the tomorrow.

Believing that the key to children's education lies in language education, the Foundation supports children's education—particularly in the areas of language, culture and education—through such initiatives as the Hakuho Award, which recognizes outstanding child educators, the Hakuho Research Grant for Child Education, the Japanese Language Research Fellowship Program and the Hakuho Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Language Network.

We also work to spread the fruits of these programs through events, a periodical newsletter and other PR activities.

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Appendix 1:

List of Participants to the 3rd Training Program in Japan for Overseas Teachers

Name	School	Country (City)
Ruchi Jain	Delhi Public School, Mathura Road	INDIA (New Delhi)
Kolamba Paskuru Meithrige Chathurya Madurabhani	Princess of Wales' College	SRI LANKA (Moratuwa)
Irosha Dilani Wijewickrama Rathnayaka	Sirimavo Bandaranaike Vidyalaya	SRI LANKA (Colombo)
Tanyarat Kitudom	Ratchaborikanukroh School	THAILAND (Ratchaburi)
Phattarawan Mathong	Damrongratsongkroh School	THAILAND (Chiangrai)
Asli Altintas	Canakkale Milli Piyango Anadolu Lisesi	TURKEY (Canakkale)
Bujdosne Hricisak Viktoria Rita	Viranyos Altalanos Iskola	HUNGARY (Budapest)
Le Thi Thu Hang	Phuong Nam Secondary School	VIET NAM (Ha Noi)
Ng Kar Pek	Sekolah Menengah Jenis Kebangsaan Katholik, Petaling Jaya	MALAYSIA (Petaling Jaya)
Tavkhai Oyungerel	Mongeni Complex School	MONGOLIA (Ulaanbaatar)
Barbulescu Andrada-Ioana	Colegiul National "Ion Creanga", Bucuresti	ROMANIA (Bucharest)
Oxana Bazyulkina	Moscow State Linguistic Lyceum 1555	RUSSIA (Moscow)
Popova Yulia	Municipal General Education Institution School No.2	RUSSIA (Yekaterinburg)

Appendix 2:

Structure of the Hakuho Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Language Network

In an increasingly globalized world, it is more important than ever for people to understand and recognize the diversity of lifestyles and cultures in each other's countries.

The Hakuho Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Language Network is comprised of four programs that aim to enhance non-Japanese children's understanding of Japan and provide opportunities for Japanese children to grow into international people by bringing them together to experience each other's cultures and interact with one another in Japanese. Collectively, the programs form a repeating cycle.

Training Program in Japan for Overseas Teachers

(Support for overseas Japanese classroom environments)

Supports the enhancement of overseas Japanese language learning environments by inviting (non-Japanese) Japanese language teachers from elementary and middle school-level learning institutions abroad to Japan for training and other activities.

Japan Experience Program for Overseas Children

(Support for cultural interactions between Japanese and overseas children)

Fosters understanding of and interest in Japanese language and culture by inviting children studying the Japanese language at elementary and middle school-level learning institutions overseas to Japan to experience Japan's high technology, traditional arts and other aspects of culture and everyday life, and interact with their Japanese counterparts through school visits, etc.

Overseas Experience Program for Japanese Children

(Support for cultural interaction between Japanese and overseas children)

Supports Japanese children's visits to other countries, promoting their renewed understanding of the language and culture of Japan and awareness of themselves as international people through interactions with their overseas counterparts and the experience of another culture in the Japanese language.

HGN Web Program

(Promotion of interactive communication on the World Wide Web)

An Internet community for Japanese teachers and students and overseas teachers and students of the Japanese language. The site functions as clearinghouse for information on previously held interaction and experience programs, Japanese language education and culture, and as a place where for interaction.

Diagram of the Hakuho Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Language Network

