

Exchange Activities between Singapore & Hiroshima

625 Singaporeans have visited Hiroshima
in our Programme



A group of the Hiroshima Singapore Association attended the National Day Ceremony of the Singapore Chinese Girls School in 2007.

Hiroshima Singapore Association

Hiroshima Singapore Association (HSA)

HSA was founded to promote mutual understanding between Singapore and Hiroshima in Dec. 1995. As of May 2009, there were approximately 400 individual members and 400 corporate members. HSA focuses on student exchange with the Dept. of Japanese Studies of the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Singapore Polytechnic (SP).

Student Exchange Programme

625 Singapore students and lecturers have visited Hiroshima for a one-week homestay programme and 3 to 4 week internship programme since HSA was established in '95.

*746 Singapore students and lecturers have participated in this programme since 1992, the beginning of the student-exchange programme. It was started by the Hiroshima Representative Office in Singapore (HIROS). HIROS was set up in 1991 and closed in 2003.

	NUS (National Univ. of Singapore)				JUGAS	SP (Singapore Polytechnic)				Total	
	Home stay		Industry Attach.	One year Scholarship at MIAL		Home stay		Industry Attach.		Total	Since HSA Established on 14 Dec.1995
	Student	Lecturer	Student	NUS	JUGAS	Student	Lecturer	Student	Lecturer		
1992	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4	
1993	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	30	
1994	27	-	-	-	-	24	1	14	1	67	
1995	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	1	35	15
1996	44	1	-	-	-	20	1	12	1	79	79
1997	21	1	-	-	-	19	1	12	-	54	54
1998	24	1	4	-	-	20	1	12	-	62	62
1999	17	1	5	-	-	19	1	8	-	51	51
2000	19	1	4	-	-	20	1	10	-	55	55
2001	21	1	7	-	-	20	1	6	-	56	56
2002	18	1	7	-	-	20	1	3	-	50	50
2003	19	1	-	-	-	Canceled due to SARS		8	-	28	28
2004	19	1	9	-	-	From '06 Top 2 Award started		5	-	34	34
2005	20	1	8	-	NTU1			-	-	30	30
2006	20	1	9	-	-	'2				32	32
2007	19	1	9	-	SP1	'2+8		1		41	41
2008	14	1	8	1	-	'2+10		1		37	37
2009				1						1	1
Total	342	13	70	2	-	186	10	118	3	746	625
	427				2	317					

'2: Hiroshima Award

(as of May 2009)

*1 Industrial Attachment:

Students are attached to companies in Hiroshima for 3 to 4 weeks. HSA provides 20,000 yen per students to cover the commuting expenses between dormitory and company during that period of time. Hiroshima Shinkin Bank offers its dormitory for accommodation. Students bear their own traveling expenses.

*2 Homestay Programme:

Students enjoy homestays for approximately 6-10 nights free of charge. Hiroshima Singapore Association (HSA) bore lecturer's traveling and accommodation expenses. HSA also provided 1,000 yen per student to balance the difference of the commuting expenses between host family's house and meeting places. Students bear their own traveling expenses.

*3 Hiroshima Award:

From 2006 SP and HSA started a new programme. The top two students of Japanese (language) in SP are invited to Hiroshima. SP and HSA jointly bore the necessary cost for this programme.

*4 Book Donation:

HSA donated books related to Hiroshima to NUS and SP. NUS and SP set up "the Hiroshima Corner" for their students who are interested in knowing more about Hiroshima.

*5 One year Scholarship Programme:

Mihara International Academy of Language (MIAL) invited a student from Singapore for one year with scholarship in 2005. The Japanese University Graduates Association of Singapore (JUGAS) kindly identified a suitable candidate in Singapore. Based on the success of this scholarship programme, HSA and MIAL started a joint scholarship programme (970,000 yen worth) for Singapore students who want to study Japanese in Hiroshima. JUGAS kindly identified a candidate in 2007 and the Department of Japanese Studies of NUS has kindly selected a candidate each year, starting 2008.

HSA's Activities

General Meeting of HSA



HSA holds a general meeting annually in June.

Welcome Reception for Singapore Students



HSA holds a welcome reception for Singapore students annually in December.

Industrial Attachment

Some students are attached to Hiroshima companies for 3 to 4 weeks to gain on the job learning experience. Companies they have been attached to include:

Rihga Royal Hotel, ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel , JTB, Kintetsu Int'l., Hiroshima Shinkin Bank, Kumahira Safe Mfg., Molten, Hiroshima Gas, Toppan, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Delta Kogyo, Hirotech, Kurata, Chugoku Electric Power, Babcock Hitachi, Fukken Chosa Sekkei, Abe tekkousho, Otafuku Sauce and more.

Singapore students in an orientation with Mr. Hashimoto who started the student exchange programme as the Director of the Hiroshima Rep. Office in Singapore (HIROS).



Singapore students learning company activities at Molten.



A Singapore student learning bank-telling at the Hiroshima Shinkin Bank.



Singapore students who participate in the industrial attachment programme also join an exchange programme with the staff of Hiroshin Bank and enjoyed discussing various themes.



Singapore students who participate in the industrial attachment programme also enjoy homestays.

Homestay Programme

Students enjoy 6 to 10 night homestay in Hiroshima. They have firsthand Japanese lifestyle experience living with Japanese families. HSA bears lecturer's traveling expenses. HSA also provides 1,000 yen per student to balance the difference of commuting expenses between host family's house and meeting places. Students bear their own traveling expenses.



Mr. Tamura the president of HSA presenting the traveling expenses to a lecturer who led the Singapore students group.



Singapore students interacting with host family.



Students trying "Okonomiyaki" (Japanese pizza) cooking.



Singapore students interacting with Japanese students.

10th Anniversary of HSA in 2005

HSA celebrated its 10th Anniversary on 14 Dec. 2005 having the honor to host H.E. Ambassador Tan Chin Tiong and H.E. former-Ambassador Lim Chin Beng.



Students of NUS performed a song at the 10th anniversary ceremony of HSA.



On behalf of his absence, Mr. Low Wong Fook, the Principal of SP, kindly sent us a video message for the occasion of HSA's 10th anniversary ceremony.

Lecture Meeting on Singapore

HSA holds a lecture meeting every year. Details of lecturers and titles of lectures were as follows:

	Lecturer	Title
4 Mar. 1996	Mr. Yasuo Hashimoto	People and society of dynamic Singapore
	Mr. Ong Beng Gee	Internationalization of Singapore
30 May 1996	Mr. Junichi Inada	Message from Garden City Singapore
27 Feb. 1997	Prof. Keiko Tamura	Small country's surviving strategy of brain country Singapore
3 June 1997	Prof. Shoichi Yamashita	Japan's choice in Asian era
6 Mar. 1998	Mr. Koji Tanabe	Singapore's future strategy –IT, R&D and Globalization
2 June 1998	Ms. Tomiko Turu	Student-exchange programme with SP
5 Mar. 1999	Prof. Yousuke Yanobu	Mixed habitation for the Nation building
6 Mar. 2000	Mr. Hiroaki Maruya	Advanced nation of urban development
11 Dec. 2000	Mr. Lucas Ng (SP)	Activities of the Department of Industry Services of SP
6 Mar. 2001	Prof. Yuichi Kotake	Singapore and Japan from the view of education
7 Mar. 2002	Mr. Koji Tanabe	IT strategy of Singapore
5 Dec. 2002	Mr. Kazuo Sugino	What I think seeing Japan from Singapore
7 Mar. 2003	Dr. Katsuhiko Nomoto	Bio research of Singapore
4 Feb. 2004	Panel Discussion	From the experience of business internship in Singapore – working in different culture
8 Feb. 2005	Prof. Daisuke Nishihara	Japanese's experiences in Singapore –from the end of Edo era to the end of WW
6 Mar. 2006	Mr. Yasuo Hashimoto	Singapore's vitality of diversity and Hiroshima's future –Vision and action make difference
Mar. 2007	Mr. Chee Hwee Yong	Economic partnership between Singapore and Japan
	Mr. Junichi Inada	Looking into the Future – Gardens by the Bay
6 Mar. 2008	Ms. Wong Yee Thing Ms. Sachiko Honjyo	My experience of one year stay to study Japanese in Hiroshima
9 Mar. 2009	Mr. Takayuki Yamamoto	Industry & economy of equinoctial “developed” country Singapore



Prof. Yuichi Kotake, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, gave a lecture on 6 March 2001



Mr. Kazuo Sugino, the executive secretary of the Japanese Association, Singapore, gave a lecture on 5 December 2002.



Mr. Junichi Inada, the President of WIN and the ex-director of Planning and Development Department of the National Parks Board, gave a lecture on 6 May 2007.

Book donation

HSA donated books related to Hiroshima to NUS and SP. NUS and SP set up “the Hiroshima Corner” for their students who are interested in knowing more about Hiroshima.



Mr. Tamura and members of HSA visited the Department of the Japanese Studies, NUS and donated the books.



Mr. Tamura donated books on Hiroshima to Ms. Lam Yoke Peng, the Director of the Department of Language & Communication, SP.

One year scholarship Programme

Mihara International Academy of Language (MIAL) invited a student for one year from Singapore with scholarship in 2005. The Japanese University Graduates Association of Singapore (JUGAS) kindly selected a suitable candidate in Singapore.

Based on the success of this programme, HSA and MIAL started a joint scholarship programme from 2007. HSA gives 50,000yen per month and MIAL exempts approximately half of tuition. The Department of Japanese Studies of NUS has kindly selected a candidate each year, starting 2008. Every scholarship student has passed the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) level 1 so far.

Mihara City has also had a secondary school student exchange programme with Singapore since 1996 (as follows) and a scholarship student supports this programme.



Ms. Hajar at the graduation ceremony.



Ms. Wong at the HSA reception.

[Mihara City's secondary school student exchange programme]

This is not an HSA activity, however, Mr. Hashimoto, a member of HSA, has been supporting this student exchange programme between Balestier Hill Secondary school and Mihara City since 1996. Both parties sent students and teachers to participate in this exchange programme. Statistics show 118 people have visited Mihara and 158 people have visited Singapore so far. Mihara City has a web-site for this programme. URL: <http://www.tako.ne.jp/~friends/>





Hiroshima has been redeveloped from the ruin of the atomic bomb to a city of peace. We learned the importance of human resources through our experience. Thus, when Hiroshima set up the representative office in Singapore to promote economic exchange in Aug. 1991, it also aimed to study Singapore's vitality of diversity through the student exchange programme as well as to deepen mutual understanding.