

Exchange Activities between Singapore & Hiroshima

718 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. HSA focuses on student exchange with the Dept. of Japanese Studies of NUS (the National University of Singapore) and SP (Singapore Polytechnic). There are approximately 400 individual members and 400 corporate members.

Student Exchange Programme

705 Singapore students and lecturers have visited Hiroshima in homestay and internship programme HSA established in 1995. (*826 since 1992)*

	NUS (National Univ. of Singapore)					SP (Singapore Polytechnic)				Total	
	Home stay		Industry Attach.	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	Established on 14 Dec.1995
1993	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	30	
1994	27	-	-	-	-	24	1	14	1	67	
1995	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	1	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	15	1	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	25	25
2010	15	1	7	1	-	*2+10	1	-	-	37	37
2011	13	1	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	23	23
2012			8	1	-					9	9
Total	385	16	101	5	2	198	11	118	3	839	718
	507					330					

*2: Hiroshima Award

*1 Industrial Attachment:

Students are attached to companies in Hiroshima for 3 to 4 weeks and also enjoyed homestay. HSA provides 20,000 yen per student. Hiroshima Shinkin Bank offered its dormitory for accommodation. Students bear their own traveling expenses.

*2 Home stay Programme:

Students enjoy homestay for approximately 6-10 nights free of charge. HSA bears lecturer's traveling and accommodation expenses. HSA also provides 1,000 yen per students 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:

The top two students who studied Japanese in SP were invited to Hiroshima from 2006. SP and HSA jointly bear the necessary cost for this programme.

*4 Book Donation:

HSA donates books related to Hiroshima to NUS and SP. NUS and SP prepare a bookshelf, "the Hiroshima Corner", for their students who are interested in knowing more about Hiroshima.

*5 One year Japanese study:

Mihara International Academy of Language (MIAL) invites a student for one year from Singapore with scholarship in 2005. JUGAS helped MIAL to identify a suitable candidate.

*6 Hiroshima Scholarship:

Based on the success of the above scholarship programme, HSA and MIAL started a joint scholarship programme for a Singapore student who wanted to study Japanese in Hiroshima in 2007. From 2008 scholarship students have been recommended by DJS, NUS.

HSA's Activities

General Meeting of HSA



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). HIROS was closed in 2003.



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.

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 154 people have visited Mihara and 226 people have visited Singapore so far. Mihara City has a web-site for this programme. URL: <http://www.tako.ne.jp/~friends/>



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 II
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
24 Feb. 2010	Panel Discussion	Commemorating of Minister for Foreign Affairs Award -Look back on student exchange programmes.
7 Mar. 2011	Mr. Yoshichika Terasawa	Uniqueness and business chances of Singapore
7 Mar. 2012	Prof. Taisei Itaya	Changes of Society and Politics in 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.

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.

Minister for Foreign Affairs Award

Minister for Foreign Affairs George Yeo kindly hosted Mr Eiji Tamura, Chairman of the Hiroshima-Singapore Association (HSA), to dinner on 9 November 2009. Minister Yeo also conferred the Minister for Foreign Affairs Award 2009 on Mr Tamura.

His Excellency S R Nathan, President of Singapore, visited Hiroshima and kindly invited Mr. Tamura and three HSA members to lunch on 15 May 2009.



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.



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.