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The numbers correspond to those in the Japanese edition.
Numbers that are missing are for the Japanese edition only.

③TUFS Students Win at Cambodian Speech Competition (Jul. 2018)

On Monday the 16th of July, marking 65 years of Cambodia-Japan diplomatic relations, the 2018 Cambodian Speech Competition (organized by the Royal Embassy of Cambodia in Japan and the Honorary Consulate of the Kingdom of Cambodia in Fukuoka, sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ANA) was held, at which TUFS students Rina Tsuzaki (School of Language and Culture Studies, Cambodian language studies, third year) and Reina Inoue (School of Language and Culture Studies, Cambodian language studies, fourth year) won first and third place respectively.

In this year's competition, there were 14 participants (including 11 university students) and the judge's panel was made up of four judges, including two representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and two representatives from the Cambodian community in Japan.

The winner of the competition, Ms. Tsuzaki, gave a speech on "Cambodian Hand Greetings and Japanese Bowing" in which she talked about the similarities and differences between the two cultures, using examples to illustrate her points clearly. Ms. Tsuzaki was praised by the judges for the content of her speech, her confidence, her beautiful pronunciation, and her explanation of her short visit exchange experience during the question and answer segment.

Ms. Inoue, who came in third place, gave her speech on "Friendship with Foreigners", and used her experiences teaching Japanese in Cambodia as examples to discuss the importance of understanding each person individually, and not just based on nationality. Her natural pronunciation, honed during her time on exchange in Cambodia, was highly praised.

As a prize for coming in first place, Ms. Tsuzaki was awarded with return tickets to Cambodia, a hotel voucher, and traditional handmade silverwork. Ms. Inoue was also awarded with return tickets to Cambodia, and all participants were given a commemorative tote bag and t-shirt.

Ms. Tsuzaki and Ms. Inoue's speeches can be seen on the Youtube: TUFS Channel.

[Cambodian Speech Competition 2018 First Place – Rina Tsuzaki' Speech](#)

[Cambodian Speech Competition 2018 Third Place – Reina Inoue's Speech](#)



Rina Tsuzaki receiving praise from Ambassador Chea
Kimtha



Reina Inoue receiving praise from Mr. Yoshiaki
Ishizawa, Director of the Sophia Asia Center for
Research



The current Ambassador of the Royal Embassy of Cambodia in Japan will soon take her departure from office, so TUFS presented Her Excellency Ms. Chea Kimtha, with a card and bouquet to thank her for supporting the speech competitions and visiting the language plays at the TUFS Gaigosai every year.

④ Volunteer Report: Mini-Sports Day at Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School (Nov. 2018)

Exchange students at TUFS participated as volunteers in a Mini-Sports Day at Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School (3 from Myanmar, 3 from Laos, 2 from Cambodia).

Volunteers:

Aung Myat (Myanmar, AY2018 exchange student);

Hnin Eaint Wai (same);

Su Wint Mon (same);

Naphaphone Phonasa (Laos, AY2018 exchange student);

Thippavan Sioudomphan (same);

Khamla Phengtakoun (same);

Haun Sorun (Cambodia; AY2018 exchange student);

Rous Chantra (same)

Activity: Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School Mini-Sports Day

Date: November 20, 2018 1:30 to 15:15

Location: Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School Gym

Host: Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School

Activity Subject: Cultural exchange with elementary school students through mini-games

Participants: 100 third-graders at Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School

Contents: Introductions, greetings in each country's language, watching elementary school students' dance performance, morning stretches; forming teams with elementary school students for ball-toss, ball-throw, hoop-jumping, and questions

⑤ Volunteer Report: *Mochitsuki* event (Dec. 2018)

Exchange students and foreign instructors at TUFS took part in a Mochitsuki event as volunteers.

Volunteers: Sai Kyaw Tun (Senior Language Lecturer in Burmese),

Soulikanh Thammavong (Senior Language Lecturer in Lao),

Khamla Pengtakoun (Laos; AY2018 exchange student),

Thippavan Sioudomphan (same),

Naphaphone Phonasa (same),

Rous Chantra (Cambodia; AY2018 exchange student),

Ayano Chiba (senior Lao major, School of Language and Culture Studies)

Activity: *Mochitsuki* Event

Date: December 8, 2018

Location: Koganei City Municipal Higashi Children's Hall

Host: Koganei City Youth Health Cultivation Eastern District Committee

Activity Subject: Intercultural communication and exchange with local residents while learning about Japanese culture through mochitsuki (rice-cake batter beating)

Participants: About 380 people: local elementary and junior high school students, kindergartners and their parents, staff, international students from Koganei City and surroundings

Contents: Mochitsuki, followed by processing, packing, and distribution of mochi (sticky rice cakes)



International students handing out mochi to children



Shaping mochi for the first time



Ready, set, thump! In perfect synergy



The Senior Language Lecturer also did their utmost during their first experience *mochitsuki*

⑥ Volunteer Report: the Interchange class at Higashi Elementary School (Jan. 2019)

Exchange students at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (1 from Laos, 2 from Cambodia) took part in an interchange class at Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School as volunteers.

Volunteers: Khamla Phengtakoun (Laos; AY2018 exchange student); Haun Sorun (Cambodia; AY2018 exchange student); Rous Chantra (same)

Activity: Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School Cultural Exchange Class

Date: January 18, 2019 10:30 to 12:15

Location: Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School gym, 5th-grade classrooms

Host: Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School

Activity Subject: Enjoy cultural exchange with elementary school students. Introduce each country and stimulate the children's interest in foreign cultures.

Participants: 109 fifth-graders at Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School; 7 exchange students (TUFS, ICU)

Contents:

Part 1: Introductions by international students, greetings in each country's language, introductions of each country's symbol; "Shimauta" performance by elementary school students, guessing international students' favorite sports, colors, and fruits, bomb game;

Part 2: Interviewing international students in groups of 5-6 children per classroom



Mr. Khamla answering children's questions



Ms. Chantra

playing the bomb game



Mr. Sorun making final remarks

⑦ Volunteer Report: The After-school Class held by Chi Q Jin (Mar. 2019)

Exchange students from TUFS (three each from Laos and Cambodia) volunteered at the after-school class held by Chi Q Jin at Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School.

Volunteers: Khamla Pengtakoun (Laos; AY2018 exchange student), Naphaphone Phonasa (same), Thippavan Sioudomphan (same); Haun Sorun (Cambodia; AY2018 exchange student), Rous Chantra (same), Bo Kunthib (same)

Activity: Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School District Afterschool Classroom Chi Q Jin "Shapes and Colors"

Date: March 7, 2019 14:45 to 16:15

Location: Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School Special Activities Room

Host: Chi Q Jin

Activity Subject: Elementary school students and exchange students enjoy intercultural communication and exchange; using the words for shapes and colors in their languages, the exchange students introduce their countries and get the elementary schoolers interested in them.

Participants: 30 students at Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School, mainly second- and third-graders; 10 exchange students from the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies and ICU

Contents: Duck Duck Goose, exchange student introductions, color free-association game, color tag, UNO in groups, signing cards

The students played a game of Duck Duck Goose to pass the time until all the elementary schoolers were present. After the exchange students introduced themselves, they presented the names of colors in their languages and led a "color free-association game" to guess what each word meant. Next, the exchange students called out their words for colors so that the elementary schoolers could play col-or-tag with the

colors in the flags decorating the room. Then they split into groups using pictograms of Olympic events and they played UNO. The elementary schoolers learned the color and number words from the exchange students to play UNO in each language. Finally, they exchanged cards with signatures from each group. The elementary schoolers were quick to learn the colors and numbers in each language and enjoyed the games.



Exchange students introducing themselves (the six to the right are from Laos and Cambodia)



Ms. Tiphavan (left) and Ms. Phonasa (right)
playing color-tag



Mr. Sorun (left) and Ms. Chantira (right) in their group



Ms. Kunthib (left) and Mr. Khamla (right) playing UNO

⑧ Volunteer Report: Children's Market (Apr. 2019)

Exchange students at TUFS took part in the Children's Market held by the Koganei City Youth Health Cultivation Eastern District.

Volunteers: Hnin Eaint Wai (Myanmar, AY2018 exchange student), Su Wint Mon (same); Khamla Phengtakoun (Laos, AY2018 exchange student), Naphaphone Phonasa (same), ThippHAVAN Si Oudomphan (same); Rous Chantra (Cambodia, AY2018 exchange student), Haun Sorun (same)

Activity: 47th Children's Week Event Eastern District Children's Market

Date: April 20, 2019 10:00 to 12:30

Location: Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School

Host: Koganei City Youth Health Cultivation Eastern District Committee

Activity Subject: With the cooperation of the local Children's Association and the Health Cultivation Committee, local children enjoy the chance to spend time with local junior high and high school students, exchange students, and adults

Participants: Koganei City Youth Health Cultivation Eastern District Committee members

Koganei City Mayor, Koganei City Director of Education,

Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School and Higashi Junior High School Principals and

Vice-Principals, Koganei Municipal Higashi Children's Hall staff

Eastern District Children's Association, exchange students living nearby

Contents: Stalls offering food, drinks, and games

The exchange students split into two groups, 5 people in the rock-paper-scissors group and 2 helping with yakisoba. The activities are described below.

(1) Exchange student stall: Rock-paper-scissors

Six exchange students split into two groups, one a Myanmar-Laos-Cambodia team and one, including an ICU exchange student, a Myanmar-Cambodia-US team. The first group sat in front of a sign with the words for rock, paper, and scissors in their languages. After teaching the children how to pronounce the words, they played the game in their own languages. The second group explored other stalls (superballs, can-shooting, cotton candy, popcorn, etc.) and spent time with the children. After a set amount of time, the two groups switched roles.

(2) Helping with yakisoba (serving)

Two exchange students helped fill plastic packages with yakisoba noodles prepared by the Health Cultivation Committee, adding chopsticks and fastening them with rubber bands. In their spare time they explored the other stalls and played games with the children.

Activities in practice:

(a) Rock-paper-scissors game

Rock-paper-scissors is fun whether you win or lose. The children were surprised when they heard words in foreign languages for the first time, but enjoyed the game nonetheless. We hope that the exchange students will remember this experience and continue to play this game after returning to their home countries.



Mr. Sorun, Ms. Hnin Eaint Wai, Ms. Chantra, Mr. Khamla, and Ms. Su Wint Mon enjoying rock-scissors-paper

(b) Helping with yakisoba

Ms. Naphaphone and Ms. Tipphavan took charge of the yakisoba stand, efficiently preparing the packages for their customers.

Ms. Naphaphone was delighted by the flavor of yakisoba with HP sauce, which she had never encountered before, and bought some of the sauce base home with her.



Participants' impressions (Mr. Khamla):

Thanks to this activity, we were able to play various games with the children and eat a variety of foods. When I played with the children, I was really happy to see them smile and make them laugh. In addition to playing with the children, we also enjoyed games from each other's countries. It was really fun. I hope to take part in this activity again if I have the chance.

⑨ Volunteer Report: the After-school Class held by Chi Q Jin (May 2019)

Exchange students from TUFs volunteered at the after-school class held by Chi Q Jin at Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School.

Volunteers: Hnin Eaint Wai (Myanmar; AY2018 exchange student),

Su Wint Mon (same),

Aung Myat (same);

Naphaphone Phonasa (Laos; AY2018 exchange student);

Rous Chantra (Cambodia; AY2018 exchange student),

Haun Sorun (same)

Activity: Afterschool Classroom: "Games with Foreign People"

Date: May 16, 2019 14:45 to 16:15

Location: Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School

Host: Chi Q Jin

Activity Subject: Promoting international understanding and friendship by playing games with elementary school students

Participants: First- through third-graders at Koganei Municipal Higashi Elementary School, exchange students living nearby

Contents: Interview of exchange students, physical games, Duck Duck Goose, etc.



Exchange students introducing themselves. Ms. Hnin Eaint Wai teaches the children to say hello in Burmese —“Mingalaba”—and bursts out laughing when they come up with “Migigawa”



Standing up together, with hands clasped. Whoops!



Ms. Chantra talking about Cambodia

When they were asked about their favorite Japanese food and anime, the exchange students thought carefully before answering; the elementary school students noted down the answers: sushi, takoyaki, and ramen. As expected, Studio Ghibli movies and Doraemon were popular.



⑩Hiking on Mt. Takao (June 2019)

Students from Myanmar, Laos, and Cambodia studying on the Inter-University Exchange Project went hiking on Mt. Takao on June 15th (Saturday).

The students from all three countries, who had grown friendly as they ate and spent time together during their study abroad, decided to take a trip together to somewhere none of them had been; Ms. Chantra of Cambodia suggested hiking on Mt. Takao.

It was a chilly day marred by heavy rain, but they had a wonderful time nonetheless.



Group photo at the summit



Group photo at Takaosanguchi Station

From Ms. Chantra, who planned the expedition:

"We really enjoyed our trip to Mt. Takao. On the summit, we ate soba and udon noodles and oden stew, and took lots of pictures. The rain made it harder, but climbing the mountain was fun."

From Ms. Thipphavan of Laos:

"On June 15th I went to Mt. Takao with students from Myanmar, Laos, and Cambodia. It was raining hard all day long, but we kept our promise to each other and had fun together. First we took a cable car up, and then we walked the rest of the way to the summit, taking a lot of pictures on the way. At the top there was a big temple which was very beautiful. They say you can see Mt. Fuji from the summit in good weather, but sadly we couldn't see anything because of the rain. After that, we were all tired, so we ate lunch at a restaurant and rested a little. It was so cold that I ordered hot udon and after eating them I felt a lot better. We all enjoyed the trip and we got to be even better friends. I'd like to go back to Mt. Takao someday, if I can."

The international students have become very close while living in university dorms and attending classes

and various events; their friendship showed in the matching TUFS original T-shirts and parkas they wore to climb the mountain. Keeping their promise to climb the mountain together, even in the rain, seems to have strengthened their bond even further.

⑪TUFS Students Win Big at Khmer Speech Contest (Oct 2019)

On Saturday the 5th of October, the 2019 Khmer Speech Contest (held by the Royal Embassy of Cambodia in Japan, sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan, ANA, Toyoko Inn) was held at the Cambodian Embassy in Akasaka, and TUFS students YOSHIDA Atsushi (School of Language and Culture Studies, third year) and NOGUCHI



Mr. Yoshida and the Cambodian Ambassador, H.E. Mr. UNG Rachana, at the awards ceremony

Ai (School of International and Area Studies, first year) won first and second place respectively.

Ten university students and two working adults took up the challenge of this year's competition, and were judged by two staff from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a representative of Cambodian residents of Japan.

Mr. Yoshida spoke about his experiences on exchange at the Royal University of Phnom Penh's Department of Khmer Literature, and the differences he noticed in temple preservation methods between the two countries when he participated in annual events. During the Q&A session, Mr. Yoshida impressed judges with the knowledge he gained on epigraphs and the Pali language during his time in the Department of Khmer Literature.

Ms. Noguchi gave her speech on Cambodian food culture from the perspective of Cambodian folktales. She also talked about her experiences making friends with Cambodian exchange students, the words she has learnt from them and the food culture she has experienced through them. The judges were impressed with her fluency and language ability, which far surpassed what is expected of any first year student.

Mr. Yoshida and Ms. Noguchi were each awarded with return tickets to Phnom Penh, an all-expenses paid hotel stay, and a commemorative plaque. In addition to this, all participants were awarded with a commemorative gift from the Cambodian Ambassador.

Mr. Yoshida and Ms. Noguchi's speeches can be partially viewed through the links below.

- 1) [\[TUFS\] 2019 Cambodian Speech Contest Winner, YOSHIDA Atsushi](#)
- 2) [\[TUFS\] 2019 Cambodian Speech Contest Runner-Up, NOGUCHI Ai](#)



Ms. Noguchi giving her speech

⑫ Volunteer Report: Halloween Party (Oct 2019)

Exchange students from TUFS (four from Myanmar, three from Laos, one from Cambodia) volunteered at a Halloween Party held at the Koganei City Higashi Children's Hall.

Volunteers: Kyawt Thiri Aung (Myanmar; AY2019 exchange student),

May Thet Paing Kyaw (same), Htet Su Tin (same), Myat Nay Chi Tun (same);

Nanthalath Mahasachan (Laos; AY2019 exchange student),

Vongsenekeo Manoly (same),

Xaysompheng Nilamit (same);

Try Sreyleak (Cambodia; AY2019 exchange student)

Activity: Higashi Children's Hall Halloween Party

Date: October 26, 2019 (Saturday) 13:00 to 16:00

Location: Koganei City Higashi Children's Hall

Host: Koganei City Higashi Children's Hall

Cooperation: Chi Q Jin

Participants: Local children, 14 exchange students (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, ICU, Asia University)

Contents: Group forming, rock-paper-scissors train, costume parade (trick or treat), reflection

The students arrived at Higashi Children's Hall and began preparing costumes and forming groups to go around the neighborhood. The Halloween Party began at 14:00, when the exchange students introduced themselves to the children. Next, in order to get to know each other better, they all took part in a rock-paper-scissors train game, where the loser forms a train behind the winner. The exchange students, not used to the game, had a hard time. Finally everyone formed a single line, getting to know each other and having a good time together.



Exchange students introducing themselves
(from left, Myat Nay Chi Tun,
Mahasachan, Htet Su Tin, Kyawt Thiri Aung, Manoly, Nilamit,
Try and May Thet Paing Kyaw)



Rock-scissors-paper train game

Next, participants split into four groups and went around the four checkpoints established here and there in the neighborhood. The children cooperated with the exchange students to complete the tasks that had been prepared for them at each checkpoint (gesture games, quizzes, singing the "Bear in the Woods" song, mistake-hunting, etc.), and received treats.



Visiting checkpoints



Mistake-hunting at a checkpoint

After the event, the staff and the leaders of each group met to reflect on the results. The exchange students took part in this meeting as well, each expressing their opinion. It was the first time several of them had taken part in a Halloween party, allowing them to learn about Halloween in Japan as well as getting friendly with the local children.



Reflection meeting

Inter-University Exchange Project (ASEAN) Coordinator

Junichi Terai