



短期留学プログラム

—ベトナムからこんにちは—

2019年11月2日(土)～8日(金)、教育提携をしているベトナムの「ハノイ国家大学付属外国語専門高等学校」から2名の生徒と1名の先生が、初めて短期交換留学プログラムで来校しました。

滞在中は、生徒と一緒に授業を受けたり、ベトナム料理を披露したり、全校生徒の前でベトナムについてのプレゼンテーションを行ったり、神戸国際大学で学んでベトナム人留学生と交流したり、京都観光をしたり、充実した楽しい毎日でした。

来校した TRAN MAI TRANG さんと PHAM NGUYEN MINH CHAU さんからお礼の手紙が届きました。

TRAN MAI TRANG さんからの手紙

"Travel broadens the mind"- that was the saying our forefather used to say. That's what i got when i had a favor to experience at St.Michael's Senior High School Affiliated to Kobe International University. My name is Tran Mai Trang and i am studying at Foreign Language Specialized School in Hanoi, Vietnam. Now, i would like to talk about my impressions and my feelings when i first came to visit Japan on this trip.

The trip lasted a week. The first day, we had an opportunity to visit The Port of Kobe. The Port of Kobe is a Japanese maritime port in Kobe, Hyōgo in the greater Osaka area, backgrounded by the Hanshin Industrial Region. We were accompanied by Katayama teacher, he gave us a lot of information about Kobe when we were looking around the sea on the boat.



At the end of the day, after walking around, we had dinner with Kobe school's teachers. They were very affable, hilarious and courteous. We had a great time together.

On the second day, we had a chance to meet our host friends. We became closed quickly. Then we visited Golden Pavilion which is a Zen temple in northern Kyoto whose top two floors are completely covered in gold leaf.



On the next day, we visited Kobe University and i met many overseas students including Vietnam at here. We also participated in two Japanese classes here. In the afternoon, we came back to our accommodation and packed luggage for the next 3 days. From November 5th to 7th, we came to studying at St.Michael's Senior High School Affiliated to Kobe International University. We were guided by Mrs.Sawae - a lovely, warm-hearted teacher. She accompanied us in Kendo Class, Calligraphy Class... and especially Cooking Class.



But above all, i want to talk about my beautiful memories i had with friends here. It was the first time i came to Japan so i was a bit nervous, but they were very friendly and sympathetic and they helped me to become more confident and we made good memories together. They are extremely lovely and likable and i have received a lot of gifts from them.



Besides all wonderful people here, i'd like to especially thank to my host sister - Hirona and her family. I was very grateful when they took me to eat outside, went to take Onsen bath and considered me as a family member.

Overall, i have to say that this trip was my most memorable experience that i ever had. I can't not express all my love message to everyone but i'd like to say that i am very thankful and miss you guys. I hope that i will have the second chance to visit St.Michael's Senior High School Affiliated to Kobe International University and meet you guys again!

PHAM NGUYEN MINH CHAU さんからの手紙

Greetings from Vietnam!

My name is Pham Nguyen Minh Chau, a Japanese-majored senior of Foreign Language Specialized School located in Hanoi, Vietnam and in this essay, I would like to write about my recent exchange experience in Kobe, Japan.

In October 2019, after going through a super challenging interview, I was chosen to be one of the students to participate in the student exchange trip to Kobe, Japan along with another junior. The preparation for this trip was very fast, from submitting the required documents for visa to making a Vietnam-related presentation, etc. but we still managed to do it professionally and as well as possible.

At last, in November 2nd 2019, after a long flight, we finally landed in Kansai International Airport and picked us up from the airport was Mr. Katayama. Mr Katayama is a teacher from Saint Michael's Senior High School and he was our main guider in the first day. He was so nice to help us with our luggage and show us many places around Kobe. (He even gave us a little souvenir at the end of the day, how sweet!!)

The next day, we went to Kyoto with our host friends. Honestly, I was a little worried because I am not very open to people or good at communication and might mess up at some point... But fortunately, my worry was completely gone when I met them. Even we just met for the first time, they have already show me the most welcoming smile and try their best to know us. We have done a lot of things together at Kyoto; such as visit Kinkaku-ji - sightseeing, buying omamori and trying a lot of desserts there, go shopping and more eating... It was such a bless to met them and by then, I know it will be so much fun when I came to their school the day after.

In November 4th, we spent an entire day to visit Kobe International University. With the help of the Vietnamese guider and the upperclassmen here, we got to know about the classes' curriculum, the school's facility and we also got to join in some advance Japanese classes, which is super difficult. At the end of the day, we had to pack our bags and ready for the homestay experience for the next three days.

On November 5th morning, we were picked up from by Ms. Sawae (She is a very cute and thoughtful teacher – she even bought me a Rikuro-ojisan cheesecake all the way from Osaka and this just melted my heart so much!!!) and travel to school by subway for about 2 hours. From November 5th to 7th, we spent three days to studying at Saint Michael's Senior High School affiliated to Kobe International University. I was super nervous because this was my first time to visit a Japanese high school and also to interact with so many Japanese students at my age. (Besides, I was also nervous because I got to know that our Vietnam-related presentation would not be presented only once but three times, to three different groups of students. Presentation is not my strength but finally, my kouhai and I finally to finish them!)

In the first day, I got to try practicing Kendo, studying English, World History and Literature; the second day was Literature, English and Cooking and the last day was Mathematics, Literature, Modern Society (現代社会) and Comprehensive Learning (総合

学習). In all of these subjects, there are some I have learned and there are some I have not; but the subject that I enjoy learning here and was impressed the most has to be World History. Here in Vietnam, we mainly learning facts from our teacher and try our best to memorize it. On the contrary, in Saint Michael's High School, I got to learn this so-called boring subject in a more logical, innovative and effective way. I hope that in the near future, the students can soon learn History with this new way of teaching.

Besides the curriculum, I also got to experience the 'sport club culture' here. Since my host sister – Mana is a soccer club's manager, I could even feel this culture even better. Here in Vietnam, specifically my high school, sport clubs are not that popular, not that active and of course, they would not willing to spend about 2 hours after school each day to practice. But here, it was completely different. In those three days, I have tried Kendo, which was very difficult for me. I have also visited the Soccer Club, Kendo Club, Judo Club, Handball Club and watch them practice. (It was a little bit sad that I could not visit the Baseball Club, but luckily I did manage to meet some of the club's members) All of them practiced with their best and I can clearly see the enjoyment on their faces.

Last but not least, I got to spend a lot of time with my host sister, Mana. Mana is such a sweetheart! She is a super cute, easy-going, cheerful, funny girl. She was the one who help me to step out my comfort zone and start to talk to other girls. Hirona, Rei and Aki are also very enthusiastic, out-going girls. They always look after me and manage to make me laugh anytime, anywhere. Haruna and Coco are more on an introverted, soft side. I have also met many great people, especially from Class 2-1, 1-1, 3-1: Eri, Senri, Riho, Kanoko, Kokoro, Ikuna, Natsuki, Natsumi, Yuina, Shunto, Minobu, Aruba,... and so many more that if I list it all out, it will cover all 2 A4 pages. They were hosting welcome party for us, give us many meaningful gifts and talk with us as much as possible.... I mean, how can they came with such amazing actions and thoughtful thoughts like that? Like literally, I was and until today, I am still super moved by those actions and thoughts.



I am so blessed to have such a wonderful homestay experience with Mana's family and Rei. Mana's parents are super kind, tactful and talkative to me. Mana's mom made so many delicious food, especially her kaarage – I just cannot get enough of her kaarage. The first night I stayed at Mana's house, her dad drove us to Mount Rokko and took a lot of beautiful photos then drove us to the osen to end the day. On the second day, the girls took us to the Harborland Shopping Mall and then gather at Mana's house to have sukiyaki. Finally, her mom took us to the osen again to finish the day. The next morning, Mana's mom gave me a pink bento box, a cute water bottle along with some more snack as a farewell gifts and she did not prepared only for me but for my junior as well. Honestly, I think this was the best

homestay experience that I would ever get, like this was way beyond my expectation and thoughts.



Overall, I would say that I will never regret came to Kobe and meet all these wonderful people, from friends to teachers and homestay family. To be honest, this was not the first time I came to Japan (the third time to be exact) but this definitely is the most memorable one. People gave me a lot of farewell gifts but I still have not say my farewell to most of them and I am so sorry for that.

Anyway, I wish the best to all of my friends, to the school and I hope to see you soon in the near future!!!