

Peking University & Yokohama National University Exchange Program

Short Stay (P2Y-short, Y2P-short)

Duration: 9 days

Affiliation: Peking University Name

Grade: The third grade

Name & Signature: 胡丹 Hu Dan 

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From 02/18 to 02/26, I have the honor to have chance to take part in the Peking University & Yokohama National University Exchange Program. Our P2Y-short program includes 9 days.

On the 02/18 (Sat), arriving at the NARITA Airport, we met two YNU students with whom we established a deep emotion, and with the assistance of them, we got on the train to Yokohama and checked in the hotel conveniently. After a short time of rest, we met for the first time with Professor Matsui, after that we shared a farewell dinner with Y2P and other P2Y students.

On the 02/19 (Sun), we had a great tour of Yokohama city with the ten Y2P students. We traveled to the Sakuragityo station, Queen's Square, Red Brick Warehouse, Yokohama station, and took a ship travel.

On the 02/20 (Mon), the YNU campus tour with YNU students is great. On the afternoon, we shared Prof. Hisami Andrade's lecture of Japanese culture with some other exchange students from Shanghai Jiao Tong University. The lecture includes six topics of Japan: Geographic features, climate and population; Characteristics of Japanese people and society; Characteristics, current status, and religion of Japanese culture; the past and present education; daily life food and housing; how Japanese people evaluate their life. Through this fascinating lecture, we have a better understanding of Japan and Japanese culture. During the break, we had a comfortable discussion with the students from Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

On the 02/21 (Tue), we had a historical tour of Kamakura area. For me, who lives far away from the sea, it's a good chance to take a close look of the sea and the seafood culture.

On the 02/22 (Wed), we had a lab tour and a academic lectures from YNU professors Prof. Araki (Mechanical Engineering) and Prof. Matsui (Mechanical Engineering). In the afternoon, we are so lucky to have chance to take industrial excursion of Siseido Kamakura factory whose products are very famous and popular among Chinese girls.

On the 02/23 (Thu), in the morning, we had a lab tour and academic lectures from Prof. Shiraishi (Mechanical Engineering) and Prof. Ozaki (Mechanical Engineering). In the afternoon, we had

another industrial excursion of Mitsubishi Minatomirai Industrial Museum.

On the 02/24 (Fri), we had a lab tour and academic lectures from Prof. Hasegawa (Material Science). In the afternoon, we had another industrial excursion of Toyo Seikan Kaisha, LTD which is the biggest can-making company.

The left two days are our free time, under the guide of some Chinese students in Japan; we had a wonderful tour in Tokyo, including Shinjuku, Akihabara, Lkebukuro, Ginza and Tokyo Tower.

In my eyes, this program is so diverse which not only includes culture understanding, city, campus and historical tour, but also contains different kinds of lab tours, academic lectures and industrial excursion that it seems that I had a great time of one month. Through this program, we understand Japanese society and culture better. There are two aspects that give me deep impressions.

Firstly, as we all know, Japan and China have a lot of interflow in Tang Dynasty when Japan mix Japanese and Chinese traditional culture and together. But with the development of China, several Chinese traditions get lost, but fortunately, we find these precious legacies in Japan, which declare Japan and China have close connection. As the most developed country in Asia, Japan does not lose its tradition on the way of developing economy, instead of that, Japan preserves its tradition and helps retain the tradition of China. It's really worthy of respect that Japan harmonize the development of economy and the continuation of tradition, which China should learn something from it.

Secondly, when we travel in the city, it's the varied products of cartoon and prosperous electronic product markets that impresses me. The bustling is based on the pay of Japanese. I think Japanese may be the most hardworking people in the world, named workaholic. When we take a subway or train in Yokohama, seven o'clock in the morning and eleven o'clock at night are the peak time. Most people get up early to work and work very late to the midnight. They not only spend much in working, but also are serious about their work. We had industrial excursions in Siseido Kamakura factory and Toyo Seikan Kaisha, LTD. In these two companies, we should wear special overall, clean our hands and bodies with disinfectant fluid and some special apparatus. Apparently, it's the hardworking and rigorous characteristics that make Japan succeed.

This P2Y-short program also leaves me something to reflect. After this P2Y-short program, my ideas of studying abroad do change. Before this program, I had the opinion that it doesn't matter whether I had a further study in China or abroad for I didn't have a truly impression of the world. However, this program makes me understanding more of learning or study in foreign country. The most important is that different countries have their different geographic features, climate and culture. As a result of that, different countries have their different superiorities and inferiorities.

For example, China and Japan are in stark contrast. On the one hand, China has vast territory and abundant resources, but with the population of 1.4 billion, China still has a problem of food crisis. To solve this problem, the most popular scientist in China, Yuan Nongping develops the most advanced technology in the world in grain cultivation. On the other hand, as a result of lack of many kinds of resources, especially petroleum, there are no countries having a better technology of electric vehicle than Japan. Different countries' diverse society and culture result in different technological superiorities. Correspondingly, these countries have the most advanced experiments and researches in universities, which are the students majored in engineering really want. So when we are choosing schools where we will have a further study, no matter master or PhD, there is no reason that we should give up the school which has the advanced experiments and researches.

Through this program, we contact with the university students of Japan face to face. Although we have a big problem in language, nevertheless, we still have a great time in English. When we are in Japan, we had many wonderful tours with their company. We almost have the same ages, we have the same hobbies. Girls are always talking about cosmetics, while the boys are discussing cartoons, sports and electronic products. When we are in Beijing, we take them to our class, absorbing knowledge. During the presentation of their study, we discuss the academic problems, change our different ideas. After this program, we understand each other much more; we can treat some question more objectively.

When I was in high school, I had a one month exchange program in Japan during when I had a time of one week study in Japanese high school. Comparing the school learning of Japan and China, I can find the two countries high school education has few differences, but as for university learning, there is a big gap. During our campus tour, we find a cute girl who is in the second year of mechanical engineering, she said when she was in the first year, she began to work in a lab majored in electric vehicle. When we met her, an electric car had been finished, and a boy tried it proudly. But in China, most of students will choose to start to work in a lab in grade three, and few students will join in a lab in grade one. Even when we join in a lab, what we do is merely limited in theory, and we are really poor in practical ability. So after this program, we know what the foreign students of the same with us are doing, and we can develop ourselves.

Finally, I want to show my thanks to JASSO, Yokohama National University and Peking University to give me this chance to participate in this program. I learn a lot from this program, and it will be my precious memory.