
Multilingual Electronic Newsletter – Kagoshima

Southern Wind Tidings (Vol. 157)

Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) Column

Unfounded Prejudice

Kim Hyojin (South Korea)

The A-Z of Kagoshima's International Relations

5 April (Mon) – 6 April (Tue): Visit by Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Fukuoka, Commencement of Opening Ceremony of the Honorary Consulate-General of the Republic of Korea in Kagoshima

Visit by General Manager Fantoni, Italian Chamber of Commerce in Japan

Kagoshima Specialty Products

Aigake Earthenware

○Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) Column ○

●Unfounded Prejudice ●

Kim Hyojin (South Korea)

On 28 February, a welcome party "Hearty Party" was held at the Kagoshima International Exchange Center for new foreign residents in Kagoshima.

International Friendship Center Kagoshima is a locus of international exchange in Kagoshima, which was opened in April last year with a donation from Kyocera's Honorary Chairman INAMORI Kazuo.



On that day, there were exhibitions from six countries, South Korea, Singapore, Australia, Vietnam, Malaysia, and Tahiti. They exhibited and communicated the charm of each country to new foreigners and other citizens of the prefecture. Together with the Kagoshima City CIR, I set up an interactive booth to introduce Korean culture and conditions to the participants.

At the booth, Korean traditional crafts and pamphlets were exhibited, and there was a traditional game experience of pitch-pot (Tuho), *jegichagi* (shuttlecock game), and *gonggi* (similar to Five Stones), as well as writing their names in Korean.

By the way, pitch-pot (Tuho) is a game where one throws an arrow from a distance into a pot, which was done by aristocrats and both groups (Yangban, the ruling class of the Goryeo and Joseon eras) in the old days. However, in modern times, it is generally held during the Lunar New Year.

While I was happy to be able to enjoy this kind of play that has been popular in Korea for a long time with the citizens of the prefecture, I also felt a little guilty.

On that day, we had a pleasant time with foreign residents from various countries such as the United States, India, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Pakistan. "I had an unconscious prejudice against

The copyright to this report belongs to Kagoshima Prefecture. Any and all unauthorised use of this report (redistribution, BBS, posting, etc.) is prohibited.

the people of Southeast Asia." I suddenly realised. I had a vague image of what I saw and heard in the news to some people in Southeast Asia, probably because I had a strong impression of the news about illegal immigration and refugees that I saw in my daily life. However, the people I met had obtained status of residence as international students, researchers, etc., and played an important role in the human network in Kagoshima, in many fields.

This time, I realised anew the need for international exchange at the grassroots level. Although I come to Kagoshima as a Coordinator of International Relations, but there is still a long way to go for me. Hereon, I would like to deepen my understanding of different cultures and treasure my connections with other foreigners, who also share the common point of moving to Kagoshima, and assimilating into the culture of Japan and Kagoshima.

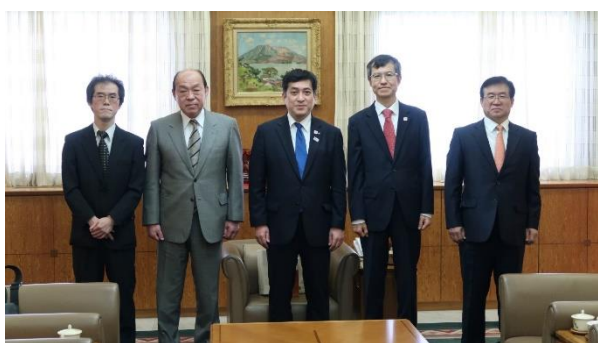
○ The A-Z of Kagoshima's International Relations ○

● 5 April (Mon) – 6 April (Tue): Visit by Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Fukuoka, Commencement of Opening Ceremony of the Honorary Consulate-General of the Republic of Korea in Kagoshima ●

On 5 April, Consul General Lee Hee-Seop from the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Fukuoka paid a courtesy visit to the prefectural office, and also attended the opening ceremony of the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Korea in Kagoshima on 6 April as a guest of honour. Held at the Chinjukan Kiln in Hioki City, Mr OSAKO Kazuki, the 15th Chin Jukan (head of the Chin family which produces satsumayaki pottery), was appointed as the Honorary Consul General to Kagoshima.

The Governor congratulated him on being the second consecutive generation of Honorary Consul General after the 14th Chin Jukan, Mr. OSAKO Keikichi, and also spoke about the Chin family-affiliated Jeollabuk-do Province in South Korea, which has had more than 30 years of exchange with Kagoshima.

Governor Shiota expressed that he hoped to continue developing exchanges and cooperative relationships with South Korea based on the exchanges built thus far.



● Visit by General Manager Fantoni, Italian Chamber of Commerce in Japan ●

Davide Fantoni, General Manager of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Japan, paid a visit to the prefectural office.

Mr. Fantoni spoke about the online business talks that the Italian Chamber of Commerce held during the pandemic, and the charms of Kagoshima from the perspective of Italians, including special products such as shochu and the scenery of remote islands.

Governor Shiota talked about impressed he was by various parts of Italy during his work assignment there, and that famous Italian pianists visit Kagoshima almost every year.

He expressed his hope that the visit by General Manager Fantoni would help inspire a deeper connection between Kagoshima and Italy.



○ Kagoshima Specialty Products ○

● Aigake Earthenware ●

~ 2020 Kagoshima New Special Product Competition~
Crafts and Livingware Category, Kagoshima City Mayor's Award

1. Don Rice Bowl

Height 10cm x Diameter 19cm, ¥6,500 (tax excl.)

2. Rice Bowl

Height 6.5cm x Diameter 12cm, ¥3,800 (tax excl.)

3. Soup Bowl

Height 5cm x Diameter 9.5cm, ¥3,000 (tax excl.)

The respective uniqueness of white and black satsumayaki pottery, two worlds merged into one. The bowls embody the diversity of the producing region.

1196-1 Hanao-cho, Kagoshima City 891-1101

TEL: 0992-24-6431



Kagoshima Prefectural Government Website

www.pref.kagoshima.jp/

Editor's Note (International Affairs Division, Kagoshima Prefectural Government)

Before I knew it, April was ending, and the cherry blossom trees were naught but bough.

The rains fell frequently during the weekend of Kagoshima's cherry blossom season, and I went half-heartedly to Ichikikushikino City's Kanmuridake Hanakawa Check Dam Park despite how quickly the cherry blossoms near my place had scattered. I found that they were still blooming there. Called *gyoiko*, the cherry blossom variety has rare pale green petals, and made me feel the freshness of spring.

The editor will change from the next issue, so please look forward to the more powerful South Wind News!

*

What did you think of this month's Kagoshima Southern Wind Tidings?

The editors will continue to strive to make this prefectural multilingual newsletter a source of information and a bridge to connect all of you to Kagoshima.

Kagoshima's Southern Wind Tidings is looking for the following content:

Kagoshima photo gallery

Please send us photos that remind you of Kagoshima, or pictures of Kagoshima you might have seen overseas. Please attach a brief caption (e.g. A mountain of volcanic-ash bags).

Knowledge about life in Kagoshima

Please share with us information about life in Kagoshima (e.g. a delicious way of eating fried fish cakes, or how to deal with volcanic ash).

We also welcome any other information that you would like to share with our readership.

▲▽▲▽ Inquiries ▲▽▲▽

International Affairs Division, Tourism, Culture and Sports Department

Kagoshima Prefectural Government

10-1 Kamoike-shinmachi, Kagoshima City, Japan 890-8577

TEL 81-99-286-2306 | FAX +81-99-286-5522

Email Us

English cir1@pref.kagoshima.lg.jp

Chinese cir2@pref.kagoshima.lg.jp

Japanese minami@pref.kagoshima.lg.jp

Korean cir3@pref.kagoshima.lg.jp