

Multilingual Electronic Newsletter

多言語メールマガジン

かごしま南の風便り

Kagoshima Southern Wind Tidings



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Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) Column

· **Nǐ hǎo! Hello! ●**

— *By Deng Lixia (CIR from China)*

My name is Deng Lixia, and I am a CIR who started working at the International Affairs Division in Kagoshima Prefectural Government from April this year. I am from Changzhou, Jiangsu Province, China, and I work for Nanjing Agricultural University in China.

This is my first visit to Kagoshima, although I have lived in Kobe and Kyoto before as an exchange student.

Starting from the time of application to the JET program, I began researching into Kagoshima's historical sites, local specialties and products, and after passing the exam, I eagerly awaited my assignment to Kagoshima.

From the moment I arrived at Kagoshima Airport, I was fascinated by the tropical landscape of Kagoshima, with its roads lined with palm trees and being surrounded by both mountains and sea.

After my arrival, I had a business trip to Ibusuki and got to visit JR Nishi Oyama Station, the southernmost JR station in Japan. There, I learnt that Shanghai and Jiangsu Province, which are almost on the same latitude, are actually just across the ocean. Hence, I felt an even closer sense of connection with Kagoshima.

When I view the magnificent nature of the sea and volcanoes in Kagoshima, and experience earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and torrential rains, I realize that human beings are really tiny insignificant beings in the universe. As such, I highly respect those who desire to know and communicate with the world beyond the seas.

As for my life here in Kagoshima, back in China I used to go about my days cashless, but here in Kagoshima, for instance at the Prefectural Office I had to pay in cash for my lunch order. As such, I made it a routine to check before work to see if I had enough coins to order a bento (boxed lunch). By actually paying in cash, I have a stronger financial sense of the value of money and at the same time a stronger will to do my best at my job.

My work mainly involves translating, interpreting, giving lectures and conducting exchanges related to the Chinese language. At the start, I was unused to the numerous strict rules and the resulting anxiety led to an accumulation of stress. However now, I have come to understand that these rules have a large part to play in keeping the work on schedule, and I was able to get used to and be comfortable with them while going about my daily work. I felt that it is the greatest joy of my day when work was able to well.

In a blink of an eye, three months in Kagoshima has already flown by. As the saying goes, 'Home is where you make it'. Thanks to the kindness of everyone here, I am able to enjoy even the most ordinary everyday life here.

I will continue to learn and do my best. Thank you in advance you're your support!



The school building at Nanjing Agricultural University in China, where I work.



Flower Park Kagoshima in Ibusuki City.

Nishi-Oyama Station, which is at the same latitude as Shanghai, China.

Activities of the Governor

● 12 June: Courtesy Visit by the Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to Japan ●

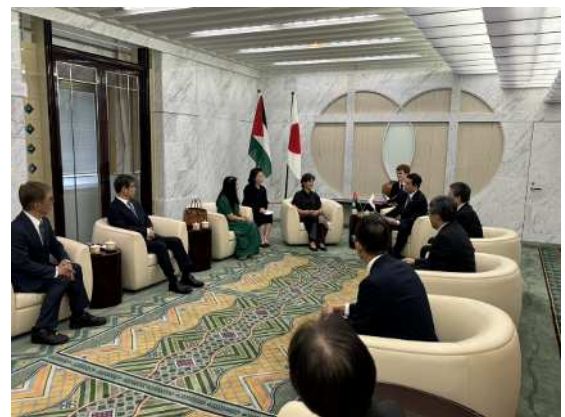
The Prefectural Office was visited by H.E. Ms. Lina Annab, the Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to Japan.

From Ambassador Annab, she spoke about the Jordanian breast surgeon who will receive training at Sagara Hospital (Kagoshima City) next year, and her anticipation for human exchange on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Jordan and Japan.

From Governor Shiota, he introduced Kagoshima's attractions, such as the lush nature of the World Natural Heritage Sites and its diverse cuisine such as Kagoshima Wagyu beef and green tea. He also expressed his wishes for future mutual exchanges.



• Commemorative photo with the Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan



• During the courtesy visit

● 19 June: Courtesy Visit by the Ambassador of India to Japan●

The Prefectural Office was visited by H.E. Mr. Sibi George, the Ambassador of India to Japan.

According to Ambassador Sibi, India is in the midst of great growth and transformation, with the world's largest population and an economic growth rate of 8%. He hopes that we will seize this opportunity and take an interest in India in the areas of business and human resources.

From Governor Shiota, he hopes that this visit will serve as an opportunity to strengthen relations between India and Kagoshima.



• Commemorative photo with Ambassador Sibi



• During the courtesy visit

Events Happening in Kagoshima

● 1 June: First ever export of shochu 『DAIYAME』 (distilled liquor made from sweet potatoes) by container to India ●

Hamada Shuzo, a sake brewery in Ichiki-Kushikino City, Kagoshima Prefecture, shipped approximately 10,300 bottles (1,716 cases) of *shochu* (distilled liquor made from sweet potatoes) to India, including DAIYAME (an aromatic shochu with the fragrance of lychees).

This is the first time in Japan that *shochu* is exported to India by container unit.

Tourism Information in Kagoshima

● 16 June: Kajiki Spider Fighting Festival ●

The Kajiki Spider Fighting Festival has a long history for over 400 years and was held on June 16, Sunday this year. The tournament consists of three divisions; Superior Spider Division, Battle Division, and King's Battle Division.

The event attracts widespread attention and coverage not only in Japan but also abroad, and nearly 200 participants gather at the venue each year.



Photo: Kagoshima Prefectural Visitors Bureau

● 1-2 June: The 91st Yamagawa Port Festival ●

The purpose of holding this Festival is to pray for safe voyages and large catches at Yamagawa Port, which has one of the highest fishing catches in Japan.

On the first day, 1 June (Saturday), fireworks were set off at Yamagawa Port, illuminating the night skies of Yamagawa Port with vibrant colours.

On the second day, there were events such as a parade of ships, street parades, stage shows and live fish catching.



Photo: Nansatsu Regional Promotion Bureau

