



国際交流基金

Press Release No.288

<http://www.jpf.go.jp/>

October 26, 2007

Press Conference Announcement
**Overseas Learners of the Japanese Language
Approaching Three Million**

We invite you to join us for a preliminary report on the results of the 2006 Survey of Overseas Organizations Involved in Japanese-Language Education and a panel discussion on the current state and challenges of Japanese-language education overseas. If you wish to attend, please either return the attached form by fax or e-mail us.

Date and time: 15:00–16:30, Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Venue: The Japan Foundation Conference Hall (20th floor, Akasaka Ark Mori Bldg., Akasaka 1-12-32, Minato-ku) * Map attached

Program:

1. Presentation of survey results
2. Panel discussion on the survey results and analysis
3. Question-and-answer session (The report and panel discussion will be in Japanese, but question will be accepted in English)

Panelists

Kaori Sasaki	President and CEO, eWoman, Inc., and President, UNICUL International, Inc.
Suzuko Nishihara	Professor, College of Culture and Communication, Tokyo Woman's Christian University, and Former Chair, Society for Teaching Japanese as a Foreign Language
Arthur Binard	Poet
Kazuo Ogoura	President, The Japan Foundation

The previous survey, conducted in 2003, showed that 2.35 million people in 127 countries and regions outside Japan were studying Japanese. This population has grown to nearly 3 million in the latest survey. One reason for the substantial increase is Japan's status as an economic superpower. But given the international acclaim of popular Japanese authors and the strong overseas popularity of Japanese pop culture, including anime and manga, it is reasonable to believe that interest in Japan's culture and language are factors as well.

Meanwhile, interest in Chinese is rising with China's remarkable economic growth. What bearing does this have on Japanese-language education overseas, and what role should the Japan Foundation play under the circumstances?

Contact: Mr.Inami / Ms.Matsuda, Planning and Coordinating Division, Japanese-Language Department Phone: (03) 5562-3525 Fax: (03) 5562-3498 E-mail: nihongo@jpf.go.jp



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FAX: 03-5562-3498 E-mail: nihongo@jpf.go.jp

To: Mr.Inami / Ms.Matsuda, Planning and Coordination Division,
Japanese-Language Department, The Japan Foundation

I will attend the press conference on the results of the Japan Foundation's Survey on Japanese-Language Education 2006.

Date and time: 15:00—16:30, Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Venue: The Japan Foundation Conference Hall (20th floor, Akasaka Ark Mori Bldg.,
Akasaka 1-12-32, Minato-ku)

Company: _____

Department: _____

Name: _____

Contact (phone, fax, e-mail, etc.) _____



Japan Foundation Information Center
Ark Mori Bldg. 21fl., 1-12-32 Akasaka,
Minato-ku, Tokyo, 107-6021 Japan
Tel. +81-3-5562-3538 fax: +81-3-5562-3534
www.jpf.go.jp

情報センター
〒107-6021 東京都港区赤坂 1-12-32 アーク森ビル 21 階
Tel:03-5562-3538 Fax:03-5562-3534