

The Japan Foundation 50th Anniversary Website and Booklet

“Weaving Ties with the World for 50 Years and Onward”

Looking back at postwar Japan’s history of cultural exchange, and considering its future

On October 2, 2022, the Japan Foundation (JF) celebrated its 50th anniversary. To commemorate this occasion, we have launched a special website, “Weaving Ties with the World for 50 Years and Onward,” and have also published a 50th anniversary booklet of the same title. The URLs for the English and Japanese versions of each are below.

- 50th anniversary website: <https://jf50.jpf.go.jp/en/> (English)
<https://jf50.jpf.go.jp> (Japanese)
- 50th anniversary booklet:
https://jf50.jpf.go.jp/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/JF50_en.pdf (English)
https://jf50.jpf.go.jp/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/JF50_jp.pdf (Japanese)



This website highlights the last half-century of JF’s activities as Japan’s sole public organization dedicated to the comprehensive promotion of international cultural exchange. The content includes interviews with individuals who share their stories of working around the world, and reflects the cultural relationships that have been created between Japan, in its economic growth period and beyond, and the rest of the world.

● Arts and Cultural Exchange

A look back at how Japanese culture has attracted attention and created bonds around the world through Japanese festivals overseas, exhibitions, and stage performances.

Top Story: **Souls in Resonance, The Legacy of “Japonismes 2018”**

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●Japanese-Language Education Overseas

Over the past 40 years, the number of people studying Japanese has grown 30-fold. As the background to this, we introduce the work done by Japanese language teachers throughout the world, and by the volunteers dispatched as NIHONGO Partners to Asian countries.

Top Story: **Japanese Language Education Blossoming in the Middle East from Cairo University; A 50-Year Journey Alongside the Japan Foundation**

●Japanese Studies and International Dialogue

In addition to highlighting the results of fostering researchers and intellectuals in Japanese studies, exchanges at the civic and grassroots level, and exchanges through sports, this section also introduces efforts to support reconstruction through cultural exchange after the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Top Story: **How Has America Viewed *The Tale of Genji*? The Charm of Japan Elucidated by an American Scholar**



Japan Foundation President UMEMOTO Kazuyoshi says "We have created the website and booklet in the hope that they will offer you an opportunity to look back on the significance of international cultural exchange and its potential future. It is precisely in turbulent times such as these that the true value of cultural exchange is being realized. In an increasingly multi-polar and uncertain international society, it is more important than ever for Japan to strengthen its ties with people around the world."

Stories will continue to be added through late December. By sharing as many of these stories as we can, we hope that readers of all ages will understand just how deep and far-reaching the longstanding relationships between Japan and the rest of the world are. We would greatly appreciate it if you could share this information through your own media.

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