



A Report from of SEISA University Alumni Association "Gakuyu Kai"

Accommodation Course International Students to Receive Educational Funds

"Koyukai", SEISA University has been working for the donation of SEISA Women Football Club, the installation and maintenance of AED in the university. Recently "International Student Scholarship Program" was launched as a part of its academic supports.

SEISA University and Graduate School Koyukai awarded the funds to the two international students, Penjor from Bhutan and Dejen from Eritrea, who are studying in the accommodation course of SEISA University. The virtual ceremony gathering was held between both students and members of SEISA alumni association around Japan, Mr. Shibuya, a professor of SEISA University, and Mr. Uemura, a manager of the SEISA university track and field club.

The supporters and members were deeply empowered by the two students with their stories about how hard they are training everyday with the target to participate for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games while studying Japanese to acquire the University degrees. The exchange was an opportunity to rethink of the

importance of supporting international students and the significance of Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Even though with difficulties, filling the application forms for the scholarship funds, as well as creating the purchase plan for goods within the budget were good experiences for the students.

With the wish for fast convergence of COVID-19 to bring more fruitful academic period for the students, Koyukai will continue to support SEISA students studying and working at their best.

What is SEISA University and Graduate School Koyukai?

In commemoration of the 10th anniversary of foundation of SEISA University, Koyukai was established to promote further exchange among graduates. Members are the graduates of SEISA University and graduate school, as well as people who had achieved their goals at SEISA University and graduate school.

The Voice of Appreciation and the Uses of the Scholarship Funds

Dejen Tesfalem Weldu

Thank you to everyone. With your supports, I was able to renew my shoes and insoles. I sometimes get injured, so I think these will help me prevent injuries. I am truly grateful for your support. I will do my best to meet your expectations. In the past two years, I have been suffering from the impact of COVID-19. Situation is still hard now, but I believe it will settle down soon. Let's continue to do our best together.

Tshering Penjor

I am honored to be a student of SEISA University. I have been a student of SEISA for the past three and a half years, including high school. During this time, SEISA has showered so much love and compassion to me. With the scholarship from the SEISA University Alumni Association, I was able to purchase new running shoes, stopwatch and electric massager for the race. These items will really help me to get one step closer to my goal. Thank you very much for your support.



The scene of the Virtual Gathering of SEISA University



Mr. Penjor (Left) and Mr. Dejen (Right) before the lecture



Scholarship Funds Awarded



International Students Activity Report

Myanmar Students “Karate”

Mr. Kaung, Ms. Yamin, and Ms. Su, international students from Myanmar, studying at SEISA Kokusai High School Shonan, are now in their final year of high school life. Karate matches have reopened in May. Students competed in the Kanto preliminary tournament, which was the first tournament of the year for them, and then in the National Athletic tournament. Although they were not able to qualify, but each of the three players felt that they had grown as karate

practitioners and were able to find issues to work on and room to grow. The next, they will appear at the qualifying tournament of the Inter-High School Championships. They continue working hard to learn and practice so that they can embody 100% or more of all their experiences, awareness and efforts which they gained from each game and daily trainings into the actual match. We appreciate your continued support and encouragement.



From left to right: Mr. Kaung, Ms. Yamin, and Ms. Su (Kanagawa preliminary round of the National Athletic Tournament)

SEISA Dohto University Track and Field Team “Eritrea”

Natnael Teweldeberhan Tesfagabr

The new chapter of my life started at SEISA Dohto University since April, 2021. Although I feel a bit lonely at times, I am gradually getting used to university life with the support of my fellow international student, Kesete, and my teammates.

I am representing Eritrea in Africa, and I am here to learn about Japanese culture, as well as the track and fields. When I was in high school, I injured my leg and was unable to run as much as I wanted to. I hope to use this experience to improve my understanding of Japanese language, as well as to learn more about physical fitness, sports management and business administration. I would also like to learn about team management and coaching through the activities of the track and field team. Since I am going to do this, I want to become the best manager in Japan and help the team and share as much joy as possible with everyone.

In university life, you have to choose your own classes, cook your own food, and think and act on your own in every aspect. Sometimes I have a hard time understanding things, but everything is a good learning experience for me. My dream is to become a track and field coach. And I want to be a bridge between Japan and Eritrea in some way. I hope to grow as a person during my four years at the university.



Natnael, manager of the track and field team at SEISA Dohto University

Kesete Habtetsion

Four years have passed since I came to Japan. I have only four months left before graduating the university. In the past four years, I faced many challenges due to language and cultural differences. There were times when I wanted to go back to Eritrea, but thanks to the support of many people, I will be able to reach my goal of graduating from university.

Over the past four years, I have grown to love Hokkaido, and I feel a little sad to be leaving Hokkaido after graduation. In the remaining four months, I would like to repay those who have supported me by running well to show my gratitude. In the Hokkaido Intercollegiate Championship, I will do my best to win in 10,000m or 5,000m.

This year, there is also a qualifying round for the Izumo Ekiden Race. I will work with my juniors to win the right to participate and contribute to the team as much as possible. After graduation, I have both high expectations and anxiety about working in Japan. However, I will try many things and get over challenges by utilizing

my experiences which I gained over past four years. My dream is to become an athletics coach to support Eritrea and the SEISA Group.



Eritrean student Kesete (Senior) and Natnael (Freshman)



SEISA Africa Asia Bridge Selected as a Representative of Japan for the 2021 UNESCO/Japan ESD Award

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) aims to equip learners with the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes necessary to act responsibly, respecting cultural diversity, for the protection of the environment, for economic sustainability, for a fair society for all genders, and for present and future generations. It will play a key role in the realization of all the SDGs.

This award recognizes outstanding ESD-related projects implemented by institutions or organizations engaged in ESD activities within the framework of "Education for Sustainable Development: Towards the Realization of the SDGs (ESD for 2030)", which was adopted at the 40th UNESCO General Conference and endorsed by the UN General Assembly in 2019.

"SEISA Africa Asia Bridge" has been selected by MEXT as a representative of Japan. In July-August, an international jury established by UNESCO will recommend candidate institutions and organizations to the Director-General of UNESCO, who will then decide on the winning institutions and organizations.

SEISA Africa Asia Bridge is an event for children to discuss and share the diversity and potential of Africa with people from many countries, with the aim of realizing the goal of "learning about" and "connecting with" African countries. This year's event was the sixth in the series, and was the first to be held online, with six simultaneous channels. 55,000 people participated from diverse backgrounds including students from SEISA schools all across Japan, embassy representatives from 32 countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Environment, Kanagawa Prefecture, and local children. This is an event where we can really learn KYOSEI "living together in harmony" in the future.

MEXT Evaluation Points:

- It is noteworthy that this event is being held on a large scale to bring together people from diverse cultural backgrounds in order to realize a harmonious society. The fact that the scale of the event has been expanding each time is also evaluated as the potential of the activity.
- The collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders, including companies, local authorities and international organizations, is highly commendable.

June, 2021 (tentative) International Judging Committee
July - August 2021 (tentative) Announcement of winners
November 2021 (tentative) Award Ceremony

Announcement from MEXT in Japanese:

https://www.mext.go.jp/unesco/004/1415535_00001.htm



Special Website of SAAB 2020



Presentation of SAAB 2020



Finale of SAAB 2020



COVID-19 prevention measures at SAAB 2020

Spring
Holiday
Event

Bhutanese Film "Lunana A Yak In The Classroom" Presented to SEISA Students for Educational Preview

The relationship between Bhutan and SEISA Group has been growing for more than 30 years, starting with the personal exchange of Mr. Yasuo Miyazawa, the chairperson of FGC, and evolving into an organizational relationship of continuous cooperation. Some of the activities between Bhutan and Japan have developed into international exchange and diplomatic initiatives on behalf of the country. In addition to field trips to Bhutan, students from Bhutan are currently studying with SEISA in Hokkaido and Kanagawa Prefecture.

No matter how much the world changes, Bhutan continues to preserve its unique nature, tradition and culture. What is happiness? What is the essential and natural relationship between human beings? When you land in Bhutan, you are instantly transported back in time, and you are reminded of the good old days and the fact that you are alive. Acknowledging ourselves and others, one by one, will lead to a society where we can live together. There are many things we can learn from Bhutan in order to realize a KYOSEI society - living together in harmony.

In this context, the film "Lunana A Yak In The Classroom" has been completed as an opportunity to let everyone in Japan know about Bhutan. The film has been screened across Japan sequentially from April 3, 2021.



<https://bhutanclassroom.com/>

tially from April 3, 2021.

This time, through a small connection, we decided to hold a classroom preview of the film "Lunana A Yak In The Classroom" as an opportunity for students and staff of SEISA who are involved with international students from Bhutan to think about "mutual relations, co-education and learning."

On Tuesday, March 30, 2021, the main venue was a log cabin at the SEISA Kokusai Hachioji (SEISA Takao Campus), with approximately 200 students, teachers and staff from

across Japan wishing to learn about Bhutan participating online. The event began with a screening of the actual film, followed by a talk session with the film director Mr. Pawo, who was participating online from Taiwan. By knowing about the process of film making, inside stories and personal episodes of actors, it became an extremely valuable learning opportunity.

SEISA and FGC will continue to provide valuable opportunities for students to learn about Bhutan, the source of Asia, and to reflect on how Japan and themselves can live together in harmony.

"Lunana A Yak In The Classroom" is currently showing in Japan. For more information about the film, please visit the website of the film.



Cultural Introduction "Eritrea"

World Heritage Site "Asmara" and the Opening of Japanese Embassy in Eritrea

Asmara, the capital of Eritrea, is located at an altitude of 2,350 meters above sea level, with an average annual temperature of 17°C. The climate is mild and comfortable, with short sleeves even in winter (November to January). The city of Asmara has been a commercial center for centuries. An Italian military base was built there in 1883 because of the absence of the malaria-carrying hama-dryas. In 1897, it became the capital of the country and has been developed as the "Second Rome" as the key to Italy's expansion into Africa.

In 1900, Asmara became the capital of Italian Eritrea, which led to the development of a European-style cityscape. In the Eritrean quarter, there are traditional African houses and Italianate colonial architecture. It is an excellent example of modernist architecture and urban planning in 20th century Africa. As a result, today it is one of the world's largest remaining examples of Italian colonial Art Deco architecture from the 1920s and 1930s. Beautiful brick villas and innovative modern architecture can be seen here and there, creating a unique blend of Italian heritage and African culture. The city has been a place where religions have coexisted since ancient times, and the Catholic Cathedral, mosques, Tewafud churches, and synagogues that line the streets show the charm of a city that is tolerant of different cultures.

The city of Asmara was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List as a "Modernist City in Africa" at the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee held in Krakow, 2017. It is the first World Heritage Site in Eritrea.

On December 21, 2020, the Japanese Cabinet decided to open a Japanese embassy in Asmara. The diplomatic relations between two countries were established between Japan and "Italian Eritrea" in September 1936. Japanese companies invested in Eritrea's leather, cotton, household products, aluminum, and other small and

medium-sized manufacturing industries in the late 1960s and early 1970s. In the early 1970s, Japan launched the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) for Africa, and in February 1974, the Overseas Technical Cooperation Agency (OTCA) completed a master plan to develop the ports of Massawa and Assab. The Embassy of Eritrea in Tokyo was established in July 2003 in Minato Ward, Tokyo.



Panoramic View of Asmara City



The Church in Asmara

Information

Working Together towards the Future

We are pleased to announce that we will be publishing an English version of FGC News. Our website, Facebook and Instagram are bilingual in English and Japanese. The bimonthly newsletter, which has been available only in Japanese, is now being updated to include future and past editions in English. The English version can be downloaded from the English page of the FGC website.

<http://www.fgc.or.jp/english/>



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