

An international student from Mali has arrived in Japan!

On Wednesday, May 24, Mr. Almage Salif Doumbia, an international student from the Republic of Mali, arrived safely at Narita Airport. Almage will be a sports scholarship student of SEISA Kokusai High School Shonan basketball major.

Immediately after his arrival in Japan, he entered the dormitory of basketball majors in Odawara to start his life in Japan. The next day, he greeted the whole school at the opening ceremony of the School Sports Festival and was welcomed into SEISA friends.

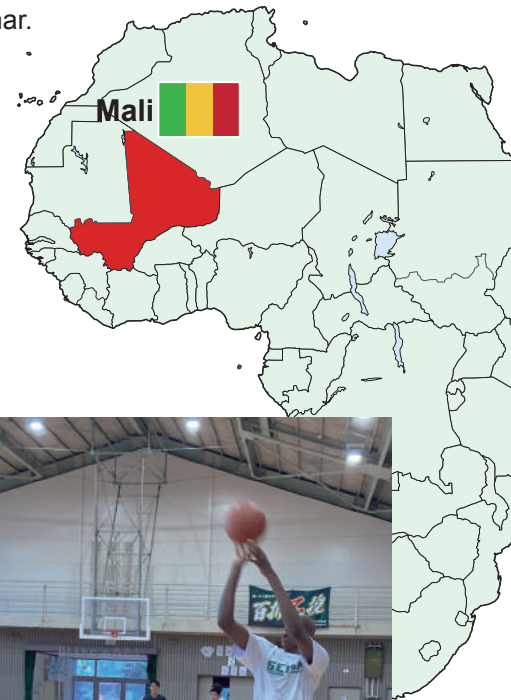
Japanese language classes have also started and he is studying one-on-one with FGC staff members.

He started by practicing hiragana and greetings, and is gradually learning grammar.

Almage has a very serious personality, and came to Japan not only to grow as an athlete, but also to learn a lot about Japanese language and culture.

He is doing self-study of Japanese not only in class but also in the dormitory every day. And of course, as a basketball player, he is expected to make the most of his 2m3cm height. He is practicing with his teammates in preparation for his debut in an official game. We at FGC will do our best to support him so that he can spend a fulfilling time in Japan.

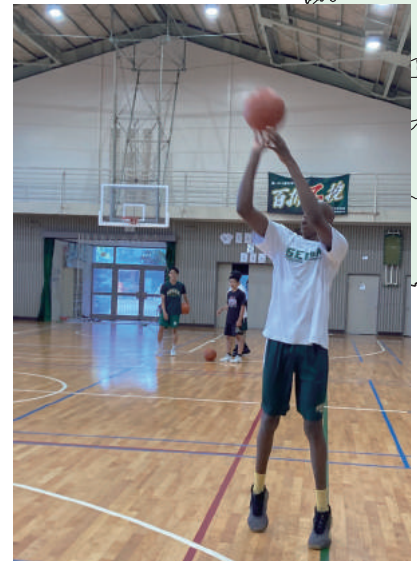
We will also continue to learn about the culture of Mali, where he grew up, and introduce it to you. Please look forward to Almage's future activities!



Almage arrives at Narita Airport



With his teammates



Basketball practice



Participated in school cleaning activities



Custom made uniform!
Looking forward to its completion



With his classmates during a morning routine



Introducing Eritrea's food culture through a kitchen car



Participated
in
Oiso Market

On Sunday, June 18, Eritrean-style curry was served at the "Oiso Market" held once a month at the port in Oiso town. This menu was created by our Eritrean staff member, Kesete. FGC has collaborated with the "Kitchen Car Seminar" at SEISA Kokusai High School Hachioji to provide Bhutanese cuisine. Also, in 2022, we introduced this curry to children in kindergarten in Hakone-machi and also at a cultural festival and classes at SEISA Kokusai High School Hamamatsu, but this was our first time to open a booth at a

major event in our hometown, Oiso, and we spent many days preparing for it. This curry is an original curry made by Kesete based on the taste of Eritrea and devised to make it easier for Japanese people to eat. Many people visited and enjoyed the curry on the day of the event.

What is Eritrea? Who is Kesete? There were many people who were interested, and each time, we introduced Eritrea and the activities of FGC. It was a meaningful day in terms of cultural exchange, which is an important element of our activities.



"Glocal Project Seminar" has started

Kesete, who is also very active in making curry, has been in charge of the "Glocal Project Seminar" since May, which is shared by SEISA Kokusai High School Tachikawa, Yokohama Kamoi, and Hachioji, and has been teaching at Yokohama Kamoi during the first semester. In the Glocal Project Seminar, staff members from Eritrea, Bhutan, and the United States, teach classes in a relay format. The purpose of this course is to learn about the "now" of the world and to develop language skills and the ability to understand multiple cultures.



**From
Kesete**

I heard that there are many children who don't know anything about Africa as well as Eritrea, thinking that Africa is just the name of one country. Through my classes, I would like to help students to gain knowledge and understanding of the history

and culture of Eritrea and Africa, and to create and opportunity for the next generation to build better relationships. I would also like to pass on what I have learned here in Japan to the next generation.



Alumnus Sonam participated in the international competition as a representative of the Kingdom of Bhutan.

Ms. Sonam Choden from the Kingdom of Bhutan, who came to Japan in 2018 as a sports scholarship student of SEISA Kokusai High School Shonan Archery Major and graduated in March 2021, represented Bhutan in the "Asia Cup Stage 3" held in Singapore from June 5 to 10.

For Sonam, there were many "first times" at this competition. It was her "first" official competition since returning to Bhutan, her "first" international competition, and her "first" competition where she won the right to participate with her own ability.

The results of the match were 609 points in total and 39th place in the individual qualifying round, in the final round, she was seeded in the first round, but lost in the second round to a Taiwanese archer 4-6, finishing in the top 32.

During her three years at SEISA, Sonam worked hard both in archery and in her studies. After graduating from SEISA, she returned to her home country of Bhutan, where she continued to pursue her passion for archery and achieved results. When she first came to Japan, she



Ms. Sonam (back row center) and the Bhutan national archery team

couldn't do push-ups or run, but now she has grown into a representative of Bhutan, competing against the world as a representative of Bhutan.

We look forward to your continued support for Sonam's success.



Eritrean student Mr. Biniam Report on activities at the university

Biniam, an Eritrean student who graduated from SEISA Kokusai High School Shonan in March 2023, continues to study and pursue track and field in Japan as a sports scholarship student at Musashino Gakuin University. On Thursday, June 8, we visited Musashino Gakuin University to see how things were going as two months had passed since his enrollment. Thanks to the support of the people around him, he has become accustomed to life in the university dormitory, and his Japanese has improved since the last time we met. He also serves the curry he cooked in his room to his teammates, and he also treated us to his dish.

In terms of athletics, on Saturday, June 10, he competed in Nippon Sport Science University's track meet, and although he did not break his personal best time of 14:02 in the 5000m, it was close to it, and he has been training steadily.

Biniam has graduated and has left SEISA, but we would like to continue to support his activities as much as possible.



Biniam serving his curry



Donation to the Turkish Embassy in Japan for earthquake disaster reconstruction

As reported in FGC News No.33, FGC has been collecting donations to support the recovery from the Turkey-Syria Earthquake. On Friday, June 30, we visited the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey in Tokyo to present a catalog of 102,000 yen in donations.

Ms. Esra Özbek, First Secretary, welcomed us at the Embassy and Kesete, a FGC staff member, presented the donation. Ms. Esra commented, "It means a lot to us that everyone at SEISA, including the children, has collected donations. Thank you very much for your warm feelings. The donation will be sent directly to the Disaster Emergency Agency in Turkey and will be used for the benefit of the local people. Please convey our best wishes to everyone."

We also introduced the activities of FGC, SEISA Group, and SEISA Africa Asia Bridge (SAAB) which received a lot of interest. We would like to express



Ms. Esra, First Secretary of the Embassy (right), and FGC staff member Kesete (left)

our gratitude to all those who cooperated in this fundraising campaign.
Thank you very much

Delivered the first batch of donations to children in Okuma Town

Since the Great East Japan Earthquake, SEISA Group and FGC have been continuously supporting children in the affected areas. The staff members of SEISA group, who have played a central role in this support, established the General Incorporated Association "Dream Forest Supports", and started activities to manage a day-care center for school children in Okuma Town, Fukushima Prefecture.

Okuma Town is located in Hamadori, Fukushima Prefecture, and experienced evacuation of the entire town due to the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and nuclear disaster. The evacuation order was partially lifted in 2019, and in 2022, the evacuation order for the central district is also lifted. In April of this year, schools reopened for the first time in 12 years and the cheerful voices of children returned to the town, which is facing a major turning point, the energetic voices of children have returned. FGC would like to cooperate with this activity, so we have decided to start collecting donations of playground

equipment and toys that are in short supply at school children's sites.

We heard that there will be an event in Okuma Town on Saturday, June 3rd, and that SEISA Group staff will also be participating, so we decided to accompany the staff of FGC to deliver the first batch of donated items.

Despite the short time from when we started the campaign, many people immediately cooperated, and we were able to deliver about 30 items such as toys, books and sports equipment to the children.

An event called "Flowers, Kiwis and Horses" was held in Okuma Town on that day. Many people from both inside and outside the town worked hard happily together to restore the kiwifruit that had been the town's specialty, interact with the horses that are the symbol of the community, and plant flowers at the "Kumapure", the community's exchange center.

We will continue to collect donations to Okuma Town, and we thank you in advance for your support.



Handing over donations to children in Okuma Town



"Flowers, kiwis, and horses" event



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