



## Middle Eastern Culture



Visit The Place Beautiful In Both Appearance And Material Thinking about What Cross-Cultural Understanding Is

On August 26th, in 2018, I visited Tokyo Camii, the Turkish Islamic church called “mosque”, which I had had a strong desire to visit this summer. Although most people living in Japan are not Muslims, this is a very significant place for some people. A mosque is the place where people gather and pray for Allah, and its name is derived from the meaning, “shelter.” One of the great aspects noticeable about mosques is the appearance. Same as the reason that I was



attracted, mosques are famous for its beauty, but I came to realize that it had much more meaning in that it was the place for everyone to come and rest, as I listened to the talk of a guide. According to the guide, it is shown in the structure of the mosque itself. In front of the building, there was a nesting box attached on the wall. In Turkey, pelicans is famous as migrants. They cross the African Continent and head for the Eurasian Continent when spring comes, but some of them cannot succeed in migrating partly because of getting injured. Therefore, placing a nesting box on a mosque means to provide a place to rest so that anyone can come when they are in need. Another fact of showing the aspect of mosques as where people visit to take rest is that they have a place to have water. This is for nomadic people to let their tired animals could drink it.

After researching about Islamic church. It turned out that

it had other aspects in meaning, and also that they put their thought based on what the Qur’an say. Most people in Japan tend to associate it with conflicts or extreme ideas, but it actually treasure mutual aid and peace.

The experience at the mosque told that involving different culture without excelled knowledge sometimes can cause us to expose the danger of misunderstanding of each other. What people today are required to have good relationship with others from different culture or background is trying to be modest, and tell what is in your mind very clearly so that the opponent do not misunderstand. In addition to this, having proper knowledge about your own culture is also one of the most essential points to pay your own culture respect.

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By Maho Hirasawa  
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## Smith College

I participated in the short-term study program at Smith College in the U.S. USA this summer. It is planned by ISA to encourage global women. I had a strong desire to go to America to study abroad for a long time.

Since I was very shy, at first when I was on the airplane, I could not make any friends. However, when I arrived at the USA, I felt some of responsibility, and I tried to speak positively.

As soon as we got up in the morning and finish breakfast, we moved to the classroom and had a discussion every day. The teacher always told us it is important to speak with confidence. Every night, there was a time for review, and we learned our achievement of the day. By doing so, we tried



to ask questions in class more and more each day.

On the final day, we had a presentation. The night before, I

wrote an essay until 3 o'clock. My essay expressed thanks to the teachers. I could speak with confidence. Moreover, At the closing ceremony, I got a prize for "BEST ATTITUDE." It means I was always positive, happy and in good spirit.

Finally, when I went to the museum, I could talk to a boy who was fifteen-years old by myself. I felt that talking to foreigners was more fun than I expected.

This program helped me not only improve my English but also to speak with confidence. It was a very precious experience for me.

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By Nao Toyama  
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## Shirayuri Gakuen Spirit crosses over the ocean



The root of the education of Shirayuri Gakuen is a school in a basement in France. Shirayuri Gakuen belongs to Chartres St. Paul Monks Association. The Association has been spreading and it is one of the biggest convents in the world with 4000 sisters. There are more than 30 schools

and more than 10 big hospitals that belong to Chartres St. Paul Monks Association. Especially, their organization of schools is the biggest one in the Philippines. About 600 sisters usually work at schools and hospitals. Besides, they work to help poor people.

20 years ago, sisters founded the school of Louis Chouvet in order to provide many children with enough education.

The following is an interview of Sister Kaneko. She worked for Shonan Shirayuri Junior and High School and now works for Shonan Shirayuri Elementary School. She has been to the Philippines, where sisters who belong to Chartres St. Paul Monks Association work very actively.

Sister Kaneko said "The people in Philippines think that interactions among people are important. However, there are many poor people and compulsory education system isn't well established. I want you to know about the Philippines well."

Shirayuri Gakuen has over thirty partner schools which are not only built by Chartres St. Paul Monks Association but also built by other people who don't belong to the association. The connection extends to ten countries in the world. Shirayuri Gakuen in Sendai and Hakodate have a curriculum which allows students

of the schools to visit schools in Philippines. By connecting with the schools in the world, students can have more opportunities to learn and know about the other countries deeper.

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By Minami Motoyoshi, Tamaki Kanno  
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## Memorable 68<sup>th</sup> Music Competition



The 68th Music Competition was held at Shirayuri Hall on June

21th. This competition was divided into two divisions – the junior high school and the high school. Each class tried very hard to win first prize.

This year, Yuri class in the second year won first prize, which surprised all the students in our school. This is because the second year won first prize for the first time in thirty eight years. The student paper interviewed Ms. Asano, the conductor of the class.

Q: What was the hardest thing as a conductor?

A: It was to unite all the students and to harmony with each student without back ground music.

Q: Which part of the song do you like best?

A: It is the part where the soprano sing forte while the mezzo and the alto sing a glissando.

Q: What was the thing that you

contrived as a conductor?

A: I tried to finish our rehearsal earlier so that many members could participate in the rehearsals and have members of each part practice three times a day and then have them sing together to reduce mistakes.

Q: How did you feel when your performance finished?

A: I thought that it was the best performance that I had ever played. We could do our best, so I was filled with joy, and felt a sense of achievement. There was nothing to regret.

Q: How did you feel when you heard your class won first prize?

A: It was really surprising for us to get better prize than the third year.

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By Seira Chonan, Miu Suehiro  
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## All the Flowers Have Bloomed Fully

On May 11th, our sports festival took place at this school. It is Class Ume Again That Won the Championship of the Sports Day 2018.

The slogan of this year's festival was "Hyakka-Ryoran," meaning that various kinds of flowers bloom fully. Every single student did her best and performed as best as they could. The sports president said with smile, "We went through many difficulties in the preparation for today. What is more, the days we had been provided to practice was not enough, so we had to work much harder every day compared to

usual. However, what is one thing that let me forget such hard time was the fact that everyone enjoyed very much."

Although there were some points that were different than usual such as the structure of school years of cheering parties and the fact that Junior 1 students played tug of war for the first time, we could finally end the festival with success. The leader of cheering party of champion class said "I hope class Ume will also win the championship next year for third consecutive seasons."

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By Maho Hirasawa  
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### NOTICE TO READERS

This is the third English newspaper to come out of Shonan Shirayuri. We have included topics about the daily lives of students and the school's international activities.

In the process, we found it difficult to ask about what we really would like to know. He or she we ask can sometimes take what we mean in the wrong way, and that can cause an awkward atmosphere. It is very important for interviewers to clear what they mean to say, and to illustrate how they think of something so that he or she does not misunderstand them.

## Tsusai Sugawara



Tsusai Sugawara, a business man in the Showa era, was born in 1894 in Tokyo. His best achievement was making a road from Ofuna to Enoshima.

Currently, most students at Shonan Shirayuri Junior and High School use Shonan-Monorail every day. It runs above the former Keikyu Express Toll Road, which was made by him. The road was merged with Keikyu Electric Railway.

In addition, Tsusai Sugawara

also contributed to the development of Fukasawa area. He made a high class villa, which he named it Kamakurayaka.

From these achievements, it is safe to say that he was a person who worked hard to develop near our school. Once in a while, when we take a train it may be good to think about his hardship.

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By Yoko Kuroda  
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## Shonan Sweets

Shonan “Hatosaburee” is known for one of the most famous western confectionaries in Shonan region. A lot of Japanese people have eaten it at least once. It is also famous as a gift or souvenir.

“Toshimaya, which is known as a shop for “Hatosaburee, has made products with the motto “The sweets which tell the history of Kamakura”. This motto was made when the shop was established in the Meiji era.

Since “Hatosaburee” is like a

cookie with rich butter, when you open the bag, the luxurious smell of butter is very noticeable. The texture is crispy. You can clearly feel butter and sweetness in your mouth when you eat it. The dove shape of the cookie is also very attractive.

Secondly, “Shonan saburee” is another famous sweet, too. The name of the shop is “La Plage Miami.” It means “beach” in French.

Since the shop was established,

the cooks have carefully selected ingredients making sweets. Also, they do not use preservatives at all for their confectionery and baked goods, so even small children can eat them safely. They are always trying to take cookies that are hard to crack.

It is formed in the shape of a train called “Enoden”, which is a symbol of Shonan. Three kinds of flavors are made; butter, cocoa, and cheese.

They taste crispy and smell

delicious.

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By Noa Toyama  
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### SHONAN SHIRAYURI

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