



# KUFSA KONNECT

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# 2019-2020 KUFSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IS COMING IN ACTION!



**RAAD ASIF**

**PRESIDENT  
TENURE 2019-2020**

The Kyushu University Foreign Student Association(KUFSA) is the representative organization for all international students at Kyushu University. In my view, our mission is to provide opportunities for foreign students to have enjoyable experiences, build meaningful relationships, experience cultural exchange with other international and Japanese students, and overall have a memorable time at Kyushu University.

KUFSA's long legacy of 50 years brings a well established list of successful annual events. In the 2019-20 tenure we will bring you improved versions of events which we know you will love, just like the students before you have. So joins us! It would be our utmost pleasure to have you at our events.

—*Raad Asif*

## Liu Yuqi, Creativity & Innovation Coordinator

Creativity & Innovation Department mainly focuses on the external image promotion and innovation project development of Kyushu University Foreign students association, including KUFSA events poster design, product design, magazine, photography, translation, social media management, and innovation project, etc. We provide supports for our three department, travel, culture and sport. We are the mirror for people to know KUFSA.



## Simon Juba, Travel Team Coordinator

We all deserve a breather from our studies every once in a while and what better way to do so than to go on an expedition with the intercultural community that is KUFSA. Join us as we explore famous sites, make memories and most importantly friends and travel buddies for our own personal trips.



## Romeo Marcel Kurniawan, Culture Team Coordinator

Japan has been a country with its unique culture and tradition. Though it receives many praises and appreciations, it may be hard for the foreigners to adapt into the society. Thus, the culture team is created to become a bridge to help foreigner students to immerse themselves in Japan through cultural events. Nonetheless, we are more than welcome for Japanese to join the event as well, as this allow more diffusion of culture on both sides of party, a truly global experience.



## Sampad Ghosh ,Sports Team Coordinator

We know your time is precious, but you know sports play a significant role in shaping the character of a student. We, Sports Team of KUFSA, are warmly welcoming to all level of players and committed to giving you memorable moments via different exciting games throughout the year. We will see you on the field!



# THE ORIGIN OF THE VIETNAMESE SOUL - LOTUS



There is a common folk saying that every Vietnamese person knows:

***“In one pond, lotus beauty, none can compare  
Green leaves, white blossoms, adorned with yellow pistils  
Yellow pistils, white blossoms, green leaves  
Nearby mud, yet a tranquil scent it carries.”***

The lotus sprouts from mud, yet its flowers rise through the murkiest water and bloom above the surface without the smell. In Vietnamese conception, the lotus represents the purity of the mind, body, and soul rising through the darkness to touch the sun of dawn. Not only that, but lotus flowers are also considered as the symbol of elegance and solemnity because of their harmonious color and mild scent. Therefore, lotus flowers are often used in architecture, design, and cuisine. Vietnamese people see the lotus as the symbol of beauty overcoming darkness. It resembles the image of Vietnamese people who, even though live in adversity, yet still strive to rise with honesty and sincerity.

Today, people grow lotus for both contemplating and economic purposes because lotus is not only beautiful but is also very useful from roots to tops. You can enclose tea inside the flower during nighttime to have a delicious lotus teapot in the next morning. The lotus stem is usually used in Vietnamese-style salads. The seeds are roasted and used for cooking sweet soup or enjoyed as a tasty snack, while the leaves are commonly used to wrap food, such as steamed rice and certain kinds of fish.

As useful as it is, yet lotus is easy to grow. Its flowers bloom in lakes outside the wilderness, in a farmer's yard, or proudly in villas' garden. It is difficult for you to travel in Vietnam during summer without catching blooming lotus ponds along the road. Lotus connects people together from all over Vietnam without discrimination. Probably because of that, lotus became the national flower in the Vietnamese heart. If you visit Vietnam, you certainly will have a chance to sit on a bamboo chair, with a hot lotus tea in your hand, while contemplating the serenity of lotus scenery with the music. Then all troubles of yours will be eased down to peace. Sounds great, isn't it?



# YAMAKASA FESTIVAL IN FUKUOKA

Alternatively, you can take the underground tunnel to the Komyokaku Cave below. The 88-step, all marble stairway is an amazing new landmark, and the “Hell and Paradise Museum” decorated with unearthly and thrilling paintings and statues is definitely worth a visit.



Yamakasa displayed at Tenjin Shintencho and Nakasu-Kawabata during the festival. Not only displayed Yamakasa around the city, there is also running Yamakasa uses for the race called “Oiyamakasa” in the final day of Festival. Seven Nagares (racing teams) of Kakiyama together with Kamikawabata-dori’s yamakasa, race at full speed through the city. The race starts at 4:59 in the morning. An extra train starts operating at 3am on that day. Also, you can stay from the previous night and enjoy the sleepless night of Yamakasa.

The speed of those heavy Kakiyama floats and men’s strong voices shouting the traditional chant are among the main highlights of the festival. The goal of the float race, Suzaki-machi; also known as the Mawaridome, is an excellent place to go to experience the real excitement of Yamakasa when the floats kick into high gear and the shouts of the men reach fever pitch.

## ▼ Hakata Gion Yamakasa Festival

2019 Information

Date: July 1st (Mon)

to 15th (Mon,Holiday), 2019

Location: Throughout Fukuoka City, mainly Kushida Shrine

Access: 5 minute walk from Nakasu-kawabata or Gion subway station



## References

<https://yokanavi.com/en/feature/29244/>

<https://www.hakatayamakasa.com/>

<https://ohmatsuri.com/en/articles/fukuoka-hakata-gion-yamakasa>

# SPRING ACROSS PREFECTURE

On the 5th of May 2019, KUFSA set out on an exciting excursion across 3 notable spots representing the 3 prefectures of Fukuoka, Saga and Nagasaki on a one-day trip aptly named “Springing Across Prefectures” to discover some of the wonderful gems that lie hidden in the regions. We had a total of 114 participants join us on the fun-filled day and awesome memories were made.

## Yakimono Park in Hasami, Nagasaki.

Yakimono park is known as the “World’s Kilns Plaza” with replicas of 12 different kilns from all around the world illustrating not only Japanese but exotic styles of ceramics manufacturing from China, the Korean Peninsula and Europe. Moreover, during the golden week, it is also the largest-scale venue of the Hasami Ceramics Festival where close to 150 stores gather, selling various wares from fashionable daily ceramics to masterpieces and works of art to cater for all tastes.



## Mifuneyama Rakuen in Takeo, Saga.



Mt. Mifuneyama, the symbol of Takeo, is quite often referred to as Mt. Karafune, which translates to Chinese ship, as it is said to resemble one. At the foot of this mountain is the spread out Mifuneyama Rakuen Garden, which is an impressive garden with hundreds of thousands of trees and flowers covering the vast grounds and changing color according to season. Every Spring people visit the Miyafuneyama Rakuen Garden to see the 5000 cherry blossom trees, and 50,000 azaleas, which merge together in a beautiful way that looks like a traditional Chinese painting. The garden is also famous for its fiery fall leaves in Autumn.

## Narita-san Temple Kurume, Fukuoka.



This temple houses the Affectionate Mother Kannon statue, which is 62 meters tall and made of reinforced concrete. The dot on her forehead is a gold plate 30 centimeters in diameter encrusted with 18 three-carat diamonds, and her ornamental necklace contains an arrangement of a crystal and 56 jade stones. Inside the statue, you can make your way up the spiral staircase to the observation window to get an incredible view of Mt. Unzen in the distance. Alternatively, you can take the underground tunnel to the Komyokaku Cave below. The 88-step, all marble stairway is an amazing new landmark, and the “Hell and Paradise Museum” decorated with unearthly and thrilling paintings and statues is definitely worth a visit.



# SUMMER CHALLENGE IN JAPAN

## OBAKEYASHIKI

### —HAUNTED ATTRACTION

Summer in Japan can be annoying for its hot temperature and high humidity. However, don't let it limit you from enjoying your time here! You can do several activities popular in summer, such as eat kakigori (Japanese shaved ice), go to the beach, visit fireworks festival, or if you want something more challenging, you can do one of the haunted attractions in Japan. of fireworks is usually in August, some start as early as July or as late as October. There are many famous firework festivals in Fukuoka and the following are some easily accessible one via public transportations.

Haunted attraction (obakeyashiki in Japanese) usually is most crowded during summer period. Some haunted attractions are even specially set up at malls or theme parks only in summer period. This tradition is related to Japanese Buddhism, which view August as the period when ancestral spirits may return to visit their living family. During summer, ghost-related attractions, such as haunted house, horror movie and ghost story, are seen as ways to chill people down from the soaring heat. If you are interested in visiting any haunted attraction during summer period, here are some of our recommendation!

#### Thriller city 恐怖城



- Location: Huis ten Bosch (Sasebo city, Nagasaki)
- Opening time: whole year
- Types of haunted house: Abandoned hospital, prison, VR horror house, and many others
- More information: <http://english.huistenbosch.co.jp/>

#### Horror Ferris wheel 血バサミ女の観覧車



- Theme: Ferris wheel of lady carrying scissor with blood
- Location: Marinoa city mall in Meinohama
- Opening time: everyday, starting from night until 23:00
- More information: <http://kanransya.death.co.jp/>

#### Tenjin horror house 最恐!天神ホラーハウス



- Location: Nishitetsu hall, Tenjin
- Past events: in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2018
- Opening time: around July- August
- More information: coming soon

Enjoy the thrilling attractions chill down the temperature a little bit!

# KUFSA MONTHLY PHOTO CONTEST EVENT

Hi ! KUFSA members ! We are glad to tell you that we got our first Five winners of the Photo contest of 2019. If you want to win next #KUFSA photo contest prize, just simply upload your best photo of our KUFSA events of the month to our social media and get as many of your friends as possible to like your photo. Don't forget to hashtag #kufsa when you post in Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. The photo that has the most likes from each platform will be the winners and you will get a secret prize from KUFSA! Your photo will be published in our Konnect Magazine too. What's more!!! Winners of each month will be invited to our International Friendship Party in December where we will exhibit the photos of all winners and you may also stand a chance to be the ultimate winner of the whole year.

## KUFSA SPRING TRIP PHOTO CONTEST – MAY 2019



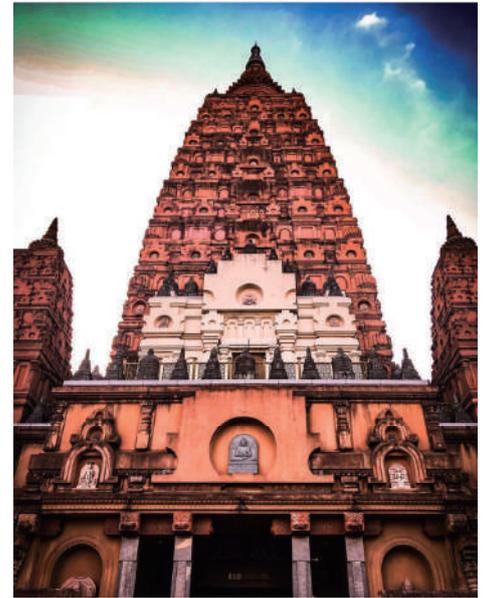
One day trip to Mifuneyama Rakuen at the foot of Mt. Mifune in Saga prefecture. Enjoyed beautiful natural features of the garden dating back to 19th century. Golden Week's spring holidays gave me a refreshed and focused mind which is a much-needed boost in student life. Thanks, KUFSA for organizing such a wonderful trip.

@Thant Swe win, Twitter



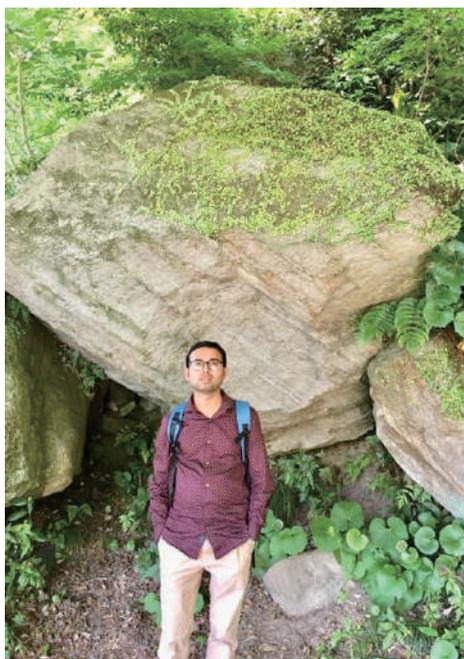
I'm grateful for having been able to trip with KUFSA as it left me with some spectacular experiences, specially venerating the giant buddhist pagoda and perceiving its glory was one of those indelible memories to be cherished as a buddhist. eagerly waiting for the next excursion as well. Thank you.

@Lakma Amarasinghe, Instagram



My name is Tasrin Sultana and I belong to Zoology Laboratory. "Travel leaves marks on memory as it's better to see something once than hear about it thousand times. Enjoyed the green in Mifuneyama Rakuen. Hope to explore Japan more with KUFSA."

@Tasrin Tasu, Facebook



Nature is so powerful, so strong. I really enjoyed the Sprint trip at Mifuneyama Rakuen. I walked around the garden with my friends. It generated good feelings inside me!

@ Md Rashidur Rahman, Facebook



Enjoyed a lot while visiting the inside of a marvelous 62-meter-tall statue at Narita-san temple. We got amazed by the view of the Mt. Unzen in distance from the observation window; also walked through the underground cave along friends & had fun. Thanks, KUFSA for this amazing trip. ~Pritam Sadhukhan !! Instagram: pritam\_unplugged.

@ Pritam Sadhukhan, Instagram



# KUFSA TENURE 2019-2020 MEMBERS

From top-left  
Clockwise

Weilin, Amal, Aditya, Rahman, Romeo, Shouman, Ghosh, Worapol, Tlago, Yicheng, Junghwan, Hossain, Son, Ingrid, Natanael, Simon, Ajay, Volando, Van, Moe, Tomoe, Natsumi, Ceasar, Jihed, Raad, Yuki

# KUFSA CALENDAR

-WITH YOU, ALWAYS

@kufsa\_info  
@kufsa\_info  
Kyushu University Foreign Students  
Association Page  
<http://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp>  
kufsainfo@gmail.com

<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>
Spring One-day Trip	Badminton Tournament KUFSA Talent Hunt	Disaster Drill	Bowling Tournament	Two-Day Summer Camp
<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>
Kyudaisai Intl. Cooking Festival	Autumn One-Day Trip Soccer Tournament	Ping Pong Tournament International Friendship party	Winter One-Day Trip	Culture Exchange Event Billiard Tournament

“To promote the well being of international students at Kyushu University, supporting the interaction and understanding between international and Japanese students”. We, KUFSA, have been carrying this mission and goal forward all the time. To enrich your life as an overseas student at Kyushu University in Japan, this year we have also brought many travel, sports and cultural activities. The following is our calendar of events from 2019 to 2020. You can read it carefully. And make sure that you don't miss any wonderful and amazing moments. Join us ! Looking forward to seeing you in our future events, lets have fun and make valuable memory together!

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE	DESIGN AND LAYOUT
Liu Yuqi Caeser Worapol Ketanond	Liu Yuqi Worapol Ketanond