

サマンサ・オドリー
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ISE AND JAPAN STUDY PROGRAM 2018 REPORT

To be chosen as a participant in Ise and Japan Study Program 2018 has been one of the best things happened in my life so far. I had been in Japan three times already, but the first two I'd been for really brief amount of time (10 days on my account, 7 days as a participant in MOFA's MIRAI Programme 2015) and the third one I'd been on my own, just for library research purpose. That was my first time participating in an active study program in Japan. I'm interested in ancient literature and I've always been intrigued by Shintō's influence on it, although it's a topic not often analysed by western researchers, who often prefer to discuss Buddhist's influence on Japanese literature, so this experience was definitely one of the most useful I could have.

In these three weeks we had all sorts of interesting lessons about Japanese myths, the history and structure of Ise city and shrines, Ise's language and so on, as well as field study I could not have dreamt I'd take part in (we've experienced some typical activities such as cooking kamaboko, but we also visited some really interesting museums and had the rare chance to be behind the altar of Susanoo no mikoto in Kyoto's Yasaka Jinja), and on top of that we had the chance to experience real Japanese students-like life in Kogakkan university and dormitory. I only wish I could express myself properly enough to communicate how much grateful I really am for all those wonderful and precious moments.

I especially appreciated the ritual demonstration we could attend to in Kogakkan's ritual classroom, as well as the visit to Saikū's reconstructed site and its interesting museum, not to mention the wonderful experience of tea ceremony we had and the entertaining visit to Futami ga ura's Hinjitsukan. It just seems that we had more wonderful experiences that so little time as three weeks could permit, and I'm sure if we had more time things would have been even better, and the interesting lessons even more detailed. I really hope to get the possibility to come to Ise, and perhaps to Kogakkan, again in the future.

Finally, I'm really thankful for all the kindness of the professors, the students who took care of us and Ise City's staff who always were on our side during the field trips, and especially to Tamada-san who's been as doting on us as only a father could have. Thank you for everything!

伊勢と日本スタディプログラムは、私にとって本当に素晴らしい経験になりました。私の研究専門は古典文学ですが、特に興味深いのは神道の影響を受けた古典文学です。そういう意味で、このプログラムはとても役立ち、今後の研究に活かせていくつもりです。

この三週間、様々な神話・伊勢歴史と文化・伊勢言葉などの授業、そして様々な場所へのフィールド・スタディ、伊勢から離れた京都の八坂神社や奈良の春日大社にも足を運ぶことができ、本当に有意義な3週間になりました。

なかでも皇學館大学祭式教室での神道の祭式作法体験、また齋宮・齋宮歴史博物館でのフィールド・スタディが強く印象に残っています。また、二見浦の賓日館見学と淺沼先生の茶道の講義はとても楽しく学習できました。

最後に、私たちの世話をしてくださった皇學館大学の先生方、学生、そして伊勢市のスタッフのみなさまに、特に父親のような玉田さんの親切に感謝いたします。すべてに感謝をささげます。

以上