From Island Nation to Global Station : Japan's Multi-Ethnic Future

FUJIMIGAOKA HIGH SCHOOL for GIRLS

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Osaka Expo 2025

The Osaka Expo attracted many tourists
↓
Due to the Expo, there was a sudden jump in tourist arrival, reaching the record high number of tourists in the first half of 2025
↓
Increased opportunities to learn about other countries

However

Weakening of social connections

①Cultural Friction

Kurdish and Indian Communities:
Unstable employment, misunderstanding

Japanese Society:
Rise of anti-immigrant protests

②Widespread use of social media

- **Greater dependence** on social media over face to face interaction
- Stereotypes and negative images spreading more easily

Street Interview in Shibuya

Foreigners:
Q.How would you rate Japanese service on a scale of 1 to 5?
Average rating : 4.9/5

Japanese People:
Q. Do you think there is enough interactions with foreigners?
"Have almost no opportunity to interact with foreigners outside of social media or school"
There is clearly not enough interaction

Integrating Open House

According to a 2022 report by the Japan International Cooperation Agency, Japanese youth tend to be more inward-looking than those in other countries.

Adopt Malaysia's Open House concept in a uniquely Japanese Style

Our Focus on Malaysia

As a representative **multi-ethnic country**, Malaysia forms with Malay, Chinese, and Indian. To maintain social harmony, Malaysia developed traditions that encourage mutual understanding which is called "**Open House**".

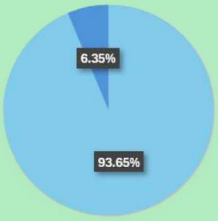
What is Open House?

A event where people open their houses to the public in national holidays to serve meals and socialize.

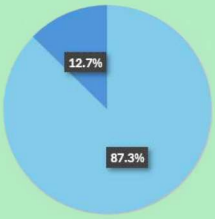
Activites

We embarked on a trip to Malaysia for 4 days and conducted an interview in **Central Market**, **The Japanese Chamber of Trade and Industry Malaysia**, and **Sunway University,** with a total of **127** responses.

①Have you participated in a open house?

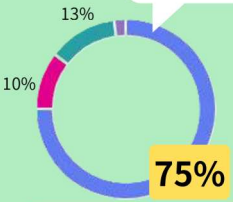


②Do you think we should spread open house to other countries?



YES
NO

Q. What is the charm of Open House that you want foreigners to experience?
⇒**75%** said
"Interactions with different people



Questions About Your Experience in Open House

40% out of the 50 people who answered the survey responded that **"food"** was the most memorable part of their Open House experience.

Future Prospects

Language

Sharing and learning daily used phrases to foreigners

eg.) Participants randomly pick a daily phrase and express it through gestures

Food Culture

Providing Japanese traditional food as well as gaining knowledge on religious systems like Halal.

Japanese Rules

Informing foreigners especially those who are tourists, Japanese traffic signs and learn about rules from different countries.

We met with Professor Dr Daniel Chong Ka Leong from Sunway University during our trip to Malaysia. He advised us to place an importance on the concept of Open House, mutual understanding.

Open House that promotes mutual understanding

Instagram

Youtube

Hold an Open House using a local gathering place near our school

References

https://colocal.jp/topics/art-design-architecture/semi-public/20250228_169767.html
https://sutoaya.com/malaysia_hariraya_open_house_kaigai/
https://www.asahi.com/articles/AST9G1V5ST9GUTFK022M.html
Japan Center for International Exchange https://jcie.or.jp/index.html
"Malaysia: A Fusion of Multiethnic Cultures," Japan Foreign Trade Council Monthly Report Online
https://www.jftc.jp/monthly/overseas/entry-1853.html
Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO https://www.accu.or.jp/