

## Sinivar Loko Kasimani, Papua New Guinean Participant

With seven participants from Papua New Guinea, Ruben Enoch, Anthony Pryke, Julianna Mohe, Theckla Gunga, Tania Talopa, Hannah Ilave and myself, we have learnt a lot from this exchange program.

With more knowledge gained from learning about different cultures, environment and education, we came to realize that there are some areas in which our country has to make efforts for our development, sustaining our culture and advancement of our education level.

During our local program, we visited Ishikawa and Toyama prefectures. These two prefectures have some of Japan's most famous places to visit.

In Ishikawa, we visited Kenrokuen Garden, Ishikawa Police Station, Art Museum and Komatsu Awazu Plant site. We also went to an eco-friendly waste management facility which dose not only process wastes but also produce electricity as well as hot water. We had an opportunity to visit Ishikawa

Prefectural Government to meet with Vice Governor. We saw many new things and discussed in groups to think about in what ways we can preserve traditional things, change what we have to change and try to help the development of our country.

All in all we enjoyed our stay in Ishikawa. It is one of Japan's most prestigious prefectures one can visit to learn more about Japanese history.

On behalf of my country, I wish more Papua New Guineans to take part in the International Youth Development Exchange Program to learn more about other countries.

I convey my sincere thanks to the Government of Japan and Center for International Youth Exchange (CENTERYE), International Youth Exchange Organization of Japan (IYEO) and all facilitators, instructors and volunteers for making this program a great success.

Arigato Gozaimasu



### 3. Toyama Prefecture

Date	Time	Activities
Sep. 30 (Wed.)	11:30	Arrive at Toyama Prefecture
	11:45-13:30	Lunch
	14:30-15:30	Courtesy Call on Toyama Prefectural Government * Speech by the representative of Toyama Prefectural Government * Speech by each country * Gift exchange
	15:45	The Toyama City International Exchange Center and Sightseeing Floor in CiC Orientation
	18:30-20:30	Dinner and Interaction Tram riding experience (Optional)
Oct. 1 (Thu.)	11:30-13:15	Lunch, Walk in Kansui Park
	13:30-15:30	Cultural Workshop at Toyama Municipal Folk Craft Village (A : Painting ceramic doll / B :Tea Ceremony and flower arrangement)
	15:45-17:45	Lecture on "Zen and Creativity" at Shinkokuji Temple and Zen Meditation Experience
	18:00	Arrive at the Hotel, Dinner
Oct. 2 (Fri.)	9:30	Visit to Fushiki High School Join the Culture Festival, cultural performance by each country Exchange Program 1 Lunch Exchange Program 2
	14:45	Visit to Kaiwo Maru Park Ship tour and experience knot working
	18:30-20:30	Welcome Dinner * Homestay Matching * Speech by the representative of Toyama Prefecture * Speech by each country * Toast * Cultural performance by each country Move to respective host family's house
Oct. 3 (Sat.)		Homestay
Oct. 4 (Sun.)	13:57	Departure from Toyama Station by Hakutaka 566
	16:28	Arrival at Tokyo Station



## Miyuki Hinata, President of International Youth Exchange Organization of Toyama

It was our first time receiving the delegates since the Hokuriku Shinkansen (Bullet train) had opened. This helped transportation go smooth.

This year, we kept the following key words in our mind, "Time management" and "Being Special".

Since participants gathered in time for meeting and move smoothly, we could add extra programs such as driving across the Shin-Minato-Ohashi (famous bridge), walking "Aino kaze promenade" (walk path) and passing through the road with a great view.

There were a few "Special" events. We went to see the roof top garden of the prefectural government office and at the occasion of the school visit, we were able to participate in the cultural festival. At the cultural festival, Korean students and their teachers from their sister school also joined it. On the stage at the gym of the school, the flags of Cambodia, Korea, Papua New Guinea, and Japan were placed with some decorations. It was impressive to see them. We were able to enjoy Mochi Pounding (rice cake making), Koto performance (Japanese traditional harp) also some Japanese festival food at the occasion, I believe, which seemed to be new experience for the participants. On the last day, there was an event inside the Toyama Station performing a famous Toyama's folk song and dance called "Ecchu Owara Dance" with Chinese fiddle. We unexpectedly

could show the participants famous dance of Toyama, which made our farewell ceremony a special and wonderful one.

One of the activities we organized, Hanayose-flower arrangement was exhibited in Maruyama-An (tea room) welcoming their guest warmly.

On the last day, it was heart-breaking to see everyone saying good bye unwillingly and it made me think how fulfilling the homestay program was.

These two countries are related with Toyama. The professor of University of Toyama International Exchange Center is from Papua New Guinea and the professor kindly gave a lecture in the pre-event training and joined in some part of the program. In Toyama, the Friendship Association of Toyama and Kingdom of Cambodia has actively supported Cambodia. Now is the time the world has become smaller by the use of social networking service. I truly hope that our program has taken a role to deepen the exchange among Toyama, Cambodia and Papua New Guinea.

I really appreciate the related institutions or restaurants who awaited this program with new idea for every time.

Let me take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to the Cabinet Office of Japan, International Youth Exchange Organization of Japan, related officials of Toyama Prefecture, and host families.

