

Book Gift in Tokyo

Sponsored by the Jodo Shu Peace Association

All foreign students from various countries and regions of development who have devoted their lives to world peace are precious individuals. However, we have come to know that especially all private foreign students in Japan are facing great economic hardship due to the high prices of goods in Japan. We have also heard that there are students who must both hold down part-time jobs and performs their studies so that they get little sleep.

We have been taught the history of the development of not just Buddhism in Japan but of various other aspects of our culture such as the political system, the economic systems and others from the ancient period up to modern times by the things foreign Japanese students brought back from overseas. Just in the case of Buddhism, there are the examples in ancient times of first Saicho and Kukai, and then in the medieval period of the Zen masters Eisai and Dogen. The founder of Jodo Shu, Honen, didn't study abroad but due to the numerous religious texts that foreign students brought back to Japan, Jodo Shu was able to be established.

In the tradition of exchange students continuing from ancient times, we wish to now offer to all the foreign students in Japan necessary text books with a sense of "returning the favor". Japan has also received so much culture from things we had not known from the people of the world. Japanese foreign students have also received support from every one in the world. With all our heart, we would like to encourage all foreign students in Japan and offer in return for all that we have received from foreigners these necessary school books.

Application Qualifications and Procedures:

- 1) You must be a private foreign student. This does not include foreign students who are receiving support from the Japanese government. The definition of a foreign student is: presently holding the status of "student" as determined by the Department of Immigration or by the 1st annex to the Law Recognizing Refugees; and presently a foreign student receiving education at a Japanese university, graduate school, junior college, technological college or vocational school (vocational course). Further, school for foreign study is defined as: a Japanese institution, such as a university or equivalent institution, or vocational course of a technological college, or an institution which offers education for foreigners who have finished 12 years of basic education and who have entered a Japanese university or institution which offers education for technological schooling.
- 2) Proof of residence as a foreign student.
- 3) From April 1st, 2009 you are enrolled at a university, junior college, or graduate school in the Metropolis of Tokyo.
- 4) Submit a short essay on the theme "What's a peace for you?". The essay must be handwritten by the author him/herself, not done on a computer, and should be around 800 characters. The short essays will not be returned to you. If you need a copy, please make one before submitting it. We would also request that you write your essay on your university's stationary.
- 5) If you apply as a private individual, please attach a copy of your student identification to your application.
- 6) Application Deadline: All materials must arrive at our office by Wednesday October 14, 2009.
- 7) Number of Recipients: 100 students (In case the number of applicants exceeds 100, then selection will be based on the quality of the submitted personal essay).
- 8) Award: Texts that are presently for sale within Japan within 10,000 yen OR 1-2 books which do not exceed 10,000 yen.
- 9) Students that have been accepted will be informed at the end of October. The recipient him/herself must appear and participate in the award ceremony on the Sunday afternoon of November 29, 2009. If you do not attend this ceremony, there is the possibility you will forfeit the right to receive your award. A representative cannot receive the award on your behalf. Please bring to the ceremony your passport and student identification. The Award Ceremony will take place at 3:00 on November, 29, 2009 at the Daiden Hall of Jodo Shu Main Temple Zojo-ji, Shiba-koen 4-7-35, Minato-ku, Tokyo.

Please send your application by post along with a copy of your student identification to:
The Jodo Shu Denominational Office (attn: Book Gift)
4-7-4 Shiba-koen, Minato-ku
Tokyo 105-0011

BOOK GIFT in Tokyo

Jodo Shu Peace Association

For questions:

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