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I had heard something about Izanami and Izanagi and Amaterasu, myth story in Japan in Persian books before (Since I am from Persia Iran), but really having no idea about this conception, when I applied for this training course of Kogakkan university in Ise as Japan study program, even that time I didn't know that Amaterasu Shrine and her parents and her brother are in Ise as a sacred place, and mostly believed as a Shinto religious root.

Ise for me was an unknown place; actually, I couldn't find much information about Ise in Social websites or YouTube before coming to program because of my field of study; I had a really deep interest to Japanese culture and custom and language and Ise was an exact choice of my target to know better about this country.

During this amazing program which mostly was based on Shinto religious learning; I started getting to know the unknown things about the creation of idea of Kami as GOD in Ise. I could see the sacred places of Amaterasu Oomikami (Sun Goddess) in Ise city and Susano no Mikoto (Japanese Storm deity as brother in Kyoto city with all participants, and Tsukuyomi (Moon God) and Izanami (Mother; Female deity who gave birth to Japan and the sun, moon and storm Gods) and Izanagi (Father) in my free time in Ise which was wonderful experience that even the Japanese people might not have it.

The most learning part of this training program for me was praying performance of Shinto religious' priests. In official way, I am so delightful when I can explain the way of praying to my Japanese friends who don't know about it.

The different conception of Shinto and Buddhism and the difference of Temple and Jinja became so tangible for me. The best plan of this program was the classes before going to real places, it was so impressive and made me well acquired. Although some programs and meeting were cancelled due to Corona Virus status but it had the potential enough to cover well our exploring.

Meanwhile I could find many good friends from different countries and cultures, I tried to learn from them also especially intimate connection with my American friends, in my opinion one the aim of this program was bringing about peace and friendship between nations that is so admirable action definitely.

Also, one the strong point of this program was the restaurant (washokusato) which had been reserved for us as Washoku type; had pretty good environment since we could taste only Japanese food in Japan with unique Japanese style with our friends, besides, we talked about all matters during our gathering and sharing our ideas.

I have to express my grateful feeling toward the coordinator of this fruitful program of Kogakkan University; Mr. Tamada and all kind professors, and very friendly student supporter as well. It was an honorable chance to be selected as one the member of the program from inside of Japan. It will be the most recommended opportunity for those who have eager to know more detail about Japan and cultural system and its ancient basis.

I promise that it is a start for me to deepen my knowledge about Japan, and be like the ambassador to convey my acquired information to others and students;

Thank you so much for giving this valuable opportunity to me to study and research.

サベリ・エルハム(イラン)

2020年「伊勢」と日本スタディプログラム 最終レポート

このプログラムに参加した3週間は、私にとって幸せな時間でした。皇學館大学の先生方、玉田さんをはじめとするスタッフの皆さん、学生サポーターに心から感謝致します。

実際に様々な場所を見学する前にその場所に関する講義を受けられたので、大変勉強になりました。たくさんの優しい友達ができました。特にアメリカ人の参加者と仲良く過ごした時間はとても価値があり、貴重な思い出になりました。

平和と愛は世界で一番大切なことであると、改めて学ぶことができました。伊勢という素晴らしい場所から、平和と愛、そしてお互いを尊敬とし、理解することを広げていきましょう。

プログラムは終わってしまいましたが、私はこれからも日本についての研究を深めていきます。

改めまして「伊勢」と日本スタディプログラムに参加できたことに感謝いたします。

以上