

# Newsletter

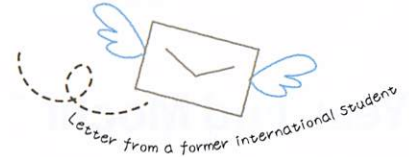
NPO Nagoya Ryugakusei Net

# No. 7

January 2025



## An Update on My Job



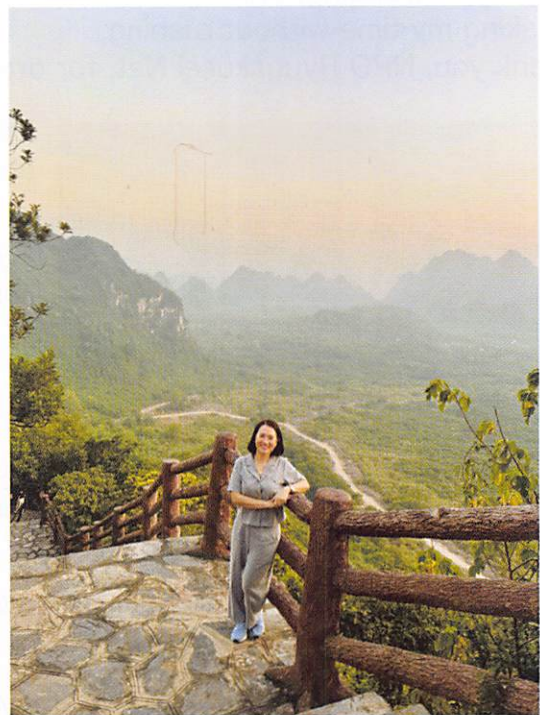
My name is Nguyễn Thị Ngân. I was a JDS fellow batch 2019-2021, graduating from the GSL of Nagoya University. After returning, I continued working as a Principal Examiner for the Directorate Office, Directorate of Civil Judgment Enforcement (CJE), MoJ of Vietnam. From July 2024, I was appointed as Deputy Director of the CJE Department of Ha Nam province. It is the provincial-level department under the Directorate of CJE of MoJ. The term for this position is five years.

I believe the fact that I graduated with an LL.M. in Japan and returned to work actively and effectively for my directorate was important to my appointment. Besides the core requirements for the current position that I have accumulated, the Directorate highly values the ability to study for professional and foreign language development, loyalty and dedication to work, and the ability to adapt to different circumstances.

As a Deputy Director, I oversee one division and two district-level branches, and coordinate with the People's Procuracy at the same level. As an Enforcement Officer, I directly enforce cases. Now I try to learn thoroughly

about practical work, management skills, and cooperation with other departments in local government.

Nguyễn Thị Ngân  
(Deputy Director of the CJE Department of Ha Nam province)



Ms. Ngân at a mountain in Ha Nam province

### Notice and Request

Nagoya Ryugakusei Net plans to organize various events in the future. What kind of events would you like to see next? Whether it's places you'd like to visit or activities you'd like to experience, please feel free to share your ideas with us! Starting from this issue, we've made some changes to the layout to enhance readability. We've increased the spacing and slightly enlarged the font size to make it more comfortable to read.

We aim to create a more friendly and enjoyable newsletter. We'd love to hear your thoughts and feedback. Let us hear from you!

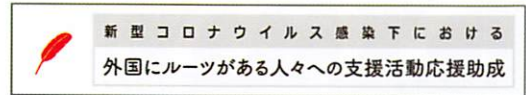
NPO Nagoya Ryugakusei Net Office

See the last page for the contact information



Let us showcase a series of events held under the title "Explore Japan" from September 2024 to January 2025.

※ See "Activities" on page 5 for dates.



# The *Toshigami* and *Mochi* (rice-cake) Dec 30 (Mon), 2024

## Year-end Mochi Pounding Experience

I participated in the mochi-pounding event at the end of year. It was a truly wonderful experience.

In the first part, we used a large wooden mallet to pound the mochi. The mallet was very heavy. Pounding the mochi requires a specific technique to ensure that you hit the center of the mochi accurately and not the surrounding area. The sound it makes will be completely different if you miss the center!

After that, we dusted our hands with flour and began shaping the mochi. It looked easy at first, but it turned out to be very delicate work. Shaping the mochi without causing any cracks was quite challenging. Through this experience, I feel like I learned the importance of patience and taking my time without rushing.

Thank you, NPO Ryugakusei Net, for organizing this event!



Flady Faliyenco Franggaratz Abubakar Pae (Bomby)  
(Graduate School of International Development)

←Mr. Bomby,  
on the far right



It was my first time,  
but I pounded it well!→

— Excerpts from feedback received after the event —



# Visiting the historical area of the Shidami Tumuli — Tour of ancient tombs —

Sep. 14 (Sat), 2024

After visiting this historical site of the Shidami Tumuli, I learned about various artistic figurines made from clay and burial mounds and tombs of the ancient king and soldiers who served the country. The memorable moment was making a statue with clay by myself. The arrangement and agenda of Nagoya Ryugakusei Net make it really comfortable for me to go there.



Phyo Thiri Oo  
(Graduate School of Engineering)





# Meiji Irrigation Canal “Meiji Yosui” and Anjo

**10.27** Sat  
2024

~Irrigation and Regional Development~

I was able to gain knowledge about irrigation systems used to cultivate vegetation in barren land. I was excited about the dedication of the people who initiated it and after the implementation how they managed the systems by using their own funds. When the water intake was damaged, their efforts to continue the water supply is amazing. Changing the vegetation type from rice to soybeans was a good decision to mitigate market competition. Overall, this was an amazing experience and an unforgettable memory for me thanks to the warm-hearted people of Japan.

Prarthana Hewapathirana  
(Graduate School of International Development)

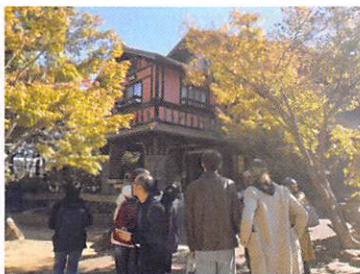


# East Nagoya Historical Trip

**Part 1 Nov 9 (Sat), 2024**    **Part 2 Nov 17 (Sat), 2024**

The event was extremely well organised, and the tour guide was exceptional, with lots of knowledge of each part of the tour! I would highly recommend this tour to anyone coming to Nagoya and will go to some of the museums again!

Joshua Howieson (School of Science)



# Handa, a historic town of Sake, Shoyu, & Su

**12.7** Sat  
2024

I gained a deeper understanding of the intricate process of sake-making and was truly impressed by the exceptional preparation and dedication of the NPO.

Nguyen Thi Tham (Graduate School of Bioagricultural Sciences)



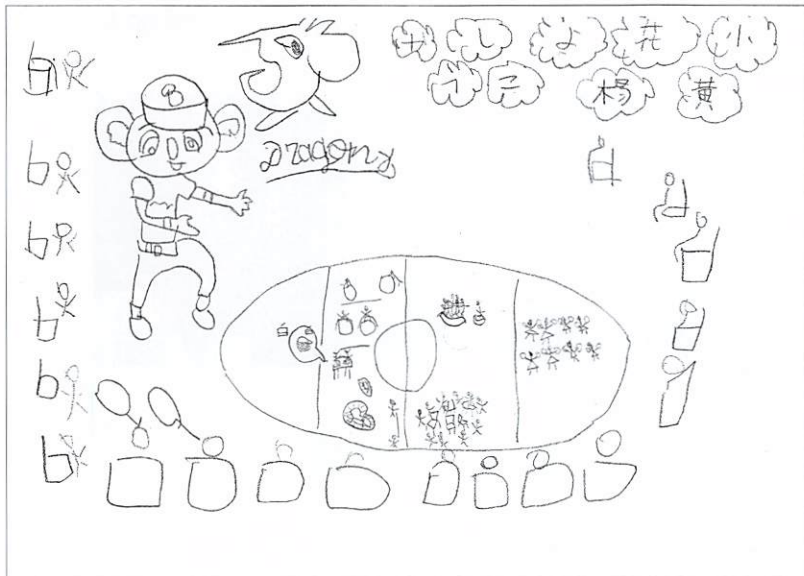


**We received a delightful letter and a drawing!**

At the end of last year, we received a nice card from a former international student. It was written in Mongolian (vertically and horizontally), German, and English, and was very interesting and entertaining.



Greetings from Germany  
Gantogoo Oyunbat



With tickets provided by a supporting member, we participated in a year-end entertainment event hosted by the Chunichi Dragons.

Not only players but also various other people participated in the event, and fun activities such as a game of musical chairs and a tug-of-war were held. My daughter enjoyed it so much that she drew this picture with the thought, "I wish I could participate too."

Huang, Shan  
(Graduate School of Education and Human Development)

**Year End Party**

**Dec 25 (Wed), 2024**

The 2024 Year-End Party took place at the office of Nagoya Ryugakusei Net on Wednesday, December 25, 2024. As graduates and both domestic and international supporters also participated online, participants had the opportunity to meet and mingle with international graduate students and supporters while enjoying the provided snacks and drinks.



Kozaki Kazuko (member)





## Selected for the 5th Red Feather Grant Program



Our application for a grant from the Central Community Chest of Japan ("Grant for Support Activities for People with Foreign Roots") was successful (grant amount: 1 million yen). This grant will enable us to implement projects that will help international students at graduate schools to gain a deeper understanding of Japanese society and to make friends with people from Japan and overseas. With the fourth round of funding, we were able to implement more than 10 projects (for details, see the 4th business report (2024) and activity report under the grant on our NPO website).

We will continue to enhance our projects and meet the expectations of those who have provided us with funding.

Matsuura Yoshiharu (member)



## Emergency Short-term Scholarships Awarded



Between September and December 2024, we received applications for emergency surgery and natural disasters in the applicant's home country. After deliberating on the applications, our committee of three decided to award scholarships to six applicants. The total amount of the scholarships awarded was 600,000 yen.

Matsuura Yoshiharu (member)



### Activities

2024.7.11~2025.1.31

#### ◆Management◆

A new volunteer has joined our office this term and will primarily handle accounting tasks.

#### ◆Special Programs◆

##### **Explore Japan**

- Sep. 14 Visiting the historical area of the Shidami Tumuli
- Oct. 27 Meiji Irrigation Canal "Meiji Yosui" and Anjo
- Nov. 9 East Nagoya Historical Trip Part 1
- Nov. 17 East Nagoya Historical Trip Part 2
- Dec. 7 Handa, a historic town of Sake, Shoyu, & Su
- Dec. 30 The Toshigami and Mochi (rice-cake)

##### **Activities to Promote Friendship**

- Dec. 25 Year End Party

### Regarding Bicycle Rentals

#### There is one bicycle available for rent.

In January 2025, it was used for two weeks by the family of an international student. After it was returned, it is scheduled to be used by another international student.

Long-term rental is also possible. If you wish to rent the bicycle, please contact the NPO office.

### Umbrellas

#### all-weather umbrellas

We received all-weather umbrellas as gifts for international students from our supporting members. If you are interested, please let us know.

These are stylish stick umbrellas, not foldable ones.





In this column, we invite the supporters or the international students of Nagoya Ryugakusei Net to freely share their thoughts, opinions, and personal stories. Each issue will be filled with a variety of colorful content. Please look forward to it. The No.7 features Mr Saikawa, who is a designated researcher at the Graduate School of Mathematics at Nagoya University.

# The IT Engineer Community in Nagoya

On January 18th, I attended the Nagoya Goudou Konshinkai 2025 (NGK2025S). This is an event that brings together mainly IT engineers around Nagoya, where each participant is given a five-minute slot to talk about themselves, their hobbies, or any topic they like. This style of events, called a Lightning Talk gathering, is common among IT communities. Over 100 people participated this year, bringing back the excitement that we had in the pre-COVID era.

The background of NGK lies in the culture of technology study groups in Nagoya around the 2010s. This was during the time when I was a student in the Graduate School of Mathematics at Nagoya University. Back then, various IT-related study groups were held in Nagoya, where engineers from companies and students like myself exchanged information on the latest technologies across organizational boundaries. NGK served as a platform for interaction among such study groups and as an annual roundup

event.

I sincerely hope that this wonderful culture in Nagoya will continue to thrive.

Video clips of NGK2025S has been uploaded to YouTube; please feel free to search for it and check it out!

SAIKAWA, Takafumi  
(Supporting member,  
Designated Researcher,  
Graduate School of Mathematics,  
Nagoya University)



A photo of the standing buffet at the New year's Party

## Editor's Note

We cannot mute the shutter sound of a typical cell phone sold in Japan. But the same cell phone can be muted if you use it overseas.

We can also mute the sound of a cell phone brought into Japan from abroad. There are many occasions where you want to take photos without the shutter sound.

At the end of last year, when I upgraded my six-year old cell phone to a new one, I thought how strange this was.

Masaru Ishikawa (member)

## Contact

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## Access

7 minutes west along the Green Belt from Exit 1 of Nagoya University Subway Station on the Meijo Line.



## Map

