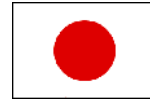




Press Release
Embassy of Japan in Lao PDR



January 15th 2016

Certificate of Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation Presented by Japanese Ambassador to the Japanese Language Section, Faculty of Letters, National University of Laos

On January 15th 2016, an award ceremony for the Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation was held at the Japanese Ambassador's residence in Vientiane. The recipient was the Japanese Language Section, Faculty of Letters, National University of Laos, and the Certificate of Commendation was presented by H.E. Mr. Takeshi Hikihara, Ambassador of Japan to the Lao PDR, in recognition of promoting Japanese language education in the Lao PDR as the only Lao institution that offers an academic degree for a Japanese language course. During the ceremony, Ambassador Hikihara congratulated the Japanese Language Section on this commendation and praised their achievements in disseminating the Japanese language throughout the Lao PDR. This award ceremony was attended by the vice-president of NUOL, the teaching staff, and students of the section. Ambassador Hikihara said in his remarks, "language is the most important element for mutual understanding and cooperation between persons. The relationship between countries is also based on it."

The Japanese Language section, established in 2003, has been very successful and 115 students have graduated over the last 15 years. The section is promoting Japanese in the Lao PDR, supporting the establishment of a Japanese section in Savannakhet University in 2013 in terms of human resources, and promoting Japanese in local provinces. Many graduates from the section received a scholarship for studying in Japan and are expected to contribute to the mutual economic relationship between Japan and the Lao PDR.

Another contribution of JLS is to promote an understanding of Japan in the Lao PDR. Teachers and students in the section implemented various human exchange programs, hosting a number of study tours from a Japanese educational institution. Moreover, they cooperated on events such as the Japan Festival and translating TV shows into Lao .

Nowadays, when the need for able people who can connect Japanese executives with the local workforce is expanding in the Lao PDR, and where the number of Japanese companies operating is on the rapid increase, the organization is expected to cultivate human resources matching these needs. In fact, many graduates are engaged with Japanese government-affiliated agencies such as JETRO and JICA, Japanese companies, and divisions related to the Japanese or Lao governments.