

Minoh Association For Global Awareness				
Activity Name	Multilingual Salon - "Savor the Wonders of Sightseeing Abroad!"			
Date	1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., November 14, 2009 (Sat)			
Location	Minoh Association For Global Awareness (MAFGA) conference room			
Participants	International Students	Residents, Corporations	Other	Total
	11	11	4	26

< Activity Details >

We have opened a Multilingual Salon for Japanese and foreign city residents to meet and enjoy speaking foreign languages. This time our theme was "Savor the wonders of sightseeing abroad!" We divided salon visitors into three language groups--Korean, Chinese and Thai.

After giving self-introductions, each group talked about topics such as how they started learning the languages and their experiences and memories of traveling to the countries where the languages are spoken. Each group had a good balance of Japanese and foreign (including international students) city residents. They were able to communicate with each other on a level playing field and deepened their mutual understanding. The Thai group in particular had a good time with the Thai children teaching Japanese children greetings and simple conversation



Some participants are planning to travel to Korea with family.

< Comments from Participants >

• My Korean level isn't so high, so I was nervous before I joined, but everyone was nice to me and I had a great time. The Multilingual Salon has raised my motivation to study the language and I've come to like Korean more.

(Yuka Desui / Japan)



The conversation about sightseeing also touched on Korean dramas



Participants shared experiences of traveling in China.

• We talked about lots of things in addition to sightseeing such as life in Japan. I'm glad I was able to make friends and share information. It was satisfying.

(Jiwara / Thailand)

• I learned about the Multilingual Salon through the Minoh City "Momiji Dayori." It was so great getting a chance to hear and speak Chinese and interacting with people. I didn't feel shy and I could listen and talk a lot. I'd like this to happen more often.



Listen to "K" talk about living in China for six years!



Children enjoying speaking in Thai and doing Thai origami.



All the groups were animated.



We got posters and pamphlets through the help of the Tourism Authority of Thailand.