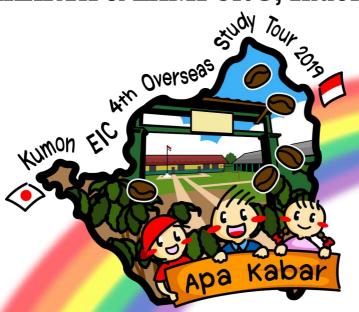
KUM^{ON} KUMON EIC

4th Overseas Study Tour

JAKARTA & LAMPUNG, Indonesia



SUMMARY REPORT

From March 25th to March 30th, 2019, a group of 30 EIC alumni went to Indonesia to visit Lampung and Jakarta for the 4th Overseas Study Tour.



... to experience different cultures and see the reality of the world and to think what we can do.

OST FOALS

... to feel and understand " "Global Community" through communicating with local people and OST members.

... to motivate each other and try harder to achieve higher goals.



Everyone gathers for a big group photo before departing to Srikandi cooperatives



Camp Leaders and OST participants at the farewell dinner party!



On March 25th we gathered at Haneda airport very early in the morning to get ready for check-in. Everyone was nervous and excited at the same time. For a lot of us, it was their first time flying to another country. One thing we knew for sure even before flying to Indonesia- tons of excitement was awaiting us!











Our first dinner with Indonesian Camp Leaders





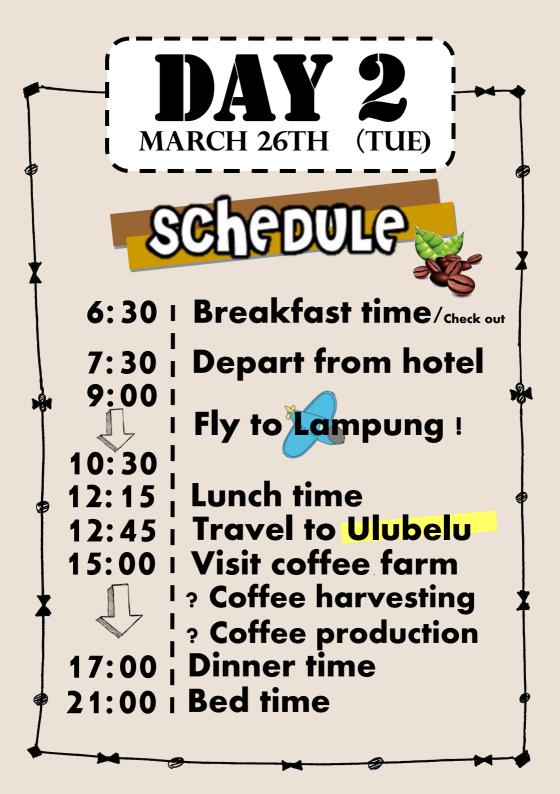




It was a very long flight (7 hours!) until we landed at the airport in Jakarta. It was a very big airport so we had to walk for 20 minutes until we got outside. There were a lot people and a lot of signs in a foreign language (Bahasa Indonesia). But our Indonesia Camp Leaders were already waiting for us with a big bus! We all went to the hotel for our first dinner with Indonesian food and had a long rest before our flight to Lampung the next day.



Camp Leaders gather for their 1st night meeting to finalize the plan for the whole tour!



Everyone at the airport before departure for Lampung



It was day full of travel for us. We flew to Lampung in the morning and travelled with World Wildlife Fund (WWF) representatives to Ulubelu, a village situated deep in the forest! We went there to meet with a group of coffee farmers called "Srikandi."

It was raining when we reached the village but the villagers were eagerly waiting for us and welcomed us with a lot of warmth. We were treated generously with a long table full of traditional Indonesian snacks! We were then taught about the history of Srikandi and how the cooperative helped to improve the financial situation of families in the village.

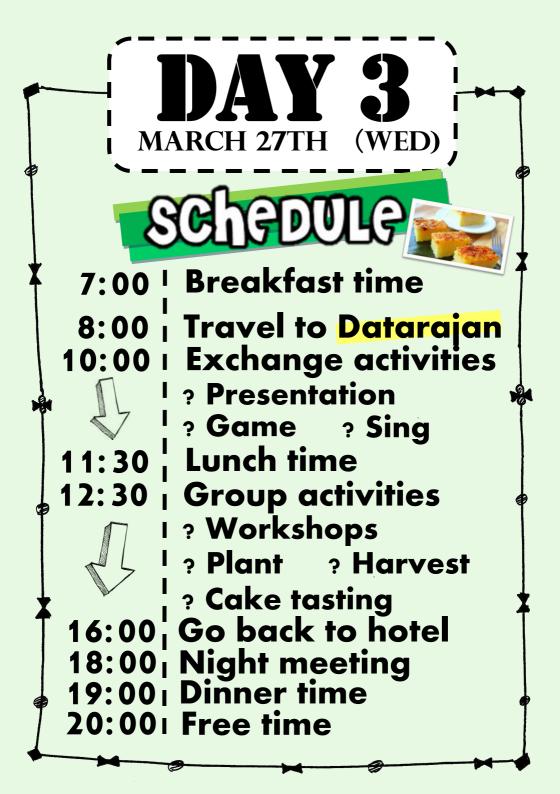






WWF representatives explained to us how coffee was grown and harvested. What was the most exciting is that we were given the opportunity to see with our own eyes the coffee beans still fresh off the branches and to learn how to pick the good beans for roasting. We got to taste the fresh coffee beans and the coffee as well! Then we gathered to see how the roasted coffee beans were ground. We also helped to pack the coffee powder into package!





We woke up early again for a ride lona to Datarajan Elementary School. It was also in the village of Ulubelu. With support from the World Wildlife Fund Indonesia, Datarajan Elementary School has implemented initiatives that help their students become more aware of environmental conservation and sustainability.



A view from the bus window on the way to Datarajan



Photo with the local students who performed



Another photo with the local students



Everyone was dancing together!

Upon arriving at the school gate, we immediately heard the sounds of drums and music from the school grounds. A group of local began performing students а traditional Indonesian dance to welcome us. The students' performance costumes shone brightly under the sun. The dance moves were delicate and beautiful! We were invited to join and dance together. The dance movements were difficult but we laughed and followed along anyway. We then attended a ceremony where we listened to welcoming speeches from the Headmaster, the WWF representative in Indonesia, and a representative from the Ministry of Education.



Our morning was spent on learning how to plant trees in the school yard. The tools were so strange and heavy for us to hold but the local students used them with ease! The planting workshops were followed with a break in which the local students invited us for a game of Sepak Takraw. Even though a lot of us had never played it before, we had fun and clapped our hands to cheer for the members who played. We realized that even when we don't share a common language, we could still communicate in different ways.





"We realized that even when we don't share a common language, we could still communicate in different ways." In the afternoon, we had a cultural exchange session with the local students. A representative of the local students explained to us the different environmentally friendly initiatives in the school. We also presented to them projects happening in our schools that contribute to protecting the environment. Afterwards, we took turns to teach the students the Fortune Cookie song and dance, the tea ceremony, calligraphy, games, origami and the PPAP dance. We were touched by the enthusiasm of the students to learn about our country. Some of us sat next to them to write their names in calligraphy, or to help them finish folding a "paper crane" or a "samurai hat." A lot of them kept their paper hats on even when they danced "PPAP"! We were surprised to see that everyone knew how to sing and dance "PPAP."







Indonesian friends taught us how to make bracelets and recycle plastics to make pillows

After our presentations, we went to two different classrooms to attend workshops. One was about making bracelets and the other was about making pillows from used plastic bags. We sat side by side with the local students to learn from them. Some of us even took this chance to practice our Bahasa Indonesia. We could hear "Terima kasih" (meaning "thank you") here and there in the small classrooms. When it was time to go home, all the teachers and students stood in line and shook hands with each of us. We were touched by the tight squeeze of their hands, their shining eyes, and gentle smiles. "Please come here again," said one of the few teachers who could speak English in the school.



https://youtu.be/8jVSSjPcKLI

Click on this link to view the digest video for Day 2 & 3



We were now half way throughout the study tour program. On this day we arrived back in Jakarta and attended a workshop by Misa Norigami. She is a degree student in Waseda masters University and an overseas intern for Du'anyam, a social enterprise that works with rural Indonesian women to produce and promote handicraft products for sale internationally. Misa had accompanied us from the beginning of the tour. As a student majoring in International Human Rights Law, Misa was passionate about studying inequality and injustice, as well as how countries can work together to overcome these obstacles. With a great deal of overseas experience, Misa was a role model for us to aim for higher goals and challenges.







During the workshop, Misa told us about how she had discovered her passion through her early experiences living in China, especially in being exposed to the conflicts during the Anti-Japan movements there and to the learning opportunities during her participation in the Model United Nations. Not only did we get to hear Misa's stories, we were also provided with opportunities to reflect and share opinions with each other. First, we were asked to reflect on their observations of Indonesian culture for the past few days.





Later, we were also given the opportunity to choose a volunteer program abroad and explain why we would be interested in joining a particular program. We voiced our interests in different fields such as medical assistance, construction, education, and environmental conservation. Misa wrapped up each discussion with tips from her own experiences to help us imagine how we could take small steps to achieve our goals.

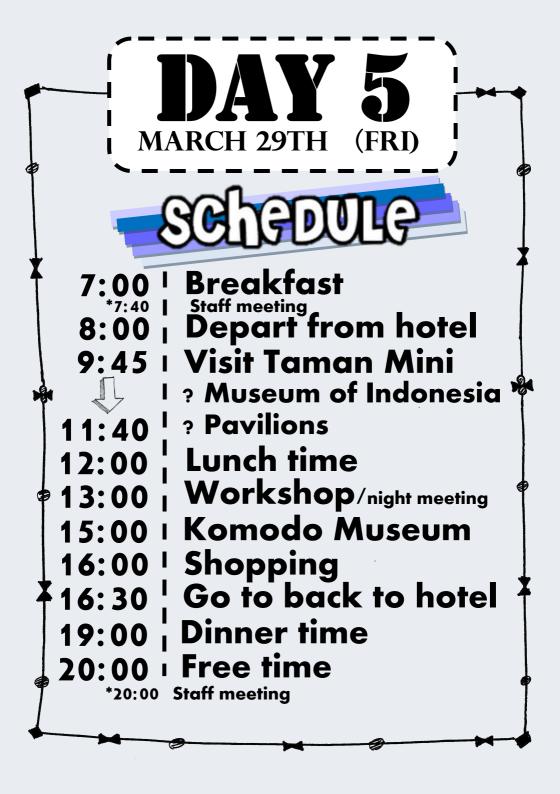




Hanna, co-founder of Du'anyam and an former EIC Camp Leader, also attended the workshop to provide information about her organization. Through Hanna's presentation, we understood the hardship of rural women, especially pregnant women, who work hard to earn a living. Through Du'anyam's work, their lives and their children's lives are empowered. Following Hanna's presentation was a Q&A session with the participants. Before Hanna left, some of us represented the whole group to give Hanna the school bags we had collected for donation to the children of the village. The workshop ended with a beautiful sunset and each of us taking turns sharing what their goals were after this Overseas Study Tour.



The day ends with beautiful smiles and beautiful sunset!



At breakfast, we could tell that everyone was excited about the plan for the day. We were going to Taman Mini, an Indonesian cultural miniature park. Taman Mini is a famous sightseeing attraction where you can experience how culturally and religiously diverse Indonesia is. On the way to Taman Mini, we were awed by the number of motorbikes on the streets and the various shapes and sizes of the buildings on both sides of the road.







We all arrived at Taman Mini!







Our first visit was to the Museum of Indonesia, which houses one of the largest collections of cultural artifacts in the country. The first floor was filled with displays of distinct clothing from different ethnic groups, while the second and third floors display architectural miniatures of houses and furniture from different regions of Indonesia. Participants were divided into smaller groups and given the task to walk around the museum to find an assigned artifact and research its meaning. For example, one task was to locate the display of ethnic clothes from Lampung and take notes of the functions of these clothes as well as their meanings. By the end of the tour, we were more aware of why some housing structures are taller than others, or why certain clothes have a distinct set of colors to them.



Before lunch time, our Indonesia Camp Leaders introduced us to various religious sites that belong to the six major religions in Indonesia. Do you know what they are? They are Islam, Christian Protestant, Christian Catholic, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Confucianism. These buildings were right next to each other, signifying the unity in diversity of Indonesia.



After lunch, we gathered for a workshop to reflect on what we observed and learned. We were divided into smaller groups to discuss what they observed and learned in regard to three topics: clothing, housing, and religions. We had to work with each other to prepare for a group presentation about these topics. The topic about religions brought about interesting observations shared by some friends, one of which was what we can do to show our understanding for others' religions, especially if our friends have a different religions from us.

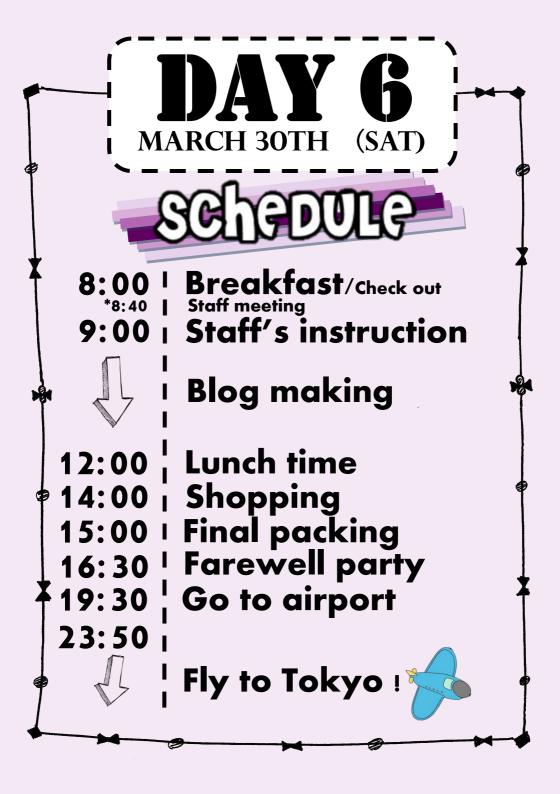


GROUP PRESENTATIONS



Before we left Taman Mini, we had some time to visit the Komodo Museum. For a lot of us, it was our first time seeing the Komodo dragon in real life. Some said that the Komodo dragons were very big but that they didn't look scary at all. The whole day wrapped up with a lot of laughter from the Komodo Museum tour and shopping time. We scattered around the souvenir shop to look for presents for our family and friends. Some also bought shirts, sunglasses, and ice-cream for themselves!





This was our last day in Indonesia. In the morning, we gathered for our last workshop. In this workshop, participants sat in small groups to finish an important task- each group had to complete a blog post that summarized our trip to Indonesia. In preparation for their blog posts, groups were asked to discuss what activities were most interesting, what was surprising or enjoyable, and what was learned about the world from this trip.



We had an exciting time recalling what had happened over the past few days and worked hard to write our experiences down. We were so focused that some didn't leave even when lunch time came. Thanks to their dedication, we collected six very interesting blog posts which were uploaded to the EIC website! This was a collection of small but meaningful moments that were shared during the trip. Some recalled the moment when it suddenly started raining during our visit to the Datarajan Elementary School, or when they saw chickens running around in the backyard, or when they were given mangosteens by the Indonesian students. One big lesson we have all learned together from our Indonesian friends was that despite differences in languages, we could always come up with different ways to communicate our thoughts and feelings!

BLOG

https://www.immersioncamp.com/blog/ost-blog1/ So, Ayano, Momoka, Hitoha, Kentaro

https://www.immersioncamp.com/blog/ost-blog2/ Hibiki, Kaho, Saki, Yu, Taisei

https://www.immersioncamp.com/blog/ost-blog3/

Gota, Lise, Kaho, Mami, Daigo

https://www.immersioncamp.com/blog/ost-blog4/ Yura, Aoi, Wakoto, Sakura, Mayu

BLOG

https://www.immersioncamp.com/blog/ost-blog5/ Nao, Madoka, Sakura, Yura, Shuichiro



<u>https://www.immersioncamp.com/blog/ost-blog6/</u> Tomoha, Kei, Yui, Tomo, Miwa

In the afternoon, we packed things up, did our final shopping, and went to the dinner party venue. The dinner party was carefully planned by another group of Indonesian Camp Leaders. When we arrived at the building, we were greeted by the familiar cheer of "Welcome! Welcome!" It felt as if we were in EIC again. The party was kickstarted with exciting games, followed by "Dreamy Grandpa" (Professor Akihiro Chiba former UNESCO member and present Kumon adviser) cutting the top of the turmeric rice cake, signaling the official start of the party. We enjoyed the food while watching special performances by some of the participants.









We enjoyed a flute performance, followed by the Da Pump! Dance, the Fortune Cookie Dance, and a live enactment of the Urashima Taro Japanese fairy tale that made everyone fall down laughing. There was also a performance by the Camp Leaders called "Poco Poco" and then everyone threw themselves into the classic "Chocolate" dance! At this point, no one was shy anymore. We stood in a big circle and danced to whatever we remembered of the song, laughing and cheering each other on. The dinner ended with a lot of hugs and thanks. We felt grateful for the support from all the Camp Leaders who always warmed our hearts with their kindness and enthusiasm throughout the tour.



https://youtu.be/DWVj3oXrSTs

Click on this link to view the digest video for Day 6

Our bus ride back to the hotel was filled with sudden bursts of songs from some of the participants in between moments of silence. In a few hours, we would be on our way back to Japan, leaving all our wonderful Indonesian friends behind. We wondered when we would be here again. We wondered how to continue to treasure all of these beautiful memories. Terima kasih banyak, teman-teman di Indonesia! ("Thank you very much our Indonesian friends!") We will miss you a lot and we will see each other again!





Leaders who gathered and made this trip happen like a miracle: Isma, Himmi, Rivo, Fauzan, Icha, Widuri, Wahyu, Shafira, Nesya, Nia, Magda, Hanna, Aby, Pamput, Marcel and Linh. Special thanks to WWF Japan and Indonesia for connecting us to the local community and their initiatives. Special thanks to Hanna & Misa for bringing us the stories and goodwill from Du'anyam. Special thanks to Manami for always taking good care of us. Special thanks to Dreamy Grandpa who always supports our initiatives.

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See you again in our next Overseas Study Tour!