

PRESS RELEASE

14th October, 2021

Embassy of Japan hands-over a donation of 100 Books for Understanding Japan to BIUST

On the 13th of October 2021, the Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Japan, Ms. FUJINO Yuka, attended a hand over ceremony for a donation of 100 Books for Understanding Japan to the Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST).

The 100 books were donated through the “Read Japan Project” which is one of the Nippon Foundation’s overseas projects. Since its establishment in 2008, the Foundation has donated books to over 1,000 institutions in 138 countries. In Botswana, the Botswana National Library, the Institute of Development Management and the University of Botswana have benefited from this project in the past.

The aim of the Project is to offer readers around the world an accurate picture of Japan. The books cover a wide range of subjects, such as Economics, Business, Politics, International Relations, Culture, Arts and History. The Foundation hopes to reach out to young researchers who are interested in Japan, as well as opinion leaders and intellectuals specializing in areas other than Japanese studies.

During the ceremony, Ms. Fujino shared her delight and honour to present the donation to BIUST, especially since BIUST and Japan have enjoyed long friendly and cooperative relations. Since 2009, BIUST and Akita University in Japan have had an academic cooperation agreement in place, and many BIUST students have been taking advantage of the Japanese government’s exchange programmes and scholarship opportunities. Ms. Fujino expressed her sincere hope that the donated books would promote a better understanding of Japan at BIUST, and that a renewed interest in the country would be evoked amongst the BIUST students, researchers and faculties.

The Director of Library Services, Dr. Ayanda Lebele, on receiving the donation of Books, expressed her appreciation and stated that the books are in their nature works of creativity and intellectual output, and through these works, readers would have a better understanding of Japan. This would add value to the BIUST learning and teaching experience, since the current

inter-disciplinary learning challenges learners to alter their pre-existing ideas about the world and gain knowledge from different disciplines for solving problems in their career paths and even outside school walls. She also stated that the books would contribute not only to BIUST students as a primary user, but also to the community and stakeholders at large.

After the ceremony, Ms. Fujino paid a courtesy call on Professor Otlogetswe Totolo, the Vice-Chancellor of BIUST. Professor Totolo expressed his appreciation for the donation of books which covers a wide range of subjects, explaining that although BIUST focuses on natural science, the University believes it is important for the students to also learn and deepen their understanding of social science in order for them to be ready and be successful in their future endeavours.

Ms. Fujino, in return, thanked him for the warm welcome she had received at BIUST and expressed her wish that the the donated books would further cement the existing friendly relations between BIUST and Japan.

During the visit, Ms. Fujino also had an opportunity to meet with lecturers at BIUST who had studied in Japan

For further enquiries and photographs of the event, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Kitamura (Tel: 391-4456) at the Embassy of Japan in Botswana.

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The Deputy Head of Mission, Ms. Fujino, handing over the books to the Director of Library Services, Dr. Ayanda Lebele.



From Left to Right, Dr Selepeng a Lecturer who studied in Japan, Mr. Moleleke, Director International & Partnerships, The Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Japan in Botswana Fujino, Director of Library Services Dr. Lebele, Student Representative Council SRC Minister of Academic Affairs, Dr. Masisi Lecturer who studied in Japan.



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