

# JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL 2015

<Oct. 23 and 25, 2015, at National Film Corporation Auditorium>



The Japanese Film Festival 2015, co-organized by the Embassy of Japan and the Japan Foundation in collaboration with the National Film Corporation and the National Youth Services Council, was held at the National Film Corporation Auditorium (Colombo 7) from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> October 2015. Honorable Gayantha Karunathilake, Minister of Parliament Reforms and Mass Media, graced the occasion of the opening ceremony on 23<sup>rd</sup> October with the participation of His Excellency Kenichi Suganuma and Madam Akiko Suganuma and also of high level representatives of the National Youth Council and National Film Corporation.

The Chief Guest and other dignitaries were accorded a warm welcome at the entrance to the auditorium, accompanied by ceremonial cultural drummers and dancers of the National Youth Services Council. This was followed by a welcome address by the Ambassador and a speech by the Chief Guest. Prior to the screening of the first film at the opening ceremony, all guests were treated to some of succulent Japanese cuisine, such as Sushi and Yakitori, in keeping with the consistent theme of Japanese food culture depicted in the following four films which were shown at this film festival.

‘A Tale of Samurai Cooking’ directed by Yuzo Asahara,  
‘Mourning Recipe’ directed by Yuki Tanada,  
‘Ramen Samurai’ directed by Naoki Segi, and  
‘The God of Ramen’ (semi-documentary) directed by Innami Takashi

All the films attracted an appreciative audience ranging from 150 to 250 on each, including local artistes, film makers and producers, students of Japanese language, students of visual arts, members of the diplomatic corps, members of Japan related associations, and the Japanese expats. The festival was an excellent showcase of the Japanese cultural and the audience feedback was extremely encouraging.