

JAPANESE CULTURAL EXHIBITION – 2016



The Japanese Cultural Exhibition for 2016 was held at the Lionel Wendt Gallery, Colombo 7, on the 13th and 14th of August. It was jointly organized by the Embassy of Japan and the Japanese Language Teachers' Association of Sri Lanka (JALTAS).

All the displayed items and conducted demonstrations were done by local lovers of Japanese culture, namely, the Shi-En Ikebana and Floral Art Society of Sri Lanka, Ikebana International Sri Lanka Chapter 262, the Sri Lanka Bonsai Association, and the Origami Folders Association of Sri Lanka, except the Tea ceremony conducted by a Japanese Tea master from Japan visiting Sri Lanka for this event.

On the display were skillfully arranged Ikebana (floral arrangements) using locally available flowers and materials, well nurtured Bonsai plants (miniature tree planting) and numerous complicated crafts of Origami (paper folding), as well as colourful Kimono (Japanese traditional dresses), Japanese dolls e.t.c. Visitors enjoyed the rare opportunity such as participating into the Tea ceremony, trying on the colourful Kimono, attending the lecture on Ikebana and Bonsai, learning how to do origami.

His Excellency Mr. Kenichi Sugamuna, Ambassador of Japan in Sri Lanka and Madam Akiko Sugamuna graced the opening ceremony, with the participation of distinguished guests including members of the diplomatic corps, Japan related organizations and the media.

This Exhibition was open to the public, free of charge, and was designed to display Japan's culture and thereby to further enhance the friendly relations between the peoples of Japan and Sri Lanka. A large number of visitors over 1200 showed up during the two days of the event.