

INPEX JODCO Foundation Conducts a Falconry Cultural Education Program on the UAE and Japanese Falconry

The INPEX JODCO Foundation (the Foundation), in collaboration with the Emirates Falconers' Club (the Club), organized a cultural education program for students of the Japanese School Abu Dhabi, focusing on falconry, which is a significant cultural heritage of the UAE and is registered as a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage. The program aimed to deepen understanding of the UAE's history and culture through hands-on experience with falconry, continuing from similar activities held in 2023 and 2024. As part of this initiative, students visited the Mohamed Bin Zayed Falconry and Desert Physiognomy School (MBZFDPS), the pioneering educational project of Emirates Falconers' Club.

This program was conducted under the Falconry Collaboration Agreement* signed in September 2023 between the Foundation and the Club. A total of 26 elementary and junior high school students from the Japanese School Abu Dhabi, including 12 UAE nationals, visited the MBZFDPS. The visit provided an opportunity to learn not only about falconry culture but also about various aspects of UAE culture.

* <https://www.inpex-jodco-foundation.com/en/pdf/202403-1-en.pdf?001>

Upon arrival at the MBZFDPS, students attended a lecture on the culture of falconry in the UAE, followed by an exploration of the desert environment on the school grounds, where they learned about local vegetation.



The students learned about culture of falconry

After returning to the facility, students experienced training with live falcons and practiced using lures. The students were divided into groups—one to release the falcons and another to handle the lures—actively participating in the training with both enjoyment and seriousness.



The students receiving an explanation about falconry and experiencing the training

In addition to falconry, the program included experiences such as making Arabic coffee, a tradition in the Arab region, and enjoying local cuisine during lunch. Students shared their impressions, such as, 'It was very educational to learn about the characteristics and roles of various desert plants,' and 'The local dishes we had for lunch were delicious, and I enjoyed new flavors I don't usually experience.' The event provided a valuable opportunity to experience traditional UAE culture, which is not easily encountered in their daily life in Abu Dhabi.



Observing Arabic coffee preparation and lunch

The Foundation will continue to promote activities that contribute to the preservation and development of UAE and Japanese culture, as well as the promotion of cultural exchange between the two countries.