

# UiTM Hosts Tokyo University Foreign Studies Students

*Fostering Global Connections Towards Strategic Goals*

In line with UiTM's strategic goal of establishing itself as a globally renowned university of science, technology, humanities, and entrepreneurship, UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang Kampus Bertam recently hosted seven students from Tokyo University Foreign Studies (TUFS) as part of a student-host family program.

Led by Dr. Mohd Nadzri Mohd Najib from the Faculty of Pharmacy, the program aimed to foster global connections and cultural understanding between the two universities while promoting UiTM's strategic goals. Seven students from TUFS and one accompanying teacher arrived at Penang International Airport on 21st February at 8:30 pm. They were welcomed by their host family, which consisted of five UiTM staff and two members of the community.

The program was designed to provide TUFS students with a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in Malaysian culture and learn about its rich history.

During their visit, the TUFS students were paired with host families, allowing them to experience daily life in Malaysia and build meaningful relationships with local people. The Student-Host Family Program is a key component of UiTM's Global Outreach Program, as it provides an opportunity for international students to interact with Malaysians and gain a better understanding of the country's culture and way of life.

On 22nd February, the host families took the students around Penang, showing them the famous art street, Bukit Bendera, and various eateries. Some host families took their students to Kedah to visit the Geopark and Alor Setar. This allowed the students to experience a diverse range of Malaysian culture, cuisine, and natural beauty.

The highlight of the program was the "Mengenal Budaya Jepun" event held on 23rd February at PTAR UiTM Kampus Bertam. The event aimed to introduce Japanese culture to UiTM students and staff while also allowing the TUFs students to showcase their knowledge and skills.



The program included a basic Japanese language class, Yukata-wearing, and Furoshiki demonstrations. The TUFs students also performed "Pidato" by Marina Mogi or her Malay name Mardiana, "Syair" by Kanata Hayashi or Kasmin, and "Ucapan" by Mayuna Inoe or Melati.



The program continued with more sightseeing and bonding with host families on 24th and 25th February. On 26th February, the students had the opportunity to attend a wedding ceremony in Kampung Teluk Sera, Padang Serai, where they witnessed the "Akad Nikah" and kenduri. This provided the students with a unique experience of Malaysian cultural practices and traditions.

Overall, the program was successful in achieving UiTM's strategic goal of establishing itself as a globally renowned university of science, technology, humanities, and entrepreneurship. The Student-Host Family Program provided the TUFs students with an opportunity to experience Malaysian culture and build meaningful relationships with local people. The "Mengenal Budaya Jepun" event showcased Japanese culture and allowed for cultural exchange between the TUFs and UiTM students and staff. The program was a testament to UiTM's commitment to creating a global community of learners and promoting cross-cultural understanding.

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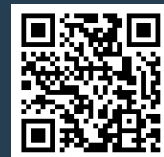
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