Japan Calling

A quarterly newsletter from the Embassy of Japan in India

October 2018



Inauguration ceremony of the Japanese Language Teachers' Training Centre at JNU on 23rd July In the photo (from left to right): Mr. Tomoyuki Sakurai, Executive Vice President, Japan Foundation, Hon. General V. K. Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs, Ambassador Hiramatsu, and Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar, Vice Chancellor, JNU
(Photo: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

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Malabar 2018

Exercise MALABAR 2018 was conducted off the coast of Guam from 8th to 16th June.

13 ships and various types of aircrafts from the Indian Navy (IN), the United States Navy (USN), and Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF), participated in this 22nd edition of the Exercise aimed at developing tactical warfare capability, and enhancing the inter-operability and mutual understanding among the 3 maritime forces.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Celebrating the 68th Japan Self-Defense Forces Day

On 26th June, Ambassador and Mrs. Hiramatsu hosted the 68th Japan Self-Defense Forces Day Reception at their residence. In his speech, Ambassador mentioned the increasing importance of the role and mission of the Self-Defense Forces and the expanding cooperation between Japan and India in the field of security.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Remembering of Hiroshima and Nagasaki at Lok Sabha

Ambassador Hiramatsu and a delegation of the Japanese community in Delhi, as well as five visiting Japanese Members of Parliament (Mr. Shinjiro Koizumi, Mr. Hideki Murai, Mr. Norikazu Suzuki, Mr. Masanobu Ogura, and Mr. Fumiaki Kobayashi) visited the Parliament on 6th August, to observe the reference to dropping of atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and a minute of silence in the memory of the victims of the said bombings, at Lok Sabha.

Prior to the observance, the Japanese delegation paid a courtesy call on the Honourable Speaker of Lok Sabha, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan. In the meeting, Ambassador Hiramatsu expressed Japan's deep appreciation for this act of solidarity in the Parliament. Mr. Koizumi, on behalf of the delegation of Japanese MPs, which included Mr. Kobayashi from Hiroshima, extended their sincere gratitude, telling the Speaker that it was a great honour for them to take part in such an extraordinary act by the Indian Parliament, which could probably not be found anywhere else in the world.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Ambassador Visits Goa to Deliver a Lecture at Naval War College

On 10th August, Ambassador Hiramatsu gave a lecture titled "Japan and India: The Resurgence of Maritime Cooperation Between the Nations and Strengthening of Strategic Ties in the Indian Ocean Region" for approximately 40 Indian Naval officers (including a few Sri Lankan Naval officers), at the Naval War College in Goa. After the lecture, Ambassador observed the naval aircrafts and facilities at INS Hansa.





(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Defense Minister Onodera Visits India

Defense Minister Onodera visited India from 19th to 20th August, and started his visit by expressing his condolences on the passing away of former Prime Minister, H.E. Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, on 19th morning. This was followed by the annual Defence Ministerial Meeting with Defence Minister, Smt Nirmala Sitharaman, and a courtesy call on the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, on 20th August.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

North East Bamboo Workshop Held

On 2nd August, the Embassy of Japan and the Government of India organized a bamboo-craft workshop in Agartala, Tripura, as part of the bilateral cooperation in the North East under Japan-India Act East Forum. The workshop was conducted with the participation of Ms. Kei Hasegawa, a Japanese bamboo artist, who was invited with the support of The Japan Foundation, New Delhi. The objective of this workshop was to share Japanese bamboo design and techniques with bamboo artistans of the North East, and to contribute towards the improvement of bamboo products of the North East.





(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Delhi Metro Pink Line Extends

On 6th August, the Delhi Metro Rail Project (Phase 3) comprising the 8.1 km section of Pink Line between Durgabai Deshmukh South Campus and Lajpat Nagar, with 6 stations, was inaugurated in the presence of Ambassador Hiramatsu, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Hon. Hardeep Singh Puri, and Chief Minister of Delhi, Hon. Arvind Kejriwal. The new Pink Line is yet another contribution of Japan's active support to Delhi Metro. Japanese principles of railway safety management and quality control are applied to the line. From the private sector, Mitsubishi Electric supplied the propulsion system for the rolling stocks, while Mitsui & Co. was roped in for rail procurement.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

State Minister for Environment Instills Mottainai Spirit

On 24th August, Ambassador Hiramatsu and Ms. Mariko Shinju, the author of a picture book, "Mottainai Grandma", that instills the spirit of care for nature and renunciation of wasteful activities, attended a donation ceremony of 1,111 copies of the picture book at Muni International School in New Delhi. The donation was made by the State Minister of the Environment of Japan, Mr. Tadahiko Ito.





(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Ambassador Hiramatsu Visits Andhra Pradesh

On 7th-8th August, Ambassador Hiramatsu visited the State of Andhra Pradesh (AP).

Ambassador Hiramatsu attended the inauguration ceremony of LIXIL India's new plant in Bhimadole, alongside Mr. Kinya Seto, CEO of LIXIL Group. AP's Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Industries graced the occasion. LIXIL, a Japanese housing equipment manufacturer, will start producing 1 million toilets annually, with 400 new employees at the factory. Ambassador Hiramatsu welcomed the new plant, which will contribute to Make in India and Clean India initiatives, spurring economic growth and improving sanitation and hygienic practices in India and beyond.

Ambassador Hiramatsu also visited Andhra University to give a lecture for 300 students on Japan-India relations that is being rapidly augmented by economic cooperation projects, including those in AP. Ambassador Hiramatsu also called on the Chief Minister of AP, Hon. Chandrababu Naidu, to discuss matters related to Japan-Andhra Pradesh relations, including private sector cooperation.



⁽Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Japan Participates in International Buddhist Conclave

Ambassador Hirmatsu participated in the inauguration ceremony of the 6th International Buddhist Conclave in Delhi, on 23rd August, along with the President of India, H.E. Ram Nath Kovind, and the Minister of State for Tourism, Hon. K.J. Alphons. Ambassador Hiramatsu expressed his hope for further expansion of historical and cultural ties between Japan and India through tourism exchanges. The Government of Japan has been contributing to the preservation of Buddhist heritages in India and their site development for tourism. In particular, Japan actively assists preservation work on the Ajanta-Ellora caves, access improvement to the monuments, as well as the visitor centre. The Conclave, in which notable Japanese temples as well as tourism agencies participated, travelled across multiple Buddhist tourism destinations including Ajanta-Ellora.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

3rd Japan-India Medical Products Regulatory Symposium Convenes

On 27th August, Ambassador Hiramatsu attended the 3rd India-Japan Medical Products Regulatory Symposium, at the India Habitat Centre, and delivered a speech on Japanese contribution to the medical field in India through its expertise and high quality medical devices.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Ambassador Hiramatsu Visits Gujarat

On 6th September, Ambassador Hiramatsu attended the inauguration ceremony of Unicharm's new factory in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Unicharm is a leading Japanese manufacturer of disposable personal hygiene products. In his speech, Ambassador Hiramatsu expressed his commendation for Unicharm's robust corporate performance. He also conveyed his sincere respect for the efforts of all Unicharm employees who overcame the fire at the Neemrana factory and successfully achieved the launch of a new one in Ahmedabad.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Soiree of Japanese Sake Held

On 8th September, Ambassador Hiramatsu hosted a Soiree of Japanese Sake, to spread the charm of Japanese Sake to the dining scenes in India. With the cooperation of Japan Sake and Shochu Makers Association, the Embassy hosted four Sake breweries from across Japan along with 'Miss Sake', Ms. Asami Sudo, and organized a Sake promotion event targeting the Indian sales representatives, in collaboration with Hospitality Purchasing Managers' Forum (HPMF). At this event, sushi prepared with fish directly imported from Japan was served as well. Earlier in the year, Japan and India reached an agreement to acknowledge Japan's sanitation certificates for marine products. The Indian guests enjoyed tasting different types of Sake, such as sparkling, plum sake (umeshu), aged sake (koshu), and ginjo.





(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

JCCII Tables Business Environment Suggestions to India



(Photo: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

On 13th September, the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in India (JCCII) submitted the 10th suggestions for the improvement of business environment in India, to the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The Embassy of Japan, in collaboration with JCCII, will continue its active consultations with the Government of India to realize better business environment for Japanese corporate operations and investment activities.

Prime Minister's Special Advisor Visits India

On 16th-17th September, Dr. Hiroto Izumi, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Japan, visited Delhi. Dr. Izumi co-chaired the 8th meeting of the Joint Committee on Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) project, and the maiden meeting of the Joint Committee on Healthcare in India. The Indian teams were represented by Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, and Hon. Jagat Prakash Nadda, Minister of Health & Family Welfare, in the respective meetings. In the two meetings, Dr. Izumi discussed the progress of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail project and exchanged ideas on how to promote healthcare-related cooperation between the two countries.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Japanese Language Teachers' Training Centre Inaugurated

On 23rd July, Ambassador Hiramatsu attended the inauguration ceremony of the Japanese Language Teachers' Training Centre at JNU.

Ambassador Hiramatsu expressed his appreciation for the efforts made by all the authorities concerned, both in India and Japan, and mentioned the importance of Japanese language promotion for Japan towards supporting India's "Make in India" initiative.

Mr. Tomoyuki Sakurai, Executive Vice President of Japan Foundation, Hon. General V. K. Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs, and Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar, Vice Chancellor, JNU, also attended the ceremony.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Conference to Rethink Cultural Heritage Between India and Japan Held

On 16th August, Ambassador Hiramatsu attended the conference titled "Rethinking Cultural Heritage: Indo-Japanese Dialogue in a Globalizing World Order", which was co-hosted by the India International Centre and the Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi. In his keynote speech, Ambassador Hiramatsu emphasized that, having a better understanding of the deep cultural and historic ties between India and Japan from the 19th to early 20th century, carries tremendous significance for working towards elevating the bilateral partnership a notch higher.

For Ambassador's keynote speech:

http://www.in.emb-japan.go.jp/Japan-India-Relations/20180816_Ambassador's_Keynote_Speech_Indo-Japan_Dial ogue_IIC_ICS.pdf





(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

2018 Autumn Send-off Reception for Japanese Government Scholarship Students Held

The 2018 Autumn Send-off Reception for Japanese Government Scholarship Students was held on 24th August, at the Ambassador's Residence, Embassy of Japan.

14 Invitees who attended the Send-off Reception included participants of the Young Leaders' Program students, Research students, Japanese Studies students and Teacher Training students, as well as representatives of relevant organizations.

At the beginning of the event, H.E. Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu, Ambassador of Japan to India, delivered his opening remarks, in which he emphasized the importance of giving an impetus to people-to-people exchanges between Japan and India.

Thereafter, 2 speakers on behalf of the participants made presentations to share their motivation to apply for the MEXT scholarships and their future endeavors after completing their studies in Japan, and one of the participants made a presentation to narrate her experiences in Japan.

The event concluded with warm comments by Dr. Ashok Jain, Chairperson, MOSAI, on behalf of the guests.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Judo Coaching Camp in Delhi and Mumbai Held

A Japanese Judo delegation headed by Ambassador Gotaro Ogawa, Senior Advisor of All Japan Judo Federation, visited India from 3rd to 11th September, to have coaching and practice sessions and to interact with Indian Judokas. The programme was a part of the Japanese Government's initiative, "Sports for Tomorrow", and the follow-up of the event "Japan-India Sports Exchanges" held at Indira Gandhi Stadium, New Delhi, last December.

Ambassador Hiramatsu joined the delegation at a gathering hosted by the President of Judo Federation of India and Member of Rajya Sabha, Shri Partap Singh Bajwa.





(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Ceremony for the Presentation of 'Foreign Minister's Commendation for 2018' to Ms. Noriko Nasukawa Held

On 24th September, Ambassador Hiramatsu hosted a ceremony for the Presentation of 'Foreign Minister's Commendation for 2018' to Ms. Noriko Nasukawa, at his Residence.

In his remarks on the occasion, Ambassador Hiramatsu acknowledged the significant contribution made by Ms. Nasukawa towards advancing true closeness and understanding between Japan and India by promoting Japanese language education in India.

In her remarks, Ms. Nasukawa said that she would like to continue her efforts in this field.





(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Click! Japan Photo Contest 2018 Prize Ceremony Held

The 'Click! Japan Photo Contest 2018' Prize Ceremony was held on 28th September, at the Ambassador's Residence, Embassy of Japan, New Delhi.

The Contest was co-organized by the Embassy of Japan in India and the Japan Foundation, New Delhi, and supported by Canon India and Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) Delhi Office. The top 10 contestants, whose entries were selected as the best ones among 397 photos, were invited to attend the ceremony.

At the beginning of the event, Ambassador Kenji Hiramatsu delivered his opening remarks, in which he emphasized the importance of promoting people-to-people exchange between Japan and India. Mr. Kaoru Miyamoto, Director General of Japan Foundation, New Delhi, Mr. Kazutada Kobayashi, President & CEO of Canon India, and Mr. Keichi Takano, Executive Director of JNTO Delhi office, also congratulated the winners in their speeches on the occasion.

Prizes were awarded to all the 10 winners by Ambassador Hiramatsu and Mr. Kobayashi. On behalf of the winners, Mr. Amit K. Srivastava, Ms. Gauri Talwar, and Mr. Puneet K. Singh, the top 3 winners who received a Canon camera each as their prize, spoke about their photographs and experiences in Japan.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Reception to Encourage School-To-School Exchanges Between India and Japan Held

"Reception to encourage school-to-school exchanges between India and Japan" was held on 6th August, at the Ambassador's Residence, Embassy of Japan.

The aim of the reception was to promote academic exchanges by encouraging upper secondary school-to-school exchanges between India and Japan, through the visit to India by 5 Japanese upper secondary school teachers.

At the beginning of the event, Ambassador Hiramatsu delivered his opening remarks, in which he emphasized the importance of giving an impetus to people-to-people exchanges between Japan and India.

Thereafter, the Principal of the school that produced the mathematics genius, Ramanujan, delivered her remarks, which was followed by a speech delivered by the AI robot, which is made through an amalgamation of Japanese techniques.

Japanese universities, such as the University of Tokyo, Ritsumeikan University, and Japan Science and Technology Agency, based in India, also set up their booths at the event in order to promote Japanese education possibilities. It was a useful and informative occasion for the Indian upper secondary school officials to learn more about Japanese Universities.





(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Updates from Consulates

KOLKATA



Ms. Yuri Shirai (standing), Tea Master from Urasenke School of Japan, narrating the way of preparing traditional Japanese Matcha Tea, as another Teacher, Ms. Kumiko Inukai (seated), demonstrates how to prepare Tea for the guests. The event introducing **WAY OF TEA** was held at the residence of the Consul General of Japan, on 16th & 17th August, where the guests got a unique opportunity to understand the "Way of Tea".



Mr. Masayuki Taga, Consul General of Japan in Kolkata, with Dr. Ujjal Kumar Hembrom, Medical Superintendent of The Leprosy Mission Trust India, Purulia, at the **GRANT CONTRACT SIGNING CEREMONY**, held at the residence of the Consul General of Japan, on 17th September. The NGO will be using the grant of US\$66309 for purchasing four kinds of advanced medical equipment for their hospital in Purulia, by which 24,000 beneficiaries will receive better medical treatment annually.



Ms. Hiroko Nagahama, Eminent Calligraphy teacher from Japan, demonstrating Calligraphy in front of the school students, at a Calligraphy Workshop in Jamshedpur. The event, which was a part of the **SCHOOL VISIT** programme conducted by the Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata, was held at Loyola School & Hill Top School in Jamshedpur, on 13th & 14th August. The sessions were aimed to generate some basic awareness about Japanese culture. Around 110 students participated enthusiastically in the workshops.



Ms. Sumie Kaneko, eminent Japanese musician, performing at a Concert titled **STRINGS & BEATS** organised by the Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata, in collaboration with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), at Satyajit Ray Auditorium of ICCR, on 24th September. Around 180 music lovers were enthralled by the wonderful melody of Koto and Shamisen along with the beautiful voice of the Japanese musician. The audience also got a rare opportunity to witness the unique collaboration between Ms. Sumie Kaneko with Tabla Maestro, Pt. Tanmoy Bose.

CHENNAI



On 14th July, the Consulate General of Japan in Chennai organized a Send-off party for the first batch of Technical Intern Trainees from India and their Japanese Language teachers.



On 24th July, the Consul General of Japan in Chennai, Mr. Kojiro Uchiyama, paid a **Courtesy Call to Mr. Banwarilal Purohit**, **Hon. Governor of Tamil Nadu**.



On 27th August, the Consul General of Japan in Chennai, Mr. Kojiro Uchiyama, paid a **Courtesy call to Mr. E.K. Palaniswami, Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.**



On 6th September, the Consul General of Japan in Chennai, Mr. Kojiro Uchiyama, attended the **Opening Ceremony of Chennai Japan Film Festival**, organized by the Consulate General of Japan in Chennai and Indo Cine Appreciation Foundation (ICAF).

(Photos: Consulate General of Japan in Chennai)

MUMBAI



Mr. Ryoji Noda, Consul General of Japan in Mumbai, with Mr. Kenichi Ayukawa, Managing Director and CEO, Maruti Suzuki India Limited, at the **Certificate Ceremony of the first batch of students from Japan-India Institute for Manufacturing (JIM)**. 254 students received the 'Certificate of Course Completion' at Ganpat University, Mehsana, Gujarat, on 4th July.



Consul General of Japan in Mumbai & Mrs. Ryoji Noda attended the **Demonstration of Ikebana by Mrs. Kavita Poddar, President, World Association for Flower Artists**, India. A flower arrangement expert from Kolkata (fifth from left) demonstrated her unique style and mastery of floral expressions. The event, organized by Ikebana International - Mumbai Chapter, on 19th June, at Sea Princess Hotel, Mumbai, was attended by many Ikebana enthusiasts.



Mr. Ryoji Noda, Consul General of Japan in Mumbai, gives a speech at the **Inauguration of the JETRO Business Support Centre -Ahmedabad (BSCA)**, on 5th July, at Crowne Plaza, Ahmedabad. The BSCA was inaugurated by the Honourable Chief Minister of Gujarat, Mr. Vijay Rupani, in the presence of Chairperson and CEO of JETRO, Mr. Hiroyuki Ishige, and Consul-General Mr. Noda. The event was attended by around 100 people.



Mr. Ryoji Noda, Consul General of Japan in Mumbai, with Mr. Karan Singh, CEO of Thakur Institute of Management Studies and Research (TIMSR), along with Dr. Pankaj Natu, Director of TIMSR, and students of TIMSR. Consul-General Mr. Noda **inaugurated a Japanese language program at TIMSR** on 25th July. The event was attended by around 120 people.

(Photos: Consulate General of Japan in Mumbai)

BENGALURU



On 2nd July, Mr. Takayuki Kitagawa, Consul General of Japan in Bengaluru, had a very fruitful and vigorous **discussion with the Honourable Chief Minister of Karnataka**, Mr. Kumaraswamy, on various issues, with a view to advancing our nation-to-state relations to a much higher level.



On 7th July, the **Fourth Chapter of "Japanese Speaking Event**" was held at the official residence of the Consul General in the afternoon. More than 60 Japanese-speaking Indians and 40 plus Japanese participated in the event.



On 17th September, Consul General Mr. Kitagawa was invited to the **International Sericultural Commission in Bengaluru**, to speak to participants from member countries, at the Inaugural Session of Silkworm Seed Production Seminar. Japan is one of the member countries to this International Organization.



On 18th September, the Japan-India Start up Hub Inauguration Seminar was hosted by JETRO with the participation of Mr. Yukio Takeyari, former Managing Director of Sony India Software Centre in Bengaluru and author of the bestseller book in Japan called "Indo Shift: Why World Renowned Multinationals Come To Bengaluru?" Consul General Mr. Kitagawa gave a speech for participants in the seminar.

(Photos: Consulate General of Japan in Bengaluru)

Exploring Japan: Click! JAPAN Photo Contest Exhibition 2018

The Click! Japan Photo Contest Exhibition 2018, a beautiful collection of photos taken by people who visited Japan between July 2017 and June 2018, was held this year too, by the Embassy of Japan and the Japan Foundation, New Delhi, supported by Canon India and Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) Delhi Office.

Among the submitted photos, the selected ones were displayed in a photo exhibition at the Japan Foundation Gallery in New Delhi, from 1st to 30th August 2018. Winners of 10 outstanding works were invited to the Ambassador's residence for the prize distribution ceremony on 28th September, and among those winners, the top three were given special awards: Canon Cameras!

Shown here are some of the exceptional photos captured by the contestants, presenting their best memories of Japan, which were designated as the top 10 entries.



Mr. Amit K. Srivastava (1st prize winner)



The Humble Station Master

Ms. Gauri Talwar (2nd prize winner)



Shinkansen

Mr. Puneet K. Singh (3rd prize winner)



Monk style dinner at Koyasan

Mr. Deepak Gandotra (Among Top 10 winners)



The "oishii" means "tasty" food of Japan

Mr. Anil K. Sharma (Among Top 10 winners)



Small Buddhist Jizo (Bodhisattva) Statues Mr. Mithilesh K. Singh (Among Top 10 winners)



Colors of Japan

Mr. Puneet Sihag (Among Top 10 winners)



Do it Gundam style

Ms. Shelly Airan (Among Top 10 winners)



Amazed @ Mount Fuji !!

Ms. Rekha Jain (Among Top 10 winners)



Ms. K. Bidyarani Devi (Among Top 10 winners)

<u>Embassy of Japan in India</u> <u>Officially on Facebook</u>

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ORGANIZATIONS AFFILIATED WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

Japan International Cooperation Agency	Japan Bank for International Cooperation	Japan External Trade Organization
(JICA)	(JBIC)	(JETRO)
16th Floor, Hindustan Times House	306, 3rd Floor, World Mark 2, Asset No. 8	4th Floor, Eros Corporate Tower
18-20, Kasturba Gandhi Marg	Hospitality District, Aerocity	Nehru Place,
New Delhi 110 001	New Delhi 110 037	New Delhi 110 019
Tel: 4909-7000 Fax: 4909-7001 ~ 04	Tel: 4352-2900 Fax: 4352-2950	Tel: 4168-3006 Fax: 4168-3003
http://www.jica.go.jp/india/english/	https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/about/new-delhi.html	http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/jetro/worldwide/asia/
The Japan Foundation New Delhi 5A, Ring Road, Lajpat Nagar 4	New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) 15th Floor, Hindustan Times House	Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO)

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