

## 12th Asia-Oceania (Online) Regional Congress of Don Bosco Past Pupils

June 25-26, 2021



### President's Report: Japan Federation of Salesio Alumni Associations

I would like to talk to you about the Salesian schools and the Past pupils in Japan.

#### President and Delegate of Japan Federation

Mr. Hiroshi Yoshida as National President, Fr. Shin Mishima as Delegate, Mr. Chihiro Okawa as GEX leader and I, Mitch Tateishi as Secretary, we'd like to share with you about our organization and activities.

#### The Salesians arrive in Japan

95 years ago, in 1926, Fr. Cimatti and eight other Salesians arrived in Japan. Japan at that time was a poor country.

The Salesians and their co-workers worked and built boarding schools for poor orphaned children.

#### The Salesian schools in Japan

As of now, the Salesians run 1 technical college, 4 high-schools, and 1 elementary school.

Current students in the schools number 3,900 in total.

The number of Past pupils in Japan is 47,500.

Ikuei Gakuin Salesian Polytechnic, in Tokyo  
Hyuga Gakuin, in Miyazaki  
Salesio Elementary and Junior High-school, in Tokyo  
Osaka Seiko Gakuin, in Osaka  
Salesio Gakuin, in Yokohama

### Schools of the Salesian Family

The total number of schools run by the Salesian Family, including FMA, and Caritas Sisters of Jesus, they add up to about 50 educational institutions, from kindergartens up to junior college.

### Family atmosphere, Friendliness

In the Salesian schools, there is a family atmosphere and friendliness between students and teachers.

The students enthusiastically dedicate themselves to study, sports, volunteer activities, etc.

### Catholic population in Japan

In Japan, the Catholic population is 440,000, which comprises 0.3% of the whole population.

Current Catholic students in the Salesian schools comprise 2.6%.

### Establishment of Japan Federation of Salesio Alumni Associations

In May of 2015, Japan Federation of Salesio Alumni Associations was founded. This is one of the fruits of the bicentenary of the birth of Don Bosco.

### GEX working team

There is a working team by GEX, which is working on specific projects such as public relations, finance, and Asian Congress.

## To promote exchanges, cooperation and studies among Local Unions

Japan Federation is working together to promote exchanges, cooperation and studies among Local unions step by step.

## Activities of the Local Unions

In Japan, each school has its own Past pupils organization with their respective activities.

Publication of alumni newsletter once a year, organizing reunion events such as social gatherings or golf competitions, organizing financial support for students are some of them.

## As the Light of the World, with the Young

Many Past pupils are working in various fields as the “light of the world”.

We are counseling about the careers of current students and young alumni, providing financial assistance to students in need, and working as Salesian teacher, and so on.

We hold events called “Cheer team for the Light of the World” so that young Past pupils may think of their future and talk about their career with professionals.

## Situation in the Covid-19 pandemic

From last year, most of the alumni association activities have been canceled in order to save all lives.

We continue to carry out activities that can be done online through trial and error.

For example, annual meetings, career counseling for current students and young alumni, employment guidance, etc.

## Supporting Don Bosco Fund “DBK”

Japanese Province is running the Don Bosco Fund “DBK”, we support Salesian projects especially for poor young people.

We Past pupils support to manage the Fund and to call for donations.

Website: <https://exdb.jp>

We are running the website in order to share information with many pupils, students and their parents and to give them opportunities to interact.

We have been publishing interviews of Past pupils who are active in various fields of society, or feature articles taking up different schools.

### The Salesian Bulletin Japan “Don Bosco no Kaze”

The Salesian Bulletin in Japan, “Don Bosco no Kaze” is published twice a year with the aim to enhance communion among the groups of the Salesian Family. Past pupils are involved in planning, editing, designing and printing this magazine.

It is published 30 thousand copies. The cost of its publication is covered by donations from the schools, local alumni unions and from individuals.

### Facebook

“Don Bosco no Kaze” has an account in Facebook.

We share reflections on the Salesian spirit, or short stories that can be food for thought.

Thank you for listening to our sharing of the Salesian schools and the Past pupils in Japan.