

## **INPEX JODCO Foundation and Emirates Falconers' Club Holds Falconry Collaboration Programs**

INPEX JODCO Foundation (the Foundation), in partnership with the Emirates Falconers' Club (EFC), operated two key initiatives. These were the Emirati Japanese Falconry Program 2025, held in Japan, and a school visit to the Mohamed bin Zayed Falconry and Desert Physiognomy School (MBZFDPS). Both activities were carried out based on the Falconry Collaboration Agreement between the Foundation and EFC.

The agreement includes EFC hosting young Japanese falconers for training and learning about the authentic Arab falconry traditions in the UAE and its rich cultural heritage. It also includes the Foundation hosting Emirati students and falconers to learn about Japanese falconry, its schools, and methods, all of which are deeply rooted in Japan's cultural heritage.

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

### **Emirati Japanese Falconry Program 2025 in Japan**

In this program, from February 8 to 13, 2025, 6 students and an accompanying teacher from the Sheikh Zayed Private Academy for Boys selected by MBZFDPS the pioneering educational project of EFC, and 3 staff members from EFC were invited to Japan to participate in Emirati Japanese Falconry Program 2025.

The program was organized in collaboration with Suwa Falconry Preservation Society and was held in Ichihara City, Chiba Prefecture. During the program, the participants learned about the cultural and technical differences between the UAE and Japanese traditional falconry, had practices of traditional falconry, and engaged in mutual exchange between UAE and Japanese falconers.

This program was the second edition of Emirati Japanese Falconry Program, jointly organized with EFC, following the first edition carried out at MBZFDPS in the Remah area of Al Ain in January 2024, when Japanese falconers from Suwa Falconry Preservation Society were invited to learn about the falconry traditions of Abu Dhabi and the UAE.

\* <https://www.inpex-jodco-foundation.com/en/pdf/202404-1-en.pdf>

【Hunting experience】



【Hunting experience】



【Group photo】



【The management of both EFC and the Foundation】



Center right: Mr. Mansour Al Mansouri, EFC

Center left: Mr. Hiroshi Fujii, Representative Director of the Foundation

Falconry is a significant cultural heritage in the UAE, with parents and grandparents dedicated to ensuring its sustainability for future generations, and thanks to international efforts led by Abu Dhabi, falconry has been inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. In Japan, it is a traditional culture that has been inherited from ancient times, receiving the patronage of emperors, nobles, and shogun families, and is currently being inherited mainly by voluntary organizations.

This program provided a great opportunity to deepen the understanding of the traditional and contemporary cultures of both the UAE and Japan, as well as the importance of bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

### **Japanese School Abu Dhabi's Visit to MBZFDPS**

In collaboration with EFC, the Foundation invited junior high school students at Japanese School Abu Dhabi to MBZFDPS in January 2025.

The students including Emirati students learned about cultural heritage of the UAE through falcon training experience and special lectures, such as the UAE's falconry culture, making Arabic coffee and traditional Arabic cuisine.

The program provided students with a unique opportunity to explore some of the authentic aspects and pillars of the UAE's traditional culture.

**【Learning about the traditional falconry】**



**【Hand on Flying】**



**【Desert Walk】**



**【Learning about Arabic Coffee】**



The Foundation will continue to promote mutual understanding and friendship between the UAE and Japan.

The Emirates Falconers' Club was established in 2001, and strives, through its projects, to preserve falconry as both a human heritage and a historical legacy. It also aims to promote the core principles and ethical practices of Arab falconry, as well as to develop international cooperation with organizations dedicated to the conservation of the sport of falconry.