

## Ambassador Report



Name: Mr. Miguel E. Martinez Pozo

Nationality: Cuba

Inducted: March 2011

September 2011

A little more than five months after the huge 9.0-magnitude earthquake and tsunami that hit the northeastern coast of Japan the world is still worry about the recovery from the disaster. Following the earthquake a big 10 meters wave impact the coast and also damage the nuclear plant of Fukushima, the biggest in Japan. People from all around the world were worry about Japanese families and like the speed of waves solidarity came from all over the hemisphere. Fukui prefecture was not directly affected by the catastrophe, but immediately extend they support for the victims of tsunami sending food, water and other necessary supplies.

Five years ago before coming to Japan as a Monbukagakusho student on October of 2006 I couldn't hear much about Fukui. "It is a very cold place, but have delicious crabs" was just the information I got at the Japan Embassy in Havana, Cuba. Nevertheless, just after arrived I could realize about hospitality of Fukui citizens. In this small countryside prefecture were the tourism is almost null and the presence of foreigners is few, life for non-Japanese people is not a trouble. I made

many friends and spent unforgettable moments with them. For the first time in my life I saw the snow, eat rouge fish and spent a wonderful time with friends under a cherry blossom tree.

A few days after my return to my country I was invited to a farewell dinner for Monbukagakusho students who will travel to Japan during this year. Like me, others ex-student shared their experiences and I had the opportunity to talk about Fukui. Since time was limited I could not talk too much, but people was surprise how a small prefecture (number 43 among all Japan) is on the top 5 prefectures in several parameters that measure quality of live. I talked about Sabae glasses manufacture, Asakura ruins, Eiheiiji Temple, Tojinbo, The Dinosaurs museum, Maruoka Castle, Wakasa Town and of course food. The delicious taste of crabs and freshness of fishes make proud to Fukui citizens.

Now I am sharing my experiences about Japan, specially Fukui, with all my family and friends. I keep in contact with my Japanese friends and I hope I can return to Fukui soon.