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Creating a Better World

World Organization of the Scout Movement
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout
Всемирная Организация Скаутского Движения
Organización Mundial del Movimiento Scout
المنظمة العالمية للحركة الكشفية

#23WSJ Kicks Off Today Arrival of Thousands of Young People From All Over the World

28 July 2015, Kirara-hama, Yamaguchi, Japan: Some 27 000 young Scouts aged 14 to 17 years have started to arrive today at the 23rd World Scout Jamboree that is being hosted by the Scout Association of Japan.

Their arrivals, staggered over today and tomorrow, marks the start of the Jamboree, which is located on a 286-hectare newly-built tented city in Kirara-hama, Yamaguchi.

For the next 12 days, around 34 000 Scouts and leaders from more than 140 countries and territories will be neighbours with one other, bringing different parts of the world - cultures, religions, views, among others, to the doorstep of each other.

It will be a sight to behold, a great opportunity for Scouts to make friends with their counterparts from all over the world.

Amina, 17, from Algeria, could barely contain her excitement, exclaimed: "It's a dream! Everything is so different. Japan is like another planet! This is my first Jamboree experience. I am so excited to share my rich culture and history with friends from all over the world."

"We cannot express how excited we are. We are looking forward to the opening ceremony and the start of the activities. We are meeting people from all around the world," said Maria, and Marilyn, both 15, from Lebanon.

Jacob, 17, from Sweden said: "I am super excited to meet people from all parts of the world. To meet new friends and learn new knowledge, and to also spend some great times with my own friends."

The theme "WA: a Spirit of Unity" and the three concepts, "Energy", "Innovation", and "Harmony" are embedded in the Jamboree programme, which consists of module activities and sub camp life. Through these activities, the young participants will have the opportunities to learn life skills, experience cultural diversity, foster unity and be active global citizens to create a better world.

The World Scout Jamboree is the most diverse event for young people in the world by the World Organization of the Scout Movement, which is organised by different National Scout Organization once every four years.

The last time the World Scout Jamboree was held in Japan was 44 years ago in 1971 at Asagiri, Shizuoka at the foot of Mount Fuji. That was then the 13th World Scout Jamboree.

For more on the 23rd World Scout Jamboree, visit www.scout.org/ws2015 or follow us on www.facebook.com/23wsj2015 or Twitter @wsj2015.

For more on World Scouting, visit scout.org

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