Japan Film Festival 2026
(30 and 31 October 2026, at Pabwalo Multipurpose Room, National Library Service, Lilongwe)

On 30 and 31 October, the Embassy of Japan in Malawi hosted the Japan Film Festival 2026 at Pabwalo Multipurpose Room, located at the National Library Service in Lilongwe. In attendance were students, Japanese nationals living in Malawi, members of the diplomatic community, and others interested in learning more about Japan.

The film festival provided an opportunity for attendees to learn about different aspects of Japan, its culture, and its people. Furthermore, it was also a chance for friends and families to come together and enjoy Japanese cinema.



In his opening remarks, Ambassador NAITO Yasushi said: “You may notice some familiar things in the films that connect Japan and Malawi. These might include respect for one another, the strong bonds within our communities, our sense of identity, and the stories we pass down from one generation to the next. In particular, the role of folklore in Japanese films may remind you of Malawi’s own rich tradition of storytelling, which is popular among children every Saturday morning here in Pabwalo.”

National Librarian Mr. Aamon Kapasule also commended the Embassy for its continued support through holding different events at its premises and appreciated that the movies would help the audience learn more about Japan.

One of the moviegoers, who watched all four films, said that the movies were not only entertaining but also opened his world to new perspectives on Japan.

Over two half-days, attendees enjoyed four Japanese films: Lines That Define Me, Life of Key, KAPPA – A River Goblin and Sampei, and Bushido Sixteen. Featuring a variety of themes, from friendship and personal growth to identity and rivalry, the films offered something for everyone, making the festival a real treat for moviegoers.

Ambassador's speech：https://www.mw.emb-japan.go.jp/files/101111163.pdf



Opening remarks by Ambassador NAITO



Remarks by National Librarian Mr. Kapasule



Entrance