

## 2023 TIA Awa Odori Participant Remarks

It was indeed a great pleasure to join and be a part of TIA Awa Odori team, which was mix of young and young-at-heart Foreigners and Japanese, and dance to the beats of music during Awa Odori in Tokushima.

It was exhilarating and fun all the way! All this happened because of the amazing organization of the team, supply of energetic and delicious food and drinks, dance practice sessions and the supply of TIA Awa Odori dance dress. The TIA staff led by Kimiko San together with the volunteers made it a memorable evening and event to remember. Thank you all.

Sravan (インド)

Awa odori Tokushima 2023 this year was spectacular. Participating with TIA was such a pleasant and exciting experience. We danced, laughed, and made new friends. I will always cherish this memory. Thank you for letting me experience such a wonderful event.

Najat (モロッコ)

Hello I am Aditi from India. I really love dancing as I'm a trained classical dancer. As you all might know India has a rich heritage and myriad attractions such as the world's largest collections of songs, music, dance, theatre, folk traditions, performing arts, rites and rituals, paintings and writings that are known as the 'Intangible Cultural Heritage' (ICH) of humanity. AWA odori is one of my favorite festivals celebrated in Japan. This was my 2nd year dancing with TIA in the Awa festival. Last year due to covid there were really very few people but I had fun. So, this year I wanted to meet many international people and be friends with them. This year was a wonderful experience as many of my colleagues and friends were dancing with me as well as came to see our performance. Thank you so much TIA for the stupendous experience which I am tremendously gratified with and hope to see you guys next year as well.

Aditi (インド)

踊る阿呆に 見る阿呆”——

阿波おどりの魅力は、あでやかな着物をまとった踊り手たちが、ぎっしりと密集して一糸乱れぬ優美な踊りを披露する「女踊り」。汗を飛び散らせながら、勇壮な掛け声とともに激しく踊る「男踊り」。この夏、私もいよいよ踊るアホウデビューとして、TIA 連に参加させていただきました。嬉しいおもてなしをいただきました。(市)国際交流協会のスタッフの皆様が飲み物と焼き鳥・おにぎりなどを中庭に用意してくださり、早速お祭り気分で、初対面の方々とも自然に会話が弾んでいました。とても楽しかったです。外国人参加者は初めて踊る人も多いようでした。私も初めは、ぞめきの拍子に乗って手と足を動かすのに一生懸命でしたが、周りのみなさんのあふれる笑顔に、いつの間にか私も大きな笑顔で答えていました。「踊りは?」「TIA!」のかけ声を上げながら、演舞場に踊り込み、満員のお客様から大きな拍手や声援をいただきながら、最高の気分で踊りきることができました。世界の仲間とひとつになって盛り上がることができ、私の阿波おどり初挑戦は素敵な思い出となりました。TIA の皆さま、大変お世話になりました。来年の参加を今から楽しみにしております。

任 (中国)

I'm Veronica Aba Tetteh from Ghana in west Africa.

I really enjoyed every aspect of Awa Odori dance. How it was organized by allowing everyone from different countries to participate. How the Japanese welcome us is much appreciated. I'm always ready to participate in any kind of such program. Thank you

Veronica (ガーナ)

