「Okayama University Graduation Ceremony Congratulatory Speech 2026」

It is a great honor and pleasure to attend the Okayama University Fall Graduation Ceremony2026 along with our academic and executive staff. I would like to congratulate all of you on the completion of your undergraduate and graduate programs. We are very happy to see you here today.

Of the 209 graduates today, 102 have completed doctoral programs, 37 have completed master's programs, 2 have completed professional degree requirements and 68 have completed undergraduate programs.

Today I would like to introduce two phrases as take home messages to you all.

First one is FUEKI-RYUKO . This is a Japanese phrase of HAIKU Principle which means fluidity and immutability. Or interchange between the transient and the immutable is central to the soul of HAIKU. You may know HAIKU is one of the style of traditional poem which was originated by Matsuo Basho about 400 years ago.

FUEKI is immutability or continuity and things which we should not change or things should not be changed.

RYUKO is fluidity or change and things we should change or things which should be changed. Harmonious and appropriate mixture of FUEKI and RYUKO is a Key to prosperity and sustainability

I want you to remember and think that what was and what is and what will be FUEKI and RYUKO to you. FUEKI RYUKO is a key phrase of my presidency since I became president three years ago. Then what is FUEKI RYUKO to Okayama University?

FUEKI is defined as to pursuit wellbeing of the multi-stakeholders. Top stake-holder of Okayama University is of course students like you.

RYUKO is define as quick and appropriate change or reform of management system based on the social and public trend.

Second takehome message is OKADAI-LOVE as one sample FUEKI.

I want you to keep OKADAI-LOVE even after the graduation today. In order to foster OKADAI-LOVE from by student, GAKUSEI(student )-LOVE from staffs and faculties are essential and critical. This is my important point as a president.

Okayama University has established a global alumni network including 55 alumni associations in various locations around the world. Actually last three years as a president　I visited many countries including China, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, India, Brazil, Paraguay and so on . I also met many graduates from Okayama University and I enjoyed sharing their memories of life in Okayama over dinner. Their memories are ranging from last year to 30 years ago in Okayama but there are many common aspect in spite of the age difference. One definite and important thing I felt is that their stay and life in Okayama influenced their life afterwards and they love Okayama and OKADAI and feel proud of being a member of OKADAI

I hope you will participate in alumni chapter activities in your home countries. In order to deepen partnerships among the university, alumni, and communities, we plan to ensure alumni interactions through on site face to face communication and internet communication technology. Of course, whenever you feel the need to further your intellectual journey, you will always be welcomed back to OKADAI.

After graduation, you are still a part of OKADAI. And you will be for the rest of your life.

Finally, we hope that you will be proud of what you have learned at OKADAI and what you have accomplished in obtaining your respective degrees. We wish you a lifetime of success, health, and happiness in your future with OKADAI-LOVE .

I once again express my heartfelt congratulations to everyone on your graduation today. 今日はおめでとうございます。Congratulations today!

中国語：恭喜（Gōngxǐ：ゴンシー）、インドネシア語：Selamat（スラマッ)、

ベトナム語：Chúc mừng（チュック ムン）、ベンガル語：অভিনন্দন（オビノンドン）

Yasutomo Nasu,　President, Okayama University　September 25th, 2026