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## Being a Minority in Japan: JETs of African Descent

Pre-Departure Seminar June 25, 2016

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### Resources for JETs of African Descent

#### Staying Connected

##### Facebook Groups

- **JETs of African Descent** (<http://www.facebook.com/groups/JETsAD>)  
This group is open to all and focuses on topics related to JETs of African Descent (JETs AD). They aim to provide useful information and share resources on hard-to-find hair and beauty products, foreign foods, events, ways to stay connected, and other topics relevant to our demographic.
- **Caribbean JETs** (<http://www.facebook.com/groups/CaribbeanJETS>)  
Connect with past, present, and future JET Program participants from the Caribbean and of Caribbean roots and ancestry.
- **Africa in Japan** (<http://www.facebook.com/groups/9113625830>)  
This is a group that shares resource and information on anything and everything from African festivals and restaurants to embassy related events and everything else in between around Japan.

##### Forums

- **ITIL JET Programme / Japan Forum** (<http://www.ithinkimlost.com/>)  
I Think I'm Lost (ITIL) is a non-official discussion site for current JETs as well as those applying for the program. Discuss topics range from studying and practicing Japanese to preparing for life after the JET. You can also get travel advice or lesson ideas for your classroom, too!

#### Educational Resources

- **TeacherVision**  
[www.teachervision.fen.com/black-history-month/teacher-resources/6602.html](http://www.teachervision.fen.com/black-history-month/teacher-resources/6602.html)  
Provides Black history lesson plans you can use: Educational Videos, Literature, Biographies, Quizzes, etc...

#### Cosmetics and Personal Care

##### Hair & Skin (wigs/weaves, shampoo, etc...)

\*These websites provide international shipping to Japan. Extra shipping fee may apply.

- [www.ebonyline.com](http://www.ebonyline.com)
- [www.hairsisters.com](http://www.hairsisters.com)
- [www.oyinhandmade.com](http://www.oyinhandmade.com)

## Natural Hair Care Advice

- [www.nappturality.com/forums](http://www.nappturality.com/forums)
- [www.curlynikki.com](http://www.curlynikki.com)
- [www.naturalhairrules.com](http://www.naturalhairrules.com)

## News, Blogs, Videos and Online Magazines

### News

- [www.blacktokyo.com](http://www.blacktokyo.com)  
A website dedicated in reporting news about Blacks and Black culture in Japan among other news in Japan.
- [www.japantoday.com](http://www.japantoday.com)  
Japan's new & current events in English

### Blogs

- <http://whoa-im-in-japan.com>  
A blog about a black woman's life in Japan. Her posts *Blacks in Japan* are intriguing and insightful.
- <http://sistaintokyo.blogs.com>  
Another blog about a black woman's experience in Japan (a bit outdated but still have a lot of useful advice, especially for women of color).
- <http://gaijinchronicles.com>  
Has an old collections of stories from past JET's experience in Japan you can relate to and learn from.
- <http://www.locoinyokohama.com/>  
A website created by a black teacher and author in Japan who dedicate his time exploring the relationship of race in Japanese society and media
- <http://japanblogdirectory.com>  
This site has a directory of blogs all relating to Japan and Japanese culture.

### Online Magazines

- [www.kansaiscene.com](http://www.kansaiscene.com)  
This online magazine list the latest in Kansai happenings such as fashion, styles, public events, festivals, etc...
- [www.fukuoka-now.com](http://www.fukuoka-now.com)  
Another online magazine providing area guides, and news on events, food, drink, and shopping in Fukuoka.
- <http://blackexpat.com/new/>  
An online magazine and blog site dedicated to connecting black expats from around the world.
- <http://www.tokyojournal.com>  
This online magazine discuss an array of topics encompassing travel, the arts, entertainment, fashion, etc...

### Videos

- **Black in Japan** (<https://youtu.be/yJWAuVjKGOO>)  
A video interview of eight people on what it's like being black in Japan. Those interviewed are mainly Americans, in relationships, and give similar views regarding relationships, micro-aggressions, etc.

Please feel free to share this list of resources with fellow JETs /expats of African descent. If there is any resource that you would like me to add to this list, please feel free to email me at [spence1400@gmail.com](mailto:spence1400@gmail.com).