

Difference of Chinese and Japanese Habits in Pre-trip Education to Japan

Qingyun Ren

Shandong Jiaotong University, Jinan, 250357, China

Abstract: With the increasing number of Chinese tourists to Japan, some uncivilized phenomena also occurs frequently, which affects the spread of China's international image. This paper analyzes the causes of uncivilized phenomenon from the differences between Chinese and Japanese habits. It is believed that some differences are caused by factors such as culture, environment and economic development level of both sides, while some differences themselves are caused by misunderstanding. One of the effective ways to solve the uncivilized phenomenon is to correctly understand the differences and do a good job in pre trip education.

Keywords: Travel to Japan; Pre-trip education; Habit difference

1. Preface

According to statistics, the number of Chinese tourists to Japan reached 4.99 million in 2015, while in the first three quarters of 2016, there were more than 5 million Chinese tourists to Japan, far more than the same period last year. The number of Chinese tourists visiting Japan continues to increase which brings huge business opportunities to the Japanese tourism market. On the other hand, the phenomenon of uncivilized tourists has been reported repeatedly. Different people have different opinions on how to solve this problem. In view of the uncivilized behaviors of tourists, Xiao Yun (2007), Wen Tong and Liao Haimu (2009) explained the uncivilized behaviors and their causes from different perspectives. Regarding the measure that stops uncivilized behavior, the advance research opinion is quite many. Liu Fan (2014) and others focused on the issue of pre trip education for outbound tourists.

This paper attempts to interpret the inadaptation of Chinese tourists to Japan from the differences in habits between China and Japan. The reason why some uncivilized phenomena appear is that tourists lack of understanding of Japanese culture and living habits. If tourists are adequately educated in this aspect before traveling to Japan, the author believes that the occurrence of uncivilized phenomena will be relatively reduced.

2. Differences in Chinese and Japanese habits

There are many differences in habits between China and Japan. Due to the limitation of space, we can't introduce them one by one, and we don't intend to interpret them from the academic aspect. Just start from the places that tourists can touch at any time after they go to Japan, and interpret the things that are common in Japanese daily life from that the perspective of Chinese people. There are many introductions on the Internet and various media about the differences between Chinese and Japanese habits. This article mainly from the public place civilization, take public transportation, public place order maintenance and other aspects to interpret.

2.1 Civilization in public places

Public places, as the name suggests, are public and impersonal. Everything must take into account the feelings of the people around them. In Japan, people pay great attention to the feelings of others. For example, in Japan, it is rare for men and women to do intimate movements, or even walk hand in hand. No one will call on the bus or tram. Even if they do, they will keep their heads down and say in a low voice that they can solve the problem in less than 30 seconds. When you really need to answer or make a call, you always leave the subway and go to the platform to deal with it. When Japanese people are in public places, they will turn their mobile phones into silent mode, choose to send text messages or e-mails to solve communication problems, and will not make loud noises. This is civilization in public places. There are many examples. The author thinks that if tourists know this before they go to Japan, they can basically put an end to this kind of uncivilized phenomenon, that is, they think whether they will bring trouble to the people around them.

2.2 Public transport etiquette

Travel in Japan often uses Japanese buses, subways, trams and other means of transportation. Due to different living habits, there are often places different from those in China. Therefore, it is necessary to understand the riding etiquette in Japan. Standing in line to get on the bus is a seemingly simple thing, but it is so difficult for Chinese people to do so. In Japan, when you take a tram, you are always in a good line, always getting off first and getting on later. In particular, in Japan, in order to prevent women from being sexually harassed, the tram company has specially set up a special carriage for women. If a man gets on the carriage by mistake, he is

likely to be considered as a sexual harasser and be handed over to the police.

The “priority seat” in buses and trams is what we call the pregnant seat for the old, the weak, the sick and the disabled. Even if it’s empty, no one will take it. It’s for people in need. Passengers next to the priority seat must turn off the power supply of their mobile phones, and even texting is not allowed, because there may be people using pacemakers in the priority seat, and the mobile phone signal will have a health impact on these people.

In Japan, when taking a walking elevator, try to stand on the left side. Although Osaka and Tokyo have different habits, they all stand on one side to make room for people in a hurry.

2.3 Order maintenance in public places

The high quality of the Japanese is also reflected in their ability to consciously abide by social order and know how to exercise restraint in public places. The Japanese are probably world-famous for their sense of order. Everyone should remember the great earthquake in Japan in 2011. When lunch was delivered to the victims in the disaster area, everyone was queuing up and no one was rushing for it. On the one hand, we can see the national quality; on the other hand, the fairness and justice of the government and other public organizations are particularly important. That is to say, we must keep order, even if the people at the end of the line can have the same meal, then everyone will go to the queue. In Japanese thinking, “collective” is a very important word. We can’t do what we don’t do. We can’t “despite world condemnation.”. Social order, like strict rules and regulations, tightly restricts the Japanese, so there are no derailers. Those who cheat will be abandoned by the group. Some Chinese people have poor self-discipline. After going to Japan, they may not abide by public order for their own convenience. This is also one of the uncivilized phenomena that the Japanese dislike.

3. Summary

The above from the civilization of public places, public transport etiquette and order maintenance of public places and other differences in Chinese and Japanese habits to see the pre trip education. In addition to these differences, some are caused by misunderstanding, which is very necessary to tell tourists. For example, Chinese tourists like to throw toilet paper in the wastebasket when they go to the toilet in Japan, which is considered uncivilized. Japanese toilets are equipped with toilet paper, and toilet paper needs to be thrown into the toilet and washed away with water. In China, toilet sewers are easy to block, and toilet paper thrown into the garbage can is regarded as civilization. Chinese tourists subconsciously bring this habit to Japan. At present, many Japanese tourists say that the civilization of Chinese tourists to Japan is changing and has been greatly improved, but there is still a lot of room for the improvement of the civilization quality of Chinese tourists. The author thinks that before traveling to Japan, we should fully understand the differences between Chinese and Japanese habits, and when we encounter the etiquette we don’t understand, we should first see how the local people do, “do as the Romans do”, and do the above things well, which should avoid a lot of embarrassment and contradictions, and put an end to uncivilized phenomena.

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