

“Lectures for Globally Minded Citizens in Delhi”

Dr. Koichi Wakata – JAXA Astronaut

Monday, February 8th, 2016

To foster young people who can think and act on a global level, JAL Foundation, a non-profit incorporated association, have been holding “Lectures for Globally Minded Citizens” in various regions every year.

Dr. Koichi Wakata who speaks in this lecture, had 4 space flights in 1996, 2000, 2009 and 2013 as an astronaut, and he has accumulated 347 days 8 hours 33 minutes in space, setting a record in Japanese human space flight history for the longest stay in space. He assumed command of the Expedition 39, in his 4th flight, and became the first Japanese ISS Commander.

Q&A time will be set at the end of the lecture, and Dr. Wakata will answer to your questions!

- ◆ **Theme :** Current Status of Manned Space Flight and Future Expectations
- ◆ **Place :** MODERN PUBLIC SCHOOL
- ◆ **Profile of Dr. Koichi Wakata**



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Dr. Koichi Wakata was born in 1963, in Saitama, Japan. He received B.S. in Aeronautical Engineering in 1987, M.S. in Applied Mechanics in 1989, and Doctorate in Aerospace Engineering in 2004, all from Kyushu University.

Dr. Wakata joined Japan Airline in 1989, and worked as an aircraft structural engineer.

In 1992, Dr. Wakata was selected as an astronaut candidate by the National Space Development Agency of Japan (NASDA, former organization of Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency).

Dr. Wakata was qualified as a Mission Specialist (MS) by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in 1993.

1st space flight January 11th to 20th, 1996

Dr. Wakata flew as the first Japanese Mission Specialist on Space Shuttle, Endeavour, and performed several tasks including operations for the retrieval of the Japanese Space Flyer Unit satellite, for the deployment and retrieval of the NASA Flyer satellite, and for the support of the spacewalks.

2nd space flight October 12th to 25th, 2000

Dr. Wakata flew as a Mission Specialist on Space shuttle, Endeavour, and became the first Japanese astronaut to work on the ISS assembly, during which he was responsible for the robotic arm operations for installation work for the ISS.

3rd space flight March 15th to July 31st, 2009 (approx. 4-and-half months)

Dr. Wakata flew as the first resident ISS crew member from Japan and his duties during this flight included the final assembly of the Japanese Experiment Module “Kibo”.

4th space flight November 7th, 2013 to May 14th, 2014 (approx. 6months)

Dr. Wakata stayed on the ISS as an Expedition crew member for approx. 188 days. He became the first Japanese ISS Commander in this Expedition. Also, the accumulated time in space spanning four missions is 347 days 8 hours 33 minutes, and it’s the longest stay in space in Japanese human space flight history.

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