

## **Japanese Tea Demonstration at the Japanese Emperor's Birthday Reception**

On Thursday, December 5, 2013, H.E. Mr. and Mrs. Takase, Ambassador of Japan to Jamaica hosted Japanese Emperor's Birthday Reception at the Ambassador's residence in Kingston from 7pm. At the reception, Japanese Tea Master Yoshino Higurashi sponsored by the Japan Foundation, had demonstrations on the serving of Japanese green tea.

The Jamaican guests solemnly participated in the tea ceremony, paying respect for the Japanese culture and at the same time enjoyed a new Japanese cultural experience. Even after the third serving, some guests still requested a fourth time. The reception was featured by the Gleaner (<http://jamaica-gleaner.com/gleaner/20131215/out/out4.html>).



(left) Director of Japan Foundation in Mexico (left) teaches how to serve Japanese green tea to Embassy staff and their family members.

(right) The delicate movements for the green tea servings by the Master held many guests spellbound.



(left) Tea Master Yoshino Higurashi (*Urasenke* Tea School)

(right) Governmental officials including Honorable Mr. Thwaites, Minister of Education participated in tea ceremony.