



Japanese former player comes to watch Cuban baseball All-Star game

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PINAR DEL RIO, Cuba, Oct 23 (acn) While watching the All-Star Game of the 57th Cuban National Baseball Series, Kazuhiro Hisata, a retired Japanese player, recalled the 1990s when he was a teammate of Cuban ballplayers on Asian soil.

It was in the Abekigyo, team from the Japanese city of Kobe, where he shared former stars of the Cuban national pastime like Lazaro Junco, Lazaro de la Torre and Lourdes Gourriel, among others.

We played in the Industrial League, where some Cubans were inserted - he told ACN - and I acted as leadoff hitter, while Gourriel and Junco batted third and fourth, respectively, and de la Torre was our leading pitcher. Hisata said he learned a lot from Cuban baseball and its exponents in the time they remained in the same team, all of which served him to become a better athlete.

At 43, he does not miss the opportunity of coming to Cuba every year to visit his friends, including also Frederich Cepeda.

I have very good relations with retired Cuban players and I am interested in contributing to the development of baseball in this land, he stated.

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