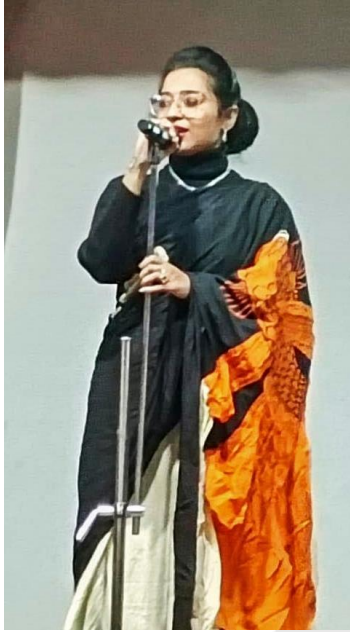


4th Japanese Language Singing Contest



The 4th Japanese Language Singing Contest was held on 6th January 2024 at the Birla Industrial and Technological Museum. As the winner of the previous contest, I received the privilege to open this contest with one of my favorite songs. The President of NKKS, Mrs. Babli Choudhury was invited on stage and she encouraged all participants. The contest began with an incredible performance and those that followed next were deserving of equal awe and applause which were duly meted with. The MC, Khushboo Sensei remained active throughout by quizzing the audience and keeping them equally involved in the contest as the performers. Halfway through the event, the audience sang Hana wa Saku, keeping the spirit of the community. Out of 20 beautiful performances, 3 of them bagged the first, second and third prizes. The winner was Miss Samhita Gupta who sang Tegami by Angela Aki. The song having the vibe of a child-like sincerity touched everyone's heart. The first runners up was Miss Biduparna Das who also chose a song with a very strong message and combined with her powerful voice each that made us speechless. The second runners up awardee was Miss Abhipriya Chakroborty who sang Gurenge which undoubtedly had the audience pumped up and energized. Additionally, Prakriti Saha won the audience choice award. Honorable judges Rohini Roychoudhury and Mami Hasebe handed over the accolades to the winners. The event ended with the attendees of the event singing Ue O Muite (Sukiyaki) by Kyu Sakamoto in Karaoke style!

~ Poulomi Saha

GOROAWASE # 5

~ Tuneer Chakrabarti

Pronounce a word using the number

183

[Click for more help](#)

Hint: Irony isn't really very fun!

GOROAWASE

Solution # 4

9 6
= ku ro
= **BLACK (& white)**

Meet NAKAGAWA Yayoi

(...continued from previous edition)

Experience of various countries: I have accompanied my husband to the Republic of South Africa (Cape Town) from 1989 to 1991, to the United States (New York) from 2007 to 2013, and to the United States (Los Angeles) from 2020 to 2022. Until the early 1990s, the Republic of South Africa was still an era of legally mandated racial segregation policies and discrimination. Every day I witnessed the polarization of preferential treatment of whites and restrictions on people of color, and the polarization of the two on a daily basis. Nevertheless, we were blessed with abundant nature and human relations, and were able to live a usually peaceful life for two years. (I was even robbed in my own home...)

New York in particular had a great impact on my life and values. The individualized educational support for my second son with developmental disabilities who came to the U.S. with me at the time was a dynamic approach unique to New York, which is often described as a racial melting pot or a racial salad bowl. I was often made to think about practical ways to support people with disabilities who are "members of society." It was also very gratifying and precious for me to be reminded of the obvious fact that "people are diverse." In Los Angeles, where I moved just in the midst of the Corona Disaster, it was difficult to lead a normal daily life, so I decided to take an online course on "Science of Happiness" offered by a local university and completed it. This course focuses on various human emotions and sensations, which I had previously perceived vaguely, and approaches them scientifically from the perspectives of psychology, sociology, philosophy, brain science, and evolutionary biology, and takes a more practical approach. It was also very useful to learn about "creating a workplace with a high level of wellbeing (not only mentally but also physically and socially)," which was developed from the results of this research.

Memorable experience in your life: I learned the importance of taking on challenges without fear, and the importance of having one's own opinions. I hope to make good use of this in a way that is in line with the Japanese way of doing things.

Your advice to Japanese Language students: I was very surprised and deeply moved by the beauty of the Japanese language spoken by the people of Kolkata and West Bengal that I have met so far. Language is an important thing that connects people to people. Beautiful words that are close to people's hearts resonate comfortably in the hearts of people of all generations. I am very happy that such Japanese language education is carefully provided here in West Bengal. I cannot live without books, and when I encounter a beautiful piece of writing in my reading, I am moved to the core. Encounters with such Japanese books may add more depth to your Japanese language.

~ Alope Basu



9 March 2024 (Sat)
5.00 PM

39th In-Nichi Bunkasai
Rabindra Okakura Bhavan

21 April 2024 (Sun)
5.00 PM

Learn Japanese with Manga
~ by Ms. Priyali Chakraborty
(online meeting link will be sent by email)

Know Your Sakura?



Somei Yoshino
Most common
5 petal sakura



Yamazakura
Japan's
native 5 petal
sakura

Yaezakura
It has more
than 6 petals



Shidarezakura
The sakura tree
with drooping
down branches

Gyoiko
Yellow
sakura



Shikizakura
This one
blooms in
autumn also

Kyogen @Kolkata



Kyogen, is a traditional form of Japanese theater, known for its comedic elements. Originating alongside Noh, another classical Japanese performance art, Kyogen developed as a form of interlude entertainment between the serious Noh acts. It typically consists of short, humorous sketches or plays that depict everyday life situations, filled with satire. Kyogen performances can be characterized by exaggerated physical gestures and witty dialogue delivered in a style that combines formal language with colloquial speech. The themes of Kyogen often revolve around misunderstandings, miscommunications, and the absurdities of human behavior. The humor is often subtle and nuanced, relying on witty dialogues rather than farce. It has influenced modern Japanese comedy and theater, with its comedic techniques evident in various contemporary forms of entertainment. People of Kolkata were invited by the Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata at Victoria memorial on the 18th of February to witness the magnificent traditional art-form by the Shigeyama Sengoro family who came from Japan. Two plays namely KAKI YAMABUSHI (The Priest and Persimmon Tree) and BO SHIBARI (Tied to a Stick) were performed. It was a rare chance to watch traditional Japanese theatre sitting in Kolkata.

~ Titas Chatterjee

Word Grid

~ Nivi Pal

ぜ	じ	こ	い	ぐ	つ	め	た	い	ろ	へ	す
え	の	ん	ぞ	ら	ぶ	み	く	ぼ	は	ど	ぼ
ば	か	に	ぼ	ひ	の	く	ぼ	れ	ん	も	ら
ん	お	ち	ぶ	ぼ	ぬ	ま	い	な	ろ	は	い
あ	そ	ろ	そ	ろ	ぶ	だ	に	ゆ	ん	ぼ	ろ
お	ぷ	さ	お	ま	い	り	ぎ	そ	ぶ	け	ゆ
そ	け	づ	ぜ	へ	お	め	ほ	べ	ん	ひ	び
ら	の	き	す	ば	た	う	に	は	る	や	び
ぶ	つ	う	ね	ほ	た	ぞ	ひ	す	い	か	わ
し	ろ	も	ち	い	る	み	だ	れ	る	す	よ
へ	げ	び	え	ら	む	は	ん	と	し	じ	ぬ
い	ぼ	れ	あ	た	ば	め	ん	ね	を	め	ぞ

Find out at least ten 4 letter Japanese words present in the above grid. You can go vertically, diagonally and horizontally.

Word Grid Solution

(Jan – Feb 2024)

く	も	か	を	へ	け	で	ま	ば	ん	べ	づ
わ	て	の	ひ	ら	へ	ん	ぺ	か	ら	そ	め
わ	い	ち	ね	え	こ	な	び	あ	ら	ぼ	で
る	ぜ	ど	び	べ	か	い	ふ	ぶ	び	か	ら
れ	げ	か	ぼ	よ	い	れ	ん	ぼ	ち	ぬ	ら
ぎ	ぷ	づ	し	ひ	る	び	ゆ	さ	ふ	づ	の
す	ま	び	ら	が	ぼ	う	わ	よ	つ	も	り
め	べ	ひ	ん	じ	か	む	た	い	か	く	も
ふ	ら	ら	ほ	ん	ん	ひ	ぼ	ぞ	び	め	の
ず	い	れ	み	み	ら	か	そ	ど	ぎ	み	せ
に	で	ち	よ	り	つ	を	く	め	は	ひ	た
さ	が	や	と	へ	の	た	く	さ	ん	つ	ぼ

Find the Person

~ Tisyagupta Pyne

Fill in the Blanks to Find Out the Famous Japanese Personality

1. あの__てもものはおおきくて、たかいです。
2. とり__くがいちばんすきです、もったべたい。さかなもおいしいです。
3. そのトンネルのみなみ__ __のとなりにあのこうえんがあります。
4. __りでわたしはおにぎ__をたべるのはだいすき。
5. これはわたしのおとうさんです。かれのとなりに__かあさんもいます。

Ans: _____ さん。
The person who coined the term "nanotechnology".

Find the Person Solution

(Jan – Feb 2024)



しんかい まこと
新海 誠

Scan the QR codes to watch the videos !

4th Japanese Language Singing Contest



[Click here](#)

Making of a Japanese School Lunch



[Click here](#)

BOOK POST

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