

39th In Nichi Bunkasai

As humming birds the MCs commenced the evening of spring celebration this year at the 39th In Nichi Bunkasai held on March 9th, 2024 at Rabindra Okakura Bhavan supported by Paschimbanga Bangla Akademy and Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata. With a stage adorned with Japanese traditional origami of tsuru & colourful flowers, the mood was set in with the opening dance on a well known folk melody “Sakura Sakura” as Nihon buyou, followed by an encouraging speech by our President Mrs. Babli Chowdhury and chief guest Retd. Major General V.N. Chaturvedi. Vice Consul Mr. Maeda Akira inspiringly addressed the ceremony with his valuable opinion. The audience mood was turned into fun with a re-arranged folk tale as Binbougami to Fuku no Kami, followed by two melodies, one Japanese song and one Hindi song with Japanese translation. As a twist of the evening, the poetical magic of HAIKU recital was a very unique blend from Japan. Ms. Takahashi Mizuki from Consulate General of Japan made a special powerpoint presentation explaining the consulate's cultural activities of the past year and gave a surprising Bengali speech as well. The breathtaking Japanese comedy short play Takarakuji scripted and directed by Mr. Alok Basu entertained everyone. This year's eyecatch of COSPLAY took the audience into new a vision of the anime world gathering spontaneous applause. Wonder of the evening was two small Japanese kids' cute voice with other adult members of the Japan Club for the Song of Joy they sang. Last but not the least, before the vote of thanks and the NKKS song concluded the evening's celebration, there was a medley of Tollywood and Bollywood music staged through a wonderful Indian dance. I convey NKKS deep gratitude and hope that Japan and India friendship grows stronger and the bilateral bondage makes outstanding contribution in world diplomatic history.

~ Rupashree Biswas



MEET Joita Mukherjee



JOITA MUKHERJEE, a veteran member of NKKS, has been teaching Japanese language for a long time. She holds Master's Degree in three subjects, English, Education and Music! She knows French language also! In her teaching career she has also taught English in Japan for more than one year. We spoke on various topics like music and Japanese language.

Q : We know you are very fond of drawing and painting. Did you learn the art somewhere?

A : No, actually from my childhood I have a strong passion for drawing and painting. Though I never had any formal training or schooling in this regard I still draw and paint on my own on various forms!

Q : Sugoi ne! You seem to be a person who have a natural knack in art and singing....

A : My hobby is art and singing. I can play Hawaiian guitar and Esraj also. From my childhood I have learnt singing and took a special training in classical music. I have also completed Master's Degree in Music from Rabindra Bharati University.

Q : But why Japanese language? Was there any special reason for learning this language?

A : You can say that by chance I entered Japanese language class in RMIC, Golpark in 2005-06. I wanted to pursue French language class but there was no seat available that time. As alternative, I joined Japanese class. Later when vacancy in French opened up, I still continued with Japanese mainly because of the good impression Kazuko Nigam sensei made on me. Later I learnt Japanese at Jadavpur University and in Japan as well.

Q : You went to Japan for teaching English language?

A : Yes. Through an advertisement for English language teacher in Japan I applied and I got the opportunity after clearing a written test and interview.

Q : Again after your marriage you went Japan?

A : Yes, two years after marriage I went Japan with my husband and my only child. Then I stayed one and a half month. While I was teaching English in Japan my bond with my Japanese language teacher was so strong that even today I and my family have regular connection with my teacher's family. They even came to Kolkata to attend my marriage. They invited me after my marriage to visit Japan again.

Q : You said that Japanese people and their life inspires you very much.

A : Yes, their rich culture attracts me. So I humbly want to say that Japanese language not only helps us to learn a new language but Japan and its culture teaches us to live a complete life! I learnt the Japanese phrase "ICHI GO ICHI E" that means 'treasure every meeting because they will never happen in the same way again,' and till date I believe it wholeheartedly!

~ Alope Basu



5 May 2024 (Sun)
5.00 PM

JLPT N5 Reading & Listening Practice
~ by Papiya Sensei & Sumana Sensei
(online meeting link will be sent by email)

22 June 2024 (Sat)
5.30 PM

Annual General Meeting
followed by Book Bazar
Asutosh Mookerjee Memorial Institute
(77, Asutosh Mookerjee Road, Kolkata-700025)

Start
preparing
for the next
Nihongo Quiz
More information
coming in July!



Exploring Connections Between Japanese and Indian Students



On 27th February 2024, some of the third, fourth and fifth year students from Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture's Japanese department were given an opportunity to meet and interact the students from Momoyama University, Miyu san, Yusuke san, Sogo san along with Ono sensei at Sarat Samity. We spent 2 hours with them interacting through shared experiences like cultural festivals, language exchange sessions, and collaborative projects. Both groups found common ground, fostering deep friendships and understanding. The Japanese students taught us Origami and also enlightened us about Osaka dialect through a card game. Then we divided ourselves into 3 groups getting to know each other. These interactions not only enrich the academic environment but also nurture a global perspective, instilling values of empathy, tolerance, and appreciation for diversity in both Indian and Japanese students alike.

~ Riddhika Chatterjee

Learning Japanese through Manga

Introduction: Why Learn Japanese Through Manga?

- Reading manga can only help with the increase of new vocabularies as well as kanji
- Visual context aids comprehension
- Informal language and colloquial expressions
- Engaging and enjoyable learning experience
- What type of mangas?
- Finding 'beginner friendly' manga
- Where to find these mangas?
- BOOKWALKER.JP, 少年ジャンプ, CD JAPAN

Amidst the sweltering April weather, a short mental respite was brought about by a very informative session conducted by Priyaly Chakraborty Sensei on the 21st of April in the late afternoon. The session was held online and was titled "Manga de Nihongo Manabou", where students and teachers alike, participated enthusiastically. Priyaly Sensei gave a walkthrough of variety of Japanese Manga websites where learners can find manga for free and then utilize them to aid their reading skills and Kanji recognition skills. In addition to just reading manga, comparing the manga with it's anime adaptation, wherein the characters are verbally delivering their dialogues, is also a very effective way of not just understanding the nuances of the language, but also the proper intonation and accent. Sensei also mentioned watching anime initially without subtitles and then watching the same episodes with subtitles, will enable us to compare whether we could comprehend, more or less correctly, what we heard, which would increase the confidence in our listening skills, crucial for success in JLPT. Sensei also urged the learners to watch YouTube vlogs by Japanese YouTubers, listen to podcasts, and such which would be an additional benefit for a practical learning experience, besides textbooks. Finally, the session concluded with a short question and answer segment.

~ Adesh Kumar Sahoo

GOROAWASE # 6

~ Tuneer Chakrabarti

Pronounce a word using the number

1059

[Click for more help](#)

Hint: I think ice-cream is my safe space

GOROAWASE

Solution # 5

1 8 3

= I ya mi

= Unpleasant

Word Grid

~ Nivi Pal

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

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

Word Grid Solution

(Mar – Apr 2024)

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 the Person

~ Tisyagupta Pyne

Fill in the Blanks to Find Out the Famous Japanese Personality

1. そのかしゆの__ __かしとこえはすごいです。
2. __んごはわたしのすきなおかしです。とてもおいしくてまるいです。
3. あかいいろの__ __りのはちょう(波長)はろっぴやくとななひやくナノメートルのあいだにあります。
4. は__、なつ、あき、ふゆ。

Ans: _____ さん。A famous Japanese singer who made her debut in 1999 with Automatic and 20 years later inspired the making of Netflix's series: First Love.

Find the Person Solution

(Mar – Apr 2024)

たにぐちのりお
谷口紀男 さん



Scan the QR codes to watch the videos !

Aoi Matsuri, Kyoto



[Click here](#)

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BOOK POST

If undelivered please return to:
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2B, SHIVANGAN 53/1/2, HAZRA ROAD
KOLKATA – 700 019

