



SAKURA

No. 101

January - February 2017



てん みずか すけ 天は自ら助くるものを助く Heaven helps those who help themselves.



新年おめでとう御座います!

THE EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY



BIJOYA SAMMILANI

We celebrated our Bijoya Sammilani on 22nd October, 2016. In this type of get together we get chance to meet all our fellow members. We had a chat on various topics. We shared our Durga puja celebration experience. Some of the members tried to speak in Japanese. We also discussed about some of the upcoming events. This type of interactive session helps us to increase the fluency in Japanese language.

At the end we had tea and sweets.

Thank you NKKS for organizing a nice and helpful activity.

Sumana Bhattacharjee

OMEDETOU!



**Aloke Basu's
latest
publication:
"Twenty five
Stories"**

(Contact Aloke san
for details)

As a teacher of the Japanese language I was honored to attend the The Birth Anniversary of His Majesty Akihitosama, the Emperor of Japan on 18th of November, this year, at the Crystal Hall at Taj Bengal, Kolkata. It was a gorgeous gathering organized by the Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata, with Honorable Consul General Mr. Masayuki Taga himself welcoming heartily all invitees and all the members of the Consulate attending each and every guests. The Chief Guest was Mr. Rajendra Shanker Shukla, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal. The party started with the national anthem of both Japan and India and the speech of the Honorable Consul General Masayuki Taga. Dignitaries from different spheres of society were also invited. The hospitality was excellent. Food and drinks were fabulous. Especially ebi tempura and chirashi sushi. Japanese ladies were not only in exquisite kimonos but also in beautiful sarees. It was a great opportunity for me to be present in Japanese cultural environment and I felt as if His Majesty Akihitosama has graced the occasion by himself.

Long Live The Emperor!

Sumana Dey

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

- ◆ **Annual Picnic:** 15th Jan 2017
At Badu, Madhyam Gram
Departure RKM 7:30 am **SHARP!**
- ◆ **32nd In Nichi Bunkasai:** 11th Mar 2017
At Triguna Sen Auditorium Jadavpur University
Curtains up at 5:30 pm

AN INTERVIEW WITH RANITA SAHA



She thinks she is a born traveler. While in Japan in her free time she had travelled a lot. She has just returned from Japan after completing one year course on language while speaking on her experience in Japan she narrated her travelling in all 47 prefectures in Japan. In 2009 she participated in Indo –Japan student conference. She also once stood first in Nihongo Quiz in Junior group. She participated in reading competition also. The sprightly Ranita San studied 5 years diploma course in Japanese Language from 2007 in Ramakrishna Mission, Golpark. After finishing the Japanese language here she went to Bangalore University to pursue Advanced Diploma Course of Japanese Language. Simultaneously she also did a Job there. Then she got chance to go to Japan for studies of Japanese Language Course for one year. That was a Mombusho sponsored course. She selected Nara Women’s University. From the childhood (at the age of 4) she is a trained Bharat Natyam Dancer. In the 2016 Innichi Bunkasai she choreographed a dance on which three girls danced on the stage.

Why did you choose Nara?

She smiled. She went earlier to Japan in 2011 for 30 days for Genesis Programme. Then she went to Nara and was impressed seeing TODAI J1 (Big Statue of Buddha). She liked the serenity of that place. Basically she prefers calmness to noise. So later when she got chance she selected Nara Women's University. In Nara University with the Japanese Language study she took lessons of History, especially the history of Nara.

You are a student of English Honours – so why do you select to learn Japanese language?

“Actually I am a diehard fan of Animation. When I started to like this, I also developed an interest in the culture of Japan, its serenity, people. So, I decided to enter in the Japanese language class. I completed 5 years course.”

You have passed N2 examination. So do you want to appear in N1 examination?

Actually now as I have come back Kolkata, I want to do M.A. Course in Japanese Language in the next

year. I want to appear in JLPT N1.”

You are superb dancer. Is there any memory regarding dance?

“Yes. Once I went to visit Tokushima where I chanced to see AWAODORI (a kind of folkdance). There I participated with the dancers. Actually from the audience three girls were picked up to dance. I was one of them and I was awarded by the organisers for my dance. They used some very unique instruments.”

You are also fond of Japanese Marital Arts.

“In the Nara University I attended Joga class. But the most remarkable this is I have learnt Kendo and Naginata.”

Kendo is sword but Nagita

Nagita is also sword fighting, but that is for women only.

Your impression of Japanese people.

“They are very polite, hard working, and helpful. The first when we (then my husband was with me) landed in Nara it was late night. We were afraid how to go to Hotel. Then I asked a Japanese gentleman for the location of the hotel. He helped me a lot. He called his car then he and his wife took us to the hotel by their car.”

You are a diehard fan of Manga. You also went to see various Manga Museums in Japan. How was the experience?

There are countless manga museums and anime goods stores in Japan. I really enjoyed visiting Niigata Manga Museum and Tezuka Osamu Museum in Takarazuka. I also visited Mizuki Shigeru road in Sakaiminato. The road was filled with statues of characters from Gegege no Kitaro. Though it was a little scary I am glad that I could go there.

You like Japanese food

“I like sushi, kappa sushi, onigiri etc.” I love sushi. Whenever I was out on the road, I used to buy onigiri from convenient stores. I miss Japanese green tea and maccha.

Any memorable experience?

“I enjoyed the snow built Igloo (the house where Eskimos live) in Hokkaido. Actually Hokkaido is any most favourite place.”

She also narrated her experience about going to Sapporo, and Okinawa where she visited Churaumi that is a big aquarium situated in Okinawa.

“I still remember going in vation to the northern most steep of Japan – Cave Soya – Hokkaido – hokkanai. I remember snow falling in winter.”

....contd. from page2

During her stay in Japan she had a blast time with 5 numbers of foreign students – also with Japanese. The course was divided into two semesters. In the course she had to write last report which was compulsory for passing. She wrote on Japanese GOD & Goddesses and mythology – which she enjoyed very much.

Once you talked about fashion in Japan.

“Yes, regarding Japanese fashion I observe that they prefer to use pastel colours though there are some crazy and grotesque fashion but basically they believe in simple living which is shown in their fashion also. In Tokyo the place famous for fashion is Harajuku.”

Her hobby is learning Japanese and also learning about new things.

Aloke Basu

JLPT SESSION 2016



It was really a great success. It was conducted by sensei Khushboo Agarwal. Lot of students were attended the seminar. Sensei Khushboo, has explained how to increase the scores and what is the path to get success in JLPT exam. There were so many tips. This section was really helpful for the students.

Snigdha Bhadra

TENRI MISSION INDIA VISIT

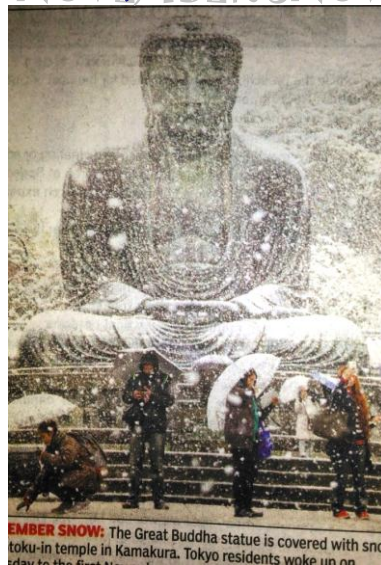
Few NKKS members along with Kazuko Nigam sensei visited the Tenri Mission India, situated in the outskirts of Kolkata, at Doltala, on the 6th of November. When the prayer and other functions was over we were treated to a sumptuous lunch arranged by Kawaura san and Michiko san

We again came back to Tenri Mission India on the 9th of November to attend rare occasion of the visit of dignitaries at Tenri Mission India, who come from Tenri city, Nara, Japan. Lots of people gathered to welcome them in the Japanese traditional way. we listened to his speech attentively and later he obliged us by taking a group photo. We shook

hands and then bade him good bye. We got snack packet and memento and returned home to share our experiences with our friends.

Babli Chowdhury

NOVEMBER SNOW IN JAPAN!



EMBER SNOW: The Great Buddha statue is covered with snow in temple in Kamakura. Tokyo residents woke up on

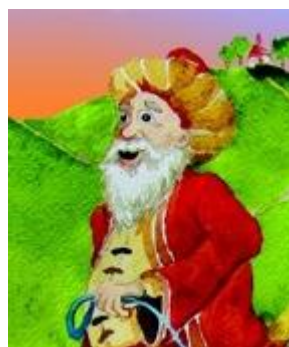
After 54 years!

Japan is headed for a white X'mas this year

Urayamashiii!

STORIES OF MULLAH NASRUDDIN

(3) 答え (The Answer)



ある日 ナシルッディンさんは自分の家のやねのかわらをしゅうりしていた。その時隣人が来てドアをノックした。ナシルッディンさんはやねから「何だ?」と言ってさげんだ。

その隣人は「下りて来たら言う」と言った。ナシルッディンさんはいやいやゆっくりはしごを下り始めた。そして「大事なことは何だ」と聞いた。

隣人は「お金を少し貸してくれないか?」と頼んだ。

あきれたナシルッディンさんのはしごを下り始めていたが「やねまでついて来い」と言った。

その隣人がやねに登ったあとナシルッディンさんは「ぼくの答えはいいえだよ」と言った。

Compiled by Aloke Basu



ARNOB BHOWMIK SAN, ご結婚

おめでとうございます!

JAPANESE CROSSWORD
(January - February)

1.	2.		3.		4.	5.	6.
7.			8.	9.			
10.		11.				12.	
	13.			14.			
15.			16.			17.	
18.					19.		
20.			21.	22.			23
		24.					

ACROSS

- 1) Interrogative word
- 4) To beat a drum
- 7) Elephant
- 8) Drug sniffing dog
- 10) Ox carriage
- 12) Household work
- 13) Dark colour
- 14) Zinc
- 15) Divine love
- 17) Insect
- 18) Valley water
- 19) Pick pocket
- 20) Book
- 21) Fossil
- 24) To walk about

DOWN

- 1) Forgery
- 2) Applicant
- 3) To be shut
- 4) Table
- 5) Kanji radical (bamboo)
- 6) Instruction
- 11) Ravine
- 11) Large
- 15) One side
- 16) To keep
- 18) To believe
- 19) Gap
- 22) Seat
- 23) Juice

Mahashveta Basu Mukherjee

Answers to
JAPANESE CROSSWORD
(November - December)

1. あ	2. た	3. た	か	い		5. か	6. じ
7. つ	い	か		い	9. ま	い	ま
10. か	い	ら	い		12. ね	だ	ん
13. ま	く		14. さ	い	15. き	ん	
し		16. ぬ	ま	ち		17. じ	18. こ
19. い	20. し		21. し	ば	22. い		く
	23. し	24. か	い		25. み	26. な	み
27. ひ	や	く		28. あ	ん	し	ん

WORD JUMBLE - 47

Unscramble the following words, and join the circled letters to find out the answer:



1. しょうあい(Love/affection)

○				
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2. ずらわかいあ(As usual)

	○				
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3. らしまいたあ(Brand new)

	○				
--	---	--	--	--	--

4. まくらいに(Bridal Bed)

	○			
--	---	--	--	--

5. こんが(Stubborn)

○		
---	--	--

6. くしつうさ(Beauty)

					○
--	--	--	--	--	---

Sontu Debnath

ANSWERS TO
WORD JUMBLE - 46

1. ひやかかじてん
2. くにがら
3. にんげんかんけい
4. ひやくえんだま
5. かいようかがく

ひ	や	く	に	ん	ひ	や	く	よ	う
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EDITORS: Tanusree Chatterjee & Alope Basu

BOOK POST

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53/1/2, HAZRA ROAD
KOLKATA - 700 019

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