



SAKURA

No. 106

November - December 2017



あした あした かせ ふう 明日は明日の風が吹く Tomorrow is a new day

Nihongo Quiz

The 20th Eastern zone quiz contest for junior and senior group



based on number of hours of study was organized by Nihongo Kaiwa Kyookai on 16-Sep-17 at Shivananda Hall, Ramakrishna Mission, Golpark and supported by Consulate General of Japan, Kolkata. Student from different institutes of Kolkata participated enthusiastically in the contest. Questions were very challenging in both the groups especially number of strokes and on pronunciation of Kanji and general knowledge. It is heartening to observe that students from both the groups performed well.

The Consul General of Japan, Masayuki Taga san mingled with the students during tea break. Taga san mesmerized the audience with his witty speech in Japanese. He emphasized on the importance of growing Indo Japan ties and reminded everyone that 2017 is observed as Japan India friendly exchange year. He distributed the prize and certificates to contestants and invited all the winners to his house for a dinner party.



Vice Consul Kato san brought beautiful Japanese handicraft for each participant as memento on behalf of Japan Consulate. A video on Japanese contemporary nail art and glass manufacturing was played.

Sukhendu Das, winner of 2007 senior group quiz contest shared his experiences of visiting Japan for the Jenesys program.

Quiz master Ruma Sensei and Poonam Sensei conducted the show with their usual charm that made the students less nervous and comfortable on stage.

Winners Junior Group:

1st. Anoushka Datta Chaudhuri (Okakura Bhavan) Manaswata Mukhopadhyay(Nihongo Academy)

2nd Agnishwar Choudhury IILC
Swapan Kumar Ray RMIC

3rd Trinetra Paul RMIC
Jyotsna Das RMIC

Senior Group
1st Pubali Das RMIC
2nd Shreya Bose RMIC
3rd Riddhima Roy RMIC

Papiya Das Gupta

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

- ◆ **JLPT Practice:** 22nd Nov 2017
Sarat Samity 6pm
- ◆ **Annual Picnic:** 4th Feb 2018
At Budge Budge
- ◆ **In Nichi Bunkasai:** 24th Mar 2018
(Interested students to contact Nigam Sensei)

BIJOYA SAMMILANI

After the Durga Puja, our much awaited Bijaya Sammilani get together of Nihongo Kaiwa Kyookai Society was held on 11th October 2017 at 6 p.m in Sarat Samity with a small gathering of members; we greeted each other and shared our experiences of the puja along with some delicious snacks and sweets. The gathering was small but we enjoyed it a lot.

Reema Basu

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AN INTERVIEW WITH DR GOUTAM BANDYOPADHYAY

Dr Goutam Bandyopadhyay is a cartographer in the department of Geological Sciences of Jadavpur University. He is in the departmental administration and works in the field of Geology, the Science of Earths, its strata and their relations. He has done PhD. in Geophysics, having completed Honours in Geology from Jadavpur University. He also completed MSc in Applied Geophysics from the same university. Now he also teaches Japanese language in Sakura Academy and Atullya Ghosh Institute.



Here are the excerpts from the interview:

Q Now you teach Japanese in Sakura Academy and Atullya Ghosh Institute, from Geology to Japanese language..

A Actually once one of my friend of New Zealand told me how knowing Japanese language helps to earn money there. Then I began to take interest in this language. Then one day the Secretary to Dean, Arts Faculty (Jadavpur University) also inspired me to learn this language. Gradually I grew an interest in Japanese language and then I talked with Dr Abhijit Mukherjee, professor of Electrical Engineering Department, Jadavpur University. He also inspired me and I took admission in Japanese course in the school of linguistics and languages of Jadavpur University. Abhijit Mukherjee is the head of that Japanese language section.

Q You also teach Japanese in your house?

A Yes I coach some students. Many of my students have settled in Japan --one of my students from Sakura Academy named Rishav has succeeded in J L PT --N-1.

Q You are teacher -in-charge of Japanese language in Sakura Academy

A Two of my classmates of Japanese language class told Bipul Krishna Das of Sakura Academy about me. Bipul san then called me and offered me a job to teach there and from 2008 I have been teaching there. Now I also teach in Atullya Ghosh Institute. Once South Calcutta Branch of Sakura Academy was run from my residential address. For one year I was also in Okakura Academy of Salt Lake when there was a collaboration with Sakura Academy. For Japanese

language I must mention the name of Ruma Chatterjee Sensei who is always ready to help.

Q Have you done any translation or interpretation job?

A Yes I work in the field of IP (Intellectual Property) for a Belgium based company - Japanese translation - mainly about Data extraction etc. I was also the interpreter of Indo -Japan Students Conference some years back. I have also done interpretation work for

Dasu Bhoumick san.

Q Your Hobby

A Collection of coins, research in geo- physical field , reading and traveling.

Q You have gone to Japan for teacher's training

A Yes in 2011 I went to Japan for teacher's training for two months as a teacher of Sakura Academy

Q Your impression about Japan....

A It was a memorable experience --I liked the Bullet train - it was mesmerising. I was especially charmed at how they have preserved old temples! How neat, punctual and dedicated Japanese people are! I also visited Hiroshima. I was really thrilled to think how japan has survived from the fatal destruction of cruel inhuman war!

Q Besides Japan you have also gone to other foreign countries?

A Yes I have also gone to Bangladesh, Nepal and England. I went to England twice ---in 1993 for PhD research and in 2000 for post - doctoral research.

Q Memorable experience....

A Aki Sensei came to learn Bengali in Jadavpur University! I had sweet memories of her ---a great friend! During our teacher's training in Japan I befriended many teachers of various countries and we have formed a Facebook friend group!

Q Your advice to students....

A To learn kanji and grammar attentively. But the most vital thing is to go through the text properly.

Q About our NKKS activities...

A I enjoy and appreciate various programs of NKKS - In Nichi Bunkasai, Quiz , Foundation day program, picnic etc which is very useful to promote the language and at the same time fellow feeling etc.

Aloke Basu



It has been almost 2 months since I arrived in Japan. Although, before coming I was really worried as to how will I spend six months in a foreign land, my fears were unfounded. I started getting used to this place in about a week. The days are busy here with classes and never ending assignments, but finally my dreams have come true!

Although it's my second visit to Japan, I keep bumping into things that never fail to surprise me. Moreover, the lifestyle here is completely different from India. For example, Japanese people pay attention to the smallest of details. Once while I was going for shopping, on the way I noticed a large net, covering garbage bags in the corner of the street. Later, I came to know, that the net is often used to keep away crows from littering the garbage bags.

Another thing that intrigues me is that in Japan, presentation is very important. The appearance and design of a thing is as important as its function. Things are often given colorful and appealing design. Perhaps, this brings to fore the love for perfection in Japanese people.

Apart from these revelations, I was also surprised when I came to know about the existence of special institutes for the older generation in Japan where they study subjects like international relations. Members of one of these institutions



were invited to our Japan Foundation Centre for a fruitful interactive session. The reason that this concept appealed to me so much is that people often

feel lonely in their old age due to certain unsaid yet prevalent rules of the society. I want to find out more about such institutes during my stay here and someday in future I hope we see something like this in our country too.

After returning to India, I will indeed cherish my time and the people I have met here. This indeed is "Once in a lifetime encounter."

Khushboo Agarwal



瓜子姫

(Urikohime)

むかしあるところにおじいさんとおばあさんがすんでいました。おじいさんは山でたきぎを取り、おばあさんは川でせんたくをしました。ある日、おばあさんがじゃぶじゃぶせんたくしていると、ぽっくりこっこ、とっくりこっこ。うりがひとつながれてきました。「おやまあ、おおきなうりだこと。」とながれてきたうりをそばへひきよせました。

おばあさんはうりをかかえてうちへかえりました。やまからもどってきたおじいさんにみせると、「ほう、うまそうだな」おじいさんはよろこんでうりをきろうとしました。

ぽかり！うりがふたつにわれました。うりのなかからちいさなおんなのこがでてきました。「おう、かわいい。このこはかみさまがくださったのにちがいない。」おじいさんとおばあさんはにこにこ。

おじいさんとおばあさんはうりからうまれたおんなのこにうりこひめとなをつけました。

to be contd..

(Nihon no Mimwa –for Junior School)

Japan's (1956) first puppet animation film "Uriko Hime to Amanojaku" **Watch on YouTube:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSDpSb7A-is>



The Shinkansen Arrives!

Japan is to build India's first high-speed railway. The planned rail would run some 500 km between Mumbai and the western city of Ahmedabad, at a top speed of 320 km/h (200 mph)

**JAPANESE CROSSWORD
(November - December)**

1	2	3	4		5
6					
		7		8	
	9				
10				11	12
13			14		

ACROSS

- 1) Natural history
- 6) Prohibition
- 7) Doubt
- 9) Postal mark (cancelation)
- 10) High humidity
- 11) Female (animal)
- 13) Firewood
- 14) Male

DOWN

- 1) Comb
- 3) Ball dance room
- 4) Cold (food)
- 5) Black
- 8) Face mask
- 9) Scenery
- 10) Ball
- 12) Famous Japanese food

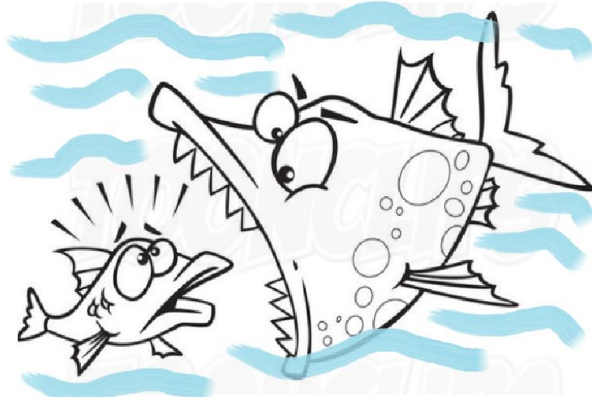
Mahashveta Basu Mukherjee

**Answers to
JAPANESE CROSSWORD
(September - October)**

1	2		3		4
が	い	こ	く		し
5			6		
く	し		さ	く	ら
7		8			
せ	ん	せ	い		べ
				9	
い		つ		か	る
10	11		12		
か	け	ぶ	と	ん	
	13				
	さ	ん	ぶ	さ	く

WORD JUMBLE - 51

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



1. てんくじゃ (Weak point)

○	○	○		
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2. くんきに (Muscle)

		○	○
--	--	---	---

3. しょかきょう (Text book)

○	○	○			
---	---	---	--	--	--

4. えんぶつくしよ (Botanical garden)

○	○	○				
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Sontu Debnath

**ANSWERS TO
WORD JUMBLE - 50**

- 1. ひょうじょう
- 2. かきかた
- 3. こしょう
- 4. ものすごい
- 5. もりのおく

ひ	き	こ	も	り
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Don't miss -

**Koto, Shamisen & Tabla concert
By Sumie Kaneko & Tanmoy Bose**

On 11th Nov. at 7:pm
At GDBirla Sabhagar

EDITORS: Tanusree Chatterjee & Alok Basu

BOOK POST

If undelivered please return to:
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Address correction requested

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