



SAKURA

No. 85

May – June 2014



はじめ だいじ 初めが大事 Well begun is half done

IN NICHI BUNKASAI

The 29th In Nichi Bunkasai was held at the Dr. Triguna Sen Auditorium of Jadavpur University on 8th March, 2014. The program commenced with the speech of the President of NKKS, Mr. Jayanta Kumar Saha. His speech was followed by the speeches of the Honorable Consul General of Japan at Kolkata, Mr. Mitsuo Kawaguchi and then that of the Chief Guest Dr. Satyajit Banerjee, Director of the Calcutta International School. The speeches were followed by cultural performances.

The first performance was a classical Indian dance called “Manipuri”. The theme of the dance was portrayal of Radha’s love for Lord Krishna. This beautiful dance was followed by a Japanese drama “*Nezumi no Yomeiri*” by the children of the Calcutta International School. The story revolves around finding a groom for a sage’s mouse-daughter. After this, the sweet musical performance by the little children of the Japanese Supplemental School of Calcutta mesmerized the audience. Then came the skit, Mind Your Japanese Language Part VI, which successfully maintained its past tradition of making the audience laugh their hearts out. This was followed by a melodious Tabla Recital by Ms. Noriko Takasaki, and a group song by NKKS members.

Towards the end of the program, the hilarious Japanese drama “*Obake no kowaimono*” kept the energy of the auditorium alive. This energy was further enlivened by an extraordinary Marathi folk dance “*Lavani*” by the NKKS students. Thus a wonderful evening came to an end with the NKKS group song and Vote of Thanks.

Khushboo Agarwal



Kawaii
~
Kowai



MONTHLY PROGRAMME

- ◆ **Manga:** 3rd May 2014
By Aloke Basu
At Sarat Samity 6:30pm
- ◆ **AGM:** 28th June 2014
At Sarat Samity 6:30pm


Please renew your memberships (Rs.200, only)
For April 2014 to March 2015

AN INTERVIEW WITH MRS GOURI BAKSHI



Mrs. Gouri Bakshi was married to Dr. Dwijendra Nath Bakshi in 1965. He passed away in 2012. These 47 years of conjugal life were full of love, understanding, harmony, and certainly work. Mrs Bakshi still bears the legacy of Dr.

Bakshi's pet institution - our Indo-Japan Language Studies Society. After the demise of Dr. Bakshi, Mrs Bakshi is presently at the head of this institution. As General Secretary of IJWCA (Indo-Japan Welfare and Cultural Association), she is also Vice-Chairperson of IJLSS as the latter is a sub-organization of the IJWCA. She has been managing the administrative work efficiently, taking care of every minute detail of its activities, and both IJLSS and IJWCA seem to be incomplete without her. Despite her age, she exudes stamina and enthusiasm. During our informal conversation, one question intrigued me - whether she wanted to learn the Japanese language or not. When I approached her for interviewing, she was very apologetic, saying that she was a simple person and had nothing to say. But I persisted, and she finally gave in.

Extracts of her interview:

Q: Did you want to learn Japanese language?

A: Once I did want to learn, but due to pressures of my duties as a housewife, I could not. When my daughter started to learn Japanese in RKM, I wanted to take admission too, but this did not materialise.

Q: Your academic field...

A: Pure Science. - Mathematics. Actually Bengali women rarely went to college in our times, and to pursue a science stream was rarer. But I completed M.Sc. in 1964, and was married in 1965.

Q: You have been managing the accounts of this institution for a very long time, and efficiently.

A: Yes; actually from 1988 when I had started coming with Dr Bakshi, and from 2000 onwards I started to come regularly.

Q: Your college....

A: Bethune College, and after that Raja Bazar Science College.

Q: You once said you wanted to be a doctor.

A: Yes. But I had to take admission in Pure Science. Then I also wanted to go to University of Pennsylvania. I had written a thesis in Applied Psychology titled "the Bengali version of Bernreuter Personality Inventory. But unfortunately the members of my family did not want me to go.

Q: Then?

A: I got married. Once I taught in school, but left as I had to look after my family. I was also offered a job in Bank of Tokyo.

Q: You went to Japan?

A: Yes, twice. First time by invitation from the Consulate of Japan - a programme in which anyone who had served for 25 years was given a sponsorship by the Japanese Government. The second time I went as a member of Tenri Mission. Dr. Bakshi was then the Secretary. Kawaura Sensei guided us in Japan.

Q: Tell us about the memories of Japan.

A: I went to many beautiful places there. I was mesmerized by the beautiful sceneries, places - I saw a beautiful shopping mall (the mall culture was not prevalent in Kolkata).

Once we were caught in rain and did not have umbrellas. A Japanese couple came to us and gave us two umbrellas. When we told them that we would not come back to the same place again so could not return them they said that they did not want them back. We were overwhelmed with this gesture. I always appreciated the Japanese people for their hospitality, kindness and discipline. As Dr Bakshi was an employee of the Consulate of Japan, researched on Japan, and also wrote any books, I came to know any Japanese people. Once a Japanese team came here to shoot a film. They wanted to eat food cooked by me. I still remember that day - how I treated them with "*khichuri*" and "*payesh*".

Q: You also went to other places abroad.

A: Yes, I went to Korea, Singapore, Bangkok, Dubai, Sharjah, Muscat...with Dr Bakshi.

Q: Your hobby...

A: Sewing, cooking, reading, mathematics. Famous Bengali writers like Sunil Gangopadhyay and Ashapurna Devi are my favourite.

Q: Your advice to Japanese learning students..

A: Stick to learning - your chance to success will come.

Aloke Basu

おばあさんの金のメガネ



とうじょうじんぶつ
登場人物：

おばあさん タラ (お手つだい)
お父さん けいかん
お母さん だろぼう
ラヌ
ミヌ

Scene 1

Ranu and Minu 2 daughters are talking with each other.

ラヌ： ミヌ おばあちゃんが 金のメガネをなくしたのを 知っている？

ミヌ： うん、 おばあちゃんをよく 金のメガネをおきわすれるよね。

ラヌ： ううん、 そうじゃなくて こんどはほんとうに なくしちゃったんだって。

ミヌ： ほんとう？

ラヌ： おばあちゃんは みっか前まえになくしたんだって。

ミヌ： ふーん、 じゃあ おばあちゃんはどうやって 今本いまほんやテレビを見るの？

ラヌ： あのね、 おばあちゃんはその金のメガネをかけて夜 しんだおじいちゃんを見ることができると知しっている？

ミヌ： うん、 聞いたよ。お手つだいのタラ didi が そう言いっていた。おばあちゃんはおじいちゃんおなと話すこともできるんだって。

ラヌ： ねえ、 でもどうやって しんだ人ひとが話せるの？ それも 2年前ねんまえにしんだよね。

ミヌ： あのね、 ベナレスにいる いだいなせいじんが 金のメガネにとくべつなしりよくをあたえたんだって。それで夜 おばあちゃんはおじいちゃんおなと 話せるんだって。

ラヌ： ベナレスのせいじんは ガンジス川がわの しんせいな水みずの まほうのちからでメガネをつくったんだって。

ミヌ： じゃあ どうしておばあちゃんはひる

まに おじいちゃんを見ることができないの。

ラヌ： せいじんは そのちからを あげなかったからよ。

ミヌ： そっか。もしあたしたちが あのメガネをかけたら おじいちゃんを見ることができかな。

ラヌ： だめだめ、おばあちゃんしか 見えないうんだって。

ミヌ： ねえ、あの金のメガネはとても高たかいっておとうさんが 言いってたよ。

ラヌ： でも だれが メガネをぬすんだのかしら。

ミヌ： からす？

ラヌ： ええー？おばあちゃんまいあさは毎朝 からすに えさをあげているでしょう。

からすは そんなに おんしらずかな？

ミヌ： じゃあ、サル？ さいきん このあたりにサルきのむれが 来たんだって。それともへび？

ラヌ： 何なに ばかな！へびがメガネをかけるの？

ミヌ： そっか。

(...to be continued)
Aloke Basu

STORY TELLING

On 5th April'14, Aloke san read out 3 stories from "Fairytale of Japan" at the Sarat Samity Hall. The stories were:1) Story of Tanokyu 2) The woodpecker and the sparrow, and 3) The story of the Red and Blue demons. They were very nice to hear. Aloke san has translated them from the original Japanese stories. The stories were so attractive that there was pin-drop silence in the hall. Everyone listened attentively to the simple language and the beautiful stories. Aloke san has launched this new book on fairytales in the recent book fair held in Kolkata. I hope that these stories will be included in the children's curriculum in school.

Ela Bhattacharya

THE 18th INDIA-JAPAN STUDENTS' CONFERENCE



Is to be held in JAPAN!

All students (Age 18~25 years) are welcome.

You may send your applications to Partha san or Ruma Sensei asap!!

JAPANESE CROSSWORD
(May - June)

1.		2.	3.	4.		5.
		6.				
7.	8.			9.		
10.			11.	12.		13.
	14.	15.		16.		17.
18.			19.		20.	
21.			22.		23.	
24.				25.		

ACROSS

- 1) Tradition
- 4) Mountain path
- 6) Music
- 7) Mild taste
- 9) Starvation
- 10) Rock
- 11) Crush
- 14) Land
- 16) Rough
- 18) Cheat
- 20) Hunger
- 21) Cotton
- 22) Rice planting
- 24) Unconsciousness
- 25) Miracle

DOWN

- 1) Ready made
- 2) Mining area
- 3) Vast knowledge
- 4) Pharmaceutical department
- 5) Accident
- 8) Revolving stage
- 12) Algebra
- 13) Rival in love
- 15) Warehouse
- 17) Moon
- 18) Bend
- 19) Foe
- 23) Juice

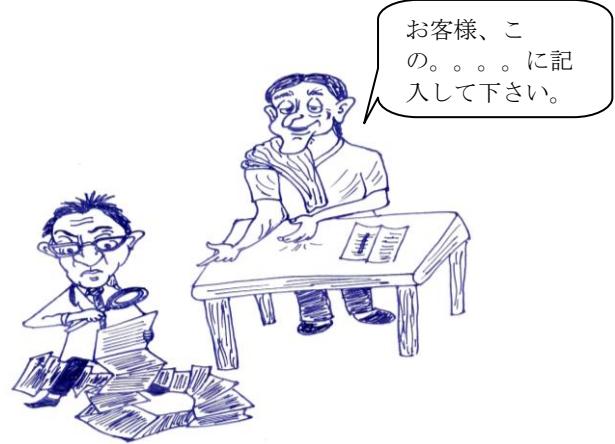
Mahashveta Basu Mukherjee

Answers to
JAPANESE CROSSWORD
(March - April)

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
た	た	か	い	た	い	か
7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
い	た	い	た	し	い	い
9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
け	る	の	み	ま	わ	し
い	12.	な	ま	こ	か	ん
	14.	み		15.	か	し
17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.
と	り	き	め	く	ら	い
21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.
う	き	う	れ	し	が	る
23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.
か	る	い	し	き	か	

WORD JUMBLE - 31

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



1. のもすごい(Terrific)
○ □ □ □ □ □

2. そんな戦争(War)
□ □ □ □ ○

3. はんしき (Half-yearly)
○ □ □ □ □ □

4. ぎょうこうちだん(Industrial)
○ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

5. みかくろぶ(Paper bag)
□ □ ○ □ □ □ □ □

6. ちょうしょう(Symbol)
○ ○ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Sontu Debnath

ANSWERS TO WORD JUMBLE - 30

- 1. じょうしき
- 2. なんきょく
- 3. うちゅうひこうし
- 4. はいしゃ
- 5. つめきり

じ よ う は つ

EDITORS: *Tanusree Chatterjee & Alope Basu*

BOOK POST

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