



SAKURA

No. 115

May - June 2019



なつ むしこおり し 夏の虫 氷を知らず The summer insect knows not ice

Indo-Japan Student Interaction'

On the 24th of February 2019 NKKS had organized an event at Sarat Samiti as they do every year, helping us get to know more about their culture and language; and also to make new friends. Us, the Indian students had assembled in the venue at 3:00pm in the afternoon; helping out with all the necessary arrangements before our Japanese guests arrived. For most of us, it was our first time being in such an event, hence the atmosphere before their arrival was quiet and somewhat intense. It was absolutely amazing to see how quickly our nervous expressions had curved up into jolly smiles when the Japanese students finally arrived. There were 20 Japanese Students; both from Momoyama and Sophia University; and from our side, there were 23 Japanese language students participating in the event. 5 of our teachers were there to help all of us communicate and have good time.

Students were divided into small groups of Indian and Japanese. We introduced one another by writing down our names in tiny notepads, some students made quick sketches making sure that they would never forget each other. Origami lessons from Japanese students, Bengali and Hindi language lessons from the Indian students, discussing the difference between the Osaka and the Tokyo way of saying 'Arigatou', mini food tours of Kolkata and Japan, and a whole lot more was discussed under that tiny roof. Snacks were served to all along with tea. As the parting hour drew closer, we took our phones and exchanged our contacts. Soon, every one of us in the room was taking pictures of one another; selfies and groupies with their foreign but not so distant friends. Finally, we were all called for a group photograph before we bade each other farewell with a hint of sadness in our hearts and a promise to stay in touch and to meet each other again, soon.

Rohan Bhattacharya



Japan has announced that the name of its new imperial era, set to begin on May 1, will be "Reiwa"
- signifying order and harmony.

FUN WITH ORIGAMI



MONTHLY PROGRAMME

- ◆ 'Kanji Wa Omoshiroi'
by Khushboo Sensei : 12th May 2019
At Sarat Samity 4:30 pm
- ◆ AGM 22nd June 2019
At Sarat Samity 6:30 pm

Nihongo Kaiwa Kyokai Society, 2B, Shivangan, 53/1/2, Hazra Road, Kolkata- 700 019
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AN INTERVIEW WITH SNIGDHA BHADRA



She was our *obaasan* in the Japanese drama and she performed so well!

Snigdha Bhadra participated in our drama so many times but now due to her busy schedule she cannot take part. She runs her own

institute “Institute of Japanese Language and Culture” and she is also a teacher in the “Yield Institute” in Sealdah.

During our conversation we talked on various topics - her interest in Japanese language, her busy schedule and also her passion for Japanese language

Extracts from our interview:

Q You learned Japanese from Rabindra Bharati University....

A Yes, when I decided to learn this language I went to this university and met Dr Purabi Gangopadhyay Sensei She was then reading a Japanese book. I had no idea about Japanese language so I asked her “Is Japanese language very tough?” Sensei answered with a smile “No it is very easy”. Immediately I took admission and my Journey in Japanese language started.

Q So Purabi sensei was your first teacher?

A After completing the course in Rabindra Bharati University I came to IJLSS and started to learn advanced Japanese

Q And there Mrs Kazuko Nigam was your teacher But why did you select this language?

A Actually after completing my graduation from Calcutta University wanted to be an anchor in Electronics the media. From my childhood I used to recite poems. When I began to search for a foothold in this profession, and managed to get a berth as an anchor but in a few days I realized that it’s not an area in which I can proceed in a smooth way. I found myself in a position in which I would have to compromise a lot and that too not in a very decent way. So I had to quit the job. Then I was very depressed

Q And then how did you overcome that depression?

A One of my friends suggested learning Japanese language. My friend also inspired me saying that in this sphere there are lots of opportunities. So I decided to go Rabindra Bharati University seeking information about this.

Q You started Japanese language study at the end of 2007

A Yes after that I got a golden opportunity in my

life in 2009 - that is a visit to Japan in the Jenesis Programme. That was the first time I set my foot outside of my country. It was on 14th June 2009. When I reached Japan. I saw so many high-rises in - Tokyo! Tokyo was so clean! The Japanese people were very soft -spoken and gentle.

Q You have many pleasant memories!

A Yes; we stayed at Hotel Asaka, a splendid place! We tasted Indian Samosas there. For the first time I tried various Japanese foods. I was in the Miyazaki group so I visited Miyazaki. The airport was on the sea. It was a wonderful experience of sea and the hills together like Vishakhapatnam. We visited temples and other interesting places. The most wonderful experience was home -stay

Q You met a good friend there-Rion

A Yes a girl child –she taught me some Japanese proverbs –*kotowaza*. I also learnt some *aisatsu* – Japanese greetings from her. We visited many places in Miyazaki together. I also cooked Indian chicken curry for her. The tour was memorable for me -I was very thankful to Japanese Consulate, Kolkata

Q Again in 2018 you visited Japan

A Yes the second time I visited 4/5 schools in Tokyo –there I met my students who had settled in Japan. It was also a very rich experience.

Q You have acted in many Japanese dramas organized by NKKS.

A Yes I have acted in them many times. Among them in “*Obaasan no kin no megane*” I played the protagonist Obaasan and all NKKS members started to call me *obaasan* !

Q Your hobby

A Listening to music and reading books

Q Any advice or suggestion for Japanese language students?

A There is no substitute for hard work so stick to it, and read and read.

Aloke Basu



HANA CLUB

(葉奈クラブ) is now open to membership request! It's a club in Kolkata where members come together once a month to interact in the

Japanese Language on various topics!

Membership is free!

Contact: hanaclubkolkata@gmail.com

Khushboo Agarwal
Administrator

IN-NICHI BUNKASAI 2019



CONSUL GENERAL TAGA

The stage at Dr. Triguna Sen Auditorium, Jadavpur University, lit up with beautiful performances on the evening of 16th of March, 2019 on the occasion of the 34th In-Nichi Bunkasai presented by Nihongo Kaiwa Kyookai Society in collaboration with the Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata. The distinguished guests included the honourable Consul General of Japan in Kolkata, Mr. Masayuki Taga, honourable Vice-Consul General of Japan in Kolkata, Ms. Manami Kato, and the principal (senior school) of Calcutta International School, Dr. Munmun Nath, who was also the chief guest of the program.

The evening began with a celestial koto recital by Mrs. Masae Okuno, followed by an adorable instrumental performance by the children of Japanese Supplementary School of Kolkata accompanied by the Japanese residents of Kolkata. Soon after, we were in for a pleasant surprise when the Consul General of Japan in Kolkata, Mr. Masayuki Taga, joined Mrs. Michiko Kawaura on stage to perform a classical Japanese melody, “*kawa no nagare no you ni*” on the horn accompanied by Mrs. Kawaura on the piano. This was followed by a guest performance by Prime Metal Technology, who sang Tokyo Bon 2020, aimed for the popularization of Japanese culture for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. The song was accompanied with the official video projected onto a screen. Next up, was a delightful skit “Mind your Japanese Language” presented by Japanese language teachers, which took the audience in a bout of laughter. Two energetic and cheerful dance performances followed the skit- one performed by members of NKKS, which included a unique light-dance, and one performed by the children of Japanese Supplementary School of Kolkata. This was followed by two graceful group songs performed by members of NKKS. Paper airplanes flown after the performance of the song “365-nichi

no kamihikouki” certainly brought a smile to everyone’s faces! The group song was followed by a musical band performance by “Yume”, a 4-member band, who strived to take the audience through a 6 decade musical and visual journey of Japan in 6 minutes. Next, was a Japanese drama “*Uso no tane o kaita hon*” put up by members of NKKS, which beautifully merged Japanese folklore with the Bengali folklore story. The highlight of the night was the Karukata Ondo, a kind of bon odori dance, initially performed by the Japanese residents of Kolkata, but subsequently joined in by the audience on stage. The program ended with the vote of thanks, by the Vice President of NKKS, Ms. Anjana Banerjee marking, once again, the end of a glorious and yet another successful In-Nichi Bunkasai.



JAPANESE DRAMA



Anusha Banerjee

KOON YA NO GOTOSHI

こういんや ごと
光陰矢の如し

Koon Ya No Gotoshi: light and darkness fly like an arrow (time flies; time and tide wait for no man)

‘Koo’ means ‘light’ ‘in’ means ‘shadow’ or ‘darkness’. Together they refer to the passage of light into darkness (day and night). In other words, time. The sentiment behind the phrase is close to "life is short"

Sample text :

早いものでこの会社に入ってから三十年の年月がたちました。光陰矢の如しと言われますが、私にとってのこの三十年はとてもみじかかったというのがじっかんです。(It's been 30 short years since I joined this company. As the proverb "time flies like an arrow" goes, my 30 years have been indeed too short).

Aloke Basu

**JAPANESE CROSSWORD
(March - April)**

1	2	3		4	5
6				7	
		8	9		
10	11		12		
13		14			15
	16			17	

ACROSS

DOWN

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1) Pacific Ocean | 1) Important |
| 6) Awareness | 2) Stone |
| 7) Horse | 3) Mural Painting |
| 8) Student | 4) Claim/demand |
| 10) Moon | 5) Delicious |
| 11) Kind/type | 9) Car |
| 13) Island on pond or river | 11) Plan |
| 16) To draw water | 14) Office work |
| 17) Donkey | 15) Width |

Mahashveta Basu Mukherjee

**Answers to
JAPANESE CROSSWORD
(March - April)**

1 も	2 く	よ	3 う	4 び	
5 ち	ず		6 し	ん	7 き
8 こ	す	9 い		10 ぼ	し
む		11 か	12 こ	う	
	13 か	が	み		14 は
15 し	た	く	ち	び	る

WORD JUMBLE – 59

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



What is the proverb?

1. ねいっぱいむ(Overflowing with feelings)

○	○				
---	---	--	--	--	--

2. かむをはな(To blow one's nose)

		○		
--	--	---	--	--

3. でなでな(Stroking)

○	○		
---	---	--	--

4. ものりくお(Gift)

○				
---	--	--	--	--

5. きすいろ(Water filter)

○	○		
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Sontu Debnath

**ANSWERS TO
WORD JUMBLE – 58**

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. くうこう | 4. すべりやすい |
| 2. ちかてつ | 5. さるどし |
| 3. かがくしゃ | |

く	ち	が	す	べ	る
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