



SAKURA

No. 99

September - October 2016



はり 針ほどのことを ぼう 棒ほどに言う To make a mountain out of a molehill

Freshers' Welcome



Happy Durga Pujal



This year's first event of NKKS took off with welcoming freshers of the Japanese Language Institutes. It was an enjoyable event, with quite a large turnout, (around 50 students or more).

Mr. P.S. Mitra, the former president of NKKS, and coordinator of Ijsc, spoke to the students about the coming Students' Conference, its prospective and aims. Mr. Jayant Saha, the present president of NKKS, then spoke to the students about the various activities of our organization, its objectives, and achievements. Some of us teachers and senior members, along with Nigam sensei, sang Japanese songs for the students which they seemed to enjoy. Old editions of Sakura were distributed to the students to help them understand our activities. The programme ended with eating *samosas*, sweets and hot cups of tea, relished by all.

Ruma Chatterjee

NKKS Foundation Day



This year the members of NKKS celebrated its 32nd birthday on 15th August in Nigam Sensei's house. The birthday cake was cut by Nagahama Sensei, Nigam Sensei and Vice Consul, Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata, Miss Manami Kato. Nagahama Sensei came from Japan for the India Japan Students' Conference. The Japanese students who came from Japan to participate in the India Japan Students' Conference sang some jovial and lively songs. Some NKKS members including Ruma Sensei, Rushi san, Sanjay san, Chhanda san, Anjana san and Reena Sensei sang some Indian and Japanese songs. Obviously Nigam Sensei sang with them with her ever enthusiastic patronage!

Like every year we, the members, had a gala evening as usual.



To
All our
Teachers

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

- ◆ **Nihongo Quiz:** 24th Sept 2016
RMIC Shivananda Hall 2pm
- ◆ **Bijoya Sammilani:** 22nd Oct 2016
Sarat Samity 6:30pm

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Cinema Nippon



27th Cinema Nippon was held in Nandan II, Kolkata from 20th August to 21st August organised by Nihongo Kaiwa Kyokai Society in collaboration with



Calligraphy Workshop

Nandan, I & CA Department, Government of West Bengal & Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata. Four films were screened. "*Shiawase ni kiroi Hankachi*" (The Yellow Handkerchief) directed by Yoji Yamada, "*Shiko funjatta*" (Sumo Do Sumo Don't) directed by Masayuki Suo, "*Suwingu Gaaruzu*" (Swing Girls) directed by Shinobu Yaguchi and "*Hana no Ato*" (After the Flowers) directed by Kenji Nakanishi. All films were appreciated by the audience though the inaugural film and the last film moved them very much.

A Calligraphy Demonstration and Workshop was held on 12th of August at Ramakrishnananda Hall of Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Golpark, Kolkata. It was organized by Nihongo Kaiwa Kyokai Society in collaboration with The Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata in association with Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture. Ms Hiroko Nagahama, popularly known as Nagahama Sensei demonstrated the art of Shodo or calligraphy after which 67 participants took the opportunity to learn the same.

Ms. Manami Kato, Vice Consul, Cultural Section of The Consulate General of Japan, Kolkata delivered the welcome address. The Vice President of NKKS, Mrs. Poonam Nand De also addressed the participants. The entire interpretation was done by Mrs. Ruma Chatterjee. The Workshop started at 5pm and was over at 7pm.

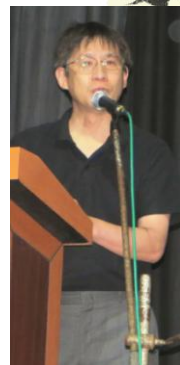
Sumana Dey

20th IJSC Opening Ceremony



The 20th India Japan Students' Conference started with the inaugural ceremony in the Dr Triguna Sen auditorium of Jadavpur University on the 11th of August. The Vice Chancellor of University of Burdwan, Professor Smrity Kumar Sarkar was the chief guest of the function. In his speech, he narrated his feelings and experiences about Indo-Japanese history and bilateral relations. The Consul General of Japan Kolkata (acting), Mr Yasuhiko Tanaka also delivered a lecture. Students of both countries gave mind-blowing performances. The Japanese students mesmerised the audience with their songs and *soran-bushi* dance. The Indian students also sang Tagore songs and danced with those songs. There were other entertainment performances also. Everybody enjoyed the programme very much!

Aloke Basu



"Sakura" touches 100 in the next issue!
We invite articles from one and all to commemorate this great milestone.

Onegaishimasu!

(Please send your articles to write2nkks@gmail.com)

AN INTERVIEW WITH KHUSHBOO AGARWAL



Demure, soft spoken Khushboo is liked by everybody very much. A good dancer, she has even acted in our *In Nichi Bunkasai* drama. Very serious about studies, she passed the JLPT Level 1 recently. Excerpts from the interview:

1. Self introduction:

I am a Japanese language trainer, translator, interpreter, and student. Yes, I still consider myself a student because I firmly believe that no matter in which field you are, how old you are, learning has no end. Through knowledge and perseverance one can achieve growth in life.

2. Why I selected Japanese language to learn:

The decision to learn Japanese language was totally coincidental. After my graduation I wanted to learn a foreign language. I had something like French and Spanish on my mind. But I was suggested to go for Japanese by my brother because of the growing job prospect due to the Singur project.

3. Experience as Japanese language student and teacher:

Although it has been almost 9 years since I started learning the language, my true learning began after I started teaching Japanese. Frankly in the initial 3-4 years I was learning only as a hobby and as a result didn't take it too seriously. But after returning from Japan I felt motivated to take up Japanese as my career. The journey from N3 to N1 has been tough but worthwhile at the same time. Now as a teacher of Japanese language I am enjoying every bit of it. People say that translation and interpretation jobs are much more lucrative. That is obviously true. But the amount of knowledge and exposure you get as a teacher is also unlimited. It just depends how you perceive it and to what level you take it.

4. Preparation for N1:

I used to study regularly and intensively for JLPT N1. apart from the N1 books I used to study a lot from the internet and solved a lot of practice papers.

5. Hobby:

My hobby and passion is dancing. Also I love reading books and watching movies.

6. Any memorable experience in the field of Japanese learning:

There are lots of memories associated with Japanese learning. I discovered myself and my potential through my journey of Japanese language learning.

7. Scope for employment in this field:

There is a lot of scope in this field but not so much in Kolkata. Also the infrastructure for Japanese learning needs a lot of improvement here. It is still lagging behind in comparison to French and Spanish and needs more popularisation.

8. Experience about Japan tour

My experience in the Japan tour is priceless and I will cherish those memories forever. Japan through textbooks and the real Japan are two different images. What amazed me most was the perfect blend of nature and technology.

9. Miscellaneous:

Japanese is a beautiful language and I hope more and more people learn it. The learning goes beyond the language. You enter a world which is so similar yet so different from ours. Both India and Japan are unique in their own ways and they can learn a lot from each other.

Aloke Basu



STORIES OF MULLAH NASRUDDIN

(2) りんじんー(Neighbour)

ある日ナシルッディさんのりんじんが彼の家に来た。ナシルッディンさんはそのひとがそんなに好きじゃなかった。そのりんじんはナシルッディンさんに彼のロバを借りてもいいかと聞いた。ナシルッディンさんはその好きじゃないりんじんにロバを貸したくなかったので、「僕はロバを貸してもいいけど僕の弟が町からきて彼の小麦ををひくためにロバを小麦工場へつれて行った。ごめん。ロバはここにはない」と言った。がっかりしたりんじんはナシルッディンさんにかんしゃをして歩き始めた。彼は二三歩歩いた時ナシルッディンさんの中庭にいたロバが大きな声でいなないた。それを聞いてりんじんがナシルッディンさんに「あなたは「ロバはここにはないと言ったね」と言った。りんじんに向かってナシルッディンさんは「あなたは僕とロバと誰を信じる？」と聞いた。

Compiled by Aloke Basu

**JAPANESE CROSSWORD
(September-October)**

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) Conference Room
- 5) Song lyrics
- 7) Bean paste
- 8) Suitable
- 10) Long live
- 11) Opinion
- 12) Interest (Bank)
- 13) Recommendation
- 14) To live
- 18) Minus sign
- 20) Red colour
- 22) Scolding
- 23) Dolphin
- 24) Official seal

DOWN

- 1) Thunder
- 2) Busy
- 3) To point out
- 4) Moon
- 5) Interview
- 6) Most difficult
- 9) Poor performance
- 15) Mechanization
- 16) Rain forest
- 17) Interval
- 19) Misunderstanding
- 21) To cut (grass)

Mahashveta Basu Mukherjee

**Answers to
JAPANESE CROSSWORD
(July - August)**

1.	2.	3.	つ	4.	い	5.	あ	6.	さ
7.	し	か	た	8.	た	い	か	い	
め		9.	ら	10.	た	い	11.	つ	き
	12.	か	し	ま	13.	か	き		
14.	か	た	い	15.	し	ま	16.	せ	
い		17.	も	18.	く	じ	19.	か	い
20.	と	21.	こ	の	ま	22.	や	も	め
23.	う	ま		24.	で	ん	き		い

WORD JUMBLE - 45

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



このことわざは何ですか？

1. びるさ (to become rusty)

○		○
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2. いざもく (Timber)

○			
---	--	--	--

3. かいき (Machine)

○	○	
---	---	--

4. ようらん (Misuse)

○			
---	--	--	--

5. つくおち (To calm down)

○	○		
---	---	--	--

6. でわんばんるす (Answering machine)

○						
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Sontu Debnath

**ANSWERS TO
WORD JUMBLE - 44**

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| 1. はなび | 4. らいきやく |
| 2. きつえんしゃ | 5. にたもの |
| 3. はったつ | 6. はちみつ |

な	き	つ	ら	に	は	ち
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EDITORS: *Tanusree Chatterjee & Alope Basu*

BOOK POST

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Address correction requested