



# SAKURA

No. 87

September - October 2014



やなぎ した いっ ども どじょう  
柳の下に何時も泥鰌はおらぬ A fox is not taken twice in the same snare



## CINEMA NIPPON

Nihongo Kaiwa Kyokai Society, in collaboration with The Consulate-General of Japan, Kolkata recently organized the 25<sup>th</sup> Cinema Nippon-a screening of 6 famous films

directed by eminent film personalities of Japan at NANDAN II. The films were screened on August 1 through 3<sup>rd</sup>. Some of the films screened were:

**Sorekara (And Then)** a 1985 film directed by Yoshimitsu Morita, based on the novel by Natsume Sōseki. The plot revolves around Daisuke, the protagonist, a son of a wealthy family. He is a polyglot and well-read, and has graduated from a prestigious university. At the time in Japan, universities were a new element in society and the government had to hire Western professors in order to teach students. But despite graduating, he is now thirty years old and unemployed, and depends on his father's wealth and his trials through life.

**Dotsuitarunen (Knockout)** a 1989 film directed by Junji Sakamoto was a special treat in terms of performance as well as screenplay. It focuses on the career of a Japanese boxer who stages a dramatic and dangerous comeback after suffering brain damage in the ring.

**Gakko no Kaidan (The Haunted School)** a 1995 film directed by Hideyuki Hirayama is the only horror movie shown at this festival. The plot revolves around a school that is rumoured to be haunted. A young girl wanders into a wing of her elementary school that has been abandoned for years. When she doesn't come back, a group of her classmates go looking for her, only to find that they, too, are trapped inside. They must somehow find their way to safety, and quickly, because the rumours of ghosts are turning out to be true.

The other films shown at the festival were *Robocon*, *The Night to the Stars*, a biographical film about Kenji Miyazawa who was an author of fantasy novels, and *Ghost Pub*, a comedy.

Sharmila Guha

## NIHONGO KAIWA KYOKAI SOCIETY turns 30!



15<sup>th</sup> Aug 2014 marked the 30<sup>th</sup> foundation day of the Nihongo Kaiwa Kyokai Society and was celebrated with great zeal and enthusiasm by the NKKS members at Nigam Sensei's place. . Also this year for the first time, the members who have been a part of NKKS for at least seven years received Life Member Certificate. Speech by Mr. P.S Mitra and Mr. Jayanta Saha was followed by a small cultural program with song recitals by the senior members, two presentations- one that showed the journey of NKKS from 1985 to the present date and the other showing our gratitude to NKKS. A small quiz contest took place followed by a classical and a western dance performance. Dr. Biswas, the second President of NKKS and the members cut the birthday cake.

Khushboo Agarwal



THANK YOU FOREVER !

Happy Teachers Day!

## MINTU GHOSH - UNSEEN DREAMS

"So, have you been anywhere else before?" asked the principal of Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture to Mintu Ghosh, a 3rd year student of Japanese language course. His answer was "No" as he had only been to places only around his village in Burdwan and Kolkata. This was when he received news that he has been selected for the 'Jenesys 2'. The best part about this program is that all expenses are borne by the Japanese government.

"On 14 May which was also the Election Day in Kolkata, my phone beeped and displayed the Japanese Consulate's number. I immediately knew something has happened as I had given my interview for the Jenesys program a month and a half ago and the date of departure was also very close. On answering it the cultural section informed me that I had been selected", stated an overzealous boy to whom this seemed possible only in dreams. He holds a bachelors degree in arts from Shobhit University and lives with his family in Ranapara village of Burdwan district. He sometimes helps his father in the fields who is a farmer and has a part time job as a computer operator in a milk company by which he earns 100 rupees daily. Three years ago his cousin brother who lives in Kolkata and works as a Japanese language interpreter suggested him to pursue this course as he did not secure decent marks in his graduation nor did he possessed the soft skills to acquire a stable job. He trusted his brother and enrolled his name in the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture despite knowing the fact that he would have to travel three and a half hours consisting of half an hour of cycling, one and a half hour of crowded train travelling and another one hour in a crowded bus of Kolkata to attend a 90 minute class. Later his employer also started deducting 50 rupees from his daily wage on the days he had class and had to leave office a little early.

He owes whatever good time he has had to his teacher Ruma Sensei. He said, "At the end of the first year of my course, Sensei asked me make a passport. I did not know why but I just obeyed her and made one. On receiving it, I wanted to use it but had no idea how." Neither could he afford a foreign trip nor did he have the basic understanding of the English language. Initially, going to Japan seemed impossible to him and it was only at the end of the second year that he came to know that to go to Japan, speaking English is not compulsory, but Japanese is,



in which he already has a good command. This gave his aspirations a little jolt.

"From the very first day he diligently pursued his Japanese language studies", said Ruma Sensei. "Students living close to the institute are often late and sometimes miss class. But whenever I walk into the class I always find Mintu welcoming me

with a smile; be it a rainy day, a national strike, I am compelled to go to class as I know that no one but Mintu will definitely be present." she quoted with pride. According to Mintu, his classmates turned buddies have been the next most important factor of his achievements today. They have been his guide as well as his source of motivation. "I made better friends in my Japanese language class in 4 months than I could make back in my village since birth. I stay in my village but live with my friends in Kolkata."

Probably he is the first individual from his block who earned a foreign trip from a foreign government. And so, one fine morning of June, a proud father, mother and elder brother came to see off the youngest member of the family all the way from Burdwan to the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport. "I was really very scared when the plane took off and started taking sharp turns. Sitting beside me was my friend Debanka who on seeing my condition, simply could not control his laughter." Everything was new for Mintu.

He could not believe his eyes when he landed at Narita airport. "Everything was so clean, neat and sparkling. The roads, gardens, buildings, etc. Probably they demolish and reconstruct them overnight each day." It was evident that he was really amused especially with the disciplined people, organized traffic and the punctuality. "With every seat in a bus you will find a dustbin attached and when I entered Tokyo Station it took me time to realize that it is a rail station, not a palace or a museum. The bullet train is punctual not only to the minute but also to the second's hand of the clock."

"I had no idea that learning a language could be so rewarding." By this he did not only mean that he could go to Japan but that he has found another family who sincerely seeks his welfare. At present, his English language has drastically improved without any formal coaching and once again he owes this to the members of his Japanese language class. No doubt he has a great future ahead of him from here onwards.

*Supratik Sil Roy*

## おばあさんの金のメガネ (3)



### Scene 3:

(The Golden spectacles have not been found yet.  
Father enters with a policeman.

There is everyone on the stage)

けいかん: どうしたんですか。何がぬすまれたんですか。

お父さん: せつめいしましたね。

おばあちゃん: おまわりさん、私の金のメガネがぬすまれました。しゅじんがずっと前にベナレスでかってきてくれたんです。

けいかん: ごしゅじんは今どこかね。

お父さん: 二年前に しにました。

タラ: ええ、なくなりました。でも、おまわりさん。おじいさんは今でもときどきおばあちゃんに あいに来ます。

けいかん: ええー！おもしろい。今でも あいにくる。どうやって？じゃあ、かれも金のメガネをぬすむことが できるんだな？

タラ: 何を言われるのですか。金のメガネをおじいさんがぬすむ？おじいさんはどろぼうだと 言われるのですか。

けいかん: それではだれがようぎしゃかな？

おばあちゃん:それはおまわりさんが みつけてください。

けいかん: ( To grandmother) このいえであなたがいに だれが メガネをかけますか。

お父さん: 母だけ メガネをかけます。

けいかん: じゃあ、あなたのお母さんだけが その金のメガネをぬすむ かのうせいがある。

おばあちゃん:(Angrily to the police) ええー！あたしがあたしのメガネを ぬすむ？そんなばかな！

けいかん: 私はけいかんだから みんながようぎしゃだと おもう。ほんとうに だれがぬすんだのかな？

お父さん: それを見つけるのは あなたのしごとじゃないんですか。私はおかしやさんの前であなたとあった。

けいかん: ぼくはこじんてきなしごとでいくところだった。

お父さん: ええ！あなたはおかしやさんに おかしを食べに行くとほかのけいかんが言いましたよ。けいかん: (Trying to be grim)ちがう、

ちがう。ぼくはここへメガネのちょうさのために行くところだった。

ラヌ: (To Minu)あれ！ミヌ！おまわりさんが しごとちゅうに おかしをたべに行った。

ミヌ: へーえ、そんなことするの？

けいかん:( To Ranu,abruptly) ちがう、ちがう、ぼくはバドンとたいせつなしごとがあったんだ。

タラ: ええ！バボン！どろぼうのバドン？

けいかん: そうだ。ぼくは かれを にかいたすけてやったんだ。

お父さん: 何？どろぼうのバドンをたすけた？

かれは おおどろぼうだ。

けいかん: だまって！ぼくはけいかんだからこまっている人をたすけるのがぼくのぎむだ。

(...to be continued)

Aloke Basu

## FRESHERS' WELCOME



OFF TO  
TOKYO!  
2<sup>nd</sup> ~16<sup>th</sup> October!

### MONTHLY PROGRAMME

- ◆ **Let's speak Nihongo:** 20<sup>th</sup> Sep 2014  
At Sarat Samity 6:30 pm
- ◆ **Bijoya Sammilani:** 18<sup>th</sup> Oct 2014  
At Sarat Samity 6:30 pm

**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.	■	25.	■	■
26.	■	■	27.	■	■	■	■

**ACROSS**

- 1) Game
- 4) 20 year old
- 6) Rough, unpolished
- 8) Shadow
- 10) Cotton
- 11) Rough
- 12) Approach
- 15) Promotion
- 17) Comb
- 20) Snowfall
- 22) Fossil
- 24) Explanation
- 26) Stem
- 27) Life

**DOWN**

- 1) Happiness
- 2) Complete change
- 3) Pond
- 4) Needle
- 5) With all one's might
- 7) Drawing
- 9) Art
- 11) Plan
- 13) Accumulation
- 14) Whole world
- 16) Seasons
- 18) Inspection
- 19) Price
- 21) Addition
- 23) Dam
- 25) Theory

*Mahashveta Basu Mukherjee*

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

1. あ	2. ま	3. ご	4. ■	5. た	6. か	7. い
8. ま	9. と	10. ■	11. た	12. な	13. こ	14. さ
15. ぐ	16. う	17. た	18. ら	19. な	20. ■	21. こ
22. ま	23. ■	24. い	25. ぬ	26. く	27. ぎ	28. し
29. ■	30. 14. き	31. り	32. ■	33. 15. さ	34. 16. ん	35. 17. か
36. 18. い	37. 19. ま	38. 20. く	39. 21. び	40. 22. ■	41. 23. こ	42. 24. ん
43. 25. き	44. 26. よ	45. 27. ■	46. 28. か	47. 29. ろ	48. 30. う	49. 31. じ
50. 32. て	51. 24. ね	52. 25. い	53. 26. ろ	54. 27. ■	55. 28. か	56. 29. ■
57. 30. ■	58. 31. き	59. 32. ■	60. 33. ■	61. 34. ■	62. 35. ■	63. 36. ■

**WORD JUMBLE - 33**

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



1. なまりつび (Doll Festival)

○ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

2. てっはん (Development)

□ □ ○ □ □ □ □ □

3. こくこう (Advertisement)

□ □ □ □ ○ □ □ □

4. じんし (Poet)

○ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

*Sontu Debnath*

**ANSWERS TO WORD JUMBLE - 32**

1. たいしょく
2. よびもどす
3. りょうど
4. けんちく
5. いけばな

た い よ う け い

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**BOOK POST**

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