



SAKURA

No. 88

November - December 2014



さんしょう こつぶ つら
山椒は小粒でもピリリと辛い A little body often harbours a great soul

The 17th Nihongo Quiz Contest

The much awaited star attraction in the Annual Calendar of the NKKS, the 17th Nihongo Quiz Contest was held in the Shivananda Hall of the Rama Krishna Mission Institute of Culture, on the 30th of August 2014. The Contest was jointly organized by NKKS and the Japanese Consulate in Kolkata. A lot of Institutions teaching Japanese Language in Kolkata, took part in the Quiz Contest. A special guest for the Contest was Mr. Yasuhiko Tanaka, the Deputy Consul General of Japan in Kolkata.

This year a special section, related to the geographical aspects of Japan was also included in the Quiz Rounds. As is done every year, all the questions and the Power Point slides had been painstakingly prepared by the NKK Quiz Committee members and the Quiz Rounds included Katakana, Kanji, Vocabulary, GK and Grammar Rounds.

The Contest was divided into the Junior and Senior Section. In both the Sections, the students enthusiastically answered all the questions, to the best of their ability and were encouraged by the audience and their applause. The Quiz Master for the Junior Quiz was Ms. Tanusree Chatterjee and the Senior Quiz was conducted by Ms. Ruma Chatterjee.

After the Quiz Rounds, a short documentary on Modern Japan was screened and this was followed by a scintillating speech by the Deputy Consul General, Mr. Yasuhiko Tanaka. He spoke in chaste Bengali and enthralled the audience. He was indeed a big inspiration for us all. The Contest ended with the Prize Distribution and a Vote of Thanks by the Vice President, NKKS.

The Prize Winners for the Junior Quiz were as follows:

1st Prize: Ms. Maitreya Mukherjee and Ms. Pubali Das

2nd Prize: Mr. Arnab Bhowmik and Mr. Shrikunj Sharma

3rd Prize: Mr. Abu Abhijit and Mr. Aritra Chatterjee

For the Senior Group, the Prize Winners were

as follows:

1st Prize: Mr. Soham Pal,

2nd Prize: Mr. Rishav Gupta,

3rd Prize: Mr. Mintu Ghosh

Heartiest Congratulations to all the Winners.
Poonam Nand Dey



SENIOR QUIZ CHAMP - SOHAM



18th JISC PARTICIPANTS IN JAPAN

MONTHLY PROGRAMME

- ◆ **Idioms & Proverbs:** 12th Nov 2014
At Sarat Samity 6:30 pm
- ◆ **Annual Picnic:** 11th Jan 2015
At Neeldeep Garden, Baruipur
- ◆ **Happyoukai Practice:** Dec 2014
Interested? Register with Nigam Sensei or Ruma Sensei asap!

INTERVIEW WITH SUMIKO INOUE SAN



Sumiko Inoue lost her mother at the age of 7. Her father had been running his own business. He didn't remarry after wife's death, and raised three children. When he died Sumiko realized how

lonely he was. Now she exuded dedication to her missionary work for Mother Teresa's institution Nirmal Hriday.

Here are some excerpts from our conversation:

Q: When did you first come to Kolkata?

A: I tried to visit Kolkata several times and do voluntary work, and when the time had come, I resigned from my job, and moved to Kolkata in April, 2005. About 20 years ago, I got an opportunity to talk to a highly-respected Japanese Sister. From that moment, I began to hold an image in my mind about the last stage of my life. Sister told me about Mother Teresa. From then I read and learned much more of Mother Teresa. It's amazing for me to know that Mother found the strength and perseverance in placing herself completely at the service of others in prayer and in the silent contemplation of Jesus Christ. And I developed a strong desire to serve others in the final chapter of my life. Why I developed this desire is probably for one famous saying that the Japanese Sister had taught me 'In the end of our life, what remains is not what we have collected but what we gave'. In Kolkata, making use of what I had collected - experience, knowledge, money, I want to devote compassionate love to the poorest of the poor, as Mother did.

Q: Say something about yourself.

A: I was born in Kyoto on 7th July, 1947. I graduated from Doshisha University, my major was English Literature. From 1969 to 1977 I worked at Panasonic Co. Ltd (former Matsushita Electronics). I was in R&D Head Office, Human Resources Development Division as one of the staff of Management Training. From 1979 to 2004, I worked at Sanko inc (sales promotion planning, design, production) as Secretary to the President, then as an Executive Secretary.

Q: Say about your present Kolkata life.

A: Now I am working Voluntary work at Nirmal Hriday from 6 am to 12 noon. I always wanted to remain behind the scene serving poor people. I do the work of "environmental arrangement" and "dietary arrangement"- it is just a self-acknowledged role. I mean environmental arrangement as CLEAN (utmost in everything and everywhere), NEAT (in everything we need every time in a regular position), COMFORTABLE (compassionate care for every patient with a big smile), PEACEFUL (good communication between all other sisters, workers, volunteers). About dietary arrangement, I am responsible for making special food for delicate and serious patients according to each one's status prescribed by sisters, I prepare a few kinds of special food like nasal feeding fluid diet, spice-less ground food, dietary drinks and so on. Sometimes I make my own recipe in my kitchen upon the request my sister. Through such kind of experience I truly have learned the importance of food,

I work also as one of the governing staff of the Indian orphanage Rainbow Home where a Japanese NPO has been offering financial support. I am a resident vice president of the Japanese NPO. My given role is to work as a bridge between Japanese NPO and Indian NGO, as an usher to the Japanese visitor.

Q: About people of Kolkata....

A: Generally gregarious, friendly and open attitude, willing to help people, smart, having good memory, adhere rigidly to ritual behaviour but sometimes I become puzzled by Indian people's their "no problem", which is often a "big problem" to me. Sometimes making promises without due consideration, so I can't take it as true. Maybe, I should understand more in depth especially religious and spiritual identity, so I am trying to read some helpful books.

Q: Your hobby.....

A: I can't have much free time, but if I have I enjoy reading. Also love creative cooking, dietary Japanese dishes using Indian vegetables and beans.

Q: You learned Bengali language..

A: I learned Bengali for one year in Ramkrishna Mission, and then I attended a diploma course in Bengali in Jadavpur University.

Q: Memorable moments....

A: I can't forget Nila - a mid-twenties beautiful female patient, when she was brought to Nirmal Hriday in the last stage of AIDS & TB. She had been forced to work as a sex worker, and was finally discarded due to her serious disease. After one

contd. on page 3....

contd. from page 2....

month she passed away. In her final moment I kept on holding her hand, and she gazed at ceiling without blinking, then one drop of tear rolled down her cheek. She must have enjoyed cheerful days in her childhood - thinking of this my eyes overflowed with tears.

Q: You are regular audience in In Nichi Bunkasai

A: Yes I love that very much.

Aloke Basu

おばあさんの金のメガネ (4)



Suddenly some bright thing falls on the floor from the police's uniform's pocket)

ラヌ: (Seeing the thing on the floor) あれ、あれ、おばあちゃん、見て見て、

ミノ: おばあちゃん、金のメガネだよ。

けいかん: 何？金のメガネ？

タラ: ああー、やっぱり！せいじんは金のメガネは空からおちると言ったわ。

ラヌ: でもタラ didi、けいかんのポケットからおちたよ。

ミノ: そうよ、そうよ。私も見たわ。ポケットからおちたよ。

お父さん: おかしいね！どうやって金のメガネがここに おちたんだ？

お母さん: ほんとうにまほうのようにおちてきた。

タラ: (Holding broom towards the police) なぜおばあちゃんの金のメガネがポケットの中にあるんですか。

お父さん: どこからそれを手に入れたんですか。

(Ranu Picks the golden spectacles and give it to the grandmother)

ラヌ: おばあちゃん、これはおばあちゃんの金のメガネだよ？

ミノ: そうよ、これはおばあちゃんのかわ。

おばあちゃん: (Observing it) はい、はい、これはあたしの金のメガネです。

お母さん: (To the police) ちょっと、あなたはどこからこれをもってきましたか。

けいかん: (Humbly) これがあなたのものだというのをどうやってぼくはしることができますか。

お父さん: でもこれはあなたのせいふくのポケットからおちましたよ。ぬすまれた金のメガネがなぜあなたのポケットにあるのですか。

けいかん: ぼぼぼくはこれをぬすんでいない。ぜったいにぬすまなかった。

Congratulations

Khushboo san

for your success in the N1 JLPT!

8 years after **Ranu Sensei**
passed 1st Level JLPT!

タラ: じゃあ だれがぬすんだのですか。

けいかん: だろぼうのバドンがこれをお寺からぬすんできたんだ。あばあさんがお寺の中でおがんでいるときメガネをよこにおきわすれたんだろう。そのとき だろぼうの バドンが。

おばあちゃん: ああ、そうそう。今おもいだしました。おがんでいるときメガネをはずしてよこにおいて。

けいかん: そのときだろぼうのバドンがぬすんだのだ。かれはだろぼうだ。

タラ: でもなぜおまわりさんがこれをもっているのですか。

けいかん: かれがぼくにこれをうったんだ。

(Police tries to flee)

タラ: (Standing at the door) にげようとしても むだよ。あたしはあなたをけいさつにつきだすわ。

ラヌ: (To Minu) ミヌ、タラ didi はおまわりさんをけいさつにつきだすと言ったわ。

ミノ: うん、でもけいさつがけいさつをたいほする？

けいかん: (With folded hands to Tara) ぼくをにがして、ぼくはこれからむすまれたものはぜったいにかわないとやくそくするから。お父さん けいかんなのに ぬすんだものをかう。 ひどい人だ。

(Police tries to flee-but all stop him. Suddenly Badan thief enters. All are astonished to see him there)

All in a single voice : あ！だろぼうのバドンだ

バドン: (To the police) ぼくの金のメガネのおかねを はらってください。今すぐください。かないといっしょにかないのじっかにいくところだ。今すぐはらってほしいんだ。

タラ: ああ！金のメガネのだろぼうが来た。にがさないで、にがさないで、

(All try to run towards at him)

(...to be continued)

Aloke Basu

**JAPANESE CROSSWORD
(November - December)**

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) Careless nature
- 4) Day by day
- 7) Motherland
- 8) Moderate
- 9) Warehouse
- 10) School inspector
- 11) Instalment
- 13) Dolphin
- 14) Spring water
- 17) Chopping board
- 19) Fire
- 21) Stepchild
- 23) Arithmetic
- 24) Knowledge

DOWN

- 1) Simplicity
- 2) Proud
- 3) Float
- 4) Comparison
- 5) Bent forward
- 6) Space
- 8) Dried confectionery
- 10) Quiet
- 12) Wheel chair
- 14) Downtown
- 15) Drawing
- 16) Height
- 18) Now
- 20) Bolt
- 22) Waist

Mahashveta Basu Mukherjee

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

1. し	2. あ	3. い		4. は	5. た	6. ち
7. あ	8. ら	9. け	10. ず	11. り	12. か	13. げ
14. わ	15. た	16.	17.	18. あ	19. ら	20. い
21. せ	22. ま	23. る	24. ぜ	25. ん	26. づ	27.
28.	29. る	30. い	31. し	32. ん	33. く	34. し
35. か	36.	37. せ	38. き	39. せ	40. つ	41. さ
42. か	43. せ	44. き	45.	46. か	47. い	48. せ
49. つ	50.	51.	52.	53.	54.	55.
56. 26. く	57. 27. き	58. 28.	59. 29. せ	60. 30. い	61. 31. か	62. 32. つ

EDITORS: Tanusree Chatterjee & Alope Basu

WORD JUMBLE - 34

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



1. んばぐみ

○			
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2. きよつくほ

	○			
--	---	--	--	--

3. りょうち

○			
---	--	--	--

4. りのるかえ

	○			
--	---	--	--	--

シヨントウ デブナート

ANSWERS TO WORD JUMBLE - 33

- 1. ひなまつり
- 2. はってん
- 3. こうこく
- 4. しじん

ひ	っ	こ	し
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NKKS members convey our heartfelt condolences on the untimely demise of Ashim san's son.

BOOK POST

If undelivered please return to:
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Address correction requested