

NKKS 37th Foundation Day Celebration



Nihongo Kaiwa Kyookai Society celebrated its 37th foundation day on 15th August 2021, that was conducted online due to the ongoing pandemic situation. Around 65 people joined the online celebration which made it a huge success. The program started with a short speech by the president of NKKS followed by a beautifully sung patriotic song by Koushik san. After that Aratrika san sang a Japanese song which refreshed everyone with its beautiful melody. Then came an interesting form of storytelling with pictures called 'kamishibai' in Japanese, narrated and presented by Soham san. The next performance was by Swapan san who sang a beautiful Japanese song called 'Shimanchu no Takara' and gave it his own Indian twist by singing it while playing harmonium. Then part 2 of the voice skit series of 'Nihonjin no sannin musume' created by our member Smritiman san, whose part 1 was performed in the last online In Nichi Bunkasai. After that a short history of NKKS and its journey was presented with pictures by The Japan Curry where everyone was taken on a nostalgic ride down the memory lane of creation of NKKS and its various events, narrated by the senior members of NKKS. Next performance was by the band Yume and they sang a very nice and cheerful Japanese song, 'Chiisana Koi no Uta'. The virtual cake cutting ceremony took place next where Nigam sensei and her husband cut a cake together. Deepro san sang the NKKS song at the end and the program ended with a vote of thanks by the Vice President of NKKS, Anjana san. All in all it was a wonderful program that was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

~ Sohini Chakraborty



たな ほたもち
棚から牡丹餅

Receiving a windfall, having an unexpected piece of good luck

First correct entry for Crosswords and Jumbled Words of Sakura no. 138 (Jul-Aug '21)

Congratulations Debi-san!!!

Meet REIKO SHIMIZU

Hello, nice to meet you. My name is Reiko Shimizu. I have been living in Kolkata since January 2012. Mrs. Nigam requested me to give an interview for 'Sakura' newsletter, and I accepted it with gratefulness.

I was born on 10th April 1966 as the third daughter of my parents. My father, Toshio Shimizu, was a lawyer. My mother, Mihoko Shimizu, was a house wife and she was also a master of Calligraphy and reciting Chinese and Japanese poems, called Shigin. She was a religious person and was raised as a second daughter of a temple called 'Saichoji' in Satagayaku, Tokyo. I still remember my mother offering freshly cooked rice to the altar every morning, ringing the bell and holding hands together. Her back, praying with all her heart was a figurine that supported the rest of my life as an amulet and as a blessed guidepost that led me to come to India.

When I was 14 years old, I started to suffer from an eating disorder. At that time it was a rare disease, so my doctor and my parents both were very worried and it was decided that I would go to study abroad - America. I think that my parents had the expectation that by changing the environment my disease would be cured. After moving to America, I attended boarding schools with illness and graduated. After that I majored in formative arts at my dream university at New York. American art, which completely denied the traditional European academic flow and freely created its own flow was very inspiring to me, especially as I was born and brought up in Japan. However, as a young and inexperienced person, I could not find a theme that I could take seriously and had difficulty while creating a work of art.

In 1990 I first came to India on a short trip. In India, I had the intuition that I could meet my true self. In the midst of capitalism and the period of high economic miracle, I felt India was mysterious and something essential as a human being to me, as I was travelling to and fro between the United States and Japan, which were heavily materialistic. It was in 1994 when I had the opportunity to visit India for the second time. It was a visit to India to meet Pt. Vijay Shankar, a master of Kathak dance who came to Kolkata at that time. Mr. Shankar was a teacher of Ms. Yakshini, a pioneer of kathak dance in Japan and she was very kind to me when I was learning Kathak from her. During this visit, I met my husband. On a day off from the lesson during the harsh midsummer sunshine, I visited the Kali Temple of Belur Math and Dakshineswar for the first time by local bus with my husband. With him I studied Kriya Yoga with a teacher in Varanasi everyday for 6—7 months. The following year at the end of 1995 I moved to Brazil, my husband's country. After that I was blessed with 4 sons. In Brazil I was busy raising children and creating art and as my children grew up I started art therapy and child atelier. It was a very busy and enjoyable time. After having my fourth child the bulimia that had been going on since I was 14, had completely subsided. From then on, I think that the children filled up the empty gaps in my heart that I was not able to fill.

to be continued in the next edition...

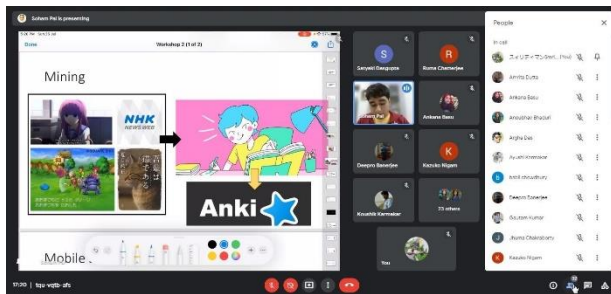




"Dear friends, Japanese language is the key to an enchanted world that will always mesmerize you by its everlasting fragrance of goodness and beauty"

Sukhendu Das
English Language Teacher
St. Ann's Day School, Howrah

Digital Tools Webinar



On 25 July 2021, the NKKS had organized a Webinar which was aimed at teaching how to use various different digital tools while learning the Japanese language. The Webinar was anchored by Deepto Banerjee-san and the speaker was Soham Pal-san. Soham-san is currently a Ph.D. student in computer science at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, specializing in the security of machine learning models.

The main focus of this Webinar was how to "mine" or collect words for use in Anki using various digital applications, such as the Akebi dictionary for Android smartphones and the Yomichan browser extension for personal computers. Soham-san also discussed various other tools and resources with the help of which one can further their language studies. He was kind enough to provide us with all the materials that he had discussed and mentioned in the Webinar, so everyone present could use.

It was a wonderful opportunity to listen to such a well-versed and knowledgeable speaker like Soham-san.

~ Anoubhav Bhaduri

Tokyo Olympics 2020

Fifty seven years after the 1964 Summer Olympics, Japan received the opportunity to host the 32nd Summer Olympic Games in July 2020, becoming the only Asian country to host the Summer Games twice in history. After getting postponed, the summer games were staged during July-August 2021. The participating 206 contingents brought about 11,656 athletes, with a broad group of participants aged between twelve and sixty six, to partake in the 339 events spanning around 33 sports taking place in 42 competition venues. The debut of karate, skateboarding, sport climbing, surfing, and the return of softball and baseball into the Olympic Games will be a key factor in its history. One interesting fact is that recyclable materials and discarded electronics were used to make the podiums, uniforms and even the 5000 medals for the Olympics and the Paralympics this year. The 32nd Olympic Games was especially successful for the Indian contingent. Starting off bombastically with Mirabai Chanu's silver medal win in women's 49kg weightlifting, the games went by celebrating multiple groundbreaking achievements for the Indian athletes, and ended beautifully with bagging the country's first Gold medal in a track and field event since the Independence, courtesy of 23 year old Neeraj Chopra's unbeatable 86.58 metres javelin throw. Japan's Nishiya Momiji and Horigome Yuuto made history by being the first ever gold medallists in skateboarding. Momiji, at just 13 years age, became the second youngest Olympic gold medallist after 1936 Marjorie Gestrung. The host country ranked third, earning 27 gold, 14 silver and 17 bronze, for a total of 58 medals for their contingent. USA ranked #1 with a total of 113 medals and China finished at #2 with 88 medals.

~ Ritwika Biswas



UPCOMING PROGRAMME

18 September 2021 | 3 PM

23rd Nihongo Quiz

Watch live on NKKS YouTube

For NKKS YouTube channel
Click: <https://bit.ly/3kuFreh>
Or scan the QR code below:



26 September 2021 | 5 PM

Annual General Meeting (Virtual)

Crosswords

~ Mahashveta Basu Mukherjee

1.	2.		3.		4.
5.			6.		
7.		8.			
		9.		10.	
	11.			12.	
13.			14.		

ACROSS

- 1. To work
- 5. Japanese wooden shoes
- 6. Accumulation
- 7. Pavestone
- 9. Sense of beauty
- 11. Oyster
- 12. Ant
- 13. Bridge はし
- 14. Love こい

DOWN

- 1. Violent
- 2. Concrete floor
- 3. Painful
- 4. Thick fog
- 8. Snore
- 10. Game
- 11. Debt

Jumbled Words

~ Sontu Debnath

1. ずみね (Mouse)



このことわざはなんですか。

2. ろごのこ (These days, now a days)



3. きんげんてもと (Cash in hand)



4. りゆうかう (Downstream, lower reaches of a river)



5. かんしいた (Embassy)



KOTOWAZA:



NEW! Write your solutions of Crosswords and Jumbled Words on a piece of paper and send its snapshot to nkksorg@gmail.com. The entry with the first correct answer will get a special mention in the next edition!

Crosswords Solution

(Jul-Aug 2021)

1. た	2. す	け	3. あ	4. う	
5. た	ま		6. め	き	7. き
8. か	い	9. か		10. し	き
い		11. い	12. ち	ま	ん
13. ぬ	14. き	と	る		ぞ
15. く	く	る		16. つ	く

Jumbled Words Solution

(Jul-Aug 2021)

- 1. くちべに
- 2. はんたい
- 3. わざをみがく
- 4. わかいもの
- 5. もとにもどす

Kotowaza: 「くちはわざわいのもと」

Meaning: "the mouth is the source of disaster"

Scan the QR code to watch the videos!

Know WAKA from Papiya Sensei



<https://linktr.ee/videoseries>

NKKS' Birthday Message



<http://surl.li/advwm>

BOOK POST

If undelivered please return to:
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KOLKATA - 700 019