

2nd Japanese Language Singing Contest

The 2nd Japanese Language Singing Contest was organized by Nihongo Kaiwa Kyookai Society and the Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata. This time the submissions were not just limited to Japanese learners but also open to all those interested to sing Japanese songs. As such, there were many submissions and 20 were short-listed and forwarded to the Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata for judging.

2nd Japanese Language Singing Contest Performances ▶ PLAY ALL

All performances in contention for the 2nd Japanese Language Singing Contest, co-organized by Nihongo Kaiwa Kyookai Society and Consulate-General of Japan in Kolkata.



Anusha Bhattacharjee
(Usotsuki - Yorushika)

Anushka Saha (Homura -
Lisa)

Tanya Kole (Metronome -
Kenshi Yonezu)

Koushik Karmakar (Aitai Yo -
Kei Tanaka)

Wreek Gupta (Eden -
MONKEY MAJIK)

The contest was streamed Live on 18 December 2021 at the NKKS' YouTube channel, meant to provide the audience with a hassle-free experience. It was hosted by Deepro Banerjee, the winner of the 1st Japanese Language Singing Contest. At the end, three winners were declared by the Vice Consul, Ms. Risa Tamura. They were Anushka Saha (Song: Homura, Artist: Lisa), Wreek Gupta (Song: Eden, Artist: Monkey Majik) and Shreyas V. Gonchikar (Song: Koiuta Tsuzuri, Artist: Horiuchi Takao) in the order of position. The winners were awarded prizes from NKKS, Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata and Tempink, who sponsored temporary Kanji tattoos. An Audience Choice Award for the performer who scored the most points voted by the audience was also set up. This voting was done after every performance and polls were online until the last performance aired. Naturally, Anushka Saha also grabbed this prize for her mesmerising and powerful performance.

The program was executed through the combined efforts of the execution team—Supratik Sil Roy, Khushboo Agarwal, Deepro Banerjee, Soham Pal, Shatakshi Shrivastava and myself. We enjoyed creating the guidelines, reviewing the applications, creating posters and flyers, engaging on social network, providing technical support, tracking poll stats, live streaming and so on. I had an incredible learning experience working with them. Otsukarasamadeshita!

~ Pratyay Mullick

2022 HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Dear Readers,

Please accept our sincere regards on the occasion of this new year and our gratitude for contributing in the making of this newsletter regularly. Cheers to health, happiness, and prosperity in 2022!

~ Editorial Team

(Aloke Basu, Khushboo Agarwal, Supratik Sil Roy)

す もの じょうず
好きこそ物の上手なれ | What one likes, one will do well

Meet SMRITIMAN BARUA

SMRITIMAN BARUA san acts with ease in our annual cultural program, In-Nichi Bunkasai. He is so dedicated, disciplined and above all, so focused on his assigned job, that he always gives his very best. Here are some excerpts from a chat with him.



Q:: You regularly participate in the yearly In-Nichi Bunkasai Japanese drama and speak Japanese so effortlessly! Where did you learn Japanese?

A:: I am still learning Japanese in Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Golpark. Actually I started to learn Japanese earlier but due to work pressure I had to drop-out. But I did not leave NKKS even then and now I have re-started learning Japanese since 2017.

Q:: You have studied computers and you are working in this field....

A:: Yes, I have completed a Bachelor of Computer Application, an Advance Diploma in Broad Band Multimedia and also the Advance Diploma in Hardware and Networking. I am working as a freelance web-developer.

Q:: How did you start learning Japanese?

A:: I used to be very much interested in Chinese movies, inspired by the movies of world-famous actor Jackie Chan! When my brother started working, one day he brought a Kanji chart for studying and I started to learn Kanji slowly! Once a colleague of mine told me that he wanted to learn the Japanese language from the Ramakrishna Mission of Golpark and he made me join him. After a while he left the course but I pursued it for almost two and half years.

Q:: Your experience about Japanese people.

A:: Japan is a systematic country, rich with nature. It deeply cares about the safety of its people and their health. Mathematical approaches can be seen everywhere in Japan. The countryside is so beautiful where you can give time to yourself to find your inner peace and nurture your creativity. Japan is also famous for the beautifully presented delicious food, rich culture, music and traditions. Their culture and custom really amazed me a lot. For example, I learnt during a visit to a friend's house that if the host family cooks food, then the guest or the guest family helps them to clean after the meal to show their gratitude.

Q:: You have been to Japan?

A:: Almost 9 years ago I went to Japan to visit my Japanese friend. I went to various places, learnt about their family, culture, food, etc. I was welcomed so warmly that I will cherish that memory for my whole life. I want to go there again and again!

Q:: Your hobby?

A:: My hobby is listening to instrumental music and watching science fiction movies.

Q:: Any memorable memory?

A:: I still remember my experience and that feeling while going to an Onsen in Nagano. I was told by my friend to follow him and I was taught the custom of Onsen step by step that I will never forget. As an Indian, it was initially a bit uncomfortable to accept that but finally I became free and really enjoyed it. Later, I also enjoyed taking a bath in ROTENBURO.

Q:: Your working experience with Japanese people or Japanese language related work?

A:: I have worked as an interpreter. While working with the Japanese people, I have discussed Kanji, the unique aspect of the Japanese language. They have helped me a lot in this regard and gave tips to improve my proficiency.

~ Alope Basu

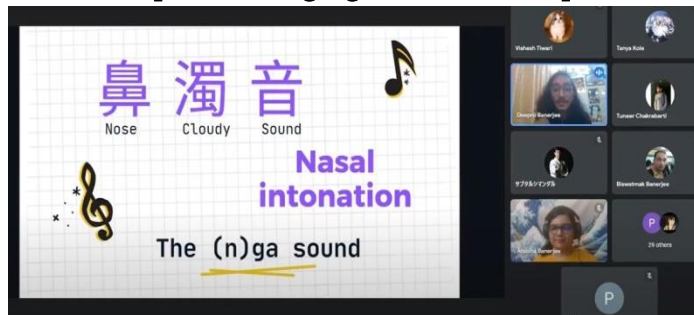
JLPT N4 Dokkai Workshop



As JLPT was fast approaching, NKKS organized a JLPT N4 Dokkai online workshop on 21 November 2021 for the aspiring students. Khushboo sensei gave pointers on how to improve Japanese reading skills and different time saving methods through a presentation. After that, the students were made to practice different types of Dokkai (comprehension) in accordance with the original JLPT pattern. Special thanks to our mentors Nigam sensei and Ruma sensei for their guidance and of course Khushboo sensei for conducting the workshop.

~ Joy Kar

Japanese Singing Mini Workshop



An online Japanese singing workshop was held on 17 November 2021, conducted by Deepto-san and Anusha-san of Yume, the band. They taught how to sing Japanese songs properly and gave useful tips, covering several aspects. I benefitted from their pronunciation guidance particularly. In addition to the execution of singing techniques, they encouraged us repeatedly to sing in Japanese and to participate in Japanese singing competitions. I convey my gratitude to NKKS for arranging such a helpful singing workshop for the first time.

~ Swapan Kumar Ray

NKKS Bijoya Sammelani 2021

2021 Bijoya Sammilani was held online on 31 October 2021. This is the time when we long to meet and greet our friends and relatives far and near, after Ma Durga has returned to her heavenly abode and Diwali is round the corner, and we are still in the festive mood.

Nigam Sensei presented the inaugural speech, followed by a pep talk by the President of NKKS, Poonam Sensei. Gouri-san invited Sanjay-san to sing for us a Bengali patriotic song. Next, Saptarshi Mondol rendered a melodious Japanese song, "Hotaru no Hikari". Deepto-san's rendition of a very popular Bengali folk song was praiseworthy. Anupam-san played the tabla with a lot of elan. Before proceeding with the other presentations, the anchors Gouri-san and myself invited the members to share how they celebrated the Pujas this time. The programme continued with a Rabindra sangeet recital by Swapan-san, followed by a Japanese song by Dolon-san. Partha-san was invited to say a few words regarding the study of Japanese as a foreign language and his experiences during several visits to Japan. Next Tanishisan sang a popular Japanese number "Sukiyaki" and we all tried to hum along. Aratrika-san presented a beautiful rendition of a Japanese translation of the famous Rabindra sangeet "gram chhara oi ranga matir path". The programme ended with Anjana-san, the vice president of NKKS, thanking all the participants and the teachers who helped to put up this show.

We all vowed to beat the pandemic, keep our spirits high and to soon meet and greet each other just as we did before, among chants of 'Aschhe bochor abar hobe'.

~ Babli Chowdhury

UPCOMING PROGRAMME

8 - 9 January 2022
25th IJSC (online)

Register here
by 5 January
to view the
conference!

<https://forms.gle/qrnqUC79vrbLBzfJ9>

19 February 2022 | 6 PM
Story Telling Session

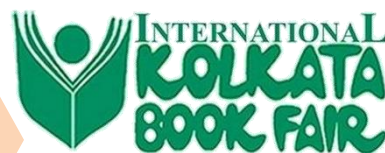
~ by Kazuko Nigam

Joining link
will be sent
by email

37th In-Nichi Bunkasai

Contact Khushboo Agarwal
or Anupam Das if you wish
to participate!

You can also write to
nkksorg@gmail.com



Visit the JAPAN Pavilion and
witness or participate in
interesting activities !!
@ Central Park, Salt Lake
31 Jan - 13 Feb 2022

Word Grid

~ Soham Pal

Jumbled Words

~ Sontu Debnath

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ぬ | る | ぬ | る | し | さ | せ | ち | も | づ | っ | ぺ |
| る | ぜ | も | こ | ん | な | に | ぎ | や | は | ぼ | ら |
| し | で | ん | び | ぶ | い | ぼ | た | い | せ | か | ぺ |
| め | び | ぼ | て | ら | つ | ひ | み | め | さ | も | ら |
| あ | ぎ | れ | つ | い | と | ぶ | ど | た | だ | た | め |
| ろ | い | く | る | ま | ろ | ろ | つ | で | と | と | ぼ |
| ほ | ぶ | づ | ず | る | び | き | ち | ひ | ぐ | え | よ |
| け | き | な | ち | か | た | ま | と | ら | ね | る | せ |
| だ | こ | ほ | ち | か | り | び | ぐ | び | て | い | や |
| む | う | か | ぜ | す | と | ら | こ | ぼ | ぜ | ご | さ |
| け | ち | は | ぺ | そ | ぎ | み | り | い | ぶ | う | き |
| か | べ | ち | て | ま | ら | と | ら | ぎ | て | ど | べ |

Find out at least ten **4 letter** Japanese words present in the above grid. You can go vertically, diagonally and horizontally.

Word Grid Solution

(Nov-Dec 2021)

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| づ | え | ん | だ | か | ひ | え | こ | む | に | ぎ | せ |
| が | ま | そ | を | ば | わ | そ | と | わ | が | か | き |
| ぷ | ず | に | ご | く | ろ | ほ | か | ろ | へ | の | ぐ |
| の | り | か | え | し | や | に | こ | ら | せ | ご | に |
| く | あ | は | こ | し | そ | ほ | ふ | づ | む | て | い |
| じ | え | ぬ | う | だ | ば | う | ぜ | と | ゆ | ぺ | さ |
| ん | ば | え | が | せ | ろ | し | り | ぜ | へ | こ | ん |
| せ | る | た | い | ね | ぎ | ど | ば | つ | び | は | は |
| い | て | わ | ぜ | る | う | せ | で | ご | ぬ | こ | つ |
| と | げ | ほ | り | や | か | ご | き | ら | ば | ふ | こ |
| う | れ | ほ | ら | あ | き | ん | べ | ん | ぼ | る | い |
| か | く | ゆ | ね | ち | て | も | ぜ | ん | た | い | ぶ |

1. みずね (mouse)

このことわざは
なんですか。

2. すどやをこ (to be pregnant)

3. しゃいきがぶかし (stock company)

4. るいか (light)

KOTOWAZA:



Jumbled Words Solution

(Nov-Dec 2021)

1. ぜんいん
2. もんぶしょう
3. のうひん
4. とらえる
5. こうもん
6. ものおきべや
7. おかまいなく
8. かみなり

Kotowaza: 「ぜんもんのとら、こうもんのおおかみ」
Meaning: "caught between a tiger and wolf"

Scan the QR codes to watch
the videos !

2nd Japanese Language
Singing Contest


<https://shorturl.at/aejsC>

Japanese Singing
Workshop


<https://shorturl.at/jloGV>

BOOK POST

If undelivered please return to:
NIHONGO KAIWA KYOOKAI SOCIETY
2B, SHIVANGAN 53/1/2, HAZRA ROAD
KOLKATA - 700 019