

37th In-Nichi Bunkasai



After a long gap of 2 years, the 37th In-Nichi Bunkasai was held offline on 3rd April 2022 at Rabindra Okakura Bhavan as well as streamed online. That was the most awaited day for many of us to come together and do this grand program again offline.

It started with a video showcasing the experiences of students, teachers and online event organizers during the lockdown period followed by an intense and unique musical presentation by the students of Pt. Tanmoy Bose, sponsored by Japan Habba. The mellifluous beats of Indian “Tabla” perfectly blended with Japanese “Taiko” drums and produced a sublime fusion of both the cultures.

The program continued with the speeches of Mrs. Poonam Nand Dey, President of NKKS, Mr. Yamasaki Matsutaro, Acting Consul General of Japan in Kolkata and the Chief Guest, Mr. Honda Tsuyoshi, President of Japan Club, Kolkata, who introduced himself in Bengali and pointed out the similarities between his hometown Kyoto and Kolkata.

A skit on ‘Momotarou,’ a famous Japanese folklore, was performed by the students with their astonishing acting skills and Haikus were recited, by Udhbas Sarkar, in Japanese and English while the Emcees, Anoubhav Bhaduri and Namrota Mondal, put in a lot of effort to make the program interesting with their repartee and interactions with the audience. Anushka Saha blew off our minds with her melodious singing which was highly appreciated by the audience. The Japanese drama ‘Sagishi no Seijin’ made the audience roll with laughter and then Ranjini Nag, presented a marvellous fusion dance on Japanese music. Then the drama ‘Mind Your Japanese Language’ filled the auditorium with joy and laughter through the incredible performance of the teachers. Last but not the very least, the audience went crazy as Yume took over the stage with their mesmerizing and brilliant performance. Like always the Japanese musical band rocked the stage with their songs and the audience screamed for more.

The program came to an end with NKKS song by its members and Ms. Anjana Banerjee, Vice President of NKKS, conveying a formal vote of thanks. Everyone enjoyed the program, which revealed many aspects of Japanese culture before the audience.

~ Deblina Das

Meet PRATYAY MULLICK

Pratyay san, an enthusiastic member of the young brigade of NKKS, has been a regular member since 2016. Recently, he has been taking a very active part in supporting the various programs of NKKS. Here are excerpts from a chat with him.



Q:: Self-introduction and academic career or background.

A:: I am Pratyay Mullick, currently working in IT with a background in Computer Science & Engineering.

Q:: Why did you start learning Japanese?

A:: I started learning the Japanese for consuming untranslated Japanese media like manga and video games. Some of my friends enrolled in RMIC introduced me to JLPT and I sat for it. Since I was too young and too occupied with school to join Japanese classes, I took it up to learn it myself.

Q:: JLPT Experience.

A:: I used various mock test sites and Listening section videos to brush up for the tests. I was amazed by the sheer number of students that sat for the tests. I am at N2 level currently and I wish to sit for N1 someday!

Q:: Your engagement with NKKS.

A:: My first interaction with NKKS was through its annual program, In-Nichi Bunkasai, in 2016 and I have been a regular since. Looking for a way to get involved, I got to know about IJSC (Indo-Japan Student Conference) and applied for it. I was part of the 22nd (2018) and 23rd (2019) conferences which were held in Kolkata and Tokyo respectively. During the pandemic, I was involved in the various online events organized by NKKS as part of the technical team.

Q:: Your experience with Japanese people.

A:: The host family during the home visit in Tokyo was very kind and friendly. They prepared homemade Japanese food for us like okonomiyaki, hiyashimen and dashi maki tamago and took us to a wagashi restaurant. Interacting with Japanese students during IJSC was a pleasure as they were very welcoming. I made a few friends who share the same hobbies as I do and we exchange our experiences every now and then.

Q:: Experience of Japan tour.

A:: I vividly remember the clean roads and trains of Japan. I watched a Kabuki performance for the first time and also enjoyed Karaoke with everyone. I visited the second-hand electronic shops of Akihabara and found delight in retro video game stores and got myself a Nintendo 3DS and a couple of games and relics. And that was the last of my funds...

Q:: Your hobby.

A:: I spend most of my free time playing video games, mostly Japanese RPG or online FPS games.

~ Aloke Basu

Dear Readers

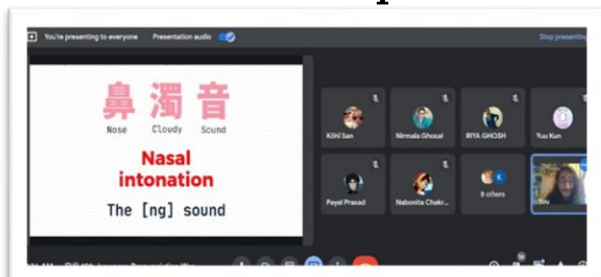
We all know that in this journey called life change is the only thing constant. Sakura too has undergone a lot of changes in the past years and to celebrate this long beautiful journey of twenty two years we are bringing to you a new column – "This Sakura That Year"



~ Editorial Team

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Japanese Pronunciation Workshop



On the 20th of March, we all tuned in for an online workshop on Japanese Pronunciation organized by NKKS and hosted by the effervescent Deepro Banerjee. The workshop kicked off with Deepro san showing us a funny video of a foreigner (Mr. Yabatan) to show how different Japanese sounds if we talk with an English accent followed by a video of another foreigner (Dogen) to show how natural Japanese sounds.

Then, he enlightened us about the different dialects that exists in Japan, the letters of hiragana which most of the Japanese learners struggle due to their impeccably similar pronunciation, the technique of Japanese “R” and “L” pronunciation, concept of “Long Vowels” compared with short vowels and also conducted an engrossing quiz. Then came the most arduous part of Japanese pronunciation: “Pitch Accent”. Deepro san introduced different types of pitch accents and also how they differ from each other with plenty of examples.

This session greatly enriched our knowledge of Japanese Pronunciation and gave us all a brief insight into different accents and dialects of Japan.

~ Riya

Japan Pavilion



After a gap of two years, the 45th Kolkata International Book Fair enchanted the entire city from 28th February to 13th March 2022. The Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata in association with The Japan Curry set up the Japan Pavilion in the fair with an aim to showcase Japan to all visitors.

Preparations started a month ago and one day, me and other members of The Japan Curry, were invited to the Japanese consulate where Mrs. Nakamura taught us folding cranes (tsuru) and showed her wonderful origami works! I was so inspired that I consider her my Origami master now.

The pavilion was the melting pot of both Japanese literature and culture. It featured books on Japan by Bengali authors, classic folklores, and origami among others. In order to enhance the experience of the visitors, the pavilion hosted several Japan-related activities - dolls exhibition, Japanese language related fun games, Aikido demonstration, karaoke, cosplay, musical performances, calligraphy experience and more. Happi coat trials, Kendama game, book reading club and origami sessions were hosted almost every day.

I personally think that the pavilion was the daintiest spot in the entire book fair grounds. From head to toe, it was decorated in small sakura flowers and at least one tsuru-chain used to get added to the display panel everyday, adding to its charm.

~ Gargi Dey

UPCOMING PROGRAMME

15 May 2022 | 6.00 PM
Kanji is Interesting

~ by Pampa Saha Roy

4 June 2022 | 7.00 pm
Digital Tools for JLPT Revision

~ by Soham Pal

Joining link
will be sent
by email

Register by
2 June 2022
[Click to register](#)



Glad to be back from
the virtual world!
NKKS Annual Picnic on
13 March 2022

Word Grid

~ Soham Pal

ぞ	づ	そ	ま	ん	ぎ	や	ぼ	れ	ろ	ぶ	ま
ん	や	が	や	が	や	づ	ろ	う	ん	で	び
ぎ	み	ほ	で	た	ん	こ	ご	か	け	な	う
い	ず	う	よ	ん	ば	で	い	わ	か	ん	か
ち	い	う	ば	ぞ	と	の	び	お	い	れ	ぎ
と	こ	す	ち	じ	ぺ	う	り	ぎ	だ	ど	ゆ
そ	て	そ	く	め	ん	や	ぶ	し	ん	ふ	ほ
い	ご	ち	か	わ	か	す	へ	つ	ほ	む	ろ
じ	ぐ	め	べ	さ	る	る	び	み	け	ぶ	れ
べ	な	れ	い	ご	ぞ	ん	じ	お	か	る	て
た	え	り	う	め	ゆ	こ	ん	か	い	づ	さ
ひ	に	わ	あ	ぷ	い	ん	ろ	し	に	げ	き

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

Word Grid Solution

(Mar - Apr 2022)

つ	かんばい	ま	ろ	ぶ	び	ぺ	で	べ			
ぶ	ぷ	ろ	ぜ	じ	く	あ	ぶ	つたえる			
か	ぜ	む	む	わ	ば	き	ま	ぞ	く	お	け
ん	ど	こ	ね	だ	さ	つ	へ	あ	ぎ	べ	せ
か	び	ぺ	だ	せ	ば	きる	が	た	が	た	
ん	ぞ	し	し	ば	ず	べ	ほ	つ	は	と	ふ
す	え	ぐ	ん	ね	び	の	い	ど	る	に	ぬ
な	へ	な	さ	じ	ほ	い	ぶ	ま	こ	あ	で
ま	ろ	が	る	ぞ	る	と	び	に	ご	あ	つ
え	り	こ	を	ほ	も	つ	こ	ち	え	ろ	で
む	は	よ	ば	だ	ど	う	ち	め	ひ	ぐ	す
き	ば	ぶ	ち	め	ず	ろ	じ	ろ	じ	ろ	も

Jumbled Words

~ Sontu Debnath

1. しきななふ (seven wonders)

○	○				
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2. やしろこ (professional killer)

○	○			
---	---	--	--	--

このことわざはなんですか。

3. じょうびよう (patient's condition, pathology)

○					
---	--	--	--	--	--

4. るしじや (arrow, symbol)

○				
---	--	--	--	--

5. るかえきお (to replace)

○	○				
---	---	--	--	--	--

KOTOWAZA:

○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Jumbled Words Solution

(Mar - Apr 2022)

1. いったん
2. せきにん
3. にちょうひん
4. きょうかしよ

Kotowaza: 「いっせきにちょう」

Meaning: "to kill two birds with one stone"

Scan the QR codes to watch the videos !

Yukata Walk
@Kolkata Book Fair



<https://shorturl.at/ckxN2>

37th In - Nichi
Bunkasai



<https://shorturl.at/vxIJO>

BOOK POST

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