





No. 157

September - October 2024

Foundation Day of NKKS

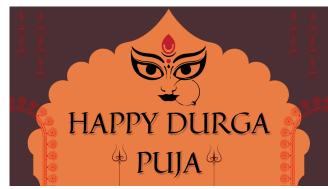


The 40th Foundation Day of the Nihongo Kaiwa Kyookai Society was marked by a vibrant and heartfelt celebration at CLT Dhakuria, coinciding with India's Independence Day. The festivities commenced with a speech by Nigam Sensei, who fondly referred to NKKS as her "child." She reminisced about the organisation's rich history and the many cherished memories that have shaped its journey over the past four decades. Following the speech, the audience was treated to a stirring rendition of the patriotic song "Ae Mere Watan Ke Logo", then a medley of songs and poems, and the song "Seikai". The cultural richness continued with a Japanese play titled "Mind Your Japanese Language," and then again musical performances featuring three Japanese songs. Dance enthusiasts were treated to an enchanting performance on Tagore's "Mayabono Biharini." Adding a touch of local flair, the programme included the fun play "Patitpaboner Dwitiyo Pokkho," and more song performances, highlighting the collective talent within NKKS. The event concluded with an interactive game of "Shiritori," followed by the cutting of a celebratory cake to honour NKKS's 40 years of cultural contributions. This Foundation Day not only celebrated NKKS's remarkable journey but also provided a unique opportunity for members to reconnect and enjoy each other's company, amidst their busy lives. The day underscored the organisation's commitment to fostering cultural exchange and community spirit.

~ Tamalika Nag



28th IJSC The Indian students joined the Japanese students in Tokyo on 21 Aug!



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MEET Priyaly Chakraborty

Priyaly Chakraborty teaches Japanese in Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture and Sister Nivedita University. From her childhood she liked watching animes like "Beyblade" and "Digimon" without knowing that they were Japanese! We had a free chat with her on various topics!

Q:: You are very much fascinated with watching SEIYUU EVENT or Japanese voice actors...

A:: Yes ! My special interest is watching SEIYUU EVENT and any content that is made by Japanese voice actors. This has been one of my special interests as you can see and understand the actors behind the voices and how they perceive the characters they are playing.

Q:: Your hobby...

A:: My hobby is watching anime and reading manga but now I watch anime in Hindi dub of English dub to see the difference in translation. I love drawing, especially digital drawing, and a little bit of animation. There is also my collection of anime merch goods that includes original manga and figurines of my favourite anime character. I love to play video games too.

Q:: You got your advanced diploma in interior design...

A:: After graduating from South City College in B.Com I got my advanced diploma in interior design. Then I started working and also started my journey as a Japanese language student.

Q:: You started studying Japanese because...

A:: I was fascinated with Japanese architecture and design! The different concepts and stories intrigued me to learn the language. I participated in a Japanese language teacher training course supported by Indian and Japanese Government at JNU. I am eternally grateful to my teachers for providing the opportunity that helped me establish a career.

Q:: Your experience with NKKS...

A:: Since 2016 I am associated with NKKS. The most memorable one was when my entire class performed in BON ODORI dance at the In Nichi Bunkasai. This event holds a special place in my heart as it was my first experience wearing "Happi"! NKKS also provided me with a platform to present my skills. The most recent event was the "LEARN JAPANESE WITH MANGA" which I thoroughly enjoyed presenting, as it is something I am passionate about! In conclusion, NKKS with its different annual events, has given me an immense learning experience.

Q:: Your experience and opinion about Japanese life, culture and people...

A:: My interaction with the Japanese people and the culture has been interesting and educational. Food is one of the things that I have noticed that is different and same as well. Being a foodie, I love trying out new Japanese food with ingredients present here like panko fry. I guess the food and lifestyle culture is something I have learnt and implemented in my life.

Q:: A memorable experience in your life...

A:: The most memorable experience in my life is receiving the certification for completing the Japanese Language Teacher Training Course.

Q:: Your advice to Japanese language students...

A:: My advice is not to be in a hurry to learn very fast as it can have negative effects. Make your own story on remembering a particular Kanji. Just learn the language as it is. Discipline is more important than motivation as it will help you in the long run for learning the language.

Embracing the Essence of Haiku



On 21st July 2024, NKKS organized a delightful lecture on Haiku. Sensei Nirmal Kumar Das talked about the intricacies of Haiku throughout the lecture delving us into the world of Japanese poetry. Sensei talked about how Haiku crystalizes an intensely perceived moment into a mere seventeen (5-7-5) syllables to a paradoxically profound, even philosophical effect. Sensei talked about few renowned Haiku poets like Matsuo Bashō, Masaoka Shiki and Kobayashi Issa. The most celebrated of all Haiku, is Bashō's verse about a frog plopping into a pond- furiike ya/ kawazu tobikomu/ mizu no oto. (Old pond! a frog plunges into, watersound). Later this verse was even translated by Rabindranath Tagore in Bengali also (পুরানো পুরুর / ব্যাণ্ডের লাফ / জলের শব্দ). In the realm of Haiku also endearing is Kobayashi Issa's love for, if not identification with small, vulnerable creatures as thought an early forerunner of the contemporary Japanese culture of the cute (kawaii). Haiku has representations through naturalism, romanticism, symbolism depending on the observer's perspective. In conclusion, Haiku provides a tiny window into a larger world inviting readers to pause, reflect and delve into the power of simplicity and the art of finding beauty everyday. Haiku conveys not only the happy moments of life but also sad ones. It holds fleeting moments of dissenting voices in timeless verses.

26th Nihongo Quiz



On 10th August 2024, the 26th Nihongo Quiz contest was organised by NKKS, supported by Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata, the Japan Foundation, New Delhi and Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Golpark. The theme of this year's quiz was "Anime and Manga" which made it especially exciting, as many learners begin their Japanese language learning journey through a love for such pop culture. The contest was held in two categories: Junior and Senior. The quiz for both categories consisted four roundsvocabulary, kanji, grammar and general knowledge with the addition of a katakana round for the finals. After an intense vet educational quiz session we had our winners for the 26th Nihongo Quiz with Bitrisa Paul, Roumik Mitra and Kounish Basak taking the 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions respectively in the Junior category. In the Senior category, Adesh Kumar Sahoo, Debolina Biswas and Deepak Paswan took the 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions respectively. Mr. Maeda Akira, Vice Consul, made a speech and a presentation on Study in Japan. The 26th Nihongo Quiz concluded as a fruitful experience for all the Japanese language enthusiasts.

~ Shrestha Mazumdar

8 September 2024 (Sun) 5.00 PM

Kotowaza session

~ by Aloke Basu Link will be sent by email

8 September 2024 (Sun) 5.30 PM

~ Banhi Sen

Onomatopoeia session ~ by Sumana Sensei and Papiya Sensei _{Link will be sent by email}

27 October 2024 (Sun) 5.00 PM

Yojijukugo session

~ by Khushboo Sensei Link will be sent by email

Find the Person Word Grid ~ Tisyagupta Pyne ~ Nivi Pal Fill in the Blanks to Find Out the Famous **Japanese Personality** 1. お まえはなんとおっしゃいますか? 2. わたしはおさけをのみすぎるとかおがあ く なってしまう。

Ans:

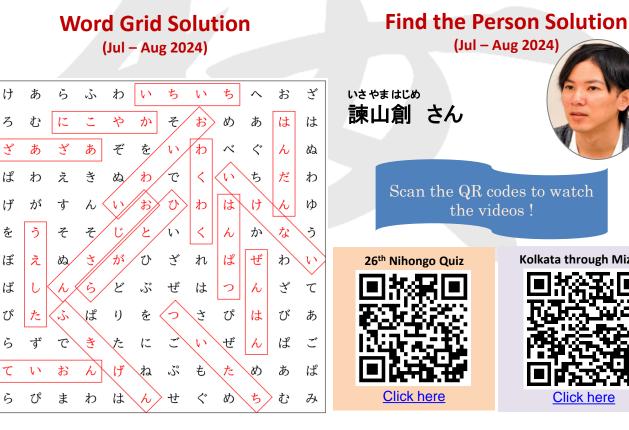
3. セーターをあ__のがすきです。

4. いしゅう なまつりがありますね?たのし みにしてる!

5. んじをフリガナなしでよみたいです。

6. だ まにんぎょうはおもしろいです。

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



BOOK POST

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American Chess Grandmaster of Japanese origin

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