

41st Annual General Meeting and Book Bazar

On 20th June, the 41st Annual General Meeting of NKKS was successfully held at Asutosh Mookherjee Memorial Institute. NKKS members gathered for an afternoon filled with reflection, discussion and excitement.

The program commenced with a warm welcome addressed by the President of NKKS, Mrs. Babli Chowdhury. Members looked back on a fruitful year as the activities, events and achievements of the previous session were presented by Mr. Anupam Das, followed by a comparative presentation of Balance Sheet and Income Statement for the Year 2025-26 which highlighted the organisation's financial growth and transparency.

One of the major highlights of the meeting was the interactive discussion where the audience shared feedbacks, suggestions and opinions for making the future programmes more engaging, entertaining and meaningful.

The meeting was concluded with the introduction of the newly elected Executive Committee members for the financial year 2026-27 : President Mrs. Babli Chowdhury, Vice-President Mrs. Sumana Dey, Secretary Mr. Anupam Das, Assistant Secretary Ms. Shreya Bose, Treasurer Mrs. Papiya Dasgupta, and Members Ms. Khushboo Agarwal, Mr. Smritiman Barua and Ms. Sumana Bhattacharya.

Following a short refreshment break, the excitement quickly shifted to the most awaited Book Bazar, where wide selection of books was met with such enthusiasm that the entire collection was sold out by the end of the event.

~ Soumyojit Chakraborty



MEET Aman Mallick

AMAN MALLICK, Japanese language teacher is associated with many institutions. He has completed his Masters in History from Jadavpur University and is an alumnus of The Future Foundation School. This reputed learning place played a vital role in drawing him to Japanese language. Here are some excerpts of an interview with him.

Q: Aman san, please say something about yourself....

A: I did my schooling from The Future Foundation School. Our founder principal, Smt. Jaya Mitter was highly fond of Japanese culture, and following her demise, every year on her birthday, our school would hold an inter house Ikebana competition to celebrate her fondness for Japan.

So, in a way I was exposed to Japanese culture from a very young age. I started learning Japanese at Jadavpur University in 2014 while doing my graduation in history. I currently teach Japanese at Jadavpur University and Sister Nivedita University in Kolkata, in addition to NILI Japanese language Institute and Urja.

Q: Why did you study Japanese language?

A: I had heard stories about Japan from my mother, read about the way Japanese people live and it didn't take me long to understand that Japanese people look at the world in a different way. I wanted to know more about this country and I eventually started learning the language.

Q: Your experience with NKKS

A: I have attended and greatly enjoyed several programs organized by the NKKS, namely In Nichi Bunkasai, Calligraphy Workshops, Singing and reading competitions and many more. It has always been a pleasure being a part of the efforts to spread the knowledge of Japan and it's culture.

Q: Your experience of going to Japan

A: I went to Japan in 2016, as part of the JICE JENESYS Program. It was November, and realized just how beautiful Autumn can be! We all know what Japan is like, so I won't say much about what I saw. But what I can tell is that, when I came back to my country, I greatly missed Japan, but felt a deep love and understanding for my own culture and people.

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

A: A long time ago, I heard a Japanese man in an interview say "Sekai no hito wa jibun wo miru, Nihonjin wa mawari wo miru" (People around the world prioritize themselves while the Japanese prioritize people around them"). Japanese people always consider how their actions might affect everyone else around them. This awareness, although seemingly trivial, is exactly what makes Japan different from the rest of the world, where individualism is so heavily stressed and prioritised.

Q: Your hobby.

A: Watching travel videos, trying out new cuisines...I generally like exploring foreign cultures in every way possible.

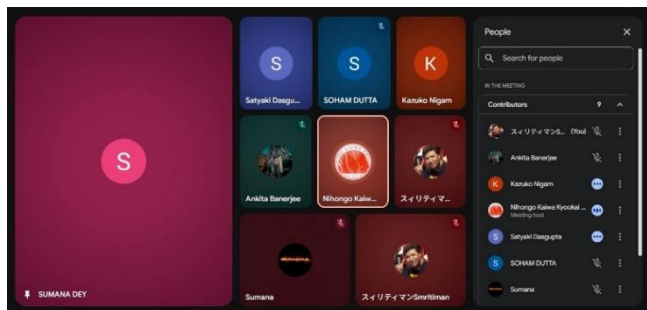
Q: Your advice to Japanese language students.

A: If you're learning Japanese, or any other language, don't think of what you're going to achieve. Enjoy the process, savour it! Success is bound to come eventually.

~ Alope Basu



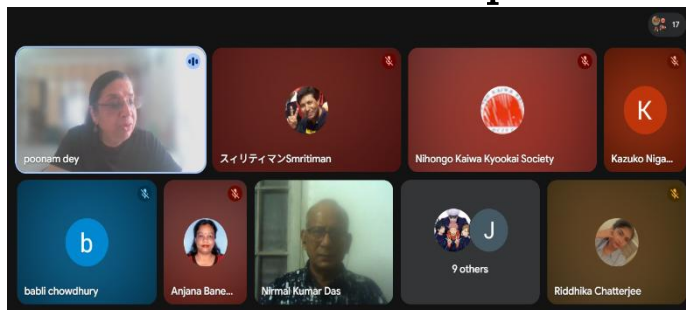
JLPT Orientation Session



An online JLPT N5 orientation session was held on 21st June by Sumana Dey sensei and Papiya Dasgupta sensei. The session focused on paper patterns, improving Japanese skills and helping students to prepare effectively for upcoming JLPT N5 examination. Papiya sensei explained JLPT paper pattern and discussed the structure of the examination. She also informed students that only pencils are allowed for marking answers on the answer sheet, as the JLPT follows a multiple-choice question pattern and the answer sheets are evaluated through OMR Scanning. Sumana sensei focused on effective methods for learning kanji and vocabulary. She shared useful daily habits and study technique that can help students build a strong foundation in Japanese and also encouraged students to develop regular reading habits and importance of time management during the examination. Nigam Sensei highlighted the new JLPT rules for July 2026 and advised about the importance of punctuality and to be mindful while filling up personal details. The session was highly informative and much needed for all JLPT aspirants. The orientation enhanced student's understanding of the JLPT examination and increased their confidence to the upcoming test.

~ Ankita Banerjee

Haiku Workshop



On 16th May 2026, we had the honour of attending a highly enlightening and interactive online session, conducted by Mr. Nirmal Kumar Das, who provided us with a detailed and fascinating introduction to the literary form of Haiku, its historical background, and its cultural significance in Japanese literature. Nirmal sensei explained the origin and development of Haiku in a very engaging and comprehensible manner. He also shared his personal interests in Haiku, some of his favourite Haiku poets, his notable works in translating Haikus into Bengali, and narrated his memorable experience of visiting the residence of the renowned Japanese writer, Masaoka Shiki. One of the most enjoyable parts of the session was when he encouraged all the participants to compose Haiku in their own native language. He patiently listened to every participant's composition and kindly provided thoughtful corrections and guidance to improve our understanding of the structure and expression of Haiku. The session not only enhanced our knowledge of Haiku but also deepened our appreciation for Japanese literature and poetic expression. We are truly grateful for such a wonderful opportunity and shall be eagerly look forwarding to participating in similar sessions in the future.

~ Riddhika Chatterjee

Japan India Friendship

In 1949 after the war, PM Nehru received more than 1000 letters from the children of Japan stating "At Tokyo Zoo we can only see pigs and birds which give us no interest. It is a long cherished dream of Japanese children to see a large, charming elephant... Can you imagine how much we want to see the animal?"

Highly moved, he made arrangements to find an elephant, named it after his daughter 'Indira' and shipped it from Kolkata to Tokyo. Indira was received with great honour and almost 10,000 people attended her grand entry into Ueno Zoo.

She passed away in August 1983 at the age of 49. The National Museum of Nature and Science in Ueno, still has a skeleton of Indira on display as a mark of Japan-India friendship!!!



Riddle

~ Khushboo Agarwal

わたし きく こたえ だし
私に何でも聞くと、すぐ答えを出してあげます。でも、人間でも神様でもありません。さて、私はだれでしょう？



Riddle Solution

(May – Jun 2026)

サラダ



26 July 2026 (Sun)
5.00 PM

Lets chat in Japanese II

~by Smritiman san & Friends

Further details will be sent by email

15 August 2026 (Sat)
5.00 PM

NKKS Foundation Day

[@Asutosh Mookerjee Memorial Institute](#)

Featuring

ワクワク Fair!

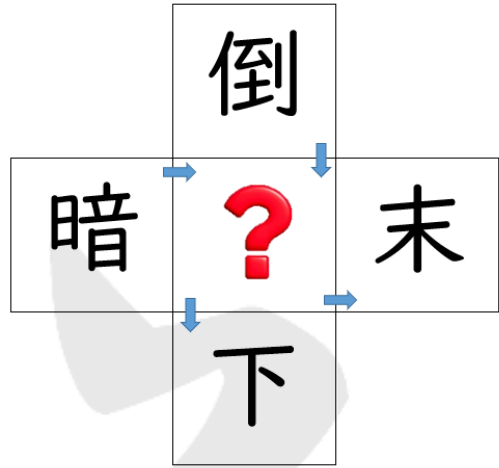
Do not miss this fair and check out the books and food on offer!



穴埋め

~ Adesh Kumar Sahoo

Fill in the centre square with a single kanji character such that when combined with each of the 4 given kanji characters, it will make 4 distinct meaningful words.



Anaume Solution

(May – Jun 2026)

がっ き
楽器 Musical Instrument

せつ き
石器 Stone Tools

き よう
器用 Skillful

き かん
器官 Organ



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BOOK POST

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