

MOVIES

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Mall)

October 31 ~	Pan	2D Dubbed
November 6 ~	Everest 3D	3D English · 3D Dubbed
November 6 ~	The Monuments Men	2D English
November 14 ~	LAST KNIGHTS PG12	2D English
November 20 ~	The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Parts 2	2D English · Dubbed
November 21 ~	The Little Prince	2D Dubbed
November 27 ~	Woman in Gold	2D English
December 4 ~	The Peanuts Movie	unfixed
December 4 ~	Spectre	2D English
December 18 ~	Star Wars: The Force Awakens	2D English · Dubbed, 3D Dubbed

Information Service

Internet: <http://niihama-aeonmall.com>

Tape (24 hrs): 050-6868-5019 (in Japanese)

Movies might be changed without notice. Please check.

December Events

- ★Niihama's Fine Art Exhibition (1890-2015) is now open at Akagane Museum thru Dec.20th. Admission fee ¥500.
- ★Akagane Christmas Concert will be held in the multi-purpose hall of Akagane Museum 13:30~16:00 on Dec.19th. For further information, please call the management committee at 0897-31-0305,
- ★The 2nd Niihama Welfare Bazaar will be held in the City office entrance lobby 11:00~14:00 on Dec. 25th. Homemade cookies, tofu, sweets and fresh vegetables will be on sale.

SGG would welcome any suggestions, questions or ideas for monthly articles. email: yukiko-m@shikoku.ne.jp
kasi4386@plum.ocn.ne.jp
sheep@abeam.ocn.ne.jp

*The editors for this month are K. Kaida & T. Masuda

ONE POINT JAPANESE いろいろな“かける”

A : **大根が 美味しい 季節に なりましたね。**
 Daikon ga oishi kisetzu ni narimashita ne.
 (The season when *daikon* tastes good has come!)

B : **ええ。大根サラダも シャキシャキして 美味しいですよ。**
 Ee, daikon sarada mo shakishaki shite oishi desu yo ne.
 (Yes. Daikon salad is crisp and tasty, isn't it?)

A : **私は ゴマドレッシングを かけるんですが、Bさんは？**
 Watashi wa goma doresshingu o kakerun desu ga, B-san wa?
 (I put sesame dressing on it. How about you, B?)

B : **最初は 何も かけないで、次に ポン酢を かけて 食べます。**
 Saisho wa nani mo kakenaide, tsugi ni ponzu o kakete tabemasu.
 (At first I put nothing on it, next I put PONZU (citrus vinegar) on it.)

A : **ヘルシーですね。Herushi desu ne.**
 (That's healthy!)

(外出から 帰って) (When you come home)

A : **今日は すごく 寒かったね。早く ストーブ (を) つけよう。**
 Kyō wa sugoku samukatta ne. Hayaku sutōbu (o) tsukeyō.
 (Today was very cold. Hurry up - let's turn on the heater.)

B : **あ、コートは そこに かけて。玄関の 鍵も かけて おいてね。**
 Aa, kōto wa soko ni kakete. Genkan no kagi mo kakete oite ne.
 (Ah, hang your coat there. Lock the front door, too.)

A : **オッケー。Okke. (OK.)**

A : **ただいまー。Tadaimā. (I'm home.)**

B : **遅かったね。Osokatta ne. (You're home late!)**

A : **忘年会が 盛り上がっちゃって・・・。Bonēn kai ga moriagatchatte.**
 (The year-end party was very lively!)

B : **もう 2時だよ。Mō ni ji da yo.**
 (It's already 2 a.m.!)

A : **心配 (を) かけて ごめんなさい。今度から 連絡するから。**
 Shinpai (o) kakete, gomen nasai. Kondo kara renraku suru kara.
 (Sorry to worry you. From now on I'll call and let you know.)

B : **カラオケにも 行ったの？Karaoke ni mo itta no?**
 (Did you go to karaoke, too?)

A : **うん、いろんな 曲を ガンガン かけて、思う 存分 歌ってきたよ。**
 Un, iron na kyoku o gangan kakete, omou zonzun utatte kita yo.
 (Yeah. We played many kinds of songs and I sang my fill.)

< by Niihama Nihongo no Kai >

NNK also provides Japanese lessons for foreigners living in Niihama.
 Feel free to contact us at: Tel 0897-34-3025 (Manami Miki).
 e-mail : manami-m@js6.so-net.ne.jp

What's New?

Niihama City

No.244

December 2015

Published by SGG Niihama



“A Fine-food Island”

Chih-yueh Hsieh

I would like to introduce something about my home, Taiwan. After deliberating, I chose to introduce the delicious food of Taiwan because of an old saying: “Food first.”

Before we start, let's take a look at the profile of Taiwan. Taiwan is an island that is almost the same size of Kyushu, 36,000 km². The population is 23 million, around 1/5 Japan's population. In the western part of Taiwan is a wide plain which is very suitable for planting and farming because of the good weather conditions and the fertile soil. Moreover, the variety of agricultural products is so huge that the farming capacity cannot only feed all the inhabitants in Taiwan but also can be exported abroad.

Firstly, I would like to talk about “Fruit”. I have asked many foreigners who have visited Taiwan and most of them answered that the most impressive food in Taiwan is fruit. The number one fruit is said to be the Mango. It is delicious not only for its sweetness and rich juice, but also because it can be made into tasty “Mango shaved ice”. To tell the truth, no one can resist Mango shaved ice in summer, unless you are allergic to Mangoes. It could be the first move of your food hunting in Taiwan.

There are many other fruits, such as Litchi, Longan (Dragon eye), Pineapples, Bananas, Watermelons, Guavas, Sugarapples (Buddhahead), Lianwu (roseapple), Oriental pears, Strawberries, etc. In Taiwan, you can have fruit anytime you want. However, I recommend that you have them in their peak season to enjoy their best taste, such as Litchi in summer, or Strawberries in winter. Fruits in Taiwan are usually cheap and thus anyone can afford them. Your only problem would be how to eat so many different kinds of fruit during your short tour.

Don't worry, just go to the "ice and fruit shop" and order a "fruit platter". You will meet many kinds of fruit face-to-face on your table. I guarantee you will be impressed.

What should you do to learn more about the fruits of Taiwan? Well, here is my suggestion: attend a farm tour. Recently, farm tours for foreigners have become a booming item in the tour courses. They allow foreigners to experience all the farming activities in person.

Besides fruit, you have probably heard of some famous snacks in Taiwan, like Xiao-long-bao (port buns steamed in bamboo steamers), Taiwanese fried chicken (deep-fried chicken seasoned with pepper & salt), egg fried oysters, and so on. I think the above items are all O.K. for any foreigner. However, do you dare to have the stinky tofu and the pig blood cake? They have been said to be two of the most disgusting foods in the world. CNN once reported that pig blood cake was selected to be one of the top 10 most disgusting foods in the world. Many foreigners visiting Taiwan are invited to eat these strange foods. Only a few of them can finish. Most of them just stand in front of the shops and immediately escape because of the weird smell. However, these two items are classic snacks in Taiwan's night markets. Every time I go back to Taiwan, I must go to the night market and have some of them at least one time.

There are some other snacks that are indispensable among the great variety found in the night markets in Taiwan: oyster vermicelli, tube rice pudding, pan-fried buns, wheel pies, Taiwanese meatballs, Taiwanese sausage with sticky rice, ribs stewed in medicinal herbs, deep-fried coffin-shaped sandwiches and so on. There are so many items that I cannot introduce them all, so I recommend a sightseeing website for your reference: <http://jp.taiwan.net.tw/>.

Finally, allow me to review the history of Taiwan. In the 16th century when Portuguese visited Taiwan for the first time, they yelled out "Beautiful island!" (Ilha Formosa) to praise the scenery. In modern times, foreigners who have visited Taiwan would probably call out "Fine-food island!" after their food tour of Taiwan. Please take some time off from your daily routine and visit Taiwan. I know you will not be disappointed.

Hello, everyone. I am Chih-yueh Hsieh (謝志岳) from Taiwan. I came to Niihama last November and have been working for a chemical company. My hobbies are cycling and mountain climbing.

Information in English & Chinese on the Web

*What's New?

*How to sort garbage and trash

Visit  <http://www.city.niihama.lg.jp>

Clair: *Multilingual Living Information

<http://www.clair.or.jp/tagengorev/en/index.html>

A laughter Yoga Class

A Free Laughter Yoga Class is to be held on December 22 (Tue).

Place: the Akagane Museum Multipurpose Hall

Time: 18:00 - 20:00

The main lecturer: Mr. Eda Hiro Atsumasa (an authorized Yoga teacher)

Additional instructor: Mr. Adachi Tomotaka (an authorized Yoga Leader)

Assistant instructor: Mr. Natsue Toru (a supporter of laughter care)

Things to bring: A yoga mat or a bath towel

Please wear suitable clothes for exercise.

Do you know what the laughter Yoga is?

It is a simple and unique way of staying fit, which combines laughing exercise and yoga breathing. Neither jokes nor humor is used. All you have to do is laugh as an exercise. If all the people including you laugh together, you will learn to laugh naturally and effortlessly.

This method is based on the result of scientific research, which shows that regardless of whether you laugh for fun or as an exercise, it can help you to be healthy. In 1995, Dr. Kataria, an Indian doctor, came up with this method, which had spread to as many as 101 countries as of the 30th of September 2015.

Since this class is held in the General Cultural Facilities of the Akagane Museum, the class is aiming at not only keeping you stay fit but also improving your skill to express yourself by developing your breathing.

Volunteer help for the 26th Niihama Global Party to be held next Feb.

Volunteer help in preparation for the 26th Global Party is warmly welcomed.

First meeting: Dec. 6th (Sun)

Time: 10:00~12:00

Place: Niihama Women's Plaza

If you are interested, please contact one of the people below

Ms. Okame 0897-34-8914 yasumi@galaxy.ocn.ne.jp

Mr. Nakamura 080-3403-3351 qq4k8q39k@hyper.ocn.ne.jp

"Halloween" in Japan

(from Ehime Shimbun October 30, 2015)

Recently there was an emergency 110 call in Kumamoto City, saying, "A masked man holding a chainsaw is walking around in a shopping mall." Police officers rushed there only to find a man in his 20's wearing a special Halloween costume and carrying a toy chainsaw, which looked exactly like a real one. Halloween is becoming a "national event" in Japan without our noticing it. According to the Japan Anniversary Association, the market value of Halloween last year was about 110 billion yen, surpassing that of Valentine's Day. This shows just how adaptable Japanese people are!

Halloween originated from an old Celtic festival. In the U.S.A. it is the eve of All Saint's Day and on the night of October 31 when kids in fancy costumes visit their neighbors asking for sweets. Here in Japan though, Halloween has changed into an event where grown-ups in fancy dress take to the streets for a party. Japanese Halloween seems to attract grown-ups because they can easily join the event just by wearing fancy costumes and they can enjoy the excitement without needing a partner, unlike Christmas, which tends to be a romantic occasion in Japan.

Social Network Systems have accelerated this trend as people can easily upload their pictures or video clips. I wonder if this is due to an increasing number of showy people? Or is this a reflection of our dissatisfaction with the status quo? Mr. Kojiro Miyabara, a sociologist, analyzes this in his book, "Desire to Change", and explains that what lies behind it is "a desire to change into something else", a negative feeling against the specific self who exists "here and now." It is good for people to let off steam by wearing some unusual clothes to disguise themselves and escape from their everyday lives. But you should be careful about when and where this is done so as not to be a nuisance to other people. Though it must be nearly impossible nowadays for people to see strangers dressed in unusual, eccentric costumes and not realize that it is Halloween.

