

What's New?

Niihama City

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Sojourn

Andika Agung Wijaya

It's been 3 years since I came to this little town. Thinking back now, these years flew in no time. I remembered the first day here seeing Sakura petals, falling elegantly to the ground, making a beautiful scene of sea of Sakura. While breathing in the fresh air of a new beginning, I stepped my feet to the unknown.

The year before, I was studying Japanese at Shinjuku, Tokyo. I was very lucky to make friends with many international students who came from many countries—Malaysia, Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand, Mongolia, Gabon, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Laos, Iran, Uganda, Cameroon, Guinea, Kenya. These people opened my mind to realize how big this world we live in. Many culture with many ways of life. Nevertheless, we respect each other differences, and relying on just a simple gesture of smile we can be friends.

Never in my wildest dream did I think that after I graduate from the language school I must go to Niihama. It was shocking for me at first to be sent to a middle of nowhere. The first thing I learnt about the place is no other than its delicious mikan (tangerine). I shook in excitement because after a whole year living with international students I will finally live together with the Japanese, or so I thought.

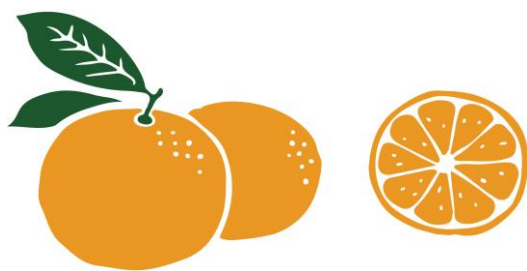
Entering Japanese society, I realized that it is different from what I have imagined. The culture shock comes after about 2 years living in Japan. Why so late you ask? Maybe it is because I watched too much anime and had this great expectation over some new and interesting things. Even so, some turned out to be okay.

During my stay in Niihama, I have enjoyed hanami at Takinomiya Park, viewing the sea from Kuroshima Seaside Park, travelling to Naoshima—the art island of Japan, practicing Kyudo, seeing the dazzling sea fireflies in Awashima, trying Nagashi Somen—the bamboo cut was done by nearly a century-year-old grandpa, climbing Mt. Ishizuchi twice—the first time almost killed me, and going whale watching in Kochi.

Just like that the years flew by. Those was fun, but there was also the opposite. I had to admit that it is not easy living as Chinese Indonesian in Japanese society. But like they say, “What does not kill you makes you stronger”. Some things are there to be just that. I have learned that it is not a wise thing to do to be something you are not. Because some things are different even if they look the same.

Now living in a comfortable 21.1 square meters room with living equipment sponsored by SGG members, doing a language teaching part-time jobs, have some wonderful friends, and enjoying the winter, I think my life could not have been better. Because I think that if you are being grateful for what you have, it is always enough.


Hello, my name is Andika from Indonesia. I am 22.9 years old and currently studying Applied Biology at Niihama National College of Technology.



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>

The 28th Niihama Global Party

"Just One World!"

Niihama's 28th Global Party was held at Women's plaza on February 11th with the theme of "Just One World!". 312 guests and organizers from 14 countries took part in the event. The party started with Wadaiko Drumming by Ohnishi Shachuu. Guests wearing colorful traditional outfits were able to meet people from different cultures and eat various sweets from many countries. Students from Niihama Higashi High School used slides to appeal for help for the Cambodian people.

On stage, various countries' dances such as square dance, Indonesian, Malaysia, Jitterbug Dances were performed. Gospel was also sung. Wadaiko drumming and Folk dance by Yosakoi Dance team were also performed. People enjoyed dancing and singing to the fullest.

The Number of the Participants

Nationality	male	female	Total
China	9		9
India	3	2	5
Indonesia	10	30	40
Laos	1		1
Malaysia	4	1	5
The Philippines	1	1	2
Russia		2	2
Trinidad and Tobago	1		1
The United Kingdom	1		1
The USA	5	3	8
Vietnam	1		1
Spain		1	1
Puertorico	1		1
	37	40	77
Japan	235		235
	Total		312

Coloring Book of Ehime

(from the Ehime Shimbun, December 19, 2017)

A coloring book featuring the beautiful scenery of Ehime has been released. It was drawn by an artist from Matsuyama named Yuichi Ueda (43). You can enjoy adding your own color to the drawings by referring to his sample pictures. The pages are A5 size. He depicts the scenery and flowers representing Ehime, such as Matsuyama Castle, Setouchi Shimanami Kaido Highway, the rugged coastline of Ikata, and flowers of mandarin orange. A set of pages has eight sample pictures painted with water color and colored pencils by Mr. Ueda, as well as a line drawing that you can color. Mr. Ueda had this to say: "I wanted to make a coloring book which adults could enjoy coloring. He also said, "You can exhibit sample pictures by themselves and the book can be a given to someone as a gift. You can enjoy art with a new angle." The price of a set of coloring books is ¥1,026. It is on sale now at Serendip Haruya Ael Bookstore and Gallery Camel K, etc.

Board Game Café Meeple Forest(Matsuyama)

(from the Ehime Shimbun, November 17, 2017)

At "Board Game Café Meeple Forest" in Hanazono-cho, Matsuyama you can enjoy more than 250 kinds of board games. There are several board games, mainly from abroad, for two to four players so that even someone who visits alone can enjoy a game sharing a table with other guests. The staff will show a beginner the rules of each game. The chief of the shop, Mr Kohei Kurokawa opened the shop as a solution to the problems peculiar to board games, i.e., difficulty finding a place to play with several people, difficulty meeting an opponent, etc. Mr Kurokawa said, "That charming thing about analog board games is that players can play the game while enjoying conversation and seeing their opponent's facial expressions or gestures. Please enjoy not only trying your luck but also engaging in a veteran player's battle of wisdom."

Open: Week days 3:00 PM-11:00 PM

Holidays 1:00 PM-11:00 PM

Closed on Tuesdays

Tel: 089 950 4040

MOVIES

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Mall)

February 16 ~	THE GREATEST SHOEMAN	2D English
March 1 ~	Shape of water R15+	2D English
March 1 ~	BLACK PANTHER	2D English
March 1 ~	THE 15:17 TO PARIS	2D English
March 16 ~	COCO	Unfixed
March 21 ~	Tomb Raider	2D English
March 30 ~	THE PENTAGON PAPERS	2D English
March 30 ~	Valerian	2D English
March 30 ~	RED SPARROW	2D English
March 30 ~	The Commuter	2D English

Information Service

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

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

Movies might be changed without notice. Please check.

March events

☆ Fire fighting Demonstration & Ceremony

Date: Sunday, March 4th 9:00~12:00

Place: Yamane Citizens Ground

Activity: Training, Spraying water, Commendation

☆ Cu Café at Akagane Museum

“Presentation by a Laotian national”

Date: Friday, March 9th 18:30~20:00

Admission: Free, includes one drink

[Tel:31-0305](tel:31-0305)

SGG would welcome any suggestions, questions or ideas for monthly articles.

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

ONE POINT JAPANESE

“まで” と “までに”

A : **仕事は何時まで** ですか。 Shigoto wa nanji made desu ka.
(What time do you work till?)

B : **5時まで** です。 Goji made desu. (Till 5 o'clock.)

C : **私は4時45分まで** です。 Watashi wa yoji yonjūgofun made desu.
(I work till 4:45.)

A : **じゃあ、仕事が終わったら、食事に行きませんか。**
Jā, shigoto ga owattara, shokuji ni ikimasen ka.
(Then, how about going out to eat after work?)

A : **眠そうですね。** Nemusō desu ne. (You look sleepy!)

B : **ええ、昨日遅くまでゲームをしていたので・・・。**
Ee, kinō osoku made gēmu o shiteita node...
(Yes. I played games till late last night...)

A : **大丈夫？レポート、明日までに** 出さないと・・・。
Daijōbu? Repōto, ashita made ni dasanai to...
(Are you alright? You have to submit the report by tomorrow.)

B : **大丈夫、大丈夫。いつもギリギリで間に合っているから。**
Daijōbu, daijōbu. Itsumo girigiri de maniatte iru kara.
(Don't worry, don't worry. I always make it just in time.)

A : **北海道へ行ったことがありますか。**
Hokkaidō e itta koto ga arimasu ka.
(Have you ever been to Hokkaido?)

B : **いいえ。でも、帰国するまでに是非行ってみたいです。**
Iie. Demo, kikoku suru made ni zehi itte mitai desu.
(No. But I definitely want to go see it before I return home.)

A : **卒業おめでとう。4月から社会人** ですね。
Sotsugyō omedetō. Shigatsu kara shakaijin desu ne.
(Congratulations on graduating. You'll join the working world in April!)

B : **ありがとうございます。** Arigatō gozaimasu. (Thank you very much.)

A : **引っ越しはいつですか。** Hikkoshi wa itsu desu ka.
(When are you going to move?)

B : **まだ決まっていないんですが、今月末までに引っ越す予定です。**
Mada kimatteinain desu ga, kongetsumatsu made ni hikkosu yotē desu.
(It's not certain yet, but I plan to move by the end of this month.)

★～まで・・・until～

★～までに・・・by～(before～)

< 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).

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