

# MOVIES

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Mall)

March 18 ~	Sing 2	Dubbed
April 1 ~	Morbius	Sub / Dubbed
April 8 ~	Fantastic Beasts the Secrets of Dumbledor	Sub / Dubbed
May 4 ~	Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness	Sub
May 27 ~	Top Gun: Marverick	Sub

Due to the new coronavirus infection, movies might be changed without notice. So please check the homepage for information.

## Information Service

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

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



This newsletter is published by SGG, a volunteer group that helps foreigners living in Niihama. If you need any advice, information, or support, please contact SGG. SGG would welcome any suggestions, questions, or ideas for monthly articles.

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\*The editors for this month are N. Negoro & Y.Amano

# ONE POINT JAPANESE

「疑問詞〜か」の使い方

A: Bさん、どうかした?

B-san, dōka shita?

(Is something wrong, B-san?)

B: スマホを落としたみたい。

Sumaho o otoshita mitai.

(I seem to have dropped my smartphone.)

A: それは大変。いっしょにさがそうか。

Sore wa taihen. Issho ni sagasō ka?

(That's terrible. Shall we look for it together?)

B: ありがとう。

Arigatō. (Thank you.)

でも、いつ落としたか、どこに落としたか、全然わからなくて。

Demo, itsu otoshita ka, doko ni otoshita ka, zenzen wakaranakute.

(But, I have no idea when or where I lost it.)

A: 落ち着いて。今日何をしたか話して。

Ochitsuite. Kyō nani o shitaka hanashite.

(Calm down. Tell me what you did today.)



A: もうすぐCさんの誕生日ですね。

Mōsugu C-san no tanjōbi desu ne.

(It's almost C-san's birthday.)

B: プレゼントはもう買いましたか。

Purezento wa mō kaimashita ka?

(Have you bought a present yet?)

A: まだなんです。何をあげたらいいかわからなくて。

Mada nan desu. Nani o agetara ika wakaranakute.

(No, not yet. Because I have no idea what would be good to give him.)

B: わたしもまだだから、一緒に何がいいか考えましょう。

Watashi mo mada dakara, issho ni nani ga ika kangaemashō.

(I haven't bought anything yet either, so let's think about what would be good together.)



< by Niihama Nihongo no Kai >

NNK also provides Japanese lessons for foreigners living in Niihama.

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# What's New?

Niihama City

No.321

May 2022

Published by SGG Niihama

# 5



## The True Meaning of Ramadan

Noor Farahnaz Abu Mansor

Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar, is the most sacred month for Muslims. It is believed that the first verses of the holy book of Islam, the Qur'an, were revealed to Prophet Mohammed during this month. Muslims around the world welcome Ramadan by fasting every day from dawn to sunset. This is one of the five pillars of Islam; the duties of being a Muslim, which also includes the testimony of faith, praying five times a day, doing charity, and performing the pilgrimage to Mecca.

Since the lunar calendar makes up to only 354 to 355 days a year, Ramadan comes approximately 11 days earlier each year in the Gregorian calendar. This has a large impact on the condition, especially the length of time we must fast from year to year - longer in summer, when the days are longer, and shorter in winter. This year, in Japan, Ramadan falls from April 3rd to May 2nd, when there's approximately 14 hours of daylight - which means 14 hours of fasting every day.

Needless to say, fasting for such long hours daily for a month can be quite challenging. As such, only physically and

mentally healthy adults (those who have reached puberty) are required to do so. Kids, elderlies, and those who are ill, are exempted from having to carry out this duty. Pregnant, nursing, and menstruating women, or those who are traveling or feeling unwell are also allowed to take a break, and make up for it by fasting later in the year for each day missed.

Ramadan fasting is not just about abstaining from eating and drinking (yes, water is also not allowed). We also refrain from smoking and engaging in sexual activities from dawn till sunset, and try to curb negative thoughts and emotions such as anger and jealousy, and bad habits such as gossiping, fighting, swearing, and complaining all throughout the month.

Other than to devote ourselves to our faith, we fast to feel the sufferings of the poor, and to remind ourselves of how lucky we are to have food on our tables, and to always be thankful for our blessings. We also believe that the reward for all the good deeds done during this month will be multiplied, therefore, strive to be a better Muslim and a better person – be it by doing an extra prayer, increasing charity and generosity, studying the Qur’an, or just dressing more modestly.

Despite all the hardships of having to fast for a whole month, most Muslims look forward to Ramadan every year. To us, it is a festive season where every mealtime is a celebration which brings us closer to our families, friends, and to the community. To think that there are millions of Muslims all over the world who are going through the same experience together evokes a remarkable sense of solidarity, and that is why it is always sad to see it go.



Farah is a third year Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) from Shah Alam, Malaysia. She currently works at the Local Community Section in Niihama City Hall, and can also be found at the Niihama International Center (NIC) on Monday and Wednesday afternoons.

## Vintage Daihatsu Midget Fire Engine on Display at Higurashi Bettei Museum

(Monthly City News, April 2022)

A Vintage Daihatsu Midget fire engine originally used on Shisaka-jima Island was donated in April from Minetopia Besshi, where it had been on display, to the Higurashi Bettei Museum (1-11, Ohji-cho).

Shisaka-jima Island has very narrow and steep slopes, so a Midget was adopted for its compact body and maneuverability. This unique vehicle played an important role in fire prevention management during the Showa era. A half century later, the Midget tells the history of those days again, showing its presence.

Additionally, a statue of Ninomiya Kinjiro owned by Sumitomo Metal Mining Co. Ltd., which was relocated from the island last year, is now on display at the museum. Please enjoy the new faces of the museum.

Closed: Monday and national holidays (open if falls on a Sunday)

Capacity: Up to 20 visitors at a time currently under the quasi-state of emergency

Fee: Free of charge

Further Information: Higurashi Villa Memorial Museum  
TEL: 0897-31-5017



## Local Curries in Niihama Compete for the Prize!

(Monthly City News April 2022)

The “Niihama-City Curry Championship” was held at AEON Mall Niihama to decide the city’s best local curry. First prize was won by “Doteyaki Curry.”

Ten restaurants in the city entered the contest, each preparing their own original curry using local ingredients. Visitors enjoyed various kinds of unique curries. After eating, each visitor voted for their favorite curry.

## MAY EVENTS

### ○ 5/1~5/31 Peony Flowers at Minetopia Besshi.

40 different kinds (about 30,000 flowers in total) are in full bloom. You can buy some peony saplings.

### ○ 5/21 (Sat) Hammocks on the lawn at Minetopia Besshi

You can find many food trucks, too.

### ○ 4/29~6/26 Exhibition of Portraits of Japanese Women

At Niihama City Museum of Art (Akagane Museum 2F)  
About 800 Western painting portraits of Japanese women drawn in the last 150 years.

Fee: ¥800 for adults. ¥500 for college & HS students.

Free admission for 15 and under.



## Online Information in English from Niihama City

☆ A Guide for Living in Niihama



☆ The Niihama Medical Institution Map



☆ How to Sort Your Trash and Garbage



☆ What's New? in English



☆ Niihama Tourist Information

<https://niihama.info/>



☆ A Daily Life Support Portal for Foreign Nationals