

What's New?

Niihama City

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The land of beauty

Olga Skuratovich

Autumn... There is something melancholy in this time of the year. It is both beautiful and sad. In my country, autumn is the time when nature dies, life slows down. After the bright summer days sunlight grows shorter, days cooler, and those fun times are gone away. Autumn is a favorite season of poets. It inspired A.Pushkin, M.Lermontov, S.Yesenin, A.Fet, A.Ahmatova, B.Pasternak. Fall gives us vivid colors. It also brings fog, rain and freezing. Very soon mist clouds the autumn nature and the first frosts turn it into the ice crystals. For some days usually grey November turns as if by magic into the snowy kingdom. Birds gather in flocks and fly away to the warm countries. This autumn I left my homeland together with the birds. They called me on a long journey. So far. The first plane, the second, the third... amazing sunset and sunrise. A long trip...

Are you intrigued? Have you guessed where I'm from? Not yet? I'm from Belarus. I'd like to tell you about my country.

For many foreigners Belarus is an unknown land. Upon hearing the word some immediately think of Russia. But it's not so. Nowadays Belarus is a sovereign independent state. The full official name is The Republic of Belarus. It's a small beautiful country that is situated in Eastern Europe. It borders on Russia, the Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania and Latvia. It has an area of 207,600 square kilometers and a population of more than 10 million. The territory is much larger than such countries as Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece and the number of others. The capital of the country is Minsk. Forests constitute 33 % of the country's area. In Belarus there are over 20 thousand rivers and lakes. Due to its water expanses Belarus is often called

“a blue-eyed country”. A great number of folktales are connected with lakes, springs and rivers. Belarus is a land of deep forests and green meadows, vast plains and picturesque hills, transparent lakes and rivers. Belarusian industry produces tractors, big lorries, automatic lines, refrigerators, television sets, bicycles, watches, fertilizers and textiles. Agriculture specializes in milk and meat production, flax, vegetables. Mainly Belarusian dishes are based on local vegetables and cereals. Potato deserves a special mention because this vegetable formed the basis of many of the national dishes for hundreds of years. The most delicious of them are Babka, Borshch, Draniki, Machanka. Belarus has a unique culture and traditions. Many traditional arts and crafts are alive and well today. Belarusians are open-hearted and hospitable people, unbelievably polite, friendly, and helpful.

There are many charming and mysterious places in my country. It attracts creative people seeking inspiration or relaxation. If you are tired of modern urbanized city life you can find really wild places here. Belarus gives a good possibility to be alone with the wildlife, to be captured by its beauty and to feel being a part of nature. It is a country of fantastic and unspoiled natural areas. Perhaps Belarusian nature does not impress as much as the nature of the tropics, the mountains or the seaside. However, those who look closely at Belarusian nature will be overwhelmed by its wealth and depth.

If you want to feel beauty, discover Belarus!

Each time I meet new men I say these words. I think I'll tell the same to Belarusian people about Japan when I come back home. I am a teacher and work at school for deaf children. When I was leaving Belarus I promised to my pupils to bring a lot of stories about my living in Japan and something that could illustrate a spirit of this country. I haven't decided yet what it will be. There are so many things that I would like to take with me and show to children. The more I know about Japan the more it impresses me. I miss my home country but I think I will miss Japan too after leaving it. Our countries are so different but they have so many common features. I discover Japan with pleasure and would like to invite you to discover Belarus too.



Olga Skuratovich has been studying at Ehime University since October in 2012. She is from Belarus.

MOVIE

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Shopping Center)

November 9 ~	CIRQUE DU SOLEIL WORLDS AWAY	3D English
December 1 ~	SKYFALL	English / Dubbed
December 14 ~	THE HOBBIT: AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY	2D English / 3D Dubbed
December 15 ~	FRANKEN WEENIE	3D, 2D Dubbed
December 21 ~	LES MISERABLES	2D English

Information Service

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

Tape (24 hrs): 0897-35-3322 (in Japanese)

Movies might be changed without notice, so please check beforehand.



<Contributed by Adam Schartup>

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

December Events

☆12/1 (Sat)--2013 1/14 (Mon) : Illuminated Minetopia Besshi

You can also enjoy elegant winter cherry blossoms.

☆12/2 (Sun) HAMA2 Winter Festival by the JCs 12:00--18:30

At Marine Park Niihama

Flea Market, Food Vendors, Industrial Products, Dancing

Concert and Fireworks at night .

☆12/2 • 16 • 23 (Sun) Sunday Market 7:30--12:00

In the street east of the Bunka Center.

☆12/11 (Tues):Cooking class for Parents and Kids 9:30--12:00

Making snacks for kids in the Fureai Plaza 2F cooking room.

Material expenses only. Booking is required for baby sitting by December 5.

TEL:35-2941

☆12/23 (Sun) San-san Market 9:00—15:00

Noborimichi Street you can get various kinds of fresh foods for 100 yen.

☆2013 Calendar of Niihama Scenery 500yen.

Available at Telecom Plaza 1F Niihama-shi Kanko Kyokai

TEL: 32-4028

Exploring Restaurants: Traditional Niihama No.12

Haginochaya



by Michael Newlin

If you are looking for a beautiful, traditional-style Japanese restaurant with very good food, consider Haginochaya. It has been open for 34 years and serves special shinshu (very white, pure) soba noodles. And, for wasabi-lovers, they provide wasabi root and a small grater so you can use as much (or as little) fresh wasabi as you like. Be sure to finish with a cup of the sobayu (cooking liquid) for your health! Open for lunch.

Directions: Across the street from Bunka Center and next to the main Iyo Bank – both near City Hall (愛媛県新居浜市繁本町 7-8).

Phone: 0897-37-0177 Hours: 11am - 5pm; closed Monday

Foreign Sister Cities of Towns in Ehime

In Ehime Prefecture, 6 cities and 2 towns have their own foreign sister cities or provinces / states. Ehime itself has a sister state. They lead an active cultural exchange through sending students of elementary school and high school and citizens to each other.

Name	Other Party	Country
Ehime Prefecture	Hawaii (State)	U.S.A
Matsuyama	Sacramento, CA	U.S.A
	Freiburg	Germany
	Pyeongtaek	South Korea
Imabari	Panama City	Panama
	Lakeland, Fla	U.S.A
Uwajima	Honolulu, HI	U.S.A
	Xiangshan County Zhejiang Province	China
Niihama	Dezhou	China
	Shandong Province	
Saijo	Baoding Hebei Province	China
Shikoku-chuo-shi	Xuancheng Anhui Province	China
Uchiko	Rothenburg	Germany
Ikata	Red Wing, Minn	U.S.A

(Ehime-ken Kokusai-koryu-ka, as of 2012)

You can read on the Web.

***What's New?**

***Garbage and trash Collection Calendar**

***Information living in Niihama**

Click <http://www.city.niihama.lg.jp/english/>

Clair:*Multilingual Living Information

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



ONE POINT JAPANESE

“出す”と“おくる”

- 私**：あした郵便局へ行くけど、何か用事がある？
Ashita yūbinkyoku e iku kedo, nanika yōji aru?
(Tomorrow I'm going to the post office, but do you have something you want me to do there?)
- 父**：ちょうどよかった。この手紙、出してもらおうか。
Chōdo yokatta. Kono tegami, dashite moraō ka.
(Perfect! Will you post this letter?)
- 母**：今晚年賀状を書くから、出してきて。
Konban nengajō o kaku kara, dashite kite.
(I'm going to write New Year's cards tonight, so will you post them?)
- 妹**：クリスマスのプレゼント、明日送ったら間に合うよね。
Kurisumasu no purezento, ashita okuttara maniau yo ne.
(If I send Christmas presents tomorrow, they'll be in time, right?)
- 姉**：そろそろ友達にみかんを送ろうかな。買って送ってくれる？
Sorosoro tomodachi ni mikan o okurō ka na. Katte okutte kureru?
(It's about time to send mandarin oranges to friends. Would you buy some and send them for me?)
- 私**：えー！送り先は？ Ee! Okurisaki wa?
(What?! Where do they go to?)
- 姉**：後から携帯に送るね。Ato kara ketai ni okuru ne.
(I'll send the addresses to your cell phone later.)
あした、写真ができるから、それも送らないと。
Ashita shashin ga dekiru kara, sore mo okuranai to.
(Tomorrow the photos will be done, so I have to send them too.)
帰りにカメラ屋に寄って、取って来てくれる？
Kaeri ni kameraya ni yotte, totte kite kureru?
(Would you stop in at the camera shop on the way home and get them?)
- 私**：えー！そんなにたくさん、無理！！ Ee, sonna ni takusan, muri!!
(What?! So many things!! No way!)

- A**：結婚式の招待状、お出ししたんですが、届いているでしょうか。
Kekkon shiki no shotaijo, odashishitan desu ga, todoiteiru deshō ka. (I sent you a wedding invitation, but has it reached you?)
- B**：ええ、届いていますよ。ご結婚、おめでとうございます。
Ee, todoiteimasu yo. Gokekkon, omedetō gozaimasu.
(Yes, it's reached me. Congratulations on your wedding!!)
- A**：あう、出欠のお返事がまだのようなんですが・・・。
Anō, shukketsu no ohenji ga mada no yō nan desu ga . . .
(I'm afraid I haven't received your answer...)
- B**：えっ？ごめんなさい。うっかり、出すのを忘れていました。
Ee? Gomennasai. Ukkari, dasu no o wasurete imashita.
(Really? So sorry. I completely forgot to post it.)

< 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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