

What's New?

Niihama City

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The Obsidian's Voyage on the Seto Inland Sea

(from Ehime Shimbun June 2, 2017)

I took a ferry from Kunisaki Peninsula, Kyushu Island and arrived 20 minutes later at Hime-shima, a small island, whose name was mentioned in Kiki, the Japan's oldest written myth.

Some arrowheads made of obsidian in this island in Jomon era (13000B.C. ~300B.C.) have been excavated at the many places around the Seto Inland Sea.

I went down a steep cliff carefully. The rocks which I clung to and step on were shining with reflecting the sunlight.

Catching my breath in beauty of the obsidian, I looked around the sea extending in my view.

I wondered how ancient people had carried them from here to other places.

Thirty-two years ago in summer young people tried to solve this question by rowing a boat from Himejima Island to Matsuyama as an experimental voyage of the transportation route.

A group of 270 people, most of whom were high school students rowed the boat approximately 100 km in turn.

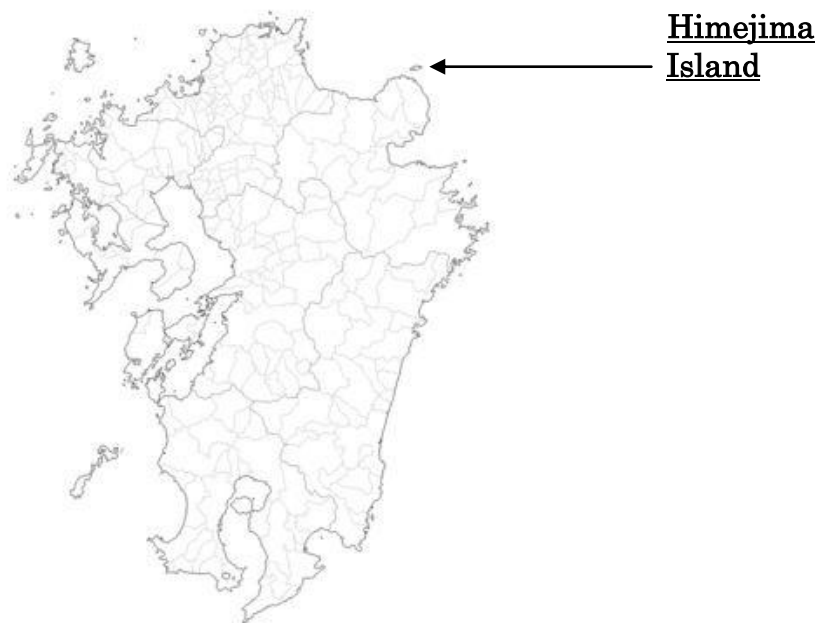
The boat was a big dugout canoe. They started rowing towards the rising Sun and went to sleep on the beach, seeing the moonlight reflected on the sea.

Although they struggled a lot with ocean tide changing, they managed to transport the obsidian successfully after rowing for three days.

This project was supported by many volunteers and school teachers specialized in archeology or architecture. The young students must have been impressed by the adults' serious attitudes for the project and their brightness in their eyes when preparing for the project carefully.

The words of student were recorded, "If it hadn't been for this opportunity, we couldn't have realized our real power."

It is said that next fiscal year the government is intending to introduce "Kids' week" by making summer vacation shorter in order to make spring holidays longer and create fall holidays.



Kyushu Island

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 Enchanting Blue of Tibetan Poppy

(from Ehime Shimbun June 16, 2017)

The blue flowers of the “Himalayan blue poppy”, an Alpine plant in the poppy family, are starting to bloom in the Kamihayashi forest park in Tohon, where the cold air comes out of the wind tunnel between the rocks. The cool blue poppy flowers are soothing mountaineers and photography enthusiasts. According to the managing group “Iyo hana-no-kai”, flowers are at their best from late June to early July.

The city’s Sightseeing & Products Association says that the formal name of the flower is *meconopsis betonicifolia* and they are seen in cold alpine regions like Tibet.

On June 15th, climbers on their way down from Mt. Saragamine (1278m) were taking a rest in front of the wind cave, remarking on the cool air. The couple from Iyo, who usually visit there twice a month to take pictures of wild birds said with a smile, “This year we are lucky to be able to see the deep blue of the early bloom of the flowers.”

July Events

★July 1(Sat) – August 31(Thu)

Swimming at “Marine Park”

Location : Marine Park Niihama

Phone : 46-4100

-The Marine Park Beach is officially open for two months. If you want to stay over, or rent a tent, barbecue grill or goods for camping, please contact the number above.



★July 8 (Sat) – Sep. 10 (Sun)

9:30a.m. ~ 5:00p.m. **Kondo Katsuya, Ghibli Animator's Picture**

Exhibition

Location : Akagane Museum

Admission fee : ¥1,300

¥700 (senior high school students and under)

¥1,000/500 (advance ticket)

¥1,200 (for two family members, adult + child) (advance ticket only)

Free Admission : preschoolers

Phone : 31-0305

-Pictures drawn by Kondo Katsuya from Niihama, including drawings from “Kiki’s Delivery Service”, “Ponyo on the Cliff by the Sea”, and “Ronja Rövardotter” will be on display, and other related events will be held during this two-month exhibition.

★July 9 (Sun)

Patrol Boat Cruise

11:00a.m., 1:00p.m., and 2:00p.m.

Location : Marine Park Niihama

-If you want to experience a 30-minute free cruise off Niihama Port, please apply at the Marine-mura reception desk on the day. The 8th Summer Festival will also be held, so children can enjoy various attractions such as water slides, dancing and music performances.

★July 15, 22, and 29 (Sat)

6:00p.m. ~ 9:00p.m.

Akagane-Doyou-Yo-ichi, Market on

Saturday evenings

Location : Noborimichi-Sunroad shopping arcade

Phone : 37-1666

-Visitors can enjoy foods available at various food stands and children can play various games such as a shooting game, fake jewelry scooping, etc.

★July 29 (Sat)

J. League Division 2 Soccer Game

7:00p.m. ~

Location : Ninjinia Stadium (next to Tobe Zoo)

Phone : 0897-65-1303 (the sports promotion division, Niihama City office)

-Ehime FC will play against Jef United Ichihara Chiba. Free tickets for senior high school students and under are available at the sports promotion division, Niihama City office, so please contact the number above if you are interested.



MOVIES

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Mall)

April 21 ~	Beauty and the Beast	2D English / Dubbed
June 1 ~	Logan R 15+	2D English
June 17 ~	King Arthur : Legend of the Sword	2D English
June 21 ~	Hacksaw Ridge	2D English
June 28 ~	The Mummy	Unfixed

Information Service
Internet: <http://niihama-aeonmall.com>
Tape (24 hrs): 050-6868-5019(in Japanese)
Movies might be changed without notice. Please check.



Fireworks festival

☆Shikokuchuo- Kawano Summer-Festival

July15 (Sat) 8:00p.m.~8:50p.m.

Location: Kawano Port

Phone:0896-28-6158

☆Niihama

July28 (Fri) 7:30p.m.~9:00p.m.

Location: Kokuryou-gawa,riverbed.

Phone: 0897-65-1261/33-5581



☆Imabari-Onmaku Festival

August (Sun) 8:00p.m.~9:00p.m.

Location: Imabari Port

Phone: 0898-23-3939

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

Email: yukiko-m@shikoku.ne.jp
kashi4386@plum.ocn.ne.jp
sheep@abeam.ocn.ne.jp

- The editors for this month are H.Yano and K.Takahashi.

ONE POINT JAPANESE

A : 梅雨入り したのに、全然（雨が）降りませんね。
(The rainy season has started, but it isn't raining at all.)

B : 週末から雨が続くようですよ。
(Beginning this weekend, it's supposed to start raining.)

A : じゃ、今のうちに シーツやカバーを洗っておかないと。。。。
(So, if I don't wash sheets and covers now...)

A : やっと梅雨があけたね。
(Finally the rainy season is over!)

B : 今日もまた猛暑日になりそう。
(Today seems like it will be a super-hot day again.)

A : 今晚、市民プールに行かない？
(Tonight, how about going to the city swimming pool?)

B : いいね。昼は暑いし、人も多いから。
(Sounds good! During the day it's hot and there're a lot people, too.)

A : じゃ、6時半に、現地集合ね。
(OK, Let's meet there at 6:30.)

A : 何かいいにおいがしますね。
(Something really smells good!)

B : あっ、うなぎのかばやき！
(Ah, it's eel, broiled eels!)

C : ちょっと高いけど、買って帰ろうかな。
(It's a little expensive, but shall I get one to take home?)

A : おいしいんですか。
(Is it delicious?)

B : もちろん。ビタミンが豊富で、夏バテ対策にもおススメですよ。
(Of course, It's rich in vitamins and good for the summer heat.)

C : 疲れもとれるし、食欲も出るし。。。。
(It gets rid of fatigue and gives you a good appetite...)

A : へえ、そうなんですか。じゃ、わたしも買ってみようかな。
(Oh really! Well, maybe I'll buy one too.)

<By Niihama Niihonngo 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