

MOVIES

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Mall)

August 6 ~	Fast & Furious 9	Sub / Dubbed
August 13 ~	Free Guy	Dubbed
August 13 ~	The Suicide Squad R15+	Sub / Dubbed
August 13 ~	Don't breathe 2	Sub
August 20 ~	Pawpatrol	Dubbed
August 27 ~	Old	Sub
September 3 ~	Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings	Sub / Dubbed
September 10 ~	Spiral : From the Book of Saw R15+	Sub
September 17 ~	Reminiscence	Sub
September 23 ~	Minamata	Sub
September 23 ~	The Courier	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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ONE POINT JAPANESE

「ため」の使い方

A : 日本語能力試験のために、何かしていますか。
 Nihongo nōryoku shiken no tame ni, nani ka shiteimasu ka?
 (Are you doing anything for the Japanese Language Proficiency Test?)

B : 漢字が苦手なので、毎日日記を書いています。
 Kanji ga nigate nanode, mainichi nikki o kaiteimasu.
 (I'm not good at kanji, so I'm writing a diary every day.)

A : え？手書きですか。
 E? Tegaki desu ka?
 (What? By hand?)



B : ええ、書いたほうが覚えられますから。
 Ē, kaita hō ga oboeraremasu kara.
 (Yeah, because I can remember them better when I write them.)

A : ギターの練習ですか。
 Gitā no renshū desu ka?
 (Practicing the guitar?)



B : パーティーで、みんなで歌を歌うために練習してるんです。
 Pātī de, minna de uta o utau tame ni renshū shiterun desu.
 (I'm practicing so everyone can sing songs at the party.)

A : 私は歌が下手なので、ギターで伴奏します。
 Watashi wa uta ga heta nanode, gitā de bansō shimasu.
 (I'm not good at singing, so I accompany the singers on the guitar.)

A : ギターのほうが難しいですよ。うらやましい。
 Gitā no hō ga muzukashī desu yo. Urayamashī.
 (The guitar is more difficult! I'm jealous.)



A : 松山行きの電車は止まっているんですか。
 Matsuyama iki no densha wa tomatte irun desu ka?
 (Have the trains for Matsuyama stopped?)

B : 申し訳ありません。台風のため、朝まで動きません。
 Mōshiwake arimasen. Taifū no tame, asa made ugokimasen.
 (I'm very sorry. Because of the typhoon, they won't run until tomorrow morning.)

< 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?

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Published by SGG Niihama



I am an immigrant

Ruth Vergin

Resident of Matsuyama, Ehime Prefecture

I first came to Japan to teach English for one year. The experience was great so I stayed on another year. I was a 'sojourner'— a person who goes to another country, not as a tourist, but for a longer period of stay. When I did leave Japan I thought it would be a long time before I would be able to return, but I was back the next year for another job teaching English. Still a sojourner, the thought of staying permanently did not enter my mind. That was 1976 and I'm still here.

If I had been asked, I might have said I was an 'expatriate', a person, usually a professional, who chooses to live in another country, but intends to return home at some point. My image was the 'expats' in Paris in the early 20th century: poets, authors, painters. It is rather presumptuous that I would put myself in that category, but the word 'immigrant' did not occur to me and I still had no plans to stay forever.

After several years of teaching English I decided it was time to return to the States and get on with my life. My time here had been an extended adventure. It had been a rich experience, but as I was getting ready to return to the US and start a 'serious' career, my Japanese boyfriend proposed and I accepted. It was several years after I married that it hit me

that I would be spending the rest of my life in Japan. It was at that point that I became an immigrant, a person who goes to live permanently in a foreign country. But I still did not identify myself as an immigrant.

Two years ago I taught a class on the immigration of Japanese to the USA, using the story of an Ehime man, Moriguchi Fujimatsu, who went to the US in 1923 and later opened a store that is now quite famous in the Seattle area, the Uwajimaya Food Market. He and many others who went to the United States to seek their fortune were considered immigrants, but he did not intend to stay. The US government did not really want him and other Asians to stay and would not grant them permanent resident status. Moriguchi, himself, gave Japanese names to all his children with the expectation of returning, and he might have, but WWII forced him to cancel his plans. Instead, he and his family spent most of WWII in an internment camp in California. After the war, he had to start all over in order to support his family and by that time his children had no interest in living in a country where they didn't know the language or the culture. So Moriguchi chose to stay with his children. With that decision he became an immigrant and his family continues to contribute greatly to the local community. Many of those who went to the US looking for opportunity became immigrants in this way.

In the process of defining the term immigrant to the class I had the sudden realization that am an immigrant! I am ashamed to say that at first I was not comfortable with the idea. I realized that I had a narrow image of immigrants. They were people coming off the boats to take whatever jobs they could to survive. No matter how educated they were, or what professions they held in their own countries, they were only able to get low-paying jobs and live in low-income areas. Actually, in the early 1900s, the literacy rate of Japanese immigrants was higher than that of US citizens!

So I have readjusted my concept of 'immigrant' and I understand that one doesn't always intend to be one. It just happens. I am in good company, I think. Those of us who live and work here in Japan pay taxes, add to the population (!) and contribute in various ways to the local community. I think the Japanese word *iminsha* (移民者) also has a rather negative image and some consider us, both sojourners and immigrants, a burden on Japanese society. I hope that image will change, too.

Ms. Ruth Vergin was a specially appointed professor at Ehime University for over 30 years.

After an Earthquake or Flood Damage, Is it OK to Flush the Toilet?



Ninomiya Kyotaro
Ehime Shinbun Column
June 21, 2021

“Is it true that you should not flush the toilet after an earthquake or a flood? What do you think when you hear the recommendation that used bathtub water should be kept as and used for an emergency?”

Immediately after a big earthquake or a flood caused by heavy rainfall you cannot flush the toilet, instead you must use a portable toilet. This situation is equally true for both an apartment house and a detached house. Mr. Kato Atsushi, the head of NPO “Japan Toilet Labo” (Tokyo) explained, “It is likely to happen that in case of an earthquake or an inundation below the floor, the sewage duct may be damaged or stuffed causing raw sewage to flood in rooms downstairs or in the garden if you flush the toilet.”

When you cannot flush the toilet, a portable toilet is convenient. Within a few hours after the disaster occurred, nature surely calls, however it takes rather a long time for the municipality to make manhole toilets or temporary toilets available. Even if you remain at home without going to the evacuation shelter to avoid coronavirus infection, a portable toilet is essential to keep on hand. A portable toilet is used by placing it over the toilet bowl if flushing of the toilet is forbidden. Various types of portable toilets are on the market, some of which contain coagulant. The Labo assumes the ideal number of stock is 35 rounds per person (5 times a day for a week).

When you are under extreme stress caused by disaster, and all the more if you cannot use the toilet, your mental anguish will be very big. If you refrain from taking enough fluids to avoid any toilet inconvenience, your body condition will deteriorate very quickly. In the worst case it may lead to an accidental death, hence a toilet is essential to dignity and life. Make sure that the toilet is usable even in case of disaster.



Online Information in English from Niihama City

☆ A Guide for Living in Niihama



If you need this Guide, please come to the Local Community Division on the second floor of Niihama City Hall. You can get it free of charge.

☆ The Niihama Medical Institution Map

93962_376168_misc.pdf (niihama.lg.jp)



☆ How to Sort Your Trash and Garbage



If you need “How to Sort Your Trash and Garbage (English)”, please come to the Garbage Reduction Section on the second floor of Niihama City Hall. You can get it free of charge.

☆ What's New? in English



☆ Niihama Tourist Information <https://niihama.info/>



☆ A Daily Life Support Portal for Foreign Nationals

