

# MOVIES

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Mall)

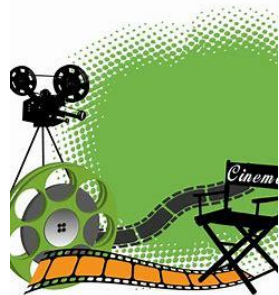
October 1 ~	No time to die	Sub
October 8 ~	Prisoners of the Ghostland	Dubbed
October 15 ~	Candyman PG12	Sub
October 15 ~	Dune	Sub
October 15 ~	The Last Duel	Sub
October 22 ~	Snake Eyes: G.I. Joe Origins	Sub
October 22 ~	Rons Gone Wrong	Dubbed
October 29 ~	The Mauritanian	Sub
November 5 ~	Respect	Sub
November 5 ~	Eternals	Sub
November 12 ~	The Ice Road	Sub
November 12 ~	Chaos Walking	Sub
November 26 ~	Dear Evan Hansen	Sub
November 26 ~	Encanto	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 editor for this month are Hitomi Yano and Yasumi Okame.

# ONE POINT JAPANESE

「~ことにします」の使い方

**A** : Bさん、ちょっといいですか。

Bsan, chotto īdesu ka?

(B san, do you have a minute now?)

**B** : ええ、いいですよ。どうしました?

Ē, ī desu yo. Dō shimashita?

(Yes. What's up?)

**A** : 実は、今年中に 転職することになりました。

Jitsuwa, kotoshijū ni tenshoku suru koto ni shimashita.

(Actually, I've decided to change my job by the end of this year.)

**B** : ほんとに? 突然ですね。

Hontoni? Totsuzen desu ne.

(Really? That's really sudden!)

**A** : もっと 専門的な 仕事が したく なったんです。

Motto senmonteki na shigoto ga shitaku nattan desu.

(I've come to want to do more specialized work.)

**B** : そうなんですか。いい 仕事が 見つかる と いいですね。

Sō nan desu ka. Ī shigoto ga mitsukaru to ī desu ne.

(Oh, really! It'll be great if you can find a good position.)

**A** : 12月の 日本語能力試験は 受けますか?

12gatsu no nihongo nōryoku shiken wa ukemasu ka?

(Are you going to take the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test in December?)

**B** : 今回は 見送る ことに しました。

Konkai wa miokuru koto ni shimashita.

(No, I've decided to skip it this time.)

**A** : 自転車で 通勤するのは 大変でしょ?

Jitensha de tsūkin suru no wa taihen desho?

(Isn't it hard commuting by bicycle?)

**B** : うん、だから 運転免許を 取る ことに したんだ。

Un, dakara unten menkyo o toru koto ni shitan da.

(Yes. That's why I've decided to get a driver's license.)



< 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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# What's New?

Niihama City

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## A Letter from Anh Thy

I am Nguyen Bui Anh Thy. Like many Vietnamese, I have admired Japan for its unique cultural charm and what the country has achieved with its economy since I was little. I studied Japanese at university and after I graduated, I worked for the Japan International Cooperation Association (JICA) and the Japan Consulate in Vietnam. Wanting to become more involved in cultural exchanges between the two countries, I applied to be a Coordinator of International Relations (CIR) and was assigned to the city of Saijo from 2017.

In recent years, many Japanese companies have been establishing their plants and expanding their existing businesses in Vietnam. By the end of 2019, Japan was the second largest foreign investor in Vietnam, with a total of US\$59.3 billion in registered capital assets, making up 16.7% of the country's total amount. On the other hand, Japan is one of the most popular destinations for young Vietnamese to go for their studies or for work. By the beginning of 2020, the number of Vietnamese in Japan reached more than 400,000, making us the third largest foreign community, just behind China and the Republic of Korea.

Saijo has nearly 400 Vietnamese people currently living there but they have few opportunities to communicate with local people. I sought to get them involved in events introducing Vietnam, as well as Vietnamese classes where both Vietnamese people and Japanese people can become friends and share their stories. At such events, Vietnamese people could explain that they came to provide for their families, evoking feelings of empathy and encouraging many locals to want to interact with them.

I had opportunities to join Niihama SGG meetings where I could introduce my country and share with all of you the issues Vietnamese people face here in Japan. Your empathy encouraged me a lot and I have the feeling that what I did was truly meaningful. I would like to express my appreciation to all of you.

My family and I planned to return to Vietnam last year after I had finished

my term as a CIR but I was unable to go home due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Vietnam suspended all inbound international commercial flights from March 2020, though the government has been allowing repatriation flights to bring home Vietnamese citizens stuck abroad.

Eventually, at the beginning of June this year, the Embassy of Vietnam informed me that my husband (who just wanted to visit me for 2 weeks last year but was stuck in Japan because of COVID-19), my daughter, and I could return on a repatriation flight from Tokyo. There were only 3 days for preparation, so I could not say goodbye to all of my friends in Japan!



My daughter got PCR test at quarantine facility



At boarding gate back to Vietnam from Narita Airport

We flew to Narita Airport on June 5th from Matsuyama, where we were required to wear masks, goggles, and protective suits inside the plane. I arrived in the middle of the night at an airport far away from my hometown. There were no other passengers besides us at the airport so all the customs procedures and medical checks were carried out quickly. Then, we were sent to a mandatory quarantine facility – a converted university dormitory – where we spent the next 21 days. I was very worried at first but that fear disappeared after just two or three days. Everything was provided: drinking water, 3 meals per day, and necessary personal items. We were PCR tested 3 times to make sure that we didn't contract the virus. Then we had to isolate ourselves at home and monitor our health for 7 days afterwards.

I'm thankful to the government for creating favorable conditions for us to come back and finish this quarantine period. During the quarantine period, I thought about how I could finally reunite with the rest of my family and go to a local restaurant for a hot bowl of pho (Vietnamese noodles) that I was craving for a long time. However, this small wish turned out to be a distant dream.

Vietnam reported just 1,500 coronavirus cases last year in 2020, but the number of people infected has now surpassed 230,000 — most of the cases have been recorded since May this year. In 2020, Vietnam, with its combination of strict border closures, quarantine system, and lockdowns, was one of the most successful countries in the world at containing the COVID-19 pandemic. However, currently, Vietnam is struggling with the Delta variant outbreak; Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam's largest city, and Binh Duong Province, my hometown, have become epicentres of local outbreaks and our hospital system is overrun.

Since the beginning of July, right when I finished my quarantine and came back home, the whole area has been in a hard lockdown. People cannot leave their homes at all, except for buying groceries in their town and for medical emergencies. All non-essential businesses and restaurants are shuttered, all public gatherings of over 2 people outside of offices, schools, and hospitals are not allowed, and the public transit system is temporarily suspended. Multiple checkpoints were established across my city to make sure residents comply with the strict social distancing requirements. Even so, I think if this situation continues, people who are currently not working or are working in the informal sector will have it worse, with many people not having enough food to survive.



Traffic on the road to the airport in Ho Chi Minh City

Before COVID-19



Square in front of Ho Chi Min City Hall



In COVID-19

The situation in my area showed people in Vietnam the dangers of COVID-19, so instead of yelling and making complaints, we just follow the rules and wait for our vaccinations. The government announced efforts to vaccinate 70% of the population before the end of the year. I believe that people are helping each other to overcome this tough time. The time I was in the quarantine facility helped me empathize with the sacrifices of all the staff who are working to fight off the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought many changes and challenges to various countries and regions around the world. From the bottom of my heart, I wish you all and your loved ones health and safety. I look forward to visiting Ehime again soon.

## November Events

### Enjoy Winter Cherry Blossoms at Minetopia Besshi !

You can enjoy about 200 cherry trees blooming at Minetopia from November to January.

## The 31st Niihama Global Party to be held next Feb.

Volunteer help in preparation is warmly welcomed.

First meeting; Dec. 5 (Sun) Time: 10:00~12:00

Place: Niihama Women's Plaza

If you are interested, please contact:

[yasumi@galaxy.ocn.ne.jp](mailto:yasumi@galaxy.ocn.ne.jp) (Yasumi Okame)



## 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

