

What's New?

Niihama

City

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My Views and Thoughts

Seenu Duraikannu

Hello everyone, I am Seenu Duraikannu hailing from India, presently working for Sumitomo Chemical for the past 2 years and living with my wife in Niihama city since 2011, March. I am very glad to share my thoughts with SGG, Niihama.

India is widely known for its different cultures, languages, environmental conditions and religions. People belonging to different religions/cultures join together at the universities, temples, working places or at some business sectors. Even though we have the common language, we speak in English at first meeting we don't care much about whether that person can speak the common language or not. After knowing their name we ask about their native place. From this question one can find out that whether he/she can speak the language which I can speak. If he or she says different language which I don't know then we have to continue the conversation in English. Frankly speaking, at some regions (in India we say it as "States") we aren't allowed to study our national language at school level then how come one can expect us to speak in the national language; why this situation? If we search the reason behind it, some of the so-called great leaders of few States have been trying to make their language as the National language, by the time when government have announced Hindi is the official language of India, but still they try to show their effort to make their language as the National language. And thus, they don't want to include the national language in the syllabi.

As I said earlier, we are having various kinds of foods, weather conditions from North to South, East to West. Especially, North Indian's foods are not easily adoptable for a South Indian at the initial stages, and the number of non-adoptable factors goes

on increasing, and vice versa. But wherever you go, you can see a common thing called Cricket, which is not the national sport. Even a newly born baby knows about this sport and many of us are diehard followers of Cricket. Cricket can be played not only in the specially made grounds, some of us used to play in the streets, beach, rice field, space between two buildings etc., sometimes you can see more than 5 to 6 teams play cricket in a small ground, where more than two teams aren't supposed to play. People are used to playing in May month, which has the maximum temperature recorded in every year, with around 40degree temperature falling on them. Now, one can imagine how much we love the sport. If you make a survey among the small kids about which is the nation sport of India, I don't think more than 50% of kids will be able to answer this question.

Most of them would say Cricket is their national sport, but the national sport of India is Hockey, still don't know why people love cricket more than other games in our nation. Some of you don't believe me, I know some guys who used to work hard for 6 days in a week and spend only one day of their holiday fully for playing cricket, which they love to spend. I was one among them during my school and college days.

Though we are separated by the languages, boundaries and cultures, we all are united by our traditional festivals. The main aim of the ancient people was to unite the people around the country by celebrating festivals in the name of god and nature. Followings are some of the well-known festivals celebrated around the country, "Pongal" (generally called as "Shankaranthi") is known as a harvest festival celebrated by Indians, especially very popular in south India. On that day we thank the Sun god for the good harvest by offering many varieties of food, turmeric and sugarcane and we decorate our homes with banana and mango leaves.

Next important festival is "Diwali" which is also known as festival of light, which is celebrated all over the country .The name "Diwali" signifies rows of lighted lamps. We exchange sweets and the explosion of fireworks customarily accompanies the celebration of the festival.

Some of the other important Hindu Festivals are new-year (basically varied from place to place according to their own calendar),Holi, Onam, Vinayagar Chathurthi, dasara, Ayudha Pooja, other Islam and Christian festivals.

MOVIE

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Shopping Center)

August 10 ~	TOTAL RECALL		English
August 17 ~	THE AVENGERS	2D, 3D	English/Dubbed
August 24 ~	PROMETHEUS	3D	English/Dubbed
September 1 ~	SAFE HOUSE		English
September 14 ~	RESIDENT EVIL : RETRIBUTION		
		2D, 3D	English/Dubbed
September 15 ~	FINDING NEMO	3D	Dubbed
September 28 ~	THE BOURNE LEGACY		English/Dubbed
September 28 ~	HUNGER GAMES		English/Dubbed

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 XXXX & XXXX

Note: Regarding Resident Cards for people from China or Korea

When you apply for your new Resident Card, if you write your name in Roman letters only, your Resident Record (juminjyo) will show your name only in Roman letters, no longer in kanji. As a result, the registration of your name stamp in kanji will become void and you will not be able to use your kanji name stamp any more

If you want to get your Resident Card with your name in both Roman letters and kanji, please submit the special form (在留カード漢字氏名表記申出書) at the Immigration Bureau.

Niihama Taiko Festival

Invitation tickets to watch Taiko Festival at Ikku Shrine are available for foreigners.

Oct. 18th (Thurs.) 14:30 ~

Invitation Tickets will be given to the first 15 foreigners.

Application deadline date: Sep. 20th

Inquiry & Application: e-mail: y12434@city.niihama.lg.jp
tel: 0897-65-1218 (13:00 ~ 17:00)
(in English, Chinese and Japanese)

Free posters of the Niihama Taiko Festival will be available from September 10th.

Posters for the 2012 Niihama Taiko Festival have now been made and you can get one for free at Niihama City Hall. They will be given out to the first 1000 people, but there is a limit of only one per person.

Date: from 8:30 till 18:00 on Sep. 10th (Mon.)

Place: City Hall (4th FL, Unyu-Kanko Ka)

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>

September Events

9/2 and 9/16 (Sun.) Sunday Market

Time: 7:30 ~ 12:00

Place: Street on east side of Niihama Central Park

9/23 (Sun.) Monthly Special Sunday Market

Time: 8:00~14:00

Place: Noborimichi Sun Road

Food brought directly from where it is grown.

9/30 (Sun.) Enjoy Shuffleboard, Curling, and “Smile” Bowling.

Time: 10:00 ~ 15:00

Place: Sumitomo Chemical Company's Gym, City Gym and Yamane Gym

Application: Community Center

9/30 (Sun.) Annual Otedama Juggling Convention

Time: 9:30 ~ 12:00 Individual Matches

13:00~ 16:00 Team Competition

Place: Rihga Royal Hotel Niihama

Information: 0897-32-0302 (in Japanese)

Exploring Restaurants: Spicy Niihama

No. 9

CHUTTA!



by Michael Newlin

Another spicy surprise in Niihama: Chutta! serves Sapporo Soup Curry which is a curry soup with roast chicken and chunks of vegetables. The best part is that you can select your spice level from 0 – 10 with some chiliheads asking for even higher levels. The normal level is 0 or 1 but, at any spice level, the taste is excellent. Open for lunch. Directions: Across the street from Moss Burger (near Route 11) on the second floor (愛媛県新居浜市西喜光地町 8-21 2F). Phone: 0897-47-3322

ONE POINT JAPANESE

いろいろな て-form

A : 今度の連休、何か予定がありますか。

Kondo no renkyū, nanika yotē ga arimasu ka.

(Do you have any plans for the coming holidays?)

B : ええ、松山へ行って、お城を見て、道後温泉に泊まる予定です。

Ee, Matsuyama e itte, oshiro o mite, Dōgo-onsen ni tomaru yotēdesu.

(Yes, I'm planning to go to Matsuyama, visit the Castle and stay overnight at Dogo Onsen hot spring.)

A : 一人で行くんですか。

Hitori de ikun desu ka.

(Are you going by yourself?)

B : いいえ、大阪から友達が遊びに来るんです。

Iie, Osaka kara tomodachi ga asobini kurun desu.

(No, a friend from Osaka is coming to see me.)

A : それは楽しみです。

Sore wa tanoshimi desu ne.

(That will be fun, won't it?)

(店の前で) (In front of a shop)

A : すみません、ここに自転車を置いてもいいですか。

Sumimasen, koko ni jitensha o oite mo ii desu ka.

(Excuse me, is it OK if I leave my bicycle here?)

B : ここはちょっと……。あそこの隅に置いていただけますか。

Koko wa chotto (Here is kind of...)

Asoko no sumi ni oite itadakemasu ka.

(Could you leave it in the corner over there?)

A : あー、のど(が)かわいた～。ビール、ビール！

A, nodo (ga) kawaita~. Bīru, bīru!

(Ah, I'm thirsty. Beer, beer!)

B : 冷蔵庫にたくさん冷やしてあるよ。

Rēzōko ni takusan hiyashite aru yo.

(I've chilled a lot in the fridge.)

A : あー、おなか(が)ぺこぺこ～。

A, onaka (ga) pekopekō.

(Ah, I'm starving!)

B : カレー(を)作っておいたから、食べて。

Karē (o) tsukutte oita kara, tabete.

(I've cooked curry, so please eat.)

< 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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