



NIHON MON

NEWS LETTER

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ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI
Tamilnadu Centre, Chennai



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A Cultural, Technical & Trade Bridge Between Japan & India



‘A house may draw visitors, but it is the possessor alone that can detain them’

The other day we met a friend of ours who was quite curious as to why we have named our newsletter Nihon Mon.

Nihon Mon - literally meaning ‘A gate to Japan’ has proved to be more than just that – it has been a bridge that has strengthened our ties with our Japanese brethren – our ***‘doubou, douhou, harakara’*** - a pathway to new beginnings, a cultural and goodwill bond. Even as you are in some corner of the world reading this volume of Nihon Mon we are reassured of the purpose of our e-newsletter - to cut across barriers and foster relationships.

Having decided to let you understand the ‘WHY’ of Nihon Mon, we realized that the ‘WHO’s that have brought together this beautiful association should be saluted. Minds and hearts have fused on each side of our borders to make not just Nihon Mon but also the Indo-Japan linkage possible.

Our centre of ABK AOTS Dosokai has been home to many like-minded and focused individuals who are driven by the spirit ***‘Watashi no kokoro wa Nihon ni aru’***.

We are what we are today as we believe in ***Chīmuwāku*** that is the motto of every Japanese soul...We believe that teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision, the ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It being the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results, we are ever geared to make a difference in every step of ours that helps us reach out to link arms with our Japanese friends. And this is true within all levels of our Alumni Association!

This issue of Nihon Mon reflects on the enchanting phases, of the quarter that has just gone by, of our journey through the ‘gates of Japan’, so well planned and executed by the thoughts that were born out of sincere and powerful minds which have the love for Japan and Japanese in the background.

Let us raise our cups to all those who believe in taking this beautiful relationship beyond....***Kampai shimashou!!***

Hari & Paddy
Editors-in-Chief

FAAAI Executive Committee Meeting

--- 7th January 2012 ---



Executive Committee Meeting of FAAA held at our centre

Mr. Yutaka Miyahara, Director of AOTS visited our Centre

--- 7th January 2012 ---



Mr. Yutaka Miyahara, Director of AOTS visited our Centre on 7th January 2012

Mr. Susumu Atsuki, Director General, Trade and Economic Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan visit to our centre

--- 9th January 2012---



Mr. Susumu Atsuki, Director General, Trade and Economic Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan visit to our centre on 9th January 2012



Mr. Susumu Atsuki, Director General, Trade and Economic Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan visit to our centre on 9th January 2012

His Excellency Mr. Yukio Edano, Honorable Minister, of Economy Trade & Industry (METI), Government of Japan, visited our centre

--- 10th January 2012---



Mr. G. Chandramohan, President, Tamilnadu Chamber of Nippon India Trade & Industry hand over the memento to His Excellency Mr. Yukio Edano, Honorable Minister, of Economy Trade & Industry (METI), Government of Japan, during his visit to our centre on 10th January 2012



We value your Presence and Present



His Excellency Mr. Yudio Edano, Honourable Minister, Minister of Economy Trade & Industry (METI), Government of Japan, during his visit to our centre on 10th January 2012



Group photo taken during the visit of His Excellency Mr. Yukio Edano, Honorable Minister, of Economy Trade & Industry (METI), Government of Japan, to our centre on 10th Jan 2012



Group photo taken during the visit of His Excellency Mr. Yukio Edano, Honorable Minister, of Economy Trade & Industry (METI), Government of Japan, to our centre on 10th January 2012



His Excellency Mr. Yukio Edano, Honourable Minister, Minister of Economy Trade & Industry (METI), Government of Japan, during his visit to our centre on 10th January 2012

Mr. Shirai of Japan Productivity Centre (JPC), & Mr. Shinichi Miyamoto, EPA Project Group, Innovation Project Division, AOTS – Japan visited our centre

--- 11th January 2012---



Mr. Shirai of Japan Productivity Centre (JPC), & Mr. Shinichi Miyamoto, EPA Project Group, Innovation Project Division, AOTS – Japan visited our centre on 11th January 2012



Mr. Shirai of Japan Productivity Centre (JPC), & Mr. Shinichi Miyamoto, EPA Project Group, Innovation Project Division, AOTS – Japan visited our centre on 11th January 2012. Also seen are the members of staff of Hiyoshi India

Mr. Shirai , Deputy Minister Minister of Economy Trade & Industry visited our centre

--- 18th January 2012 ---



Mr. Shirai , Deputy Minister, Minister of Economy Trade & Industry visiting our centre's on 18th January 2012



Photograph taken during the visit of Mr. Shirai , Deputy Minister, Minister of Economy Trade & Industry to our centre on 18th January 2012



Inaugural ceremony of "Japanese Design Today 100" at Lalit Kala Akademi on 19th January 2012

Traveling Exhibition on the Theme "Japanese Designs Today 100" --- 19th ~ 29th January 2012 ---

In commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Indo-Japan Diplomatic Relationship, the Consulate-General of Japan at Chennai, Lalit Kala Akademi, Regional Centre, Chennai, and ABK-AOTS Dosokai, Tamilnadu Centre in association with the Japan Foundation are organized "Japanese Design Today 100" Exhibition from 19 January to 27 January 2012 (11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.) at Lalit Kala Akademi (No.4. Greams Road, Chennai 600 006).

A unique collection of design items from Japan will be showcased at the "Japanese Design Today 100" focusing on the achievements of past and present of the country's design leaders. The exhibition will feature the finest of Japanese design of household products from the 1990s to present-day, reflecting the society and times which they were created; and how society's people and culture greatly influenced the designs, which can be found in traces of each products.

About 100 designs were showcased in this exhibition, which provided a great opportunity for the artists, designers, and the visitors to learn about the recent trends and characteristics of Japanese design, for gain in insight into the nature of contemporary Japanese Culture.

Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul-General of Japan at Chennai inaugurated the festival on 19 January 2012 at 11:30 a.m.



His Excellency Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai is explaining the exhibits to the school students during the inaugural ceremony of "Japanese Design Today 100" at Lalit Kala Akademi on 19th January 2012

Demonstration and Practice session on SHODO by Ms. Yuriko Ando Lochan --- 19th January 2012---

"SUIBOKU DEMONSTRATION & EXPERIENCE WORKSHOP By Ms. Yuriko Ando Lochan from Japan was held at our centre on 19th January 2012



Demonstration and Practice session on SHODO ,by Ms. Yuriko Ando at our centre on 19th January 2012



Demonstration and Practice session on SHODO ,by Ms. Yuriko Ando Lochan at our centre on 19th January 2012



MOSAI Japanese Language Speech Contest in progress

MOSAI Japanese Language Speech Contest

--- 22nd January 2012 ---

The Consulate General of Japan at Chennai & ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, TAMILNADU CENTRE, in association with Mombusho Scholars Association of India(MOSAI) conducted “MOSAI – Japanese Language Speech Contest for Southern Region” on 22nd January 2012 at the Kumugai Auditorium, of our centre. The Judges for the contest were Mrs. Kayoko Furukawa, Consul, Consulate General of Japan at Chennai , Mr. Hidemasa Doi, Principal - Japanese Language School, (Inside the American International School) , Chennai & Mr. Yuichi Ojima, Managing Director, Yorozu JPM Automotive Tamilnadu Pvt. Ltd Sriperumbudur

Ms. R. Revathy, Centre for Global Languages, Bangalore University, Bangalore is first prize winner out of 10 participants from Junior Category, of the above Speech Contest.

Ms. N. S. Sumithra, Bangalore Nihongo Kyooshi Kai, Bangalore is first prize winner out of 7 participants from Senior Category, of the above Speech Contest.

The Prizes for the Winners were sponsored by Consulate General of Japan at Chennai and ABK AOTS DOSOKAI Tamilnadu Centre, Chennai



MOSAI Japanese Language Speech Contest
Junior Category winners



MOSAI Japanese Language Speech Contest
Senior Category winners



Section of the participants during the MOSAI Japanese Language Speech Contest held at our centre on 19th January 2012

Demonstration and Practice on Origami in coordination with Consulate General of Japan at Chennai and Japan Foundation

--- 24th January 2012 ---

In commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of Japan – India Diplomatic Relationship, we conducted the “DEMONSTRATION AND DISPLAY ON ORIGAMI” in co-ordination with the Consulate General of Japan at Chennai & The Japan Foundation on Wednesday 25th January 2012 between 4.00 pm and 6.00 pm at our centre at our centre.



Demonstration and Practice on Origami in progress



Demonstration and Practice on Origami in progress



Demonstration and Practice on Origami in progress



Demonstration and Practice on Origami in progress



Demonstration and Practice on Origami in progress



Demonstration and Practice on Origami in progress

**Ms. Kazuko Ito, Global HR
Development Division
Sony Corporation, Japan
visited our centre
--- 20th February 2012 ---**



Ms. Kazuko Ito, Global HR Development Division Recruiting Department, Global Recruiting GP, Sony Corporation, Japan visited our Centre on 20th February 2012

Video Conference with JEMCO Consultants, Japan ---22nd February 2012---



Video Conference with JEMCO Consultants, Japan in progress



Video Conference with JEMCO Consultants, Japan in progress



Mr. Chellappa Sriram, our committee member and CEO Nihon Technology Tokyo, interact from Japan during the Video Conference with JEMCO Consultants, Japan

Since its establishment in 1968, JEMCO has been providing the most suitable consulting to the needs of our clients to resolve challenges regarding their management and achieve business goals.

The All-Japan Federation of Management Organization was established in 1949 with an aim of promoting management as science and making major contribution to the sound development of the Japanese economy as well as the international community. It is the only organization of management groups administered by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. JEMCO President Aoi Satoh is a member of the executive board.



Video Conference with JEMCO Consultants, Japan in progress

Skype meeting with AOTS – YKC Kenshu Centre ---23rd February 2012---



Mr. M. R. Ranganathan, Chairman & Mr. S. Gopal, President of our centre interacting through Video Conference with AOTS – YKC Kenshu Centre

Training Programme on Japanese Management Techniques

--- 25th February 2012 ---

One Day Training Program on “Lean Practices using Simulation Game” held at our centre on 25 February 2012, 12 participants from 7 companies participated in the training program.

ONE DAY Training Program on ‘POKA-YOKE for achieving Zero Defect manufacturing held at our centre on 22 March 2012, 25 participants from 9 companies participated in the training program



Section of the participants of Lean Practices using Simulation Game



Section of the participants of Lean Practices using Simulation Game



Section of the participants of Lean Practices using Simulation Game

Japanese comes to this rural school

---10th March 2012---

VELLORE: An elementary school in a remote corner of the district has introduced Japanese language to its students. The Garden of Peace school at the Gandhi-King-Mandela Farm at Kurumbapalayam village near Kaniyambadi has become the first school in the State where the language has been introduced by the acting Consul General of Japan in Chennai, Takayuki Kitagawa on Thursday.

Honorary Chairperson of the school, Dr Ramu Manivannan, described the move as part of a global vision towards building universal brotherhood.

According to Kitagawa, the region will see new highways and cargo ways, with bullet trains possibly connecting the district with other industrial hubs. This will induce Japanese companies to set up shop here, creating employment opportunities for the locals. "The students of this school will be able to tap into opportunities that such a situation will throw open," he added.

"It is our turn to return the support," he said, emphasizing that the inauguration of the Japanese language initiative for underprivileged students will open up new horizons for both sides. M R Ranganathan, Special Advisor to Tamil Nadu Chamber of Nippon India Trade and Industry, who is coordinating the programme and who was present on the occasion, noted that video conferencing technology will be used to teach the language from experts in Chennai and Bangalore. Some teachers from the school will also be trained in the language simultaneously. Parents can also enroll for the course free of cost.

Suma, a banker-turned teacher from Bangalore who has volunteered to teach Japanese at the school, began her lesson with a song that students sang with ease in the first go itself. The school has around 150 kids from nearby villages studying in classes I to V.



Japanese comes to this rural school

The Photo Exhibition of "Triple Disaster First Year Memorial Day & Japan Resilience Day" Followed by a Presentation of our Chairman Mr. M. R. Ranganathan, on "Lesson to Learn from Japan"

---11th March 2012---

March 11, 2011 was an unforgettable day in the History of Japan. The Tohoku Region of Japan went through a Triple Disaster when a severe earthquake

8.9 Richter scale shattered the region followed by a great Tsunami Wave, both of which also were responsible for a nuclear disaster at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant. Not only the people of Japan the people of whole world stood behind them and Japan showed to the world that it can bounce back with its will-power, resilience, discipline, patience and face difficult times with grace.

On 11 March 2012 exactly after one year we offered our prayers to the people of Japan who lost their lives, lost whatever they had and for all the suffering they underwent.

We have brought out an exhibition with nearly 200 Color photographs showing the devastation, destruction, all-round efforts, Japanese approach to still keep their spirits active and alive with self-Motivation, their never give up spirit, will to face worst sufferings with Grace , their hopes, etc., through these picture.

We also exhibited 30 paintings from students of Chennai Art School, Ashok Nagar headed by Mr. Jay Jay about their image of Tsunami. The students of the top 3 paintings were selected by Ms. Furukawa , Consul Cultural affairs and they are awarded free Japanese language training at our centre, which would have cost Rs.47750/- for all five levels per student.

His Excellency Mr. Takayuki Kitagawa, Acting Consul General of Japan at Chennai the Chief Guest, delivered the Memorial Day talk followed by presentation of our Chairman Mr. M. R. Ranganathan, on what India can learn from the way Japan bounced back with resilience.

Young Joshu Satya, of Jotsna Ryoko Gaisha Pvt. Ltd, Chennai has made a theme Song on Tsunami which had been released in the YOUTUBE, was also presented on that day by Joshu Satya.



Silent prayer for the Tsunami affected people



His Excellency Mr. Takayuki Kitagawa, Acting Consul General of Japan at Chennai delivered the Memorial Day talk



Presentation by our Chairman Mr. M. R. Ranganathan, on what India can learn from the way Japan bounced back with resilience.



Visitors going around The Photo Exhibition of "Triple Disaster First Year Memorial Day & Japan Resilience Day"



Visitors going around The Photo Exhibition of "Triple Disaster First Year Memorial Day & Japan Resilience Day"



His Excellency Mr. Takayuki Kitagawa, Acting Consul General of Japan at Chennai being interviewed by the media



CKB Band performance during the Japan Cultural Festival – Inaugural Ceremony on 16 March 2012

Inaugural Ceremony of Japan Cultural Festival at Hotel Accord Metropolitan, Chennai ---16th March 2012---



Japan Cultural Festival – Inaugural Ceremony on 16th March 2012



CKB Band performance during the Japan Cultural Festival – Inaugural Ceremony on 16th March 2012



CKB Band performance during the Japan Cultural Festival – Inaugural Ceremony on 16 March 2012



CKB Band performance during the Japan Cultural Festival – Inaugural Ceremony on 16 March 2012



Group photo taken during the Japan Cultural Festival – Inaugural Ceremony on 16 March 2012



Group photo taken during the Japan Cultural Festival – Inaugural Ceremony on 16th March 2012



Section of audience during Japan Cultural Festival – Inaugural Ceremony on 16th March 2012



Section of audience during Japan Cultural Festival – Inaugural Ceremony on 16th March 2012



Group Photo taken along with His Excellency Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai along with Japan Cultural experts in Chennai and demonstrators during the Japan Cultural Festival – Inaugural Ceremony on 16th March 2012

Japan Cultural Festival – Exhibition on Japanese Dolls, Ikebana, Bonsai & Origami & Demonstration on Nendo No Tetsukuri (Clay), Judo, Karate, & Bonsai ---17th ~ 19th March 2012---

In commemoration of the 60th anniversary of Japan-India Diplomatic Relations, the Consulate-General of Japan at Chennai, ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre and Tamilnadu Chamber of Nippon India Trade and Industry (TACNITI) are organizing a three-day Japan Cultural Festival from 17 to 19 March 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at our centre.

The Japan Cultural Festival aims at providing an opportunity for the people in Chennai to know more about Japanese cultures and thus to strengthen the mutual understanding and friendly relationship between Japan and India.

The Festival featured exhibition of dolls, dioramas (miniature models) of the UNESCO World Heritage sites in Japan, Ikebana, Origami and Bonsai. Along with the exhibition, demonstrations of Nendo No Tetsukuri (Clay art), Origami, Judo, Karate, and Kobudo (martial arts) and Bonsai were performed to introduce the cultures of Japan.

Japanese Dolls & Diorama Exhibition from 17 to 19 March 2012 by Consulate General of Japan at Chennai.

Ikebana Exhibition by a Team of Sogetsu Study Circle, Chennai headed by Mrs. Malathi Pandurangan from 17 to 19 March 2012

Nendo No Tetsukuri (Clay handicraft) Demonstration on by Mrs. Jenifer Rajkumar, Deco Clay, Chennai and member of our centre 17 March 2012

Origami Demonstration by Mr. N. Sivaram Narayan on 17 March 2012

Judo demonstration by Mr. D. Rajagopal, Buddha Club on 18 March 2012

Karate demonstration by Mr. Haribabu on (18 March 2012

Kobudo demonstration by Mrs. Vahitha Haribabu on 18 March 2012

Bonsai Exhibition by Mr. Akira Hatayama & Mr. M. Lazarus of our centre & Demonstration by Mr. Akira Hatayama of our centre.



The opening ceremony was held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, 17 March 2012 at our centre.



Opening ceremony by Ms. Kayoko Furukawa, Consul, Consulate General of Japan at Chennai during the Japan Cultural Festival



Ms. Kayoko Furukawa, Consul, Consulate General of Japan at Chennai explained the exhibits during the Japan Cultural Festival



Ms. Kayoko Furukawa, Consul, going around the exhibits during the Japan Cultural Festival



Mr. Sivaraman Narayanan doing origami demonstration during the Japan Cultural Festival



Mrs. Jenifer Rajkumar, doing Clay handicraft demonstration during the Japan Cultural Festival



Mr. D. Rajagopal, doing Judo demonstration during the Japan Cultural Festival



Group photo taken along with the Judo Demonstrators during the Japan Cultural Festival



Mr. Akira Hatayama, gave Bonsai Demonstration during the Japan Cultural Festival



Section of the audience during Judo Demonstration the Japan Cultural Festival



Madam Nakano w/o. His Excellency Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai offers a helping hand during the Bonsai Demonstration



Mr. Haribabu Groups doing Karate Demonstrators during the Japan Cultural Festival



Group photo taken along with the Karate Demonstrators during the Japan Cultural Festival

Photo Exhibition: The History of India – Japan Exchanges “Resurgent Japan & Vibrant India New Discoveries, New Exchanges” ---24th to 31st March 2012---

As part of the year long celebrations in commemoration of 60th years of India -Japan Diplomatic Relations, The Japan India Association - Tokyo , Consulate General of Japan – Chennai, Japan Foundation, ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI -Tamilnadu Centre and Indo-Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry are organized The Photo Exhibition on “**The History of India-Japan Exchanges “Resurgent Japan & Vibrant India New Discoveries, New Exchanges”** from 24th March to 31st March 2012 at our centre.

The Exhibition was inaugurated by His Excellency Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai on 24th March 2012 at 1700 hrs at the above Venue.

About the Exhibition

The year 2012 celebrates the 60th Anniversary of the Conclusion of the Peace Treaty and the

establishment of Diplomatic ties between Japan and India in 1952 (or Showa 27). It is felt that reviewing the history of exchanges between the two countries will reinforce the further development of the bilateral relationship. The exhibits contain not only photographs from Historical moments after Meiji Era , but also ones recorded various events held in recent years. Furthermore the photographs of the rescue and relief operation by Indian Disaster Rescue Team last year are also being exhibited in this exhibition.

The exhibition was open to public from 25th to 31st March 2012 between 10.00hrs to 1900 hrs and the admission was free.



Opening ceremony by cutting open the ribbon by His Excellency Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai.



Welcome address by Mr. M. R. Ranganathan, Chairman, ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre during the Inaugural Ceremony Photo Exhibition The History of India – Japan Exchanges



His Excellency Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai going around the exhibition during the Photo Exhibition The History of India – Japan Exchanges



Visitors going around the Photo Exhibition The History of India – Japan Exchanges



Visitors going around the Photo Exhibition The History of India – Japan Exchanges

Participated the Japan Nite organized by Rotary Club ---31st March 2012---



Dignitaries on the Dias during the Japan Nite organized by Rotary



Mr. G. Chandramohan, President, TACNITI explaining the activities of our Centre during the Japan Nite organized by Rotary.

Japanese Language Teacher's Meeting

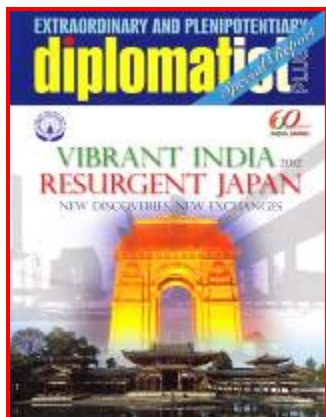
---31st March 2012---

Ms. Yumi Watanabe from Japan Foundation, visited our centre and discuss the Japanese Teaching Methodologies for N2 & N3 teachers



Japanese Language Teachers Meeting in progress

Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary Diplomatist Plus



Front page of Diplomatist Plus



The magazine in Japan carried a small write up about ABK- AOTS DOSOKAI, TACNITI and Nihon Technology in their special issue released for Japan India 60th Year of Diplomatic relationship.

"TAMIL THROUGH JAPANESE Pictionary"

Tamil Through Japanese Pictionary written with appropriate illustrations and pictures which would be of great use for the Japanese expert community in Chennai, by Ms. Chitra Sivakumar, Member of our Alumni Association. She holds a Master Degree in Computer Science. She had training with "SHIGERU JOHO SYSTEMS", Osaka through AOTS & presently living in Hongkong. Ms. Shalini has co-authored the above book. She is basically a Mechanical Engineer and has Mastered in Japanese Language & presently living in Hongkong.

Our Events for the Next Quarter April ~ June 2012

6 April 2012

Mr. Yosushi Tamaki of New York Japanese language school to visit our centre

8 to 16 April 2012

Tamilnadu Chamber of Nippon India Trade & Industry (TACNITI) delegation 25 entrepreneurs to visit Osaka, Kobe, Hiroshima, Kanagawa and Tokyo regions for business meetings.

14 & 15 April 2012

Participating the **Dinakaran Education Expo 2012** at Chennai Trade Centre

21 April 2012

One Day Training Programme on **Seven Steps to create "VISUAL FACTORY"**

12 May 2012

One Day Training Programme on **"TPM" (Total Productive Maintenance)**

09 June 2012

One Day Workplace Safety Programme **WORKPLACE SAFETY IN Tamil**

28th June to 1st July 2012

Comparative Cultural / Historical Study Through Multi-Colored Indian & Japanese Stamps (in celebration of 60th year of India Japan Diplomatic Relations)

30 June 2012

One Day Training Programme on **BEST 5S PRACTICES – BENCH MARKING**

June 2012

Business a cross Culture Japan – India initiatives - III in coordination with Tamilnadu Chamber of Nippon India Trade & industry (TACNITI)