



eNIHON MON NEWS LETTER

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Happy
New
Year 2013

ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI
Tamilnadu Centre, Chennai



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A Cultural, Technical & Trade Bridge Between Japan & India



What's your Shinnen no negai ?

2012 would have already been consigned to the shelves of posterity by the time you are reading this edition of Nihon Mon. People across the world, in their multitude of ways, would have welcomed the New Year with hope and happiness. The Nihon Mon team wishes its readers a very happy, prosperous and fulfilling 2013.

So, what was your 'Shinnen no negai'? (desires for the new year?)....Was it purely personal or was it inclusive of our social boundaries and its occupants? The last few weeks in India have been much thought provoking....The barbaric attitudes of a few iniquitous youth in our National Capital colored the front pages / minutes of all our media – print, news, social and electronic. While this incident disheartened all of us, it was gratifying to notice that the people of our nation have finally shown The State, the collective strength of their expression. The silent protests by the thousands in the capital and all other parts of our country showed that the urban population have reached their point of elasticity and are now sensitively communicating their displeasure at the powers that are. The more silent this movement was, the more resounding was its reverberation. May this uprising be the spark that this nation needed to progress on the fronts of human value and lawful compliance. This is our 'Shinnen no negai' for 2013!

Cut, to more pleasing details.....Did you know that Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, with its accompanying chorus, is traditionally performed throughout Japan during the New Year's season? Each year there are roughly 100 performances of the symphony by major orchestras and choirs in Japan. This was introduced to Japan by German prisoners-of-war held in Japan during World War I. During the WW II, the Imperial government promoted performances of the symphony, including on New Year's Eve, to encourage allegiance to Japanese nationalism and this tradition remains commonplace even today!

I hope that this edition of Nihon Mon continues to give all our readers an insight to our cultural and diplomatic activities and do write in with your thoughts to us at rangaots@gmail.com This will always remain a motivation for our team at ABK - AOTS Dosokai, Tamilnadu Centre.

Kinga Shinnen!

Hari
Editor-in-Chief

OPERA PINOCCHIO by Opera Theater Konnyakuza from Japan --- 9th October 2012 ---

In commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Japan-India Diplomatic Relations, the Consulate-General of Japan at Chennai, the Japan Foundation at New Delhi and ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre, supported by YAMAHA will hold **"OPERA PINOCCHIO"** by Opera Theater Konnyakuza from Japan at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday 9th October 2012 at the Museum Theatre, Government Museum, Pantheon Road, Egmore, Chennai 600 008.

The troupe visited Chennai after their visit to New Delhi and Kolkata. Also their performance was held at Pune and Mumbai. Theatre lovers, students and children in Chennai came and enjoyed the magical mythical stage performed by Opera Theater Konnyakuza.

The Workshop of Opera Pinocchio was conducted at our centre on 8th October 2012



"OPERA PINOCCHIO" Workshop at our center



Audience enjoying the OPERA PINOCCHIO workshop and demo

About Opera Theater Konnyakuza

The Opera Theater Konnyakuza was founded in Tokyo in 1971, with an aim of creating and promoting new operas sung in Japanese by former members of student club called Konnyaku Exercise Club in Tokyo Arts University. Konnyaku Exercise Club was active from 1965 until 1977, led by the late Professor Mutsuko Miyagawa in physical education at the university, who later became an emeritus professor there. The club aimed at providing future opera singers with good physical exercise and basic acting skills often wanting in the trade in Japan but necessary nonetheless. These members founded The Opera Theater Konnyakuza as a professional opera company with a repertoire of operas in Japanese language, constantly on tours.

Since opera was first introduced to Japan, Japanese opera training has concentrated on bringing up opera singers on a par with professional singers in Europe in their skills testable on European stages. As a result, the skills needed to sing in Japanese have long been neglected and the Japanese audience has been forced to listen to performances in original languages. Even when a performance is in Japanese, the singers usually fail to deliver the songs clearly to them due to the lack of such training. Under such circumstances, Konnyakuza has been striving from its foundation to develop operas which are easy to listen to. In other words, they have been aiming at acquiring a method of singing which clearly tells the story to the audience. The success of such endeavor has been recognized in various fields.

Konnyakuza has been presenting innovative ideas in the direction with physical expression based on the training of "Konnyaku Exercise" in order to establish the honor of opera singers, who are known to be bad actors in Japan. They have created and have done many performances of their productions not using a large-scale style of grand opera, but using only a piano or small-scale ensemble and a small number of singers. Currently, Konnyakuza carries on approximately 250 performances a year with Kyoko Hagi as the music director and 37 performers (singers).

Opera Pinocchio was Based on the novel by Carlo Collodi, Written by Kiyokazu Yamamoto & Composed by Kyoko Hagi. All the children of the world have been familiar with the story of Pinocchio. Konnyakuza perform "Opera Pinocchio" which describes children's childlike feeling, with making good use of performer's physical expression and percussions. Its work will much entertains an audience.

"Opera Pinocchio" is performed only 4 opera singers and 1 pianist. An audience will also feel a time axis and a world view; enjoy the charms of many characters of the story with performers. Opera singers are faithful in singing and performing in order to express their attitude of mind toward an audience directly. In addition, an excellent script and a humorous stage direction are also a vital factor to this work.

【Story of Pinocchio】

A poor old carpenter, granpa Geppetto, carves himself a puppet boy out of wood and calls him Pinocchio. Granpa Geppetto always tells Pinocchio to be good, so he will become a real human boy.

But Pinocchio disobeys grandpa Geppetto's order. One day, Pinocchio, instead of going to school, went to a puppet playhouse. Later, he came across the cunning fox and cat. Alas, he is cheated out of his money and is then caught by a peasant, who thinks he is a chicken thief. Pinocchio feels so tired and lost. A coach bound for The Land of Toys comes along and Pinocchio takes a ride in it. Pinocchio plays too much in the Land of Toys and finally becomes a donkey. The donkey (Pinocchio) is sold at market; what's more, he is thrown into the sea and swallowed by a big whale! Pinocchio and grandpa Geppetto, who was looking for Pinocchio, are accidentally reunited inside the whale that has swallowed them both up.

Pinocchio saves grandpa Geppetto, and they swim away from the whale's big mouth. "Pinocchio, You've become a strong boy! You've become a good boy, and become like a real human Boy!" grandpa Geppetto says.

Pinocchio, who has overcome many difficulties throughout his adventures says, "That I am Pinocchio, a wooden puppet! Even a wooden puppet can become strong." and "More strapping and more kind. Even though I can't become a real human boy, I can be happy now!"



"OPERA PINOCCHIO" in progress



"OPERA PINOCCHIO" in progress



"OPERA PINOCCHIO" in progress



Section of the audience enjoying the OPERA PINOCCHIO

Japanese Language School of our Centre

Fresh classes for different levels of Japan Foundation Japanese Language Proficiency Test (N5 ~ N1) has commenced in the Language School of our centre. Our School is centrally located, easily accessible by Rail & Road with well trained staff, affordable pricing, excellent infrastructure along with well equipped library consisting of numerous course materials including audio, video materials which make this educational institution different from others

Pre Orientation Meeting HIDA – Interns

--- 8th October 2012 ---



HIDA Interns taken around the centre during the pre orientation meeting

Pre Departure Meeting for Talk Your way to Japan - Speech Contest Winners 2012

--- 8th October 2012 ---



Pre Departure Meeting for Talk Your way to Japan - Speech Contest Winners 2012 - Session in Progress

Japanese Language Teachers Training Program

--- 20th October 2012 ---



Japanese Language Teachers training program in progress

QUIZ ON JAPAN

--- 20th October 2012 ---

"QUIZ ON JAPAN - 2012" in English on the theme Japan for Chennai City School Children on 20 October 2012. Out of 44 students from 22 Schools participated in the Preliminary, 22 students from 11 schools were selected for the Pre Semifinals, 12 students from 6 Schools were selected for the Semifinals. Out of which 8 students from 4 Schools were selected for the Finals.

The following are the winners of the "Quiz" contest

First Prize:

Ms. C. Abinaya & Ms. T. M. Santosi - XII Std of Sindhi Model Sr. Sec. School, Chennai – 10

Second Prize:

Mr. R. Srivatsan & Mr. S. Arul Ramanujam – X Std of Jaigopal Garodia Hindu Vidyalaya Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Chennai – 33

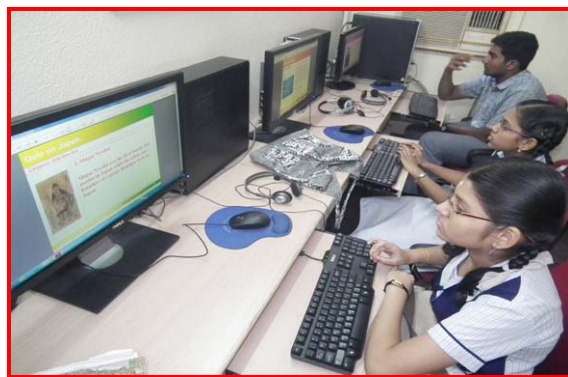
Third Prize:

Mr. R. Anush Alagappan & Mr. Harshith Ravi - XII std of St. John's English School & Junior College, Chennai – 90

Fourth Prize:

Mr. V. Yeshwant & Mr. N. Sujeeth Kumar – XI std of Velammal Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Chennai – 37

Chief Guest Mrs. Kayoko Furukawa, Consul, Consulate General of Japan at Chennai distributed the prizes to the winners on 20 October 2012. The Prizes for the winners were cosponsored by Consulate General of Japan at Chennai, Ms. Shobana Ranganathan, USA. T. I. Cycles of India, Chennai, & Diana World Travels Pvt. Ltd, Chennai,



Students making use of the AV lab of our centre for enhancing their knowledge about Japan



Quiz on Japan – 2012 in Progress



Chief Guest Mrs. Kayoko Furukawa, Consul, Consulate General of Japan at Chennai addressing the prize winners



Prize winners of 'Quiz on Japan'



Prize winners of 'Quiz on Japan'

Ayudha Pooja Celebration of our Centre --- 22nd October 2012 ---



Ayudha Pooja Celebrated at our centre



Ayudha Pooja Celebrated at our centre

Japanese Management Techniques

Various training modules on Japanese Management Techniques, and Japanese business etiquette and Cross Cultural communication are being conducted at our centre and other Industrial establishments by **Dr. R. Balakrishnan, Director** – Training of our centre and our team of Consultants.

One day Training Program - 'Improving Equipment Performance through **AUTONOMOUS MAINTENANCE** Practices' on 19 October 2012 (Friday) 18 participants from 7 companies.

One Day Training Programme on '**POKA - YOKE** for achieving Zero Defect manufacturing on 22nd December 2012 (Saturday), 18 participants from 10 companies.

For any needs please contact us.
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Waku Waku Club Activities

--- 28th October 2012 ---

Waku Waku club a club for the active interaction of Japanese Teachers and Students on various Interesting areas of learning and sharing ideas other than what is taught in the Class room is a part of our Japanese Language School . On 28th October 2012 the club organized a Live Cooking Demonstration **Okonomiyaki & Onigiri** of Japanese Food by Ms. Rina Hayashi, Mr. Shun Furushima and Mr. Tatsuo Yoshizu of our centre.



Live Cooking Demonstration of Japanese Food by Ms. Rina, Mr. Shun and Mr. Tatsuo Yoshizu of our centre



Live Cooking Demonstration of Japanese Food by Ms. Rina, Mr. Shun and Mr. Tatsuo Yoshizu of our centre



Section of audience tasted the Live Cooking Demonstration of Japanese Food by Ms. Rina, Mr. Shun and Mr. Tatsuo Yoshizu

Laplace System Co. Ltd. Japan. Visited our Centre

--- 10th November 2012 ---



Mr. Masayaki Horii, Chairman, Ms. Shiori Ishihara, Sales Department, & Ms. Sayaka Nagayama, Engineer, of Laplace System Co. Ltd., Japan. visited our centre



Chinmaya Vidyalaya ISA Project

--- 17th November 2012 ---

On 17th November 2012, Students of Class 1 of **Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Taylors Road** presented a Cultural programme: "MELANGE OF ATTIRE", in the School Auditorium, as part of International School Award (ISA) project of British Council.

The rich culture and heritage, seasons, festivals and languages of various countries such as Japan, Spain, Scotland, Egypt etc. was explained by the children. A dance performance was also given by them highlighting the local flavor of each country.

The Chief Guest of the programme **Mrs. Nirmala Bhaskar**, Director, ABK-AOTS Dosokai, Japanese Language School was accompanied by the two HIDA Interns **Mr. Shun Furushima** and **Ms. Rina Hayashi**. Mr. Shun Furushima and Ms. Rina Hayashi gave a very informative presentation explaining the significance of various costumes worn during different occasions in Japan. It was a good first-hand learning

experience for the students, as they interacted with the Japanese guests.

The programme, attended by Students, Teachers and Parents, was a visual treat and the good work done by the students was appreciated by all.



Group photo taken during the "Melange of Attires" at Chinmaya Vidyalaya

JLPT Mock Test for our Nihongo Gakko Japanese Language School --- 18th November 2012 ---



Section of the students taking the JLPT mock test



Section of the students taking the JLPT mock test

B2B meeting between Japanese SME's from Hiroshima Prefecture with SME's in Chennai

--- 20th November 2012 ---

As part of our activities, we organized B2B meeting between Japanese SME's from Hiroshima Prefecture with SME's in Chennai on 20 November 2012 between 14.00 hrs to 18.00 hrs at AIEMA Technology Centre, Ambattur, Chennai – 58.

The Following Japanese Companies & Indian Companies participated in the B2B Meeting

1. M/s. Hivec, Hiroshima, Japan
2. M/s. Y-TEC, Hiroshima, Japan
3. M/s. Chugoku Seira Co Ltd, Hiroshima, Japan
4. M/s. Eaml Engineering Co. Ltd, Hiroshima, Japan

And

1. M/s. K. R. Industries, Chennai
2. M/s. Newall Engineering Works, Chennai
3. M/s. Precision Group of Companies, Chennai
4. M/s. Star Trace Pvt. Ltd, Chennai
5. M/s. Classic Moulds & Dies Pvt. Ltd, Chennai
6. M/s. Sakthi Gear Products, Coimbatore
7. M/s. KKR Metal Components, Chennai
8. M/s. Classtek Engineering Pvt. Ltd, Chennai
9. M/s. Elta Tools & Dies, Chennai
10. M/s. Prabha Auto Products Pvt. Ltd, Chennai



Mr. K. Balasubramanian, President, TACNITI addressed the delegates during the B2B Meeting between Japanese SME's from Hiroshima Prefecture with SME's in Chennai



B2B meeting between Japanese SME's from Hiroshima Prefecture with SME's in Chennai in Progress



Signing of MOU between HIROSHIMA PREFECTURAL GOVERNMENT AND TACNITI

--- 20th November 2012 ---

Signing of MOU between Hiroshima Prefectural Government and Tamilnadu Chamber of Nippon India Trade & Industry on Tuesday, the 20 November 2012.

Mr. Mutsushi Shimbayashi, Managing Director of Overseas Developments and Investment Promotion, Commerce, Industries and Labor Bureau, Hiroshima Prefectural Government & Mr. K. Balasubramanian, President, Tamilnadu Chamber of Nippon India Trade & Industry (TACNITI), India.



Mr. Mutsushi Shimbayashi, Managing Director of Overseas Developments and Investment Promotion, Commerce, Industries and Labor Bureau, Hiroshima Prefectural Government & Mr. K. Balasubramanian, President, TACNITI, India. Exchange the MOU



Section of delegates Signing of MOU between Hiroshima Prefectural Government & TACNITI



Mr. Mutsushi Shimbayashi, Managing Director of Overseas Developments and Investment Promotion, Commerce, Industries and Labor Bureau, Hiroshima Prefectural Government & Mr. K. Balasubramanian, President, TACNITI, India. Exchange the MOU



Group photo taken during Signing of MOU between Hiroshima Prefectural Government and TACNITI

Guest from City of Yokohama Visited our Centre

--- 21st November 2012 ---



Mr. Seiji Murozono, Director & Mr. Shinobu Yamamoto Deputy Manager, Business Development Division, of Growth Strategy Promotion Department, Economic Affairs Bureau, City of Yokohama & Dr. Kishore Kanti Biswas, CEO KG Information Systems Japan visited our Centre on 21 Nov 2012

ONE DAY SEMINAR ON TPM & 5S PRACTICES

--- 24th November 2012 ---

As part of our yearlong activities we, in association with, AOTS Alumni 5S Forum of India & Tamilnadu Chamber of Nippon India Trade & Industry (TACNITI) will be conducting the **One Day Seminar on TPM & 5S Practices** at The Accord Metropolitan Hotel, T. Nagar, Chennai on 24th November 2012 covering the **"Best TPM & "5S" Practices of the Award Winning Companies"** and also will include Excellent Case Study Presentation from a few **"BEST IN CLASS"** companies. The seminar will be attended by more than 200 delegates from Tiny, Small, Medium & Large Scale Industries. Award Giving Ceremony of 11th ABK AOTS – Cumi 5S Competition, 9th ABK – AOTS CDISSIA 5S Competition, 6th ABK – AOTS 5S Competition for Textile Related Industry & 9th Annual Award for Good TPM Practices on 24th November 2012 at The Accord Metropolitan Hotel, T. Nagar, Chennai between 5.00p.m–5.45 p.m.

Chief Guest Mr. Shinya Fujii, Director General, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) distributed the prizes along with Mr. K. Srinivasan, Managing Director, Carborundum Universal Limited, Chennai, Mr. N. Ravichandran, C E.O., Lucas TVS Limited, Chennai, was present as a Special Guest.

ABOUT 5S ANNUAL AWARD

"5S" Techniques play an important role in initiating Total Quality Management (TQM) Practices in an organization. The "5S" techniques, originally developed in Japanese industries, have now been very successfully adopted in many Indian organizations prior to implementation of TQM. "5S" refers to Five Japanese words SEIRI, SEITON, SEISO, SEIKETSU & SHITSUKE. In English, they refer to SORTOUT, SET IN ORDER, SHINE, STANDARDIZE, & SUSTAIN.

"5S" techniques help in reduction of Non value adding and wasteful practices in organizations apart from improving good housekeeping. Considering the importance of "5S", ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu centre has organized the first ever International Convention in March 2001, which was attended by more than 150 delegates from India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Egypt, Bangladesh, & Bulgaria. Experts from India and other countries, shared their experiences in the implementation of "5S" in their respective organizations. At the end of the seminar, ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre in joint efforts with Carborundum Universal Ltd (Part of MURUGAPPA GROUP) came forward to announce **"ABK AOTS – CUMI "5S" Annual Award** among Large, Medium & Small Scale Industries of India to recognize the Best "5S" Practices.

From the year 2004 onwards ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre & Chennai District Small Scale Industries Association have jointly announced the award for the Tiny Industries named **"ABK AOTS – CDISSIA 5S Annual Award"** in which the Tiny Industries are very eagerly participating annually.

In 2005, ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre is organizing **"ABK AOTS 5S Competition for Textile Related Industry"** in South India among Textiles related industries such as Spinning, Knitting, Weaving & Garment Units.

ABOUT TPM ANNUAL AWARD

From the year 2005 onwards our centre has come forward to announce awards for the best TPM Maintained Companies among Small, Medium & Large Scale Industries. Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) is now being widely used in industries to improve the Overall Equipment Effectiveness and reduce the waste and Non- Value Adding Activities.

TPM is one of the important Tools for improving Productivity, Quality & Reliability of Products & Services. Considering the importance of TPM, ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI Tamilnadu Centre, Chennai, is organizing the Annual Competition among the Small & Medium Scale Industries to promote the techniques. The award is being constituted as **ABK AOTS – TPM Annual Award**.

The Distinguished Leadership Award was bestowed to Dr. N. Ravichandran, Chief Executive Officer, Lucas-TVS Limited, Chennai. In recognition of his outstanding contributions made in the area of World Class Manufacturing Techniques such as Just in Time Production (JIT), Total Quality Management (TQM) Practices. He has played a key role in Lucas-TVS, Padi for the company to receive World Class Awards such as JIT Grand Prize, IT innovation Award, Deming Application Prize and recently Deming Grand Prize Award.



Mr. M. R. Ranganathan, Chairman of our Centre explaining our activities during the Seminar



Section of delegates during the One Day Seminar on
TPM & 5S Practices



Case study presentation by K. K. P. Fine Linen Pvt. Ltd,
,Namakkal during the ABK-AOTS 5S Trophy for Textile related
industries during the Seminar



Distinguished Leadership Award - Awarded to
Dr. N. Ravichandran, CEO, Lucas-TVS Ltd, Chennai



Section of delegates during the One Day Seminar on
TPM & 5S Practices



Mr. Shinya Fujii, Director General, Japan External Trade
Organization (JETRO) distributed the prizes to the winners

MOSAI Japanese Language Speech Contest for Southern Region --- 24th November 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 24th November 2012 at the Nagaaki Yamamoto Seminar Hall of our centre. The Judges for the contest were Mr. Takei Koji, Senior Vice President, Renault Nissan Automotive India Pvt. Ltd, Chennai , Mrs. Takei Kaori, wife of Mr. Takei Koji & Mr. Araki Nobuhiro, Master Trainer at Renault Nissan Automotive India Pvt. Ltd, Chennai

The following were the winners of the above Speech Contest out of 8 participants in Junior Category.

1st Prize - Mr. K. S. D. Nithya, Bangalore Nihongo, Kyooshi Kai, Bangalore

2nd Prize - Mr. Siddharth Roy Chowdhury, Japanese Language School, Bangalore

3rd Prize - Ms. P. Yesha Sree, Bangalore Nihongo Kyooshi Kai, Bangalore

The following were the winners of the above Speech Contest out of 5 participants in Senior Category.

1st Prize - Mr. Maneet Giri, Bangalore Nihongo Kyooshi Kai, Bangalore

2nd Prize - Ms. Dipanjana Dey, Bangalore Nihongo Kyooshi Kai, Bangalore.

3rd Prize - Mr. Kiran Musale, Bangalore University, Bangalore.

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



Welcome address by our Chairman Mr. M. R. Ranganathan, during the MOSAI Speech Contest



MOSAI Japanese Language Speech Contest for Southern Region in progress



Section of the participants of MOSAI Japanese Language Speech Contest for Southern Region



MOSAI Japanese Language Speech Contest for Southern Region winners along with the Judge Mr. Takei Koji, Senior Vice President, Renault Nissan Automotive India Pvt. Ltd, Chennai

Padma Seshadri Bala Bhavan Schools, Nungambakkam ISA Project

--- 29th November 2012 ---

On 29th November 2012, Students of Class LKG of Padma Seshadri Bala Bhavan School, Nungambakkam as part of International School Award (ISA) project of British Council.

HIDA Interns Mr. Shun Furushima and Ms. Rina Hayashi of our centre is gave demonstration on the Japanese Art of Origami to the students and also interacted with the students of Padma Seshadri Bala Bhavan School, Nungambakkam.

The programme was well attended by Students, Teachers and Parents, and it was a visual treat and the good work done by the students was commended by all



HIDA Interns of Mr. Shun Furushima and Ms. Rina Hayashi of our centre are interacting with students of Padma Seshadri Bala Bhavan School, Nungambakkam



HIDA Interns of Mr. Shun Furushima and Ms. Rina Hayashi of our centre gave demonstration on Japanese Art of Origami are interacting with students of Padma Seshadri Bala Bhavan School, Nungambakkam

**Mr. Masamichi Matsumoto
Chief Officer, Technical
Cooperation Division Trade and
Economic Cooperation Bureau,
METI, Japan visited our centre
--- 30th November 2012 ---**



Mr. Masamichi Matsumoto, Chief Officer, Technical Cooperation Division Trade and Economic Cooperation Bureau, METI, Japan visited our centre

**JLPT – 2012 December Exam
Proctors Meeting
--- 1st December 2012 ---**

The Japanese Language Proficiency Test, (JLPT) is being held twice a year on the first Sunday of July & December Annually. ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI Tamilnadu Centre has been identified for conducting the Japanese Language Proficiency Test for N1, N2, N3, N4 & N5 for Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu & Pondicherry on 2nd December 2012.



JLPT 2012 (December) – Proctors Meeting in Progress



JLPT 2012 (December) – Proctors Meeting in Progress

**Koyama Precision Works Inc,
Japan Visited our centre
--- 3rd December 2012 ---**



Mr. Itaru Matsuura, Manufacturing Division, Koyama Precision Works Inc, Japan, Mr. Masato Koyama, President, Koyama Indonesia, Indonesia, Mr. Yoshihiro Oku, Production Engineer, Koyama Precision Works Inc, Japan & Mr. Deven Arora, President, Icon Asia Ltd, Japan Visited our centre

**Iwami – Kagura, Mesmerizing
Shinto Dance Performance
--- 6th December 2012 ---**

In commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of Japan – India Diplomatic Relationship, the Consulate General of Japan, Chennai, The Japan Foundation at Newdelhi, ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre & Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is jointly organized **Iwami- Kagura Mesmerizing Shinto Dance Performance** at the Kamaraj Arangam, No:492 Annasalai, Teynampet, Chennai-600 018 on Thursday, 6th December 2012 at 6.30 p.m. The troupe will be visited Chennai after their visit to New Delhi. Dance lovers, students and children in Chennai came and enjoyed the mesmerizing

Japanese dance performance. In the year 2007, the Iwami Kagura group has performed in Chennai with a overwhelming response and well appreciated by the people and the media.

A team of 15 members headed by Mr. Tomoharu Katsuta is in Chennai from various parts of Japan to perform this scintillating event

The origins of Iwami Kagura are unclear, but it is believed that Performances began in the early part of the Edo Period (1603 – 1868). Iwami Kagura is a series of dances that are performed as a form of prayer to gods and are accompanied by flutes, drums and hand clapping. Originally only Shinto priests performed Iwami Kagura but in the Meiji Period (1868 -1912) ordinary townspeople began to perform on such occasions as annual festivals, various public events and celebrations. It has since become an essential part of the region's folk art and entertainment. There are different forms of Kagura in many parts of Japan, but Iwami Kagura is distinguished by the gorgeous and heavy costumes the performers wear, which are manually sewn with gold and silver threads, as well as by its fast tempo, known as "hacchoshi", 8-beat rhythm.

The current performance consists of Jin-rin, Ebisu, & Orochi which is detailed below. An introduction for around 5 minutes will be given before the start of each and every play.

PERFORMANCES

NO. 1: JIN - RIN

Jin – Rin is the name of demon in this piece. He was the king of demons and had wings on his back so he could fly anywhere. This powerful demon flew all over Japan with his troops and killed people.

King – Chuai, the second son of Emperor Yamato-Takeru, worried greatly about the slaughter of his people and decided to take on Jin-rin himself.

NO. 2: EBISU

Ebisu is the god of fishing. Daikoku is god of wealth and prosperity. This is a very auspicious and is often performed at wedding or well-wishing ceremonies.

No3: OROCHI

Susano no Mikoto, who was exiled from the Heaven Takamagahara, found a chopstick drifting down Hii-kawa River. He followed the river up towards its source, wondering if there might be someone living up river.

After a while, he found an old couple and a young woman, who were crying by the river. He asked them why they were crying and they answered that every

year a giant serpent living deep in the mountains comes to carry off one of their daughters. We had eight daughters, but now only one. Tonight is the night the serpent will come, so we are very sad they added.

Susano no Mikoto decided to overcome the gigantic serpent known as Orochi. He asked them to make 8 barrels of strong Sake as the Orochi serpent had eight heads and eight tails, and the length was over eight mountains and eight valleys. He succeeded in killing the monster while it was drunk and sleeping. Afterward he found a sword inside the tail of the serpent, and he offered it to his sister goddess Amaterasu. This sword became one of the three sacred treasures. The rescued woman, Princess Kushinada married Susanou and is credited with developing flood prevention in Shimane region.

Mrs. Kanimozhi Sivakumar, Advocate, Chennai High Court was Chief Guest. & His Excellency **Mr. Masanori Nakano**, Consul General of Japan, at Chennai was Guest of Honour during the Iwami Kagura Dance Performance at The Kamaraj Arangam, Chennai on Thursday 6th December 2012 at 6.30 p.m. We are sure that this scintillating program has been the feast for the eyes & ears of the people in this part of India.



Photographs taken during the welcome dinner for the Team of Iwami Kagura on 5 December 2012 at our center



Photographs taken during the welcome dinner for the Team of Iwami Kagura on 5 December 2012 at our center



Group photo taken during the welcome dinner for the Team of Iwami Kagura on 5 December 2012 at our center



Iwami Kagura Dance Performance in Progress



Iwami Kagura Dance Performance in Progress



Iwami Kagura Dance Performance in Progress



Iwami Kagura Dance Performance in Progress



His Excellency Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai delivered the Special address during the Iwami Kagura Dance Performance



Mr. Katsuta Tomoharu, Director, Leader of Iwami Kagura Team delivered speech during the Iwami Kagura Dance Performance

Exhibition of Japanese Industrial Glass Art "IKUCHIJIMA GLASS" (by Mr. SHINGO TASAKA, Director of Ikuchijima Glass) --- 7th to 9th December 2012 ---

As part of the yearlong celebration and in commemoration of the 60th Year Anniversary of Japan India Diplomatic relationship ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre organized the Exhibition of Japanese Industrial Glass art 'Ikuchijima Glass' by Mr. Shingo Tasaka, Director of Ikuchijima Glass, Japan at our centre from 7th to 9th December 2012.



Ms. Masami Sahara, Education & Career Information Research Centre of License Academy Co. Ltd, Japan visited the Exhibition of Japanese Industrial Glass art 'Ikuchijima Glass'



Mr. Kaswan Madan Mohan, Education & Career Information Research Centre of License Academy Co. Ltd, Japan visited the Exhibition of Japanese Industrial Glass art 'Ikuchijima Glass'

License Academy, Japan Visited our centre

--- 8th December 2012 ---

Ms. Masami Sahara & Mr. Kaswan Madan Mohan, Education & Career Information Research Centre of License Academy Co. Ltd, Japan visited our center and discussing the forthcoming Japan Education Fair in the Month of September 2013 at Chennai

Bharatha Natyam Performance by Ms. Emi Mayuri

--- 8th December 2012 ---

As part of the yearlong celebration and in commemoration of the 60th Year Anniversary of Japan India Diplomatic relationship ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre in association with Natya Manjari, Japan conducted the Bharathanatyam performance on the theme "Panja Bootha" by Ms. Emi Mayuri, Director, Natya Manjari, Japan at the auditorium of Ethiraj College for Women, # 70, Ethiraj Salai, Egmore, Chennai – 8 at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday 8th December 2012.

About Ms. Emi Mayuri

Ms. Emi Mayuri is a Japanese, Indian Classical Dancer and Bharathanatyam Dance Director borne in Yokohama, Japan. She is a disciple of Guru Udupi Sri Laxminarayanan. She is actively performing in India & Japan. She has been doing many collaborative performances of Bharathanatyam and Japanese Arts in India & Japan, the new wind creator in the world of Asian Classical Dance. She had been bestowed with "PADMA BHARATHI AWARD" in Chennai. In Japan she has established "NATYA MANJARI- Japan" and is promoting & teaching Bharathanatyam and Yogo at Yokohama, Japan.

His Excellency Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai was Chief Guest.

The Bharathanatyam performance by Ms. Emi Mayuri was based on the theme "Panja Bootha" consisting of 5 element of nature i.e. Earth, Water, Fire, Wind & Sound.

Prior to the Bharathanatyam performance the DVD projection on Japanese Industrial Glass Art Ikuchijima Glass of Mr. Shingo Tasaka, Director, Ikuchijima of Glass, Japan was displayed.



Dignitaries on Dias during the Bharathanatyam Dance performance by Ms. Emi Mayuri



Bharathanatyam Dance performance by Ms. Emi Mayuri

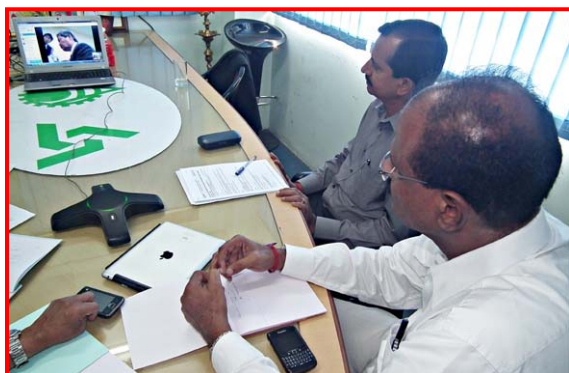
Skype meeting with Kanagawa SME Association and Yokohama India center

--- 18th December 2012 ---

Mr. M. R. Ranganathan, Chairman & Mr. Chellappa Sriram of our Centre, Mr. K. Balasubramanian, President & Mr. D. Ravi, Secretary General of TACNITI are present during the skype meeting with Kanagawa SME Association and Yokohama India Centre, Japan on 18th December 2012.



Skype meeting with Kanagawa SME Association and Yokohama India center.



Skype meeting with Kanagawa SME Association and Yokohama India center.



Skype meeting with Kanagawa SME Association and Yokohama India center.

Japanese Language Teachers Meeting

--- 22nd December 2012 ---

The Japanese Language Teachers Meeting of our centre was held on 22.12.2012 (Saturday) at 5.00pm. at our centre to discuss about the Fresh Classes for Level N5 ~ N1. More than 32 teachers were present and they expressed their suggestions and ideas for improving the teaching methodology to make the classes more informative & interesting.



Interactive Session during of the Japanese Language Teachers Meeting



Interactive Session during of the Japanese Language Teachers Meeting



Interactive Session during of the Japanese Language Teachers Meeting

Farewell dinner to HIDA Interns

--- 22nd December 2012 ---



Group photo taken during the farewell dinner to HIDA Interns
Ms. Rina Hayashi & Mr. Shun Furushima

A useful Japanese phrase to remember: Mochikaette, kentoo-shimasu

When you are in negotiations with a customer and are unable to make a decision or come to a conclusion by yourself on the spot, a proper review will be carried out within your company and a response given to the customer after that. The phrase "Mochikaette, kentoo-shimasu" is used to communicate this intention to the other party.

The verb *mochikaeru* means, "to bring something back." For example, when you want to take away the food that you have ordered at a fast-food restaurant, you can simply tell the staff "Mochikaerimasu." The same expression can also be used not only in reference to things, but also in reference to events, such as in the situation described at the beginning of this section. "Kentoo-shimasu" means "to consider the issue from various perspectives."

There are some who criticize this practice, saying that they only receive responses like "Mochikaette, kentoo-shimasu," or face delays in receiving news on the results of the review when they enter into negotiations with a Japanese corporation. Japanese corporations follow the "council" system.

They often obtain the agreement of staff, senior management, and top management, consider various potential situations, and consider matters with extreme care and caution. This may be the reason behind the perception that they are slow to come to a conclusion. Of course, although we cannot simply generalize, it is true that this phrase is commonly heard in Japan, in places where business is conducted.

--- courtesy HIDA, Japan

Our Events for the Next Quarter

Jan ~ March 2013

19 January 2013

ONE DAY Training Programme on **Total Productive Maintenance**

19th & 20th January 2013

Participating in the Annual General Body meeting of FAAAI.

25th January 2013

Participating in the 2nd Youth Leadership Workshop at Colombo organized by HIDA -AOTS & JASTECA

25 & 26 January 2013

Participating in the Annual General Meeting of South Asian Federation of AOTS Alumni Societies (SAFAAS) at Colombo.

3rd to 9th February 2013

WNF Program Seminar on Concepts & Practices of **TOTAL PRODUCTIVE MAINTENANCE (TPM)** for AOTS Alumni Society, Egypt at our Centre

6th to 8th February 2013

Skype meeting with **TECHNICAL SHOW YOKOHAMA PREFECTURE** organized by HIDA - AOTS, Yokohama India Centre, Kanagawa Prefecture Federation of SME.

15th to 17th February 2013

Exhibition and Demonstration on **NENDO NO TETSUKURI** (Clay), at our center

23rd February 2013

ONE DAY Training Programme on **LEAN PRACTICES using SIMULATION GAME**

February 2013

Support Ikebana Exhibition organizing by Sogetsu Study Circle at our center

March 2013

Japanese Cultural Week jointly organizing with The Consulate General of Japan at Chennai .

23 March 2013

ONE DAY Training Programme on **Achieving Zero Defect through "POKA YOKE"**