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NEWS LETTER

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ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI
Tamilnadu Centre, Chennai



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A Cultural, Technical & Trade Bridge Between Japan & India



Arata or Neelkanth???

Before any one of you start wondering if I have lost IT or is reading the headline again to check for misprints, let me explain this....

Born to an Indian father and a Japanese mother in Yamaguchi, Japan, Arata Izumi became the first foreign born footballer to represent India in the sport. After receiving his Person of Indian Origin card (PIO) and Indian citizenship last year, Arata Izumi turned out in Indian colours a few months ago in a friendly match against Palestine. And of course, he has adopted his Indian name as Neelkanth Khambolja!

While reading this specific commentary, my memories took me to one among the many 'moments of surprise' during my visits to Japan. A few years ago, I had the opportunity to visit the Yasukuni Shrine in the course of an aimless stroll in Chiyoda, Tokyo. I was surprised to learn that this shrine was built to commemorate individuals who had died in their service to the Japanese Empire during the Meiji Restoration. The precincts of the shrine had many gates, prayer halls and memorials. As I was walking around, I was surprised to see a memorial in the name of an Indian, Justice Radha Binod Pal. I later learnt that he was the sole Indian Jurist on the International Military Tribunal

for trials on Japanese War Crimes. Among all the judges of the tribunal, he was the only one who submitted a judgment which insisted all defendants were not guilty and has since then been a figure of reverence to several Japanese Nationalists!!!

In the next quarter of the year, I look forward to one of the most inspiring annual events organized by our Alumni organization. The 'Talk your way to Japan' presents a great opportunity to the school children of Chennai to not only showcase their oratorical skills on environment and other community sensitive themes but also earn themselves a trip to Japan, courtesy Hiyoshi Corporation, that has been supporting us for many decades now. This trip to Japan, in the cases of many of the children, have been life changing ones for them and has often been a significant start date for the rest of their lives!!! We invite our readers to visit our centre and encourage these children during this event. For those who do so every year, thank you very much!!!

Happy reading, of all that we do and please send in your views to rangaots@gmail.com

Dozo ogenki de,

Harikumar B

CHINMAYA VIDYALAYA Annanagar, Chennai International School Award (ISA) Food Cultures of Japan Project

--- 22nd February 2013 ---

On 22nd February 2013, Students of **Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Annanagar** presented a food carnival to educate their students and to exchange the thoughts about the food cultures of Japan, as part of International School Award (ISA) project of British Council.

They displayed photographs of various foods and various costumes worn during different occasions in Japan. It was a good first-hand learning experience for the students.

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



Section of exhibits of ISA Project
at Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Annanagar



Group photo taken at our centre along with the students of
Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Annanagar ISA Project

Ms. Ryoko Iseda, Japanese Language Expert of Japan Foundation & Ms. Vimala Solomon visited our Centre

--- 7th April 2013 ---



Ms. Ryoko Iseda, Japanese Language Expert of Japan Foundation
& Ms. Vimala Solomon visited our Centre on 07.04.2013



Ms. Ryoko Iseda, Japanese Language Expert of Japan Foundation
& Ms. Vimala Solomon visited our Centre on 07.04.2013

“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 had training with “SHIGERU JOHO SYSTEMS”, Osaka through AOTS.

Ms. Shalini, has co-authored the above book. The Japanese Companies in Chennai will find this book a Great communication tool for their Japanese Staff. The book can be purchased from ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI.

Dinakaran Education Expo 2013 at Chennai Trade Center

--- 14th April 2013 ---



Our participation in the Dinakaran Education Expo 2013 at Chennai Trade Centre from 12 to 14 April 2013



Our participation in the Dinakaran Education Expo 2013 at Chennai Trade Centre from 12 to 14 April 2013

5S LEAD ASSESSOR COURSE

--- 15th ~ 18th April 2013 ---

This is the first of its kind an exclusive 5S LEAD ASSESSOR course is being offered in India. This is jointly conducted by ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre and AOTS ALUMNI 5S Forum of India. It is a certificate course to develop skills and expertise needed to audit as well to manage work place management system audits effectively.

The objective of this course is to build the required skills, capabilities and competencies for carrying out audits on 5S practices in an organization and evaluating the Status against established benchmarks leading to award of Marks / Rating / Grading.

To make the participants of this course understand clearly the concepts of 5S Workplace Management System against the back drop of globalization and the necessity of industries to adopt 5S as the foundation of further activities leading to growth and achieving excellence.

The training program will also provide both technical knowledge and practical skills essential to become a competent LEAD ASSESSOR OF 5S PRACTICE by carrying out live audits in a few companies i.e. M/s. TACLE automotive India Pvt. Ltd, Chennai, Cognizant Technology Solutions Corporation, Chennai & Intimate Fashion India Pvt. Ltd, Chennai 14 participants from 11 companies participated in this program.



5S Lead Assessor Course in Progress



Certificate awarded to the 5S Lead Assessor Course participants



Group photo taken during 5S Lead Assessor Course

**Mr. Mahbubal Mannan Chowdhury,
Immediate Past President,
Chattagram AOTS Alumni Society
Bangladesh & Chairman 10th
SAFAAS Convention Organizing
Committee visited our centre**

--- 6th May 2013 ---



Mr. Mahbubal Mannan Chowdhury, Immediate Past President, Chattagram AOTS Alumni Society, Bangladesh & Chairman 10th SAFAAS Convention Organizing Committee visited our centre



Group photo taken during the visit of Mr. Mahbubal Mannan Chowdhury, Immediate Past President, Chattagram AOTS Alumni Society, Bangladesh & Chairman 10th SAFAAS Convention to visited our centre

**Japanese Language School
of our Centre**

Fresh classes for different levels of The Japan Foundation's 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. In other there is also the Japanese Language Audio Video Support Room for enabling the students enhance their Japanese Language Proficiency

**Mr. Kyousuke Sumino Visited
our ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI
Coimbatore chapter**

--- 18th May 2013 ---



Mr. Kyousuke Sumino visited our ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Coimbatore chapter and interacted with our students

**Mr. Tetsurou Kato visited our
ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI
Coimbatore Chapter**

---20th June 2013 ---



Mr. Tetsurou Kato visited our ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI, Coimbatore Chapter and interacted with our students

Japanese Support Services

Translation & Interpretation:

Most of the major Japanese companies in and around Tamilnadu are utilizing our Japanese language expertise for Translation and Interpretation services

**Mr. Junji Hiramatsu,
Managing Director
Mr. Hisanori Matsumoto
General Manager Quality
Mr. Takeshi Ohara
General Manager Production &
Mr. N. Balamurugan
HR Manager
Aisan Auto Parts India Pvt. Ltd.,
visited our centre**

---7th & 23rd June 2013 ---



Group photo taken during the visit of
Mr. Junji Hiramatsu, Managing Director,
Mr. Hisanori Matsumoto - GM, Quality
Mr. Takeshi Ohara – GM, Production & Mr. N. Balamurugan,
HR Manager, of Aisan Auto Parts India Pvt. Ltd., to our centre



Mr. Junji Hiramatsu, Managing Director,
Aisan Auto Parts India Pvt. Ltd.,
interacted with our Japanese Language Students

**Dr. Kotaro Kataoka
JICA Expert with IITH,
Dr. Junko Komoto –
JICA Expert in Friendship Project
& Mr. S. Sreekanth,
Program Officer,
JICA-IITH, Hyderabad
visited our centre**

--- 20th June 2013 ---



Dr. Kotaro Kataoka JICA Expert with IITH Dr. Junko Komoto,
JICA Expert in Friendship Project & Mr. S. Sreekanth, Program
Officer, JICA-IITH, Hyderabad visited our centre and interacted
with Mr. Akira Hatayama



Dr. Kotaro Kataoka , JICA Expert with IITH Dr. Junko Komoto,
JICA Expert in Friendship Project & Mr. S. Sreekanth, Program
Officer, JICA-IITH, Hyderabad visited our centre and interacted
with our Japanese Language School Students

2nd Annual Japanese Cultural Festival organized by Sri Eshwar College of Engineering, Coimbatore

--- 20th June 2013 ---

The 2nd Annual Japanese Cultural Festival was organized by Sri Eshwar College of Engineering and ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Coimbatore Chapter headed by Ms. Shanmuga Priya on 20th June 2013 at Coimbatore.

Chief Guest Mrs. Kayoko Furukawa, Consul, Consulate General of Japan at Chennai inaugurated 2nd Annual Japanese Cultural Festival.

She also interact with students of Sri Eshwar College of Engineering, Coimbatore.



Chief Guest Mrs. Kayoko Furukawa, Consul, Consulate General of Japan at Chennai inaugurated the 2nd Annual Japanese Cultural Festival at Coimbatore



Chief Guest Mrs. Kayoko Furukawa, Consul, Consulate General of Japan at Chennai handing over the certificate to the Japanese Language Students of Sri Eshwar College of Engineering, Coimbatore



Group photo taken along with Chief Guest Mrs. Kayoko Furukawa, Consul, Consulate General of Japan at Chennai and Students of Sri Eshwar College of Engineering, Coimbatore

Mr. Tomoya Hironaka, Assistant Manager, Okaya & Co. India Pvt. Ltd, visited our Centre

--- 21st June 2013 ---



Group photo taken during Mr. Tomoya Hironaka, Assistant Manager, Okaya & Co. India Pvt. Ltd, visited our Centre



Meeting in progress with Mr. Tomoya Hironaka, Assistant Manager, Okaya & Co. India Pvt. Ltd, during his visit to our Centre

**Mr. Makoto Sekiyama,
Director General,
Mr. Shinobu Yamamoto,
Deputy Manager,
Office of International Policy,
City of Yokohama &
Mr. Kishore Kanti Biswas,
Founder & COO ATES Inc
visited our Centre**

--- 21st June 2013 ---



Mr. Makoto Sekiyama, Director General, Mr. Shinobu Yamamoto, Deputy Manager, Office of International Policy, Policy Bureau, City of Yokohama and Mr. Kishore Kanti Biswas, Founder & COO ATES Inc visited our Centre



Mr. Makoto Sekiyama, Director General, Mr. Shinobu Yamamoto, Deputy Manager, Office of International Policy, Policy Bureau, City of Yokohama and Mr. Kishore Kanti Biswas, Founder & COO ATES Inc discussing with our members during their visit to our Centre

**HIDA – NEWS LETTER
O-DENWA GA TOOI'N DESU GA**

Are there times when you are unable to hear the party you are speaking to on the telephone because the volume of the other party's voice is too soft? The conventional expression used to convey politely to the other party that you are unable to hear clearly is "O denwa ga tooi'n desu ga..." This expression is often used in business.

"Denwa" means "telephone," while "tooi" means "far away." It is interesting that this expression does not contain any words that mean "cannot hear" or "please speak in a loud voice." Using a deliberately ambiguous expression like this helps to convey the impression that it is not the other party's fault that he or she cannot be heard clearly. In addition, we could also say that the avoidance of making a direct request to the other party (here, the request would be, "Could you please speak in a louder voice?") indicates respect to him or her.

**Training Programme on
Japanese Management
Techniques at our centre**

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 Programme on **Achieving Zero Defect through "POKA YOKE"** held at our center on 20 April 2013. 13 participants from 6 companies participated in the training program.

ONE DAY Workplace Safety Programme **TOTAL SAFETY MANAGEMENT (TSM)** held at our centre on 11 May 2013. 20 participants from 5 companies participated in the training program.

ONE DAY Workplace Safety Programme **'7 HUMAN TOOLS'** (for supervisory staff members) held at our centre on 15th June 2013. 29 participants from 14 companies participated in the training program.

For any needs please contact us.
rangaots@gmail.com / abkaots@gmail.com
Tel. +91-44-2374 0318 / 2374 3575

Sumimasen: The Most Useful Word in the Japanese Language

If you only learn one Japanese word sumimasen (すみません) isn't a bad choice. It can mean "sorry" or "excuse me". It's used in a variety of common situations.

SORRY VS THANK YOU

Those who are new to Japanese language tend to overuse the word arigatou (thank you). If you listen to the way Japanese people speak — arigatou isn't all that common a word. In Japanese language, it's common to say sorry when English speakers would say thank you. For example, if someone holds a door for you — English speakers tend to say thank you. In Japan, it's more common to say sumimasen (sorry) in this situation. If you use arigatou to thank a stranger for a small favor, people will understand what you mean. However, it doesn't always sound completely natural. It's two different ways of looking at the same situation. You can be thankful that someone helped you or feel sorry for having inconvenienced them. In Japan, the later thinking is far more common.

CASUAL APOLOGY

Sumimasen is the most common way to make a casual apology to a stranger. For example, if you bump into someone it's common to say sumimasen. If you want your apology to seem more sincere try bowing a little. It's also common to hold your hand in front of you when making such an apology.

FORMAL APOLOGY

Sumimasen deshita (sorry for what I did) is the most common way to make a formal apology. Let's say you get caught skipping work to go fishing. This is the way to apologize to your boss. Gomensai is another common way to apologize. However, it's used to apologize to someone you with whom you have a close relationship. For example, you might apologize to your boyfriend or girlfriend with gomensai. It's a little too personal to use on your boss.

RESTAURANTS

In Japan, waiters and waitresses don't usually come to your table unless you call them over. If you need something you're expected to summon staff by saying sumimasen. In fact you can yell it if you need to.

ASKING DIRECTIONS

If you plan to ask a stranger a question — sumimasen is the way to start. In this context it means excuse me.

Our Events for the Next Quarter July ~ Sep 2013

7th July 2013

Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) 2013, July at Meenakshi College for Women.

15th July 2013

Announcement of the Drawing Competition on the Theme "JAPAN IN THE EYES OF INDIAN CHILD" at our center

17th August 2013

Talk Your way to Japan – Speech Contest in Tamil for Corporation & Government Higher Secondary Schools students in Chennai at our Centre

24th August 2013

Talk Your way to Japan – Speech contest in Tamil for Higher Secondary School Students in Tamilnadu at Our Centre

26th August 2013 to 3rd September 2013

17th Japan India Student Conference (JISC) in coordination with Tamilnadu Chamber of Nippon India Trade & industry (TACNITI) at Our Centre

31st August 2013

Japan Night – Vol. 2 at PRC Centenary Hall, T. Nagar.

7th September 2013

Talk Your Way to Japan Speech Contest in English for College students in Tamilnadu at our Centre.

8th September 2013

Talk Your way to Japan – Speech contest in Japanese for the students at our centre

14th September 2013

Prize distribution ceremony of Talk Your Way to Japan – Speech Contest, Hiyoshi Environmental Awards – 2013, & Drawing Competition on the Theme "JAPAN IN THE EYES OF INDIAN CHILD"