

# Hiragana News

## ひらがなニュース



Asaka-area International Society

http://ais1989.hp-ez.com

Chairperson: Akiko Suzuki

## November Schedule



10:00 – 12:00

| Date           | Subject                                              | Place                                |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Nov.02 (Fri.)* | Japanese/ Chatting Table                             | Asaka Library<br>1F Shichōkakushitsu |
| Nov.09 (Fri.)  | Japanese/ Chatting Table                             | Community Center<br>1F Shūkaishitsu  |
|                | Board Meeting                                        | To be announced later                |
| Nov.16 (Fri.)  | Introduction to<br>Japanese Culture<br>(Open School) | Community Center<br>2F Gakushūshitsu |
| Nov.30 (Fri.)  | Japanese/ Chatting Table                             | Community Center<br>2F Gakushūshitsu |

\*Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> AIS is at Asaka Library

### Funerals in Japan (Open School)

Let's learn about manners at funerals in Japan.

Lecturer: Ms. Keiko Kōno (Manager, Omotokurabu)

Date &amp; Time: Nov.16(Fri.)10:00 – 12:00

Place: Community Center

### Germination after 50 years of sleep

Satoko Sakai (Japan)

I went to Mongolia this summer. My image of the country before the trip was that it was a country of steppe and deserts. Thinking that if I got stuck in a desert storm, I would suffocate without a mask, I decided to go to a drug store to buy it. It was summer, so I had to visit four stores until I finally obtained the mask.

I visited the desert just after the heaviest rain in fifty years and the desert had become stretching fields of blooming white flowers of Chinese scallions and chives. The seeds were awakened after fifty-years of sleep, germinated and bloomed! Many animals such as sheep, horses, camels, goats and cows were munching on the flowers and leaves. The Mongolian people there were saying that they had never seen such a scene before. The carpet of flowers in the desert was so vast that I thought no matter how much the animals eat the plants, the scenery would not change much.

The Earth may be about to change greatly. There was no desert storm, and after sweating so much trying to find a mask, I never used it anyhow.



### Tea Break

I wonder what is truly scary. (Y.K.)

People used to say earthquakes, thunder, fire and father were scary things. What is it now? Isn't it the Internet? If

we use it well, it's very convenient and hard to resist. However, it carries a lot of problems such as private information leaks, rumors, slander, Channel 2 and so on. Recently, "LINE", a Japan-born application software of smartphones used by 50,000,000 people all over the world, reported about private information that was leaked. We have to be very careful.

### Minutes of Board Meeting

Oct.12 10 Board Members and 4 Observers

\*Report from each group

\*Rechecking process of new member's enrollment

### Information

\*Teaching Japanese to Beginners: Nov. 09 (Fri.) 9:00 to 9:50

====Anyone is welcome to come====

AIS Volunteer Lecture

“Exchange Japanese Language with Foreigners”(Part II &amp;III)

Lecturer: Ms. Kyoko Matsuo

(Association for Japanese Language Teaching)

Date &amp; Time: Nov.02 (Fri.) and Dec.07 (Fri.) 13:00 to 14:30

Place: Asaka Library 1F Shichōkakushitsu (Nov. 02)

\* Place will be announced later for Dec.07

### \*Asaka Shimin Katsudō Matsuri

AIS is participating in the 3rd Asaka Shimin Katsudō Matsuri. We will have a dance show, panel exhibition, tea service from different countries and bazaar. We'll introduce to citizens what AIS is doing through the festival. Many other groups are participating in the festival. There are shops, a kimono trial, hand-made goods and so on. Details are on page 12 of Oct. 15th issue of Kōho Asaka. Bring your family and friends!

Date and Time: Nov.17 (Sat.) 10:00~16:00 Place: Community Center

\*Volunteers are needed. Please help us if you can spare time for us.

\*We'll collect donation items for the bazaar on Nov.16 (Fri.) during our activity hour. (Depending on the conditions, some items are not acceptable.)

Profit from the bazaar is used for the things needed for the festival and for our regular activities. If you have any questions, contact Ms. Suzuki, send an e-mail to ais1989@hotmail.co.jp

### Welcome to AIS (New Members):

Mr. Toshihiro Tanaka (Japan) Ms. Sumiko Doi (Japan)

Ms. Joan Hirata (Philippine) Ms. Kayo Yokoi (Japan)



### I rediscovered curry! —Sept. Event: Thai Cooking Class—

Jianshen Lian (China)



I was thinking that “curry” was an Indian cuisine, so when I heard that they were making “Green Curry” in Thai cooking class in AIS's event, I put my name on the top of participant list.

Just as I had imagined, Thai curry had some peculiar flavors.

Everyone was surprised to know that from coconut milk, certain amount of oil is extracted after being simmered for a while. Another menu, which is favored by many people was tapioca dessert. Green tapioca seems to be only available at a Thai grocery store and nobody had seen it before. In my cooking group, there was an accident. We mixed up the cooking procedure. Fortunately, it didn't affect the taste of the dessert and it matched very well with Nepalese tea that we had after lunch. People from different countries got together and enjoyed the meal.

After coming home, I found on the Internet that in Thailand, they have red curry and yellow curry as well as green curry. Also Tapioca pearls have a variation of black and artificially colored ones. I was “A frog in the well who knows nothing of the great ocean” after all.

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