



Minutes of Board Meeting

Dec.07 (10 Board members and 1 observer)

*Report from each group

* Shimin Katudo Maturi

*Use of photos on AIS' HP

*Volunteer activity of AIS members outside



of the regular activity

*About Hiragana News



Information

*Japanese Study Group ①:

Jan.18 (Fri.) 9:00-9:50

*Japanese Study Group ②

Poko A Poko: No Activity

Welcome to AIS! New members:

Mr. Kiyoshi Nakajo (Japan)

Ms. Salamat Kiran (Pakistan)

January Schedule

10:00 – 12:00

Date	Activity	Place
Jan. 11 (Fri.)	New Year's Meeting Board Meeting (13:00-15:00)	Community Center 2F Ongakushitsu Asaka Library Shichōkakushitsu
Jan. 18 (Fri.)	Japanese/Chatting Table	Community Center 2F Gakushūshitsu
Jan. 25 (Fri.)	Japanese/Chatting Table	Community Center 1F Gallery



"A Gift at the Start of the New Year"

--- New Year's Meeting ---

Please share a story which has been passed down from the past to the present in your country.

Let's see what they are!! We'll also exchange calendars.

We'll start arranging the venue from 9:00. Please come and help us if you can.

Contact person: Sakai



Kurokawa-Noh

Yayoi Itoh (Japan)

*Web site of National Noh Theater→<http://www.ntj.jac.go.jp/nou.html>

In Yamagata prefecture's Tsuruoka city, there is an area called Kurokawa. There, the Noh performance called Kurokawa-Noh has been performed for several hundred years as a Shinto ritual of Kasuga Shrine. This Noh is performed by local people, not by professionals. The local performers, both seniors and juniors, each acquires the skills necessary for each part of the play, and take turns performing the Noh at a local people's house. It is an annual event as well as a festival of the shrine. I heard that recently, they performed this Noh not only in their area, but also at various places in Japan, in the U.S. and in France.

Encountering this event was a shock to me as I was under the impression that Noh was performed in places such as ○○theaters, and ○○Noh theaters. I learned that the origin of traditional art performance is the various styles of Noh; such as Shinto ritual, Rousoku-Noh (one performed at night in candle light), Takigi-Noh (one performed in the light of fires), etc., which are performed throughout the year.

I love hot springs and I happened to know Kurokawa-Noh while visiting hot springs in Yamagata prefecture. This event gave me the opportunity to realize the breadth and depth of the world of our traditional culture which I didn't know until now.

*Noh is one of the oldest performing arts of Japan with a history of more than 600 years.

