

VIVA! ひめじ

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English

The Newsletters for foreign residents

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Himeji Cultural and International Exchange
Foundation newsletter editing volunteers
URL <http://www.himeji-iec.or.jp>

<People> POKHREL sisters

Ms. Namrata and Ms. Tulsa are siblings and have come all the way from Pokhara, Nepal. In 2013 they came to Himeji with their mother and started to study Japanese at Egret Himeji.

Q: What kind of place is Pokhara?

A: It is located 200km (120miles) west of the capital Kathmandu. It takes around 8 hours by bus or 30 minutes by plane. The city is surrounded by mountains and lakes. There are many tourists who come all year round to see the Himalayas up close. Winter is nearly the same as here and summer is just suitable for people to live.



Q: Could you please tell us about the culture of Nepal?

A: Nepali is the national language of Nepal. We have studied in a private school of Nepal, where the study materials are in English; so, we find it a little difficult to write in Nepali, though we can speak Nepali fluently. But our father's generation did not get that chance, so they are not able to understand English.

Dal and bhat are eaten throughout Nepal. Dal is a type of soup made of lentils and spices. People also eat chapati or nan (flat bread made of wheat flour) as dinner and it is normally eaten with cooked vegetables or curries. Nepal is a multicultural, multilingual and multiethnic country. There are many temples around the country. Dashain is a major 2-week festival observed by almost every Nepalese family. It is celebrated to show their religious faith towards god. People take time to prepare special dishes and sweets for it.

Q: Ms. Tulsa likes almost every food, Ms. Namrata doesn't like natto, how about other foods?

A: Japanese rice is very delicious. My favourite foods are takoyaki, yakisoba, sashimi and anko. I'd like to know more about Japanese food.

Q: What are your dreams for the future?

A: Ms. Namrata: After becoming more confident in English, I would like to open an English language institution.

Ms. Tulsa: Improving more on dance. I would like to become a professional.

The 22nd Himeji International Exchange Festival

The Himeji International Exchange Festival is going to be held again this year, where you can meet people from around the world and various cultures. Many dances and music will be performed on stage and various international foods will be sold.

【Date】 October 29 (Sun), 2017

10:00 am~3:00 pm (no postponement for rain)

【Place】 Otemae Park (it is about a 10-minute walk to the north from Himeji station)



◆ Eat

8 new kinds of dishes are added this year. There will be 17 kinds of dishes from 12 countries on sale. It is 200 yen per dish. Meal coupons will be sold from 11:00 am. Please come early, as it will finish when all the dishes have been sold out.



China: Boiled meat dumpling



Myanmar: Kyet tha hin



Vietnam: Bún Chả



China: Mabo Tofu



Indonesia: Soto Ayam



Rehearsal

◆ Watch

Dance and music of various countries, such as a Vietnamese lion dance, Mua Lan, will be performed on the main stage.

◆ Entertainment/ Experience

You can experience toys and games from around the world such as: Sports Chanbara, cup and ball, and plate spinning. There are also paid experience booths: Aboriginal art, face painting, photo-shoots in traditional costumes, and language lessons.

◆ Cultural Exchange

You can join free conversations or workshops for discussing multicultural coexistence. This year's theme is "music and instruments of the world".

※ There are many other interesting sections: A "stamp rally," in which you collect stamps by going around the checkpoints and trying the quizzes; an introduction to activities of the international exchange groups; and an advisory service for residents. Why don't you come and join the festival?

Autumn Events 2017

●The grand bazaar of the products of Harima, the land of good harvest

There will be a presentation of the local specialties and a sale of the products. On the stage, performances by various *Yuruchara* (mascot characters) and local arts will be presented.

【Date】 September 30th (Sat)& October 1st (Sun), 10:00 am~5:00 pm

【Place】 Otemae Park

●Moon viewing at Himeji Castle

This is an event held on the night of the full moon in mid autumn every year. There will be a musical performance with Japanese instruments like koto and drums. You can buy things like locally brewed sake and box lunches at the site.

【Date】 October 4th (Wed), 6:00 pm~9:00 pm

【Place】 Sannomaru hiroba (ground) at Himeji Castle



●The 30th massive pottery fair

This fair is boasted as one of the largest in western Japan. Pottery is collected and sold from over 30 districts across the country. You can try making pottery with a potter's wheel or enjoy coloring one or two pieces at the Challenge Corner.

【Date】 November 1st (Wed)~5th (Sun), 10:00 am~5:00 pm

【Place】 Otemae park,& Karoyashiki ato Park

※ Himeji Sweets Festival will be held during the same period, showcasing both western and Japanese sweets gathered from all over Himeji.

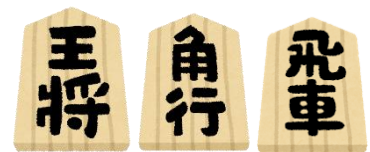


●Human Shogi - Battle of Himeji

Shogi will be played on a large scale shogi board by people impersonating shogi pieces in period wartime costume. Professional shogi players will give some comments on the battle. They will host a talk show and a quiz from *tsume* shogi to the audience.

【Date】 November 4th (Sat) & 5th (Sun), 10:00 am~4:00 pm

【Place】 Sannomaru hiroba (ground) at Himeji Castle



●Heart Festival in Himeji

This festival is held in private houses, studios, shrines and temples as a cultural exchange. These places are open to the public, free of charge. You can appreciate the buildings and the gardens, displays of handicrafts, or attend concerts and tea ceremonies. Each event is exciting and interesting.

【Date】 November 11th (Sat) 10:00 am~4:00 pm

※ The guidebook that gives more information about the sites and contents is available at the city hall, its branches, and tourist information centers.

●Autumn color Festival in Mt. Shosha

Only during this season of beautifully colored leaves, the cultural property will be open to public. You can enjoy the illuminated coloured leaves after dark.

【Date】 November 17th (Fri)~19th (Sun) 10:00am ~8:00 pm

【Place】 Shoshazan Engyoji Temple

Procedures for Opening an Account



You need a Japanese bank account when you live and work in Japan. Your salary can be paid into your bank account, and utility bills such as water, gas, or electricity can be paid conveniently from it. In Japan, each bank has different application procedures. Now, let us explain you how to open your account at Japan Post Bank, or 'YUCHO Ginko'.

<Important Notices>

1. The account holder him/herself should go through the application procedures.
2. Please go through the application at a Post Office or a branch of Japan Post Bank near your residence or place of work.
3. Please apply for only one account per person.
4. You should understand Japanese for the bank application. Otherwise, please go with a person who can understand Japanese.



Application Procedure

<Presentation of Official Documents (originals, not copies)>

1. Identification documents that include the name, current address, and date of birth, such as:
(See also ※1)

A. One Photo ID such as a driver's licence or passport.

OR

B. Two documents without a photo.

Such as: Health insurance certificate, National pension book, Maternal and child health handbook (for the mother or child only).

OR

C. One document from B and a copy of a Certificate of Residence. See ※2.

※1···In the case where the address contained in the presented identification documents is not the current address, you will be asked to present another official document containing the current address, such as a receipt for national tax (local tax); or a receipt for utility rates issued by a public office such as a receipt for water charges; to confirm the current address, in addition to the documents required. Please present certificates that have not expired. If a certificate has no validation date, please ensure that it was issued within the last six months.

※2···The bank will send a passbook and other items to the address of the account holder in the mail for confirmation.

2. Passport to confirm the most recent date of Entry in Japan. See ※3

※3···If you have submitted your passport already, it is not required again.

3. Seal (HANKO)



<Bank Verification>

Remark 1. At the time of opening of an account, several verifications are required by law.

- Your current address, name, and date of birth will be verified by the submission of identification documents in Step 1.
- Your purpose of stay and occupation will be verified in person at the counter.

Remark 2. If more checks are required, you will be notified of the results at a later date. This review will generally take about one week. In this case, your pass book will be sent by mail to your address.

Note: This explanation is guidance only, so for more details, please ask at the counter. If you want to open an account at other banks, please contact them directly.

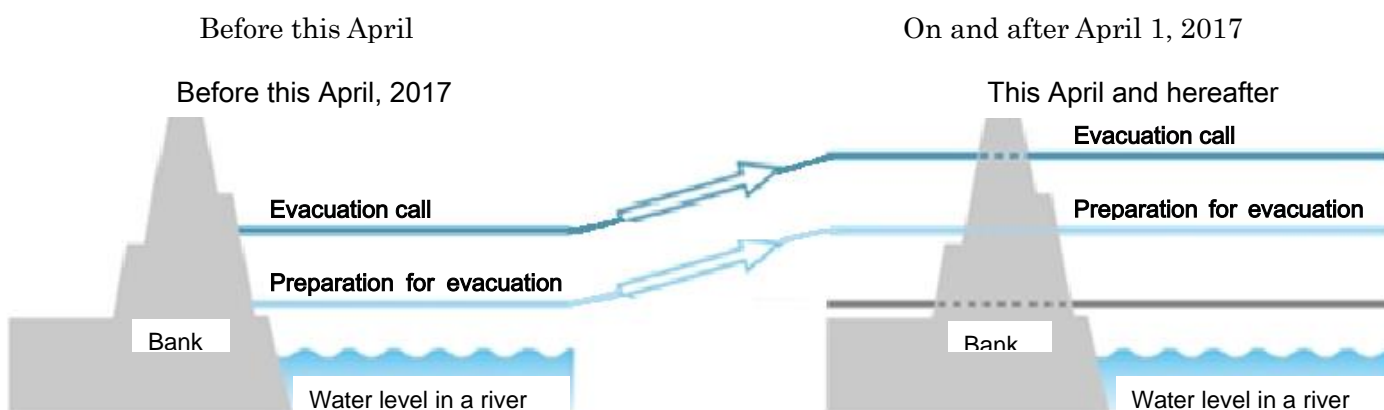
On hearing the following alarm calls, evacuate at once!

ひなんじゅんび
避難準備

ひなんかんこく
避難勧告

ひなんしじ きんきゅう
避難指示 (緊急)

The timings for evacuation alarms in the case of heavy rain or flood have been changed since this April. The new alarms are triggered at higher river levels than before. Now that the same alarm means more dangerous conditions in a river than before, you will need to prepare to evacuate sooner.



<避難準備> (Hinan Junbi / Preparation for evacuation)

The elderly, the handicapped, and parents with children must go to places of refuge as soon as possible.

<避難勧告> (Hinan Kankoku / Evacuation call)

Evacuate at once to the designated places of safety in your district.

<避難指示 (緊急)> (Hinan Shiji (Kinkyu) / Evacuation directive (urgent))

Most dangerous conditions. Evacuate right now or move to the safest place in your house.



■Please always confirm the nearest place of refuge in your district with the following web sites.

○Himeji web map <https://www.sonicweb-asp.jp/himeji/>

○Himeji disaster prevention plaza

<http://www.city.himeji.lg.jp/syoubou/plaza/hazardmap/index.html>

○Hyogo CG hazard map <http://www.hazardmap.pref.hyogo.jp/>

○Countermeasure for damage from a storm and flood

http://www.city.himeji.lg.jp/s30/2239593/_22082/kateinobousaitaisaku/fuusuigaitaisaku.html

○Good evacuation actions against damage from a storm and flood

http://www.city.himeji.lg.jp/s30/2239593/_22082/kateinobousaitaisaku/huusuigaijinohinankoudou.html

Reference : Himeji City Hall Crisis Management Room TEL 079-223-9593

☆Information about the Himeji Cultural and International Exchange Foundation☆

◆Overseas sister cities dispatch debriefing session

Himeji city dispatches some junior and high school students to overseas sister cities as goodwill ambassadors every year. In this debriefing session, we will talk about the cities and the youths' interactions.

Also, an "Overseas sister cities cultural interactive photo exhibition" will be held on the 1st floor at Egret Himeji from Oct. 25th to Nov. 6th. We welcome your participation.

【Date and time】 November 15th (Sun) 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

【Venue】 I-messae hall, Egret Himeji

【Seats available】 280

※Applications are available by phone, fax, Email and in person.

If there are vacant seats, it is possible to join on the day.

※※※Editor's Postscript ※※※

It is still hot, but we can feel the days after summer peaks. Artistic autumn has come!

Cultural events are going to be all over Himeji City.

How about going out and enjoying them?

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These names are used with the contributors' permission.

Their assistance is much appreciated.

You can read previous issues of "VIVA! ひめじ" at the website of the Himeji Cultural and International Exchange Foundation (International Exchange Section)(<http://www.himeji-iec.or.jp/>).

The next issue of "VIVA! ひめじ" will be available in December. Don't miss it! We invite your comments and suggestions.

We are always looking for translators and native speakers to assist us with translating and proofreading upcoming editions of "VIVA! ひめじ". If you are interested, please contact us at the following address.

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