

VIVA ! ひめじ

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< PEOPLE > Ms. Chou Leo Meng

Chou Leo Meng was born in Ordos (500 km away from the capital city, Beijing) in the Nei Mongol Autonomous Region (Inner Mongolia) located in the northern part of China. Her family lived in Ordos, which is located on a huge plateau. For high school, she moved to Hohhot 300 km away from Ordos (the main city of Inner Mongolia, regarded as the same position as the seat of prefectural governments in Japan), living by herself apart from her parents.

After high school, she went on to a vocational college. She heard Japanese language there for the first time in her life. Then she started studying Japanese language. While she studied Japanese, she became aware that her friends wanted to go abroad as exchange students. She was inspired by them. So she went to Japan, and on to the Department of Japanese of the Faculty of Foreign Language at Himeji Dokkyo University in October in 2002. The main language of Inner Mongolia is Mandarin because the Han Chinese ethnic group who speak Mandarin settled there from the 20th Century, although the main ethnic group was Mongolian who spoke Mongolian.

Now, Mongolians start learning Mandarin from the first year of elementary school. On the other hand, they keep their traditions carefully such as Mongolian letter written vertically, moving around using prefabricated houses called *Ger* (* 1), playing music on the *Morin Huur* (* 2) (Horse-head Fiddle) and Mongolian wrestling. Inner Mongolia is the area where *kousa* (yellow sand) blows in dust storms. It is difficult to see during the *kousa* season. Recently, desertification has developed rapidly, and this is regarded as a crucial environmental issue. Chou Leo Meng says that Himeji is a city which is rich in vegetation and clean air compared to Inner Mongolia.

Chou Leo Meng says that she enjoys her daily life in Japan. When she came here, she had a tough time in terms of language for a while. But she conquered that thanks to devoted and detailed help by the Himeji Dokkyo University's teachers. Also, she was very impressed by the Japanese people she met in her part-time job here. She thinks Japanese are so responsible and diligent toward their work. She is very glad to experience an exchange student's life in Japan as well, since she finds it easy living here.

Chou Leo Meng has a dream to be a Japanese language teacher. Then, she wants to play the significant role in developing good relationships between Japan and Inner Mongolia. Her favorite proverb is "Good people walk along a happy road. ". This means that people who conduct a good deed can have a beautiful life. Her name, Chou Leo Meng, means "The Venus" in Mongolian. When she was born, her parents found the shining Venus in the vast sky. So, her parents named her Chou Leo Meng as the Venus. We want to support her with all our hearts so that she can be a shining star for the relationship between Japan and the world.

(* 1) *Ger* : This is called " Pao " in Mandarin.

(* 2) *Morin Huur* : This is the Mongolian stringed instrument.

{ The photograph on the right is of Mongolian traditional clothes called " Mongolian *del* ". Also, the hat she wears is " *dalululuga* " (This means " pushed from above ").

This name comes from the feature on the top of the poll which is similar to the head of a horse. By the way, the strings are made of the hair grown on the horse's tail.

Inner

Mongolia



Let's read books free at a library?

Let's introduce libraries in Himeji to you. You can read and borrow books **for free** in all libraries. There is a difference among libraries about **browsing rules, lending procedure, numbers you can borrow, length of loan, hours and holidays**. So, please check them beforehand.

The Himeji International Exchange Center Library Corner <http://www.himeji-iec.or.jp/>

Place: Honmachi, 68-290 “ Egret Himeji ” 4F **Tel:** 0792-87-0820

Browsing: anybody **Lending:** Follow the instructions and the rules of the library.

Newspapers and magazines (usually stored):

International Press (in Portuguese and in Spanish), The Nihongo Journal (in Japanese)

Tuổi trẻ chủ nhật (in Vietnamese)

The Internet is available for free. This institution collects documents written in many languages.

The Himeji City Jonai Library <http://www.library.city.himeji.hyogo.jp/>

Place: Honmachi, 68-258 **Tel:** 0792-89-4888

Browsing: anybody **Lending:** Follow the instructions and the rules of the library.

Newspapers and magazines (usually stored):

The Japan Times (in English), Newsweek (in English), TIME (in English), Plenty of English novels, Plenty of French, Chinese, English, Spanish and Korean picture books

The library has 10 branches and Ekimae City Hall Reservation Corner. There are no books in this Reservation Corner. The corner only handles reservation, lending, returns and library card registration. Most foreign books are stored in the Jonai Library.

The Himeji Dokkyo University Library <http://lib.himeji-du.ac.jp/>

Place: Kamioono, 7-2-1 **Tel:** 0792-23-6506

Browsing and Lending: usually you should be 18 years old and more. Follow the instructions and the rules of the library.

Newspapers and magazines (usually stored):

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (in German), The Straits Times (in English / published in Singapore), The Economist (in English), The Independent (in English), Renmin Ribao (in Chinese), Bangkok Post (in English / published in Thailand), The Dong-a Ilbo (in Korean), L'express (in French), Ming Pao Daily News (in Chinese / published in Hong Kong)

The library is mainly for its students and teachers. But others can use it. There are many newspapers and magazines besides the above. The university has the Departments of German, English, Chinese and Japanese. Therefore, there are sufficient books written in those languages. Children are not allowed.

The University of Hyogo (former Himeji Institute of Technology) Academic Information Center

Himeji Shinzaike <http://www.libh.himeji-tech.ac.jp/libk/yokoso.html>

Place: Shinzaike, Honmachi, 1-1-12 **Tel:** 0792-92-1514

Browsing: You should be 18 years old and more

Lending: You should be 18 years old and more. Follow the instructions and the rules of the library.

Newspapers and magazines (usually stored):

Harvard Business Review (in English), Nature (in English), Science (in English)

DVD movies can be seen in the library. One of the staff said, “Please ask anything you are not sure about.” Also, there is the University of Hyogo Academic Information Center Shosha in Himeji city.

Event information <summer events>



- **Yukata festival** 6/22(Tue)~24(Thurs)
A festival for Osakabe shrine. Dozens of night stalls will be set up around the Himeji station. Lively atmosphere with people in Yukata. Yukata parade for children /parade of "Miss Yukata" also scheduled.
 - **Himeji port festival:** Firework festival at the sea. Last Saturday in July
Place: Himeji port (20minutes on foot from Sanyo Dentetsu Shikama station)
(Complimentary shuttle service to the event site available from 17:00 onwards)
Traffic controls will be enforced on the day, no parking space available around the site.
Detail: tail water over the sea/ Around 3000 fireworks
* In case of rain or gale, the firework festival will be re-scheduled to the following Sunday.
 - **Himeji oshiro (castle) festival** 8/6(Fri), 7(Sat)
8/6 Takigi Noh **Place:** Sannomaru Hiroba 18:15 start
Traditional Noh play will be performed with the brightly lit Himeji castle at the background
8/7 Big parade, dance **Place:** Otemae Dori (street)
- * All above dates are subject to change. For details, please check with the bulletin or program on the day.

Events at Hyogo Prefectural Museum of History.

- **Let's experience ancient life** **Place:** trial space
Wear: Juni-hitoe (authentic-twelve-layered kimono), Yoroi (typical armor) etc.
3 times a day 10:30, 13:30, 15:30
A drawing for a trial fitting for one person each time
Touch: clay pot, bronze bell-shaped vessel, clay figure etc.
Play: beanbags, tops, kendama etc.
Fee: admission fee to the museum (special fees will be applied during the special exhibitions)
 - **Workshop "Drum"**
Let's make an authentic Japanese drum with leather made locally.
Date: 8/28(sat) 13:00~16:00 **Application:** 7/17(Sat) ~ 8/17(Tue)
Capacity: 25 people (priority to elementary students and their parents)
Accept in order of receipt (application necessary)
Fee: 2500 yen/drum e.g.) making 2 drums by family costs 5000yen.
- * Entering the study room is free of charge



50	670-0012 兵庫県立歴史博物館 普及物議館	おもて 姫路市本町68番地
50	自分の名前 Your address	うら 楽しいにづくり 一般参加

How to apply

By a return-postcard within the application period (NLT8/17)

To: 670-0012 Himeji city Honmachi 68

"Hyogo prefectural museum of history Fukyu-ka"

Entry: return address lecture's name "drum making" address

names of all participating members age telephone number general participation

(If you are a member of "Tomonokai" please write your membership number.

Hours/Admission fees of the museum

Open: 10:00-17:00 (admission until 16:30)

Closed: Mondays (or, when Monday is a holiday, the following day)

Admission fees: Adults-200 yen Students-150yen (univ&high) 100yen (junior-high and elementary)

DV (Domestic Violence)

DV is the violent action by those on intimate relations, such as a husband against a partner. It has become a social problem recently. We guess, there maybe some readers who wonder “who to should consult about the issue to save the person who suffers DV damage”. So, let’s discuss DV in this issue.

DV means the action by which an assailant is going to have his or her way, with the combination of various forms of violence, DV threatens a victim’s character and safety.

- physical violence (knocking, kicking , throwing a object against the victim)
- mental violence (insulting, ignoring, destroying valuable things, treating the person like a servant)
- sexual violence (sex committed without mutual consent, no cooperation in contraception)
- economical violence (not paying alimony, prohibit a partner from working , severe checking on the use of money)
- social violence (restriction of contact with close relatives, checking communication means such as telephone or letters)

DV not only gives physical damage to a victim, but may give a powerless and an uneasy feeling to the victim. If a mother loses self-confidence through DV action, her relationship with her child would be unstable. And that causes the child to suffer. Moreover, it is said that seeing violence performed or hearing violent language, and things being destroyed, creates extreme stress in a child. And it may cast a dark shadow over a child’s character formation. Many victim of DV tend to think “The situation will be settled if I take all the blame. I must be the cause of this.” But the reason for the violence is in the performer’s character not in the victim’s, and only putting up with it does not create a solution. Let’s show courage., Consult with the acquaintance whom you can trust or call at a help desk(**Statistics show that most DV victims are women**)

Law for the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims(the DV Prevention law)

The law prohibits the violence of a husband against a wife or one partner against another, and moreover, the law offers a support to a victim. This law is completely enforced from April, Heisei 14. The law is due to be reformed in the Heisei 16 fiscal year. It concerns violence harm which does serious damage to the victim.(Protection Orders can be put in place if there is real danger of physical harm being inflicted)

There are two kinds of Protection Orders

Approach restraining order	Leaving order
It’s forbidden to hang around a person(the valid range applies to residence ,working place) the term of validity lasts six months	this orders to the assailant to leave from the residence. the term of validity lasts two weeks.

Individuals who violate a protection order shall be subject to imprisonment with labor of up to one year or a fine of not more than 1 million yen .

Petition for protection order..... this must be lodged with the District Court

Items which should be written in an application

The situation in which violence was done

Illustration of a situation in which a serious injury or threat to a life took place, including information about previous consultation at the Hyogo Women’s Consulting Center or the police.

If one has no experience of consultation at the Hyogo Women’s Consulting Center or the police a document be required illustrating the situation of violence and then one should have attestation of document at a notary public office and append this to the statement document.

Consultation windows for a woman (no charge and secrecy is strictly observed for the consultation)

Hyogo Women’s Consulting Center (Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Center)

Open: Consultation by telephone: everyday 9:00 ~ 21:00 emergency 24-hour correspondence
Tel: 078-732-7700

Interview:(reservation required): Mon.-Fri. 9:00 ~ 17:00

Himeji Gender Equality Promotion Center "I-messae" Egret 3F,68-290 Honmachi, Himeji-shi, 670-0012

Open: Consultation by telephone: Tue.10:00 ~ 16:00 Wed. Fri. 10:00 ~ 18:00 Tel 0792-87-0801
Interview: Tues. Thurs. Sat. 10:00 ~ 16:00 Wed. Fri. 10:00 ~ 18:00 Tel 0792-87-0807

(reservation required) please come to the center with the person who understands Japanese

Himeji woman consultation (inside of an autonomous welfare hall)

Open: Consultation by telephone: Mon. ~ Fri. 9:00 ~ 16:00 Tel: 0792-88-7756

Hyogo-Prefectural Gender Equality Promotion Center crystal tower 8F 1-1-3, Higashi-Kawasaki-cho,
Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, 650-0044

Open: Consultation by telephone: Mon. ~ Satu.9:30 ~ 16:30 Tel.078-360-8551

Interview(reservation required): Mon. ~ Fri. 9:40 ~ 18:30 Tel 078-360-8554

Sat. 9:40 ~ 16:10

Himeji police station 0792-22-0110 Extension 263,264 Life safety division

Shikama police station 0792-35-0110 Extension 263 "

Aboshi police station 0792-74-0110 Extension 263 "



How to call the extension

dial the telephone number and follows "hai- keisatsu-desu"(here is the police station) -"naisen onegaisimasu"(please connect with extension)
When it answers, please say"DV no soudan-desu"and then please ask for consultation.

Nakaharima district Administration Office(Women's-issues consultation)

A telephone consultation / interview consultation is held at any time. Tel:0792-81-3001 extension 417

W-S Hyogo

Open time: Consultation by telephone: Thurs.12:00 ~ 17:00

We offer a short-term shelter although it is charged for, however, a person having trouble getting money is also assisted.

Tel. & FAX: 078-251-9901 (except Thurs. responded by answering machine)

corresponding to many languages Consultation window (only telephone consultation)

Hyogo International Association Information and Advisory Service (HIA)

crystal tower 6F ,1-1-3, Higashi-Kawasaki-cho, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, 650-0044

Open: Consultation by telephone: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 ~ 17:00 Tel 078-382-2052

Language: English, Chinese, Spanish, and Portuguese

Kobe International Community Center (KICC) 8-1-6, Miyuki-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, 651-0087

Open: Consultation by telephone: Mon.-Fri. 10:00 ~ 17:00 Tel 078-291-8441

Language: English, Chinese,

NGO Net work for Foreigner's Assistance Kobe (GQ net) 7-17-1, Shimo-Yamate-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, 650-0011

Open: Consultation by telephone : Mon.17:00-20:00 Wed. Fri. 14:00-20:00 Tel:078-232-1290

Language : English, Chinese, Spanish, and Portuguese

Asian Women's Empowerment Project (AWEP) 3-3-8, Kaiun-cho, Nagata-ku, Kobe-shi, 653-0052

Open: Consultation by telephone: Wed. 11:00-17:00 Tel:078-735-6333

Language: English, Portuguese, Japanese, French, Indonesia,(reservation required) Tagalog (reservation required)

Information about the Himeji International Association

【A personal consultation for foreign residents】

Contents: We set a service for foreign residents who live in Himeji, also around there, to give a life consultation. Please be free to make a call when you face up to some difficulties in managing your life in Japan. We will arrange for it to be multilingual.

Dates of commence: After autumn.

(We will send another notice after we fix more details.)

Jointly sponsored by: *Himeji-hatsu Sekai*; a registered organization on HIA, and Hyogo International Association



【Let's enjoy playing *Go* and *Shogi*!】

Place: Japanese room at the 4F of Egret Himeji.

Contents: Why don't you give a try Japanese traditional game like *Go* and *Shogi* (which like Western game of chess) The staff of HIGSA (Himeji International Go and Shogi Association) would instruct you thoroughly in a wide range from beginner upwards. Please come and join us. If you're interested, please contact HIA. TEL 0792(87)0820

Editor's Postscript

The DV (Domestic Violence), one of the serious social problems, was picked up as a topic in the first number of 「VIVA!ひめじ」 this year. We sincerely hope our hardship in gathering materials turns to be a big help for people who are suffering from it.

The 「VIVA!ひめじ」 make itself fresh in 6 languages from this month's number. We appreciate in here that these services would never be done without much help of translation assistants and native proofreaders.

The publication of next issue, 「VIVA!ひめじ No.10」 is planned in the mid of September.

Please do not miss it.

We always welcome your opinions and impressions about our circular. Please notice us with the following address or number.

Translation assistants and native proofreaders

English: Naohiro Mori, Takeshi Kiba, Ayumi Oda, Ayako Hanabata, David Mitchell

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Spanish: Keiko Abo, Aki Saito, Tomoko Nishihara, Nozomi Doi and Jose Enrique Uicab Vivas

Only those permitted printing are carrird. We really appreciate all your help.

We always invite translation assistants and native proofreaders on 「VIVA!ひめじ」. If you have some interests, please inform us with the following address or number. We're waiting for many replies.

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