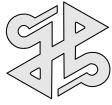


# SHINJUKU NEWS



Foreign Language Website <http://www.city.shinjuku.tokyo.jp/foreign/english/>  
Please make your inquiries in Japanese when calling the coordinating division.

**No. 8**

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Cherry Blossoms along Kandagawa River

Spring is a time of hope for many people, including students entering a new school and newly hired employees. This is also the time year when the cherry blossoms in Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden and Shinjuku Chuo Park bloom. Many people come to these parks to look at the beautiful flowers.

Golden Week, a national holiday period, runs from the end of April through early May. May 5 is "Children's Day," a day when people wish for the healthy growth of children. People celebrate this holiday by raising "koi-nobori" carp streamers and decorating their homes with traditional armor and helmet decorations.

June is rainy season, or "tsuyu" as it is called in Japan. Waiting for the arrival of summer while looking up at the rainy skies, is a Japanese custom.

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## Spring to Early Summer - Shinjuku Calendar



### March

25 — Yotsuya Fureai Festival

### April

**Early April** — Flower-Viewing (Shinjuku Gyoen National Garden, Shinjuku Chuo Park, "Soto-bori" Outer Moat area and other locations)

**Early April** — Shinjuku Japanese Classes (First Semester) begins

13 — International Exchange Salon

**Mid-April** — Peony-Viewing (Yakuoin Shrine)

**20 to May 5** — Azalea Festival (Kaichu Inari Jinja Shrine)

### May

11 — International Exchange Salon

**Mid-May** — Oyako (Family) Japanese-Language Class

### June

**Planned in early June** — Consultation for Foreign Resident Parents of Children Who Wish to Pursue High School Education

8 — International Exchange Salon

9 — Japanese-Language Speech Contest "Shabereon '07"

### July

13 — International Exchange Salon

**25 to 28** — Kagurazaka Festival

28 — Shinjuku Eisa Festival



"Koi-Nobori" Carp Streamers Are a Symbol of Success in Life

The next issue of Shinjuku News will be published in June 2007. Shinjuku News is available at various public facilities such as Shinjuku City Office, Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, Branch Offices and public libraries.

## Special Feature

# We Will Help You Look for a Job

## Safe and Worry-Free – Foreign Resident Employment Service Center

Are you struggling with such thoughts as, “I came to Japan with a visa that allows me to work in Japan, but...” “I would like to work part-time...” “I would like to work in Japan, making full use of the things I studied in Japan as a foreign student...” but do not know how to look for a job? The Tokyo Employment Service Center for Foreigners helps such foreign residents with their job-hunt efforts. For this issue, we paid a visit to the Center.



About 100 visitors per day come for consultations.

### What Types of Services Are Available?

Since this is a public service provided by the national government, all consultations and introductions are provided free of charge.

- 1 Consultations for foreign residents who have a visa that allows them to work in Japan and would like to work full- or part-time, and introductions to potential employers.
- 2 Provision of information to foreign students and students entering a new school who are looking for part-time work.
- 3 Consultation and job-hunt guidance for foreign students who are attending college and would like to work in Japan after graduating.
- 4 Consultations and introductions to employers for those of Japanese ancestry.
- 5 Acceptance of applications for employment with companies that want to hire foreign residents, provision of job information for foreign residents and consultations on employment management.

(2) Visas such as a “Engineer,” “Specialist in Humanities/International Services,” or “Skilled Labor,” which restrict the bearer in terms of the types of employment he/she is legally entitled to engage in.

(3) Visas such as a “College Student,” “Precollege Student” or “Dependent,” which do not permit employment without authorization for activities other than those permitted by the visa type.

You must pay careful attention to the visa type, as visas (2) and (3) have various restrictions. Please ask for advice at the Center.

**Q What is the average hourly wage or monthly salary?**

**A** The average wage for people working full-time in the metropolitan Tokyo area is about ¥210,000 to ¥220,000. The average hourly wage for part-time work is about ¥900 to ¥1,000. These figures vary depending on the type of job, and the person’s work experience and Japanese-language ability.

**Q How many people have actually found work through the Center?**

**A** During FY2005, the Center was able to help 2,318 regular foreign residents and 244 newly graduated foreign students find employment.

**Q Are there particular skills that are an advantage to have when looking for a job in Japan?**

**A** Of course, it is good to have basic Japanese conversation skills. It is also helpful to be able to read and write “hiragana,” “katakana” and simple “kanji.”

### Let’s Try Asking for Advice...

The Center has access to registered information on job openings and can search its database based on conditions such as the required visa type, language skills, work experience, and licensed skills. There are also interpreters at hand who speak English, Chinese, Portuguese and Spanish.



There is also a “Help Wanted” display in English.

**Q What kinds of jobs can you introduce me to?**

**A** There are all kinds of jobs, for example, in the service industry. One thing you can be sure of is that the Center introduces you to companies that accept foreign residents. These days, there are a lot of “Help Wanted” ads in the IT industry. Also, Japanese corporations that are spreading their business overseas are looking for personnel who can communicate and coordinate business with local factories.

**Q What kind of visa do I need to work?**

**A** There are 27 types of visas in total. These include:  
(1) Visas such as “Permanent Resident” or “Spouse or Child of Japanese National,” which allow for any type of employment in any industry;



Rows of Consultation Booths

## If You Find a Help-Wanted Ad You Like...



Consultations can be conducted through an interpreter.

The Center contacts the company and, after arranging an interview date, issues a Letter of Introduction, which is required in order to respond to the Help-Wanted ad. The applicant then does an interview and prepares the required documents.

### **Q** What should I do for the interview?

**A** The first impression you make at the interview is very important. Be sure to be on time, have a neat and clean appearance, and greet the interviewer in the beginning as well as saying "Thank you" at the end of the interview, in Japanese. Since they often ask you questions about what is written on your resume, be sure to listen and answer all questions carefully.

### **Q** How do I write a resume?

**A** Resume forms are sold at stationery stores. Your resume is the first point of contact with the company you are applying to. To show that you are keen, make sure you write your resume accurately, carefully and in a way that is easy to understand. Write your academic background and work experience without the use of abbreviations, and be sure to attach a photo of yourself.

If you are not sure about something, please come to the Center for a consultation before submitting your resume.

## If You Are Hired

Labor standard-related laws, employment insurance, accident insurance, health insurance and pension programs also apply to foreign residents who work in Japan.

### **Q** What should I be careful about if I am hired?

**A** Confirm the date of your first day of employment and prepare the necessary documents before the deadline. Also, be sure to check the labor terms outlined in the Labor Contract. To prevent any future problems, it is important not to hesitate about asking questions in advance, with regard to the hours and pay involved, for example.

### **Q** What should I be careful about when at work?

**A** Do your best to communicate with the people around you and never be late or absent without calling in.

### **Q** Finally, what advice do you have for foreign residents who are job hunting?

**A** In order to work and lead a safe and comfortable life in Japan, it is important to improve your Japanese-language ability, and to be aware of the laws, customs and rules in Japan. It is a good idea to make friends with as many Japanese people as possible.

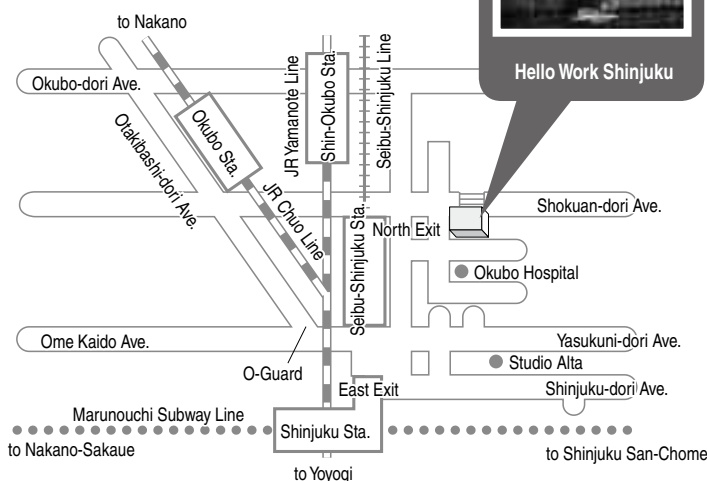
Please avail of the Center's job assistance services.

"I makes me so happy when an applicant finds a job and calls to say 'Thank you.'  
Ms. Yoko Tsuboi, Supervising Career Instructor



## Information of Tokyo Employment Service Center for Foreigners

**Address:** Hello Work Shinjuku  
(Kabukicho Government Bldg. 3F)  
2-42-10 Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku  
160-8489  
Tel: 03-3204-8609  
Fax: 03-3204-8619  
URL: <http://www.tfemploy.go.jp>



**Hours:** Weekdays, 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

\* We recommend coming in the morning, as it is less crowded then.

\* Since the Center can become very crowded, it is a good idea to make a reservation at least a day before you would like to visit.

### Required Items:

Your foreign resident registration card and your passport are required.		
Other Required Items:	Those with a "College Student," "Precollege Student" or "Dependent" visa who would like to work part-time	Certificate of Authorization for activities other than those permitted by the visa type
	Specially designated activities ("working holiday," for example)	"Designation Letter" issued by the Minister of Justice
	Consultations for foreign students seeking employment after graduation	Student ID

**Nearest Station:** A 13-minute walk from JR Shinjuku Station East Exit.

A seven-minute walk from JR Shin-Okubo Station.

A one-minute walk from Seibu-Shinjuku Station North Exit.



## Living Together

### Forefront of Multicultural Living

The population of children in Shinjuku who have an international cultural background (for example, children of foreign residents who come to live in Japan or children whose mother or father is a foreign resident) is said to be over 70,000.

Many of these children are not able to keep up with their studies because they cannot speak Japanese well and are sometimes bullied due to cultural differences.

In this issue, we spoke with members of the NGO group CCS (a student association that helps children from all over the world), which helps such children mainly with their textbook studies.

## We Want to Help Children – CCS Program

### Tell us about the activities of CCS.

CCS was established in 1995, and today has classrooms in six locations in metropolitan Tokyo (Hachioji, Musashi-sakai, Meguro, Nerima, Shinjuku and Nippori).

We work with children on a one-to-one basis, and help in the area where they need the most help, for example, with textbook studies or preparations for entrance exams. We are currently helping approximately 200 students. A growing number of volunteers, who formerly received help from us as children and went on to complete high school or college education, now help us out.

Besides providing study sessions, the group also holds events such as “*Otanoshimi-kai*” (“Fun Event”). At the yearend party, we had the children describe the culture of their home country. The party venue really had a multicultural atmosphere! Through these activities, we are working to support the children’s mental attitude as well, so that they can take pride in their roots and live with a sense of pride.

### Are these activities mostly organized by students?

That’s right. Since the students who teach are close in age to the children, the children think of them as brothers or sisters,



Everyone is studying seriously.



**Hiroki Ishii**  
(a junior at Senshu University): I really like kids! It’s hard for some children to open up, but as long as we keep talking to them with a smile, they gradually get used to us.

**Naoaki Funatsu**  
(a junior at Rikkyo University, Representative of the CCS Shinjuku Classroom): I want to help kids who are kind of at a disadvantage. I want to help children who are having a hard time.

for high school. Some may be good at English, but have problems with Japanese. Their skills and grades can vary depending on the subject. And since classes get even more difficult once you get into high school, it’s hard to keep up when they are held in Japanese.

### The classes are basically held in Japanese, right?

For children who do not speak any Japanese, we introduce them to an organization that teaches Japanese, and have the children build up their Japanese-language skills, first of all. The reason is because if they don’t understand Japanese, they will not be able to understand their classes in school.

In the future, I think we need to offer help with the Japanese language, as well.

### What makes this program worthwhile?

(Funatsu) When I see the children grow. Once a child I had taught entered a speech contest and said, “The reason I am able to be here today is thanks to the support of a lot of people. I am really grateful to these people.” I was deeply moved, not only to see how that child had developed the ability to speak Japanese so well, but also to see how the child had grown emotionally.

(Ishii) I was really happy when a child who had graduated from CCS became a university student and said, “I will always feel like CCS is my home.” Also, some children happily report to me, “What we studied came up in the test!” It really feels worthwhile when we feel we are helping the children.

### If You Are Interested, Come to a CCS Shinjuku Classroom

#### ● Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza

**Date and Time:** Saturdays, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

\* Please see P5 for the address and map.

#### ● Okubo Community Center, 3F Meeting Room (2-12-7 Okubo)

**Date and Time:** Wednesdays, 6 to 8:30 p.m.

**Contact:** Funatsu, 090-9372-5195

CCS URL: <http://www.ccs-ngo.org>

### What are the children who come to the Shinjuku classrooms like?

The Shinjuku classrooms are located in Okubo Community Center and Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza. In total, there are about 30 children. Some are in elementary school and high school but most are in junior high school. Some children come to the classroom after seeing a flier, and others hear about the classroom by word of mouth. Some children continue to come even after they pass their entrance exams

# Take Advantage of Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza Services

Various services are available, such as Japanese-language classes and exchange events, consultations and information for everyday living, and more. In this issue, we will describe the various sections of the Plaza.

## Let's Have Fun Learning Japanese at the Japanese-Language Study Corner

Shinjuku Nihongo Network (SNN) volunteers can help you with conversational Japanese, any questions you may have, or your studies. Please come directly to the venue during the following hours. Although the service is free of charge, a fee may apply for teaching materials in certain cases.



If there's something you don't understand, feel free to ask for help!

- Japanese-Language and Kanji Characters Mondays, 2 to 4 p.m.
- Japanese with Everybody Together Tuesdays, 2 to 4 p.m.
- Hiragana and Katakana Characters Thursdays, 1 to 2 p.m.
- Japanese-Language Saturday Salon Saturdays, 2 to 4 p.m.

**Inquiries:** Shinjuku Nihongo Network (SNN) Secretariat (Available only when classes are in session)

## Foreign Residents Consultation Corner

Consultations in various languages are available to those who are having difficulty adjusting to life in Japan. Suggestions and advice for solving problems are provided free of charge. Please feel free to take advantage of this service.

**Hours:** 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 5 p.m.  
(The Reception Desk closes at 4:30 p.m.)

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
Korean (Afternoon only)	Chinese and Thai	English *Except when the building is closed (2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month)	English, Chinese and Myanmarese	Korean and English (3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month only)

\* Consultations on visas and everyday living topics (in Japanese only) are also conducted on the 2nd Friday of the month, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

## Let's Participate in the International Exchange Salon

Why not chat using a mix of Japanese and foreign languages with friends from countries all over the world? To join, simply come on the day of the event. The participation fee is ¥200 per person.

**Day and Time:** 2nd Friday of the month, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

## Shinjuku Foreign Residents Center

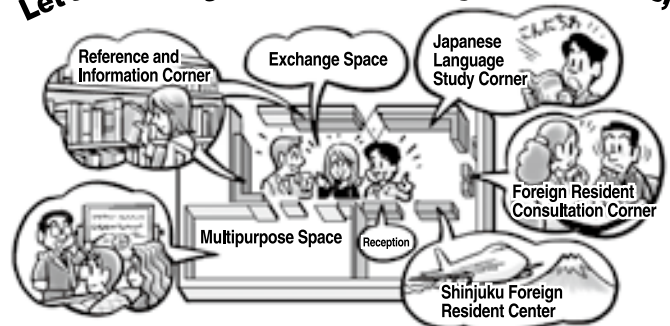
– Information on Immigration and Visas for Foreign Residents

Specialized consultants are available for consultations on immigration procedures and visas for foreign residents. Telephone consultations are also available. Consultations are also provided in English and Chinese.

**Hours:** Weekdays except when the building is closed (2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month), 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

**Inquiries:** Tel: 03-3209-6177

Let's gather beyond our differences of countries, culture and language!



## Why Not Join the Network?

The Plaza has a communications network composed of mainly community residents and groups that support foreign residents. The Network provides an opportunity for residents to exchange opinions on disaster prevention, education assistance for children of foreign residents, and everyday living topics, and provides related information. It also organizes classes and events. If you are interested, by all means join in!



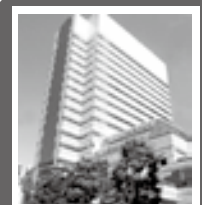
**Hours:** 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**Closed:** 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month and during the year-end/New Year holidays (December 29 through January 3)

**Inquiries:** Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza  
Tel: 03-5291-5171 Fax: 03-5291-5172

**URL:** <http://www.shinjukubunka.or.jp/tabunka/japanese/index.html>

**Address:** Hygeia 11F, 2-44-1 Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku 160-0021  
A 10-minute walk from JR Shinjuku Station East Exit, and a five-minute walk from Seibu-Shinjuku Station.



Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza (Hygeia 11F)

# Japanese-Language Speech Contest “Shabereon '07”

## Speech Contest Runner-Up Gives Tips for Learning Japanese

A total of 17 participants from six different countries participated in last year's speech contest “Shabereon,” including student representatives of Japanese-language schools and members of the general public.

Contestants spoke enthusiastically, with humor at times, about matters such as things in Japan that seemed strange to them, their faux pas and the cultural differences they observe.

Among the participants was Jeon Kwansoo (from Korea; affiliated with Samu Language School), the runner-up of the speech contest. We asked him for tips for people who wish to improve their Japanese-language ability.



Jeon Kwansoo, who loves studying the Japanese-language, says, “I like the flowing sound of the Japanese language. In the future, I would like to make use of my language skills and be a tour guide.”

### – What made you decide to participate in “Shabereon”?

I wanted to test myself and see how good my Japanese was. I also thought this was a great opportunity for me to express my thoughts. And besides, I enjoy attention! (Laughing)

### – How much did you practice?

I practiced for about a month. I wrote up the speech, worked on the pronunciation, and practiced in front of my Japanese-language

school classmates about five times. I think practicing in front of my friends was more embarrassing than the actual contest! But thanks to those rehearsals, I think I was able to speak smoothly even though I was nervous.

### – How do you feel about being the runner-up?

On the day of the contest, the other participants were so good that I was kind of depressed until they announced the results. I really didn't expect to be the runner-up. It was a real boost for my self-confidence.

### – What was the hard part about studying Japanese?

I think for me, it was the pronunciation. I still need to practice sounds that we don't have in Korean, like the long sounds.



Speaking on the theme of, “Only One Me in the World,” Jeon Kwansoo explained that our national and cultural differences make everyone unique and worthwhile.

I try to copy the pronunciation of Japanese people while keeping my own weak points in mind.

### – What do you think are the keys to improving Japanese-language skills?

I think it's important to be in an environment where you have to speak Japanese. It's good to make a lot of Japanese friends. The more opportunities you have to speak Japanese, the more you will pick up conversational skills that aren't taught at school. I ask my friends to tell me when I'm using the wrong expression.

### – How did you make Japanese friends?

I became friends with a Japanese tourist in Seoul, my hometown, and when I came to Japan, I was able to widen my circle of friends through the same friend. As long as you have an interest in Japanese things, and talk to Japanese people about things we have in common, the conversation just seems to take off. In my case, I like music, so I often talk about Japanese singers.

### – Do you have any advice for people who are studying Japanese?

I think it's hard for a lot of people in Japan to study Japanese because they are too busy with their part-time job, trying to make a living. I think it's important to make time to study. And I think it's important to become familiar with Japanese culture through hobbies and leisure time activities. In order to understand what Japan is really about, I think you need to understand Japanese culture and society, as well as the Japanese language.

## Why Not Challenge Yourself by Participating in the Japanese-Language Speech Contest?

Make a seven-minute speech by expressing your thoughts and putting your diligent studies to good use!

**Date and Time:** June 9 (Sat.), 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. (Friendly Gathering: 5 to 6:30 p.m.)

**Location:** Yotsuya Kumin Hall (87 Naitomachi)  
**Eligibility:** Those who live, work or go to school in Shinjuku, whose first language is not Japanese. About 15 contestants can participate. If the number of applications exceeds the capacity, preliminaries will be held.

**Theme:** As a rule, contestants are free to choose their own theme. (Must be original and unpublished.)

**To Apply:** Submit a completed Speech Contest Application Form and your planned speech (in Japanese, about 1,500 to 2,500 characters) in person or by mail by May 8 (Tue.).

\* The Speech Contest Application Form is avail-

able at the Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza and the Cultural and International Division (Shinjuku City Office 1F Counter No. 9). You can also download the form from the website (see below).

**Sponsored by:** Tokyo Yotsuya Lions Club, Shinjuku City Office, Shinjuku Foundation for Culture and International Exchange

**Inquiries/Application:** Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza  
Tel: 03-5291-5171 Fax: 03-5291-5172

**URL:** <http://www.shinjukubunka.or.jp/tabunka/japanese/index.html>

**Address:** Hygeia 11F, 2-44-1 Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku 160-0021





# Resident Tax Will Change as of FY2007

The tax system is due to change to further decentralize the influence of the national government in local issues, based on the policy, "Deal with Local Matters Locally." By changing the tax rates for Resident Tax (local tax) and Income Tax (national tax), about three trillion yen of tax funds will be transferred from the national government to the local government.

## ► How will the rates for Resident Tax (Special City Resident Tax and Metropolitan Resident Tax) and Income Tax change?

⇒ Until now, Resident Tax payment was based on three rates: 5-, 10- and 13% of a resident's annual income. This, however, will change to a level 10% regardless of the amount of income.

⇒ Until now, Income Tax payment was based on four rates ranging from 10- to 37% of a resident's annual income. This, however, will change to six rates ranging from 5- to 40%.

## ► When will this change begin?

⇒ With regard to Resident Tax, the change will be effective as of June 2007. With regard to Income Tax, the change will be effective as of January 2007 for those whose tax is collected at source, and from March 2008 for those who submit a "Kakutei Shinkoku" ("Income Tax Report").

## ► Will the tax burden increase or decrease?

⇒ The overall tax burden will remain the same. Most people will pay less Income Tax and more Resident Tax.

## ► Other Revisions – The Elimination of the Special Tax Reduction

⇒ The Special Tax Reduction, which was introduced in 1999 as an economic measure to alleviate the tax burden, will be eliminated as of FY2007 due to recent economic conditions.

Although the tax burden for taxpayers will not change due to the transfer of tax revenue sources, it will increase with the elimination of this reduction.

**Inquiries:** Taxation Section No.1 and No.2, Taxation Division (Shinjuku City Office Main Bldg. 6F), Tel: 03-5273-4107 and 4108

## A Leisurely Stroll in Shinjuku City

No. 7

### Why not take a Stroll Along Kagurazaka Slope and Take in the Atmosphere of Japan in the Good Old Days?

If you exit JR Iidabashi Station West Exit and cross over the Ushigome-bashi Bridge, you will see a slope of about 400 meters that stretches toward the north. This is Kakurazaka Slope. There are various stories as to how the slope got its name, but the predominant story is that "kagura" ("imperial songs") and dances were performed during festivals related to Takada Hachiman Jinja Shrine in Nishi-Waseda, which took place at the imperial inn (or annex festival area) located on the middle of this slope ("saka" in Japanese).

Walk along Kagurazaka-dori Avenue, which is bustling with people, turn right at the second intersection, and you will enter a street (Naka-dori Avenue) that is so quiet, the hustle and bustle of the main street will disappear like a dream. If you then turn left, you will enter a neighborhood called "Kakurembo Yokocho (Hide-and-Seek Lane)." Here, the streets are lined with refined Japanese restaurants. In the evening, this area has a traditional ambience with the sound "shamisen" lute music playing softly from somewhere indoors.

Halfway down Kagurazaka-dori Avenue, is a gate painted vivid red and a temple in honor of Bishamonten, the protective god (Zenkoku-ji Temple).

The neighborhood on the opposite side of the street is Hyogo Yokocho (Hyogo Lane). The stone-paved street and stone steps create a special atmosphere. With a number of stylish French restaurants and coffee shops located here, Kagurazaka maintains a Japanese atmosphere while actively blending in new things of other cultures in a way that is completely comfortable and charming. For this reason, this area is still popular and bustling with people today.

Since several hundred shops are located in Kagurazaka, for example,

shops as well as restaurants with traditional and unique items, we recommend that you do some research before coming to the area. However, it is also fun to visit the area aimlessly and simply enjoy all its refreshing surprises.

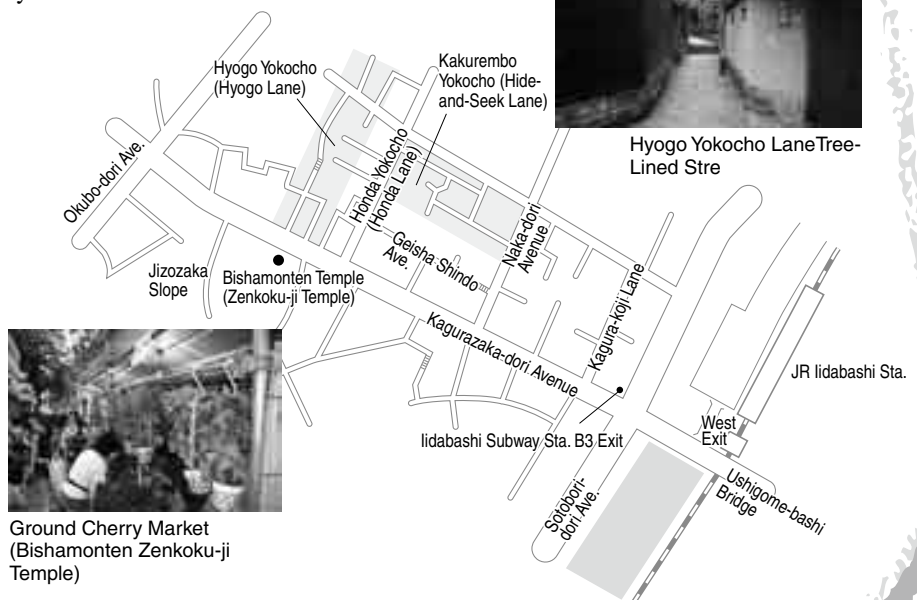
The Kagurazaka Festival is held in late July (scheduled for July 25 to 28 this year), a time when the area is crowded with people.



"Horoku" Moxa: This is a traditional ceremony that has a history of 300 years. At Bishamonten Zenkoku-ji Temple, a "horoku" ("unglazed") dish is placed on the head, on top of which moxa is burned. Good health is prayed for in this way.



Hyogo Yokocho Lane Tree-Lined Street



Ground Cherry Market (Bishamonten Zenkoku-ji Temple)

## Shinjuku City Scholarships for Foreign Students

Shinjuku City offers scholarships (¥240,000 for one year) to foreign students (tentatively, for 10 persons) with high grades, who are having financial difficulties with regard to continuing their studies.

**Eligibility:** Those who fulfill all of the following requirements.

- ① Those with a “College Student” visa, who are not government-sponsored foreign students. (Students who are dispatched by foreign governments or students studying at their own expense.)
- ② Those who have studied for one year or longer in Shinjuku, on a master’s or doctor’s course at a graduate school, as an undergraduate or junior college student, or at a special training school, and are planning to continue their studies for at least another year.
- ③ Those who have completed foreign resident registration procedures in Shinjuku City and are currently living in Shinjuku.
- ④ Those with excellent grades, who are of good character and are experiencing financial difficulty with regard to continuing with their studies in Japan.

**To Apply:** Applications are accepted every year in May. Please apply at the coordination section of your school office. The Shinjuku City Office will make a final decision after a letter of recommendation is received from your school.

**Inquiries:** Cultural and International Division, Tel: 03-5273-4069

## Announcement from the Foreign Resident Registration Desk

The Foreign Resident Registration Desk is extremely crowded during the months of March, April, July, October and January. To shorten the waiting time for everyone, please cooperate by keeping the following points in mind:

- Please come between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m., as it is comparatively less crowded even during peak seasons.
- Since days before and after holidays, such as Mondays and Fridays, are particularly busy, please try as much as possible to come between Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- If you are completing initial registration procedures for a group of 10 or more people, for example, for a Japanese-language school or training program, please call in advance.
- You can apply for a copy of the Certificate of Registered Items at the Foreign Resident Registry of your local city office.

**Inquiries:** Foreign Resident Registration Desk, Family and Resident Registration Division, Tel: 03-5273-4094

For information on other scholarships, visit the following websites:

Independent Administrative Institution – Japan Student Services Organization

URL: [http://www.jasso.go.jp/study\\_j/scholarships.html](http://www.jasso.go.jp/study_j/scholarships.html)

Japan Study Support – Information for Foreign Students

URL: <http://www.jpss.jp>

Or consult the school you attend.

## Multilingual Information on the History and Culture of Shinjuku!

“Walking Guide to Shinjuku Town” is published in Japanese, English, Chinese and Korean. Divided into 10 walking courses, the book describes all the charming qualities of Shinjuku, such as its shrines, historical remnants,

streets and natural greenery. Why not walk around Shinjuku, starting with your own local neighborhood?

This guidebook is available free of charge at Shinjuku City Office, Branch Offices and Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza.



**Inquiries:** Cultural and International Division, Tel: 03-5273-4069

## Study Japanese at a Class in Shinjuku

Classes for beginners take place at eight locations. Start by learning how to greet others in Japanese!



**Day and Time:** Monday through Friday, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**Fee:** ¥3,000 per semester for classes once a week

¥6,000 per semester for classes twice a week

**Inquiries:** Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, Tel: 03-5291-5171

## Get Useful Information! – Information in Foreign Languages

Besides this newspaper, Shinjuku City also provides information in foreign languages in “Information on Everyday Living” and “Plaza News,” and on its website.

These publications include useful information on everyday living and public services, particularly with regard to disaster

prevention, medical treatment and welfare programs, as well as information on classes and events.

“Information on Everyday Living” and “Plaza News” are available free of charge at Shinjuku City Office, branch offices and Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza.



● Foreign Language Website URL (updated on the 15th of every month):

Japanese: <http://www.city.shinjuku.tokyo.jp/foreign/japanese/>

English: <http://www.city.shinjuku.tokyo.jp/foreign/english/>

Chinese: <http://www.city.shinjuku.tokyo.jp/foreign/chinese/>

Korean: <http://www.city.shinjuku.tokyo.jp/foreign/korean/>

If you have any comments, suggestions or themes/information you would like covered, please send a fax: 03-3209-1500.