

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. 18

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More than 80,000 Users! Introducing Strong Allies for All Foreign Residents

The Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza (hereinafter referred to as "the Plaza"), which is popular among foreign residents as a venue for Japanese-language studies and friendly exchanges, is entering its fifth year since its establishment. The Plaza is planning to establish a new consultation service center to address visas and other matters in this autumn. Please take advantage of the Plaza, which is sure to become even more convenient!

★ Japanese Language Study Corner

Many teaching materials and textbooks are available here for those who want to learn or teach Japanese. You can read through these materials freely and study independently. In addition, Japanese-language study sessions are conducted by volunteers free of charge on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday afternoons. Reservations for these sessions are not necessary.



★ Foreign Residents' Advisory Corner



Please feel free to stop by if you have any questions or concerns about everyday life in Japan. Consultations are offered free of charge to help resolve any issue.

English: Wednesdays (excluding days the Plaza is closed), Thursdays, and the 3rd Friday of the month

Chinese: Tuesdays and Thursdays

Korean: Monday afternoons and Fridays

Thai: Tuesdays

Myanmar: Thursdays

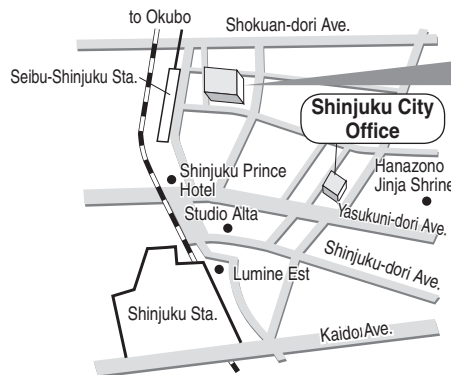
★ Multipurpose Space

Besides Japanese-language classes, various seminars and events are held here. Among them, International Exchange Salon, where Japanese and non-Japanese residents are free to chat, is very well attended each time it is held. Why not use these facilities as a venue for telling everyone about the language and culture of your country?



★ Reference and Information Corner

Various information and reference materials are available for you to read, such as useful information for foreign residents on everyday living, classes and events, city administration services, local residents' associations, and volunteer programs.



Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza (Hygeia 11F)

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

Web Site: www.shinjukubunka.or.jp/tabunka/japanese/index.html

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

The next issue of Shinjuku News will be published in January 2010. Shinjuku News is available at various public facilities such as Shinjuku City Office, Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, Branch Offices and public libraries.

It Is the Season of Events! Autumn in Shinjuku Is Full of Fun

Shinjuku Art Heaven

Shinjuku Art Heaven starts with a parade of marching bands from local elementary schools and universities; the parade goes through Shinjuku from east to west. At each site, there will be a variety of entertainment, such as performances of brass bands and Awa-Odori Dancing. Please come and enjoy the event where the town of Shinjuku is transformed into a theater.



Date: October 11 (Sun.)

☆ **Parade (Starts at 11:10 a.m.)**

Parade Course: Intersection of Shinjuku-dori Avenue and Meiji-dori Avenue – Shinjuku-dori Avenue – in front of Alta Building – O-Guard – Shinjuku Station West Exit – Kogakuin University

☆ **Festa (1 to 5 p.m.)**

Location: Various sites in all directions, radiating from Shinjuku Station (Shinjuku Station Square, Shinjuku Southern Terrace, and other locations)

Program: Marching bands, cheerleading performances, street performances, and more

☆ **Heaven Artists in Shinjuku (1:30 to 4:30 p.m.)**

Location: Six locations on Shinjuku-dori Avenue

Program: Street performances

Inquiries: Culture, Tourism and International Affairs Division, Tel: 03-5273-3504



Shinjuku Sports Recreation 2009

Your body cannot help but move instinctively! There will be all kinds of fun events on Sports Day in Shinjuku! There will be an enjoyable convention of booths where you can experience traditional Japanese martial arts, such as *kyudo* (archery) and *naginata* (halberd), as well as sports, such as volleyball, futsal, and swimming! Popular beauty and health programs, such as aerobics, Pilates, and yoga, will be free of charge, and you will be able to try everything without advanced reservations! Simply come to the site on the day of the event dressed in comfortable sportswear.



Date and Time: October 12 (Mon., a national holiday), 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Location: Shinjuku Cosmic Sports Center (3-1-2 Okubo), Shinjuku Sports Center (3-5-1 Okubo) and other locations

Inquiries: Shinjuku City Lifelong Learning Foundation, Tel: 03-3232-7701

Takadanobaba Yabusame (Horseback Archery) Demonstration



Yabusame is the art, practice, and ritual of traditional Japanese horseback archery. A *yabusame* archer shoots an arrow at a target while riding a galloping horse. It is said that the Takadanobaba style of *yabusame* began in 1728, in the Edo period, when the eighth shogun, Tokugawa Yoshimune, ordered it as a prayer offered at Anahachimangu Shrine for the healing of his son's illness.

A *yabusame* procession will depart from Anahachimangu Shrine and make its way to Toyama Park, after which archers will shoot at three targets while riding galloping horses. Note: The event may be canceled in the event of rain.



Fee: Free of charge (Standing room only)

Date and Time: October 12 (Mon., a national holiday), 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Location: Toyama Park Hakoneyama Area (Toyama 3-chome, Shinjuku-ku)

Sponsor: Committee for Preservation of Takadanobaba Yabusame

Inquiries: Shinjuku Historical Museum, Tel: 03-3359-2131

How to Get There: An eight-minute walk from Waseda Station on the Tokyo Metro Tozai Line; a 10-minute walk from Nishi-Waseda Station on the Tokyo Metro Fukutoshin Line; or a five-minute walk from the Baba-Shitamachi bus stop, taking the Gaku (学) 02 Toei Bus heading toward Waseda Seimon bus stop

Fureai Festa 2009

This annual local festival will be held in Toyama Park. There will be various performances, such as *taiko* (Japanese drums), jazz music, and Japanese and foreign dance shows, at two stage areas. There will be plenty of events,



vendors selling local specialties, and various stalls in eight plazas. There will be something fun for everyone, from children to adults. Why not step out with your family to enjoy the city's biggest festival?

Date and Time: October 18 (Sun.), 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: Toyama Park Okubo Area (3-5 Okubo)
How to Get There: A three-minute walk from Nishi-Waseda Station on the Tokyo Metro Fukutoshin Line, an approximate 10-minute walk from Takadanobaba Station on the JR Yamanote Line or Seibu-Shinjuku Line, or a roughly 15-minute walk from JR Shin-Okubo Station
Note: Because there is no parking available, please refrain from coming by car.
Inquiries: Culture, Tourism and International Affairs Division, Tel: 03-5273-3504

Recruiting Students

Oyako (Family) Japanese-language Class for Foreign Residents

Japanese-language skills are carefully taught to families who do not speak Japanese. Because there are babysitting services, families with small children can attend with peace of mind.



Term: Every Saturday from January 16 through March 20, 10 a.m. to 12 noon; total of 10 sessions
Location: Okubo Elementary School
Eligibility: Children and parents who live in Shinjuku City (20 families on a first come, first served basis) and are able to understand Japanese at the introductory/beginner level
Fee: ¥500 per person (for insurance)
To Apply: Send a fax or e-mail to Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza (see page 1). Please be sure to write down (1) the name of the parent (with *furigana*) and language that he/she understands well, (2) the child's name (with *furigana*), age, and language that the child understands well, (3) address, (4) telephone and fax number(s), and (5) "Oyako (Family) Japanese-Language Class." Detailed information will be sent to all applicants.

Shinjuku Asia Festival 2009

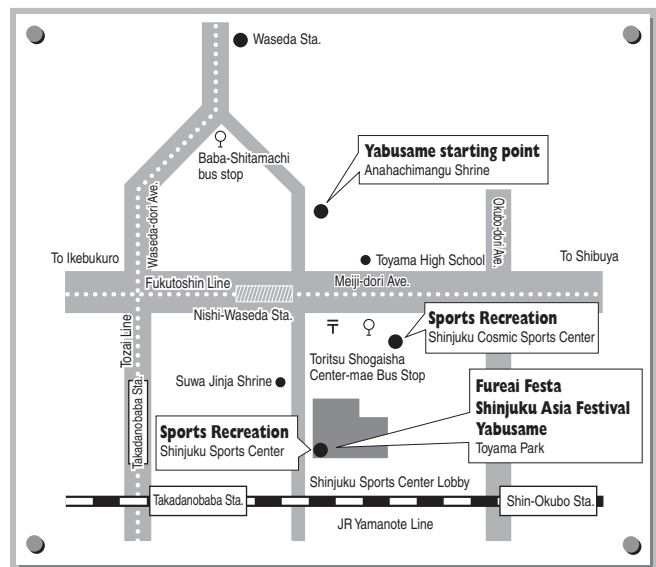
Let's engage in friendly exchanges in the local community while enjoying Kawachi-Ondo (a kind of Japanese folk song and dancing), ethnic-food booths, and ethnic Asian dances together with Japanese residents.

As a foreign resident, you may be concerned as to whether you can receive help in times of disaster. There will be an earthquake simulation truck and an exhibit of disaster prevention goods.

Date and Time: October 24 (Sat.), 1 to 7 p.m.
Program:

- Earthquake simulation truck and exhibit of disaster prevention goods
- Ethnic Asian dances
- Kawachi-Ondo and more

Location: Toyama Park
Inquiries: Asia Festival Office, Tel: 03-3205-7871



A Gathering of Refugees Settled in Japan

There will be an awards ceremony for refugee supporters followed by performances of Vietnamese, Laotian, and Cambodian songs and dances by refugees from these countries who are now living in Japan. Everyone who attends will be given a small commemorative gift. We are looking forward to welcoming as many people as possible!



Date and Time: November 14 (Sat.), 1 to 4:30 p.m.
Location: Large Hall, Shinjuku Bunka Center, Shinjuku-ku
Inquiries: Refugee Assistance Headquarters (RHQ), Foundation for the Welfare and Education of Asian People, Tel: 03-3449-7049
 Web Site: www.rhq.jp/

Beware of the New Strain of Influenza: Influenza A (H1N1)

Symptoms of the new strain of influenza, such as a sudden fever, coughing, and sore throat, are similar to those of seasonal influenza. Most people who were infected with the H1N1 virus recovered after exhibiting only mild symptoms. Treatment with antiviral drugs, such as Tamiflu and Relenza, has been found effective.

Because the number of flu patients is expected to increase in the next autumn-winter season, it is important to practice good hygiene and undergo a health examination at a medical institution if you develop any flu symptoms.

To Prevent Infection

- ① Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and running water for 15 seconds or longer.
- ② Wear a mask in crowded areas, cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze, and be sure to gargle often.
- ③ If you need to step out, avoid crowds as much as possible.
- ④ Get plenty of rest and proper nutrition to maintain your strength.

What Is “Cough Etiquette”?

- When you cough or sneeze, cover your nose and mouth with a tissue, turn your face away from others, and keep a distance of about one meter or more from the people around you as much as possible.
- Throw used tissues away in a trash can that has a lid to prevent germs from spreading.
- If you have flu symptoms, be sure to wear a mask.



If You Show Symptoms of the New Strain of Influenza

◆ If you have a regular doctor and/or know of any neighborhood medical institutions:

Ask the doctor/medical institution about examination hours and methods and go for an examination. (Be sure to wear a mask when you go.)

◆ If you do not have a regular doctor or know of any neighborhood medical institutions:

Please consult one of the consultation centers below.

◆ If you have serious symptoms, such as difficulty breathing or stupor:

Please call a medical institution with inpatient facilities and go for an examination.

If You Speak Japanese

Weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Shinjuku City H1N1 Flu Consultation Center
Tel: 03-5273-3836

On Saturdays, Sundays, and National Holidays and Outside Regular Business Hours:
Tokyo Metropolitan H1N1 Flu Consultation Center
Tel: 0570-03-1203

If You Do Not Speak Japanese

Tokyo Metropolitan Health and Medical Information Center (Himawari)

Tel: 03-5285-8181

Daily, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Languages: English, Chinese, Korean, Thai, and Spanish



Note: Consultation procedures are subject to change, depending on the pandemic situation. Be sure to refer to and follow the latest information.

AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) Are Very Relevant Issues

Every year, December 1 is World AIDS Day. Let's take this opportunity to obtain accurate information on AIDS and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and work on their prevention.

If you have an STI, it is easy to catch HIV, which causes AIDS. In addition, because some STIs do not have obvious symptoms, they are easily transmitted to a sexual partner without the infected person knowing it. Anyone can have an STI and be infected with AIDS. Because early detection and early treatment are extremely important in curing these illnesses, it is a good idea to seek consultation and undergo testing if you suspect the slightest possibility of having these diseases.

1. Shinjuku City HIV Consultation and Testing

Languages: English, Portuguese, Spanish, Thai, and Japanese

(1) AIDS Telephone Consultation, Tel: 03-3369-7110

Consultations are conducted on an anonymous basis free of charge.

Consultation Days: Thursdays, 1 to 5 p.m. (The service in Thai is available twice a month on Thursdays, on days that HIV antibody tests are conducted.)

(2) HIV Antibody Testing, Tel: 03-3369-7110

STI testing (for syphilis and chlamydia) can be given at the same time HIV antibody testing is given. Tests are conducted on an anonymous basis free of charge. For testing in a language other than Japanese, please come directly to the site.

☎ Testing Days: As a rule, two Thursdays a month, 1 to 2:30 p.m. For more information, please visit the foreign-language Web site. www.city.shinjuku.tokyo.jp/foreign/japanese/oshirase/teiki/aids.html

☎ Location: Nishi-Shinjuku Public Health Center (7-5-8

Nishi-Shinjuku)

Reservations for Consultation/Testing in Japanese

Reservations for Testing: Disease Prevention Section, Public Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Division, Shinjuku City Public Health Center
Tel: 03-5273-3859

Telephone Consultation: Health Consultation Section, Public Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Division, Shinjuku City Public Health Center
Tel: 03-5273-3862

2. Japanese Foundation for AIDS Prevention (JFAP) Support Line, Tel: 03-5940-2127

Available in Japanese, English, Spanish, Portuguese, Thai, Chinese, Korean, and Tagalog; please use a touch-tone line.

☎ Consultation Days: Daily on a 24-hour basis

Supplementary Income Payment (Teigaku Kyufukin) and Special Allowance for Child-Rearing

Deadlines to Apply for the Supplementary Income Payment and Special Allowance for Child-Rearing Are Drawing Near.

© Application Deadline for the Supplementary Income Payment: October 6 (Tue.) (Must be postmarked on or before this date)

© Application Deadline for the Special Allowance for Child-Rearing: October 16 (Fri.) (Must be postmarked on or before this date)

Application deadlines for the Supplementary Income Payment and Special Allowance for Child-Rearing are almost here. Applications will not be accepted after the deadlines. If you have not yet completed application procedures, please do so as soon as possible.

Note: Foreign residents whose visas will expire before the city makes a final decision on these benefits will not be eligible. Please renew your visa at the immigration bureau and complete the designated application forms to update your foreign resident registration information with the Shinjuku City Office.

Inquiries: Shinjuku City Supplementary Income Payment Call Center, Tel:03-5949-1020, (Weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
Supplementary Income Payment General Counseling Corner (Shinjuku City Office Annex 1, 8F), Tel: 03-5273-4208 (Weekdays, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

Some Changes Made to Bicycle Rules

As of July, using umbrellas and cell phones while riding a bicycle is prohibited. This is to prevent bicycle riders from having accidents because these items obstruct the view of the rider and can cause him/her to lose control of the bicycle. Failure to comply will be considered a traffic violation (punishable by a fine of up to ¥50,000). Let's ride bicycles safely by observing the rules.



For information on other bicycle rules, please see the following Web site:
www.city.shinjuku.tokyo.jp/foreign/english/pdf/kuho/news2008/shinjuku0809e.pdf

Inquiries: Bicycle Countermeasures Section, Traffic Affairs Division (Shinjuku City Office Main Bldg. 7F), Tel: 03-5273-3896

September 27



Shinjuku WE Bus Will Start Operations (Subject to Change)

The bus route is approximately five km, running in an east-west circular route from Shinjuku Station's west exit through Kabukicho, Shinjuku 3-chome, Shinjuku Station's south exit, and the metropolitan government building area to Shinjuku Station's west exit again. Traffic in various areas around the station, such as around the department store, restaurants, and movie theater near the east exit as well as around the high-rise buildings, metropolitan government building, and hotels near the west exit, is sure to become smoother. The bus has a skylight so that passengers can enjoy a sense of openness and freedom looking at Shinjuku's cityscape. Also, the bus has a monitor screen and pamphlets with information on local events. In addition, the stops are announced in four languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean).

The fare is ¥100. All-day passes are ¥300. Group discounts as well as park and ride fare will be introduced.

Why not enjoy a leisurely ride on this bus? For a detailed map of the bus route, please see the foreign-language Web site: www.city.shinjuku.tokyo.jp/foreign/english/

Inquiries: Traffic Planning Section, Traffic Affairs Division, Tel: 03-5273-4265

Working toward World Peace

Japan is the only nation in the world to be a victim of atomic bombs. Shinjuku City announced its Peace City Proclamation in 1986 as a municipality that had experienced the flames of war firsthand. In addition, on April 1 of this year, Shinjuku City joined the Mayors for Peace and the National Council of Japan Nuclear Free Local Authorities. Shinjuku City is aiming to work toward the complete elimination of nuclear arms and the achievement of eternal peace.



Light of Peace (in front of the main entrance of Shinjuku City Office)
The flame comes from the peace parks of Hiroshima and Nagasaki cities, which suffered from nuclear attacks.

Inquiries: General Affairs Section, General Affairs Division, Tel: 03-5273-3505

Recruiting Children for Municipal and Private Nursery Schools

Nursery schools are facilities that take care of children on behalf of parents/guardians who are unable to care for their children at home due to work or illness.

Although the eligible age varies with each nursery school, it ranges from as early as 43 days after birth up to the age at which children enter elementary school.

Applications are scheduled to be accepted from mid-December through mid-January for enrollment starting in April of next year.

Each month, the deadline for admission to nursery schools is around the 15th of the preceding month.

Be sure to call and make an appointment to submit an application.

Inquiries: Enrollment Section, Nursery School Division (Shinjuku City Office Main Bldg. 2F), Tel: 03-5273-4527

Recruiting Preschoolers for Kindergarten

Kindergartens are educational facilities for preschoolers ages 3 to 5. There are municipal and private kindergartens in the city.

The recruitment of children to enroll in kindergarten in the upcoming fiscal year is conducted around October of every year.

For more information on admission to kindergarten, please contact the particular kindergarten directly.

Inquiries: Either the particular kindergarten in which you are interested or the Kindergarten Section of the School Management Division (Shinjuku City Office Annex 1, 4F), Tel: 03-5273-3103

Recruiting Children for Kodomo-en

Kodomo-en is a childcare and educational facility that functions as both a kindergarten and nursery school and focuses on the growth and development of children, from newborns up to those entering elementary school. Please call for more information on enrollment.

Inquiries: Yotsuya Kodomo-en (2-6 Yotsuya), Tel: 03-5369-3775
Aijitsu Kodomo-en (tentative name, scheduled to open on April 1, 2010) (17 Kitamachi), Tel: 03-3266-0189 (Aijitsu Kindergarten), 03-3267-3950 (Nakamachi Nursery School)

Living Together

“Multicultural living” refers to people of different nationalities and ethnic races living together, and accepting and understanding the differences between their cultures.

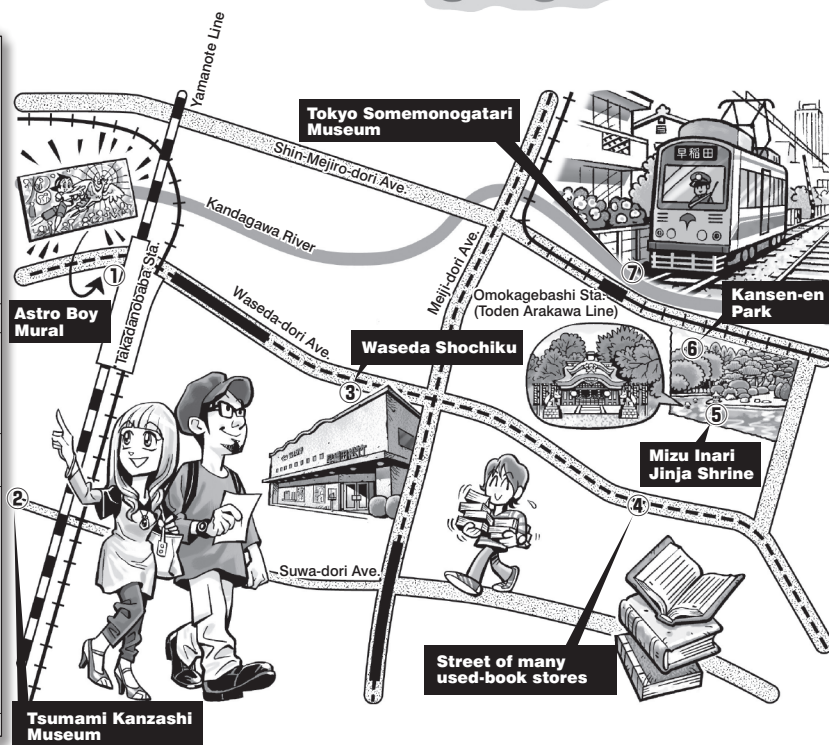
In this issue, we will report from the front lines of multicultural living.

Many people probably think that Shinjuku is filled with nothing but high-rise buildings, people walking about, and bustling shopping areas. However, if you take the time to stroll through Shinjuku, you will be able to see different facets of the town. In this issue, we had Nguyen Trong Mao, a foreign student from Vietnam, and Shi Shangrong, a foreign student from China, walk along the Totsuka strolling course, which includes the college town of Waseda.

Strolling through the Town of Shinjuku Totsuka Course



Name	Shi Shangrong
University	Department of Business, Tokyo Fuji University College
Place of Birth	China
Ambition in Life	I want to enter the trade industry and work for a Japanese company. Also, I hope to contribute to the friendly ties between Japan and China.



Name	Nguyen Trong-Mao
University	Department of Industrial and Management Systems Engineering, School of Creative Science and Engineering, Waseda University
Place of Birth	Vietnam
Ambition in Life	I want to help children who live in poverty by establishing a school in Vietnam, using the management know-how I accumulated in Japan.

Astro Boy Mural

Nguyen: Almost every week, my friends and I meet at the plaza in front of the station, but I never noticed this Astro Boy mural. In Vietnam, Japanese manga and the anime culture are quite well-known. *Dragon Ball* is particularly popular. I like Japanese manga, and I read *Black Jack*, another work of Osamu Tezuka, who created *Astro Boy*.

Shi: I like *Case Closed (Meitantei Konan)*, and I often watch anime. In China, *Crayon Shinchan* is very famous!



Waseda Shochiku

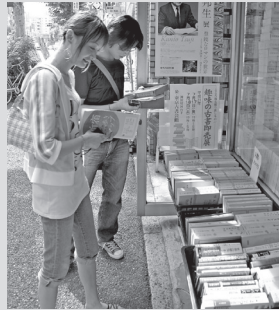
Nguyen: This is the way I go to school, but I never noticed Waseda Shochiku until now. I found out that they show two films from various countries every week. Since you can see two films for one admission fee, I definitely want to come watch movies here!



Street of Many Used-Book Stores

Shi: All the stores have a quiet atmosphere, so you can take your time looking at books. Since there are used books in various genres, such as literature, history, and economics, it's like an opportunity to make new discoveries. When it comes to books, I think that the reading environments in Japan and China are different. In Japan, people read even on the train. In China, people don't read in public; they like to read quietly at home. The reason is because trains in China are a lot noisier than those in Japan!

Nguyen: The interior of some shops kind of reminded me of the libraries at Waseda University. Various used books, such as Western literature, Japanese literature, and even manga were beautifully preserved and placed on the shelves. I was so surprised to find a corner where you can buy books for just ¥20!



A Photo by Nguyen
 "I think a lot of people are probably unaware that you can buy books at really reasonable prices here. There are books in a wide range of fields from various countries around the world, and I think I was able to gain a sense of the world and culture of students concentrating on their studies."



Mizu Inari Jinja Shrine

Nguyen: This is the first time I have ever visited Mizu Inari Jinja Shrine. Unlike regular shrines, there are fox statues facing each other. I was able to experience Japanese traditions, such as washing my hands before entering the shrine.

Shi: Here, we were able to see a lot of traditional Japanese things, such as haiku and *ema* (votive tablets) written by local elementary school children and *mikoshi* (portable shrines). I was deeply impressed by the sight of young girls excited to find the haiku they wrote being displayed.



Kansen-en Park

Shi: I think Kansen-en Park is an ideal place for people to relax, where they can play and rest. In Japan, people seem to go out of their way to relax at a park. In China, there are parks in courtyards of apartment buildings, so residents can always relax right where they live. At night, there are people resting in the park after they come home from work.



Nguyen: I don't think there are many places like this in Vietnam. This is a peaceful and relaxing garden that is rich in natural greenery yet surrounded by modern buildings. I think it would be great to be able to spend time here taking a leisurely stroll at the end of a busy day.

A Photo by Shi
 "I was really surprised to find that Shinjuku has such quiet places with lots of natural greenery. I think if you are ever tired from work or if you have a problem, just coming to Kansen-en Park and looking at the peaceful scenery will help calm your heart and give you new energy."



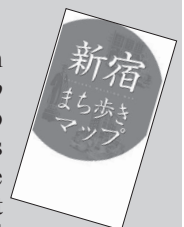
After Walking through the Town

Nguyen: Since moving to Shinjuku this year, I have had no free time; I would just go back and forth between my home and school every day. Strolling through the Totsuka area and visiting places I usually do not go was fun, and I was surprised with the new discoveries.

Shi: It has been about two and a half years since I came to Japan, and I have lived in Shinjuku all this time, but I was able to discover a new side to Shinjuku that I had never seen before while walking along the Totsuka strolling course today. Also, it was a great opportunity for me to stop and think about the cultural differences between Japan and China.

Shinjuku Walking Map

We had these two students walk through Shinjuku with the *Shinjuku Walking Map* in hand. The map divides Shinjuku into 10 areas and describes various courses through local communities with unique characteristics. The map is available at the Culture, Tourism and International Affairs Division (Shinjuku City Office Main Bldg. 1F) and can be viewed on the Shinjuku City foreign-language Web site: www.city.shinjuku.tokyo.jp/foreign/english/ Why not step out with a *Shinjuku Walking Map* in hand and discover a new side to Shinjuku?



The Korean Cultural Center's New Building, the Korea Center, Has Opened!

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Korean Cultural Center, which serves as a general representative of Korean culture in Japan. This May, the institute's new building, the Korea Center, opened in Shinjuku City.

In this issue, we will describe the Korea Center, which is a venue that offers a place for people to have friendly exchanges through Korean culture, sports, and tours (of the building and as a topic). If you would like to enjoy Korean culture or study/know more about it, why not drop by for a visit?

First Floor: Gallery MI There is an exhibition through which you can get a feeling of what Korea is like at a glance. There is also an exhibition in which you can enjoy the culture of both Korea and Japan.

Second and Third Floors: Hanmadang Hall Stage performances of the traditional arts, popular music, and theater of Korea as well as film showings, symposiums, and lectures are held here.

Third Floor: Library There are approximately 15,000 books written in Korean and roughly 8,000 books related to Korea written in Japanese. You can borrow these books, read Korea-related magazines and newspapers, or view Korean movies and dramas.

Fourth Floor: Saranbang There is a section where traditional Korean architecture and lifestyle are recreated. *Saranbang* is the name for men's parlors, which were also used as studies or reception rooms. If



you make an appointment for a tour, you can experience wearing traditional Korean clothes or have a commemorative photo taken here (on Wednesdays from 2 p.m.).

Fourth Floor: Haneul Garden This rooftop garden gives you a sense of what Korea is like. There is a reproduction of the Bulro Gate, which is said to grant those who pass through it eternal youth, and an area for storage jars that shows what everyday life in a Korean home is like.



Note: In addition, there are such facilities as Beaumteo (fourth floor seminar room) and Ullim (traditional music practice room).

Korean Cultural Center, South Korean Embassy in Japan

4-4-10 Yotsuya, Shinjuku-ku 160-0004
How to Get There: A two-minute walk from Exit 1 of Yotsuya Sancho Station on the Marunouchi Line
Tel: 03-3357-5970
Fax: 03-3357-6074
Web Site: www.koreanculture.jp (in Japanese and Korean)



The Shinjuku Korean Development Committee Has Been Established!

The Shinjuku Korean Development Committee (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee"), an organization of Korean newcomers, was established in April. The Committee was organized with the goal of developing the communities of Hyakunincho and Okubo with the Federation of Korean Associations in Japan (also called Kanjin-kai, an abbreviation of the Japanese name) cooperating with Japanese residents.

We recently asked Mr. Park Je Sae, chairperson of the Committee, about the objectives and activities of the Committee.

Q: Why was the Committee established?

A: In recent years, there has been a growing number of Korean food and beverage outlets and Korean shops in the Okubo area, and the community has been the focus of attention as a place where people can enjoy Korean food and popular culture. However, due to differences in language, culture, and lifestyle, problems with Japanese neighbors have arisen, such as the improper disposal of garbage, noise that disturbs the peace, and illegal parking.

As a result of this situation, the Committee was formed because all the Koreans in the neighborhood felt that they need to fulfill their responsibilities and do their part for this town. As people of Shinjuku, we need to pour our efforts into the community.

Q: What types of activities does the Committee do?

A: It is said that there are more than 300 shops, food and beverage outlets, and service offices operated by Koreans in the area. First of all, we hope to get these shops involved in our programs.

In addition, we need to join efforts with the local town council and merchants' association help the area grow. We hope to take the initiative

in participating in local community cleanup programs and festivals so that we can deepen mutual understanding. By improving communication between Japanese and Korean residents, I think we can prevent trouble in the area before it happens.

Actually, some of our committee members have already taken action by participating in cleanup activities along Okubodori Avenue. Officially speaking, we are finally firming up our personnel, and we hope to conduct activities that take into consideration the opinions of the community, such as the town council and merchants' association.

Inquiries: Shinjuku Korean Development Committee Office
Tel: 03-5287-2671 Fax: 03-3200-5939



Committee members work together with the people of the town council in cleanup activities along Okubodori Avenue.