



## Miyazaki International Foundation

Questions, comments, postings, or for information in Plaza News: Miyazaki International Foundation, 8F Carino Miyazaki, Tachibanadori Higashi 4-8-1, Miyazaki City 880-0805 Tel: 0985-32-8457 Fax: 0985-32-8512 Email: miyainfo@mif.or.jp Homepage: <http://www.mif.or.jp/>  
Open: Tuesdays to Saturdays, 10:00AM to 7:00 PM Closed: Sundays, Mondays, National Holidays and December 29 to January 3

### ● Announcement: Plaza Holiday Closing

The Plaza will be closed on September 22 (Tue) and 23 (Wed) for the holidays.

### ● 1st International Understanding Seminar: “Experience the World Around You!” –Nepal- ※Registration Required; first-come first-served

Join us in welcoming two Nepalese natives, as they will be heading up a cooking class in the city. This is a great chance to enjoy yourself while learning about the cuisine and customs of Nepal. ※Please bring an apron and a container to take food home

◇Date & Time: September 26 (Sat) from 10:30 – 2:00  
(Registration begins at 10:00)

◇Venue: Miyazaki City *Chuou Kouminkan*  
(Central Community Center), 2<sup>nd</sup> floor kitchen  
(Miyazaki-shi Eki Higashi 1-2-7)

◇Instructors: Krishna Lal Poudel & Sujan K.C

◇Participation Fee: (General) ¥500,  
(International Foundation Members) ¥300

◇Max Participants: 20

◇To Apply: Contact us by phone, fax, or e-mail with your name and phone number

◇Regarding Parking: Please use the *Sougou Taiikukan* (General Gymnasium) parking lot or another nearby paid-parking lot.

The *Sougou Taiikukan* parking lot charges ¥100 per hour with a maximum charge of ¥500 (however, the 1<sup>st</sup> hour is free).

※The International Foundation will not reimburse parking costs – we appreciate your understanding.

◇Application & Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation



### ● Japanese Language Course for Foreign Residents in Miyakonojo ※Registration Required

We are offering a beginner's level Japanese course for foreign residents in Miyakonojo. For those of you who speak only minimal Japanese or have few opportunities to study the language, here is your chance!

◇Date & Time: September 8 (Tue) ~ December 11 (Fri)  
1:30~3:30 for 23 Sessions in Total

※Every Tuesday & Friday ※NO CLASS on 9/18 (Fri), 9/22 (Tue), 9/25 (Fri), 10/30 (Fri), and 11/3 (Tue)

◇Place: Miyakonojo City Central Community Hall

◇Participants : Those with no Japanese study experience and/or a desire to learn basics of reading and writing

◇Cost : ¥1,000 (Text & Materials)

◇To Apply: Fill out our application form and return it by mail or fax

◇Application & Inquiries : Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation / Miyakonojo International Association, 〒885-8555 Himegi-cho 6-21, Miyakonojo City  
Tel: 0986-23-2295, Fax: 0986-23-3223,  
E-mail: [mia@city.miyakonojo.miyazaki.jp](mailto:mia@city.miyakonojo.miyazaki.jp)

### ● Japanese Language Course for Foreign Residents ※Registration Required

We are offering a beginner's level Japanese course for foreign residents in Miyazaki. For those of you who speak only minimal Japanese or have few opportunities to study the language, here is your chance!

◇Date & Time: September 4 (Fri) ~ December 4 (Fri),

Every Tuesday & Friday 10:10~12:00, Total of 25 Sessions  
※NO CLASS on 9/22 (Tue) & 11/3 (Tue)

◇Place : Carino Miyazaki, 8th Floor, Gaga-8

◇Participants : Those with no Japanese study experience and/or a desire to learn basics of reading and writing

◇Cost : ¥1,000 (Text & Materials)

◇Application Deadline: August 22 (Sat)

◇To Apply : Fill out our application form and return it by mail or fax

◇Application & Inquiries : Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

### ● Disaster Prevention Bus Tour for Foreign Residents ※Registration Required

Learn about necessary measures you can take in your everyday life in Japan to prepare yourself for disaster by joining us in visiting a fire station, experiencing an earthquake simulation, practicing extinguishing fires, and more.



Afterwards, we will be visiting the Saitobaru Ancient Burial Mounds as well as the Saitobaru Archaeological Museum. We await your participation!

◇Date & Time: October 24 (Sat) from 8:30 – 5:00  
※Date & time subject to change

◇Participants: Foreign residents, study abroad students, and accompanying family members

◇Schedule:

★Morning – Earthquake simulation, extinguishing fires, riding in a fire-ladder truck, etc. (Miyazaki City)

★Afternoon – Visit to the Saitobaru Ancient Burial Mounds and Saitobaru Archaeological Museum (Saito City)  
◇Participation Fee: ¥500

(Elementary school students & younger = Free)

◇Meeting Place: Depart by bus from your choice of the following meeting places (Miyazaki Prefectural Office front gate, Miyazaki Sangyo Keiei University, or Miyazaki University)

◇To Apply: Fill out our application form and return it to us by fax or mail

※Those selected to participate will receive notification from us

◇Application Deadline: October 9 (Fri)

◇Application & Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

### ● Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreign Residents ※No Registration Required, Free of Charge

※ There will be no practice session held on the September 22 (Tue) holiday.

◇Dates: Every Tuesday and Friday from 10:30 – 11:30

◇Place: Carino Miyazaki, 8th Floor, Miyazaki International Plaza

◇Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

## <Local Announcements>

### ● Events Hosted by Miyazaki City

■ **The 2009 Lecture on Internationalization in Miyazaki City: Nobuharu Asahara presents "Tales of our World: Internationalization via the Olympics"**

- ◇ Date & Time: September 27 (Sun)  
from 1:00 – 2:30 (Doors open at 12:00)
- ◇ Venue: Miyazaki Municipal Culture Hall, *Dai Hall*
- ◇ Entrance Fee: (General) ¥1,000, (High school students and younger & Miyazaki City International Association members) ¥500
- ※ All seats require reservation
- ◇ Inquiries & Tickets: Miyazaki City International Association Administrative Bureau  
Tel: 0985-21-1719, Fax: 0985-21-1733,  
E-mail: [miyazaki-mcia@miyazaki-catv.ne.jp](mailto:miyazaki-mcia@miyazaki-catv.ne.jp)  
General Tickets: Buy via *Loppi* at any Lawson convenience store

### ■ Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreign Residents

※ Registration Required ※ Free to All

- ◇ Date & Time: 9/4 (Fri), 9/11 (Fri), 9/18 (Fri),  
9/25 (Fri) from 6:30 – 7:30 pm
- ◇ Place: Miyazaki Citizens' Plaza  
(*Chu Meeting Room & Sho Meeting Room*)
- ◇ Application & Inquiries: Miyazaki City International Association (Ask for: Myon Jison)  
Tel: 0985-21-1714, Fax: 0985-22-0200,  
E-mail: [miyazaki-mcia@miyazaki-catv.ne.jp](mailto:miyazaki-mcia@miyazaki-catv.ne.jp)

### ● Events Hosted by Nobeoka City

■ **Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreign Residents** ※ Free to All

- ◇ Date & Time:  
Every Monday & Thursday (excluding the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month) from 10:30 – 12:00
- ◇ Place:  
Nobeoka City Social Education Center

### ■ Afternoon Tea & English Conversation

※ Free to All ※ No Registration Required

- We welcome all to come on by for lunch and easy-going English conversation with Tiffany, the new CIR from England. Please bring your own lunch to the gathering.
- ◇ Date & Time: September 15 (Tue)  
from 11:30 – 1:00
- ◇ Venue:  
Nobeoka City Social Education Center
- ◇ Inquiries:  
Nobeoka City International Exchange Promotion Department,  
Tel: 0982-22-7006



### ● "Donations for Bato-chan"



Ms. Battsetseg, a native of Mongolia, who had been conducting research at the Miyakonojo National College of Technology, is currently battling with cancer.

We humbly ask for your donations to assist *Bato-chan* in receiving proper medical treatment here in Japan.

- ◇ Donation Direct Transfers:  
Post Office Account:  
01780-1-63135
- ◇ Name on Account:  
「都城モンゴル友好協会  
バトちゃん募金」  
(*Miyakonojou Mongoru Yuukou Kyoukai Batochan Boukin*)  
(Miyakonojo-Mongolia Friendship Association, Donations for Bato-chan)  
Inquiries: Miyakonojo-Mongolia Friendship Association,  
Tel: 0986-47-1190

## <September Events>

Event	Date & Time	Venue	Contact
The 28 <sup>th</sup> Aya Fireworks Festival	9/12 (Sat) 8:00-9:00 Make-up date = 9/19 (Sat) if weather is bad	Aya Town, <i>Sanbonmatsu</i> Bride Riverside	Aya Town Hall, Division of Industry & Tourism Tel: 0985-77-3464
The 23 <sup>rd</sup> <i>Hietsukisetsu Nihonichi Taikai</i>	9/12 (Sat) & 9/13 (Sun) Opens at 8:30	Shiba Village, Shiba Village Development Center	Shiba Village Hall, General Affairs Division Tel: 0982-67-3202
MIYAZAKI Ebi Paradise ~ <i>Ebipara</i> Festival ~	9/19 (Sat), 9/20 (Sun), 9/21 (Mon holiday) 11:30~1:00, 1:30~3:00	Miyazaki City, Aoshima Fisheries Cooperative Headquarters in Aoshima	Miyazaki City Tourism Association Tel: 0985-20-8658 URL: ※ Prior Registration Required <a href="http://www.miyazaki-city.tourism.or.jp/ebipara/index.html">http://www.miyazaki-city.tourism.or.jp/ebipara/index.html</a>
Suki <i>Kuri</i> Festival	9/23 (Wed holiday) 9:00~3:00	Kobayashi City, <i>Sukiburando</i>	Kobayashi City, Suki Government Office, Regional Development Division Tel: 0984-48-3111

### Pat's Little Rant "Welcome! May I Ravage Your Cochlea?" Patrick Maher, Miyazaki Prefecture CIR

Sometimes something somewhere somehow becomes an accepted norm; and by accepted norm I mean mysteriously tolerated norm; and by mysteriously tolerated norm I mean plague on society. Many risk their sanity in pondering the enigmatic workings of the process that turns an aneurism-inducing act of annoyance into a socially accepted aneurism-inducing act of annoyance (e.g. flight attendant waking you up during glorious slumber to order you to return your seat and tray table to their original positions, because...*for health reasons, I urge you not to try to finish this sentence with any logical reason*).

Here I transition to the 24 hour-a-day sanctuaries sprinkled across Japan: the convenience store. It is nearly impossible to say anything negative about the Japanese convenience store (reference: Wikipedia); but some of the male staff have forced my hand in scribing rant. Male workers, when you offer customers an "*Irasshaimase*" – Japanese for "welcome" – you need not pollute everyone's audible airways with screeching exceeding 100 decibels. What are you trying to accomplish with that whiney, high-pitched, nasally, family-of-badgers-in-a-blender manner of speaking? Do *konbini* training manuals demand your squealing as such? Are you trying to keep customers from loitering? Or are you simply being kind in offering me material for my Plaza News Rant? Because I wholeheartedly doubt that you hear yourself squawk like that and manage to avoid irreparable damage to your self-esteem.