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# Ready, Set, NihonGO!

わたし

とくしまけん

## 私のふるさと<2>

### 徳島県

日本には47の都道府県がありますが、その中の「徳島県」が私の出身地で
こうこう そつぎょう
す いま ちゅうごく そしゅうし す
す 私は高校を卒業するまでここで過ごしました。今、中国の蘇州市に住ん
かっこく ゆうじん おとず きかい
でいますが、ここで知り合った各国の友人が日本を訪れる機会があったら、
もんない おも

しこくちほう よっ けん おんだん きこう めぐ この徳島県は、四国地方に4つある県のうちのひとつで、温暖な気候に恵ま もっと ゆうめいれ、風光明媚で見どころが盛りだくさんです。その徳島で最も有名なのが、 まりまと 日本3大盆踊りのひとつ、「阿波踊り」です。





SASAKI Miki
Nihongo-Pro Teacher

Miki Sasaki teaches private lessons at all levels, including JLPT preparation.

As she mentioned in the article, Sasakisensei hails from Japan's <u>Tokushima prefecture</u>, but currently lives in China, not far from Shanghai.

Sasaki-sensei's
English skills are
excellent, and, in her
spare time, she
enjoys the piano,
Chinese violin, and
watching British
movies.

#### (Continued from page 1)

「阿波踊り」(※「阿波」とは、19世紀後半まで使 ばんざい きゅうめい やく ねん われていた、現在の徳島県の旧名)は、約400年の

た。 なっ ないかくち かいさい 歴史があり、夏になると、徳島県内各地で開催されま

波踊り」は、日本のみならず世界各地から約130万人 かんこうきゃく おとず おど こ かず

の観光客が訪れます。踊り子の数は約10万人。 きゅうしんがいいちえん うず ま こ

期間中は、徳島市中心街一円が踊りの渦に巻き込ま たいがくにゅうがく き

れ、興奮のるつぼと化します。私は大学入学を機に

着いたとたん聞こえる「ぞめき(※1)」「よしこの

れん たんい ひろ

踊りは、「連」とよばれるグループ単位で披露されますが、観光客も「にわか連」として踊りに参加できます。「踊る阿呆に見る阿呆、同じ阿呆なら踊らにやそんそん」のお囃子どおり踊る阿呆となって、楽しい徳島の夏の思い出をつくってみてはいかがでしょうか。日本へ行ったら、四国・徳島まで足をのばしてみ

か。日本へ行ったら、四国・徳島まで足をのばしてみ てください。





もよお ひら

2015年5月には、パリで、「 $\underline{AWAODORI\ PARIS\ 2015}$ 」という催しが開かれるそうです。フランスはじめョーロッパの人々にも阿波踊りを、是非楽しんでいただきたいです。

とくゆう にびょうし けいかい ようき (※1) 阿波おどり特有の二拍子の軽快で陽気なリズム。「騒がしい」との本来の意味もあり、派手に浮かれて賑やかに踊ることをいう。

うた えどじだいこうき りゅうこう みんよう (※2) 阿波おどりで唄われる、江戸時代後期に流行した民謡。

### 英訳 ENGLISH TRANSLATION

#### My Hometown #2 — Tokushima Prefecture

Of the 47 prefectures that make up Japan, the one I call home is **Tokushima**. I lived there until graduating from high school. I currently live in Suzhou City in China; however, when friends I've made from all over the world have an opportunity to visit Japan, I am looking forward to showing them around Tokushima.

Tokushima is one of four prefectures in the Shikoku region of Japan. Bathed in a warm climate and scenic beauty, Tokushima has many attractions. The most famous of these is the <u>Awa dance</u>, one of Japan's three major obon festival dances. (*Translator's note: Obon is a traditional holiday period in Japan, occurring in mid-August, when one's ancestors are remembered and honored.*)

With about 400 years of history, the Awa dance is performed during the summer in various areas throughout Tokushima prefecture. ("Awa" is the former name of the Tokushima prefecture, used until the late 19th century.) Among those, the Tokushima City Awa Dance, held each year from August 12 to 15, draws 1,300,000 visitors from all over the world, and features 100,000 dancers. During this period, all of Tokushima City's central district is caught up in the swirl of dancers, everyone in a state of feverish excitement.



I left Tokushima to attend college, but most years returned home during the August obon season. Upon arriving in the city and hearing the dance rhythms *zomeki*<sup>1</sup> or *yoshikono*<sup>2</sup>, I would realize I was truly back home. The low, strong resonance of the taiko drums calls to mind in a flash the hometown that I usually take for granted.

The dance is danced in groups called "ren" (a train of dancers). By forming an ad hoc ren, visitors can participate in the dance as well. As the song says, "A fool dancing, a fool watching—a fool either way, so let's all dance," why not be a dancing fool while you make memories enjoying summer in Tokushima? On your next visit to Japan, please do take a trip to Tokushima.

In May 2015, <u>Awaodori Paris 2015</u> will be held in Paris. I hope the people of France—and people throughout Europe—enjoy the Awa dance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Zomeki is a characteristic rhythm of the Awa dance, a light-hearted, lively rhythm in duple time. The original meaning comes from the word *sawagashii* (boisterous, noisy); it refers to showy, lively dancing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Yoshikono is a folk song sung during the Awa dance; it was originally popularized during the late Edo period.

### ああ勘違い

にほん わら み ひとこと

芸人は「<u>アンジャッシュ</u>」という男性**2**人組です。

がれ とくちょう ゆうめい いしゃ きょうし 彼らの笑いの特徴は、「勘違い」です。有名なネタは「医者と教師」「まちが おく もの かいわ しょうじ あいせき 間違えた贈り物」「それぞれの会話」「障子をへだてて」「相席」などがありまおもの ねら まおもの ねら まおもの ねら

A「**やつ**捕まえたらどうするつもりだ?」

いっしょ きねんしゃしん と

B「まず一緒に記念写真撮りますね。」

\_\_\_\_ぃౣ A「何で?意味ないだろ!」

にが

B「写真撮ったら逃しますね。」

A「何で逃しちゃうんだよ。せっかく捕まえたのに、もったいないだろ!」

B「そうですね。じゃあ、捕まえたらちゃんと全部食べます」

A「何で食うんだ???おまえ、 急にここわいな、食べなくていいよ。」

なに おも

AさんとBさんは何を狙っていると思いますか?Aさんが狙っているものはマ
でんせつ きょだいさかな
フィアのボス、Bさんが狙っているものは伝説の巨大魚なんですね。

日本語の会話ではよく、対象物「何を」や主語「何が」をお互いに理解し
かんが しょうりゃく
ていると考え、省略したり、「あれ」「それ」で代用して話すことが多い
です。今回は「やつ」で代用したことで、このような勘違いが生まれたという
わけです。

みなさんはこのような「勘違い」をしたことがありませんか?



NAGATOMI Fusayo
Nihongo-Pro Teacher

Nagatomi-sensei teaches private lessons at all levels, including JLPT preparation.

In addition to her lesson schedule at Nihongo-Pro and a full-time teaching job at a Japanese language school, Nagatomi-sensei is active with her daughters' girl scout troops.

She now lives in Japan's <u>Chiba</u> <u>prefecture</u>, just east of Tokyo, and previously lived in China and the U.S. Her English is excellent, and you'll never find Nagatomi-sensei without a smile on her face.

ここで私の子供のころの勘違いエピソードを紹介します。ニュースでよく聞く

「汚職事件」を「お食事券」

たいふういっか たいふういっか 「台風一過」は「台風一家」

はろうちゅういほう ハロー ちゅういほう

「波浪注意報」は「Hello 注意報」

これらはニュースで音だけを聞いて、私が勝手に勘違いしたわけですが、日本語が母語の人でも ただ ただ ただ ただ このような勘違いは意外と多いんですよ。でもこのような勘違いをしながら正しいことばを覚えて いきます。

おもしろ けいけん かた ながとみふさよ し

面白い勘違いを経験したことがある方、ぜひ永富房代までお知らせください!

えいやく

### 英訳 ENGLISH TRANSLATION

#### Oops, I misunderstood that...

Have you ever seen a Japanese *o-warai* (comedy skit)? There are many types of *o-warai*; one that I've been enjoying of late is <u>Unjash</u>, a 2-man stand-up team.

Their specialty is comedic misunderstanding. Some of their famous routines are "The Doctor and the Teacher," "The Wrong Gift," "Interleaved Conversations," "Separated by a Shoji Screen," and "Seated with a Stranger." One that has made me laugh lately is "The Big Catch."

Two guys happen upon one another near a pond. Each came with the intention of catching something, but they misunderstood that they weren't looking for the same thing. With the misunderstanding as the backdrop, the conversation unfolds like this:

- A: "What're you gonna do if you catch him?"
- B: "First I'll snap a photo with him."
- A: "Huh? That's nonsense!"
- B: "And then I'd let him go."
- A: "Let him go? After all that trouble to catch him—what a waste!"
- B: "Yeah, I guess you're right. If I catch him then, I'll eat him up."
- A: "Eat him??? Man, you're one scary dude. There's no need to eat him."

What do you think A and B are talking about (trying to catch)? A is looking for a mafia boss; B is looking for a huge fish of legend in the area.

Often in Japanese conversation, when the object of discussion is thought to be mutually understood, we shorten the conversation by substituting "that (thing)."

Here, the word 40 (thing, guy) was used, which led to the misunderstanding.

Have you ever had a misunderstanding like this?

Here are a few misunderstandings I had as a child. These phrases, which occur frequently in the news, tripped me up:

。shoku ji ken 汚職事件 (corruption case) → お食事券 (meal ticket)

台風一過 (calm after the storm) → 台風一家 (typhoon at one house—not correct Japanese)

ha roo chuu i hoo 波浪注意報 (high seas warning) → Hello 注意報 (Hello warning—not correct Japanese)

I misunderstood these words hearing just the sounds on the news, but this kind of mistake is surprisingly common even among native Japanese speakers. We learn the correct words by making these kinds of errors.

If you've had a funny misunderstanding, by all means please write me (Fusayo Nagatomi) about it!