

Tweet from Mito City International Center

Tweet from staff

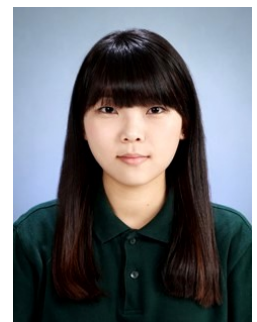
 KOZAWA


One year is about to pass since the Great East Earthquake after which the international center had to be closed for quite a while. Ever since, our staff have been working hard exchanging ideas and executing them to have people come to the center again. Today, I can see that many people have come to join our "Saturday Salon," and everyone, regardless of nationality, seems to be smiling and enjoying their conversation. I wish that a peaceful and ordinary scene like this will continue to be seen in other places as well.

Tweet from a foreign resident in Mito

Kwon Yujin <Korea>

Hello! My name is Kwon Yujin and I came from Korea. This year, I have experienced the New Year's day in Japan for the second time. As do Japanese people eat Ozouni in the beginning of a year, we eat Tteokguk, a soup dish that has mochi (rice cake) in it. Both Korea and Japan has the custom of eating rice cake in New Year and I realized how we have many things in common. I am hoping to find more similarities and share cultural experience with Japanese people.



History of Mito ~ Sakuradamon Incident ~

This time, we will go into the details of "Sakuradamon Incident". As mentioned in our last issue, in the late Edo period, chief minister Ii Naosuke pressed forward the idea of ending the national isolation, but was avenged by his opponents. This happened on March 3rd, 1860, when the celebration of Yayoi-no-Sekku (now known as Hina Matsuri or Doll Festival held to wish young girls' future happiness) was scheduled at Edo Castle. Every year on this day, feudal lords were to visit the castle for celebration. Awaiting the arrival of Naosuke near Sakuradamon gate were 18 masterless samurais who were disguised as sightseers, most of which were originally from Mito Domain. At the signal of a gunshot, the samurais rushed all at once towards the palanquin in which Naosuke traveled. Naosuke's party **is said to have been of more than 60**, but they were not expecting an attack and their swords were covered with sheath to protect them from rain or snow, thus unable to fight back.

Mito City International Association

Tuesday-Sunday, 9am-9pm

(Closed : Mondays, National Holidays)

Bizen-machi 6-59, Mito City, 310-0024

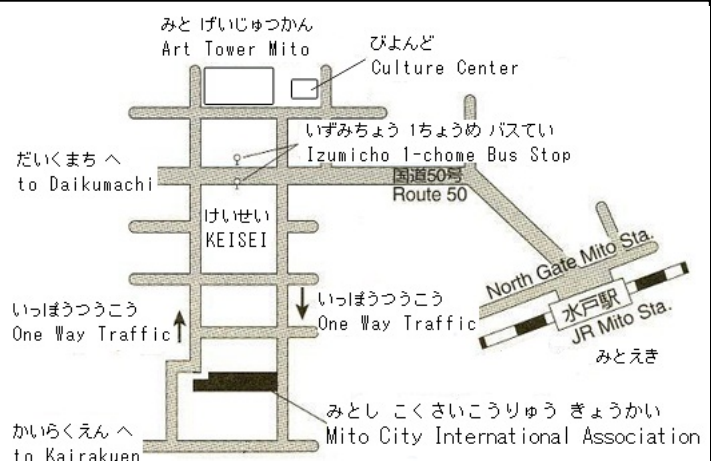
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Please forward us any opinions or suggestions you may have!





Culture Pot MITO

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- L I F E** Health insurance/ Japanese classes/ Mito city - temporary office/ Multilingual emailing & consultation service
- TOPICS** Alien Registration System will be abolished/ Info. for new Mito citizens
- OTHERS** Tweet from staff
Tweet from a foreign resident in Mito
1min. History - the story of Sakuradamon Incident

▼ Photo: "Guest Teachers" talking about their country to elementary school children



"Culture Pot MITO" is a monthly newsletter published by the Mito City International Association which aims to share various living information with the city's foreign residents. In its title, Mito city is likened to a pot stuffed with various cultures which resembles a multicultural city loved by every citizen. We are hoping that this newsletter will be useful in your daily life and that you will feel more attached to Mito City in the near future.