

Japanese Customs



Midsummer/Late-summer Greeting

The summer season in Japan is so energy-consuming because of its heat and humidity, causing many people to fall sick. For this reason, there is a tradition of sending a postcard/letter called ^{shochu-mimai} 暑中見舞い or ^{zansho-mimai} 残暑見舞い to your friends and family to show that you care about their health.

^{shochu-mimai} 暑中見舞い (a) ...midsummer greeting to be reached between mid-July and Aug.6

^{zansho-mimai} 残暑見舞い (b) ...late-summer greeting to be reached between Aug.7 and 31

Nowadays, fewer people follow this tradition, but postcards/letters are always welcomed by any generation. How about giving it a try?

(**Aug.7** is the day of ^{Risshu} 立秋 for 2014, from which autumn is believed to begin.)

General procedure

- ① Go to post office and buy a postcard called ^{Kamo-mail} かもめーる, specifically designed for ^{shochu-mimai} 暑中見舞い / ^{zansho-mimai} 残暑見舞い. (Normal post card is also ok)
- ② Write in the beginning: (a) 「しよちゅう おみまい もうしあげます」 or (b) 「ざんしょ おみまい もうしあげます」
- ③ Then, tell about your recent state and that you care about the person.

Basic Example

しよちゅう おみまい もうしあげます - I am sending my midsummer greetings to you.

いかがおすごしでしょうか - How have you been?

わたしはげんきにすごしております - I am doing fine and healthy.

きびしいあつさがつづきますが、おからだをだいじになさってください -

The summer heat is yet to continue; please take good care of yourself.



- ④ Write name & address, and post.

Mito City International Association (MCIA)

Tuesday-Sunday, 9am-9pm

(Closed : Mondays, July 22)

Add 〒310-0024 ^{Mito-shi Bizen-machi} 水戸市 備前町6-59

Mito International Center

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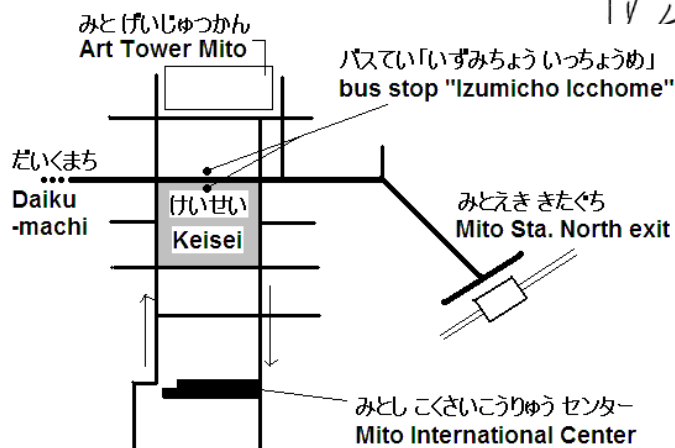
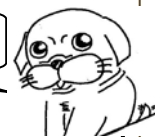
Mail mcia@mito.ne.jp

HP <http://www.mitoic.or.jp>

Please forward us any opinions or suggestions you may have!



feel free to drop by!



Take a bus from Mito station North exit, bus terminal #4~7 ⇒ 5mins ⇒ 泉町一丁目



Culture Pot MITO

In the title “Culture Pot MITO,” 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.

▼ Photo: Saturday Salon “Tea Party”, May 3 at Mito International Center



FORMAL

In a business situation or with someone you do not know well

ちょっと Japanese 

CASUAL

With your friends

「～^{desu-yone}ですよね」 「～^{desu-ne}ですね」

Above particles are used when seeking consensus.

Kyo-wa ii-tenki-desu-ne
 今日は いい天気desu-neですね
 (Isn't it nice weather today)

Kyo-wa atsui-desu-yone
 今日は 暑いdesu-yoneですよね
 (Isn't it hot today)



You would reply, for example:

Eh so-desu-ne
 ええ、so-desu-ne そうですね (It sure is.)

「～^{dayo-ne}だよね」 「～^{yone}よね」 「～^{dane}だね」

For example...

Kyo-wa ii-tenki-dayo-ne
 今日は いい天気dayo-neだよね
 (Isn't it nice weather today)

Kyo-wa atsui-yone
 今日は 暑いyoneよね
 (Isn't it hot today)



You would reply, for example:

U n so-dane
 うん、so-dane そうですね (It sure is.)