

awa life



"TOPPY"

A monthly newsletter for international residents of Tokushima, produced by TOPIA, the Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association.

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kair 2007 - results

by andrew dahms
until_ eternity@hotmail.com

The coming of November once again signalled the end of the Kamiyama Artist in Residence for another year. Let's see how it went!

Uchiumi Satoshi

Uchiumi's work on this year's residency was realised as a large-scale oil on canvas painting located in the former theatre of Yoriiza in the center of Kamiyama. Comprised of twelve large canvased boards, the painting was painstakingly created piece by piece before being assembled for display.

The scale of the work itself is impressive, but it is the small details that draws the viewers attention. The painting is made solely with dabs of paint in varying different shades of colour, all patched together and melded into one another.

However, it is not only the end product of Uchiumi's work that is the . As was mentioned in Uchiumi's introduction in the September Awa Life,



uchiumi satoshi's grand painting in the former theatre of yoriiza in central kamiyama

Uchiumi feels that the beauty of an artwork is found not only in the finished product, but in the process, the tools that are used to create it and the material with which it is made. In this sense, as well, this work of art is a great success. Making use of its surroundings, the painting dominates the

large space of the former theatre. This grand sense of presence, combined with the interaction and communication of the local people throughout the construction of the painting, truly give it success as a living work of art, almost perfectly situated in the old theatre. No matter how many

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inside awa life this month

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http://www.topia.ne.jp/e_index.htm

from the editors

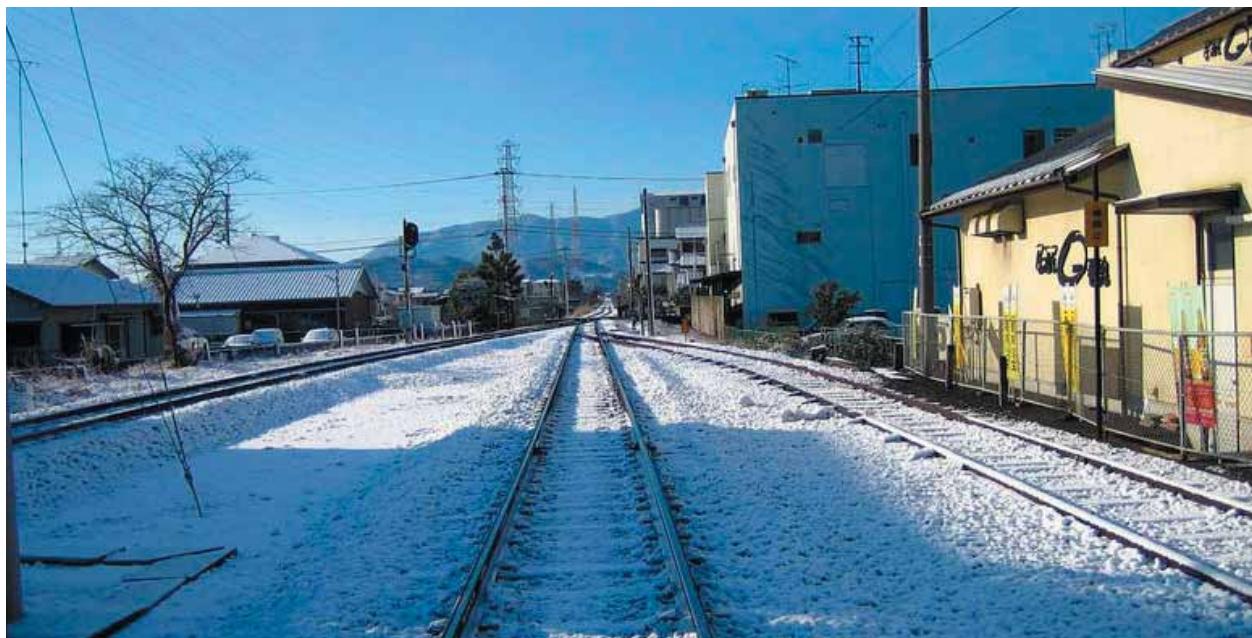
dear awa life readers, this issue brings us to the end of 2007 and yet another year. It has been a busy one for Tokushima, with the national cultural festival, filming of yet another movie (Awa Dance) and this time even a drama as well, based on the movie Bizan. The summer was cool and then suddenly hot, and autumn was warm and then suddenly very cold. Well, to wrap things up this year, we have our traditional review of the Kamiyama Artist in Residence Program, a look indigo dyeing and a recipe for **nikujaga** as well. Starting this month, Rebecca Closner of Aizumi will be starting a monthly awa ben section here in Awa Life! Take a look on page eight to see more, and I hope you have a wonderful Christmas.

Cheers, Andrew



Ooh, **samui!** This is what I say nowadays. I heard the wind in Tokushima is very strong, but I didn't believe it. Until today. Just sitting on my bicycle, heading for work, but can't go in my pace. The wind is too strong and I pull myself together "I'm stronger than the wind!" and finally arrive totally exhausted at my workplace. Hello and Guten Tag, welcome back to Awa Life. This is the last issue of 2007. We are looking forward to next years exchange between Germany and Tokushima. What impact may it have to Awa Life? Have a nice year-end, see you again in 2008 and last but not least, don't forget my monthly slogan: We have to save the planet!

Danke! Mario



snow covers the tracks on a cold winter morning in tokushima (photo by junko kimura)

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on the left - bell's installation work in josei koko, and right - a kimono decorated by selma gurbuz as one of her artworks during the residence

times you view the work up close, you always discover something new. I guarantee it!

Vaughn Bell

Installation artist Vaughn Bell's artworks made use of rice stalks gathered from within the town and made into large, flowing rivers.

The first of these is located in Kamiyama's Josei Senior High School, occupying the entire gym area. The windows have been covered up, the floor covered with a large black cloth sheet (stitched together by hand) and throughout the gym the long river snakes its way from one end to the other. At either end are large waterfalls, the rice stalks held up on the walls and their shape imitating the rush of water over rocks. Meanwhile in the midst of this is a small bridge, and a pool near the entrance showing a video of running water while the sounds play gently through speakers in the hall. This combination of the traditional Japanese countryside and modern technology come together extremely well,

and the space occupied by the artwork is also a very relaxing place to sit down. Much like Uchumi's work, this installation is best appreciated the more time you see it.

The second installation is similar in design, using the same grass stalks to create a river. However, this time it was created outdoors in the mountains of Kamiyama. The serene landscape and the calm form of the river lies in stark contrast with the hours of hard work taken in bringing the rice stalks to the mountain, clearing away the brush to make a clear path, and laying everything down just right. However, the efforts have paid off well and the artwork is a beautiful contrast of implied movement and its steady, calm environment.

Selma Gurbuz

Turkish artist Selma Gurbuz created a variety of smaller-scale artworks during the residence, with a strong touch of local Kamiyama and Japan in each of them. Despite being forced to return home during the program due to health

reasons, some of Gurbuz's work was displayed at a local shrine, including several paperwork pieces showing dragonflies, and a decorated kimono.

In Conclusion

As usual, however, it wasn't just the three invited artists who were hard at work during the residence. Local townspeople came together to work on a variety of artistic projects such as decorating a street in the town with colourfully designed cutrains over their doorways, photo exhibitions and more. And as a new touch this year, you could even see a slideshow of the three artists' work in progress, as well as a show on the Awa Puppet Theatre in a hall nearby Uchumi's work.

Overall, the schedule for this year's KAIR was very tight, but the artists performed very well and came out with some outstanding results. Once again the collection of artwork in Kamiyama has grown that little bit larger, and many more visitors there are left with new and lasting memories.



the japanese blues

by rebecca closner
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When I first saw them I thought someone had taken a hammer to that poor man's hands. That was back in August when I had just arrived and didn't know any better. About a week later I realized it wasn't just the volunteer teacher at my school but the people at the grocery store, the clerk at Circle K and a whole bunch of little kids around town. Maybe there's something in the local diet that makes their fingernails so purple, I thought to myself. That was back in September when I hadn't yet realized that the 'ai' in Aizumi means 'indigo'. Now I know that dark purple fingernails are just the tell-tell sign that someone is a die hard Japanese indigo fanatic!

I had my first run in with Japanese indigo (or **Awa Ai** as it is sometimes affectionately called) back in August when I had just arrived and was going school to school introducing myself to my new co-workers. "Come with us! There's something you might find interesting," they said. So up I went four flights of stairs to the home economics room where about 40 or more pots of water were lying around steaming despite the heat and humidity. If I were a comic book character the bubble above my head would have read "?". They then took me to the work room where 70 fifth graders were as surprised to see me as I was to see them. Isn't it summer vacation, I wondered. Maybe I'm supposed to do



an indigo dyed handkerchief made at the ai love festival in aizumi on november 4 2007

my self introduction now. As I was searching my brain to come up with interesting facts about myself and my hometown a kind looking old man burst through the sliding doors. "Sorry to have kept you all waiting." He was carrying a big bag of what looked liked dry tea leaves. "So who wants to dump the **sukumo** into the **ai game?**," he asked the less perplexed looking fifth graders. That's when I noticed the large vat off in one corner of the room. Maybe we're about to embark on some kind of mass tea ceremony, I mused. Thinking, as the boys dumped the **sukumo** into the vat that it didn't smell like anything I wanted to drink. The fifth graders stirred and stirred the now brackish liquid until at last the teacher added some **sake**. "Now we'll let it rest for about 100 days," he said as the fifth graders dispersed.

It was only my first week in Aizumi and I had already made indigo dye, even if I

didn't realize it. Back then I couldn't really appreciate what was going on but now I understand a little better. There are a variety of indigo dyes in the world. **Awa Ai** is a natural dye that comes from the leaves of the Tadeai plant (*Persicaria tinctoria*). The plant itself is rather plain with a tall narrow stem, relatively small leaves and tiny white or pinkish flowers. When the Tadeai plants are harvested, the leaves are removed from the rest of the plant and set to ferment for about three months. When the fermentation process is complete the Tadeai leaves resemble ashes or dark dried tea leaves and smell like really, really strong poppori. This is the key ingredient for indigo dyeing and is called **sukumo** in Japanese. **Sukumo** alone cannot produce indigo dye. Instead its mixed with lye, lime and a glucose agent (often **sake**) in a vat called an **ai game** and left to sit for about 100 days. When the dye

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santa on the river

by andrew dahms
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does your idea of a good time involve people dressed in santa suits throwing presents from a moving boat to catch rugby-like while diving through crowds of eager people. Yes? Well, you're in luck! Every year on the Shinmachi River in downtown Tokushima City is the warm and fuzzy Christmas event 'Santa comes from the River'. While most Christmassy events tend to capture quaint images of families gathering round the Christmas tree with smiling faces, however, this is definitely not one of those.

The premise of the event is very simple - Santa arrives on the Shinmachi River to hand out presents to the families and young boys and girls along the riverside as he travels about by boat. In theory, very touching. In fact, the boats are very, very fast. And what's more, they're a little ways out from the edge of water due to the embankments and the shallow water. What this means for the audience is that you need to keep a quick pace along the water's edge, and have a good catch as well when the presents start flying! Some of them even fall short and land back in the



the santas out on the shinmachi river, preparing to throw presents to the crowds waiting by the riverside

river to be collected by a boat following up at the rear.

Santa's Watery Sleigh

For those of you who have been on the free river boat cruise around hyotan-jima in Tokushima, the boats may seem very familiar. Indeed, they are one and the same, but dressed up with more lights and razzle dazzle than your average Christmas tree! On board, four Santas clamber about and make their way around the Shinmachi river several times playing carols across the boat's speakers to make their presence known to all about.

Presents for Everyone

The presents themselves are very handy, and contain a random selection of everyday goods you can use about the house. Overall a total of over 3,000 of them are given out over the three evenings in which santa comes to town.

While it may not be your average Christmas time event, it is a good lot of fun and you can come out with some useful goods as well. Even if you choose not to risk your life in the pursuit of free goodies, it sure does make for a grand sight, so why not get your friends together and come along to take a look!



the japanese blues ... con't from page 4

is ready to be used a frothy circular shape appears on the surface. This is sometimes referred to as the 'indigo flower'. Japanese indigo produces a beautiful deep blue color often with green, brown or even purple undertones depending on the dyeing technique.

Indigo has been a mainstay

of Tokushima's local culture since at least 1585. In modern times its popularity dwindled due to the availability and comparatively low cost of synthetic dyes. Due to artisans, craftspeople and designers recent interest in **Awa Ai**, it has recently experienced a surge in popularity. You can experience Indigo dyeing

for yourself at Aizumi-cho's historical museum. Entrance costs 300 yen and the hours are 9:00 until 16:00 every day except Tuesday. A map and more information can be found at this website: <http://www.town.aizumi.tokushima.jp/kanko/ainoyakata/index.html>



nikujaga

before I came to Japan, I was a vegetarian. Back in Canada, it is very easy to be a vegetarian because there are a lot of other vegetarians, so restaurants and stores are used to catering to the needs of people who don't eat meat. When I moved to Japan I found it very hard to eat out at restaurants with my friends without eating meat. Especially when we had nabe, where all the food is cooked together in one pot, or when we went to eat at an izakaya, where all the food is shared between everyone and at the end everyone splits the bill evenly. Once I gave up on being vegetarian, it was a lot easier to enjoy nights out with my friends. For a long time, I would only eat meat when I was out with my friends, but I didn't buy it to eat at home. Now that I am married and have a child, I find myself cooking meat for my family quite often. One dish that I cook that everyone likes, is an old Japanese standby, **nikujaga**. Like the name implies, this dish is made mostly of meat and potatoes. Depending on the region in Japan, this dish is traditionally made with either beef or pork. I make mine with beef.

Nikujaga

- 100g thinly sliced beef (I buy the ugly little packages of trimmings. Don't get the cheapest kind because it won't taste as good, but there is no need to buy a fancy package of expensive sukiyaki beef)
- 2 potatoes (the round kind, not the oblong kind)
- 1 carrot
- 1/2 onion
- **shoyu**
- **mirin**
- soup stock powder (or real homemade soup stock if you are ambitious!)
- sesame oil

There are other things you can add too, like sweet potatoes, **ito konyaku**, snow peas, mushrooms, and so on. Once you get the hang of the basics, you can make it your own.

First, heat the oil in a deep saucepan and lightly sauté the beef. Once it is about half cooked, you can add the vegetables. The vegetables should be chopped into relatively large chunks. You can peel the potatoes or leave the skin on - it's up to you.

Once the vegetables have cooked a bit, add the soup stock or stock powder and water. Don't add a ton - just enough to cover the vegetables. Add about 2 or

three tablespoons of **mirin** at this time and let it cook on medium heat for about ten minutes. If you want to get fancy, you can put an **otoshi-butā** on top. This is a special lid which goes directly on top of the food. Sometimes you can find wooden ones for sale at the supermarket, or you can just make one yourself out of tinfoil. The idea is to let the liquid evaporate while keeping the exposed food moist.

After you have simmered the food for about ten minutes, add about 2-3 tablespoons of **shoyu** and cook for another five minutes or so. Ideally, the liquid will have mostly evaporated and you will have a relatively dry dish at the end, but if you still have a lot of liquid at the end, don't feel too bad. It still tastes fine. Most people add snowpeas right at the end so they are just lightly cooked and retain their bright green colour and juicy crunch. Add them if you have them. When I make **nikujaga**, I only season it with **mirin**, **shoyu**, and soup stock. However, many people also like to add sugar to the recipe. This is fine, but I think it is healthier without the sugar and it still tastes great to me.



awa life needs you!

try it now! New Year, new good luck! This is what we Germans say if we get a new chance in a new year. You always wanted to contribute in Awa Life? We are looking for a good article written by you! Tell us about your experience in Tokushima,



Mario Dammann
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your life, your friends, favorite spots, evenings, etc. And with a little luck, your article stands here next month! So give it a try, encourage yourself and participate in this newsletter! The theme is Awa Life is Our Life! What are you waiting for? Send it out now!



martin's manga corner

Title:	JoJo's Bizarre Adventure (ジョジョの奇妙な冒險)
Manga-ka:	Hirohiko Araki
Publisher:	Shueisha
First published:	(1987)
No of volumes:	Eighty-one (82nd due in 2009)

JoJo's Bizarre Adventure by Hirohiko Araki is a seven part series based on the adventures of a number of different characters whose lives are connected by a series of exciting, unfathomable events. JoJo's Bizarre Adventure first debuted in Weekly Shonen Jump, the influence of the series can be seen not just in anime and manga but in other aspects of popular culture such as video games, Street Fighter II being a very obvious example. Araki's visually arresting style of drawing employing garish synthetic colours and violent muscular characters never fails to catch the eye.

In the first series Phantom Blood, the quiet, dull existence of Jonathan Joestar or JoJo is interrupted by the arrival of a boy known as Dio Brando who has been adopted by his wealthy father Jorge. It soon becomes apparent that JoJo and Dio are to become the bitterest of rivals. The sophisticated and cunning Dio soon gains the confidence and trust of JoJo's father and hatches a plot to slowly poison him and inherit his wealth. However, it isn't long until JoJo uncovers his plans.

In trying to remove JoJo from the equation, Dio turns to the supernatural. He acquires a cursed mask that transforms its user permanently into a vampire. A showdown occurs

in their fathers mansion and JoJo tries to burn down the house, however Dio escapes with JoJo in hot pursuit. In his trek across Europe after Dio, he meets a man called William Zeppeli who teaches him about a strange power known as the ripple. The ripple allows its user to focus body energy into other types of energy to deadly effect.

The hero of the second series is Jonathan Joestar's grandson Joseph. The new JoJo is pitted, like his grandfather, against vampire-type creatures but he also happens upon mysterious type of ancient entities that exist throughout the world. These entities have been entombed in stone pillars for thousands of years. Once freed, it is revealed that they are Vampire gods known as Wham, ACDC, and Cars, who are searching for the Red Stone of Asia, a mysterious precious stone that will give them unimaginable powers.

The third series, Stardust Crusaders, is the most popular of the series due to the focus of the plot on the various 'stands' that the protagonist and his numerous opponents use as they battle each other. The stands are amazing powers that are in some way unique to their owner. For example; the new JoJo's stand, named Star Platinum, allows him great precision and strength in his attacks. The

stand of his opponent Avdol, which is known as Magician's Red, allows him to control fire.

The contrivance of 'stands' was pioneered in JoJo's Bizarre Adventure, and is now a common feature in many video games and cartoons.

The forth series, Diamond is Unbreakable, focuses on Josuke Higashikata, the illegitimate son of Joseph Joestar. Joseph Joestar also makes an appearance. In Diamond is Unbreakable, we learn more about the stands and the existence of an ancient artifact that causes stand ability to develop along with a certain person's personality, and thus is passed on through a family blood line. In other words, the special powers the various JoJo's possess are hereditary in nature.

The fifth installment sees JoJo getting knee deep in the affairs of the Italian Mafia. In the sixth edition Stone Ocean, we are introduced to the first female JoJo, Jolyne Kujo, and in the final series stars Gyro Zeppel and Johnny Joestar, its plot is similar to the film Cannonball Run.

While the JoJo's Bizarre Adventure series is an extremely innovative and influential series, it on the other hand uses some very obvious pop culture references that are evident throughout the entire series, with a countless number character personalities being based on combinations of real life rock and movie stars. JoJo's Bizarre Adventure seems to suck out pop culture, digest it and vomit something out that never fails to impress.



martin o'brien

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Becky's Awa-ben!

You may have noticed that many Japanese people take a great deal of pride in where they come from. Many people in Japan do not actually speak 'textbook Japanese' among their friends and in their everyday life. Japanese away from metropolitan areas often speak their local dialect. In Tokushima, many people speak 'Awa-ben'. Using Awa-ben can be a fun way to delight the people in your life!

えとぶり Etoburi

Etoburi is the equivalent of ohisashiburi in standard Japanese. It means something like "its been a long time".

えとぶりですね！

Etoburi desu ne!

Long time, no see!

えとぶりに彼と会った。

Etoburi ni kare to atta.

I met up with him for the first time in a long time.

(や) けん (ya) ken

Ken is the rough equivalent of **kara** in standard Japanese. **Ken** can be attached to the dictionary form of verbs and i-adjectives. **Ya-ken** is attached to adverbs and nouns.

冬休みに国に帰るけん . . .

Fuyuyasumi ni kuni ni kaeru ken... (verb)

Because I'm going to return to my country in winter vacation...

寒いけん . . .

Samui ken... (i-adj)

Because its cold...

エビがいややけん . . .

Ebi ga iya ya-ken... (na-adj)

Because shrimp are disgusting...

私は若者やけん . . .

Watashi wa wakamono ya-ken... (noun)

Because I'm a young person...



letter from suketo hoikuen

by kazue inoue
suketo hoikuen staff

Recently the temperature has come down at once and it has become very easy to fall ill. But even if you wash your hands and gargle after playing outside and are taking the proper precautions, you can still catch cold. This month I will introduce what you have to care about at meals in times of a cold.

Make sure you take enough liquids. I prefer sports drinks or juice for minerals and vitamins.

Eat food that is good for your stomach's digestion. Don't force yourself to eat, but rather take food that is easy to digest. For example,

rice porridge (soft rice), **tofu**, eggs, udon, white fish meat etc. But make sure to eat hot food to prevent yourself from getting cold. You should refrain from summer vegetables like tomatoes, eggplant and cucumber and different seashells, because they are good for cooling down the body.

It is important to take lots of vitamin c and protein when you have a fever, because you will likely feel very exhausted, and vitamin c helps to prevent

and recover from a cold.

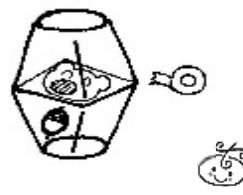
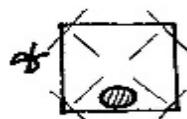
Take care in good times and you will stay vigorous through the cold winter.

This month's toy: Maracas!

1: Cut a hole of approximately 1.5cm in the bottom of an empty milk pack and cut off the four corners.

2: Draw a picture on the bottom (also on the back).

3: Stick two empty jelly cases with the milk pack in the middle with tape together (also with 1-3 acorns inside). Ready.



japanese lesson

by fumiko kanematsu
 jtmtoku-lesson@mbk.nifty.com

What kind of words do you use when you express your opinion? How do you get your point across, especially to a person whose opinion differs greatly from yours? In this month's Japanese Lesson we are going to look at ways of expressing your opinion while paying respect to those of whom you talk to, even if they are very different.

Let's take a look at the following conversation:

A : 住むなら、都会と田舎とどちらがいいですか。
 B : わたしは田舎の方がいいですね。空気もきれいだし、水もおいしいし、それに物価も安いし。
 A : そうですね。でも、子どもの教育のことを考えると、私は都会の方がいいと思いますが。
 B : そうかもしれません、しかし、子どもの健康のを考えると、田舎の方がいいと思いますよ。

A : Would you prefer to live in the city or out in the countryside?

B : I prefer the countryside. The sky is clear, the water is clean and prices are low.

When expressing disagreement, Japanese usually soften its impact by first acknowledging that the other person's opinion has some validity to it. The underlined expressions are often used.

Let's take a look at some other expressions.

A : 車を買うかどうか迷ったけど、やっぱり買わないことにしたよ。ガソリン代が高いし、環境にもよくないし。
 B : 確かにそうですが、やっぱり車があったほうが便利ですよ。

A: After much decision I chose not to get a car. They're expensive and not environmentally friendly.

B: Maybe so, but a car can be pretty handy you know.

※やっぱり／やはり is used when the speaker is convinced that what he/she initially thought or judged to be right is correct after thinking it over, or taking others' opinions into consideration. やっぱり is commonly used in colloquial conversation, while やはり is more commonly used in written language.

A : 健康のことを考えて、たばこもお酒もやめることにしたよ。
 B : なるほど、いい考えですね。でも、両方ともやめると、ストレスがたまるかもしれませんよ。

A: I have decided to give up smoking and drinking so I can get more healthy.

B: Hmm, that's a good idea. But if you do both at the same time it might add to your stress.

※なるほど is used when the speaker's question is answered by the other person's explanation, or as a word of agreement when the speaker is impressed and convinced by the other person's explanation. なるほど sounds like you are evaluating the other person. It is not advisable, therefore to use this expression with one's superiors.

What is wrong with the following conversation? Let us know what you come up with!

A : 核家族と大家族とどっちがいいと思う?
 B : わたしは大家族の方がいいですね。毎日にぎやかで楽しいと思いますよ。
 A : うかなあ? わたしは核家族の方が自由で気が楽だと思いますよ.



Christmas Lights Display Information

Christmas light displays will be held all across the prefecture this December and early January. Why not take this opportunity to head out and enjoy the sights.

Kenchopia

When: Monday, December 17 to Tuesday, December 25
From 17:00 to 23:00 every evening.

Where: Tokushima City, in the harbor in front of the Prefectural Office.

Cost: Free!

Contact: Call the Tokushima Yacht Club at 088-644-0087

Winter Lights in Ikeda

When: Saturday, December 1 to Thursday, January 10, 2008, from 17:00 to 22:00 every evening.

Where: Ikeda Town

Cost: Free

Contact: Call the Ikeda Town Commerce and Tourism Section at 0883-72-7620

Once again this year, the streets and houses of Ikeda will be lit with many beautiful lights.

Anan LED Display

When: Saturday, December 22 to Monday, 24

Where: At the JR Anan Station Plaza and surrounds

Cost: Free!

Contact: Call the Anan City Chamber of Commerce at 0884-22-2301

The top of Mount Bizan during the Christmas period is a great place to have a spectacular sight of the city lights!

クリスマスイルミネーション情報

今年の12月と1月上旬にクリスマス・イルミネーションのディスプレイが県内各地で行われます。ぜひこの機会に、足を運んでください。

ケンチョピア

日時： 12月17日（月）～12月25日（火）

17:00から23:00

場所： 徳島市、ケンチョピア（県庁前ヨットハーバー）

料金： 無料

問合せ： 徳島ヨットクラブ（電話 088-644-0087）

池田冬のオブジェ

日時： 12月1日（土）から2008年1月10日（木）

毎日 17:00-22:00

場所： 三好市池田町

料金： 無料

問合せ： 池田町商工観光課（電話 0883-72-7620）

今年も池田町の家々が美しいイルミネーションで飾られます。家の前や公園などにもオブジェが出ます。

阿南光の夢づくり

日時： 12月22日（土）から12月24日（月）

場所： 阿南市 ステーションプラザ、牛岐城址公園

料金： 無料

問合せ： 阿南市商工会議所（電話 0884-22-2301）

その他、眉山の山頂も徳島市内の夜景を楽しむには最高の場所です！

Announcements

A new birth in the family? Have you recently gotten married? Then good news! Awa Life is looking for submissions from readers to help you get the word out! Send us the details and a short blurb, accompanied by a picture if you have any on hand, and we will post it for you in the next issue of Awa Life!

Send any submissions to the awalife email address at: awalife@gmail.com.

お祝いメッセージ

最近、結婚・出産などのおめでたいニュースがあった方、阿波ライフではあなたの家族のお祝い事を読者の皆さんに発表したいと思います！100文字程度の文章と（もしあつたら）写真を阿波ライフまで送っていただけたら次号の阿波ライフに掲載いたします。

阿波ライフのメールアドレスまでお送りください：awalife@gmail.com

memoranda

Christmas Lights Competition

Come along to Kamiyama town to check out some first-class Christmas lighting displays in the streets!

When: Tuesday, December 18 to Monday, December 31
 17:00 - 21:00 every evening
 The displays will be judged from December 18 to December 21, and results are announced on Saturday, December 22

Where: Myozai-gun, Kamiyama

Cost: Free

Contact: Call the Kamiyama Town Commerce and Industry Committee at 088-676-1232

クリスマスのイルミネーション大賞

神山町内がクリスマスイルミネーションで飾れ、大賞が選ばれます。

日時 : 12月18日（火）～12月31日（月）
 17:00～21:00
 ※ 審査の期間は12月18日から21日までです。
 ※ 結果発表は12月22日

場所 : 名西郡、神山町

料金 : 無料

問合せ：神山町商工会（電話 088-676-1232）

Santa on the River

Santa will be travelling down the river through the center of Tokushima City by boat, delivering over 3,000 presents to children from 18:00 to 21:00 each day of the event!

When: Sunday, December 23 to Tuesday, December 25
 18:00-21:00

Where: Shinmachi river, starting from the Ryogoku bridge and making a full trip around Hyotan-jima

Cost: Free!

Contact: Call the Shinmachi River Preservation Committee at 088-655-1201

川からサンタがやってくる

徳島市の新町川から船に乗ったサンタクロースが子供達にプレゼントを配ります。

日時 : 12月23日（日）～12月25日（火）
 18:00～21:00

場所 : 徳島市新町川（両国橋から始まり、ひょうたん島を一周します。）

料金 : 無料

問合せ：新町川を守る会（電話 088-655-1201）

Yellowtail Fair

Let's have fresh and delicious stuff on our food tables because of New Year! Fresh seafood and Ise Lobster Sale and also the Ise Lobster longevity sake dance will be shown at this Yellowtail Fair in Yuki.

When: Sunday, December 30 from 9am to 1pm

Where: Kaifu-gun, Minami-cho, Nishi no chi at Poppo Marin in front of JR Yuki Station

Cost: Free!

Contact: Call the Yuki Town Commerce and Industry Committee at 0884-78-0249

由岐産直「鮒の市」

お正月前ですから新鮮な食材で料理をしましょう！魚介類の即売や伊勢海老長寿汁、伊勢海老長寿酒の振る舞い等が行われます。

日時 : 12月30日（日）9:00～13:00

場所 : 海部郡美波町西の地 JR 由岐駅前 ぱっぽマリン

入場料 : 無料

問合せ：由岐商工会（電話 0884-78-0249）

Ebisu Festival

His nickname is O-Ibessan and it is said, that he is the god of prosperousness. Ebisu-san is sharing the good luck and helps florish the people in the prosperous business. You can buy "Good Luck Candy" and other stuff. There is also a market for potted plants and garden shrubs.

When: Wednesday, January 9 to Friday, January 11

Where: Tokushima City, Toorimachi,
Kotoshironushi Shrine

Cost: Free!

Contact: Call the Kotoshironushi Shrine at
088-654-3978

えびす祭

通称おいべっさんと言われ、商売繁盛の神様とも言われています。“えびすさん”にあやかり、商売繁盛を祈願する人々でにぎわいます。福あめ等の屋台店や植木市も開かれます。

日時： 2008年1月9日（水）～11（金）

場所： 徳島市通町 事代主神社

入場料： 無料

問合せ： 事代主神社（電話 088-654-3978）

Living in Tokushima

In need of information for daily activities? Come and take a look at the Living in Tokushima website hosted by Tokushima Prefecture, home to information such as earthquake and typhoon-related messages, tv and movie guides, events, contact numbers and more.

Living in Tokushima Computer Website

http://our.pref.tokushima.jp/e_living/index.php

Living in Tokushima Mobile Website

http://our.pref.tokushima.jp/e_living/m

徳島県生活情報 ウェブサイト

日常生活において情報を探しですか。ぜひ、徳島県の生活情報ウェブサイトをご覧ください！このウェブサイトから地震・台風についての情報、テレビや映画のガイド、イベント情報などにアクセスできます。パソコン・携帯版両方提供しています！

パソコンサイト

http://our.pref.tokushima.jp/e_living/index.php

携帯サイト

http://our.pref.tokushima.jp/e_living/m

Counselling Service at TOPIA

トピアの相談窓口

TOPIA offers a counselling and advisory service to all foreign residents to help with issues involving accidents, working conditions, housing, visas, international marriage, and more. Counselling is available in English and Japanese. Please note that although every effort will be made, we may not be able to deal with all cases.

Monday to Friday, 10:00 - 16:30

Tel. 088-656-3303 or 088-656-3320 (allows three-way conversations with an interpreter)

正しい知識で差別解消