

# awa life



October 2014

## An Example of Non-Attachment – Giving Up Your Hair Along the Shikoku Pilgrimage

by David C. Moreton



As the popularity of the Shikoku pilgrimage continues to grow, it seems that more people are wishing to complete this journey by spending the least amount of money possible. Some try to find inexpensive or free places to stay and others develop interesting strategies to eat cheaply, such as going to a supermarket in the evening and buying the fresh food products which have been discounted. But if you do not stay at a pilgrim inn or hotel every night, where do you wash your body and shampoo your hair, something that you cannot ignore more than a few days. In fact, what do you do about your hair for such a long journey? Do you get a haircut or head shave beforehand, or go for a haircut midway through, or let it grow and wait to get a haircut when until you finish?

(Continued on page 3)

## Inside awa life This Month

Page 1, 3-4: An Example of Non-Attachment - Giving Up Your Hair Along the Shikoku Pilgrimage

Page 4,5: Tokushima's Tale of the Heike, Heike Matsuri Information

Page 6: Cycling Rules, Fitness Corner

Page 7: Japanese Lesson; Page 8: Shinmachi Nanairo Band, Letter from Suketo Hoikuen

Page 9: Wander-ful Tabi: Joroku-ji, the Oldest Temple

Page 10-12: Events & Memoranda

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## Show Tokushima Some Love: Awaglot

The literary corner of AwaLife, Awaglot, is a combination of the words "awa" and "polyglot", which means multilingual. Be it fiction, nonfiction, prose or poetry; funny, sad, long or short, we want your submissions! If you like to write, then express yourself!

There is also a classifieds section for you, our readers, to post ads in, but

a few rules do apply!

### The following will not be posted:

Religious, political, or commercial activities, businesses searching for clients or employees, things the Awa Life editors deem inappropriate.

### BUT, you can totally submit

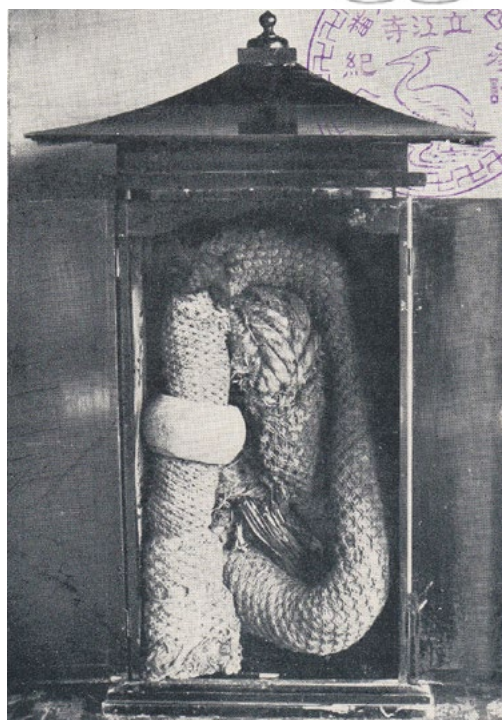
this stuff: concerts, lectures, and

other event information, cultural, sporting, and other community group information, etcetera.

If you have something you would like to share with the Tokushima community, email the editors at: [awalife@gmail.com](mailto:awalife@gmail.com)!



A picture from 1926 of the story about the woman called Okyō



A postcard with a picture of the rope and hair



# An Example of Non-Attachment

Con't from Page 1



This has actually been a matter of concern for pilgrims since they first started to make this pilgrimage several hundreds of years ago. Today, most people are aware of the custom of giving or supporting (osettai) pilgrims, but few people realize that in the past one form of osettai was that the local people used to give free haircuts. In fact, the earliest references are from as early as the 18th century. The

illustration here is from a book printed in the early 19th century that shows man getting his head shaved, which could have been done as a form of tonsure indicating separation from this world, and or to prevent lice and other infestations that might picked up from pilgrim lodges. Later, in 1883 a pilgrim wrote that there were people giving free meals and head shaves in a small village in present-day Matsuyama City. Another book from 1903 states that “on

the porches of farmer’s one can see female pilgrims with their hair undone, while a girl of woman is kneeling down behind them to oil their hair and bind it together. On the other side there is provisional barber’s room, where the men are having their hair cut and their beards shaved.” (Two on a Pilgrimage. Alfred Bohner. p185)

There are two examples of

women shaving their heads at temples just south of Tokushima city. One is Kōbō Daishi’s mother at Temple 18, Onzanji (恩山寺). She came here to see her son, but could not climb the mountain to the temple because of the *nyonin kinsei* (女人禁制) system, which prohibited women on mountains. Kōbō Daishi came down to the main gate, held a goma (fire) ritual for seventeen days and was



*A picture from 1884 of the story about the woman called Okyō*

able to break this restrictive rule. She then went up to the temple with him, had her hair cut off in a building beside the Daishi hall called “the hut of tonsure” *Teihatsudo* (剃髮堂), and became a nun. There is also a stone monument in front of the building commemorating this event, but surprisingly few

people know about this part of Onzanji’s history.

More famous than this story is about a woman called Okyō at Temple 19, *Tatsueji* (立江寺) in 1803. This is her story from a book, *Tatsueji Reigenki* (立江寺靈驗記) written in 1925.

Okyō was the second of three daughters of Sakuraya Ginbei from present-day Hamada City, Shimane prefecture. At the age of eleven, she was sold as a

geisha to Hiroshima and at sixteen, was resold to Osaka during which time she met Yosuke and made a promise to marry him. At twenty-three, she ran away from Osaka, went back to her parent’s home, told her parents about Yōsuke and married him. However, as she became ever more evil in her heart, she became increasingly arrogant. She had an affair with Chōzō that Yōsuke discovered. One day when she tried to affectionately talk to Chōzō, Yōsuke jumped

out from hiding and gave them a severe beating. Chōzō said that he did not realize that he had done anything wrong and thought to take revenge for the injuries caused by Yōsuke. Chōzō said to Okyō, “Let’s kill him.” Okyō quickly agreed and said that she would take Chōzō to Yōsuke. That night, she did so and clubbed Yōsuke to death. Under the cover of darkness, she and

Chōzō crossed over the sea to Marugame, Kagawa prefecture. They embarked on the Shikoku pilgrimage and when they arrived at Tatsueji, they feared that heaven would punish them for their adultery. Suddenly Okyō's black hair rose up and became entwined with the bell rope. Chōzō panicked and went quickly to get the priest's help. The priest asked the circumstances of such a sin and when Okyō showed remorse for her actions, she was released but her hair and scalp remained in the rope. She was lucky to be alive. Okyō had committed various grave sins, came here

and received this unexpected punishment, which was an act of heaven. Okyō spent time in front of the main deity statue at Tatsueji repenting of her great sins and returned to being a 'real' person. She and Chōzō lived in a small hut nearby and they devotedly prayed to a statue of Jizo for the rest of their lives. Even now, the bell rope with Okyō's hair is enshrined in the main hall of Tatsueji."

However, when the main hall was rebuilt in 1977 after being destroyed by fire in 1974, the bell rope was placed in a concrete structure beside the Daishi hall, which is still there

today, so please have a look.

So, if you are thinking of making the 1,200 km Shikoku pilgrimage by foot and plan to camp most or all of the time maybe it would be best to shave your head before embarking on the journey to prevent any possible punishment for past sins like Okyō. Personally, however, I think that reinstating free haircuts, as a form of osettai, along the Shikoku pilgrimage would make a lot of pilgrims happy.

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## Tokushima's Tale of the Heike

By Aki Taguchi

**"**In the western mountains of Awa, there lies a deep, secret valley, where the prince will be safe." So begins the legend of Tokushima's famed Iya Valley, a place noted as one of Japan's Three Hidden Places, where the young son of the defeated Heike Clan master was shuttled off to under the protection of their most trusted samurai.

The year was 1185. The five-year long Genpei War, centered around Kyoto, was coming to a close, and the ruling Taira (Heike) Clan was on the verge of overthrow by the opposing Minamoto Clan (of lineage to the Emperor). Knowing that certain death awaited them all, a plot was devised to smuggle out the youngest clan members with hopes that they would

one day regroup for victory. Understanding they would be ruthlessly hunted down, secrecy was of the utmost importance. Some went north to Tohoku, others far west to Kyushu, and the seven-year old prince Antoku was taken off to Shikoku.

The journey into Tokushima was long and arduous, and the retreating group was small and haggard. A handful of samurai warriors were tasked with leading the prince to safety, while also protecting his meager ensemble of minders. Their reconnaissance scouted out a difficult to access valley, with mountain passes over 1500 meters high and an entrance far off to the west through a narrow gorge. It was a perfect place to hide, but the journey was so

grueling, and the conditions in this remote place so onerous, that within a year of finally settling into the his new home, the young prince died of what is now believed to be pneumonia.

Today, the people of the Iya Valley celebrate their legendary connection with the fugitive samurai of the renowned Genpei War with the annual Heike Matsuri, held this year on Sunday, October 26. The festival takes place in Nishi Iya adjacent to the famous Kazurabashi (vine bridge) which was supposedly built in such a way to allow the hiding Heike warriors the ability of quickly cutting it down with their swords in order to hasten the attack of any hunting Minamoto.

The Heike Matsuri has several events from 12:15pm to 3:15pm,

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# Tokushima's Tale of the Heike

Con't from Page 4



including traditional dances, a paper-screen (fusuma) picture performance, and a play telling the story of a local princess. But the highlight of the day is the dramatic reenactment of the Tale of the Heike, with local performers costumed in full samurai armor. They act out of the saga of escaping from the beaches of Kansai, seeking out the Iya Valley, and then coming to a tragic end after finally believing to be out of harm's way. This main performance is a unique opportunity to see a well-prepared historical drama, and even if you can not speak Japanese, by knowing the back-story explained here it would be easy enough to follow along. And the parade of the bedecked cast afterwards is a great chance to see the ornate costumes up close.

Also on offer is a chance to sample some of the renowned Iya soba (buck-wheat noodles), taste this year's harvest of the small, dense Iya potatoes, or bite into a whole grilled amego (river trout). But above all, getting out to the fresh, relaxed air of the lush Iya Valley, with

the autumn colors then coming out, makes such an excursion all that more enticing. Because aside from the cultural offerings, there are lots of hiking courses, camping places, and hot springs to soak in.

## Access

The Iya Valley is located in Miyoshi City in western Tokushima Prefecture, and is best to experience if one has a car. There are several approaches but the quickest would be to go south from Ikeda town on National Route 32 about 30 minutes to Oboke, then follow Route 45 another 15 minutes up over the mountain and down into Nishi Iya. Follow the signs for the Kazurabashi (festival site), located about 5 minutes beyond the village center.

Alternatively, one can enter (or exit) the valley through the beautiful Iya Gorge by heading about 10 minutes south of Ikeda on National Route 32, then turning off onto Prefecture Route 32 at Iyaguchi (follow the sign for "Deai"). This route is full of deep views of undeveloped mountains, but the often one-

laned zig-zag road clinging to the cliff face can be a bit scary for unseasoned drivers. Allow for at least one hour (including viewpoint stops) from Ikeda to central Nishi Iya along this route.

Buses depart from Ikeda for the Kazurabashi several times a day. Most go via Oboke, but a couple take the route through the winding gorge road. Buses also depart from Oboke train station.

For more information about the Iya Valley, check [www.miyoshinavi.jp/](http://www.miyoshinavi.jp/) or the Wikivoyage webpage at [http://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/Iya\\_Valley](http://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/Iya_Valley)

## Heike Matsuri

A festival celebrating the cultural heritage of the Iya Valley, including dance performances, historical re-enactments, and a sampling of local delicacies.

When: October 26 (Sun),  
12:15pm – 3:15pm

Where: Kazurabashi Event  
Space Yumebuta, Nishi Iya,  
Miyoshi City

Cost: Free

Info: [www.miyoshinavi.jp/](http://www.miyoshinavi.jp/)  
Tel: 0120-404-344



Nobody knows for certain when or if we'll ever be involved in an accident or natural disaster. This month we will be learning Japanese words and phrases that we can use in times of emergencies.

- (1) マリアさんのアパートが火事です。消防署に電話しましょう。  
消防署の番号は119番です。救急車を呼ぶ時も119番です。

消防署員： 119番、消防署です。火事ですか、救急ですか。

マリア： 火事です。

消防署員： 場所は、どこですか。

マリア： ①徳島市山下町1-2-4、②さくらアパート304です。  
③山下公園の前です。

消防署員： どこから火が出ていますか。

マリア： 台所から火が出ています。

消防署員： わかりました。あなたの名前と電話番号を教えてください。

マリア： ④マリアです。電話は ⑤090-1234-5678です。



The card below will help you relay personal information more smoothly in times of emergencies. Please fill in the card below and practice saying your information.

### 緊急用カード / Emergency Information Card

①	あなたの住所 (Address) :
②	アパートの名前と部屋の番号 (Building name and room number) :
③	近くの目印 (Markers) : (例：公園のとなり、公園のうしろ、公園の近く) (Ex. Next to a park, behind a park, near a park)
④	名前 (Name) :
⑤	電話番号 (Phone number) :

- (2) マリアさんは交通事故にあいました。すぐに警察に電話します。110番です。

警察署員： はい、110番、警察です。どうしましたか。

マリア： 車の運転をしていて、①自転車とぶつかりました。

警察署員： けがは、ありませんか。

マリア： わたしはだいじょうぶですが、①自転車の人は、②けがをしています。

警察署員： では、救急車も呼びます。

場所は、どこですか。

マリア： バイパスの③〇〇スーパーの前です。



けいさつしゅいん い ま  
警察署員：すぐ行きますから、そこで待っていてください。

マリア：わかりました。

Using the dialogue above, use the new information given below, ①②③ (the numbers below correspond to the numbers in the dialogue, so please change the words accordingly) to practice calling the police for different circumstances.

① どんな事故ですか：他の車、自転車、人

② どんなけがですか：かなり出血しています。全然動きません。意識がありません。

すこしけがをしています。(けがはありません。)

③ 事故の場所：スーパーの前、スーパーの角、スーパーの駐車場、スーパーの南側

## Cycling Rules

### By the Tokushima Prefectural Police

#### Rules of the Road: 5 Rules for Bicycle Safety

**1. As a general rule, cyclists should ride on the streets, and sidewalks should only be used in exceptional cases.**

In the presence of both a sidewalk and road, cyclists must stay on the road.

However, cyclists may use the sidewalk in the following cases:

- ① Road signs indicate that cyclists and pedestrians can share the sidewalk
- ② If cyclists are under the age of 13 or over the age of 70 or if they have difficulty riding on the road due to a physical disability.
- ③ If due to the traffic condition, it is a safer option to cycle on the sidewalk and there are no other choices.

**2. Cyclists should ride on the left side of the street.**

Cyclists must stay on the left side of the road, away from the center of the road.

**3. Cyclists should give pedestrians the right of way and should ride on the side closest to the street.**

When cyclists are on the sidewalk:

- ① When road signs indicate which side the cyclist must stay on, then they must stay on the designated side
- ② When there are no designated spaces, cyclists must stay on the side closest to the road

As well, they must reduce their speed and must give pedestrians the right of way.

**4. Cyclists must obey safety rules.**

- ① Cyclist must not drink and ride, double ride, and ride side by side
- ② At night, they must use their bicycle light
- ③ Cyclists must obey traffic lights at intersections and when required to, must check for safety after coming to a full stop.

**5. Children must wear helmets.**

Children under the age of 13 must wear a helmet when cycling. As well, children riding in a child's seat must also wear a helmet.



**T**his routine requires a park or playground area with monkey bars and plenty of open space.

### DIRECTIONS

Perform the exercise pairs (marked "A" and "B") as supersets, so you'll complete one set of A and then one set of B before resting. Repeat until all sets are complete. The parallel bar hand walk is done as straight sets— do a set, rest, and repeat.

#### 1A. BEAR CRAWL

Sets: 3 Reps: Crawl for 50 feet

Rest: 0 sec.

Bend down and plant your hands on the ground. Try to keep your back flat as you walk on all fours as fast as you can. Your legs should be fairly straight as you step your feet outside where your hands land.

#### 1B. CRAB WALK

Sets: 3 Reps: Walk for 50 feet

Rest: As needed

Sit on the ground and bridge up with your hips so you look like a tabletop. Walk forward on your hands and feet as fast as you can.

#### 2. PARALLEL BAR HAND WALK

Sets: 5 Reps: Walk to the end and back Rest: As needed

Hang from a jungle gym or length of parallel bars. Walk to the end of the row and back with your hands.

#### 3A. FORWARD SPRINT

Sets: 5 Reps: Sprint 50 yards

Rest: 0 sec.

Run at about 90% of your top speed.

#### 3B. BACKWARD SPRINT

Sets: 5 Reps: Sprint 50 yards

Rest: As needed

Run backwards as quickly as you can

## Shinmachi Nanairo Band

By the Awa Life Editors

**A** three member all-girls rock band formed right here in Tokushima City, what could they possibly all have in common? The members of the Shinmachi Nanairo Band are all 12 years old or are turning 12, possibly the youngest three member band in all of Japan.

The group is led by singer and guitarist Natsumi Toko-zakura, from Tokushima City. On bass is Hana Inoue, from Anan City and on drums is Kyoko Sugiyama, from Mie Prefecture. The band

was named Shinmachi Nanairo Band with the hopes that one day the band will be the driving

force in reviving Tokushima. Back in the days, the Shinmachi arcade used to be where the life

remains and for many stores the shutters never came up. In recent years; however, efforts

have been made to revive Shinmachi and Tokushima, of which the band is one of them. With the bands popularity they hope to shine the spotlight on Tokushima as well and revive it to the bustling days of the past. On September 24th, the band made their major record label debut with the single "Chineeshoes." With the music that they love they hope to achieve their

dreams of becoming like their favorite band Chat-monchy, whilst promoting Tokushima.





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## Letter from Suketo Hoikuen

By Kazue Inoue



Children often draw quite a bit at nursery schools. At first they can only draw dots and circles, but as they experience more and more things, they will slowly gain more control of different parts of their body, from their shoulders to their elbows then their wrist to their hands and they will eventually be able to draw more refined and complex pictures. In general, as children grow, you will witness a change in their drawing abilities as well.

### "The change of children's drawing abilities as they grow up"

- 1 year old: Children learn to draw dots.
- Around 1 year and a half old: They will learn to draw by using their shoulder to move their arms making rough movements in order to draw horizontal lines over the paper.
- Around 2 years old: Movement will now come

from the elbow and they will slowly gain control of their hands, enabling them to draw curves and round objects.

- Around 3 years old: Eye hand co-ordination starts to develop making them able to draw a closed circle.

- Around 3 and a half years old: With a more developed awareness of their bodies (arms and legs) kids can now draw people with heads, arms and legs.

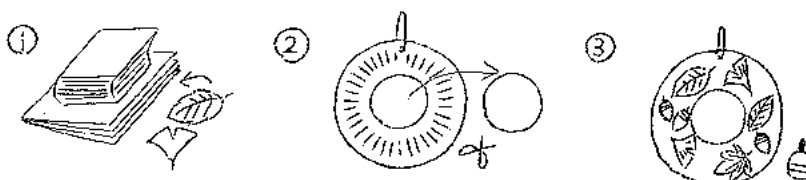
- Around 4 years old: They will be able to draw people, things and animals creating a story around their pictures in their minds while on paper the things may still look unrelated.

- Around 5 years old: They

learn to draw a background and a ground and how to put details in their pictures. They will even be able to draw things exclusively from their imagination without having experience them.

This month's craft: Wall decorations made of leaves

- 1) Press leaves found in the park or in your garden between old newspapers or magazines (1-2 days)
- 2) Cut out the center of a paper plate and tie a string to the top.
- 3) Decorate the plate with the leaves and glue it down with wood glue to create your wreath.



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## Wander-ful Tabi: Joroku-ji, the Oldest Temple

By Lance Kita

It's not part of the Shikoku 88 Pilgrimage, but Joroku-ji Temple 丈六寺 is the oldest temple in Tokushima, and for one weekend you can view its treasures.

Nestled in a forest oasis along a busy riverside road that skirts the border of Tokushima and Komatsushima Cities, it's easy to miss this solitary site. Temple history states the

temple was established in 650 AD by a priest who traveled here from the Kanto region. During the late 15th century, the temple's affiliation was changed to the Soto Zen sect, and has remained so since.

Last autumn, I biked out to the temple and had a look around. For most of the year the temple sits quietly, its paths littered with fallen leaves. The silence of

the compound's courtyard was further thickened by crumbling plaster, piled roof tiles, spider webs, and mossy gravestones with almost illegible names... Joroku-ji surely has seen better days.

Do not dismiss Joroku-ji at a cursory glance. Look closer, take the time to seek out details, and its mystique is slowly revealed. The Sanmon

(third gate, which is a part of the compound) and Hondo (Main Hall) are National Important Cultural Properties, along with the Kwannon Hall and its seated buddhist image, and several objects from its treasure hall.

Walk along the hallway on the northern side of the compound, and you'll keep ceiling boards with red smudges. According to legend, the lord of Awa and his warriors were deceived and slayed here in 1582 by a lord from Tosa (now Kochi) just hours after agreeing to a peace treaty. The stains from their bloody hands and feet were said to have remained even after wiping the boards, so the planks were transferred from the floor to the ceiling as a lasting reminder of this treachery.

For one weekend a year, the doors to the sullen buildings open to reveal the true treasures of this temple. Nicknamed "the Horyuji of Awa," not only can you admire the culturally important buildings from the outside, but it's your annual chance to visit the Treasure Hall and see artifacts related to the clans who ruled this area.

More importantly, the Kannon Hall will be open so you can see the seated Sei-Kannon image inside. It sits 3.6 meters high or



*The Kannon Hall will be open Nov. 1-3, offering a rare glimpse at the seated buddhist statue inside*



*The Sanmon gate, a National Important Cultural Property, as seen from the inner courtyard.*



1-jo+6-shaku (一丈六尺 ichi-jo-roku-shaku), which is how the temple got its present name. No pictures are allowed, but you can gaze up through the dark and dusty hall and see his face, glowed faintly from the

gold leaf, eyes half-open in meditation, and wonder what he is philosophizing on his way to enlightenment. Be sure to also enjoy the delicate carvings around the exterior of the hall, which rival some of the architectural details in Kyoto's buildings. Buddhas of this size and age are unusual in Tokushima, so enjoy this hidden treasure in the quiet, rustic precinct of the most ancient of Awa's temples.

**Joroku-ji Open House:** November 1-3, 10 am-4pm. There is a nominal fee to enter the treasure hall. The Treasure Hall, Kannon Hall, and Hondo will be open for viewing. No pictures in the Treasure Hall and Kannon Hall, please. Address: Tokushima-shi, Joroku-cho, Joryo 32 徳島市丈六町文領 3 2

# Events & Memoranda



## MACHI ★ ASOBI / マチ★アソビ

「マチ★アソビ」は”徳島をアソビ尽くす”ことを目的とした複合エンターテインメントイベントです。徳島のシンボルである眉山山頂や、新町川沿いにある“しんまちボードウォーク”、阿波おどり会館やポップ街、徳島駅周辺を巻き込み、各エンターテインメント関連会社や人気声優が一堂に会し、さまざまなイベントや展示が行われる一大イベントです。

開催期間：9月27日（土）～10月13日（日）

場所：徳島市内

入場料：無料（一部有料イベント有）

MACHI ★ ASOBI is a conglomeration of different events that aim to turn Tokushima into a place of fun and excitement. Events will be taking place throughout the city including, Tokushima's symbols such as Mount Bisan, the "Shinmachi Boardwalk" by the Shinmachi river side, the Awa Odori Kaikan and Poppo Town. Companies affiliated with the entertainment industry and popular voice actors link up to make MACHI ★ ASOBI an all-round interesting and exciting event.

When: September 27 (Sat) - October 13 (Sun)

Where: All around Tokushima City

Cost: Free (Some events may require a fee)

## Kamiyama Artist in Residence 神山アーティスト・イン・レジデンス

国内外の芸術家を神山町に招いて、地域住民との協働による創作活動等で交流を深め、作品展覧会を実施します。

レジデンス期間：8月下旬～11月3日（月）

作品展覧会：10月26日（日）～11月3日（月）

場所：神山町

TEL：088-676-1177

詳しくは：<http://www.in-kamiyama.jp/art/>

Artists from all around the world will gather in Kamiyama, where they will work together with the locals to create art for their exhibition.

In residence: Late August-November 3 (Mon)

Art exhibit: October 26 (Sun)-November 3 (Mon)

Where: Kamiyama Town

TEL: 088-676-1177

Info: <http://www.in-kamiyama.jp/art/>

## Hiwasa Hachiman Shrine Autumn Festival 日和佐八幡神社秋まつり

約220年前から続く、大漁祈願・海上安全・五穀豊穡などを祈願する、伝統ある秋祭りです。8台のちょうさ（太鼓屋台）が大浜海岸を駆けまわり、波濤の中に飛び込む勇壮なお祭りです。

開催期間：10月11日（土）～12日（日）

場所：海部郡美波町日和佐地区

URL: <http://www.hiwasahachiman.com/>

With a history of 220 years, this traditional autumn festival prays for good catch, safety and good harvest. 8 mikoshis will be carried around the Ohama Beach and into the waters.

When: October 11 (Sat) - 12 (Sun)

Where: Kaifu-gun, Minami-cho, Hiwasa area

URL: <http://www.hiwasahachiman.com/>



## Free Henro Walking Tour (For Foreign Residents)

### 四国八十八ヶ所遍路ウォーキングツアー

開創 1200 年記念の四国八十八ヶ所遍路を体験しませんか。第 13 番札所から 17 番札所を回る予定になっております。

Celebrate 1200 years of the Shikoku pilgrimage and participate in a walk from Temples 13 to 17 in Tokushima.

開催期間：10 月 19 日（日）

8:00-15:00

参加費： 無料

申込み： 先着 25 名様に参加できます。

申込用紙をファックス (088-623-0960)

又はメール (zs100@mf.pikara.ne.jp)

でお送りください。

詳しくは： [www.topia.ne.jp/english/](http://www.topia.ne.jp/english/)

When: October 19 (Sun)

8:00-15:00

Cost: Free

Application: First 25 applicants will be chosen

Submit applications via fax (088-623-

0960) or email (zs100@mf.pikara.ne.jp)

For more information or to apply visit:

[www.topia.ne.jp/english/](http://www.topia.ne.jp/english/)

## Mount Tsurugi Foliage Festival / 剣山もみじ祭り

昭和 58 年度より実施している剣山もみじ祭りは、剣山のイベントの中でも最も盛大に行われるイベントです。剣山の紅葉は、10 月初旬から中旬にかけて山頂から見ノ越周辺へと下りてきます。その色鮮やかさは人が手を入れた庭園のような美しさとは違い、自然のままの美しさを見せてくれます。

開催期間：10 月 1 日（水）～ 31 日（金）

場所：三好市東祖谷 剣山頂上～見の越周辺

問合せ：剣山観光推進協議会

TEL: 0883-67-5277

URL: <http://www.turugisan.com/>

Of all the events held at Mount Tsurugi the Foliage Festival that started in 1983 is by far the most magnificent. In the first half of Oct. the autumn colors of Mount Tsurugi can be seen from the mountain top all the way to Minokoshi.

When: October 1 (Wed) - 31 (Fri)

Where: Miyoshi City Higashi Iya, Mt. Tsurugi  
mountain top to the Minokoshi area

Info: Mt. Tsurugi Tourism Promotions Association

TEL: 0883-67-5277

URL: <http://www.turugisan.com/>

## 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.

Everyday, 10:00 - 18:00 (closed during the New Year's holidays)

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

人権を守って輝く明日