



## Facing the future, once again

In this issue of Mimitaro, we visited "Tania Bolos," a shop catering party cakes etc., and spoke with Mr. Yasudi Araki, and his wife Ms. Tania.



**Mr. Yasudi :**  
Our family came to Japan from Brazil 25 years ago. My parents are Japanese who went to Brazil

as a child. As being the eldest son, I wanted my ill father to receive treatment in Japan, so I brought my parents along. We were blessed with two children, and my wife and I both worked at a factory in Shiga to support our family. It was 8 years ago, when our peaceful life changed all of the sudden. I was in a traffic accident and suffered serious injuries that made me unable to work. Our children were adolescents at the time and still needed their parents. My wife had to support the family all by herself, but due to the overwork, she developed depression. Reluctantly, she had to resign her job, making our lives even more difficult. It reminds me of the time when we couldn't even prepare the school uniform for our child who was to enter high school, and asked the school for support. In the midst of all this, my wife, who was still undergoing treatment, stood up to start a career out of baking cakes, which is her specialty.

We wanted to properly proceed this as a business, so we renovated the house and received business licence from the public health center and opened our shop, "Tania Bolos." If so, I had the urge to do something too. Although I could no longer work at a factory, I could work at home according to my physical condition. Having never cooked before, a friend taught me a secret recipe for Brazilian Croquette, and now next to my wife, I cook some side dishes. Most of all, as a parent I feel grateful to be able to show our children that I am facing the future once again. Our children are now grown up, one working and the other in university, and they help us out a lot. This year, our son did the final income tax return for us.

Life is full of unexpected events. Our job at the factory supported our family for many years, and if

nothing happened, we probably would have continued to work there. However, by encountering difficulties and learning from them, a new path opened up and we are where we are today. Moreover, this path allows my wife to express herself at the most, and this business is all to ourselves. So if you are struggling in life, stop mourning and look forward, I am sure you will find another path.

**Ms. Tania :** Since I loved eating sweets, I enjoyed baking them too. I used to bake cakes and bring them to work to have my colleagues eat them. "If you can bake such delicious cakes, why don't you sell them?" Some people praised me and when I was no longer able to work, I remembered the words of my colleagues and decided to give it a try. Until then, I only made amateur cakes so I went to classes to learn professional cake decorations and started my business in earnest.

We mostly make cakes, sweets and side dishes for parties. For example, on your child's birthday, we can make cakes decorated with your child's favorite character. Thanks to the word of mouth, customers started to grow, and not only from Brazilians but we now receive orders from Japanese and people from various countries. Recently, we see an increase in young Japanese people whose partners or friends are Brazilian, and sometimes we receive orders from those people who have attended a party hosted by a Brazilian. I'm very happy to see Japanese people accepting our culture like this in a natural way. On weekends, we tend to work from early morning to midnight, but probably because I am doing what I love, my physical conditions are much better.

Now, I feel that all of those rough times and the new paths I have encountered, have been gifts from God. We spend all day together so at times we have disagreements, but we hope we can keep on supporting each other and continue to move forward.



(Tania Bolos FB)

**When in trouble . . . Interpretation \* Consultation Desks  
for Foreign Residents in Shiga**



Area	Consultation Desk	Language(s)	Consultation Schedule	Contact
Otsu	City Hall Kankou Shinkou-ka MICE Promotion Office	English	Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 5:00 pm	077-528-2864
	Otsu Int'l. Goodwill Association ( <i>Otsu-shi Kokusai Shinzen Kyokai</i> )	Japanese (interpreter required)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed 5:30 pm, 6:15 pm, 7:00 pm (reservation req'd by 1pm the day before)	077-525-4711
Hikone	City Hall Hikone Foreign Residents Support Center (Hikone Gaikokujin Soudan Center) · Honkan (main bldg) 3F Jinken- seisaku-ka · Chuo-cho bekkann (annex) 1F	Portuguese	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thu 8:30 am - 7:00 pm Mon-Fri (other than above) 8:30 am - 5:15 pm	0749-30-6113
		English	Mon-Fri	
		Chinese	Tue, Fri (Wed)	
		Vietnamese	Tue, Thu (Fri)	
Nagahama	City Hall Shimin-ka	Portuguese, Spanish, English, other	Thu 8:30 am - 7:00 pm	0749-65-8711
			Mon-Wed, Fri 8:30 am - 5:15 pm	
Omihachiman	City Hall each department	Portuguese, English, other	Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 4:45 pm	0748-26-7092
Kusatsu	City Hall 2F Machizukuri Kyodo-ka	English, other	Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 4:00 pm	077-561-2337
Moriyama	Moriyama Int'l. Friendship Assn. (in Moriyama Shimin Koryu Center)	English (Inquire beforehand for other languages)	Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 4:30 pm	077-583-4653
Ritto	City Hall 3F Ritto Int'l. Friendship Association ( <i>Ritto Kokusai Koryu Kyokai</i> )	Portuguese	Wed 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	077-551-0293
Koka	City Hall Seikatsu Kankyo-ka	Portuguese, Spanish	Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 5:15 pm	0748-69-2146
	City Hall Kosodate Seisaku-ka			0748-69-2176
	City Hall Covid-19 Infectious Disease Control Office (Corona Uirusu Kansen Taisaku-ka)			0748-69-2154
Yasu	City Hall Kikaku Chousei-ka, each department	English, Chinese, other	Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 5:15 pm	077-587-6039
	Yasu Int'l Friendship Association ( <i>Yasu-shi Kokusai Kyokai</i> )	English	Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 5:00 pm	077-586-3106
Konan	City Hall Higashi Chosha general reception ( <i>sogo-uketsuke</i> )	Portuguese	Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 5:15 pm	0748-72-1290
	City Hall Nishi Chosha Jinken Yogo-ka			0748-77-7036
	Konan Int'l. Assn. Nishi Chosha 4F ( <i>Konan-shi Kokusai Kyokai</i> )		Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 5:00 pm	0748-69-7530
Takashima	Takashima Int'l Friendship Assn. ( <i>Takashima-shi Kokusai Kyokai</i> )	English, Vietnamese	Irregular sched. (by appointment)	0740-20-1180
Higashiomi	City Hall Shinkan Shimin Seikatsu Sodan-ka	Portuguese	Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 5:00 pm	0748-24-5521
Maibara	City Hall Santo Shisho Chiiki Shinkou-ka	Portuguese	Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 5:15 pm	0749-53-5172
	Maibara Multicultural and Int'l Assn. ( <i>Maibara Tabunka Kyosei Kyokai</i> ) Santo shisyo bekkann (annex) 2F	Portuguese	Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 5:00 pm	0749-56-0577
		Chinese	Mon-Thu 9:00 am - 3:00 pm	
Hino	Town Office Jyumin-ka	Portuguese	Mon, Wed, Thu 9:00 am - 5:00 pm	0748-52-6571
Aisho	Town Office Echigawa Chosha Mirai Sousei-ka	Portuguese	Mon, Tue, Fri 8:30 am - 5:15 pm	0749-29-9046
			Wed, Thu 8:30 am - 4:30 pm	
Shiga Prefecture	Shiga Foreign Residents Information Center ( <i>Shiga Gaikokujin Soudan Center</i> )	Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, English, Vietnamese, other	Mon-Fri 10:00 am - 5:00 pm	077-523-5646



## Japanese Language Classes in Shiga

Classes may cancel due to COVID-19.  
Please contact the class before participating.

Area	Group Name	Contact	Class Schedule	Venue
Otsu	Otsu Int'l Goodwill Assn	077-525-4711	Fri 1:30 pm-2:30 pm, 7:00 pm-8:00 pm	Asuto Hamaotsu 2 F
			Thu 10:00 am-11:30 am	Katata Kominkan
	Nihongo no kai	090-6609-3191	Thu 10:00 am-12:00 pm	Otsu Kominkan
	Omi Nihongo Fureai Club	077-523-1061	Mon 10:30 am-12:00 pm Sat 7:30 pm-9:10 pm	Piazza Omi 2F Seta-kita Kominkan
Hikone	Hikone International Assn.	0749-22-5931	Currently suspended. Please contact the group for details.	
		0749-24-7241	Sun 10:00 am-11:30 am	Hikone-shi Nishi-chiku Kominkan
	Smile	070-5661-7345	Mon-Fri ① 9:30 am-10:50 am ② 10:00 am-12:20 pm ③ 1:30 pm-2:50 pm ④ 3:00 pm-4:20 pm (closed on Tue.)	Innovation Office Nayashichi
			Tue, Fri 9:00 am-10:20 am	Hikone-shi Asahinomori-chiku Kominkan
	Hikone Kokusai Koryukai VOICE	0749-23-3018 090-5156-6916	Sat 2:00 pm-4:00 pm	Hikone-shi Naka-chiku Kominkan
Nagahama	Nagahama UNESCO Kyokai	0749-65-6552	Wed, Sat 7:00 pm-8:30 pm	Kokusai Bunka Koryu House GEO
	Tanoshii Nihongo	0749-63-4400	Tue 6:30 pm-8:00 pm	
Omi-hachiman	Nihongo Koryu Kyoshitsu Tanpopo	0748-26-7092	Sat 7:00 pm-9:00 pm	Kaneda Community Center
	Nihongo Koryu Kyoshitsu Azuchi			Azuchi Community Center
	Nakayoshi Nihongo Koryu Kyoshitsu		Wed 10:00 am-11:30 am	Kaneda Community Center
Kusatsu	Olive	077-565-9215	Sat 7:00 pm-8:40 pm	Kirarie Kusatsu
	SHIPS	077-561-5110	Wed, Fri 10:30 am-12:00 pm	Tabunka Kyosei Shien Center
	Kusatsu International Friendship Association Kizuna	077-561-2322	Sat 10:20 am-12:00 pm	Ritsumeikan Univ. BKC / online
	Nihongo Center	090-8146-9596	2nd & 4th Sat 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	Kirarie Kusatsu
Moriyama	Moriyama Nihongo Kyoshitsu	077-583-4653	1st & 3rd Sat 10:00 am-11:50 am	Moriyama Shimin Koryu Center
	Nihongo Salon	090-8648-9749	Mon – Fri 10:00 am-12:00 pm	
Ritto	RIFA Nihongo Kyoshitsu	077-551-0293	2nd & 4th Sat 10:15 am-11:45 am	Community Center Daihou
Koka	Koka International Exchange Assn.	0748-63-8728	Sat 7:30 pm-9:00 pm	Minakuchi-chuo Kominkan
			Mon 2:00 pm-4:00 pm	Maroom
Yasu	YIFA Nihongo Kyoshitsu	077-586-3106	Arrangements possible	Yasu Int'l. Association office
Konan	Konan International Association	0748-69-7530	Mon 2:00 pm-3:30 pm, Tue 5:30 pm-7:00 pm, Wed 10:00 am-11:30 am, Fri 3:30 pm-5:00 pm	Ishibe Machizukuri Center
			Sat 6:30 pm-8:00 pm	Mito Machizukuri Center
	Camiyando	090-1448-3350	Mon, Wed 7:00 pm-9:00 pm	ELD
Takashima	Takashima International Assn.	0740-20-1180	Arrangements possible	Imazuhigashi Community Center
	Nihongo de Hanasou		2nd & 4th Sat 2:00 pm-3:30 pm	Shin-asahi Kominkan
Higashiomi	Yokaichi Nihongo Kyoshitsu	0748-22-6717	1st & 2nd & 3rd Sun 1:30 pm-3:00 pm	Higashiomi International Friendship Association
			Tue 10:00 am-11:30 am	
			Sat 1:30 pm-3:00 pm	
Maibara	Maibara-shi Nihongo Kyoshitsu	0749-56-0577	Sat 9:30 am-11:00 am	Maibara City Hall Santo shisyo bekkann (annex)
Aisho	Aisho International Friendship Association	070-5593-1769	Sat, Sun ① 10:00 am-11:30 am ② 1:30 pm-3:00 pm ③ 3:15 pm-4:45 pm Wed 7:00 pm-8:00 pm	Echigawa Kominkan
Online	ONRITANS	090-3655-5417	Mon-Fri / Arrangements possible	Online class (zoom)

# Mimitaro Information

- ◆ **Enjoy your summer by taking precautions against heat stroke and infectious diseases!**



## ☆ Recommended locations for this summer ☆

### ☆ Mt. Hakodate

A "rainbow-colored curtain" made of "Chijimi," Takashima's traditional fabric, will appear on "Biwako no mieru oka" (a hill overlooking Lake Biwa).

URL: <https://www.hakodateyama.com/green/>

Add: Hiokimae Imazu-cho Takashima

Tel: 0740-22-2486



### ☆ Lake Biwa Museum

A museum where you can experience and learn all about Lake Biwa, which supports living creatures and our daily lives.

Advance reservation required

(From the website, from one month in advance.)

URL: <https://www.biwahaku.jp/>

Add: 1091 Orosimo-cho Kusatsu

Tel: 077-568-4811



### ☆ Shiga Museum of Art

Located in Biwako Cultural Park, the museum is adjacent to a beautiful Japanese garden. Programs for children are also held.

URL: <https://www.shigamuseum.jp/>

Add: 1740-1 Setaminamiogayacho Otsu

Tel: 077-543-2111



## ◆ Useful multilingual applications and website in times of disaster

### • NHK WORLD - JAPAN

Sharing NHK News.  
Emergency information on earthquakes and Tsunami are available in 18 languages.

For Android



For iPhone



### • Safety tips

Useful application for knowing information on disasters in Japan.

(Available in 12 languages)

For Android



For iPhone



### • Japan Meteorological Agency

#### Disaster Information Website (in 15 languages)

URL: <https://www.data.jma.go.jp/multi/index.html?lang=en>

◇ For more information, see Cabinet Office's Disaster Management website.

URL: [https://www.bousai.go.jp/kokusai/web/img/02\\_bousai\\_guidebook\\_Web\\_EN.pdf](https://www.bousai.go.jp/kokusai/web/img/02_bousai_guidebook_Web_EN.pdf)

# Mimitaro News

## ◆ For consultation related to "working," contact Shiga International Recruitment Support Center

Free consultation is available for foreigners who are working or want to work in Shiga. Any kind of consultation related to "working", such as "How to apply for a status of residence", "How to write a resume", or "Want to practice interviewing", etc. is welcome. Professional advisors will work together with you to solve your problem. (Japanese only)

**INQ** Shiga International Recruitment Support Center

Lty 932 3F, Oji 1chome 1-1, Kusatsu

(1 min walk from JR Kusatsu station, east exit)

Tel: 050 - 5211 - 5397

E mail: [shiga\\_support@pasona.co.jp](mailto:shiga_support@pasona.co.jp)

URL: <https://shiga-gaisapo.com/>



## ◆ Japanese language for work / JICE Free of charge

Application: At Hello Work 【Application deadline】

• Nagahama (Evening, Level 2) 【Aug 31st】

Where: Rinko Sept 12th to Early Dec

• Hikone (Evening, Level 3) 【Sept 14th】

Where: Tachibana Sept 27<sup>th</sup> to Mid-Dec

• Hino (Morning, Level 1) 【July 15th】

Where: Watamuki Hall Niji July 28th to Nov 4th

• Koka (Evening Level 2) 【Oct 13th】

Where: Maroom Oct 25th to Late Jan

## ◆ If you have an Individual Number Card, foreign national can apply for residence procedures online!

Possible to submit an application 24 hours a day from home or the office without the need to go to the immigration counter in person, and you can receive the residence card by mail.

Eligible residence: All status of residence excluding "Diplomat" and "Temporary Visitor"

For details, please check the Immigration Services Agency website.

URL: <https://www.isa.go.jp/en/applications/guide/onlineshinsei.html>



### Shiga Foreign Residents Information Center

(within Shiga Intercultural Association for Globalization)

Tel : 077-523-5646 Fax : 077-510-0601

E-mail : [mimitaro@s-i-a.or.jp](mailto:mimitaro@s-i-a.or.jp)

◇ Disaster information is also available on our website in many languages !

URL: <https://www.s-i-a.or.jp/en/qa/disaster>

Next issue of Mimitaro is scheduled in October