English Newsletter



## ★Schedule Of Minami Lounge Consultation Desk :

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Chinese						
		English	Thai	Tagalog		

### FEEL SECURED OF THE EARTHQUAKE ~ Regarding the Tohoku Pacific Offshore Earthquake on Mar.11

An unprecedented massive earthquake which hit the Pacific Ocean nearby Northeastern Japan and the enormous tsunami that was triggered by the earthquake gave a profound shock to the Japanese people and to the world. Planned rolling blackout due to lack of electricity supply in wide areas and its influence on the public traffic system may cause you inconvenience, but it is all the more important that we ask you for your cooperation and understanding under this emergency condition.

Do not panic, be patient, and stay calm.

Please be aware of the following points:

1. Make sure yourself is safe, protect yourself and others.

 $\label{eq:please} Please\ refer\ to\ the\ multi-lingual\ disaster\ guidelines\ at\ the\ following\ website. \\ http://nip0.wordpress.com/about/$ 

- 2. For getting in contact with someone who you have become separated, please use the NTT toll-free public phone or local emergency dials by dialing 171 rather than your mobile phone.
- Please cooperate in saving electricity.
  For your information, please refer to the following website. http://www.city.yokohama.lg.jp/front/welcome.html
- Information on the gas system.
  You will need to restore the gas supply after a large earthquake, because the gas supply will be stopped automatically when the microcomputer meter detects a large earthquake.
  Please refer to the following website of Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd. for restoring your gas supply. http://www.tokyo-gas.co.jp/

# Japanese Culture

#### Hina Matsuri (The Japanese Doll Festival)

(March 3rd) At" Hina-matsuri" also called 「Momo no Sekku」 (Seasonal Festival of Peach), ornamental dolls and flowers to celebrate the girls' growth and future happiness are displayed. Peach is essential for Hina-matsuri, because it is a seasonal flower of March and also, in ancient time, it was believed that peach can drive away bad spirits.

 $\star$ Dolls in ancient court dress are set up on a tier of 5 or 7 shelves covered with scarlet cloth.



2<sup>nd</sup> tier holds three court ladies.

3<sup>rd</sup> tier holds five male musicians (small drum, large drum, hand drum, flute and a singer.

4<sup>th</sup> tier holds two ministers. (right minister is young and left is old)

5<sup>th</sup> tier holds three protectors of the Emperor and Empress.

6, 7<sup>th</sup> tier displays a variety of miniature furniture, carriages ..etc

★ The dolls can be displayed from around early February, but are taken down immediately after the festival. This is because it is believed that leaving the dolls after March 4 will result in a late marriage of the daughter.

# Joim Minami Lounge when you have Japanese Language problems

□ Study Japanese Language:



Minami Lounge provides and introduces Japanese classes for non-Japanese residents. Volunteer teachers can help you to brush up your Japanese!

Consultation :

Categories	Consultation matters	Date & Time	Cooperating Organization				
Legal	Divorce on International marriages.	Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> / Thursday	Yokohama				
	parental authority child raising,	13:30~15:30	Bar Association				
	succession to property, traffic accident,						
	other troublesetc						
Resident status	Acquiring / changing / extending status of	Every 3 <sup>rd</sup> / Thursday	Gyoseishoshi Lawyer				
	residence, bringing relatives from abroad,	13:30 <b>~</b> 15:30	Association of Kanagawa				
	establishing a new company ,etc						
Education		Every 4 <sup>th</sup> / Thursday	Multicultural Education Network				
	Child's school life, advancing to higher	13:30~15:30	of Kanagawa				
	schools.						



### "Minami no Kaze"

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TEL 045-232-9544(Japanese) 045-242-0888(English) FAX045- 242-0897 Closed: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday and end of the year(Dec. 29th-Jan3rd)

Everyday: Chinese / Wed.English / Thurs.Thai / Fri. Tagalog