

# NAPIA VOL. 31 June

*NAPIA is a newsletter issued by Nagasaki International Association for foreign residents.*

Edited by: Nagasaki International Association

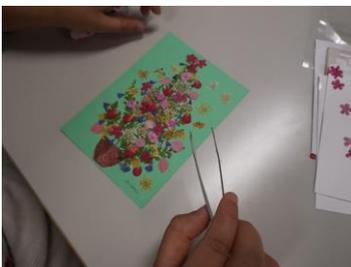
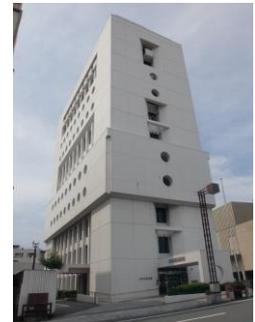
## Introduction to the Nagasaki International Association

We promote international exchange by acting as a bridge between Nagasaki and a variety of countries from all over the world. We provide a wide range of information on life in Nagasaki and opportunities for international exchange. This edition of NAPIA contains more detailed information on specific activities and events that we hold.

We are open every week,

Monday to Friday, from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm.

Our lobby contains many books, pamphlets and other materials that are free to access, and we also regularly hold Japanese culture classes.



## Japanese Culture Class

Our Japanese Culture Classes run every month. Beginners very welcome! Allow our friendly teachers to show you how it's done.

Please check the Nagasaki International Association homepage for dates of classes. If you wish to attend, please make a reservation by telephone or e-mail.



## Foreign Residents of Nagasaki



*Dajiahao!* Hello everyone!

My name is Guo Li, and I am the new Chinese Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) for Nagasaki Prefecture.

I arrived this year on April 10<sup>th</sup> from Shanghai, China. I'm looking forward to spending a year here in the International Affairs Division of the Prefectural Government, and working hard to promote mutual understanding and friendly relations between China and Japan. I know there is a lot that I won't understand yet, but I will do my best!

I have already visited Japan twice for vacation and study, but this is my first time in Nagasaki. I had heard from colleagues and read a lot about Nagasaki's abundant natural beauty and what a splendid place it is, with its unique atmosphere blending historic and cultural influences from Japan, China and the West. However, I had never had the chance to visit, until now, even though I really wanted to! So, I'm really delighted to have the good fortune to be placed as a CIR here in Nagasaki Prefecture.

My new working environment and the content of my job is very different from what I was doing in Shanghai, but I hope to get used to it as soon as possible. I also know that I must be aware of the differences in everyday life between Japan and China (such as trash separation!), and keeping in mind the expression "When in Rome, do as the Romans do", I am going to do my best not to cause a nuisance to anyone around me.

At the time of writing, I have only been working here for one week so far, but I am already a huge fan of life here – in fact I think I've fallen in love with Nagasaki at first sight!

I was first charmed by Nagasaki's scenery and the international feel of the townscape. Then I found myself captivated by the sparkling green ocean, the pretty Mizube-no-Mori Park, the cute trams, and the quiet sloping streets. In particular, the colorful Confucian Temple made me feel like I was back at home (I was born in the same place as Confucius himself) and gave me an even stronger sense of familiarity with Nagasaki.

The kindness of the people of Nagasaki and their friendly, smiling faces also made me feel much more relaxed, when I was feeling anxious in this new place.

In Japanese, there is an expression '*ichi go ichi e*', which refers to one-in-a-lifetime encounters which should be cherished. In Chinese, this is translated as '*yisheng zhiyou yici de jihui*'. Although I am just one person with little strength, I hope to work hard this year with the *ichi go ichi e* spirit in mind, in order to meet the expectations of this beautiful town and its kind people, and at the same time to broaden my experiences, make lots of friends, and live each day to the full.

Looking forward to meeting you all soon!

## Nagasaki Prefecture Events in July and August



### ① Isahaya Lantern River Festival (Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July, from 8pm)

This festival is held in memory of the 630 people who died in the Great Isahaya Flood on 25<sup>th</sup> July 1957, to pray for the repose of their souls and to promote the continued development of a safe and beautiful city. The combination of the 23,000 lanterns floating down the Honmyo River, 1,500 fireworks and the illumination of Spectacles Bridge is quite fantastic.



### ② Nagasaki Port Festival (Saturday and Sunday in Late July)

Rediscover the fantastic ocean and port area of Nagasaki City, and enjoy the impressive firework display in the evening!

This festival is held every July with the aim of attracting tourists and residents alike to the waterside to enjoy all the harbor has to offer.

The event has become firmly established as Nagasaki's signature summer festival, and includes live performances on stage, food and drink stands, fireworks and more. There is fun to be had for all ages here – don't miss this lively festival!



### ③ Shimabara Water Festival (Saturday and Sunday in early August)

This festival is held to show appreciation for Shimabara's abundant spring water and to promote the development of a town which makes the most of its water and greenery. Bamboo lanterns light the way along the canal waterways through the former samurai residences and decorate the natural springs within the city, bringing together the crystal-clear streams and the historic townscape to create a fairytale scene.



### ④ Sasebo Seaside Festival (Early August)

Including the largest firework display in Kyushu, with 3,000 fireworks launched over Sasebo Port, this festival is not to be missed. Other events include marine activities such as tug-of-war in the water as well as a beach volleyball tournament and handicraft sessions for parents and children.



### ⑤ Omura Nagoshi Festival Fireworks (Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August)

3000 fireworks light up the night sky in brilliant colors.

This impressive display of fireworks unfolds before your eyes against the backdrop of the Mishima Bridge, Nagasaki Airport and Usushima Island floating in the calm waters of Omura Bay.

## Useful Information for Foreign Residents and Visitors

### 1. Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR)

This service provides information about living in Japan, for foreign residents. The information is available in 13 languages and is divided into 17 sections. There is also a version (app) for smartphones. The smartphone app contains the same information as the website, in an easy-to-browse format, and also includes a feature which provides emergency earthquake alerts issued by the Japan Meteorological Agency, in 13 languages.

<http://www.clair.or.jp/tagengo/>



### 2. Japan Legal Support Center 'Houterasu'

The Japan Legal Support Center, also known as 'Houterasu', provides support to solve legal problems. Houterasu has now started a foreign-language service.

To use the service, visit your nearest Houterasu office and ask for an interpreter, or call this number: 0570-078377 (the Houterasu Multilingual Information Service).

You can find more information on their website: <http://www.houterasu.or.jp/multilingual/index.html>

### 3. Yoriso Multilingual Advice Line

Specialist staff are available to work with you to find a solution to your problems.

Call the toll-free number: 0120-279-338, and after the Japanese guidance, press 2.

For more information, see: [http://279338.jp/yoriso/hotline/files/yoriso-bill\\_eng.pdf](http://279338.jp/yoriso/hotline/files/yoriso-bill_eng.pdf)  
or: <http://279338.jp/yoriso/foreign/index.html>



The advice line service is also available Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Chinese, Thai and Korean.

### 4. Multilingual Medical Questionnaire

This is a medical questionnaire available in 18 languages. You can use it to communicate with medical staff, for example when you visit a hospital, to tell them about your symptoms.

<http://www.kifjp.org/medical/>

If you have any comments or suggestions about NAPIA, Please let us know

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