

Study Tour ● Shimbun

修学旅行 新聞 Shūgakuryokō Shimbun - Newsletter Join Japan

www.joinjapan.nl

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Current exchange rate

€ 1 = ¥ 129,56

€ 0,772 = ¥ 100



Only 2 months until departure

We're halfway the holidays, which means it's only 2 months until flight LH716 will bring us to the other side of the world.

That also means that Japanese weather has 2 months to improve. Because at the moment, there is quite some improvement possible. Sam gives an explanation of the recent floods in the article on page 3. And on the News page the typhoon and heat is discussed.

Then, the drought in the Netherlands is peanuts. The sunny weather was a good moment for the committee to have a team-building activity. During a nice weekend just across the Belgium border we learnt each other even a little more. Hopefully next time we are not out of beer before the end of the weekend.

Two months also means that planning is getting clear and also you have to start to

prepare. Subscribing for the Study tour courses, arrange your student travel product: Quickly perform all 'To Do' points, so we can continue working on our epic tour.

Finally, on 28 September there will be a goodbye drink in Beneden Peil. You may invite your family for this drink!

Dates to remember + To do

To Do Sign up for the courses in Osiris.
201800183 - Civil Engineering Abroad
201800184 - International Study Tour

To Do Send your declarations for the expenses you made for your contract research to treasurer@joinjapan.nl

To Do Optional:
Temporarily stop your student travel product. See the update-mail we sent.

To Do Send your clothing size for the participant clothing to chairman@joinjapan.nl

27 Aug Start of the Study Tour courses

14 Sept Participant drink and shirt handout

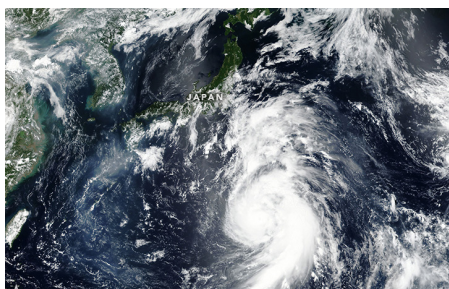
28 Sept Goodbye drink. Parents are welcome!

Japanese 101

How are you?	お元気ですか?	o genki desu ka
What's your name?	お名前はなんですか?	o-namae wa nan desu ka
My name is...	...です	... desu
Pleased to meet you	初めまして	hajimemashite
Goodbye	さようなら	sayōnara
Have a nice day	良い一日を	Yoi ichinichi o
I don't understand	わかりません	wakarimasen
Do you speak English?	英語はできますか	Eigo wa dekimasu ka?
Sorry	ごめんなさい!	gomen nasai

News from the land of the rising sun

24 injured as Typhoon Jongdari traverses west Japan



A weakening Typhoon Jongdari traveled over the southernmost main island of Kyushu after passing over western parts of Honshu on Sunday, in its wake leaving at least 24 people injured and causing extreme heat in the Hokuriku region along the Sea of Japan.

However, no injuries or damage due to Jongdari were immediately reported in regions ravaged by flooding and landslides

earlier this month, as local authorities had advised residents to evacuate early as a precaution.

The typhoon made landfall near Ise, Mie Prefecture, early Sunday morning. It brought intense rainfall across wide areas and led to temperatures rising close to 40 C in Hokuriku in a phenomenon known as a Foehn wind, or moist air that becomes warm and dry after passing over high mountains.

A Kyodo News tally showed at least 24 people were hurt over the weekend, some after being hit by falling objects, but no deaths or missing persons had been reported as of Sunday night.

The typhoon, which was on an unusual westbound trajectory, passed right through the disaster-hit areas. The government issued a rare warning beforehand to get residents to evacuate early as a precaution. The areas remained on high alert as the Meteorological Agency warned of further flooding and landslides, as well as high waves.

Typhoons typically approach the Japanese archipelago from the southwest, and many follow a southwest-to-northeast course due partly to the effect of the westerly jet stream and anticyclones over the Pacific. But Jongdari's unusual course prompted Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Friday to warn about the weekend storm, particularly for those affected by the massive flooding in western Japan that killed 224 people and destroyed tens of thousands of homes earlier this month.

The country has been gripped by a heat wave that immediately followed the rain disaster and which the agency declared to be a "natural disaster." Extreme heat pushed the mercury to a record high 41.1 degrees in Kumagaya, Saitama Prefecture, last Monday and the nationwide heatstroke was blamed for the deaths of dozens of lives, most of them elderly people.

More cities eye tougher rules against passive smoking



The Tokyo Metropolitan Government's decision to introduce measures against passive smoking that are stricter than the central government's has inspired more cities to do the same, a survey has found.

Of the 20 ordinance-designated cities surveyed, Chiba, for example, plans to draft its own ordinance against passive smoking, and Hamamatsu, Osaka and Sakai are considering joining prefecture-level efforts to tighten related regulations, the Jiji Press survey of municipality chiefs, which also covered cities and wards in Tokyo, shows.

In June this year, Tokyo, as the host city for the Olympics, enacted an ordinance to introduce tougher smoking regulations for restaurants and bars than the watered-down law enacted by the state for the Olympics.

While the state law permits smoking in restaurants with up to 100 sq. meters of customer space, Tokyo's ordinance imposes a smoking ban on all eateries with employees, in principle, regardless of the amount of floor space.

News from the Study Tour Chamber

We're in the middle of the summer holidays and most of you are either working hard on their contract researches or doing absolutely nothing somewhere in the Mediterranean sun. Nevertheless, there is always news from the Study Tour Chamber. Although, to be precise, there isn't. Because with outdoor temperatures of 35 degrees and more, the indoor temperature in our office at the 12th floor isn't bearable anymore. Therefore, we have moved to the Horst basement where it's nice and cold.

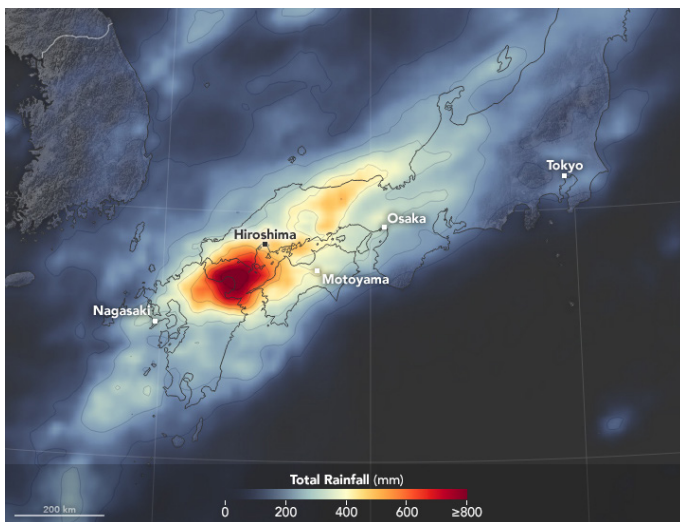
From there we are still working on arranging the final things for the upcoming study tour. We're departing in just two months! Flights, hotels, excursions and cultural trips are all arranged and we're checking if we did everything right.

For now, enjoy the last month of the holiday and we'll see you at the 27th of August for the start of the educational programme.

Recent floods in Japan

As you probably all know, there have been some serious floods in Japan caused by enormous amounts of precipitation. Over 200 people are killed as a result of flash floods and landslides, and dozens of people are still missing. Was Japan prepared for these amounts of rainfall? Could the high number of deaths be prevented? How do they recover from this disaster?

As you can see in the figure below, the amount of rainfall in the week of 2 to 9 July 2018 in the southwestern part of Japan is extremely high. In some areas around Hiroshima, it was more than 800 mm! As a reference, this is the amount of rainfall we have in a complete year in the Netherlands. The massive amount of rain is caused by a unique set of weather conditions as a result of typhoon Maria. But why was this particular rain event so deadly?



There are multiple causes for the deadliness of this situation. The precipitation fell in mountainous regions, which caused high speed flash floods and landslides as the ground couldn't absorb the intensity of rain anymore. This affected in particular rural areas, where relatively a lot of elderly live, which are not evacuated easily. There was just not enough time to react to the situation for these people. The area was known for its hazard, but they didn't see rain like this in 80 years.

Japan faces about 6 typhoons at average each year and these are closely monitored by weather and governmental organisations. Measures are taken to prevent disasters like these, such as dams to control flood waters but experts doubt if it's enough. The geo-



By: Wytse Roosjen

graphical situation of Japan is complicated, which makes it prone to natural disasters. The tectonic plates and volcanic geological layers make the ground weak, which increases the risk of landslides. About 70 percent is made up of mountains or hills, and houses are built on steep slopes or flood-prone flat plains. In addition, these houses are built of wood, including its foundations, which is ideal for earthquakes, but no so good for landslides and floods.

There is a warning and evacuation system for natural disasters in Japan. However, most people decided to stay home after the warning for heavy rain was given. Even evacuation orders, which are not mandatory to follow, were ignored. Experts say that the warning system is problematic, as decisions on evacuations are made by local officials who are often no disaster management experts. For example in Mabi Town, where at least 46 people were killed, evacuation orders were given 4 minutes before the levees failed. Municipalities in Japan are required to make hazard maps for floods, landslides and other disasters. These are quite accurate as the maps perfectly matched the areas overrun by floodwaters recently.

However, almost nobody reads these maps or knows what to do with the information. Residents, especially elderly, also had problems with understanding warnings about risks before the disaster happened. So, also on the communication part of disaster management, Japan could improve, as not all people do understand hazard or risks. They live in houses for generations, and if they haven't seen such extreme events before, they don't believe it is possible.



As visible in the figure above, the floods had a significant impact on the infrastructure and buildings. Recovery will take quite some time, especially as a heatwave with record high temperatures is currently taking place. Temperatures in Kyoto and Hiroshima are since July 10th constantly around 35 degrees Celsius. This is a serious problem as there are still areas without drinking water. The risk of diseases is high and firefighters might not have enough water to extinguish fires. It is expected that recovering the devastated areas will take a long time as there is more than 2 billion dollars of damage on infrastructure. Levees, railway bridges and roads are all severely damaged. Japan needs to learn from this situation with record high rainfall intensities and record high temperatures as this could possibly become more frequent in the future.

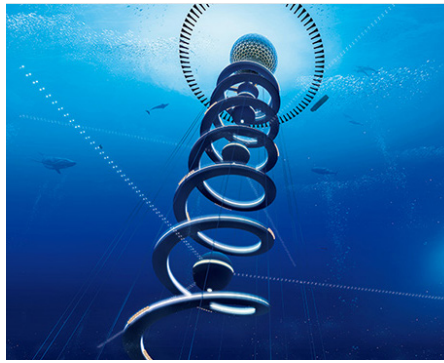
More about excursions

Public works research institute (PWRI)



We will visit PWRI the second week of the study tour on Monday October 8th. Since that day is a national holiday, they are opened specially for us. PWRI is a research institute with a focus on safety, maintenance and sustainability. We will visit their tsukubai central research institute. The main focus of this department consists of preventing and mitigating natural disasters, improving social infrastructure management and solving environmental issues.

Shimizu corporation



Shimizu corporation is a big construction company in Japan which combines religious and traditional architecture with the current technological standard. They are also building a smart data center to accumulate big data and process this with artificial intelligence. This will make maintenance way more efficient and thus cost saving. Next to increasing maintenance efficiency, Shimizu corporation has big dreams; they want to build deep sea cities, environmental islands, space hotels and more fascinating projects. We will talk with them about the feasibility of these dreams.

Central consultants inc.

Central consultants inc. is located in Tokyo and we will visit them the first week of the study tour. Central consultants mainly focusses on transportation, infrastructure and harbours. Since they are not working worldwide, their approach can differ a lot compared to other Japanese or international companies. This difference may be even more emphasized by the size of the company, since it is a relatively small consultancy firm. The past years they have done multiple projects in Tokyo, such as the Tokyo Gate Bridge. We will mainly talk about their approach in planning for urban areas and development of infrastructure.

「未来」をトータルにデザインする



Japanese dishes for students: Fluffy Japanese pancakes



Ingredients

- 150g self-raising flour
- ½ tsp baking powder
- 2 tbsp golden caster sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tbsp rapeseed, sunflower or grape-seed oil
- 180ml milk
- dash of vanilla extract
- oil spray for cooking or a mild-flavoured cooking oil (whatever you use in the batter)
- maple syrup
- ice cream, crisp bacon, berries.

Preparation

1. Sift the flour and baking powder into a bowl and add the sugar. Make a well in the centre and add the eggs and oil. Stir them into the flour then gradually add the milk and use a whisk to beat the liquid in. You can also put the lot in a blender and blitz it. Stir in the vanilla. This batter is best used quickly.
2. Put a non-stick pan over a low heat and put one or two non-stick crumpet rings (about 3.5 cm high) in the pan. Spray (or brush) the pan lightly with oil and the inside of the rings too. Fill them no more than ¾ full with batter then cover the pan with a lid and cook the pancakes for about 10 mins on a very low heat. By this time the top of the pancake should be covered in little bubbles and look dry around the edges.
3. Very carefully turn the pancakes over. You can do this by lifting each pancake in its ring onto the lid and then inverting the pan over them before turning the whole thing back over and taking off the lid. Cook for another 1-2 mins. Keep warm while you use up the rest of the batter. Stack and serve with your favourite toppings.

Did you know?

The only difference between a hurricane, a cyclone, and a typhoon is the location where the storm occurs.

Hurricanes, cyclones, and typhoons are all the same weather phenomenon; we just use different names for these storms in different places. In the Atlantic and Northeast Pacific, the term “hurricane” is used. The same type of disturbance in the Northwest Pacific is called a “typhoon” and “cyclones” occur in the South Pacific and Indian Ocean.

Tropical cyclone or cyclone

A tropical cyclone is a generic term used by meteorologists to describe a rotating, organized system of clouds and thunderstorms that originates over tropical or subtropical waters and has closed, low-level circulation. Once a tropical cyclone reaches maximum sustained winds of 74 miles per hour or higher, it is then classified as a hurricane, typhoon, or cyclone depending upon where the storm originates in the world.

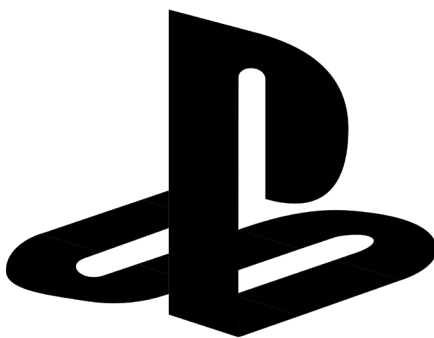
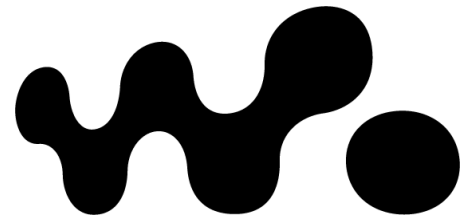
- Tropical Depression: A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 33 knots or less.
- Tropical Storm: A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 34 to 63 knots.
- Hurricane: A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 64 knots or higher. In the western North Pacific, hurricanes are called typhoons; similar storms in the Indian Ocean and South Pacific Ocean are called cyclones.
- Major Hurricane: A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 96 knots or higher, corresponding to a Category 3, 4 or 5 on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale.

Tornado?

It is important not to confuse a tornado with a hurricane or tropical cyclone because tornadoes and hurricanes are very different phenomena. The only similarity between them is that they both contain strong rotating winds that can cause damage.

Japanese brands

There are quite some Japanese brands we might see in the Netherlands as well. Do you know all Japanese brands below by their logo?



Samurai Sudoku

Samurai (侍) were the military nobility and officer caste of medieval and early-modern Japan. The samurai were usually associated with a clan and their lord, and were trained as officers in military tactics and grand strategy. While the samurai numbered less than 10% of then Japan's population, their teachings can still be found today in both everyday life and in modern Japanese martial arts.

Samurai Sudokus became famous due to the London Times. The origin of the Samurai Sudoku and it's name are unknown...

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Challenge

We didn't get much response on the last challenge. However, the holiday is still on so we try again: Our challenge for you is to make a nice holiday pictures with a Japanese touch.

The best holiday picture with a Japanese touch will be awarded with a little present!