



**Special Feature**

## **"Multicultural Coexistence"**

— **Developing a City where Everyone can live comfortably from Diverse Cultures** —



While The population has been declining nationwide, globalization is progressing, and not only foreign tourists but also foreign residents are increasing. Toki City is not an exception, and many foreigners work, study, and live together with the locals. Nowadays, foreigners are not seen as separated from the community, but rather as partners in developing a society together.

These generation it is not uncommon to interact with foreigners anymore. While some foreigners live as members of the local community, there are also people who leave their home country and live with anxiety in a land they do not know.

Also Many readers may say who, "I don't know how to communicate with foreigners" or " I don't know how to talk to them even if I want to."

The special feature this time is about "multicultural coexistence". What is necessary, for people of different nationalities, to accept each other's cultural differences and live together? We hope that this article will provide you an opportunity to think about a city where Japanese and foreigners can live hand in hand and everyone can live comfortably?

Inquiries Town Development Promotion Section (extension 326)



Mrs. Nong Zhao Hui (right side)  
(China)

### Q3 When you came to Japan, did you have any problems or surprises?

**Chin** There are many things that are different from Vietnam, such as transportation and how to dispose of garbage... For example, in Japan, cars stop when pedestrians want to cross the road. Garbage will be separated and put out on the designated day. Cross the road when there are no cars in Vietnam. I throw it away without sorting it into the trash can in the town. I had looked it up on the internet before coming to Japan, but I was surprised when I actually experienced it.

**Hui** I was surprised by the softness of Japanese voices. In China, everyone enjoys chatting. I didn't expect it to be loud. In Japan, it is sometimes considered rude to speak loudly.

### Q4 What do you do when you are in trouble? How did you do?

**Chin** Speaking Japanese is more difficult than writing it. There are times when I can't keep up with the speed at which Japanese people speak. When I'm in trouble, the Japanese I work with kindly teach me, and my Vietnamese friends teach me.

**Hui** When I first came to Japan, I was worried about many things. However, my husband, my husband's father, and my mother kindly taught me about Japanese and life.

### Q5 What do you like about Japan (Toki City)?

**Chin** Compared to Vietnam, the air is cleaner and cooler. The locals are also very kind and warm, and I am very happy to live in Toki.

**Hui** Where I lived in China, the city was full of buildings and bright at night. When I came to Toki City, I was surprised at how quiet it was, but I also like Toki City, which is full of nature. Also, it's nice to be able to see the fireworks up close.

### Q1 What made you come to Japan?

**Chin** I came from Vietnam because I wanted to work in Japan.

**Hui** I got married and came to Japan from China.

### Q2 How long have you lived in Japan?

**Chin** It's been about eight months since I came to Japan.

**Hui** I live here for 7 years.

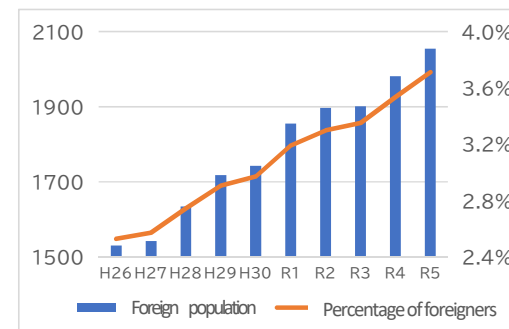


Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Chin  
(Vietnam)

## Regardless of Nationality

The number of foreigners living in Toki City is increasing year by year. As of the end of June, 2,054 foreigners, which 3.7% of the city's total population, are living here. The population of foreigners has increased by about 1.3 times compared to 2014, and it is expected to increase further in the future.

In order to create a livable city regardless of nationality, it is necessary to know each other's differences and deepen our understanding. This time, we asked Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Chin and Mrs. Nong Zhao Hui, who attend Japanese language classes and are studying Japanese and about Japan, about the differences in culture and life between the two countries.



## We provide these supports.



Counselors  
Maria Mizuno

### Support05

#### Call for Participation

#### Simple Japanese course

This course is recommended for those who want to talk to foreigners but cannot speak their languages. Why don't you learn how to communicate with foreigners by converting the words you use in your daily life into easy Japanese?

**Date and time** October 13 (Friday)  
① 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm  
② 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

**Location** ① Culture Plaza 3rd floor, 5th training room  
② Hida Community Center

**Capacity** 30 people each time  
(first-come-first-served basis)

**Application** Please apply from the city website (HP1007033) by Friday, September 29th.

**Please contact**  
Town Development Promotion Section  
(☎54-1207)



### Support04

#### Japanese language class

We offer Japanese language classes where foreigners can practice speaking with Japanese supporters. This helps them to feel more comfortable and confident living in Japan.

**Date and time** Every Saturday, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm  
**Location** Culture Plaza 3rd Floor, 5th Training Room

—We are looking for supporters.—  
It doesn't matter if you don't speak a foreign language. If you are interested, please contact the town development promotion section.  
※Those who speak loudly in the classroom or say unpleasant things cannot participate.

You can use the city homepage for more details.

**Please contact**  
Town Development Promotion Section  
(☎54-1207)



### Support03

#### Support for children attending elementary and junior high schools

Foreign children attending elementary and junior high schools receive support from teachers who assist with their studies and daily life. Additionally, for children who have recently arrived in Japan and have little knowledge of Japanese, we provide an initial instruction class to teach them about Japanese schools and the Japanese language.

**Please contact**  
Education General Affairs Division  
(☎54-1250)

### Support02

#### Guidebook for Foreigners Living in Toki City

We have created a 'Guidebook for Foreigners Living in Toki City' that summarizes the necessary information for living in Toki City. The guidebook provides information necessary for daily life, such as garbage disposal, hospitals, disaster preparedness, and traffic rules, in simple Japanese.

You can use the city homepage for more details.



**Please contact**  
Town Development Promotion Section  
(☎54-1207)

### Support01

#### Consultation desk for foreigners

There are counselors who can speak Filipino and English. You can get support and consultation about city hall procedures.  
※There is also a translation Device at the window of the city hall.

**Service Hour**  
Every Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm (excluding holidays and year-end and New Year holidays)

**Please contact**  
Town Development Promotion Section  
(☎54-1207)