

vol.3

# Zasshi

Giving a gift of smile

Spring in Japan



Sakura  
Smile for you

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**EMAIL US!**

Please send any questions or messages to us through the following Email address.

Email:

[zasshi.for.fun@gmail.com](mailto:zasshi.for.fun@gmail.com)

We are waiting for you!

# Zasshi



Zasshi is a group of students who aspire to take part in contribution to better improve lives of people in developing countries.

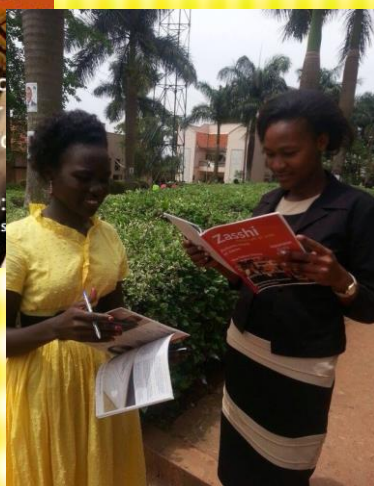
“We talk, and realize we are smiling”.

This is our slogan. Even though Zasshi is not a powerful organization, we believe we can still share smiles with you by having friendly conversations. Articles we write, are our voices. Topics on articles, are what we want to talk about with you.

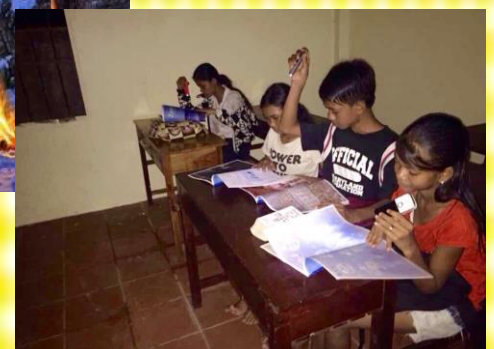
We hope you could read this magazine as if you were having a conversation with us. And hopefully, we would like to hear back from all of you.



Vol.1  
Sent to Uganda



Vol.2  
Sent to Cambodia



# Japanese traditional UMBRELLA



## The Shop Kawano

Established in Koiwa, Edogawa-Ward, Tokyo in 1926 by Heizo Kawano, this shop had all the materials and instruments, and hired workmen to make and sell umbrellas. They grew and prospered until the Taisho Period.

This shop is unfortunately not in business anymore, but is reconstructed in Edo Tokyo Tatemono Park, Koganei city.



## HISTORY of JAPANESE UMBRELLA

Japanese umbrellas are thought to be introduced to Japan from China. During the Heian Period, aristocrats used bamboo hats as sunshades, good-luck charms and symbol of authority. Common people only began to use them in the middle of Edo Period.

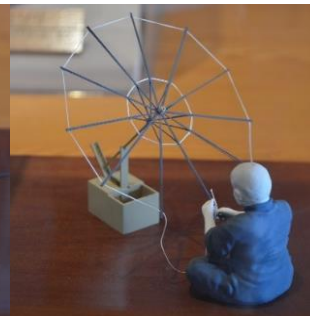
In "Sudden Shower over Ohashi Bridge and Atake" painting by Hiroshige Utagawa, an ukiyoe artist, people hurrying through a heavy shower with umbrellas are so vividly drawn. When the finance of clans were tight, sometime after the middle of the Edo Period, samurais were moonlighting as workmen for umbrellas.

Nowadays, Japanese umbrellas are used in Kabuki performances, Japanese traditional dances, and tea ceremonies.

"Sudden Shower over Ohashi Bridge and Atake" Hiroshige Utagawa

1. Cutting up some bamboo
2. Combining bamboo sticks
3. Piecing it together
4. Threading

## HOW TO MAKE



5. Begin from the inner circle
6. Make the outer circle
7. Patching up the middle
8. Sealing it up
9. It's complete!

# ALWAYS IN MY BAG!

The 'tsuyu', or rainy season of Japan is in June. Both adults and children alike go to work and school keeping foldable umbrellas in their bags, just like Nagisa's umbrella in MY UMBRELLA pictures below!



## ARE PEOPLE TOO SENSITIVE TO RAIN IN JAPAN?

This picture was taken in scramble crossing in Shibuya, Tokyo. Most people puts up umbrellas although there are so many people crossing the street. Japanese are said to put up umbrellas immediately even if it's light rain.

## DO THE JAPANESE HAVE TOO MANY UMBRELLAS?

Sometimes, we find ourselves caught in a sudden downpour without our trusty umbrellas! So we resort to buying plastic umbrellas for 300~500 Yen in convenience stores like Seven-Eleven and Family Mart. You could actually have a whole meal with 500 Yen! However, due to the unpredictable weather and forgetful natures, these plastic umbrellas tend to accumulate in our homes. Hence, we will actually be glad to offer you one from our large plastic umbrella collection if you visit our homes!



## IS MY UMBRELLA SAFE?

Japan is sometimes said to be one of the safest countries in the world, but many umbrella stands with locks and keys can be found in various museums, hotels, banquet halls, and more, but not usually for convenience stores. This may be a surprise, but these plastic umbrellas get taken without permission or stolen pretty often in Japan! Please be careful where you place your umbrella and remember to collect it when you leave a place!

# MY UMBRELLA

Antonio

Miyu

Nagisa

Shiori



# HANAMI



Flower viewing (hanami), especially for the sakura, or cherry blossoms, is a traditional Japanese custom to welcome the arrival of spring. Because the cherry blossoms only last for about two weeks, this short hanami period has become an important kind of annual “season” for the Japanese. Whether it’s the ever-so-brief bloom of the dainty flowers, or the gorgeous scenes of fallen petals that is etched into our memories, often times, it serves as a metaphor for our fickle lives. It is said that because of this, the sakura drives people crazy during ancient times.

And now, the tradition of hanami has spread to many countries outside of Japan, like Taiwan and South Korea. In year 1912, sakura branches that were a gift from the city of Tokyo, were planted along the Potomac River in Washington DC in the United States of America. Since then, a Cherry Blossom Festival is held annually, and is visited by tourists from all over the United States. Besides that, sister cities in China, Germany, France, and many other countries were also given this gift of sakura so that they too may enjoy and learn about the tradition of hanami. Popular places for hanami include the Meguro River, Rikugien Park, Sumida Park, and many more.



Hunger, poverty, education...

There is a lot that needs  
improvement

However, such problems are  
really difficult for Japanese  
students like us to approach

What can we do for the young  
people like us in developing  
countries?

The answer we found is, to share  
smile with them

Just by having various  
conversations, we can share  
smiles with friends overseas

We talk through magazines

Articles we write, are our voices.

Topics on articles, are what we  
want to talk about

Talking through magazines, is a  
tiny thing

However, smiles lead to  
happiness

We believe, it is a real  
contribution we the Japanese  
students can make

We talk,  
and realize  
we are smiling

tiny yet real



## What is **YOSAKOI**?

The name 'YOSAKOI' comes from 'Yo sari koi' or the Yosakoi song, the folk song of Kochi Prefecture , which means 'Come on over tonight!'"

Today, it is referred to as a Japanese dance festival. It is held in many places around Japan. YOSAKOI teams gather to perform their dance routines and compete for the prize.

The songs, dance routines, costumes, and make-up are entirely up to each team. The length of the song used is set to about 5 minutes. While most Japanese traditional elements are remained, most teams tend to mix recent fashion and trends into their performance. Most people will use the 'Naruko', which are small wooden clappers held in each hand while dancing, as it is one of the defining aspects of the YOSAKOI. Moreover, there exists something called 'YOSAKOI Soran'. It is a dancing style that combines the Yosakoi dance from Kochi Prefecture and the Soran dance from Hokkaido. Many teams perform in this style.

Both men and women, young and old, are enthusiastic, energetic, and really enjoy themselves in the YOSAKOI dances. One look at them and you will be tempted to join in!

# YOSAKOI



# INTERVIEW

Leader of Tokyo University of Science YOSAKOI Soran Club



**Please tell about TUS YOSAKOI Soran club.**

— There are about 170 students from Noda campus and Kagurazaka Campus. We practice on every Wednesday and Sunday. We perform in many festivals, for instance, YOSAKOI Soran festival in Hokkaido, Domatsuri in Nagoya, and so on. We plan to go to Taiwan for the first time this year! We practice one dance for one year. It is a different point from general dance club.

**Why did you join the YOSAKOI club?**

— I had been interested in dancing. When I saw their performance with one of my friend by chance, I was really stimulated! So, I started YOSAKOI when I entered this university. So did most members.

**What is the reason of becoming the leader of this club?**

— Until now, this club tended to exist for fun. But I have thought that YOSAKOI should be devoted all our energy. By becoming the leader I can look out over the whole and change the club to my ideal figure.

**Dose your idea realize?**

— Yeah, I think so. I can't say clearly everyone is like that because of a lot of members, however.

**Would you like to continue YOSAKOI after graduating university?**

— Well, I don't know. Now I do my best because of youth and much energy. I guess it is only now that I can be too absorbed!



# Smile



## What's "OWARAI"

Comedy is called Japanese "OWARAI". Today, Comedy is popular via TV in Japan. The basic of Japanese "OWARAI" is composed in "BOKE" and "TSUKKOMI". "BOKE" is to understand the mood of conversations and scenes to contrast to the common sense. "TSUKKOMI" is point out the action.

Senam yang  
iya iyalah



### COWCOW

They are one of the famous groups. Their trademark gag is "Senam yang iya iyalah". They uploaded the movie what was translated into Indonesian to YouTube. They became famous in Indonesia.

## Around the world

JPA → Japanese specific expression

USA → the exaggerated moving

UK → Humor that contains the irony etc...

The diversity of national culture appear on Comedy!



## Health

Laugh is just not only fun, it has a good effect on the body. It's progressing medically research. It prove to be effective against the disease, for instance, rheumatism, bronchial asthma and atopic dermatitis.

For healthy people, Laugh can improve a body's immune system and can cure pain, stress or anti-aging. anyway, if you were laughing, your body became healthy. It is Important to try to laugh even when boring. While you are laughing, the mood also become fun and you become to get positive feelings.



# Laughter is the soul's medicine

# Do you know a capsule hotel ?



What is capsule hotel?

Have you ever heard of a “capsule hotel?” Capsule hotels are a type of Japanese hotel, and it is a part of Japan’s own culture. Nowadays, Capsule hotels are very popular among foreign tourists. Today, I am going to talk about what a “capsule hotel” is.



Capsule hotels are not like common hotels. It is not a room that has its own bed, bathroom, refrigerator and other amenities like common hotel rooms. Instead, customers are given their own bed, which is inside of big box that looks like a capsule, and they share the bathrooms. It is just a place where people can get some sleep.



It's like a space ship !!!



Usually, the beds inside of the capsules are set up like bunks. One side of the wall has a curtain. Also, lights, TV, and alarms are set up inside of the capsule.

In capsule hotels, there are commonly restaurants, a bathroom, sauna, and massage machines, so customers can spend a comfortable time there.



Capsule hotels are mostly located in business districts or downtowns, so they are very useful to salary-men, tourists, and students.

The reason why customers stay at capsule hotels instead of staying at common hotels is because they offer lower costs.

Generally, each person can stay overnight for 3000 to 4000 yen.



Capsule hotels are a unique part of Japanese culture, and foreign tourists have probably never experienced them.

One foreign tourists, who stayed in a capsule hotel, said, "I felt like a larva in a honeycomb." Another person said, "It is like a spaceship from a SF movie!"

# JAPANESE GARDEN

—Japanese holiday—



The photograph on the left is a photograph of Tokyo, which is the capital of Japan. In this concrete jungle of skyscrapers and buildings, people are often pressed for time and busy as a bee.

The photograph above is of the “Mouri Garden” in Tokyo. It is filled with greens and water, very unlike the photograph on the left. Undoubtedly, nature heals people, and many like to enjoy and pass their time here with family, friends, or lovers.

# Popular Japanese garden in Tokyo!



## Hama-rikyu Onshi Garden:

1. This is a photograph of a daimyo garden, a traditional garden dating back from the Edo Period.
2. There are lots of flowers in the botanical garden, and an array of colorful flowers bloom during spring.
3. A traditional Japanese sweet.



## Kyu-Furukawa Gardens:

- The garden combining Japanese and Western styles:
1. A European-style building in the garden.
  2. A beautiful harmony is formed with the European style rose garden.
  3. A room where visitors can enjoy traditional Japanese tea-ceremonies.

# Karaoke-kan

Karaoke is undoubtedly the most popular form of entertainment amongst youngsters in Japan. Since its invention, it has become more and more popular around the world. But of course, there still exist some differences. The concept of “Karaoke” is still rare in some places, and are mostly done in the privacy of one’s homes. In Japan, however, anyone invited for a Karaoke session will be eager and excited to participate in what they see as a fun event. Perhaps we should take a look back to when Karaoke was invented to better understand how this behavior came about.

Karaoke was first found in Kobe in year 1972. A man named Inoue Daisuke started recording some background music, and had a sudden thought that it could be interesting if amateurs could practice with these recordings. And thus, Karaoke was officially born as a business in year 1976. Unlike today, Karaoke in the past were frequented most by office workers who initially go only for the drinks, but will eventually turn to singing. It was not something people go for whenever or wherever they liked, and beyond question, the number of songs available were very limited.



So how did the name “Karaoke” come about? It is actually the abbreviation of the phrase “Karappo-okesutora(orchestra)”, which means “Empty orchestra”. It is “empty” because even without an actual orchestra playing, we still get the background music from the recorded tapes, and it goes on perfectly fine even without a main performer. It was not until 1982 when something revolutionary occurred. A company called Bioneer invented the concept of “Laser Karaoke”, which saw the beginning of “Karaoke with pictures”. Then in 1985, Karaoke for personal home systems debuted in the market. In the same year, another important thing was introduced to the world – the “Karaoke Box”. This was the first time indoor Karaoke was proposed, and started off in the Okayama Prefecture in Japan, but this concept was unpopular and soon became obsolete.



During the Heisei Period of Japan, Karaoke started gaining popularity with a much younger crowd. Something called “Tsushin Karaoke” (Karaoke by transmission) was invented in 1992, which eventually evolved into our regular Karaoke of today, with much more functions and features compared to before.

Although Karaoke is nothing unusual anymore to people around the world, Karaoke halls are still a rare sight in foreign countries, unlike in Japan where there is one in possibly every two blocks, especially in crowded city centers. Perhaps this happens because Karaoke has been around for more than 20 years in Japan (from 1976 to 1992), and it is not just office workers who want to release stress, so it has somehow become somewhat a cultural norm to sing your lungs out during a Karaoke session. In European countries, still private household Karaoke are more popular.



(Japan in 1982). In any event, the amount of people who are in favor that “Italy should have more Karaoke halls like in Japan!” are gradually increasing, and to their delight, Karaoke halls in Europe are springing up like mushrooms after the rain. Of course, because of cultural differences, each country has their own unique way of Karaoke, and these countries and Japan get to observe and learn from each other’s differences, and thus improve on the service they provide.

It is without a doubt Karaoke is an entertaining way to release some stress, or just an excuse to belt your lungs out with people you enjoy spending time with. This is probably only the beginning of a bright future for the Karaoke business, and we cannot wait to see what is instore!

# VOICES!!!

What is your secret to happiness?

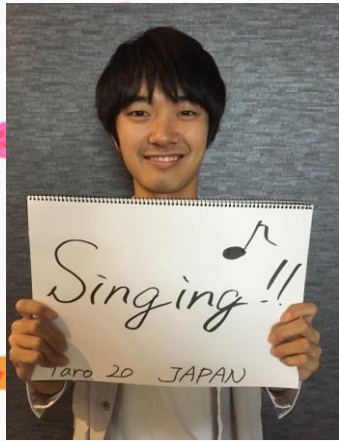
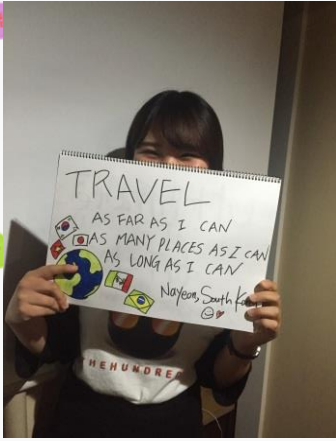
Talking with friends ?

Enjoy your breakfast ?

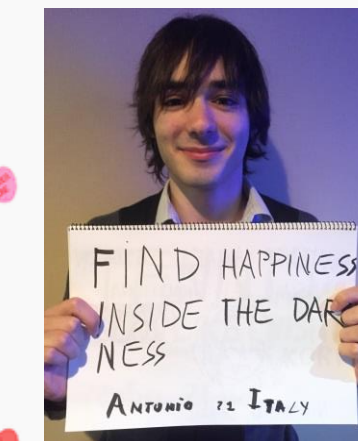
Everyone has their own unique way  
of living a happy life.

Let's peep into the secrets of our  
Japanese friends and friends from  
all over the world and share them!

Find your happiness ! The happiness  
may be closer than you think : )



# THEIR VOICES !

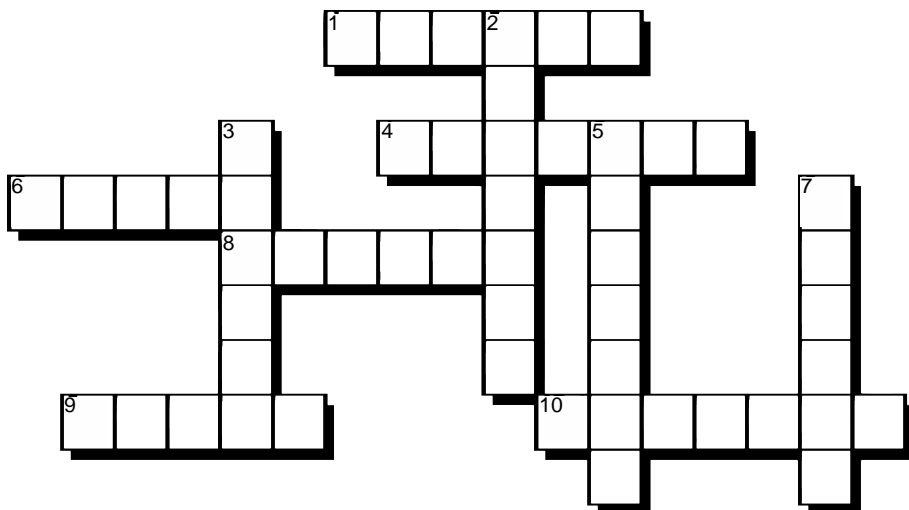


# Komorebi

Komorebi(木漏れ日) is a unique word from Japanese Language that doesn't have a direct translation in any other language. It refers to the sunlight that filters through the trees—the interplay between the light and the leaves. The fact of such word exist in Japanese Language really shows how much Japanese people are involved with nature and its beauty. In relation, the abundance of words related to nature and its surrounding in the Japanese Language is also a large part of Japanese Culture.



## Cross Word Game



### ACROSS

1. Japanese traditional dress
4. The capital city of China
6. The host country of FIFA World Cup 2002 with Japan
8. Cherry blossom in Japanese
9. The second most populated country in the world, over 1 billion
10. The largest ocean in the world.

### DOWN

2. The southernmost prefecture of Japan
3. The name of this magazine
5. The official language of Italy
7. The winning country of FIFA World Cup 2002



# The **SUMO**

#1

May tournament  
@Kokugikan, Tokyo

## May Grand Sumo Tournament



### HOTLY-CONTESTED MAY TOURNAMENT

On the last day of the tournament, Hakuho(Yokozuna), Terunofuji(Sekiwake) and six other wrestlers competed for the championship.

On the first day, Hakuho, who was Champion for seven consecutive seasons, lost to the 21-year-old Ichinojo. On the other hand, Terunofuji also lost to Sadanoumi. He was promised a promotion to Ozeki on condition that he wins 13 opponents in May.

On 14<sup>th</sup> day, Terunofuji and Hakuho both had a record of 11 wins and 3 losses. Kitanoumi, the Chairperson of the Board of Directors, changed his mind and declared that Terunofuji will only be promoted if he wins the championship. The chance of promoting to Ozeki revived. The last day, he finally beat Aoiyama. "This match was the most nervous

I have ever been in my life," he commented. Hakuho was formerly predicted to continue to win for two or three years. Now, Terunofuji and Ichinojo (interestingly, both of them came to Japan on the same airplane!), along with other young hopefuls are aiming for the Yokozuna position.



21 Terunofuji and Isegahama master in transmission ceremony

# BANZUKE

Ranking before May tournament

白鵬	Hakuho	横綱	日馬富士	Harumafuji
鶴竜	Kakuryu			
稀勢の里	Kisenosato	大関	琴奨菊	Kotoshogiku
				豪栄道
照ノ富士	Terunofuji	関脇	妙義龍	Myogiryu
栃煌山	Tochiozan	小結	逸ノ城	Ichinojo
宝富士	Takarafuji	前頭一枚目	栃ノ心	Tochinoshin
豊ノ島	Toyonoshima	前頭二枚目	安美錦	Aminishiki
佐田の海	Sadanoumi	前頭三枚目	大砂嵐	Osunaarashi
千代鳳	Chiyotori	前頭四枚目	徳勝龍	Tokushoryu
北太樹	Kitataiki	前頭五枚目	玉鷲	Tamawashi
臥牙丸	Gagamaru	前頭六枚目	碧山	Aoiyama
蒼国来	Sokokurai	前頭七枚目	佐田の富士	Sadanofuji
豪風	Takekaze	前頭八枚目	高安	Takayasu
誉富士	Homarefuji	前頭九枚目	遠藤	Endo
勢	Ikioi	前頭十枚目	隠岐の海	Okinoumi
魁聖	Kaisei	前頭十一枚目	旭秀鵬	Kyokushuho
荒鷲	Arawashi	前頭十二枚目	豊響	Toyohibiki
富士東	Fujiazuma	前頭十三枚目	千代丸	Chiyomaru
嘉風	Yoshikaze	前頭十四枚目	旭天鵬	Kyokutenho
常季龍	Jokoryu	前頭十五枚目	琴勇輝	Kotoyuki
貴ノ岩	Takanoiwa	前頭十六枚目	阿夢露	Amuru

# THE THREE AWARDS

Three special awards for wrestlers at the end of a tournament

## FIGHTING—SPIRIT AWARD

照ノ富士 Terunofuji  
Won 12 Loss 3



## OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE AWARD

None

## TECHNIQUE PRIZE

None

# WRESTLERS INTRODUCTION



Hakuho Sho Yokozuna Miyagino room

*Mönkhbatyn Davaajargal* Mongolia

Mar, 11, 1985 192cm 155kg(341lbs)  
won 826 lost 143 / championship 34

His father is the Yokozuna (the highest rank in Grand Sumo) of Mongolia Sumo wrestling and the silver medalist in Mexico Olympics, 1963. Hakuho is good at *Migi-yotsu* ("Migi" means "right".) and *Yori*. He was promoted to Yokozuna at the age of 22. He broke a record after winning the being crowned Champion in seven consecutive seasons.

However, this Grand Sumo has been unpopular for many years as he was said not to be good-looking enough. Of course, our Champion was not bothered with such matters and all he did was win. He is married with three children.

# KIMARITE ~ Winning Techniques ~

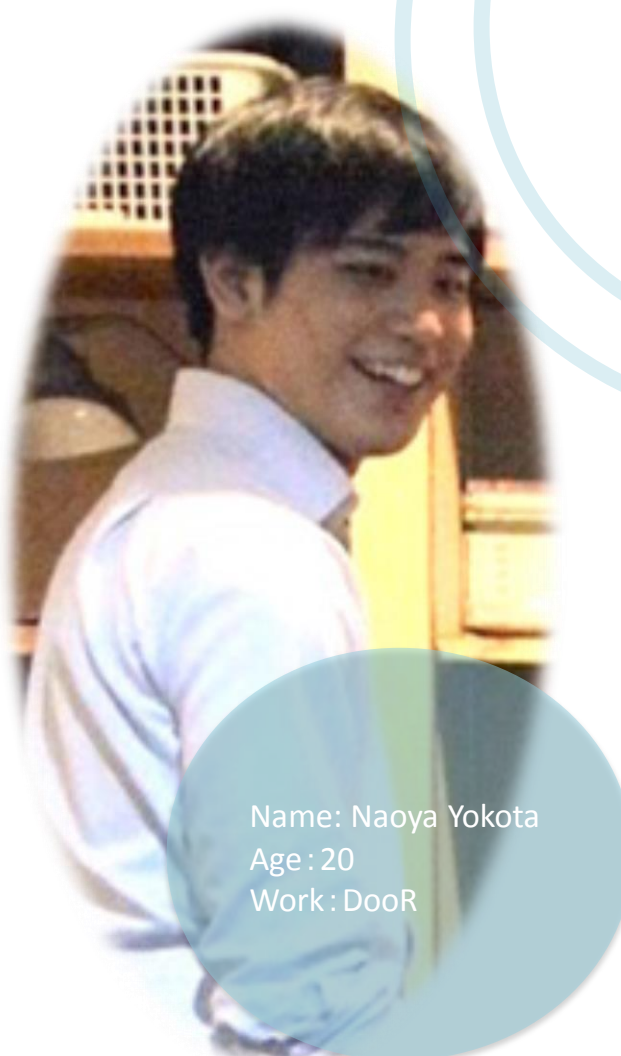
## UWATENAGE

The attacker extends their arm over the opponent's arm to grab the opponent's mawashi (Sumo belt) and throws the opponent to the ground while turning sideways (overarm throw).

## SHITATENAGE

The attacker extends their arm under the opponent's arm to grab the opponent's mawashi and turns them sideways, pulling the opponent down and throwing them to the ground (underarm throw).

# Someone's Interested introducing your friend Vol.3 -Naoya Yokota-



Name: Naoya Yokota  
Age : 20  
Work : DooR

Someone's interested introduces Japanese university student who works hard in "student organization" and is trying to make difference. The person we introduce in this volume is Naoya Yokota, a manager of multi-genre web magazine DooR, focusing mainly on introducing various "student organization" of all kinds. By introducing a number of student organization working hard in different area of disciplines, Naoya is trying to inform Japanese university students about hard effort being done, and the fact that students including readers are as well capable of making difference.

Followings are the dialogue of his interview.

## Please introduce yourself

Naoya: I'm Naoya Yokota, 20 years old. I went to high school in Taiwan, and became interested in Japan-China relation. I used to work for a student organization that enhances the co-understanding of Japanese and Chinese students, and am now working as a chief manager of Web Media "DooR".

## What is DooR?

Naoya: Simply put, it is like an online news web page. It is a platform of various kinds of information about student organizations, for example, introduction of an organization, or maybe an invitation to the events that is held by an organization. Articles are written by members of DooR including me.



Logo of DooR

## Why did you think you would want to work in DooR?

Naoya: I used to work in a student organization myself, and felt one thing: even though there are many student organizations working really hard to make differences, their voices do not reach other people or gather any attention. I thought it was a problem. What was needed was someone who could send out information about those student organizations, and deliver the information to a number of people. I thought Web media was a great way to achieve it, because Internet is a very efficient mean of delivering information to various kinds of readers. And I was also very much interested in web service.

## What makes DooR special?

Naoya: It is a multi-genre web media service. Of course, there are many information about student organization in DooR. But at the same time, there are information about restaurants, part-time job, job-hunting, vacation etc. DooR focuses on various kinds of information that would attract readers.

### Why is DooR multi-genre? Isn't it better if you focus on one thing?

Naoya: Because my goal was to deliver information to various kinds of readers. For example, if you want to inform many people about a great place for vacation, sending out information about the place is just not enough. The information would surely reach the readers who are already interested in traveling or are looking for a nice place to visit. However what about the others? The potential readers who do not have interest on travel would never know about the nice place. Multi-genre contributes to solving this problem. By making my web media multi-genre, wide variety of readers visit DooR for various reasons. As they browse the web page, they might encounter a catchy article that they would not normally get interested, and possibly, they read it and become interested in the topic. This is what I want to achieve.

### What change do you want to make through DooR?

Naoya: I want to inform people about the great activities of student organizations. And on top of that, I want readers to have interest on various topics. Spending three years in Taiwan made me realized that having a stereotype is not a great thing because it prevents you to understand or sympathize with something new. By eliminating such stereotypes, I think one can find out what he/she really wants to do. I hope DooR could be a help.

### What is the next step for DooR? And what is needed to achieve it?

Naoya: I want to strengthen DooR so that we can deliver better information to more people. And to achieve it, there are two things needed. To write a good article, we have to be able to understand a wide variety of topics. If you know a lot about the topic, you can write a more interesting article because you know exactly what is interesting or boring about the it. Also, we have to send out more in amount and more colleagues are needed, but this is where DooR is having a trouble right now. We want to recruit more members who understand and sympathize with what DooR is trying to achieve, and are trying to find a good way of recruiting.

### Do you have any message to readers?

Naoya: I will pursue what I like with my best. So please, you do the same and pursue your dream with everything you have got.