



MIA news

Miyakonojo International Association

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Greetings to all readers of MIA-News. I am the current Mongolian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Igawahara Masaru. I began my post in Mongolia in December of 2023. This year's winter has been colder than the average. It is so painfully cold that I often thought the veins in my face would freeze. Despite both my life in

Mongolia having only just passed 3 months and the harsh cold, I spend every day feeling the warm hearts of Mongolia. Therefore, I think I've recently begun to notice the steadily approaching presence of spring.

25 years have passed since 1999 when Mongolia's capital, Ulaanbaatar, and Miyakonojo ratified the proposal for intercity friendship and cooperation. The two cities' exchange began with an initiative by the citizens of Miyakonojo to send wind power generators to nomads and children living in inconvenient conditions in Mongolia, where the power supply was unstable at the time. Afterwards, reciprocal youth focused visits, wrestling exchange enabled through Tokyo being the host town for the 2020 Olympics/Paralympics, Miyazaki Beef PR activities, Mongolia culture presentations by Miyakonojo city's Coordinator for International Relations (CIR), etc., lively demonstrated through various fields the essence of cultural exchange.

Every year in Mongolia, the Japanese emperor's birthday celebration reception presents

Miyazaki beef. This year as well, renditions of Miyazaki beef utilizing sushi and steak were widely praised by the event's attendees thereby spreading its fame. Accompanying this experience, during the first 10 days of March I visited Miyakonojo as my first local municipality visit. Despite his busy schedule, Mayor Ikeda exchanged opinions and ideas on the current state of exchange with Ulaanbaatar City. Additionally, we were able to discuss with the Miyazaki Agricultural Promotion Corporation regarding the expansion of exports of Miyazaki-ken's agricultural and other products. Furthermore, I observed the production and exportation of the worldwide renowned Miyazaki Beef at Miyachiku, the shochu production company: Kirishima Brewing, and the remodeled, comfortable, and refined city library. Together with being deeply impressed once again with Miyakonojo's teemingness, the generation crossing unbroken wisdom built over a long history, utilization of nature's blessing to create farming and animal products, taking in the opinions of specialists and young people for the region's invigoration, taking up the challenge of building international connections while preserving their traditional culture, there were many aspects I had to learn about. For letting me borrow this place and for welcoming me, from my heart I thank the people of Miyakonojo city.

Since my hometown, Ebino City, is also in Miyazaki-ken I hold a deep understanding of southern Kyushu and feel an affinity towards calm and honest character. If I am able to continue assisting with exchanges involving Ulaanbaatar City from hereafter as well, it would be my honor. I am eagerly awaiting the chance to meet the people of Miyakonojo in Mongolia!

This year welcomes Ulaanbaatar City's 385 anniversary. Due to this, along with advancing our cities' mutual understanding, I'm hoping from the bottom of my heart that Miyakonojo leads not only Southern Kyushu but the world in further international city exchange.

Movies In Theaters

C-Plaza Cine-port (Tel: 0986-24-2571)

17-9 Nakamachi, Miyakonojo, Miyazaki Map-Code (GPS): 117 488 540*55



- Demon Slayer World Tour-Miracle Bonds, Hashira Training
- Haikyuu-Battle at the Garbage Dump
- Matching
- Doraemon Movie 43: Nobita no Chikyuu Symphony
- My Home Hero: Film
- Migawari Chushingura
- Dune Part 2
- Fly
- Meitantei Conan Movie 27: 100-man Dollar no Michishirube
- Sorcerer 0
- Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes 5/10