



YS is published by 2-1 class. YS tells you the news around us. The reason why we publish YS is we want to tell many people about events around us, our opinions, and very interesting original stories. We will try to publish YS every week. YS was renewed on October 4. Please look forward to reading it!

---YS Renewal Vol.10 January 24, 2013 Editor F.H

Chinese Astrology

Happy new year! This is the first time we publish YS this year. This is the year of The Horse in Chinese astrology. By the way, do you know why there isn't a cat in Chinese astrology? Probably, most of you will answer "There was a meeting in the old days. And the god decided the order of thirteen animals. But before the day of the meeting, the Cat was cheated by the Mouse and failed to go to the meeting. So the god got angry and he left out the Cat from the order." It is a famous old tale. But in fact, there is a true reason about it. This old tale comes from the story of sacrifice. In old ages Chinese offered animals of that year in sacrifice hoping for peace. "Neko" was among those animals and was sacrificed every thirteen years. But surprisingly, "Neko" was not a cat but a sleeping child!! So in recent years, the sleeping child was taken away from the list of animals from an ethical point of view.

---S.S.

The moving book

I am going to introduce my favorite book. The title of the book is "Ryoma ga yuku." I was moved by the book. I will tell you the contents of it. The hero of the book is Ryoma Sakamoto. He did many things for Japan's future. He was good at kendo. The greatest thing he did was concluding an alliance between Satsuma and Choshu with his sworn friend, Shintaro Nakaoka. The book was written by Ryotaro Shiba. He writes many other books about Japanese history. I am interested in his books. I want to read his all books someday.

--- K.S.

"Eto"--the Legend of the Twelve Animals-

The New Year has begun! What is your New Year's resolution? I hope that 2014 will find you happy and successful. By the way, do you know the "Eto" of 2014? This year's Eto is uma, the Horse. The system of Eto was built in China about 3 thousand years ago. Eto originally means the Stems-and-Branches, the ten Celestial Stems (Jikkan) and the Twelve Earthly Branches (Junishi). Over time in Japan, however, the first became useless, and instead, the second has been well used as the names of years. In Japan, we call a year by the name of an animal according to Eto, such as the Rat, the Ox, the Tiger, the Hare, the Dragon, the Serpent, the Horse, the Sheep, the Monkey, the Cock, the Dog and the Boar. Now there is a legend which tells us the origin of the twelve animals' order. Let me introduce the legend.

Long long ago, the God assembled animals and said, "You should come to me and send your New Year greetings on the morning of the new year. From the first comer to the twelfth one shall be the top of each of the twelve years." All the animals got excited and wanted to be the top of the year. At that time, the cat came late and asked the rat, "I heard the news, but I don't know when we should go to the God. When will it be?" "It will be the second day of the new year." The rat told a lie.

On the last night of the year, the ox got ready to go. The rat watched it and the ox said, "I start now because I walk very slowly." Hearing it, the rat climbed up to the head of the ox without being noticed. On the morning of the new year, the ox was the first animal that comes to the God. But just before the ox sent the New Year greeting, the rat jumped down on the ground and sent its greeting first. It made the ox the second comer.

Then came the tiger which was proud of its speed, then came the hare, the dragon on the cloud, the serpent crawling on the ground, the horse and the sheep one by one. The dog and the monkey had a quarrel on their way to come, and the cock came with them trying to stop the quarrel. (This is said to be the origin of the old tale Momotaro.) The boar came earlier than the tiger, but it couldn't stop and passed the God. It became the last one to come.

Thus the God made them each the top of the year by turns. And the cat which couldn't come to the God on New Year's day because of the rat's lie hated it and still chases it now.

--- H.T.

The Novel

I will introduce "GRASS HOPPER" to you. This novel is written by Isaka Kotaro. The main character in this novel is Suzuki. One day, he witnessed the man who killed Suzuki's wife being run over by a car. Then, he saw a man leaving from the scene. He is called "Oshiya." He is a killer who kills people pushing a victim toward a running car. So, Suzuki followed him to know his identity. On the other hand, Kujira and Semi also followed him on their own speculations. Kujira is a killer who leads him target to kill himself. Semi is an utility man who often works behind the scene. When their speculations interlace, this novel speeds up to the climax at a stretch. I think that you will not be able to stop reading this novel to the end. So, this novel is worth reading. Why don't you read it?

---T.Y.

Cornte's Religion

Auguste Cornte, a French sociologist originated "the religion of humanity." The most important thing of this religion is a tender heart and a denial of egotism.

In France, Cornte's homeground, this religion are now completely outdated.

But in Brazil this religion plays an important role. Benjamin Constant, who founded the Federal Republic of Brazil, wa a believer of this religion.

So was the designer of the Brazilian flag, and so were many statesmen at the time of establishment of Brazil.

The phrase, "ORDEM E PROGRESSO", which means "order and progress", in the flag is a quotation from Cornte.

The flag expresses motherly love of the religion of humanity .Thanks to the religion of humanity, Brazil is a land of generosity.

---N.F.

Education

The other day, the national center test for university admission was held. We held the "Education meeting" for all the third-year students on the day before it. Unlike the last year's this one was more magnificent than solemn. But I'm sure that all the third-year students were moved and given confidence. During the meeting, I hoped that each of them will obtain satisfactory results and at the same time, I felt that I had only a year before I take the national center test for university admission. So not only the third-year students but also I was motivated by the meeting. One year is a momentary and precious time. I will study harder than before and want to reach the point where I won't regret even if I get a bad result. By the way, after the national center test for university admission, each of the third-year students has the second stage examination. Until then, they will have a very difficult time, but I want them to penetrate their own wills. Hang in there!

--- R.T.

Norwalk virus

Recently, many people are infected by Norwalk virus. It causes vomit, diarrhea, a fever and so on. There symptoms usually heal in one or two days, and there are no aftereffects. But senior persons or children who have low power of immune need longer time to heal. Also there are some cases of death. We can not be too careful not to be infected by the virus. But I happened to think that whether the symptom is caused by Norwalk virus or by other diseases. People usually think as we want to think and see as we want to see. In other words, it is illusion. I watched the news on TV in the riving room. The news says that 50 people complained that they had nausea, diarrhea and a fever, so they were carried to hospital by an ambulance. There were 11 people infected by Norwalk virus. What do you think after you hear this news? I think, may be, 39 people seem to have misunderstood. I sympathize with them, but I want you to think that some restaurants which may close down in this accident. Illness arises from weakness of the spirit. Try to spend your daily school life with determination.

--- F.H.