# Japanese Gure Fun!

異文化を 楽しく学ぼう!

このページでは「日本」をいろいろな角度から紹介します。

A Multi-faceted Primer on Japan



こんかい 今回のテーマは「日本人的人生(My Life as a Japanese)」です。

Today, we will go over key events in the life of a Japanese person.



クイズ:こんな行事を見たことがありますか。

Quiz: Do you know what these events are?













29秒に1人が生まれているんだ。

1.09 million babies were born in 2007. or one baby every 29 seconds.

## 1力月 お宮参り

One month after birth Omiyamairi (visit to a shrine)





# 100日 (あるいは200日) お食い初め

100 or 200 days after birth Okuizome (first-meal ceremony)





2007年度に結婚したカッ プルは714,000組で、44 びょう ひとくみ けっこん 秒に1組が結婚しているよ。 714,000 couples were married in 2007, or one couple every 44

seconds.

33歳(選 厄年

33 years old (women) Yakudoshi (an unlucky year)

25歳(難) 厄年

25 years old (men) Yakudoshi (an unlucky year)

20歳

20 years old Seijinshiki (coming-of-age ceremony)



19歳(姿態) 厄年

19 years old (women Yakudoshi (an unlucky year)



37歳(紫觀) 厄年

37 years old (women) Yakudoshi (an unlucky year)



42歳(難) 厄年

42 years old (men) Yakudoshi (an unlucky year)



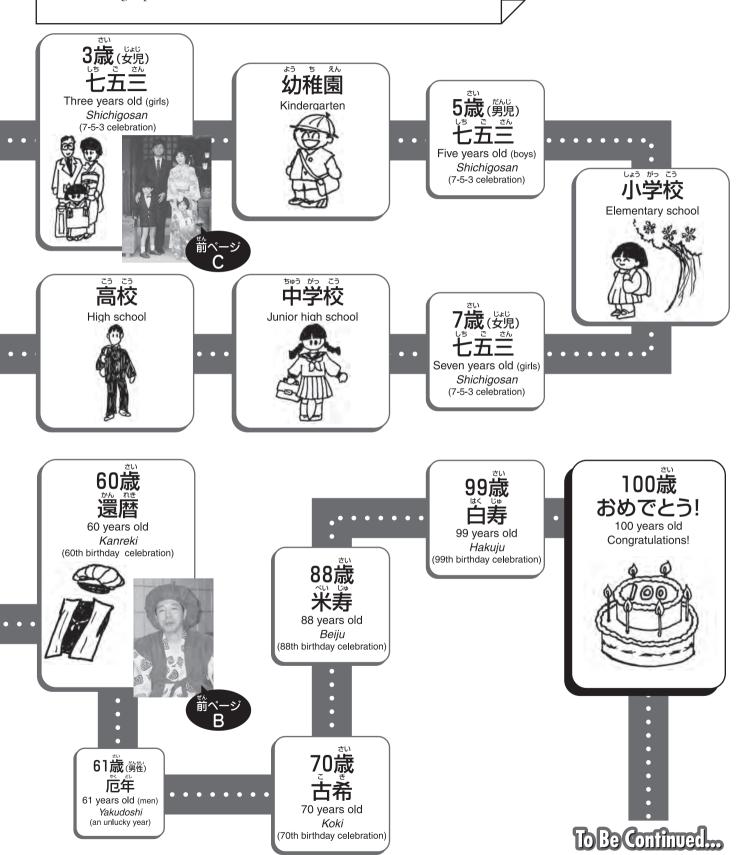
#### クイズの答え (Answer):

- A・お宮参り Omiyamairi (Visit to a shrine for newborns)
- Kanreki (60th birthday celebration)
- Shichigosan (7-5-3 celebration)
- D. 成人式 Seijinshiki (coming-of-age ceremony)



**すごろく**: ②人以上で、サイコロを振り、出た目に従って、升目にある 騎を「ふりだし(スタート)」から「あがり(ゴール)」に進めるボードゲーム

**Sugoroku** is a traditional board game played by two or more people, who would move through spaces on the board from start to finish with throws of dice.



# マルチくんのすごろく解説



Multi-kun Reviews the Key Events on the Sugoroku Board

(1) お宮参り:生後1ヵ月首ぐらいに、続ちゃんの健やかな成長を願って、神社にお参りすること。

Omiyamairi Approximately a month after birth, parents take their newborn to a shrine to pray for the baby's health.

(2) **お食い初め:**誕生から約100日首に、その予が一生食べ物に菌らないようにという願いをこめて、影ちゃんのために食膳を整え、食べさせるまねをしてお祝いをすること。

Okuizome This first-meal ceremony takes place approximately 100 days after a baby's birth and is meant to ensure that he or she will have plenty to eat throughout life. The baby is served a symbolic meal.

(3) 七五三:安の子は3歳と7歳、第の子は5歳の11月15日に、その成長を祝い、着飾って神社や寺にお参りする行事。

**Shichigosan** Parents take their girl, when she is three years old and seven years old, or their boy, when he is five years old, on a visit to a shrine or a temple for *Shichigosan*(the 7-5-3 ceremony) to celebrate the child's growth. The children get dressed up for the occasion, and the ceremony takes place on November 15thof each year.

(4) **厄年**: 陰陽道にある、危災が多く降りかかるとされる発齢のこと。 安性は 19、33、37 麓、<u>第</u>性は 25、42、61 歳とされている。 「2年には神社で「厄歳い」といってお歳いをしてもらう人もいるよ。

Yakudoshi: Men and women who hit a Yakudoshi, or an unlucky year, are said to be prone to accident and illnesses, according to Onmyoudou, the ancient art of divination. A man faces Yakudoshi, when he is 25, 42, and 61 years old. A woman faces Yakudoshi, when she is 19, 33, 37 years old. Some people visit a shrine for a Yakubaraiceremony to exorcise the bad luck during their Yakudoshi.

Seijinshiki: Seijinshikis a ceremony held by the national and municipal governments to celebrate their young citizens, who pass into adulthood when they turn 20 years old and gain the right to vote, drink, and smoke. The ceremony is held on "Seijinno hi" (the Coming-of-Age Day), a national holiday on the second Monday of each January every year.

### 日本の結婚事情 Marriage in Japan

日本のお婚式はバラエティに富んでいて、教育から参げるキリスト教式、神社で神道式に行う神前式、仏教の作法に従って行う仏前式、両親や親族、友人などの前で結婚を誓う人前式などがあるんだ。また以前に多く見られたお見合い結婚は戦後減り続け、今では恋愛結婚の方が圧倒的に多くなっている。婚姻率は1970年代と比べると半分近くになったのに対して、離婚率は2倍以上になり、2007年度にはほぼ2分に1組が離婚しているんだって。で管学2分番名子片動合統計を報報が、





A marriage ceremony in Japan could take many forms: a Christian ceremony in a church; a Shinto ceremony in a shrine; a Buddhist ceremony in a temple; or a civil ceremony in front of friends and families. Arranged marriages, which used to be common, have been steadily in decline since World War II, and most people these days find their spouses on their own. While the percentage of the population, who are married, has dropped by about a half in recent years, compared to the 1970's, the divorce rate has shot up by more than 100%. In 2007, there was one divorce every two minutes, according to data from the Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare.



- ② 2006年の一人の女性が一生に産む子どもの数は1.32人で、1947年から49年の第一次ベビーブームの頃の4.32人と比べると3分の1以下になってしまった。(国民生活白書)
- Birth Rate in Japan

The average number of children that a woman would bear in her lifetime has declined from 4.32, during the first Baby-Boom years between 1947 and 1949, to less than a third at 1.32 in 2006, according to data from the Quality of Life Policy Bureau.

(6) **還暦:**60年で予支 (十十十二支) が一まわりし、南び生まれた年の予支に関ること。60歳の意味で、赤い頭巾とちゃんちゃんこを身につけてお祝いをするんだ。

Kanreki: Kanreki is a 60th birthday celebration that represents a new beginning after a full circle of 12 zodiac animals and 10 stems on the Chinese calendar. The sexagenarian would celebrate the birthday wearing a traditional red hood and Chanchanko robe.

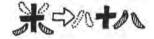


(7) 古希: 70歳のことをいう。 中国の詩人杜甫の詩からとってつけられた。

Koki: Koki is a 70th birthday celebration. The word "Koki" comes from a poem by the Chinese poet Du Fu.

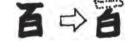
(8) (9) (9) (9) (9) (10)

**Beiju**: Beiju is an 88<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. 88, in *Kanji* characters, make up the *Kanji* character representing *Bei* (rice) in *Beiju*, and hence the name of this celebration.



(9) **白寿**: 「百」の字の売の「一」を取ると、「白」になるところからつけられた。99歳のこと。 古希も米寿も白寿もお祝いをするけれど、他に喜寿(77歳)や傘寿(80歳)、卒寿(90 歳)のお祝いもある。ちなみに2007年の日本人の平均寿命は男性が79.19歳、女性が 85.99歳だよ。

Hakuju: Hakuju is a 99th birthday celebration. The Kanji character for Haku, in Hakuju, is the character for the word "one" taken out of the character for the word "one-hundred" (Hyaku), and thus 99. Other key birthday celebrations for the seniors in Japan are Kiju (77th), Sanju (80th), and Sotsuju (90th).



The average Japanese life expectancy in 2007 was 79.19 for men and 85.99 for women.

## 日本のお葬式事情 Japanese Funerals

いちばんがおおいのが仏教のやり方で行う仏式で、他に神道に従って行う神葬祭やキリスト教の葬儀もあるんだ。 他に神道に従って行う神葬祭やキリスト教の葬儀もあるんだ。 仏教では放人が亡くなって1年自に一周忌を行い、以後2年自に三回忌を、同じように七回忌、十三回忌、十三回忌、十七回忌、二十三回忌、二十五回忌、二十七回忌、二十三回忌、三十七回忌、五十回忌を営むんだよ。

While the majority of Japanese families have their funerals conducted in the Buddhist tradition, others may choose Shinto or Christian funerals.

In the Buddhist tradition, families would hold many memorial services after a loved one's passing. The first annual memorial service is held a year after death; the third anniversary memorial after two full years; seventh anniversary memorial after six full years, and so forth. Additional services are held for the 13<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup>, and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries.

