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# Part I

にほんぶんかちりがいろん

# 日本文化地理概論

しゅうきょう

しゃかいしそう

## 1 宗教 religion | 社会思想 societal-thought

### 1.0.1 Die großen Probleme der Bevölkerung:

- 失業 (しつぎょう) → unemployment
  - 失業率 (しつぎょうりつ) → unemployment rate
    - \* りつ = rate
  - In Japan only qualified job-seekers are counted as unemployed.
- 自殺 (じさつ) suicide
  - Korea is 1st in suicides
  - Russian is 3rd in suicides
  - Japan is 4th in suicides

しゅうきょう

### 1.0.2 宗教 religion

- Shinto has 51% buddhism 42.7%, and christians 1.5% of the population as followers.
- People of Japan have the freedoms of religion and free speech. Guaranteed by their constitution (けんぽう).

おん

### 1.0.3 恩 Moral indebtedness

- auf die frage warum man was macht (私は恩があります。ですからそうです。)

ぎり

### 1.0.4 義理 Moral and/or social obligation

- 義理チョコ given on Feb.14 (Valentines Day) to men by woman, social-obligation-chocolate.

にんじょう

### 1.0.5 人情 human kindness

- ninjou ga atsui hito desu. → a warm hearted person
  - japanese use thick and thin for describing a persons kindness.
- 恥 (はじ) Gesichtslosigkeit (to loose face)

ねまわし

### 1.0.6 根回し arrangement in advance, (originally root-wrapping)

- ne-mawashi o shimasu = to prepare something the japanese people think preparing something properly allows it to be good.
- The japanese people do nemawashi especially before the discussion, they are so prepared that they have little to nothing left to discuss.
- hon-ne literally: a real sound, meaning: a real feeling/opinion, private opinion
- tatemae literally: a facade, meaning: public opinion

ねんこうじょれつ

### 1.0.7 年功序 (ねんこうじょれつ) system of age (seniority)

- The japanese people think this system allows them to avoid fights/discussions
- This system comes from growing rice as the seniors were very important in the rice farming society as the experience in rice growing was very important.

むらはちぶ

### 1.0.8 村八分 (むらはちぶ) societal ostracism

- originally: no cooperation except for funerals and fires (かじ) → traditional social punishment

わいろ

### 1.0.9 賄賂 bribe

そでのした

- 袖の下 (under-the-sleeves) → meaning: money-under-the-sleeves

### 1.0.10 Gift-Giving

こころづけ

- 心付け (kokoro): heart, 手付け (tenuke): attachment → token (money) of special thanks (in advance), dozoyoroshiku-onegai-shimasu is said when given this present
- (ご) 祝儀 (shugi) → token (money) as thanks afterwards, presented with the words: どもありがとうございました
  - ごしゅうぎ are used for weddings, there a envelope is used which is hard to open
  - ごしゅうぎ are also used for birthdays, there a easy to open reusable envelope is used

### 1.0.11 お祝い <sup>おいわい</sup> Oiwai -> Celebration

- oiwai-no-okurimono, oiwai-no-shina -> celebration gifts
  - 中元 <sup>ちゅうげん</sup> Chuugen -> Bon Festival gifts
    - \* Halb-Jahres-Geschenk am 15.Juli. (The present could be beer for example.)
  - 歳暮 <sup>せいぼ</sup> Seibo -> Year-end gift, the present could be soya sauce for example.
- お返し <sup>おかえし</sup> O-kaeshi -> return -> important to give return gifts
- 年賀状 <sup>ねんがじょう</sup> nenga-jo
  - new years greetings card -> very important for japanese -> should be written by hand
    - \* as preparation japanese people should learn calligraphy
    - \* often hundreds of cards are sent by one person

### 1.0.12 名刺 <sup>めいし</sup> -> Business cards: 91mm x 55mm in size

- exchanging business cards is an important part of japanese business
- the younger person should initialize giving the card.
- The card is given with both hands and held so that the receiver can read the card immediately.
- Even students often have such cards.

### 1.0.13 神道 <sup>しんとう</sup> Shinto

- しんとう is based on nature, there are supposed to be 8 million gods(kami)
- tenno was believed to be great great great grandson of amatersu was first tenno
  - all further tennos were descendants of him
- jinja -> shrine, to properly worship gods offerings are very important
- torii -> shrine gate, entrance to a sacred area

### 1.0.14 神道 <sup>しんとう</sup> Bukkyou

- introduced through china->korea-> to japan in the 6th century
- buddhism is the path to enlightenment
- tera, o-tera, ji-in, bukkaku are interchangeable -> use o-tera, all mean buddhist-shrine
- sanmon -> temple gate with 3 doorways

### 1.0.15 The Shinto-Buddhistic relationship

- 神仏習合 <sup>しんぶつしゅうごう</sup> Shinbutsu-Shūgō, is the unity of shintoism und buddhism.
  - hotoke/butsu = buddha
  - shin = shinto
  - They believed that shinto gods were reincarnations of buddhistic gods or the other way around.
  - There were shinto shrines in buddhistic temples and the other way around.
  - The difference between the two religions were unimportant for the average japanese.
  - This was kept until the meiji-restoration in the 19th century.
  - Until this point the effective ruler of the country had been the 将軍 <sup>しょうぐん</sup> (Shogun).
  - Shogun means general/military leader.
  - The Shoguns took over in the 12th century and ruled until the meiji restoration.
- 神仏分離 <sup>しんぶつぶんり</sup> Shin-Butsu-Bunri, is the separation of shintoism and buddhism.
  - Ordered in 1868 by the government to distinguish the shinto gods from the buddhistic ones.

### 1.0.16 キリスト教 <sup>きりすと</sup> Kirisuto-Kyou -> christian religion

- From 1612 to 1873 anti-christian-edicts
- The religion was introduced to japan around the end of 16th century.
- Most important christian church(kyoukai) in Japan is the(Oura church) in Nagasaki build in 1864.
- 1865 hidden christians appeared surprisingly in the church, these christians were called hidden christians, the christian faith had been hidden for over 250years from the beginning of the 17th century until then.
- The church was destroyed through an atomic bomb in 1945, but rebuild after the war.

### 1.0.17 右翼 <sup>うよく</sup> U-Yoku -> Right-Wing-People

- Still see tenno as shinto-god, and think they sacrifice themselves for emperor and country.
- They love fuji-san and sakana.

### 1.0.18 うよく 右翼 **Kamikaze**

- Kami: god/spirit, Kaze: wind -> thus: divine wind
- Originally used to describe the storm who threw the mongols in the 13th century back into the sea.
- Also eventually used for suicide attacks in the 2nd worldwar.

### 1.0.19 せっぽく 切腹 **Seppuku**

- Act to forgive ones sin through suicide, seppuku is the cutting of the belly (disembowlement).
- The japanese where not allowed to talk their own opinions to their superiors if they did anyways they would afterwards commit seppuku.

## 2 きょういく 教育 **education**

### 2.1 もんぶかがくしょう 文部科学省 **ministry of education**

- monbu = culture, kagaku = science, sho = ministry
- Also is concerned with matters of sport such as illegal betting on: Sakka, Baseball, Sumo.

### 2.2 **Gakko-Seido**

- Education-level
- Family financial Background

#### 2.2.1 ぎむきょういく 義務教育 **Gimu-Kyoiku**

- compulsory-education for 9 years
1. Sho-gakku -> elementary school
    - students are 6-years old when joining
    - no tuition for public elementary schools, around 5000-euros for private schools
  2. Chuu-gakko -> middle school
    - students are 12-years old when joining
    - private schools are expensive but highly sought after, as they are a middle and highschool in one and thus do not require highschool entrance exams. Private schools also tend to offer better preparation for university entrance exams.
  3. こうとうがっこう 高等学校 -> high school
    - short: 高校 (こうこう)
    - the average school day lasts 5-8 hours
    - students are enrolled between the ages of 15-17
    - students who are older than 17 have a problem fitting in as they will be talked to by everyone with a certain distance, as japanese students are often incapable of speaking plain style to someone their senior, thus excluding said person from the group.
    - The quality of the "senior"-high-school is very important for any japanese future career.