

Very fun! Matsusaka's festival



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3年 平井望結

Matsusaka city has three big festivals, Hatsuuma, Gion, and Ujisato. Each festival has its own good point. We don't know when Hatsuuma and Gion festivals began, But at each festival many stalls open and it becomes very lively.

Hatsuuma Festival

Hatsuuma Festival is held at keicho-temple in March every year. The festival is the biggest in the prefecture. It is held to welcome spring and drive away "Yaku". In the festival, many people come to pray for one's health and buy "saruhajiki" and "nejiriokoshi."

Saruhajiki



Saruhajiki is made from bamboo, with a monkey tied on. We flick one part and the monkey jumps. Hajiku means "flick" in English. So, Saruhajiki means, "flick the Yaku."

Nejiriokoshi is a snack.

Nejiriokoshi means, "Nejifuseru."

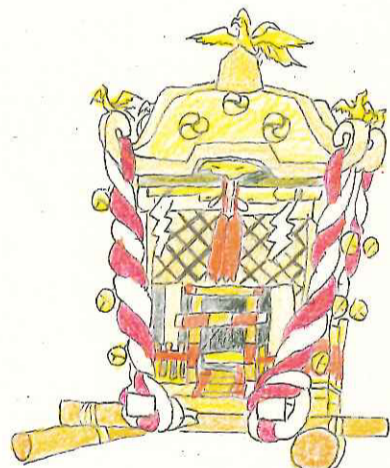
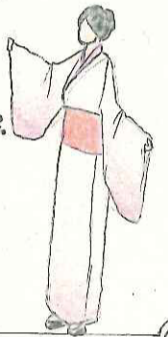
Nejifuseru means, "hold down." So, Nejiriokoshi means to hold down the Yaku.



Nejiriokoshi

What is Yaku?

Yaku is misfortune or trouble. We have "Yakudoshi" in Japan. Doshi means "year" in English. Yakudoshi is an age that people think will bring misfortune. For women, nineteen, thirty-three, thirty-seven, and sixty-one. For men, it is four, thirteen, twenty-five, forty-two, and sixty-one. Some people come to Hatsuuma Festival during one of their "Yakudoshi" years.



Sansha Mikoshi

Gion Festival

Gion Festival is held in July every year. Mikoshi is a portable shrine. People shoulder "Mikoshis" and make a procession through the center of the city, from Yakumo-shrine, Matsusaka-shrine and Mikuriya-shrine. There are food stalls in the festival. Japanese call them "Yatai". That is a custom have done since about 1700. On the last day, "Matsusaka shongai ondo", that was appointed an intangible culture asset, is shown. Matsusaka shongai ondo is a Japanese folk dance. It is about four hundred years old. Many people join it and enjoy dancing. So, the festival makes us very hot.

Ujisato Festival

Ujisato Festival is held on November third every year. It is visited by about one hundred thousand people. It is held to remember Gamou Ujisato. He founded Matsusaka city. "Mushagyotsu" is the main feature of the festival. Historical characters, like the wife of Gamou Ujisato and people with armor and muskets make a procession and walk slowly. It is about two hundred people in all. "Matsusaka shongai ondo" is performed like at the Gion Festival. Many people watch and enjoy it.

Mushagyotsu



These festivals are very fun. Why don't you come and stay in Matsusaka? Thank you!

(テーマを選んだ理由)

松阪では、これら三つの祭りを三大祭りと呼び、とても親しまれています。私も小さい頃に初午大祭りに連れてってもらい、その時買ったさるはじきは、今でも家に残っています。ですが、その当時の記憶がほとんど無いだけでなく、三大祭りの歴史なども全然知らなかったため、今回調べてみることにしました。初午は、さるはじきやねじりおこし、祇園は三社みこし、氏郷は武者行列と、それぞれの祭りに、特徴的な催しがあり、これを見ても楽しめると思います。みなさんぜひ、松阪の祭りを見に来てください。