RAHUL & AIKO / VOLUME 7

Nikkō, Stories in the Cedars

Tokugawa history, carved wisdom and an Indian connection
With maps, kana and illustrated learning resources



ラーフルと愛子の日光めぐり

Japanese for adult beginners / English guidance

Sanjay Bagaria

The monkeys are on a stable

Shinkyūsha / sacred stable



1 RAHUL

三猿はこの門にありますか。

Sanzaru wa kono mon ni arimasu ka.

Are the three monkeys on this gate?

2 AIKO

門ではなく、神厩舎にあります。

Mon de wa naku, Shinkyūsha ni arimasu.

They are on the sacred stable, rather than a gate.

3 RAHUL

馬の建物に猿がいるのですね。

Uma no tatemono ni saru ga iru no desu ne.

So there are monkeys on a building for horses.

4 AIKO

猿は馬を守ると考えられていました。

Saru wa uma o mamoru to kangaerarete imashita.

Monkeys were believed to protect horses.

Read 1 > 2 > 3 > 4. Japanese, romaji, then English.

The monkeys are on a stable

Read the Japanese. Write the romaji. Check the preceding comic.



RECALL

Who is speaking?
What are they noticing?
What would you ask?

JAPANESE LENS

〜ではなく / de wa naku corrects one noun to another. Recognise the passive past explanation in the longer answer.

YOUR TURN

Correct a mistaken location using a short sentence with あります.

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Language approach and creation notes

LANGUAGE APPROACH

Ask a useful question, read an answer, then try it yourself. Comics give Japanese, romaji and English; practice removes romaji. Recognise longer cultural answers before expecting to produce them fluently. Fixed older sayings are explained separately from everyday Japanese.

CREATION NOTES

Original fictional dialogue and AI-generated manga illustrations accompany researched notes. Images interpret real settings. The learning route spans separate visits; verify current arrangements with each site before travelling.



Sanjay Bagaria is a technocrat, author, and Japanese language mentor with over three decades of corporate leadership experience at leading Japanese multinational companies.

Through Rahul and Aiko's illustrated journeys, he brings language and culture together, helping readers discover Japanese life while learning the words and expressions to describe, discuss, and share their experiences.

He expresses his deep gratitude to Ila Bagaria and Eduardo Pedayo for their encouragement and inspiration, and to Juhi Bagaria, Keshuv Bagaria, Avinash Jain, and Akshay Jain for their collaboration and support.

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