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Utokyu`s Easily understandable & speakable Japanese language lesson14 書庫版



(Hyou-On Moji & Hyou-I Moji(表音文字と表意文字) 2nd article)

On previous article, we showed below

”Hyou(表)”means “Showing”

“On(音)”means ”Sounds”

“I(意)”means “Meanings”

“Moji(文字)”means “letters”

Then

●Hyou-I Moji(表意文字) = letters from meanings

Each letter itself with standing aloneness has meaning

For example, Kanji(漢字)

Kanji(漢字)is Symbolized one from things of nature or concrete things having shapes

After it, as a sample, we already explained about 日、月、火、水、木、金、土

On this article, we will explain about not things but thought or concept images in Japanese language.

Sample is

Man=男(otoko)

Field for getting harvest=畑(hatake)

Beautiful=美しい(utsukushii)

- The letter of 男 consists of “田”+”力”

田 means agricultural field for getting rice as a harvest.力 means Power.

Then 男 means the person who is showing Power on agricultural field.

- The letter of 畑 consists of “火”+”田”

火 means fire and 田 means above the same.

Then 畑 means agricultural field made from being burned by fire.

- The letter of 美 (しい) consists of “羊”+”大”

羊 means sheep and 大 means big or large.

On the ancient era in China (the country which Japan imported Kanji), Big sheep was the symbol of fortune or assets of harvest. Then “Beautiful” is pumped up feelings when the sheep holders looked at them,

On our era we no say it`s beautiful but say it`s the source of our earnings(or the pump for our earnings)!!

Thank you.