

Four-Shaku Ball, the World's Largest Skyrocket 世界最大の4尺玉花火

せかいさいだい しやくだまはなび

A variety of fireworks festivals are held every summer all over Japan. An annual autumnal festival of firework donations organized by Asahara Shrine (popularly known as the Katakai Festival) at Katakai Town, Ojiya City, Niigata Prefecture, is well known for having launched the world's largest skyrocket.

日本では夏になると全国各地でさまざまな花火大会が行われます。新潟県小千谷市片貝町で開催される浅原神社秋季例大祭奉納大煙火（通称、片貝まつり）は、世界で一番大きな花火を打ち上げていることで知られています。

Every year, 15,000 skyrockets are launched over the two days of September ninth and tenth. One of the highlights is a firework called Four-Shaku Ball. It's 1.2 meters in diameter and weighs 420 kilograms. After being launched, it explodes 800 meters above the ground and creates an 800-meter-wide shower of sparks.



毎年9月9日～10日の2日間に15,000発打ち上げます。見どころの一つが4尺玉といわれる花火です。花火の玉の大きさは直径約1メートル20センチ、重さ420キロ。打ち上げると地上800メートル



トルの高さで直径800メートルになります。

What makes Katakai Festival stand out is that its fireworks are all donations to Asahara Shrine. Commemorating birthdays, offered up as prayers for the soul of a deceased loved one, or praying for the future success of a company, each is dedicated to the wishes of a private individual or business. For each launch, announcements such as "Happy birthday xxx, we hope you grow into a child beloved by all" are made over the PA system.



片貝まつりの花火は浅原神社への奉納であることが特徴です。誕生祝い、供養、会社の発展など、個人や企業がさまざまな想いを込めて打ち上げます。一つ打ち上げるたびに、「祝〇〇誕生、みんなに愛される子になれ」などのコメントが放送されます。

katakaimachi-enkakyokai.info

Popular TV Programs / 人気のテレビ番組



Broadcast for 15 days from August 7 on NHK general and E-tele (education) channels
8月7日から15日間、NHK総合またはEテレにて放送

The 99th National High School Baseball Championship

第99回全国高校野球選手権

The National High School Baseball Championship is broadcast on this program. Since the championship is held at Hanshin Koshien Baseball Stadium, Nishinomiya City, Hyogo Prefecture, it is also called "Koshien." About 4,000 high schools participate. All of the games shown are part of the tournament. The winners of regional tournaments (two respectively from Hokkaido and Tokyo) take part.