

Barry Joshua GRISDALE

グリズデイル・バリージョシュアさん
 Grisdale Barry Joshua

Running a Website with Information on Accessibility for the Disabled

バリアフリー barrier free 情報提供サイトを じょうほう てい きょう site 主宰 しゅ さい



“Many of the rumors and information about Japan on the Internet are incorrect,” says Barry Joshua GRISDALE, from Canada. “Before coming here, I was told that people in wheelchairs were not able to take subways because there were no elevators. However, the truth was that most stations had one. Also, I found a posting that said that only Asians could become naturalized Japanese citizens. It’s true that the screening was tough, but I was able to realize my dream of becoming a Japanese citizen.”

「日本に関する、インターネット上のうわさや情報には、正しくないものがたくさんあります」とカナダ生まれのグリズデイル・バリージョシュアさんは言います。「来日前、『エレベーターがないから車いすの人は地下鉄に乗れない』と言われました。でも実際には、ほとんどの駅にありました。アジア系でないと帰化できないという書き込みもありました。確かに審査は厳しかったですが、私は夢がかなって日本人になれました」。

Grisdale cannot move his hands and feet very much and has been using an electric wheelchair since he was

four years old. When he was in high school, he was treated kindly by his teacher in a Japanese language class he took. Also, when he came to Japan and stayed for a month, in addition to the courteous attention of station staff, he received a warm welcome. Japan appealed to Grisdale, so he returned in 2007 and found employment at an NPO.

グリズデイルさんは手足があまり動かず、4歳から電動車いすを使っています。高校時代、日本語の授業を選択して先生にとってもやさしく教えてもらいました。また日本に1カ月滞在したとき、駅員の親切な介助など、あたたかいおもてなしを受けました。日本が気に入ったグリズデイルさんは2007年に来日。あるNPO法人に就職しました。

He struggled with Japanese. “I mistook fourth (*yokka*) with eighth (*youka*). Because the names of conditions such as ‘cerebral palsy’ contained many difficult *kanji*, I could not read letters that came from government offices. Honorific expressions used in e-mails at the company are still difficult for me.”

日本語には苦労しました。「4日と8日を聞きまちがったり、役所から届く脳性麻痺など難しい漢字をた