

Japanese

えーっと日本の習慣はいろいろあるんですけども、例えばバレンタインデーの習慣とかが少し日本のものとか、他の国とか地域のものとは違うかなと思うので、それについてお話しします。バレンタインデーは他の国。例えば香港もそうですけどと同じように、2月14日に日本でも祝われます。ただ、内容が少し違って日本だと簡単にいうと、女性が男性にチョコレート、もしくは何かをプレゼントを贈る日というふうになっています。その中でも種類があって、一つは義理チョコといってすごく仲がいいわけじゃないけど、例えば学校のクラスメートとか仕事の香りをとかに贈るチョコレートでもうひとつが本命チョコレートといって、これは例えば好意を持っている人に告白するために贈るチョコレートと言われています。最初は、日本のデパートがもっとバレンタインデーにたくさんビジネスをするために、そういうキャンペーンを始めたのが発祥とも言われていますが、今ではその文化がどんどん広がって例えば。

女の子同士でとか、もしくは男性同士でもいいんですけど、友達同士で送り合う友チョコとか自分のために自分を褒めるために贈る自分チョコっていうものも生まれたり、その文化はすごくどんどん広がっているように思います。えーっとそれで僕はパートナーが香港の人なんですけれども、香港ではむしろ男性が女性に花だったり、もしくはチョコレートでもいいかもしれませんってプレゼントを贈る日なので、僕とパートナーが2月14日を祝うときにはちょっと。どうしてあなたは僕にチョコをくれないの。あなたはどうして私に花をくれないのみたいなちょっと緊張というか。ケンカはしないんですけど、そういうものがあつたりします。なので僕たちはもし香港に行ったら香港のスタイルで、つまり僕が彼女に花を贈る。そういうスタイルでお祈りをして日本にいるときは、彼女が僕にチョコレートだつたりをプレゼントしてくれる。

そういった風にお祝いをしています。これが僕の日本に日本でのバレンタインデーに関する紹介でしたっていったん自分に。

English

Okay, so I'm just going to introduce the custom on Valentine days in Japan, which is quite different from other countries or regions in the way of celebrating it. Conventionally well traditionally, on Valentine's day, which is also on February 14th, same as Hong Kong, it's usually female who send chocolates or other sweets to male on that day at celebration. And when they send it, their traditionally, two patterns of sending it: one is called the giri to keep relation; the other is called honmei, which is tell your feeling or the confession feeling towards who you like.

For the first one, giri, chocolate, that's mainly, in for example, at school, you send it to your male classmates, who are kind of friends, but not in their personal or romantic relationship. In a company setting, you send it to your male colleagues or maybe boss to thank them. And the other one called the

honmei, which is in any settings. So if you like someone and want to have a more special relationship, intimate relationship with that person, the male person, you will send chocolate to him maybe with some letter or something.

Seemingly, this tradition custom started from a campaign in one department store in Japan, which wanted to sell more chocolates on that day. It was somehow trying to make some marketing related to Valentine's day. But nowadays, it's getting more and more popular.

Aside from the two variations I just mentioned, there are more patterns of sending chocolates. For example, one of them is tomo choco, which means chocolate for friends. In this case, it's not always from female to male, but it can be from female to female, or male to male, male to female. Any pattern is fine. You just want to celebrate your friendship with other people.

The other one called jibun choco. Jibun means myself or oneself in Japanese, which means that you buy chocolate and send it to yourself to celebrate yourself or reward yourself. You can see a lot of variety of chocolates in department stores, supermarkets in Japan nowadays.

I have a Hong Konger partner who has lived in Hong Kong for decades. So when we celebrate Valentine days, there's this slight tension between us, because in her tradition, or Hong Kong's custom, it's male who send flowers or other gifts to female, whereas in my custom or Japan's custom, it's female who send something to me or male.

So our we kind of have a compromise, and we decided that if we are in Hong Kong on Valentine's day, we I so I send flowers or other gifts to her. If we are in Japan, she sends me chocolates or some gifts to me to celebrate the day.

Yeah, that's all for the introduction of Valentine's day in Japan and somehow in Hong Kong.