

# SEEDFOLKS

BY: MRS.FIELDS, MRS.CUNNINGHAM, MRS.  
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# NAME:AKEMI SATOU

- Country:  
Fukushima  
Japan
- Age: 35 years  
old
- Occupation:  
School teacher



Akemi immigrated to Cleveland due to the Fukushima nuclear meltdown. This meltdown was caused by an earthquake which led to a tsunami on March 11, 2011. The meltdown caused radiation from the nuclear reactor to be released contaminating the earth, water, and air. Approximately 300,000 people were evacuated. Due to this disaster, Akemi was unable to return since her home was destroyed and the environment was unsafe. Therefore, she left as quickly as she could to avoid further harm to her health and to seek new opportunities in America.

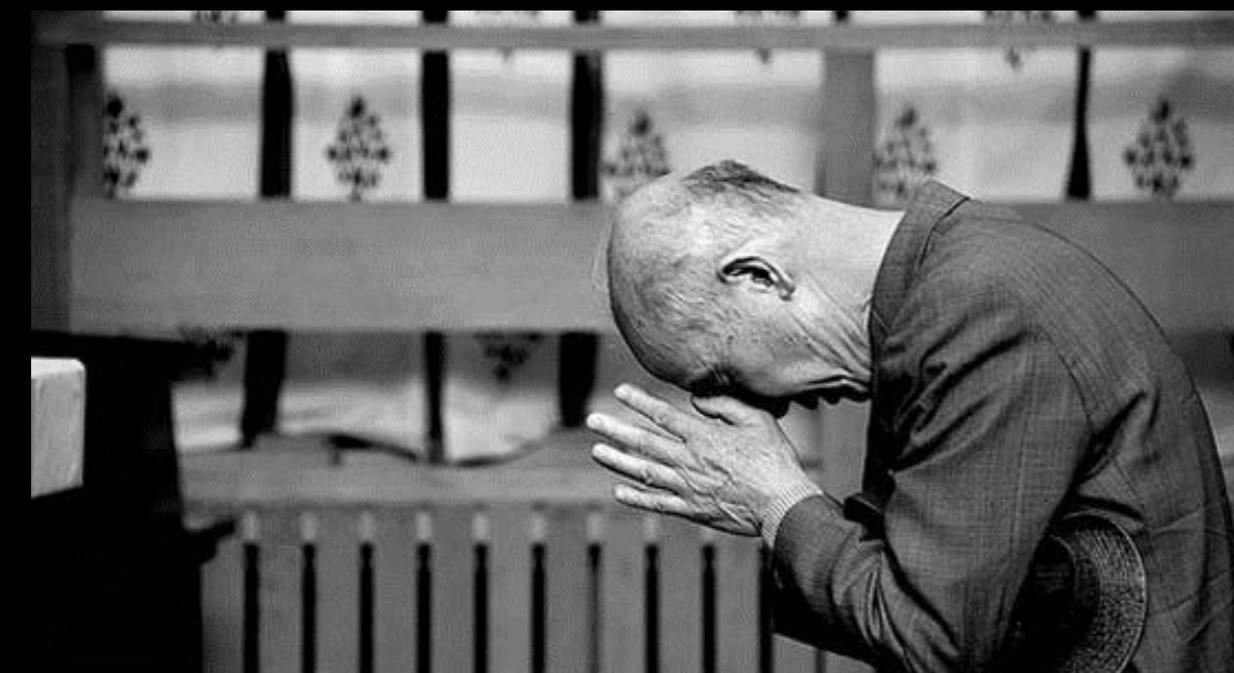


Akemi would plant either sweet potatoes, rice, wheat or barley to represent her country of Japan. Farming in Japan is difficult because land is scarce. The majority of available land is covered in rice paddies as rice is the most widely-consumed crop in Japan. Rice is a common food in Japan used in many traditional dishes. Growing rice reminds Akemi of her home. She might also plant wheat or barley in the fall and sweet potatoes in the summer.





Akemi would show Japan's culture by bowing, table manners, and prayer. First, bowing is a sign of respect. Akemi would bow when meeting someone or greeting a friend. Correct table manners are also taught to Japanese children. Before eating, Akemi would use a small, wet cloth to wash her hands as is customary. You do not use this cloth as your napkin. Did you know slurping your noodles is acceptable? Lastly, praying is an important part of the Japanese culture. Akemi prays every day. There are many different religions in Japan, and praying is important in all of them.





- Akemi would most likely be friends with Sae Young due to several similarities in their cultures and mannerisms. They both work hard and have a quiet demeanor. Each of them have dark hair, brown eyes, and speak in broken English. Respect and prayer are important to both of these women which is shown through their actions. Like Sae Young, Akemi values family and has a strong work ethic. They both enjoy the community garden and helping others in the neighborhood.