

# THE BULLETIN OF JSA

## THE JAPAN SCIENTISTS' ASSOCIATION

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### JSA DECLARATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE 41<sup>ST</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY 30, 2010

Liberal Democratic Party of Japan (LDP) lost its position of governing party that had kept since 1955. The new administration centered at The Democratic Party of Japan (DP) has launched as a result of that most Japanese people realized their life was threatened by the reinforcement of neo-liberalistic restructuring and wished to change the situation. The new administration's action, however, disappointed Japanese people in both diplomatic and domestic fields. That caused the sharp decline of public acceptance. On the other side, LDP without thinking over why it went out of power is in peril of foundering according to a steady stream of defections. Thus political power in Japan, insisting the conventional political rule, is floating to find a landing site.

That such fluid situation is raised in Japanese government because the new administration has no capability to expressively provide to people any line to fix the radical contradiction in Japanese postwar society. One of the contradiction is that Japanese government has followed the world rule strategy of the US as seen in the existence of nuclear secret agreement, and another the cozy relationship among politicians, bureaucrats and business leaders.

The new administration promised to aim the truly equivalent relationship between Japan and the US. It then should not follow the world strategy of the US that targets world military ruling as the strongest hegemonistic power in the world over the Cold War structure collapse. It should assert its opinion against the US government, based on the wish of Okinawa people as well as lots of Japanese people in other areas, the unconditional removal of Futenma military base. Confronting the 100-year anniversary of Japanese Annexation of Korean Peninsula, Japanese government should outgrow diplomacy based on full commitment to the US, and independently makes responsible efforts to build peace in East Asia. The new administration mentioned to change policy *from concrete to people*. Then the cozy relationship among politicians, bureaucrats and business leaders, the political system taking top priority to business growth, really should be cut deeply. National debt has been raised to twice GDP, which was not caused by bureaucracy itself but created by corporate Japan of money politics corruption that politicians do the talking of business leaders and bureaucrats follow their demands. Only radical change of political system to follow the US and take top priority to business society could brighten the prospects toward the society where people are able to maintain peaceful and safe living.

DP, which has aimed mainly to take over administration from LDP gathering various political forces, has at present no political prospects to settle such fundamental contradictions as mentioned above. It is indispensable for Japanese people, the sovereign, to take a conscious action in order to conduce to people-oriented politics from historical judgment on LDP administration.

Acceding to philosophy and tradition since its establishment to make efforts for developing science

and enhancing peace, democracy, and people's living, the Japan Scientists' Association intends to bolster up tackling fundamental issues in Japanese society together with Japanese people. Standing on these, the association will place the full weight of the following.

1. Study for human existence and peaceful prosperity, and working with the society

1) Organize the 18<sup>th</sup> Comprehensive Scientific Study Conference (November 19-21, Sendai City), make a success with participants from all branches.

2) Organize Scientists' Forum of 2010 World Conference against A&H Bombs (August 1 at Shizuoka City) together with friendly organizations.

3) Arrange firm research activity in every branch. Set up district symposia. Develop and enhance the activity of research committees.

4) Have more contributions to *Nihon No Kagakusha* (Journal of Japanese Scientists, JJS). Develop a meeting for jointly reviewing articles of JJS in each branch.

2. Voicing and acting for the true development of higher education and science-technology

1) Analyze and investigate the new administration's trend of higher education policy and science-technology policy. In order to drastically overcome difficult situations of universities and research bodies in incorporated stage, come up with a further policy recommendation and make efforts to materialize it with labor unions, academic bodies, and with support of majority of Japanese people.

2) Make efforts to bolster up solidarity with labor unions and academic bodies so as to settle problems of young researchers, postdoctoral positions, and promotion for women researchers.

3) In education and research bodies arbitrary administration has been conducted, and staff has been coerced into competition and efficiency. Researchers' rights are deeply infringed. Figure out precisely the picture, and take prompt support action for protect researchers' living and rights.

3. Reinforcement and revitalization of the organization, enlarging members and development of scientists' movements

1) Every branch voluntarily designs its goal and action plan for early discovery of 5000 membership.

2) Tackle young researcher problems as a nationwide task of primary importance making special preparations. Make efforts to quickly enhance graduate student and young researcher members. Large-sized branches take notice of their role.

3) Take intensive action on "JSA fund-raising for early discovery of 5000 membership" by the end of this fiscal year.

**ACTIVITIES OF RESEARCH COMMITTEES AND GROUPS**

***The JSA headquarters organizes a number of research committees and groups undertaken on a nationwide scale, which are encouraging the members across the country***

**TASKS AND VIEWS OF NEW GOVERNMENT'S AGRICULTURAL POLICY**

The JSA research committee of foodstuff problems held a regular study meeting in Tokyo on January 23 where Mr. Fujii (the Diet reporter, THE JAPAN AGRICULTURAL NEWS) gave a lecture entitled above. The lecture was very timely as the new government was just to prepare the fiscal 2010 budget.

The budget includes "Model measures for individual (household) income support for agriculture" for farmers selling rice for the purpose of formulation and maintenance of Japan's food supply system and improvement of self-sufficiency through the use of paddies. This measure consists of two projects, "Model projects for individual (household) income support for agriculture (FY2010 Budget: ¥337.1billion) for selling farmers who produce rice in line with the "target of production volume", and "Projects for improvement of self-sufficiency through the use of paddies (FY2010 Budget ¥216.7 billion) for selling

farmers who produce wheat, soybean, and rice cultivated for powder or feed in flooded fields. The projects aim to promote production adjustment to rice farmers constantly in the red under the impetus of income support and measures bringing out the merit of cultivating rice for food. Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Akamatsu emphasized the significance of measures telling “these have historical significance to lead the agricultural policy to the quite new stage.”

The lecturer also reported that “establishment of the policy of agriculture by politician-led government” is carried out by only the three top-ranking officials such as Minister, Vice Minister and Parliamentary Secretary without party members and bureaucrats, and the examination of the consistency and the effectiveness of the policies are neglected. This fact surprised participants.

The discussion was centered on “Model projects for individual (household) income support to selling farmers who produced rice. The Government provides fixed amount, ¥15 thousand per 10a nationwide, equivalent to the difference between the normal production cost (moderate past five years’ average from the past seven years’ average) and the normal sales cost (past three years’ average) and the changing amount equivalent to the difference between the normal sales price and the current years’ sales price in case that current year’s sales price falls below normal.

The present situation is that rice prices are tending downward because of importing minimum access rice and beating down by major distributors. Falling price with no restriction might reduce the standard rice price further. Consequently, it is impossible to apply “The individual (household) income support”. Under the situation as it stands, when the Government promotes the FTA (Free Trade Agreement) and agrees to liberalize rice trade, it will aggravate the situation and crush down, nearly completely, the roadmap for regenerating Japanese agriculture and boosting Japan’s self-sufficiency rate.

### ***DISTRICTS’ AND BRANCHES’ ACTIVITIES***

***The JSA consists of 47 branches which are grouped into 9 districts, and they are independently and/or cooperatively carrying out their activities in addition to the headquarters' ones***

#### **1) NEW YEAR MEETING IN SAITAMA**

The Saitama branch held a customary new-year meeting in Saitama City on January 30. Two topics were presented by members.

The first was “The trend of insanitary insects in Saitama Prefecture” by Dr. Urabe (Institute of Public Health, Saitama Prefecture). The recent distinctive feature found through the inspection to identify a species of insanitary insect was introduced. “The insanitary insect” is defined as insect giving hygienic damages to human body. It includes not only those transmitting disease but also those causing unpleasant and uncleanly feelings. As a practical matter, insects brought for identification are, in order of the number, those unpleasant, mixing with foods and stinging a human body. Recently, the tendency that those insects of small flies in house, ant, spider and southern area originated ones in outdoor and tea tussock moth and head lice as sting pest have been increasing is recognized. The speaker raised a problem. The person in charge of insanitary insect is only two, and the position may be abolished in near future. The position has been highly evaluated nationwide because of discovering O-157 and *Cryptosporidium Tyzzer*. The participants agreed that the branch should protest the administration's intension.

The second was “Struggling against the environmental assessment for Henoko that aims to restructure and strengthen the U.S. force” by ex Prof. Sugiura (Toyo Univ.) He introduced his experiences. He joined the movement against constructing a new U.S. base in Henoko. He investigated the preparatory paper of environmental assessment made out by the Defense Facilities Administration Bureau and submitted a written opinion. He joined the plaintiffs of the trial to retrial the environmental assessment and struggled. He introduced these experiences showing pictures, beautiful sea in Henoko, a sit in

movement, Futenma Base building up an image of “unsinkable air craft” and so on. The war experience in his childhood was the starting point of his peace movement. Participants were overpowered by his strong passion that made him study and act for peace as a scientist and as a man of religion.

## 2) STUDY ON GLOBAL WARMING EFFECT IN KANAGAWA

The Kanagawa branch held the regular study meeting in January 2010. In the meeting Dr. Katayama (NRIFS) reported the global warming effect on the coastal resource. He is studying the ecology of the coastal resources, fishes like flatfish, turbot and sea bass, etc. These fishes are caught by one-day fishery. The coastal fishery includes cultivation. The haul of the cultivation reaches about 40 % of the coastal fishery haul. Furthermore 80% of the cultivation haul is shellfish and seaweed that don't need to feed. Recently the haul of Spanish mackerel that is caught in west Japan increases in northeast Japan. It is suggested that the global warming causes the phenomenon. The phenomenon, however, has occurred 30-40 years ago. As a result it can be explained by the time variation of several decades on Spanish mackerel. Sea bass in Tokyo bay and the coast of Japan increases considerably. Sea bass has also time variation of several decades as Spanish mackerel and the variation seems to synchronize with middle and long time change of the global weather and sea. The ecology of sardine and marine products are affected by Aleutian low pressure and shows the several decades variation.

Dr. Kawasaki (representative council of JSA) pointed out this phenomenon firstly and he called it as “regime shift”. He derived it, studying increase and decrease of the sardine has happened simultaneously in the sea area where the ocean current differs completely on a terrestrial scale. The ocean resources should be managed on the basis of “regime shift”. The mechanism of “regime shift” is not elucidated yet, but sudden temperature increase of the global warming raises a possibility of collapsing of the regime shift rhythm. For preserving the ocean resources the global warming must be stopped from standpoint of preventive principle.

## 3) SPRING STUDY EXCHANGE CONFERENCE "THINKING OF A WIDE-AREA LOCAL GOVERNMENT SYSTEM AND LOCAL AUTONOMY (2)"

The JSA Okinawa branch held the above conference on January 22, 2010 at University of the Ryukyus, where Prof. Tonaki (branch member) delivered a talk on the present argument of a wide-area local government system, its logic and legal problems. He clarified the logic and aim of argument on the system promoted in the days of the administration of Democratic Liberal Party and Komeito, based on a) enactment of Devolution of Power Law and revision of Local Autonomy law (2000), b) the recommendation concerning local government system in the 28<sup>th</sup> Local Government System Council, and c) two recommendation of Nippon Keidanren (Japan Business Federation) in 2007 and 2008. The axis of these conceptions is to reform the national constitution at the stage of economic globalization to aim a small and strong state realizing neo-liberalism. He pointed out that it would result in negation of the administrative role of local governments as a system guaranteeing fundamental human rights under the present Constitution and abandonment of national minimums. A wide-area local government system connotes "the role division between state and local government", "self-determination and self-responsibility", "reinforcement of international competitive ability", and "shift from right-demanding society to responsibility-sharing society". The system consists of three strata, state emphasizing national interests, wide-area local governments with the role to shoulder international economic competition as a wide-area economic bloc, and basic local autonomies onto which the state shifted administrative responsibility. He also pointed out that it is a gut issue whether this state structure agrees with the central point of democracy, that is, self-control due to residence self-governance the Constitution of Japan advocates and whether this sort of local government and basic local autonomy are indeed local public agencies the Constitution defines.

## 4) THE 22<sup>ND</sup> GATHERING TO THINK ABOUT NATIONAL FOUNDATION DAY HELD

National Foundation Day (February 11) was established as one of national holidays in 1992 to commemorate the legendary enthronement of Japan's first emperor Jimmu. It has been recognized as the day people opposing democracy chant the praises of Japanese emperor system. The Shimane branch and some labor unions of university teachers and staff held a gathering on February 11 in Matsue City, where Prof. Uematsu (Shimane Univ.) was invited to give a lecture on the historical meaning of the Constitution and Japan-US security treaty, especially the historical view seen in TV play "Saka no ue no kumo" (Clouds over the hill), and a junior-high school teacher's talk about his experience of teaching history.

Prof. Uematsu explained what military alliance had affected on war and Japan's annexation of Korean Peninsula (1910). TV play "Saka no ue no kumo" (the original novel due to R. Shiba) is a boom in these days. One must be cautious in Shiba's historical view of that play which admiring imperial regime in Meiji era. Participants realized why affirming imperial Japan and thinking the Constitution to be meaningless relentlessly have been raised from his explanation that Japan-US Security Treaty is not the one to protect the nation and building pacifism, namely antiwar intension as collective opinion of civil society is necessary to defy militarism.

The second talk addressed what junior high school students discussed Manchurian Incident in history class, where students' subjective approach to recognize problems was sought in a way different from usual, indeed it was sought to understand different opinions, that is, promotion, negation, and abandon in invasion to the continent from three ex-premiers. It helped students to comprehend then social backgrounds and develop their own historical recognition.

5) SYMPOSIUM "IS IT POSSIBLE TO ELIMINATE NUCLEAR WEAPONS?" HELD IN MIYAZAKI  
The JSA Miyazaki branch and Democratic Lawyer's Association of Miyazaki held the 67<sup>th</sup> gathering of the Constitution and peace on February 11, 2010 in Miyazaki City. The executive committee invited Prof. Tomita (Law Faculty, Kansei Gakuin Univ., drafting committee chair of World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs) to give a lecture on the perspective and challenge of NPT review conference considering the recent trend of international situation in the antiwar and peace movement. He indicates a new development of nuclear weapons elimination those in the ruling echelon displaying their nuclear deterrence, among which fear of nuclear proliferation and nuclear terrorism are spreading. The professor asserts that only the measure against terrorism and proliferation is the elimination of nuclear weapons, not nuclear deterrence. Though not totally agree with A&H bomb survivors' sublime determination "Don't create Hibakusha again", this development has been made according that policymakers have had no other choice than allowing the precedence of the thought of total abolition of nuclear weapons. As he also stressed, NPT review conference in May is a best chance to ask nuclear powers to at once fulfill the unequivocal undertaking and immediately hold a discussion on nuclear arms ban treaty to ensure the fulfillment. The professor finally said that it is possible to realize a peaceful and just world without atomic weaponry and to this end solidarity of peoples and overwhelming popular voices are necessary.

#### 6) TALK ON PHYSICAL PHILOSOPHY IN ISHIKAWA

The Ishikawa branch held regular meeting on February 22, 2010 at Kanazawa University. Prof. Naoe (Kanazawa Univ.), who has been engaged in the education and research of physics, lectured the historical review of philosophy. He pointed out that current philosophy should be reconstructed to perform the basic duty that has to summarize the knowledge in many fields and develop it in the fields. He mentioned that the achievement of Greek philosophers and the characteristics of their philosophies. Next he presented the achievement of Galileo and Newton. Newton established Newtonian mechanics, understanding and applying Galileo's literary work. Their knowledge on nature led the formation of Kant and Hegel philosophy. The current philosophy, however, doesn't combine new understanding on nature that is developed by the theory of relativity, the theory of elementary particles, biological physics and cosmology, etc.

*JSA<sup>NOW</sup>*  
*Briefings from organizers*

#### HOKURIKU DISTRICT

The district (Toyama, Ishikawa, and Fukui branches) held a symposium "What university do citizens desire?" First session: a) Prof. Hirose (Toyama Univ.) "The role of university and recent situation in universities, b) Prof. Goga (Kanazawa Univ.) "Exit out of university and the difficulty of university education", c) Prof. Mori (Fukui Univ.) "Graduate school education based on regional schools". Second session: d) Kanamori (Hokuriku Gakuin Univ.) "What people ask from universities", e) Mr. Miyamoto (Fukui Pref.) "Research and education in university technical workers call for". Three reports were presented.

#### KINKI DISTRICT

- 1) The 18<sup>th</sup> Kansai study meeting of peace problem was held on April 17 in Kyoto, where Dr. Sawada (Nagoya Univ., ret.) was invited to give a lecture on the standard of radiological protection and internal exposure, and Prof. Kamei (Kyoto Univ.) a lecture on the possibility of Thorium nuclear energy for world with no nuclear weapons.
- 2) The Kansai-area's colloquium for scientific workers in private enterprises on May 9 held a regular meeting at Osaka branch office. They disputed about information exchanged between network and real world with the help of Mr. Kitagawa.
- 3) On June 6 at Osaka branch office the Kansai-area's colloquium for scientific workers in private enterprises organized a regular meeting, where Ms. Aburaya delivered a lecture on plutonium thermal project.

#### HOKKAIDO BRANCH

The branch held a lecture meeting for fresh graduate students on April 23 at Hokkaido University. The executive committee invited Prof. Ikeuchi (cosmism, committee of World Peace 7) to give a lecture on Japanese universities at the crossroads and governmental policies of science and technology.

#### TOKYO BRANCH

- 1) The 14<sup>th</sup> citizen gathering to discuss intellectual property was held on April 17 at Bunkyo Kumin Center, Tokyo. Presented were two reports on a) WTO and Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), and b) education on intellectual property in university.
- 2) The 20<sup>th</sup> Chofu science forum was held on April 18 at University of Electro-Communications, where Dr. Masuda (Meteorological Research Institute, ret.) delivered a lecture on global warming and abnormal weather conditions.
- 3) The 79<sup>th</sup> new peace colloquium was held on April 23 at Bunkyo Kumin Center, Tokyo, where Prof. Kaneko (Rissho Univ.) gave a lecture "National referendum law (1)".
- 4) The research committee held a regular meeting on May 15 at Academy Sengoku, Tokyo, where Mr. Hara (committee) gave a presentation "Security of foodstuffs and cooperative societies".

#### KANAGAWA BRANCH

The branch held the 46<sup>th</sup> branch general assembly at Kanagawa Research Institute, Yokohama, on May 15. They discussed the line of action and adopted a resolution concerning Futenma installation in Okinawa that demands the immediate dismantlement without condition.

## SHIGA BRANCH

On May 22 the branch held a lecture meeting, where Prof. Mizutani (Nagahama Hokusei Highschool) was invited to give a lecture on the dummy nuclear bomb dropped in Shiga Prefecture.

## OSAKA BRANCH

- 1) The 13<sup>th</sup> Science Café was held on April 17 at Nakazaki shopping mall, Osaka, where Dr. Komoita (JSA representative) gave a lecture "Alchemy Newton devoted himself. Why did people try to fabricate gold?"
- 2) The dialectic champuru study group held a regular meeting on April 19 at the branch office, where two reports were given.
- 3) On April 26 at Toyonaka campus, Osaka University chapter organized a lecture meeting "Pharmacology and society". Ms. Teraoka (pharmaceutical Information Center Asahi) lectured for young students too have begun studying pharmacology.
- 4) The study group of "The Capital" held a regular meeting on April 30 at the branch office, where Mr. Hiraishi read Chapter 3 "On currency".
- 5) The 14<sup>th</sup> Science Café was held on May 15 at Nakazaki shopping mall, Osaka, where Prof. Koito (Osaka City Univ.) delivered a lecture "Family and house – Do you live in house fit to live?"
- 6) The 37<sup>th</sup> Osaka Comprehensive Scientific Study Convention was held on May 22 at Hannan University, Kawachiamami, Osaka. Four reports were made by Prof. Yoneda (Chuo Univ.), Prof. Matsuda (Osaka City Univ.), Prof. Yamazaki (Ritsumaikan Univ.), and Dr. Komorita (Osaka Univ., ret.).
- 7) The study group Contemporary Capitalism held a regular meeting on May 27 at the branch office, where Mr. Suzuki delivered a lecture on how Japanese corporations in the 2000s changed.
- 8) The study group of "Capitalism" held a regular meeting on November 30 at the Osaka branch office, where participants read themes *money and circulation of commodity* and *transformation of money into capital* under the instruction of Prof. Hiraishi (Ritsumeikan Univ.) and Prof. Hirasawa.

## HYOKGO BRANCH

- 1) Kobe University chapter and Article 9 Society in Kobe University organized a lecture meeting on May 10 at Kobe University, where Prof. Maskawa (Nobel laureate for physics) delivered a lecture "Discovery of top quark – Academic delight and scientist's social responsibility".
- 2) On May 15 at Sannomiya, Kobe the branch held a forum as a memorial to the branch general assembly. Prof. Tainosho (Kobe Univ.) lectured on natural disaster and preservation of cultural properties.
- 3) On May 29 in Kobe City the branch and the society to think of NHK problem held a civic conference on TV program reform occurred at NHK. Three witnesses including Mr. Nagata (ETV chief producer) reported what happened and what to be settled.

## FUKUOKA BRANCH

The branch held a civic lecture meeting on May 9 at Kurume University, where Prof. Suzuki (Kyushu Univ.) explained analysis of modern English due to the generative grammar.

### **ARTICLES OF "JOURNAL OF JAPANESE SCIENTISTS"**

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