

THE JAPAN SCIENTISTS' ASSOCIATION

Chasu Bldg. 9F, 1-9-15 Yushima, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0034, JAPAN

Fax: +81-3-3813-2363 <http://www.jsa.gr.jp/>

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Scientists' Forum of 2017 World Conference against A&H-Bombs in Kochi

The forum was held on 30 July, 2017 at Kochi Culture Hall, Kochi city, with the principal theme "Towards conclusion of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and relief for the atomic bomb victims." 114 participants have gathered from all over the country. Reports presented in the forum were as follows.

Mr. Naito (lawyer, Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms) "UN negotiation on a treaty to ban nuclear weapons and atomic bomb survivors": He explained the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which was adopted by about 2/3 States Parties of UN in favor. Considering the value of the treaty in absolute abolition of nuclear weapons, the necessity to press the Japanese government to approve ratification is particularly of significance.

Prof. Ihara (secretary general, JSA) "Military-academia joint research and scientists' responsibility": National Security Technology Research Promotion which Ministry of Defense is advancing now controls Japanese academia and academic research system as a whole. We cannot admit industrialization and militarization under the name of national policy.

Mr. Yamashita (verification committee of nuclear suffering at Bikini) "Hidden Bikini event": On July 24, 1946 the American Army executed the fifth nuclear testing above Bikini atoll off the coast of the Marshall Islands. About 1000 Japanese tuna boats were exposed to radioactivity, and polluted tuna were disposed. Why has the Japanese government had to hide the Bikini event? In what way to hide? He clarified that such a governmental way brought cruel results to the victims.

Mr. Kajiwara (lawyer, Kochi bar association) "Lawsuit against the Japanese government to seek state reparation for the Bikini victims, its meaning and prospects": Sixty years passed since the Bikini event, the limitation of action, twenty years as well. Normally the right of claim has terminated. The lawyer explained strategy of the lawsuit.

Prof. Takemine (Meisei Univ.) "People lived through the Bikini event behind Digo Fukuryu Maru – Global Hibakushas": The professor mentioned the present state of hibakushas in Marshall Islands who are not so sufficiently known as former Japanese fishermen. Those islanders moved to U.S, discriminated with no recompense for medical care and living, are spending miserable days. He proposed to call victims of nuclear testing and nuclear power plant accident *global hibakkusha*.

Prof. Okamura (emeritus prof., Kochi Univ.) “Active fault and the dangerousness of Ikata nuclear power plant”: The professor pointed out the fact overlooked during the construction of Ikata nuclear power plant, that is, basic earthquake ground motion lower assumed 650 gal, and it is hard to handle control rods to shut down the nuclear reactor when earthquake occurred. He drew participants’ attention to the dangerousness in operating Ikata plant.

2017 Young Summer School opens in Tokyo

The organizing committee held the young summer school on 8-10 September taking up problems of big projects of developments, especially Tsukiji fish market move to Toyosu polluted with toxic soil, where 27 participants attended from Hokkaido, Kansai, and Chubu districts.

On the first day Mr. Endo (chief secretary, NPO liaison conference of campaigns against replanning of streets and redevelopment) delivered a lecture on the lawsuit against Toyo government by citizens over dumping its estate to private developers. Tokyo’s redevelopment has been shifted from the one for amelioration of citizens’ living to the one for companies as instances like *Toranomon Hills* illustrate. Under pretense of the adjustment of Olympic Village at Harumi area abnormal abuse of the Urban Renewal Act was conducted, thus, the area was sold to private developers at 10% of fair price, he explained.

Second day morning the committee organized a field work at Tsukiji fish market, where the function of wholesale market and the devise the market has accumulated were explained.

In the afternoon three speakers delivered lectures as follows: Ms. Ozaki, a Metropolitan Assembly member, gave a presentation on the assembly’s actions after revelation of “underground space” in the building, market’s destination of move. Ms. Mizutani (qualified architect of the first class) explained in a courteous manner the problem of pollution and subsoil water related to Toyosu Market. Dr. Homma, former president of Ferris University, told about the attitude of scientist and researcher to face the social problems.

The final day, Prof. Iwami (Saitama Univ.) delivered a lecture “Urban development strategy of Abenomics (economics policies promoted by Premier Abe) and deterioration of urban development.” Abe is promoting several measures such as government reformation so as to concentrate human resources, goods, and money on Japan. As part of such actions city planning is incorporated in capital and state, which is seen in establishment of national strategic economic zone, the professor said.

Participants with zeal exchanged their opinions in various research fields, especially concerning political problems unfamiliar to them, and felt the summer school offers a good opportunity for interchange.

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

1) MINI-SYMPOSIUM OF COMMITTEE OF PRIVATE INDUSTRIES SECTORS, MARCH 26TH “AVIATION WORKERS AND WAR LAWS”

JSA the committee of problems of engineers and scientists in private firms
As a move of *establishing a state that conduct war* under the security laws (*war laws*), under way is mobilization of private-sector facilities and services of aviation, logistics via sea and ground, communications, medicals, etc. To review the status in detail, we have picked aviation industry with two presentations.

MORI Yoko (vice general-manager of labor dispute union of JAL for unfair dismissal) has presented the activities of the liaison group of workers unions of aviation industry under the title of “Workers in aviation industry and the war laws.” She has reported that, since the enactment of emergency-at-peripheral law (1997), cases to transport soldiers of Self Defense Force has been increasing. There are also cases of violating Convention on International Civil Aviation that prohibits abuse of civil aviation for military use. Other problems are registration of civil aviation to Civil Reserve Air Fleet and acquisition of Certificate of US Transportation Command (treated as US Airforce in case of war). Mori also reported priority of US forces in the air of Japan based of Japan-US security treaty.

NAGATA Yoshihiro (chairman of the committee) has spoken under the title “For the mini symposium – review of movements against mobilization of workers of key industries, researchers, and facilities.” He has reported that privilege of US army is granted on airports, sea ports, and communication under Japan-US Status of Forces Agreement. There are 160 public bodies, in logistics of ground, marine, and aviation, communication, and broadcasting, who are assigned to cooperate under the *war laws*. He also spoke about the movement to oppose supply of arms to the US, and to Agreement of Sci. and Technol. Coop. between Japan and the USA in the 1980s, and actual conditions of defense industry. He emphasized the meanings of cooperation with workers unions and engineers of key industries.

We had active Q&A and debates, including questions around aviation industries. I wish to strengthen dialogues even in other sectors in order to stop general mobilization to be caused a war by US and Self Defense Force.

(Shiroh SAKAI)

2) TOWARD CREATION OF SCIENCE ROOTED TO LOCALITIES AND ITS TOTALIZATION – ACTIVITIES OF RESEARCH COMMITTEE OF LINEAR CENTRAL SHINKANSEN

JSA liaison committee of linear central shinkansen
JSA liaison committee of linear central shinkansen was established in June 2014 and subsequently issued “statement to request cancellation of the plan of Linear Chuo Shinkansen” on the 15th July and sent it to 31 municipalities and citizens' groups.

We have launched 3 project teams and held meetings of reporting and discussions. Also, we held a symposium (Feb 2015) of participants from 10 prefectures where the Linear is planned to be

built. We held subcommittee meetings and continued discussions, cooperating with citizens' groups in the 20th Comprehensive Scientific Study Convention (CSSC) (Sept 2014), the 18th Tokyo Science Symposium (Nov 2015), and in the 21st CSSC (Sept 2016).

Further, as regional symposia, we held the 4th symposiums of Kanto Koushin' etsu region (including Yamanashi, Nagano and Niigata prefectures), "Review of Linear from Shinshu (Nagano prefecture)" (Iida city, Mar 2015), symposium of Tokai region, "What becomes of Chuo Shinkansen; think about necessity, profitability, and safety from the scientific eyes" (Gifu city, Jun 2016). Also, we conducted a field work of Oshika village (Nov 2015), and we had full audience in the study session of tunnel issues, inviting experts (Jan 2017).

We are going to exchange opinions with citizens' movements in a wide scale as well as researches and discussions. It is important to accumulate and publish discussions.

The trial has commenced for the "Law suit of Stop Linear!" at the Tokyo district court. Oral arguments have taken place from the 1st time (Sep 2016) to the 5th time (Jun 2017). JSA will continue to support scientific discussions by their members.

In the national assembly in May, we have established the JSA liaison committee of linear central shinkansen under the chair, Osada Yoshihiro, with 19 members and several organizers. We will widen interdisciplinary activities.

3) ACTIVITIES OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE OF NUCLEAR POWER PROBLEMS

About 6.5 years passed since the Fukushima nuclear power accident. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) settled new regulatory standards after the accident. Nuclear power plants, commencing with the type of pressured water reactor, have been permitted to resume operation, although the Fukushima accident has not yet sufficiently investigated and the regulatory standards noway can avert severe incident. NRC decided Tokyo Electric Power Co., involved with the Fukushima accident, met the standards for Kariwa Nos. 6 and 7 at Kasiwazaki, Niigata. That situation brought conflicts in the courts against resuming nuclear power plant operation across Japan.

Getting to grips with the risk involved in nuclear power generation, the committee works on scientific analysis, criticism, and solidarity with citizens' movement.

We organized "37th National Symposium of Nuclear Power Generation Problems", Nagoya city, on 8-9 December, with the theme "nuclear power generation and lawsuit – thinking from the academic standpoint." The presented reports were as follows. The first day: the keynote speech by Mr. Ido, "Why fight in the court over the matter of nuclear power generation?", and reports concerning safety review problem and lawsuits around the country. The second day: the committee members' reports about fundamental issues such as radioactive exposure, economic efficiency, natural energy, and decommissioning of reactor.

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) KAGOSHIMA BRANCH'S STATEMENT AGAINST KAGOSHIMA UNIVERSITY'S APPLICATION TO THE DEFENSE MINISTERIAL FUND

On April 20, Kagoshima University education research council gave an understanding on the following two points of the statement of Science Council of Japan.

The statement says “not to conduct research aimed at military use of research results and not to conduct research by research expenses provided by overseas military organizations, and to establish a judging committee for the examination.” Although there are some actions to evaluate such correspondence, this correspondence includes several problems.

Kagoshima University hasn't acted on precisely the statement of Science Council of Japan which says that military research is not conducted, and the Ministry of Defense funds are not received. Moreover, Kagoshima University has interpreted that the judging committee has the decision of application to military science.

Kagoshima University's behavior includes the following problems. The first is to make prohibitions on research expenses provided by military affiliated organizations only for overseas institutions and to admit it in the domestic, and secondly not to exclude to the application to the Defense Equipment Agency that should be excluded according to the purpose of the statement. This response leaves the door to apply to the Defense Equipment Agency funds. Then the committee approved the application to the Defense Equipment Agency by the following reason. That is the possibility to use the research result to the defense equipment couldn't be ignored, but the profit to the consumer field is large.

At the general meeting of Kagoshima branch on May 29, 2017, decided to issue a statement to oppose military research and to bring about a campaign against military research. The board meeting decided "a statement against military research" on June 26. The statement was told the president of Kagoshima University on July 3, and it was appealed to the citizens widely at a press conference.

2) OKINAWA BRANCH GENERAL ASSEMBLY DISCUSSES THE “ISLAND-WIDE MOVEMENT”

The general assembly of Okinawa Branch was held on July 20, 2017, at University of the Ryukyus, and Akiyama Michihiro delivers a lecture titled “Considering ‘Island-wide movements’ stemming from the B52-removal movement of pre-reversion era focusing on the requirement to “protect life”. The B52-removal movement was taken up as an origin of the island-wide movements currently carried out by conservatives and reformists alike to block the construction of the new base in Henoko.

The word “island-wide movement” has been applied to the resistance fight against the land grabs in the 1950s and to the Okinawa's movement for reversion to Japan. To these, Akiyama added the B52-removal movement because, as Vietnam War became intensified, B52 bombers were stationed at Kadena Air Base and one of them exploded in November, 1968, “remove B52 movement” spread all over the island. The “danger of life” the explosion had brought down made islanders say “War has broken out” and “Bombing has come from Vietnam.”

In his mayoralty campaign, just before the accident, Kadena Mayor Koja had criticized the demand for immediate reversion. But shortly after the accident, even he said he “would protect life and property of residents” and the villagers’ rally did declare to protect life and peace.

This movement quickly spread throughout the island and high school girls and mothers also made their voluntary intentions clear. By closely analyzing these movements Akiyama concluded that the concept of “protection of life” had emerged from a deepening crisis consciousness of life and that it must be defended regardless of political conflict because life is irreplaceable. He also concluded that the essence of “island-wide struggle” was rooted in the “protection of life” which was a primordial requirement of human being. The lecture was a part of Akiyama’s dissertation and we celebrated his obtaining degree at the later convivial party. (By YAFUSO Tateki)

3) GUNMA BRANCH’S LARGE DISCUSSION MEETING ON CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

A large discussion meeting on Constitution - Considering Constitutional revision- was held on August 12th(Sat) at the main conference room of the Prefectural Youth Hall. It was co-hosted with a citizen group named ‘Wind of Peace’. This was the second co-hosted meeting on the Constitution since March 25th. To our delight as many as 60 citizens participated even though it was in the middle of the Bon holidays.

At first, 20 minutes each of keynote lectures was given by three panel members on one’s given topic. Specifically, by AKAISHI Ayuko, a lawyer, on addition of the Self-Defense Force to Constitution’s Article 9, by SAITO Yasushi, formerly of Gunma University, on introduction of tuition-free higher education and by FUJII, myself, Associate Professor at Gunma University, on problems with the national referendum on constitutional amendment, all speakers being JSA members.

AKASHI raised an acute alarm over dangers and problems of Abe’s proposed constitutional change by her incisive analysis. SAITO explained on the basis of concrete data the evils of current school education which emphasizes public interests rather than individuals. Finally FUJII myself pointed out defects of the constitutional referendum focusing on points not well-known by the public. Most of the audience listened attentively.

After the lectures, with a ten minutes break, all participants were engaged in a thorough debate for about 90 minutes. Many people actively raised hands to speak or ask questions and the the meeting was intensified with heated exchanges. However one thing regrettable was that the average age of the participants was somehow high and rather few young people were seen. The 90 minutes passed so quickly that I wished for some more time. That day a newspaper reporter from the local Jomo Shimbun came to cover the meeting and it was reported with a photo the next morning. A third meeting is now also planned. (By FUJII Masaki, Gunma University)

4) STUDY MEETING “ACTUAL CONDITION OF EVACUEES FROM FUKUSHIMA” IN KYOTO

The Kyoto branch and Sakyo Association aiming for zero nuclear power plant held a study meeting on August 5, 2017. In the meeting the people who have voluntarily evacuated by the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant accident reported on the thought of voluntary evacuation and about the actual condition and problems of their lives.

A woman evacuating from Fukushima reported as follows. The bags of decontaminated soil are still placed in the garden of her house. She had to evacuate to escape from radiation.

Only the woman and her child who evacuated thought that they could return in about a week, but six years passed. When they decided to evacuation, there was a quarrel with her family and they condemned as "Do not come back to Fukushima."

Another woman evacuating from Hitachi City reported as follows. She and her child have a thyroid disorder right now. She feels a fear of not knowing what kind of health disorder will happen to the child in the future.

Because some people claim that Fukushima is safe, the people who are staying in Fukushima and Ibaraki say that the evacuees are only used politically for opposition to nuclear power plants.

The most troubling thing for them now is that the grant aid for housing has cut off and they must pay the rent, there is no place to work and they can't move economical reason. The number of voluntary evacuees in the Kinki region due to the Fukushima Nuclear Power accident is 2674 by the data of Reconstruction Agency. Houses that were offered free of charge to these people will be discontinued in March 2017. The free provision of housing to evacuees will be terminated nationwide. In Kyoto Prefecture and Kyoto City, it is not allowed that they live at the same house by paying rent. Evacuees are suffering the bitter condition that their place of residence can't be decided and there is no economic assistance and the destination will be lost.

5) THE LECTURE DELIVERED FOR THE PUBLIC IN FUKUSHIMA CITY "WHAT DOES THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION DO TO THE UNITED STATES, JAPAN AND THE WORLD?"

JSA Branch of Fukushima invited Shinjiro Hagiwara, Professor of Economics, emeritus, at Yokohama National University to the lecture for the public in Fukushima City on August 28, 2017. The title of this lecture was *What does the Trump Administration do to the United States, Japan, and the World?*

Professor Hagiwara had just published a book whose title was *The Trump Administration and the U.S. economy: the middle-class economics in crisis*. He spoke enthusiastically and had a lot of discussions after the lecture.

The contents of the lecture were as follows:

- (1) Donald Trump won the race for the Presidential election in 2016. The number of electors for Trump was 306 and this was over the half of the all electors in Presidential election. Even if the number of popular vote for Hillary Clinton was larger than that for Donald Trump, the number of the electors was crucial and the results of so called swing states confirmed Trump's victory for the election.
- (2) About a half of the first year had passed since the presidential inauguration, however the staff members of the Trump Administration were not stable because the Russian scandal in the election of 2016 suddenly erupted and Michael Flynn, the National Security adviser resigned in February and Steve Bannon, a White House chief strategist, also resigned in August, 2017.
- (3) President Trump executed the policy for "America, First", rejected to accept immigrants from 7 Islamic countries to the United States and caused an anxiety around the world. He also decided to get out of the Paris Agreement for environments and the TPP, and also started renegotiation for NAFTA with Canada and Mexico.

(4) President Trump started to try abolishing the Affordable Care Act, called Obama-care for the medical insurance, however this action got a conflict particularly with the interests of low income people who need affordable medical care reasonably. As the election for the Congress will be held in 2018, trying to abolish the Obama-care by Donald Trump might be difficult because the rate of support for the Obama-care is gradually rising high.

(5) The Trump Administration was trying to raise the military spending and cut the spending for the environments and social welfare.

The discussion was held around the twitter of the President, Russian money, the 5 million women's march against President Trump, the difference between Reaganomics and the economic policy of the Trump Administration, populism and Bernie Sanders etc.

Through the discussion, we could understand that we might get an unstable global future of "rich and poor", and "war and peace" around the world.

6) SCIENCE AGORA "ACTUAL SITUATION OF INFORMATIZATION IN EDUCATION" IN KAGOSHIMA

Prof. Sonoya (Prof. Emeritus, Kagoshima Univ.), having been leading study and education based on the real school education scene as a specialist of educational engineering and information education, delivered a lecture on the above theme.

The professor set his coursework of informatization in education to the nourishing of the ability to utilize information, and the utilization of ICT (Information and Communications Technology) in course instruction, explaining some cases of ICT utilization in classes and in the period of integrated study. Utilization of educational image materials NHK (Nihon Hoso Kyokai, Japan Broadcasting Corporation) offers, and *personal computer as a device for creation* with related software changed the status of ICT tools from teachers' one-way instruction of materials to bidirectional multimedia, which means devices that learners touch and study with, he pointed out using image materials. He also asked a fundamental question what and in what range the ability of information utilization to be nourished means.

The professor made an additional remark that there prevails utilization of ICT he has developed for class improvement as interchange system among remote schools using videoconference system and training of Teachers linking school in outer island with university.

In the discussion a few issue points were pointed such as anxiety about digitalization of society, the present situation where elderly persons lapse into the information illiterate due to the computalization, and how to respond to their request to study. Those viewpoints are thought to be imperative to ponder the informatization in education.