

THE BULLETIN OF JSA

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/>

No.143

January 25, 2016

THE JSA REACHES THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDATION

Mitsugu Yoneda (secretary general)

1. 50th anniversary of the foundation of JSA

The Japan Scientists' Association (JSA), founded in October 1965, reached the 50th anniversary this year, which is considered to be a historical turning point in postwar Japanese society. What a resolution should we have for standing up against a new half century?

The runaway Abe administration made a radical change of official government view for the Constitution through the cabinet approval that the collective self-defense right can be exercised even under the current constitution. The administration thereby intends to establish a legislation for the act of war regardless of the nation's voices and convert Japanese society to the nation to engage in warfare. That makes a great challenge against pacifism, the spirit of the Constitution.

Through elections of governor and House of Councilors, the residents of Okinawa prefecture united a common purpose that is to dissuade new military base construction and seek for the prompt and unconditional removal of Futenma base. The Abe administration, despite that, following the U.S.'s intension, is to carry through the construction of a new base ignoring residents' consensus because the state has the absolute right for the affair.

Seeing frequent outflow of radioactive contaminated water and rush of accidents due to exhaustion of skilled workers, if nothing is done, we should be unable to find a resolution of the Fukushima nuclear power plant accident. Not only Fukushima residents but also many people standing in fear of their life request the decommissioning of nuclear power plants. The government nevertheless propelled the repatriation measure ending evacuation directive on the pretext that additive dosage dipped from 20 mSv, simultaneously cut off compensation of damage, and rushes to restart nuclear reactors.

In various areas, policies taking top priority of global companies' profits and destroying people's life, such as a bad amendment of labor law, the breaking up of social security and welfare system, and promotion of TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) are attempted to force through on the authority of a large number of seats in both the Upper House and Lower House. Mr. Abe should be termed an infringer of fundamental human rights and the sovereignty of the people.

Discharged from inference of safe myth of nuclear power generation learning a lesson from the Fukushima accident, so many people came to their feet to demand the abolition of nuclear power plants. Young mothers of child-rearing generation were aware that they cannot entrust children's life to politicians because of fears of invisible radioactive pollution. They decided to proceed to Diet. Young people who refuse to kill or be killed called for a meeting participation on the internet and people experienced WW II or campaign against the Japan - U.S. Security Treaty in the 1960's together assembled around Diet on 30 August, where 120, 000 participants gathered. Citizens nationwide rose up at a thousand of places to scrap the war-legislative bill. The Abe administration has lightly thought the people as peace-addicted. Young people aware of being under the protection of the constitution, however, voiced their latitudinous and ingenious political opinions, which makes Mr. Abe worry. Sovereign, regardless of age, all over the country raised manifestation of intension against highhanded power. That was brought not only because of the runaway administration, but because the people began to have a question whether Japan-US security alliance having governed Japanese postwar society and the system of economic growth on the initiative of major companies are inconsistent with their life in peace and quiet. In Japan a mountain, called the civil society in which citizens themselves decide their life and how social is to be, moved. We are standing at a new turning point of Japanese postwar society.

2. Enhance the ability of university staffs, make a new progress in JSA

We have set up a purpose in the rules of association to utilize and develop science for human beings. Scientists in natural, social and human sciences agreeing such a fundamental principle established JSA and have made comprehensive development of science for the sake of peace, national independence, democracy, social progress, and improvement in living standards.

Japanese people have focused attention on the pollution problem recognized as a distortion left from the high economic growth in 1960s. JSA branches and members have struggled to ascertain scientifically the cause of the problem and blocked the source of the outbreak jointly with victims. In the relief activity of Hiroshima-Nagasaki A-bomb survivors and the movement to appeal the abolition of nuclear weapons, we every year since 1987 have organized Scientists' Forum Against A&H Bombs as an official function of World Conference Against A&H Bombs calling ourselves to account for scientists' social responsibility.

As for nuclear power generation, JSA made a resolution at the 2012 regular convention that nuclear power generation is technology with a fatal defect viewing the Fukushima accident, and proposed the abolition of nuclear power plant.

On the other hand, recent science and technology has grown much bigger and more intricate. In many research areas a great amount of money is needed. Under such circumstances, the efficiency through competition or rather the logic of profit-making business is brought into universities and research institutes, and “selection and concentration” was promoted in academic world.

Problematic is that university staffs and scientists bring no countercharges against such a fatal crisis of universities and science and learning. It is hard without question to imagine that solidarity among scientists should be built, in view of personality of scientists and social attributes of intellectual humans. However it cannot be accepted that JSA flinches from attack against university autonomy and academic freedom, on the pretext of being busy in university and generation gap of consciousness. Learning from the people’s voluntary action, university staffs have to give full play to their ability of administration so as to build university which the society truly requires. That would confidently pave the way to overcome decreasing trend of membership, and offer the prospect of development in the half century.

2015 SCIENTISTS’ FORUM AGAINST A&H BOMBS IN YAMAGUCHI

The forum was held on August 1 at Yamaguchi City, with the title “We seek world with no threat and no damage from nuclear power – atomic bomb survivors’ reality and support, abolishment of nuclear weapons”, where 101 participants attended.

There were seven reports presented: (1) Prof. Okamoto (nuclear physics, JSA Fukuoka branch) “Atomic bombs and nuclear power plant accidents, their difference and common points in radioactive exposure”. The speaker explained from the viewpoint of nuclear physics that, in case of nuclear accidents, massively long accumulated nuclear waste continue to leak for years and affect, and fortunately Fukushima disaster did not lapse into such a condition. (2) Mr. Iwamoto (*Hidankyou*, Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations) “Activities of A-bomb victim support center in Yamaguchi”. The center was established 47 years ago, affiliated with *Hidankyou* that could avoid the crisis of split in 1960s. (3) Mr. Kanno (Society of Northern Fukushima to seek no nuclear power plant and complete compensation) “Radioactive pollution and restoration in Tohoku”. Reported were about the damage in Fukushima, the activities of the society, the action for re-instatement, government’s cutoff of compensation, and restart of nuclear reactor. (4) J. Gerson (Director, American Friends

Service Committee) “Seventy years since A-bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki: contradiction, peril, and chance”. Noting that the 2015 NPT review conference was not able to reach agreement on the final document, while activists gathered from the world to New York shows a grand swell of public opinions to seek the abolition of nuclear weapons, to participants he addressed an appeal that thinking and taking action at home is the most important thing. (5) Prof. Koketsu (Yamaguchi Univ.) “The right of collective self-defense, its deep layer”. The speaker stressed that power that takes an intent to independently establish the constitution and to make Japan be a big power with nuclear weapons lies hidden in the background. (6) Prof. Igasa (JSA Yamaguchi branch) “History of measures for war citizen victims”. The Japanese government has not taken redress for the victims since Japanese-Russian War but charity, and indeed just action responding to victims’ movements. (7) Mr. Yoshioka (labor activist) “The extension and reconfiguration of Iwakuni base (Yamaguchi Pref.)”. He reported that at Iwakuni base, reinforcement of US Marines not to defend Japan but to fight in other countries and deployment of Maritime Self-Defense Forces troops to support US Marines are carried on.

2014 SCIENTISTS’ FORUM AGAINST A&H BOMBS IN FUKUSHIMA

Scientists’ Forum has been organized every year since 1987 as an official function of World Conference Against A&H Bombs. On August 1, 2014 the forum was held in Fukushima with the theme “No nuke world, appealing society without nuclear power plant from Fukushima”.

There were six reports presented: (1) The report “Nuclear Boomerang” was presented by O. Bodrov (chair, Green World Socio-ecological Union). He talked in detail about the problem of environmental pollution caused by used nuclear fuel and nuclear waste materials in Russia. An opinion that it might be possible to keep on surveillance through citizens’ measurement was expressed, which brought discussions on the presumable task. (2) Dr. Saito (Watari Hosp., Fukushima Medical Care Coop) made an address on medical problems brought about by nuclear power plant accident. He took up the problems from both aspects of radioactive dose and evacuation stressing human rights for health. (3) Mr. Okubo (Japanese Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms) made a talk on tasks presumed for breaking with nuclear weapons and nuclear power plants, and he said, for instance, it needs to make a new law citing court precedents in the past. (4) Prof. Kameyama (JSA Okinawa branch) in detail explained the actual status of US military bases that concentrate in Okinawa and the situation of US troops. He pointed out that Okinawa and Fukushima have the like problems and it is necessary to shift to a policy radically resolving those problems. (5) In his “For recovery of sufferers and the disaster-stricken area”, Prof. Yamakawa (Teikyo Univ.) made an explanation about several proposals made by

Science Council of Japan, stimulating the significance of the proposal “Disposal of highly radioactive wastes”. (6) Prof. Otsubo (Hirosaki Univ.) presented a report “Campaign against nuclear fuel reprocessing in Aomori”, where he stressed that the campaign need to be carried on linking with nuclear weapons, nuclear power generation, and nuclear fuel cycle.

SYMPOSIUM “THINK ABOUT MILITARY RESEARCH AND COLLABORATION OF MILITARY AND UNIVERSITY”

The group “Thinking the research based on peace and democracy” held a symposium with JSA Ibaraki branch and the Liaison Conference for studying peace and democracy on July 11, 2015 of the 60th anniversary of Russell-Einstein Manifesto at Tsukuba with about 80 participants. The purpose of the symposium is to oppose the research promoted by the defense budget in universities and national research institutes.

At first Prof. Miyamoto carried out a report entitled “Recent military technology and military research-how to face?” He explained the cases of specific military research such as unmanned reconnaissance planes and robots and introduced the peace declarations (1987-1990) of national research institutes in Tsukuba Science City. Next Mr. Fujino (a member of the House of Representatives, JCP) presented a report entitled “Security strategy of the Abe administration and problems of military technology”. He mentioned that the expansion of military research responds to the movements such as the abolition of “the Three Principles on Arms Exports” and start of Acquisition, Technology & Logistics Agency.

Dr. Hamada presented a report entitled “Process and the significance of the appeal signature movement against the military research in university”. He reported on the symposium “How do we oppose to the rapid development of the cooperation of military and university?” held on June 11, 2015 and the state of the appeal signature. He pointed out importance to spread this action to the young researcher.

Prof. Ikeuchi presented a special lecture entitled “Rapid acceleration of cooperation of military and university-does scientist cooperate with war?” He mentioned that Science Council of Japan had denied military affairs study when it was established in 1949. Afterward an individual or groups had concerned with military affairs study. He pointed out that if we don’t prevent military cooperation at present, we could not return to an original state.

In the discussion it was introduced that the questionnaire that the labor union of the research organization in Tsukuba City performed shows that 36% of researchers made an affirmative reply to

military affairs research funds. It was also pointed out that the ethic of the scientist and the discussion in the study group is important to oppose the military cooperation.

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) ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY PROBLEMS

The committee held a regular meeting on August 2 with attendance of seven members, where they discussed circumstances around university and how to carry out the policy.

The committee took note of following circumstances. (a) The destruction of university autonomy, the reconstruction of university, abolition of the faculties of human science and social science, military research, and budget preparation for university basing on three classifications of university, those accelerate competition among universities and the decay of regional universities. (b) From the incorporation of national university, university reform has been accelerated because of weakness of opponents in university. Movements beyond establishment of universities are required. (c) In view of recent campaigns against the war legislative bill, new wave of movement can be expected.

As for concrete shape of principles, four points were raised. (a) Further grasp of status of university. (b) Tackling the problems such as high school expense, status of young researcher, position of part-time lecturer, university governance, military research, budget cut. (c) Drafting counterproposals against governmental university policy over the years. (d) Organization of a symposium of university problems in partnership with other groups early in 2016. (e) Setting sessions at the 18th Tokyo Science Symposium (Nov. 2015) and the 21st Comprehensive Scientific Study Convention (Sep. 2016).

In addition the committee discussed the following issues: engagement with military research, imposition to use Hinomaru (national flag) and Kimigayo (national anthem) at incorporated national universities, budget cut on pretext of excessed enrolment at private colleges in major cities, building movements involving students in case of university problems, action of request for the settlement of university problems, and conduct of university problem questionnaire.

2) THE 36TH NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS PROBLEMS

The JSA research committee of nuclear power problems held the 36th national symposium in Nippon University on August 29-30, 2015. The theme of the symposium was "Re-operation of nuclear power

plants and assailant responsibility". 80 persons attended the symposium from whole country.

The reporters of the first day were Mr. Goto who was a former engineer of container vessel design at TOSHIBA, Mr. Tanabe who had analyzed the safety of the nuclear power plant in JAEA and Mr. Tateno who studied the nuclear fuel at Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute which was a forerunner of JAEA.

Mr. Goto criticized the re-operation of the nuclear power plant by the following grounds. There are difficulty of the nuclear reaction control at huge earthquake, difficulty of the cooling of the nuclear reactor and the container vessel at the time of the nuclear reactor stop, the insufficiency measure for the water vapor explosion and the hydrogen explosion of the container vessel which shuts the radioactive substance, and uncertainty of the measures for severe accidents.

Mr. Tanabe explained the manuals to apply to abnormal situations and accidents such as multiple accidents and the container vessel damage. The cause of the core melting of No.2 and No.3 reactors was due to that the procedures to be referenced by the manual was not performed. He mentioned that there is a problem of the educational training of the operator and emphasized that the re-operation of the nuclear plants is not permitted leaving similar accident prevention measures.

Mr. Tateno pointed out the concrete problems of the new regulation standard made by Nuclear Regulation Authority after the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant accident and criticized the standard, which is only a temporary remedy to relieve current nuclear power plants.

On the second day three reporters reported on the theme of the issue of assailant responsibility. Two reporters are the specialists of insurance studies, public finance, financial science and another one is a citizen of Fukushima.

Mr. Honma (Aoyama Gakuin University) criticized the argument to revise the current nuclear damage compensation system, which prescribes absolute liability, unlimited security of the company. The new system will aim the limited responsibility of the company, the reparation by the state and the assailant protection. Mr. Yoneta (Chuo University) clarified the error of nuclear-power disaster measures avoiding failed processing of Tokyo Electric Company in contrast to the financial crisis management policy of the 1990s. Mr. Shimizu (Fukushima University) mentioned that it is a premise to discuss the responsibility of the accident from various points of view for a national precept of the accident. He also mentioned the issue of consolation money, social friction, the problem of the voluntary refugee and the burden of the compensation.

JSA members cooperated to collect the information on the situation of the nuclear power plant re-operation in each place and the information is published in the abstract of this symposium.

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) “UNIVERSITIES AND MILITARY RESEARCHES”- WE ARE SET AGAINST MOBILIZATION OF RESEARCHES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF “COUNTRY ENGAGED IN WARFARE”
– DISCUSSION IN THE REGULAR SESSION OF KITA-KYUSHU SUB-BRANCH OF FUKUOKA BRANCH

During the first regular session of this year, July 17th, the reporter, Satoshi Nishigaki, has listed examples to illustrate to what extent universities of Japan have been involved in military researches with the backgrounds of schemes of arms exports, Act on the Protection of Specially Designated Secrets, and security related bills.

More than ten universities have been engaged in technology exchanges with Ministry of Defense (MOD), so far. In an extreme case, congratulatory message was delivered from MOD to the opening ceremony of a center of a national university. “MOD National Security Research Funds” has been established to directly deliver research funds from MOD to universities and other institutions. There were movements to reconsider policies banning military researches in some universities including The University of Tokyo and to let students involved in military related research projects. The research areas, that the reporter has pointed out as those where military researches would be promoted, are space, robots, group control, human enhancement, sensors, information processing, ultrasonic, laser, nanotechnologies, new materials, bio and chemistry, neuroscience, etc. Almost all of researches of advanced science and technology are related.

Exhaustion of universities, reduced research budgets, ethics of researchers, and prevalence of mindset to care “whether it is worth anything?” were discussed. Nishigaki has red-flagged that universities have not shown firm attitude on issues of ‘universities and “state” or ‘universities and warfare,’ and universities have not expressed serious remorse for being involved or participated in warfare.

Logics and reality of “Dual Use” were discussed; results of common researches are integrated in military technologies. Robot technologies of support functions of disabled people are employed for robot suits of soldiers. Oder sensing technologies are used for detectors for combats against terrorism who uses bio or chemical materials. Group control of many small moving items is applied to urban warfare or its monitoring.

- 2) URGENT REGULAR SESSION OF HIROSHIMA BRANCH ON CONTENTS AND ISSUES OF

“SECURITY RELATED BILLS”- THINK ABOUT ‘THE CHARACTER OF OUR COUNTRY’ IN THE SUMMER OF 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE WAR

In a tense situation of possible steamrolling of the bills in the House of Councilors after such passage in the House of Representatives, the session was held at the Higashi-Hiroshima campus of Hiroshima University on August 3rd, inviting Professor Hidenori Moto of Nagoya University Graduate School of Law as lecturer.

Prof. Moto is a member of ‘Nationwide Delivery Service of Lecturers’ which was established by researchers of the Constitution who have strong concerns of discussions surrounding ‘Security Related Bills’ (‘Bills’). This session is one of such ‘Delivery Service of Lecture.’

At the beginning of the lecture, Prof. Moto explained about the ‘Bills’ from the view point of ‘the starting point and the current point of the Constitution of Japan.’ ‘The starting point’ is reflection of the war of aggression. ‘The current point’ is destruction of Constitution from the trinity aspects (pacifism, democracy, and constitutionalism), which is denial of ‘the starting point.’ Prof. Moto has concluded that Abe’s policies of ‘increasing national prosperity and increasing military power; abandon the weak’ in response to obedience to the US and globalization would be a full scale clash with ‘the character of our country’ that Japanese Constitution defines.

Further, Prof. Moto has shed light on danger of Japan becoming a ‘state who can be engaged in warfare, anytime, anyplace, and seamlessly’ by exercise of right of collective self-defense, combat service support, and revision of International Peace Cooperation Law, on the topic of ‘What will be changed and how by the ‘Bills’?’ These are apparently unconstitutional legislations. Anticipated cases are emergencies in Korean peninsula, or military conflict in South China Sea or Middle East. There will be elevated possibility of dispatching Self Defense Force and general mobilization would be established, by regarding those cases as ‘armed attack situations that threat international peace and safety of Japan.’ Prof. Moto concluded his lecture by pointing out that Japan should undertake a role in international cooperation by utilizing branding of Japan as ‘peace-loving nation’; there are signs of creation of new democracy in the movements of anti -‘Bills,’ confronting with crisis of the Constitution.

3) STUDY MEETING ABOUT A CITIZENS’ CAMPAIGN AGAINST NUCLEAR POWER PLANT CONSTRUCTION

The study meeting was held by JSA Miyazaki branch and NPO “Research center for residents’ movements in Miyazaki”. In the meeting, Mr. Makoto Sato reported a residents’ movement against Kushima nuclear power plant: The speaker talked about the residents’ movement under the slogan “Chernobyl nuclear accident indicates danger in a nuclear power plant. Let us protect children from radioactivity!” Despite such a campaign, Kyushu Electric Power Co., Inc. and the faction that backs up

the nuclear power plant construction, launched hefty promotions to advocate the merit of a nuclear power plant. Nuclear power plant opponent organized a large-scale lecture meeting for the residents and explained a reason why they oppose nuclear power plant construction from the standpoint of scientific knowledge. They succeeded in discharging against the plant construction. Mr. Sato gave a last comment that there is a fixer planning mischief with the aim at attracting a high-level radioactive waste disposing facility and an interim storage facility of used nuclear fuel.

[Note] The plan of Kushima nuclear power plant: Kushima City is located in the south end in Miyazaki Pref. in Kyushu-district. Kushima nuclear power plant plan of Kyushu Electric Power was surfaced in 1992. In 1997, the plan was withdrawn for reason of the opposite of local residents. But “Kushima nuclear power plant promotion conference” was, after that, carrying on the activity to do a referendum for nuclear power plant construction. The Mayor of Kushima City expressed that the referendum scheduled for April 10, 2011, concerning the pros and cons of location of the nuclear power plant, is left over by influence of an accident at the Tokyo Electric Power Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant which occurred by the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011.