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「この地球の生まんとする悩み、この地球の胸の中に隠れて生まれ出ようとするものの悩み——それを僕はしみじみと君によって感ずることができる。・・・」
(有島武郎『生まれ出づる悩み』より)

(Photo: by Hajime Ono, in Iwanai-town, Hokkaido, August 2022)

On the coast cross to Iwanai-town, the cradle of ARISHIMA Takeo's novel, Tomari-NPPs are located

«CONTENT»

Activities

The 24th SOGAKU (Comprehensive Scientific Study Convention) in Osaka starts soon

Events and Statements

What's New

About Us

Bikini Day in Kochi 2022 Muroto Fieldwork: Nuclear Tests in the Pacific Ocean and Testimony of Exposure to Radiation by Former Tuna Fishing Boats

At the time of the bikini hydrogen bomb test in 1954, about 140 tuna boats were operating in Muroto sea area, Kochi prefecture. However, the actual situation of radiation exposure has not been clarified. It was after the 1985 “Hata High School Seminar” survey that the actual situation became clear. Former fishermen who had kept their mouths shut began to talk about the situation at that time little by little, and since 2016, lawsuits seeking compensation for damages and claims for workers’ compensation were filed.

Following 2021, “Bikini Day in Kochi 2022” (5/6/7 Muroto field work, 5/8 plenary session in Kochi city) is to spread awareness of the nuclear disaster of former seafarers in Kochi prefecture. I think it is an important project to position the issue of nuclear disaster internationally.

In our research, we found that many ex-tuna boats fishers of Muroto suffered from cancer after the radiation exposure. However, this is not the common understanding of the citizens as a whole. It is also about to be swept away as “a thing of the past.” In that sense, it was significant that the “fieldwork” of this project was held in Muroto.

On the first day of this year’s Muroto fieldwork, we visited coastal tuna boats. There are not many opportunities to get on fishing boats and learn about life on the boat and its operation. One of the participants commented, “I really felt that tuna fishing is being carried out under difficult conditions.”

On the second day, we prepared two panel discussions. One is a report on the research activities so far and an interview with a former sailor. A former sailor told us that a squall was an alternative to taking a shower, that he often ate tuna *sashimi* for his meals, and that he washed rice with seawater. In addition, it was testified that a Geiger counter was applied when the fish was caught, and the cotton gloves and hair reacted greatly. These indicate that there is a possibility of radiation exposure due to radioactive materials adhering to the fishermen’s body and internal exposure.

In the second panel discussion, TAKEMINE Seiichiro talked about how he views compensation for nuclear disasters in the United States and Kazakhstan, and what impact the nuclear tests have had on Muroto and Kochi. EGAWA Takaaki talked about the content and significance of the two trials currently being held, and HAMADA read newspaper articles about the atmosphere at the time, insisting that we must not suppose that regional inhabitants have been acquiescent.

On the second day, there were more than 80 participants from inside and outside Kochi prefecture. In terms of content, the testimony of a former sailor, internal exposure and compensation issues by researchers and doctors, and the social position of the trial were organically linked. Not a few participants commented: “I felt the issue of the hydrogen bomb test in Bikini remains unsolved.” It was also very significant that the support of the local ship-owners’ union was realized in Muroto, and that nine former seafarers and bereaved family members participated.

(HAMADA Ikuo, Co-representative of the Pacific- Nuclear Disaster Relief Center)

Activities (2) <i>JJS</i> Vol.57, No.8 August (2022), p.54 (494)

Report on Chiba Branch Research Exchange Meeting “Current Situation of Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant Accident Site, Frequent Childhood Thyroid Cancer and Policy to Reduce Thyroid Examinations”

After the branch general meeting on May 14th, we invited SAKIYAMA Hisako (Representative Director of NPO 3.11 Thyroid Cancer Children’s Fund) to give a lecture via the web. There were 7 participants. The outline of this lecture is as follows:

1. Japan under a state of emergency - current situation inside and outside the accident site and the future: The accident site of the TEPCO (Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings, Inc.) Fukushima nuclear power plant (NPP) is not under control. The principles of managing radioactive materials are diverted from confinement to diffusion outside the site. Contaminated soil recycling plan promoted by the Ministry of the Environment raises the risk of contaminated soil being scattered all over Japan. The operation of NPPs continues to accumulate unmanageable radioactive materials.
2. From radiation-induced DNA damage to carcinogenesis: A single beam of radiation can cause complex DNA damage. Since exposure risk increases in proportion to exposure dose, there is no safe dose.
3. Epidemiological evidence of carcinogenesis due to low-dose radiation exposure: Evaluations by organizations such as UNSCEAR, ICRP, and IAEA are far from science.
4. Frequent occurrence of thyroid cancer in Fukushima Prefecture -Effectiveness of mass examination of thyroid gland and voices of concerned parties-: In Fukushima, pediatric thyroid cancer occurs frequently. The national government has limited thyroid examinations to Fukushima Prefecture, and is planning to reduce this in the future. Although the Fukushima Prefectural Medical University and

the Prefectural Health Survey Review Committee denied a causal relationship between radiation exposure dose and frequent thyroid cancer incidences, this conclusion was reached by arbitrarily changing the zoning for statistical processing.

5. In Chernobyl, there is a recreational facility for local residents, which is regularly used by children. Japan also needs measures and education for children's health.

It was an easy-to-understand lecture. In addition, there is a related SAKIYAMA's presentation at the Japanese Thyroid Society¹.

(Chiba branch, Board of Directors)

Activities (3) JJS Vol.57, No.8 August (2022), p.54 (494)
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“Yomoyama Story Meeting”, a place for two-way discussion with citizens on the theme of the Great East Japan Earthquake”: Go Beyond Academia: Citizens’ Gathering for Chatting

In the evening of April 25, the Okayama branch's monthly “Yomoyama story meeting” was held. I was asked to give a lecture, but I had practiced to increase the number of places where as many people as possible could speak and discuss. The topic was “Japan's Great Earthquake for Koreans: From the Great Kanto Earthquake to the Great East Japan Earthquake.”

Akutagawa-Prizewinner and Kishida-Prizewinner YU Miri's *Minami-Soma Medley* (2020), “Hosenka” General Incorporated Association's (ed.) *Let the Wind Speak for Hosenka: Great Kanto Earthquake, Massacre of Koreans, Memorial Memo Random* (2021, enlarged new edition), Survey Project's (ed.) *Disasters in Other Regions: 3.11 for Koreans Living in Tohoku: From Interviews and Written Surveys of Disaster Experiences of Korean Residents in Japan after the Great East Japan Earthquake* (2015), and so on. I prepared to talk about such investigations and researches.

In mid-April, I received a consultation from A. As a local resident, she faced a problem, but she said she could not find a solution. She threw away much of what she had prepared so that she could speak at the “Yomoyama-banashi-no-kai.” She began by talking about the similarities between “Anne Frank” and Koreans in Japan in emergencies such as earthquakes, wars, and fascism. Participants from Kobe made valuable remarks about the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, while those living abroad made valuable remarks about the experience of Japanese people living in foreign countries.

Since it was held online with no participation fee, the author herself made efforts to publicize it,

¹ Cf.: http://takasas.main.jp/down/20220403_news_138_sakiyama.pdf

and as a result, many citizens participated. Let's not settle down in the closed space of the university and complain about the lack of participants. And why don't we create opportunities for those who find it difficult to speak out or publish, such as minorities and women?

(CHUNG Haengja, Okayama branch, Cultural Anthropology, Associate Professor of Discovery Program for Global Learners at Okayama University)

Activities (4) <i>JJS</i> Vol.57, No.8 August (2022), p.55 (495)

Ehime branch meeting in May: "Current situation and issues of research on 'War Orphans'"

A regular meeting of the branch was held face-to-face on May 21, 2022, with 11 participants, and MIZUNO Kiyoshi (Facility Director of *Nakama* Workshop =Workplace for people with physical disabilities) reported on the theme of "Current situation and issues of research on 'War Orphans'."

MIZUNO and others reported the summary and his contributed part of trilogy books *Sensoukojitachi no Sengosi* (The Postwar History of War Orphans), published by Yoshikawa Kobunkan, which was the three-year research results of the "Society for the Study of the Postwar History of War Orphans." It was formed in 2016 under the call of ASAI Haruo.

The following four cases were reported:

The first case: An interview with a person who had repatriated from Manchuria to Yoshida-cho and became a chief priest. He could meet relatives because of his essay which he wrote at his primary school,

Second case: A man who was injured in the Uwajima air raid.

Third case: A man who was evacuated to Ehime Prefecture where his grandfather lived, and whose parents died in the Amagasaki air raid.

Fourth case: A case of *Kajiko* (a child rower) in Nasake-island.

Especially, many participants were interested in the fourth case, and many questions were asked. *Kajiko* is a child rower in a small boat following a fisherman's instructions, for the fisherman applies himself to fishing. In Nasake-island orphans were brought from Hiroshima Prefecture and Ehime Prefecture and worked as rowers. In Postwar period the child abuse of *Kajiko* in Nasake-island became social problem and the movie titled *Island of Fury* was produced in 1958. Some facilities for the orphans in Hiroshima Prefecture introduced to fishermen.

More than 75 years have passed since the end of the war, and it is becoming difficult to hear

about the cases of those who were orphans, but MIZUNO said, “I would like to know the whereabouts of as many war orphans as possible and interview them to record them.”

(MITSUDO Noboru, Ehime Branch)

Activities (5) <i>JJS</i> Vol.57, No.8 August (2022), p.55 (495)

Considering the Crisis Surrounding Universities: What should be done to protect academic and university freedom, and aim for the revitalization of the university?

The Akita Branch of JSA held a face-to-face study session for the first time in several years at the community center near the Tegata Campus of Akita University for two hours on Saturday, April 23rd.

Professor SATO Shuji of the Faculty of Education and Human Studies raised the issue of “Academic and University Freedom,” especially regarding the implementation of the Toyama Plan, which began with the reorganization and integration of national universities in 2001, to the implementation of university funds and the formulation of the Economic Security Law in 2022. A few previous government policies that have been detrimental were introduced.

As a result, reorganizations and reforms were implemented that lasted less than 10 years, and projects called “Poison Manju” sprang up left and right like mushrooms after a rain. It was revealed that the increase in competitive funding multiplied the amount of administrative work involved in application processing, reduced research time, while at the same time, putting pressure on student education.

These movements are indicative of the reality that the Dean’s authority has expanded, and the university has transformed into a “muted” university, putting efficiency first. This is exactly the kind of Russification of universities that Putin is doing.

Under these conditions, there can be no new ideas or progress in research. In particular, there was an opinion expressed that finances from the university funds should be used for student and research support, without ties to “university governance.”

What is needed now is to enhance the grants for operating expenses that can be used at the discretion of the university, which is the basis of university management. It became clear that it was not about strengthening the top-down system as “university governance”, but about creating a system for university management based on checks and balances by university members.

Although there were only 11 participants, there was still a lively discussion, and after the meeting, one person applied for membership of JSA. Finally, Professor Emeritus SASAKI Atsushi, former Dean of the Faculty of Education and Human Studies, talked about the three-year process of discussions etc. leading to the 1998 reorganization, reemphasizing the importance of university autonomy.
(KUDO Shunsuke, Akita Branch)

Activities (6) <i>JJS</i> Vol.57, No.9 September (2022), p.53 (549)
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JSA Kanto-Koshin'etsu Area Symposium "Students' learning and life under the COVID-19 pandemic"

Under the COVID-19 pandemic, what kind of situation are students and graduate students in, and what kind of education and support have the university and community been working on? At the Kanto-Koshinetsu Symposium held on June 25, 2022, we received reports from three speakers and exchanged information and opinions.

SUGITA Mai (Tokyo Metropolitan University) reported on the practice of online classes and life support activities during the COVID-19 crisis. In 2020, as the burden on students has increased due to difficulties in online classes, she worked on classes that shared impressions from students in the style like a mid-night radio show. She reported that she received a lot of feedback from students, and, moreover, students commented and encouraged each other. Some actual examples of difficulties such as family situation reported in the discussion indicate that students were really suffering under the COVID-19 disaster. Since last year, the university has begun to return to face-to-face classes, where some students stay so late in evening to talk each other, suggesting their desire for communication and mutual encouragement.

KOJIMA Masafumi (Chairperson of *Zen'inkyo*: the National Graduate Student Council, Hitotsubashi University) reported on the economic and living conditions and challenges of graduate students based on a questionnaire conducted by the *Zen'inkyo*. As for the impact on their research, he emphasized difficulties such as not being able to participate in fieldwork, to use facilities, nor to go abroad for study or training under the COVID-19 crisis. In terms of living conditions, the large amount of future repayment of scholarship is a major concern for many students. Whereas the government support is only partially reaching to students, dormitories of universities significantly support students both in terms of economy and communication.

ASHIDA Akeno reported on the activities of “Student Food Support *Manpuku* Project @ Kiryu.” This is an activity organized by an executive committee near the Kiryu Campus of Gunma University. In addition to applying for student life security and support to the university and the city, they are working to provide food assistance to students based on donations. Through dialogues with students in the activities and a questionnaire conducted by the project, the students’ actual living situation has been recognized.

During the question-and-answer session and general discussion, participants understood the situation that students have a strong sense of anxiety about the future due to the continued lack of human connections. It was pointed out that students do not have sufficient opportunity to learn from elder ones about, for example, job searching. Impact of COVID-19 on the progress of graduate students’ research and their financial condition were also shared. In the *Manpuku* Project, a few students participate as leaders of the activity, but the number is not increasing because they themselves have difficulties. On the other hand, at Tokyo Metropolitan University, students and graduate students participate and help each other. Some students connect the activity to their research topics.

The organizer of the symposium concluded that it was necessary to create a new network of students’ cultural activities that once stopped due to the COVID-19 crisis, and the symposium was an opportunity to learn a lot.

(AOKI Wako, Tokyo Branch)

Activities (7) <i>JJS</i> Vol.57, No.9 September (2022), p.54 (550)
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Tokai Area Symposium on Military research in University

On June 19th, the Tokai area symposium was held by online. At the beginning of the meeting, ISHIHARA Yosuke (Mie Junior City College), the moderator, explained the purpose of this symposium.

First, IHARA Satoshi (Professor Emeritus, Tohoku University) gave a report titled “Achievements and Problems of the Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Agency² (ATLA)’s SECURITY TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH PROMOTION PROGRAM (STRPP) in its 7th Year.” He talked about the recent situation and the issues to be adopted. He talked about the characteristics, changes in the number of applications, and the relationship with the economic security strategy ATLA.

² The ATLA is one of the agencies of the Ministry of Defense (MOD).

Next, MAEDA Sadataka (Mie University) reported on the origin of the security technology research promotion system STRPP and the legal nature of the “research results³.”

After a break, MIZUTANI Yoichi (Shizuoka University) spoke about the issue of participation in the STRPP discovered at Shizuoka University, SHIINA Takahiko (Gifu University) spoke about “the current situation of military research at Gifu University” and WADA Hajime (Professor Emeritus, Nagoya University) gave a speech titled “Treatment of Military Security Research at Nagoya University”, in which current situation of military-academia collaboration at national universities in the Tokai area and efforts to it were reported.

After each report, comments were made by the discussants, and a question-and-answer session was held with the participants. Finally, NAKASUGA Noriyuki (Professor Emeritus, Gifu University) gave a closing address.

There were 59 participants including the reporters. The questionnaire after the symposium contained some comments from the participants: “The national research budget has been used to guide universities into military research, and attacks on the Science Council of Japan (SCJ) are a part of the overall flow”, “It seems that a wave of military research is about to swallow universities, and I feel scared. Although each university may be incompetent to resist it, I felt it is important to share information in this way to fight against the STRPP”, and so on.

(SHIINA Takahiko, Gifu branch)

Activities (8) <i>JJS</i> Vol.57, No.9 September (2022), p.54 (550)
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Invited MATSUMIYA Takaaki, who was rejected as a member of the Science Council of Japan (SCJ), and held a study session

On May 28, the Mie Branch co-sponsored with the *Kyujo-no-Kai* TSU (Article 9 Association TSU) held the 75th constitutional anniversary study meeting entitled “the Danger of Amending Article 9 of the Constitution of Japan and the Problem of Denying Appointment of the Science Council of Japan (SCJ)’s Members.” The invited lecturer was MATSUMIYA Takaaki (Criminal Law) of Ritsumeikan University. The outline of the lecture was as following:

“It all started at 5:00 p.m. on September 29, two days before October 1, when the SCJ’s 25th

³ The summary of the research results of the STRPP is published on the ATLA’s website. Cf.: https://www.mod.go.jp/atla/funding/seika.html#seika_gaiyo

members (term: 6 years from October 1, 2020) was appointed. MATSUMIYA received a direct phone call from the Secretariat of the SCJ saying that “the list from the prime minister’s official residence contains no names of the professors”. On his recognition that “the government’s disregard for academics has been consistent in the background of the refusal of appointment”, MATSUMIYA pointed out that such an attitude of academic disregard would threaten not only our daily concerns but also human lives occasionally, referring to the examples of measures against COVID-19 infection. Further, he argued that “the SCJ has been an organization built on the reflection of the war that researchers were forced to undertake military research since its foundation and therefore that academic freedom would be injured at the moment when the government forces or induces academicians to take part in sensitive military researches with risks and secrets”.

MATSUMIYA continued: “Political parties are required to listen to various ‘unpleasant stories’ from the academic side, to judge the important points at the time, and to formulate policies.” And he concluded: “If they would like to listen to truly useful stories from the academic side, academics must be free, and for that reason, the government must not continue to refuse to appoint members of the SCJ.”

This study meeting was realized on the basis of small study sessions about the papers published in *Sekai*, which were three times repeated by the *Kyujō-no-Kai* TSU and the JSA Mie Branch.

The Executive Committee will continue to reconsider the nature of science and academics that contribute to the lives of citizens, and will continue to work in accordance with the situation.

(MAEDA Sadataka, Mie branch)

Activities (9) <i>JJS</i> Vol.57, No.9 September (2022), p.55 (551)
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Online study session “5G and smart city risks” held: JSA Hokkaido Branch

On the afternoon of Sunday, May 22nd, an online study session “5G and the risks of smart cities” was held by the Hokkaido branch. The lecturer was KATO Yasuko (environmental journalist, representative of Environmental Hypersensitivity Patients Association/Life Environment Network), and the moderator KOSAKA Naoto.

After explaining the terms, KATO introduced that ultra-low frequency magnetic fields and radio frequency electromagnetic fields belong to group B (possibly carcinogenic) in the carcinogenicity classification of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC). The guideline value for

radio frequency electromagnetic waves is $1,000 \mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$ in Japan, but 6.6 in Paris and 19.2 in Brussels, which are very loose. Currently, countries are suspending or restricting the introduction of 5G. There is a report that an embassy staff member of the U.S. Embassy in Cuba complained of a feeling unwell, which is seen as a strong possibility to have been caused by the influence of electromagnetic waves. In addition, it was pointed out that electromagnetic hypersensitivity (pain, itching, palpitations, etc.) occurred in school wireless LAN. A Canadian provincial court has upheld claims that Wi-Fi can cause illness. According to the LAN guidelines of Maryland, USA, new classrooms are to be installed with wired LAN instead of wireless. In addition, she explained the school measures in Russia and Israel regarding electromagnetic waves and the warning of the German Medical Association. In a smart city, data is utilized within and between cities, and the risks involved were also explained.

During the discussion, there were questions and comments about how far 5G has progressed in Japan, how the Wi-Fi regulation at junior high schools in Shimoda City was made, why people are not interested in electromagnetic wave problems, and a question on the current state of research in Japan. The number of participants was 17, of which half were branch members and half were non-members. (EMI Seijiro)

Activities (10) <i>JJS</i> Vol.57, No.9 September (2022), p.55 (551)

Report on the Lecture “Social Roles of Universities and Kagoshima University: Opinions of a Faculty Member Who Has Walked Through the University”

The Kagoshima Branch held the above meeting at Kagoshima University on May 21 (in combination with online), and 15 people, including members and citizens, participated. The meeting was realized at the request of the members, triggered by the special feature “University Theory” of the *Journal of Japanese Scientists (JJS)* (February 2022 issue), and HIRATA Kunihiro (Faculty of Agriculture, Kagoshima University) gave a lecture on the titled theme. Here, we introduce the contents based on the abstracts of the lectures.

Based on his experiences so far, he first talked about the significance of academic freedom in the university, the history of the university, how to perceive the university community, and the situation of the university after incorporation. He talked about the relationship between the university and society at work, as well as how the university and university staffs should be in society. As to the latter, considering from what kind of standpoints and perspectives researchers in university should

engage in academic research, he claims, the point is “pursuit of pure science” or “pursuit of scientific research based on the social and current issues in which they are placed.” He says, it is not about which is better or which is given priority.

After the lecture, many questions and opinions were raised from the participants. For example, “It doesn’t work that you can do at university what you like”, “There are fields where core research is being done even at local universities”, “Recently, studies in the humanities and social sciences in particular have been neglected.” Above all, regarding the role of “salons” in universities, there used to be meetings that could be called “salons” at universities where people from different fields and of various ages could talk casually, but now people are only interested in what is in front of them. Participants exchanged opinions that people are indifferent to other fields, and that they have become sloppy, and as a result, those hinder the flexibility of thinking and the ability to think systematically.

I felt, it would stimulate branch activities that the Kagoshima branch serves a function as a “salon” at which are built connections within university staffs and between university staffs and citizens.
(SONOYA Takashi, Kagoshima Branch)

Activities (11) <i>JJS</i> Vol.57, No.10 October (2022), p.59 (611)
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A report on the Scientific Assembly of the 2022 World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs

On July 24 and 31, 2022, the Scientific Assembly of the 2022 World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs was held online. A total of 100 people attended (60 on July 24th and 40 on July 31st).

The main theme was “‘Security’ and Discrimination.” Although the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons has entered into force, the Japanese government has yet to ratify it. Not only that, the Japanese government is trying to take advantage of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine to expand its military. This is a dangerous sign. These arguments ignore the fact that nuclear development and “security” regimes are maintained on the basis of discriminatory structures. Therefore, we have established our main theme for this year’s conference.

On the first day (July 24), Professor ISHIYAMA Tokuko (Meiji University), who won the Kawai-Hayao-Prize for social sciences and humanities (2021) for “*Sacrifice Zone*” of America (Iwanami-Shoten, 2020), gave a report “U.S. Nuclear Development and Indigenous peoples: A Report

from the ‘Sacrificial Zone’.” Nuclear development has been carried out in the U.S. by taking away the lands of indigenous peoples and making them bear various risks. Indigenous peoples have been faced with an uncomfortable choice: “reject” or “accept” nuclear development. It has the background of “settler colonialism” in the U.S. Understanding the relationship between nuclear development and settler colonialism not only deepens our understanding of the “nuclear umbrella” but also reinforces our democratic thought.

On the second day (July 31), Associate Professor WADA Kenji (Musashino Gakuin University), who co-authored *Critical Security Theory* (Horitsu-Bunka-Sha, 2022), gave a report “Gendering Security.” The orientation toward a war state has a gendered background insisting that a “masculine” mode of behavior (hegemonic masculinity) would “protect women and children.” This is also associated with male-centered decision-making (“democracy without women”) and the neglect of violence against women in times of peace and war. It is also important for peace-building that men dismantle harmful “masculinities” themselves. For this purpose, we need to learn the “Ethics of Care” that no one can live without dependence on others.

How can people overcome the notion that “it is inevitable for a part of society to be sacrificed for the good of the whole,” and the tendency of impoverished men to look to the state and politicians for the “masculinity” that they themselves are unable to achieve? And how people can stand in solidarity with those who are discriminated against? Studying this will lead to a wider range of scientists joining in solidarity between the nuclear weapons abolition movement and the anti-discrimination movement.

(MIKI Atsuro)

Activities (12) JJS Vol.57, No.10 October (2022), p.60 (612)

Fukuoka Nuclear Issue Study Group June Regular Meeting “Evaluation and Issues of New Coronavirus Vaccines in Japan: Based on Materials Released by Public Institutions”

This time it was a lecture by NINOMIYA Kiyoshi, a doctor, on the new coronavirus infectious disease problem, instead of “nuclear problem.”

First, it was reported that since the pre-vaccination of the new corona virus vaccine for medical workers were introduced, three deaths of post vaccination with the Pfizer vaccine in a medical group were reported. It would be natural to regard these deaths were caused by one of the side effects of the

vaccination. NINOMIYA says that he personally has not been vaccinated, and he has been taking infection control measures such as securing ventilation and washing the mucous membranes of the eyes, nose and mouth with saline solution in order to increase the level of infection prevention.

According to the data on vaccine efficacy by age group published by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare's Advisory Board for New Coronavirus Infectious Diseases (September 1, last year), the fatality rate for people aged 65 and over who got positive for COVID-19 is slightly lower thanks to an increase in the number of vaccinations (2.8 percent unvaccinated, 1.2 percent vaccinated twice), but the fatality rate has become higher for all the age groups.

Pfizer's vaccine efficacy rate of 95 percent was calculated as follows; Approximately 20,000 people were randomly selected to receive the vaccine and placebo (physiological saline solution), respectively. There were 8 cases in Vaccination resulted in a reduction of $162-8=154$ cases of infection, so the vaccine efficacy rate was $154/162=0.95$ (95 percent). However, there is no information about the population in the calculation of this efficacy rate. In a population of 20,000, only 154 cases of infection were reduced, suggesting that the efficacy of the vaccine is not prominent.

Whether one should get vaccinated or not is probably an individual choice: Everyone should decide oneself by comparing the positive and negative effects. For that purpose, the lecturer argued that the latest data on vaccine efficacy by age group should be well informed.

(MIYOSHI Eisaku, Fukuoka Branch)

Activities (13) JJS Vol.57, No.10 October (2022), p.60 (612)

Recent fertilizer situation in Japan: JSA Food Problem Research Committee

The first 2022 relay course "Thinking about the state of food and agriculture in Japan" was held on-line in the afternoon of July 9. MANABE Kazuhiro (Kanto Nosan Co., Ltd. Director R&D) reported and 13 people participated.

The year 2021/22 began with China's export restrictions on fertilizer raw materials, and Russia's invasion of Ukraine has caused a severe shock not only to agricultural products but also to the fertilizer industry. The report focused on the fertilizer situation in Japan, which depends on imports for most of its raw materials, and introduced the history and distribution of fertilizers, as well as the current state of environment-conserving agriculture. The summary of this report is as follows:

1. Major grain price in the world have soared four to five times compared to the 2000s due to crop failures in South America and North America, as well as the impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine into wheat and maize. Since around 2010, China, a major producer of agricultural products,

has turned into a major importer of rice, wheat and corn.

2. In terms of fertilizer raw materials, exports from China have been limited since October 2021, and exports have decreased due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

3. To deal with this problem of soaring fertilizer price, urgent measures are required, such as utilization of unused organic resources, appropriate fertilization based on soil diagnosis, local fertilization, slow-release fertilizers, and spread of soil-building fertilizers. In addition, we are promoting the spread of mixed fertilizers of compost and chemical fertilizers, the use of soil management applications, remote sensing using AI, diagnostic imaging technology, fertilization using drones, and techniques for reducing fertilizer by limiting the root area in green house horticulture. This report was focusing on these initiatives and issues, by giving the case study.

(MANABE Kazuhiro, The Secretary of the JSA Food Problem Research Committee)

Activities (14) <i>JJS</i> Vol.57, No.10 October (2022), p.61 (613)
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Journal of Japanese Scientists *July issue reading report*

On July 16th, we held a reading circle for the July issue of the *Journal of Japanese Scientists (JJS)*. This reading group will continue for 6 years in the next August issue. This reading group started with the idea of reading the *JJS*, which tends to be kept unread, even though each issue contains special features in various fields, regardless of whether they are in the humanities or sciences. Each time, 4 or 5 people discuss the points they have read. What I have been thinking about for about six consecutive years is that even though similar special features have been organized several times, the points of view are different each time, and this also contributes to the accumulation and systematization of knowledge.

The theme of the July issue of the *JJS* was “liberal education for modern life.” Performance-based systems have become pervasive, and the act and opportunities to know the background of matters are decreasing. In the flood of information, people seem to have become objects to be consumed just like commodities.

In relation to this commercialization, emphasis is placed on being “useful”, but it is important not to forget the perspective of who and how it is useful. When I read the special feature, I learned that liberal arts education is about how to connect it to society and one's own life, and humanities and sciences cannot be considered separately from each other. In addition, it is important to consider the background of why such a situation exists, and while it is a criticism of the policy of overemphasis on practical learning, it can also be said that this is the role of liberal arts education. Since some of the participants were involved in education, we also discussed practical ideas. As an introduction to practice, I used the subjects I teach and social problems such as labor problems and nuclear power plant accidents as examples. However, this is not a problem that can be solved by universities alone. What is important is the existence of an organization like the JSA, and the nature of citizens and the

scientific movement is also being called into question
(DOI Yuri, Tokyo Branch)

Activities (15) <i>JJS</i> Vol.57, No.10 October (2022), p.61 (613)
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3rd Kyoto Civic Seminar “Frontier of High-energy Physics” hosted by JSA Kyoto Branch

The 3rd Public Lecture hosted by the Kyoto Branch was held on June 19, 2022 (Sunday) from 14:00 to 16:00 at the Ryukoku University satellite campus in Consortium Kyoto in a hybrid style. About 30 people participated. The common theme of this meeting was “Forefront of high-energy physics”, and two members of the Kyoto chapter each introduced international physics research using gigantic equipment.

The first speaker, SAKAMOTO Hiroshi, gave a presentation titled “Forefront of particle physics research using the LHC, the world’s largest accelerator.” He talked about the significance and background of finding Higgs particle, the origin of weight. 180 research institutes from 42 countries participated in research on the LHC, a large accelerator with a diameter of 27 km in the suburbs of Geneva, and the equal cooperation system analyzed by a network connecting more than 140 computers around the world is magnificent. A research paper with 3,000 co-authors and 2,000 staff members is a scale beyond the imagination of ordinary laboratory researchers. He explained the importance of drawing up the opinions of minorities even in a huge organization, and emphasized that the management policy supported by the democracy cultivated in the European Community is the foundation.

The second speaker, MASAMUNE Sadao, gave a presentation titled “Nuclear Fusion Energy Research and the ITER Device” and discussed the possibility that the nuclear fusion reaction, which produces He from deuterium D and tritium T, could provide safer energy than nuclear fission reaction. The International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor ITER is being built in southern France to confine plasma at high temperature and density. Aiming at the nuclear burning plasma experiment from 2035, 76 percent of the work has been completed at present. At present, the participation of Russia and Belarus in this international cooperation research is suspended. He is concerned about the impact of the situation in Ukraine on the future ITER project.

(MAEDA Koji, Secretary of Kyoto Branch)

<i>The 24th SOGAKU (Comprehensive Scientific Study Convention) in Osaka starts soon</i>
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Let's Participate in the 24th SOGAKU (CSSC), Discuss about Science and Society, and Solve our Urgent Problems!

The 24th *SOGAKU* (Comprehensive Scientific Study Convention) will start on November 19, 2022, in Osaka. It is the JSA's largest study event in this year. As was explained in the program published on October 10th⁴, the executive committee appeals to all the people including non-JSA-members to participate in the 24th *SOGAKU* (CSSC).

The main slogan of the 24th *SOGAKU* (CSSC) is "Science and Society under the multiple crisis of COVID-19 and Climate Change" and it is supported by the sub-title of "Non-Carbon, Nuclear Phase-Out and Anti-Poverty." The 24th *SOGAKU* (CSSC) will be held in the very moment when social conflicts as a result of neo-liberal market-economy policies in the countries of Global North are reinforced through COVID-19 and Russian invasion of Ukraine and therefore general public are heavily burdened. The above mentioned key-words embody our wish to reduce such difficulties and to find out the way of solution with an application of scientific advancement collaborating with general public.

There are three special lectures which are concerned with "war and peace", COVID-19 and climate change: They are core part of the 24th *SOGAKU* (CSSC). In 32 section meetings about to various topics, 155 reporters including scientists, engineers, students and general public will take the platform. JSA's *SOGAKU* (CSSC) has some advantages: (1) We can access the newest information of scientific advancement, (2) It has a wide scope in comparison to other study events of JSA's branches or regional committees, (3) We can listen to those who are normally apart, (4) We can interact with various people including non-JSA-members, and so on.

Because of COVID-19, the 24th *SOGAKU* (CSSC) in Osaka will be held online-style. However, you can participate at home saving money and time. There is no admission fee. Even for online-beginners, it is not difficult to operate and you will be supported by our executive committee. Language used in the meetings is Japanese. Not only JSA-members but also non-members are hearty welcomed. We are waiting for your participation.

Schedule and Contents

[Special Lectures]

Plenary Session 1 November 19, Sat. 13:30 – 15:00

"War and Peace: Especially on the History of Nuclear Weapons Development" by SHIMODA Tadashi

⁴ Cf.: the 3rd circular for the 24th *SOGAKU*
(https://jsa.gr.jp/d/_media/sougaku/jsa24sogaku3rdcirc.pdf).

Plenary Session 2 November 19, Sat. 15:15 – 16:45

“COVID-19 Virus and One Health” by NAKAGAWA Keisuke

Plenary Session 3 December 11, Sun. 15:45 – 17:15

“Climate Change and Human Rights: To Avoid Global-Warming Catastrophe” by ASAOKA Mie

[Sessions organized within the following topics]

A. Promote a Peaceful Era without War

A1 November 19, Sat. 9:30 – 12:00

“Peace and Human Rights in International Relations: Newly Coming International Research Problems after the Russian Invasion of Ukraine” chaired by ONO Hajime, JSA-International Department

A2 December 11, Sun. 9:30 – 15:30

“Scientists’ Social Responsibility and Citizen Cooperation on the Theme of War and Peace” chaired by KAMEYAMA Norikazu, JSA-Peace Issues Research Committee

A3 December 3, Sat. 15:45 – 20:00

“After Aggression War against Ukraine: Let’s Talk about How to Stop Constitution Amendment and How to Abolish War” chaired by KANEKO Masaru and NAKANO Sadahiko, Tokyo-Branch

A4 December 9, Tue. 16:50 – 18:20

“Russian Military Invasion of Ukraine in 2022” chaired by IMAOKA Yoshiko, Osaka-Branch

B. Environmental Crises, Solution of NPP-Problems and Measures against Natural Disasters

B1 November 23, Wed. 13:00 – 18:30

“Against Climate Crisis: For Renewable Energy and Energy-Saving Society” chaired by KONO Hitoshi, JSA-ACT (Announced Climate Targets) Research Committee, and IMANAKA Masateru, Tokyo-University

B2 November 27, Sun. 13:00 – 15:30

“Renewable Energy and Problems of Environmental and Health Influences” chaired by KATO Yasuko, Hokkaido-Branch

B3 November 20, Sun. 9:30 – 12:00

“Nuclear Phase-Out: Perspective and Problems” chaired by IWAI Takashi, JSA-Nuclear Problems Research Committee

B5 November 28, Mon. 16:50 – 18:20

“Rights of Evacuation: Nuclear Lawsuit in 2022” chaired by IMAOKA Yoshiko, Osaka-Branch

B6 November 27, Sun. 13:00 – 18:15

“Present Situation of Environmental and Pollution Problems” chaired by HATA Akio, Shiga-Branch

B7 December 4, Sun. 13:00 – 15:30

“Movement for Environmental and Contamination Problems in Osaka” chaired by KUSHIMOTO Toshihiro, Osaka-Branch

B8 November 20, Sun. 9:30 – 17:40

“Chuo Linear-*Shinkansen* Problem: Discussion and Information Exchange between Movement Groups vol.6” chaired by HASHIMOTO Yoshihito and MATSUNAGA Koji, Tokyo-Branch

B9 November 19, Sat. 9:30 – 12:00

“Section Meeting for Natural Disasters” chaired by NAKAYAMA Toshio, Tokyo-Branch

C. Decent Work, Life-Friendly Economy and Restoration of Local Communities

C1 November 23, Wed. 9:30 – 12:00

“Present Situation and Problems about COVID-19” chaired by SHIINA Takahiko, JSA-COVID-19 Research Committee

C2 December 3, Sat. 13:00 – 15:30

“Think about Japanese Food and Agriculture” chaired by NISHIMURA Ichiro, JSA-Food Problem Research Committee

C3 November 22, Tue. / November 29, Tue. 16:50 – 18:20

“Think about SDGs from the Viewpoint of Oceanian Marine-Culture and Mongolian Nomad-Culture”

chaired by IMAOKA Yoshiko, Osaka-Branch

C4 November 27, Sun. 9:30 – 15:30

“Workers’ Rights Protection and Nationwide Minimum Wage Increase” chaired by YONEDA Mitsugu and KUDO Yoshihiro, Tokyo-Branch

D. Critical Consideration and Problems of Modern Science and Technology

D1 December 3, Sat. 9:30 – 11:50

“Overview the Evolution of Natural Sciences” chaired by AOKI Wako, Tokyo-Branch

D2 November 26, Sat. 13:00 – 17:00

“Criticism of Current Science and Technology: Problems for Soundly Advancement of Science and Technology in Japan vol.14” chaired by KUSHIMOTO Toshihiro and YAHAGI Hideo, JSA-Private-Sector Researchers’ and Engineers’ Problem Committee

D3 November 23, Wed. 13:00 – 16:30

“Science-Technology Salon: Let’s Talk about Visions of Japanese Science and Technology vol.15” chaired by MATSUNAGA Koji, Tokyo-Branch

D4 December 10, Sat. 13:00 – 18:15

“Accelerating Scientific and Technological Advancement and its Social Implementation” chaired by KOBAYAKAWA Yoshihisa, Fukuoka-Branch

E. Crisis of Academism and Rights/Social Responsibilities of Universities, Institutes and Researchers

E1 December 4, Sun. 9:30 – 12:00

“What Influences will the Act on Promotion of Economic Security and the Act on International Research Universities of Excellence bring to Academic Freedom and Autonomy?” chaired by KAWA Kaoru, Shiga-Branch

E2 December 3, Sat. 15:45 – 18:15

“Think about Researchers’ Rights, Status and Ethics Again” chaired by SHIGAMATSU Koji, Iwate-Branch, and HARADA Emiko, Shiga-Branch

E3 November 23, Wed. 9:30 – 12:00

“Think about Sustainable Higher Education” chaired by SAKUMA Hidetoshi, Tokyo-Branch

F. Individual Dignity, Gender Equality and Respect for Diversity

F1 December 4, Sun. 13:00 – 15:30

“*Hikikomori* and Non-Attending Schoolers” chaired by KONDO Mariko and IDA Katsunori, Kyoto-Branch

F2 December 4, Sun. 15:45 – 18:15

“Tell about *Hikikomori* and Non-Attending Schoolers (Persons Concerned are Welcomed)” chaired by TANAKA Yoshikazu and ISHIDA Fumiki, Kyoto-Branch

F3 November 26, Sat. 9:30 – 12:00

“Think about Guaranteed Learning Opportunities in School” chaired by KONDO Mariko, Kyoto-Branch

F4 December 10, Sat. 9:30 – 12:00

“Think about Present Situation from the Viewpoint of Gender” chaired by SASAKURA Mariko, JSA-Female Researchers and Engineers Committee

G. Civil Society and Other Topics

G1 December 10, Sat. 13:00 – 15:30

“Reconsidering America: Past, Present and Future” chaired by HONDA Hirokuni, Tokyo-Branch

G3 December 3, Sat. 13:00 – 15:30

“*Journal of Japanese Scientists' (JJS)* Historical Role and Perspective Bridging between Scientists and General Public” chaired by NAGANO Yatsuhisa, Editorial Board of *JJS*

G4 November 21, Mon. 15:10 – 16:40

“Osaka’s Future Thinking Together with High-School Students” chaired by IMAOKA Yoshiko, Osaka-Branch

G5 November 23, Wed. 19:00 – 21:00

“Linguistic and Cultural 21st Century in Mongolia” chaired by

G6 December 3, Sat. 9:30 – 12:00

“People’s Movements in the Era of Transition” chaired by HONDA Hirokuni, Tokyo-Branch

Events and Statements

On September 21, 2022, the Executive Committee of the JSA published a protest statement against the execution of Ex-Premier ABE Shinzo’s state funeral on September 27 (<https://jsa.gr.jp/d/statement/20220921kokusou>).

On August 20, 2022, JSA’s Hokkaido branch published a protest statement against Ex-Premier ABE Shinzo’s state funeral (https://jsa.gr.jp/d/statement/20220820_hokkaido_kokuso).

Events Information <https://jsa.gr.jp/05event/index.html>

What’s New

About Us

“In order to harness and develop science for human beings, it is necessary for scientists especially to conscience their social responsibility, synthetically develop every field of science, and work the society to peacefully use the fruits. **The Japan Scientists’ Association (JSA)** was established and has

been acting for these purposes. Hoping independent and synthetic development of Japanese science consistently since its foundation in 1965, to carry out its social responsibility, the Association has been tackling several problems: peace and disarmament problem like as elimination of nuclear weapons, environmental conservation to defense human life and living, protection of university autonomy, and establishment of right and position of scientists.”

(From “Introduction of the Japan Scientists’ Association”, <https://jsa.gr.jp/intl/introduction.html>)

The *Journal of Japanese Scientists (JJS)*, a monthly magazine published by the JSA, is a unique comprehensive academic journal, in which scientists and citizens share various subjects relating to contemporary human society and interests in nature (https://jsa.gr.jp/intl/Introduction_of_JJS.pdf). You see all contents of back-numbers: <https://jsa.gr.jp/04pub/index.html#nihonnokagakusya>. Every JSA member can submit manuscripts to the JJS editorial commission. The papers in English are published online on the JSA web page.

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