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<HEADQUARTERS >

SCIENTISTS' FORUM AGAINST A & H BOMBS HELD IN TSUKUBA

The 2008 scientists' forum under the theme "Let's spread the will of lasting peace from Tsukuba, Ibaraki, to the world", which linked to the World Conference against A and H Bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki from August 2 to 9, was held on August 1 in Tsukuba City, Ibaraki Pref.

Morning session: 1) Dr. Tamura (Emeritus Prof., Ibaraki Univ.) addressed that peace movements are more influencing than at the time of the Antiwar Pact in Paris (1928) viewing the growing of Article 9 Society and the adoption of the Convention of Cluster Munitions in Dublin (2008), and the right to peacefully live stipulated in the preamble of the Constitution of Japan must be the fundamental concept in thinking of nuclear weapons elimination and lasting peace. 2) Prof. Kimura (Kagoshima Univ.) delivered a keynote lecture entitled "Crisis around nuclear weapons and chance to eliminate – Towards the world without nuclear weapons and without war", where he explained recent circumstances of antinuclear movements such as depleted uranium problem tackled in International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons, stressing the necessity of conceptualizing the meaning of atomic bombing at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, concluding that materializing of the spirit of the Japanese Constitution, only security established by citizens and whether local government through resident self-governance could make peace-building overcome security by state-lead military power. 3) Ms. Kabirova (chair, NGO "Aigul", Chelyabinsk, Russia) and Mr. Shagiachmetov (NGO "Aigul", Chelyabinsk, Russia) reported actual situations of nuclear production victims in Russia and Russian nuclear industry.

Afternoon session: 1) Dr. Sawada (A-bomb victim, physicist, Emeritus Prof. of Nagoya Univ.) made a physical explanation about infelicitous current criteria for recognizing A-bomb radiation-related illnesses of the health ministry and claimed to further improve the criteria considering all factors of radiation illnesses. 2) Dr. Konno (Yokohama National Univ., ret.) made a lecture on the problem of US nuclear aircraft carrier George Washington deployment to Yokosuka City, Kanagawa Prefecture, and the US's global strategy, where he outlined the fact-sheet concerning the safety of the nuclear vessels described by the US navy, which was the ground on which the Japanese Government asserted the safety of GW. 3) Prof. Kameyama (Okinawa branch) reported actual circumstances in Okinawa where the island's livelihoods are threatened by the US military bases, illustrating for instance the accident of US helicopter (CH-53D) crash in 2004 happened at Okinawa International University near Agricultural department of Ryukyu University he belongs to. 4) Scientific workers at Nuclear Science Research Institute presented an on-the-spot report, where Japanese nuclear science research, especially concerning nuclear safeguard, was drastically changed since the synchronized terrorists attacks in the US. They pointed out that the vicinity of their workplace was especially on alert since 2001 and the duty to keep secret have been stipulated in the law on Japan Atomic Energy Agency. 5) Dr. Okada (Article 9 Society of research institutes and university in Tsukuba) reported activities of the society he belongs to and noticed that the Basic Law on Space (passed in May, 2008) has an aim to open military use of space and in fact cooperate with the missile defense system of the US, claiming three principles in nuclear development "independent and democratic management and publicity of results" should be kept on. 6) Mr. Mizuno (peace movement in Ibaraki, ex. Self-Defense official) addressed a lecture on the history of military activities in Ibaraki Prefecture since 1920 and reinforcement of joint military maneuvers with the US army especially the missile defense plan since 2004 such as Patriot Advanced Capability-3 missiles deployment.

4TH 8.15 FORUM HELD

The research committee of peace question and a friendly group of peace activists held the 4th 8.15 (anniversary

of Japan's World War II surrender) Forum on August 15 in Tokyo, where Prof. Kaneko (Risho Univ., constitutionalist) gave a lecture on the establishment process of the Constitution of Japan and Article 9.

LECTURE FOR CITIZENS "WHAT IS EMISSIONS TRADING?" ORGANIZED

The research committee of food problem organized on August 23 in Tokyo a regular meeting with the above title, which was to afford citizens certain knowledge about what is meant by the trade system of greenhouse effect gas emissions thought as a key concept for combat against global warming, and whether it applies or not to agriculture, fishery, or food areas, inviting Mr. Sano (Japan Communist Party) who recently visited the EU to inspect its measures.

<LOCAL ACTIVITIES IN JULY AND AUGUST >

TOKYO BRANCH

The 59th new peace colloquium was organized on August 22, where Prof. Kaneko (Rissho Univ.) made the 12th lecture on the fundamentals of the Constitution of Japan.

KANAGAWA BRANCH

The Kanagawa branch held a regular meeting on August 14, where Dr. Matsukawa talked his assertion of society in the 21st century fiercely criticizing neo-liberalism.

SHIGA BRANCH

On August 3 in Yasu City, Shiga Pref. the branch held a lecture meeting for citizens concerning the global warming problem, where Prof. Takehama (environmental education, environmental sociology, Ritsumeikan Univ.) gave a lecture entitled "Emission-reduction in the world has begun – the result decides whether human beings could survive or not" and Dr. Matsukawa (secretary-general, JSA) commented on the ocean absorption capacity of greenhouse effect gas.

KYOTO BRANCH

- 1) The graduate student chapter of the Kyoto branch held a regular meeting on July 14 at Lake Biwa campus of Ritsumeikan University, where they invited Prof. Matsuo to give a lecture concerning his recent book "The economics of the Naked King". He noticed the aim of the book was to give an easily understandable explanation about key words of Marxist economics such as the theory of alienation.
- 2) The Kyoto University Economics chapter held a regular meeting on July 16, where they appreciated BS World Documentary "The world strategy of Monsanto Company, giant of agri-business", and had a comment from Prof. Kuno (agronomics). Participants discussed how scientists are able to keep their independence of private companies and the state government in relation to food safety.
- 3) The Kyoto branch called for members' participation in the session meeting "Building universities for the nation" of Educational Research Convention in 2008 held on August 22 in Kyoto City, where the following five reports were presented: 1) "Late university policy and the subject of this session meeting" by Prof. Hosoi (Osaka Univ.), 2) "The trend of university reform" by Prof. Murai (Kanazawa Univ.), 3) "The feature of administration of private universities in Osaka" by Yanagida (Baika Women's College), 4) "Thinking of the problem of university governance – from the case of Ritsumeikan University", by Saito (Ritsumeikan Univ.), and 5) "The issue concerning academic ability and university enrollment and a proposal for it" by Mr. Kunieda (industrial high school teacher).

OSAKA BRANCH

- 1) The study group *Contemporary capitalism* organized a meeting on July 24, where Prof. Suzuki's addressed the first lecture on the Japanese Emperor System.
- 2) The study group *Philosophy* organized a meeting on July 30, where a lecture "Philosopher Hiroshi Nagata's criticism of K. Nishida's Philosophy and the Kyoto School" was delivered by Dr. Ueda.