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THE JAPAN SCIENTISTS' ASSOCIATION (JSA)

Chasu Bldg. 9F, 1-9-15, Yushima, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0034, JAPAN FAX: +81-3-3813-2363 URL: http://www.jsa.gr.jp/intl

ESTABLISH THE NEW VALUE OF PEACE AND DEMOCRACY - OVER NEO-LIBERALISM

The Liaison Conference for Studying Peace and Democracy (federation of organizations of history, education, and science, JSA is one of leading members) organized a symposium under the above title on April 19, at Academy Common of Meiji University, Tokyo as its 20-year anniversary memorial symposium. The following three speakers gave useful comments remarking recent tidal change in restructuring line due to neo-liberalism and global movements against neo-liberalism.

- (a) Prof. Watanabe (Hitotsubashi Univ.): "Issue focusing on the Constitution and seeking its further development"
- (b) Prof. Yoneda (Chuo Univ.) "Towards new economic and social order overcoming neo-liberalism"
- (c) Prof. Tanaka (Tsuru Univ.) "Towards education to quest for the new human value together with children and youth"

In discussion session Dr. Kitamura (representative) offered controversial points in the Liaison's achievement and perspective.

STUDY CONFERENCE "ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM AND REGIONAL REGENERATION IN HOKURIKU AREA" HELD

The Hokuriku district (Fukui, Ishikawa and Toyama branches) held a regional conference with the above theme on April 18-19. First day, Dr. Homma (representative secretary of JSA) gave a keynote speech, which was followed by three reports concerning problems of Nakaikemi marsh, waste disposal in Tsuruga City, and Toyama University President election. Next day, participants took an on-the-spot visit.

<LOCAL ACTIVITIES IN APRIL >

MIYAGI BRANCH

The branch held a branch lecture on April 11, where Dr. Kokubun (Iwaki Meisei Univ., ret.) pointed out a thought both Daoism and logotherapy initiated by Frankl include in common.

TOKYO BRANCH

- 1) Machida Learning Forum had a regular meeting on April 18. Mr. Honda (economist) was invited to give a lecture on German environmental policy focusing on Freiburg's action.
- 2) Machida Science Forum had a regular meeting on April 19, where the organizer held a tour of Satoyama (hometown hill in shape with comfortable neighboring nature) and historical sites in Inagi City.
- 3) The 67th new peace colloquium was organized on April 24, where Prof. Kaneko (Rissho Univ.) gave a lecture entitled "On dispatch of Self-Defense Force troops to Somalia offing (2) 'Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia'".
- 4) Tama Hegel study group held a seminar on April 26 at Tama campus of Chuo University. The seminar treated pp.79-100 of *Hegel's Great Logic study* (2nd ed. 1979) written by S. Mita.
- 5) Waseda University graduate students group organized 2009 reception for new students with the theme "Thinking of post 1995" on April 29 at Toyama campus of Waseda University. They invited Mr. Sasaki (graduate student) to explain the post 1995 using S. Nakanishi's book "Problem category in unended 1995".

KANAGAWA BRANCH

1) Kanagawa Constitution Academia held the 5th lecture meeting on April 11 at Kannai, Yokohama City. Dr. Nakamura (Emeritus Prof., Hitotsubashi Univ.) explained the meaning of Emperor System in the Constitution.

2) On April 26 Prof. Ogiwara (Yokohama National Univ.) was invited to give a lecture entitled "Japanese economics and our life".

KYOTO BRANCH

- 1) On March 19 the branch held a meeting to read Prof. Ashida's article "Socialism by way of liberty, democracy and economy" appeared in Journal of Japanese Scientists vol.44 no.2 and Dr. Nagasuna's introduction to the special feature "Socialism in the 21st century" in no.3.
- 2) Research Forum of Higher Education held a meeting on April 25 at Ryukoku University to investigate the actual state and issues in the popular election system of university president. Four reports were delivered by Prof. Kobori (Ritsumeikan Univ.), Prof. Nagamine (Hosei Univ.), Prof. Hirose (Toyama Univ.), and Prof. Takahashi (Yokohama City Univ.).

OSAKA BRANCH

- 1) On April 4 at St. Andrew's University the study group Hegel's 'the Great Logic' held a regular meeting, studying the 82nd chapter of the text book "The Logical Lecture (1831)".
- 2) On April 5 at the branch office the Kansai-area's colloquium for scientific workers in private enterprises held a regular meeting, where Mr. Yamaguchi gave a talk "From the building site".
- 3) The study group *Energy problems* had a regular meeting on April 20, where Dr. Hiroshige talked about the landscape ethics basing on Prof. Iwasa's book *Thought of environmental protection*.
- 4) The study group *Contemporary capitalism* held April meeting on April 23, where Prof. Iwahashi (Hannan Univ.) explained the context of special feature *Global financial crisis and contemporary problems of financial regulation*, JJS vol.44 no.4.
- 5) The branch held the 36th Comprehensive Science Symposium on April 26 at Osaka University of Economics under the title "Thinking of youth employment in Japan". The following six reports were presented.
- (a) Prof. Ito (Osaka Univ. Economics): "Instabilization of youth employment and Japanese economics"
- (b) Prof. Wakita (Ryukoku Univ.): "Instabilization of youth employment and labor legislation"
- (c) Mr. Tsunomiya (Association of All Osaka Local Labor Union): "Current status of youth employment, and invitation to union"
- (d) Mr. Sawada (graduate student, Osaka City Univ.): "Research and living conditions of graduate students"
- (e) Mr. Kanematsu (graduate student, Osaka Univ.): "Carrier development of postdoctoral"
- (f) Ms. Kamide (lawyer): "Karoshi (death from overwork) case of just-in-time employed postdoctoral"
- 6) Osaka University chapter organized a lecture meeting entitled "Pharmacology and society" on April 27 at Toyonaka campus, Osaka University, where Ms. Teraoka (Pharmaceutical Information Center Asahi) delivered a lecture "For who started to learn pharmacology".
- 7) The study committee of philosophy held a regular meeting on April 30, where Mr. Sugihara (Nitta Gelatin Inc.) presented a talk on intestinal absorption of collagen peptide and expression of physiological function.

HYOGO BRANCH

The branch held a regular meeting on April 15 at Rokkodo Civic Center, Kobe, where Dr. Morii (Kobe Univ., ret.) gave a lecture on the theory of elementary particles.

TOTTORI BRANCH

The branch held 2009 Higher Education Forum jointly with Tottori University Labor Union on April 18. The forum was divided two sessions, first session concerned with actual status and problem of education and research in Tottori University, second session labor conditions in Tottori University.

OKINAWA BRANCH

On April 27 at Ryukyu University the branch held a meeting to read "Environmental impact assessment preliminary documents" for Henoko new base inviting Prof. Sakurai (Okinawa Univ.) to help read them. The documents can be downloaded from the Okinawa Bureau of Defense Policy webpage, however even specialists could not comprehend them in a short time. The JSA has strived to figure out issue points of Henoko base construction since the bill of maritime base construction had been submitted in 1997.