

Muse no.5: Japanese Network of Museums for Peace

Newsletter: July 2001

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News on Museums for Peace in Japan

The 7th Conference of Association of Japanese Museums for Peace

The 7th Conference of Association of Japanese Museums for Peace (AJMP) was held on September 6th, 2000 in Okinawa according to Mr. Masahiko Yamabe, the curator of Kyoto Museum for World Peace in its newsletter Vol. 8-3 published on March 25th. There are nine museums in AJMP: Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, Osaka International Peace Center, Kanagawa Plaza for Global Citizenship, Kawasaki Peace Museum, Peace Museum of Saitama, Takamatsu Civic Culture Center/Peace Memorial Museum, Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum and Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum. The English name of the association was decided as “**Association of Japanese Museums for Peace**”.

Curators discussed various issues such as the use of library, volunteers, the renewal of the museum, how to attract visitors and education. They visited **Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum** and war-related sites. The exhibits on the battle in Okinawa were made from people's viewpoint including Japanese soldiers' massacre of the people of Okinawa and people's forced suicide, the oppression of anti-war movement, Korean women who were forced to work as sex-slaves during World War II. The oppression of the people by the U.S. military bases is also exhibited. Mr. Yamabe highly estimated the museum both in the content and the way of the exhibition. He also visited **Yaeyama Peace Museum** in Ishigaki City. People of Yaeyama were ordered by Japanese military to live in a mountainous region where almost half of the people suffered from malaria and over 3600 passed away. The museum was built as a part of Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum and the aim was to show the reality of suffering from malaria, efforts to eradicate malaria and the appeal for peace.

Osaka International Peace Center

An Art Festival: **an Exhibition of Asian Children Diary with Pictures** was held from January 10th to February 11th. The aim was to promote understanding among Asian children aged 6 to 12 and promote literacy education. 40,693 children sent their diary

with pictures from twenty-two countries and a grand prize was given to a child from each country.

Holocaust Exhibition from Children's Viewpoint was held from May 3rd to 30th. Six million Jewish people were killed in World War II, and one fourth (1,500,000) were children. Jewish children's photos were displayed so that Japanese children would learn the history. Children's paintings were exhibited from June 5th to July 1st. 15,000 Jewish children were put into a concentration in former Czechoslovakia and only 100 children survived. About 4,000 paintings were discovered after the concentration camp was liberated by the Allied Forces. About 90 paintings were displayed at Osaka International Peace Center.

Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University

An exhibition on Tezuka Osamu, a popular cartoonist, was held from May 25 to June 15. He studied to be a physician, but he wrote many comics and passed away in 1989. The first part of the exhibit on his life consisted of the natural environment, his family and study, war experiences and his strong curiosity. The second part was messages in his works such as his apprehensions of civilization, his view of life, his anger at war, his longing for nature and his worldview. You may be surprised to know that his comics include world history and even Albert Einstein's theory, which is very educational!

There will be **the War Exhibition for Peace** from July 31st to August 9th. The first exhibit will be about the history of the relationship between Japan and Korea in the modern period. The second exhibit will be for the abolition of nuclear weapons; the realities of the atomic bombing in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the threat of nuclear weapons. There will also be the exhibit on the facts of the nuclear test in Semipalatinsk. The third exhibit will be school textbooks that led to militarism in World War II.

Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum

There are **materials on the atomic bombing abroad** such as photos, melted glass bottle (because of heat rays), and documents that must be kept by foreign journalists and people who worked for the occupation forces after World War II. Those people are asked to donate precious materials to the museum so that they will be used to disseminate the horror of nuclear weapons. The details are in the homepage.

<http://www.pcf.city.hiroshima.jp/peacesite/>

There is one more web site that is good for children.

<http://www.pcf.city.hiroshima.jp/kids/>

There are **162 volunteers** who help visitors understand exhibits in the museum. Such activities started in 1998 and their activities are thanked by many visitors. They get together and study nuclear issues including questions that they couldn't answer to visitors. 64 volunteers got together on April 1st and Mayor Tadatoshi Akiba gave a speech on the role of volunteers and encouraged them according to *Peace Culture* No. 141 published on June 1st, 2001.

Japanese - Dutch – Indonesians: The Japanese Occupation of the Dutch East Indies Remembered

The exhibit was made by **Netherlands Institute for War Documentation** in 2000 and it was exhibited in Kyoto, Usuki City of Oita Prefecture, Mizumaki Town of Fukuoka Prefecture, Nagasaki, Fukuoka City, Tokyo and Kochi. It showed different memory of World War II among Japanese, Dutch and Indonesians. There were various opinions on the exhibit, but it seems that many Japanese people learned unknown and important history of the three countries through the exhibit. The details will be published in Newsletter of International Network of Peace Museums.

Mr. Erik Somers of the institute gave a lecture on the history at class called “Peace & Disarmament” at Kochi University in July. The students wrote that they learned much about the history and wanted to learn more. The exhibition was very good to start dialogue among people who have different views of history. He also talked about the importance of respecting different culture showing his son’s school life at Gomen Noda Elementary school in Nangoku City, Kochi. It was so impressive that many pupils asked him to sign his name and he was like a star!

Peace Museum in Suita City, Osaka

There was an exhibition of original pictures of a picture book called *Please Give me Flowers, not Landmines* from October 17th to November 5th according to its newsletter No.13 published in March, 2001. Forty original pictures and a replica of a landmine were exhibited so that children would be able to understand the landmine issue. It was held with Association for Refugees that was founded to help Indo-Chinese refugees in 1979. Mother wrote, “I’m glad to visit here with my children. We learned landmines here since we didn’t have any chance to see landmines.”

Address: 6F c/o Shimin Kaikan, 4-1, Deguchi Town, Suita City, Osaka 564-0072

Tel: 06-6387-2593. Open: 9:30 to 17:00 except Monday, the next day of holidays, December 28th-January 4th. Admission: free

Takamatsu Peace Memorial Hall, Kagawa Pref.

Pupils go to Peace Memorial Hall in Civic Culture Center to study **U.S. air-raids in Takamatsu City** on July 4th, 1945 during WWII according to Newsletter No. 3 published in July, 2001. There was Peace Film Festival on May 26th and Ms Chiyoko Ouchi talked about her experiences in the air-raids. It is said that almost 80% of the urban area was destroyed and 1,359 people were killed. There was photo exhibition on the air-raids in Takamatsu in July and will be an exhibition of the atomic bombing in August.

Address: c/o Takamatsu City Shimin Bunka Center, 1-15-1 Matsushima Town, Takamatsu City, Kagawa Prefecture

Tel: +81-087-833-7722

Peace Wave in Kochi: Grassroots House

There have been various activities for creating a culture of peace called “Peace Wave” in Kochi. There was a **meeting on human rights** inviting Amnesty International members on June 3rd. There was **Peace Film Festival** on June 17th and July 8th. **Peace Star Festival** started on July 1st and ten million paper cranes folded by citizens have been decorated downtown that was heavily air-raided by U.S. bombers during WWII. There was also **High School Students’ Peace Festival** on July 21st. There was **Peace Concert** on July 4th and about 300 people from 10 groups attended it and enjoyed music and dancing. There was also **Bio-music Concert** on July 21st.

There will be **Peace March** on July 28th and **Peace Art Festival** from July 31 to August 6. The theme is to live together in harmony. There will be **Children’s Gathering** on August 15th. There were other activities as follows.

* The Exhibition of School Textbooks for Peace

The following article was written by Mrs. Keiko Tamaki, a lecturer of Chinese at Kochi University.

The exhibition of School Textbooks for Peace was held by Kochi Branch of the Association of Friendship between Japanese and Chinese at Kochi Citizens’ Library from June 29th to July 4th. The aim was to think the issue of history textbooks that are very controversial nowadays. The textbook made by Association of Making New History Textbooks has been criticized not only in Japan but also in other Asian countries. It is because the textbook glorifies Japan’s invasion of other countries. The history of textbooks, school textbooks used during World War II in Japan, textbooks in Asian countries, photo panels on Japan’s aggressive war in China were displayed.

Mr. Chang Ch’engjun of **Memorial Museum of the Chinese People’s War of Resistance Against Japan** gave us a message that says, “If such a textbook that denies Japan’s invasion and glorifies it is used in classroom, it will certainly damage the Japanese in the future.”

There was also **the 7th Meeting for the Solidarity with Asian People** as the 64th anniversary of Lu kou ch’iao Incident (the beginning of Japan’s invasion of China) on July 30. Mr. Shigeo Nishimori, the director of Grassroots House, reported his investigation of the germ war by 731 Unit in Hunan using many slides. The details are as follows.

* Research of Germ War in China

From March 31st to April 7th Mr. Shigeo Nishimori visited Hunan in China with lawyers and scholars to investigate **germ war conducted by Japanese military during World War II**. There is Chinese NGO that investigated victims of the germ war in China and the name of 7,643 Chinese were made clear after the investigation. Many facts are still

unknown because Shiro Ishii who was responsible for the data was acquitted because the data was kept by the United States and was used in Korean War. 36kg of pest-infected fleas were dropped on November 4th, 1941 in Changde City, and many Chinese were killed.

108 Chinese victims in Hunan and Zejiang filed a suit against Japanese government for the apology and compensation (ten million yen per person) at Tokyo District Court in August, 1997. Other Chinese victims joined and there are 180 plaintiffs, and there are 220 Japanese lawyers who support them. The conclusion of the hearing will be in November, 2001 and the decision of the trial will be made next spring. Mr. Nishimori said, "Since many Japanese are not informed, it is necessary to raise awareness of Japanese people and support the Chinese." 70 photo panels were made for the exhibition to inform them of the germ war.

Speaking Tour 10-22 June Two Speakers from the Marshall Islands and New Zealand

The following article was written by Dr. Kate Dewes.

Earlier this year, Mary Silk (Director of the Nuclear Institute of the College of the Marshall Islands) and Kate Dewes (Disarmament and Security Centre, New Zealand) were invited by Hiro Iwasaki and Satomi Oba (on behalf of a range of Japanese groups, including Plutonium Action Hiroshima) to tour 8 cities in 10 days (Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Osaka, Kyoto, Tokyo, Gifu, Matsuyama and Kochi). We were asked to talk about **nuclear colonialism in the Pacific, the World Court Project, the Middle Powers Initiative and the effects of nuclear radiation.** We promoted and sold copies of the Japanese version of the booklet *Pacific Women Speak Out for Independence and Denuclearisation* (edited by Zohl de Ishtar) which had been officially launched during Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Week in March. Copies of the Japanese version of *Fast Track to Zero Nuclear Weapons* and *The Naked Nuclear Emperor: Debunking Nuclear Deterrence*, both written by Robert Green (Kate's husband), were available for sale.

The tour costs were covered by a grant from the World Council of Churches' Pacific Desk. Local host groups organized the venues and publicity. We addressed women students at two universities (Osaka), and meetings were organized by the Asia Volunteer Centre (Osaka), the National Council of Churches (Tokyo), the Kansai Seminar House (Kyoto), **the Grassroots House Peace Museum (Kochi)**, the Ehime Global Network (Matsuyama), the Nagasaki Peace Promotion Office, **the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation** and other groups.

Most public meetings were attended by about 50-60 people and included peace groups, representatives from Amnesty International, YWCA, churches, hibakusha (atomic bomb victims), university lecturers, students, lawyers, physicians and green/youth and environmental groups. There was extensive media interest (including television) in most cities.

In **Nagasaki** we met with Mayor Itoh. He discussed the possibility of a trip to New Zealand in April/May 2002 to meet politicians and Mayors, and to highlight the proposed exhibition of photos from Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In Hiroshima, Peace Museum representatives also discussed sending photos to the Marshall Islands, Pakistan and India. Individual interviews were held with hibakusha in Tokyo and Kochi City.

Outcomes:

1. High profile for *Pacific Women Speak Out* (PWSO) and other books which will be used by media, universities and local groups.
2. Growing network of people interested in researching the intergenerational effects of radiation on hibakusha in Japan and Marshall Islands (including Japanese fishermen exposed during the US nuclear tests on Bikini Atoll during 1954).
3. Closer ties between Marshall Islands, Japanese and NZ peace groups.
4. Probable translation of PWSO into Marshallese.
5. Commitment to translate the International Peace Bureau's *Peace is Possible*, and find a publisher for it.

Dr Kate Dewes: IPB Vice-President and Disarmament and Security Centre
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www.disarmsecure.org The DSC is a specialist branch of the NZ Peace Foundation.

Pacific Ocean War History Museum, Iwate

Some people made a pilgrimage to **Biak Island near New Guinea** in May and November, 2000 according to Newsletter No. 29 published on January 1st. Japan made war against Biak, 1944 and there are still remains of Japanese soldiers. Over eighty remains were discovered in the pilgrimage. The number of elementary school pupils who visit Pacific Ocean War History Museum is increasing.
Director: Ichio Sasaki. Fax: 0197-52-4575

Oka Masaharu Memorial Peace museum, Nagasaki

Japan's aggression in the Asian-Pacific region and Korean and Chinese people who were forced to work in Japan are exhibited in the museum. The best news in 2000 was that the museum became the sister museum of **Nanjing Museum**. There are 185 members in the Oka museum as of December 18th, 2000 and there were 4810 visitors a year. They hope to increase the number of the visitors as much as 10,000 in the future.
<http://www.d3.dion.ne.jp/~okakinen>

Grassroots Movement for Making Peace Museums

Peace Museum in Matsushiro, Nagano

The 6th general meeting of the executive committee for making a peace museum in Matsushiro was held on January 21st. Peace festival in summer was very successful in disseminating **the movement of making the peace museum** among citizens. They are planning to spread the movement not only in Nagano Prefecture but also in Japan.

In April Governor Yasuo Tanaka of Nagano Prefecture visited the place where Peace Museum will be built in the future. He was invited to visit there by high school students who study their native province. It is very impressive to know that students have been very active.

Yuki no Shita (Strawberry Geranium) Peace Culture Museum

There was an **exchange meeting between Japanese and Chinese** on January 14th though it heavily snowed. 100 Japanese and 250 Chinese got together and enjoyed getting to know one another.

Newsletter of “Yuki no Shita” was founded in 1951 and people celebrated its 50th anniversary. It was not easy to publish it in 1951 because there was the U.S. military for Korean War. **The Peace Culture Museum**(the provisional name) will open this fall.

Association of Making Yuki no Shita Peace Culture Museum:
1-23, Satomaruoka, Maruoka-cho, Sakai-gun, **Fukui Prefecture**
910-0302. Tel & fax: +81-0776-66-1564.
E-mail: yukisita@kore.mitene.or.jp

Children Center for Peace & Human Rights, Osaka

An exhibition of school textbooks was held in Hiroshima City, Miyoshi City, Fukuyama City and Mihara City in Hiroshima Prefecture from January 13th to February 25th. There were 2500 visitors during twenty days according to Newsletter of Grassroots No. 14 published on March 30th. **Ms Kazuko Yoshioka** collected school textbooks including Asian ones for 15 years. They are lent to various places so that young people who don't know war will learn from textbooks used during World War II. The textbooks were also exhibited in Kochi City from June 29 to July 4th. They have been playing a very important role to raise awareness of the danger of the new textbook that glorifies Japan's aggressive war.

Korean Museum in Tokyo

The plan to make Korean Museum seem to be realized by the end of 2001 according to Korai Newsletter No. 41 published on April 16th. Association of Making Korean Museum was founded in 1990 in order to raise awareness of Korea among Japanese. There are about 400 members and the ninety percent is Japanese. They have been active in holding series of lectures, exhibitions, concerts, dancing, organizing a peace trip to Korea and so forth during the decade. The purpose of Korean Museum

(a tentative name) is to convey the history of exchanges between Japan and Korea and the history of Koreans living in Japan.

Address of Association of Making Korean Museum: c/o Inashiro Church, 1086 Higashi Naganuma, Inashiro City, Tokyo 206-0802. Tel/fax: 042-378-5245.

[Http://business1.plala.or.jp/kourai/](http://business1.plala.or.jp/kourai/) E-mail: koraihak@nifty.com

Harima Peace Center, Hyogo

Harima Peace Center was founded in Himeji City, Hyogo Prefecture, in December, 2000. **The purpose** is to convey the importance of peace to young people and act for peace, the protection of the environment and human rights regardless of differences of ideas. They plan to publish Newsletter, educate young people, hold study meetings, organize various events, collect information and disseminate it.

The director: Shinjirou Hamano: c/o Shiei-jutaku 24-2, 107 Yuuhigaoka, Shikitou-cho, Himeji City, Hyogo Prefecture 671-0215 Tel & fax: +81-0792-53-0356

<http://www1.odn.ne.jp/~cab47160> E-mail: cab47160@pop01.odn.ne.jp

Shizuoka Peace Center

An exhibition on the air raids in Shizuoka started to be held by Association of Making a Peace Museum in Shizuoka from June 15th and it will be held until September 30th. It is estimated that Shizuoka was air-raided on June 20th according to its newsletter no. 45 published on May 5th, 2001. The basic information on U.S. air-raids on Japan is written below. Shizuoka Peace Center is in Shizuoka City and the number of children who visit there is increasing.

Address: c/o Chuou-biru 2F, 6-20, Aioi Town, Shizuoka City 420

Fax: 054-247-9641. Open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (10:00-16:30)

Admission: free. <http://homepage2.nifty.com/shizuoka-heiwa>

E-mail: shizuoka-heiwa@nifty.com

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Basic Information of U.S. Air Raids on Japan during WWII

Japan was air-raided by the U.S. bombers from November, 1944 to August 15th, 1945. There are three periods of bombing according to Report of Investigation on U.S. Strategic Bombing.

- (1) **Bombing of military establishments from a high altitude** from November, 1944 to March, 1945.
- (2) **Air-raids of urban areas using incendiary bombs from low altitude at night** beginning with Tokyo air-raids on March 10th, 1945 to mid-May. Japan was heavily damaged.
- (3) **Air-raids of residential areas of big cities using incendiary bombs** from the end of May, 1945: Tokyo and Yokohama in May, Osaka, Kobe, Kagoshima, Hamamatsu, Shizuoka in June, 34 cities including Sendai, Kumamoto, Takamatsu,

Kochi, Koufu, Wakayama in July, Hachiuji, Mito, Nagaoka, Toyama in August. Kumagaya City in Saitama Prefecture was completely destroyed on August 14th. The air-raids were stopped by the end of the war on August 15th.

The estimated casualty of civilians is about 380,000 and over 2.4 million houses were burned down.

Reference: "An Outline of U.S. Air-raids in Japan" by Souzou Matsuura in *Air-raids in Japan* edited by Katsumoto Saotome and Simao Doki (Tokyo: 1984) published by Soudo Bunka. Though this is written in Japanese, it is good for non-Japanese because it has many photos.

Center of War Documentation for Peace, Tokyo

The center will start to be built in September and donation has been requested: 71,110,000 yen was donated as of June. The center will be built in Koutou-ku in Tokyo and **Children's Peace Statue** was built in the site in May. The details of the statue are written below.

The center will be a three-storied building: library, materials and audio-visual room on the first floor, meeting rooms on the second floor and the exhibition room on the third floor.

C/o Seiji Keizai Kenkyuu-sho (Institute of Politics and Economics), 1-5-4 Kitasuna, Koutou-ku, Tokyo 136-0073

Tel: 03-5683-3325. Fax: 03-5683-3326. <http://www2.odn.ne.jp/seikeiken/>

Children's Peace Statue in Tokyo

It took about two years for children from elementary school to high school to make Children's Peace Statue in Tokyo. American children in New Mexico made a statue for peace in 1995 after knowing a story of Sadako Sasaki. She was exposed to radiation in Hiroshima and passed away because of leukemia when she was twelve. A statue called "Children's Peace Monument" was established in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park. There is "**the Association of Making Children's Peace Statue in the World**" in Tokyo, Hiroshima, Kyoto, Kagawa and Gifu. Children's Peace Statue was designed by Kanako Abe, a ninth grader then, and made by Mitsutetsu Okamura, a sculptor. It was displayed on May 5th, Children's Day in Japan.

Other News

Network of Exhibition on War for Peace

The Conference of Network of Exhibition on War for Peace was held in Tokyo on January 13th and 14th. The movement of holding the exhibition on war for peace started in Wakayama in 1976. The conference was held by the Executive Committee of the Exhibition on War of Tokyo, Saitama, Nagano, Osaka and Okayama. 138

people from 47 committees in 22 prefectures attended the conference. **It was held for the young people who don't know war at all** and also because there is the rise of nationalism such as attacking the exhibition on war in Saitama in 2000.

The exhibitions on war for peace have been playing important roles in peace movement and peace education. They make visitors think “What is war?” “Why does war happen?” “Why wasn't war prevented?” “Is it peaceful now?” and “What should we do for the future?” The head office of the Network is as follows.

C/o Nihon Kikanshi Kyokai Saitama Ken Honbu, 1-5-11 kishimachi, Urawa City, Saitama Prefecture 336-0012

Tel: 048-825-7535. Fax: 048-832-1645. [Http://www.kikanshi-nw.or.jp/peace/](http://www.kikanshi-nw.or.jp/peace/)

E-mail: kikanshi@mtc.biglobe.ne.jp

Reference: *Conference Report on Exhibitions on War for Peace* published in February, 2001.

Photo Exhibition: Life in a Desert Island

83 photos of “Living in the Sea when Old: Kikujiro Fukushima's Life in a Desert Island” taken by Saeko Miyabuchi were exhibited from May 1st to 30th in Yanai, Yamaguchi Prefecture. He was a photographer from the 1960s to the 1980s and kept **reporting the danger of militarism in Japan**. He suddenly moved to an island called Oshima in Yamaguchi Prefecture and started self-sufficient life growing vegetables, keeping chickens and fishing. He refused urban life in which it is possible to get things by money. The photos were introduced in a magazine of *Sekai(World)*.

Okinawa International Peace Research Institute

There were **lecture series** of “How to See Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum” from 14:00 to 16:00 on Sunday from January 14th to March 25th and also from April 15th to July 8th. It was held by Okinawa International Peace Research Institute that was founded in June of 2000. Its newsletter called **Okipri** (Okinawa International Peace Research Institute) No. 2 was published in December, 2000.

The Conference for the Protection of Sea Turtles was held by the Institute and Itoman City on December 9th and 10th according to Newsletter No. 2. The number of sea turtles is decreasing because of the destruction of the environment. The importance of the protection of the environment was emphasized so that human beings and sea turtles may be able to live together.

Pacifists in Japan

Kiryu YuYu: An Antiwar Journalist

Kiryu YuYu was born in Kanazawa in 1873 and passed away in 1941. He was educated at Tokyo Imperial University and published novels, haiku, articles, essays while he was still an undergraduate student.

Kiryu became a journalist when he was 29 and **his motto was “Never surrender to power and money.”** He became editor-in-chief of the *Shinano Mainichi Shinbun* (newspaper) in 1910, but was forced to resign because he was opposed to military matters. He tried to realize his ideas not as a journalist but as a politician and ran for membership in the House of Representatives in Nagoya in 1924. But he was defeated and started a daily newspaper, *Chukyo Asahi*. However it was not successful.

In 1928 he became editor-in-chief of the *Shinano Mainichi Shinbun* again. His criticism of militarism caused pressure from the special police and had to resign in 1933.

Tazan no Ishi, a private journal, was founded by Kiryu in the same year when he was sixty. The title means “to draw a lesson” and Kiryu wanted readers to draw lessons from Western ideas. It was published twice a month from 1934 to 1941, and 177 issues were published. He introduced over 110 foreign books in Japanese. He criticized the military and the bureaucracy so much that publication of his journal was stopped by the government authorities. It is interesting that his journal was published in 1939 and 1940 when journalists had a hard time. It was because a special police was so impressed by his writing that he protected Kiryu from the governmental pressure.

Though Kiryu suffered the frequent censorship and prohibitions by the government, **he kept criticizing militarism in Japan.** It was not easy for him to be critical of militarism because it meant no income by his journal: he had six sons and five daughters to raise. His last article says, “Journalists should be creative writers.” He resisted war throughout his life and his existence seems to be important nowadays when freedom of speech is in danger in Japan because of the rise of nationalism.

Bibliography: “Yuyu Kiryu who consistently fought against the military: a journalist’s resistance” by Masao Ota in *Nihon Heiwaron Taikei*(A Survey of Peace Theory in Japan) Vol. 9 by Saburo Ienaga, editor-in-chief (Tokyo, 1993). “Kiryu Yuyu” by William D. Hoover in *Biographical Dictionary of Modern Peace Leaders* by Harold Josephson, editor-in-chief (Westport, Connecticut & London, 1985).

International News

Korea

The House of Sharing

The following article is from Ms Mayumi Yonekura who used to work as a volunteer at the House of Sharing in South Korea.

Korean women who were forced to work as sex slaves by Japanese military in World War II live in the House of Sharing. The horror of sexual violence has been reported by the women not only in Asia but also in other countries. It has been very influential because the sexual crime was really terrible and also visitors can listen to the women’s stories directly. They sing songs and dance to convey what really happened to them. They painted pictures based on their experiences and the pictures were exhibited in the United States last year. Americans were deeply impressed by the pictures.

There is also a history museum on those women in the same site as the House. There are many visitors not only from South Korea but also from other countries. The problem is that there is a new Japanese textbook that glorifies Japan's aggression. I think that truth should be taught to children. It is up to each of us whether we will live a bright life or die. I really hope that Japan will repent the sinful past.

China

Memorial Museum of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japan

Mrs. Keiko Tamaki, an expert of China at International Exchange Section of Grassroots House, wrote the following article.

According to Mr. Shih Hsiao ming, the Chief of Social Education, a public reading of poetry was given as the 64th anniversary of Lu kou ch'iao Incident on July 7th. It is the beginning of Japan's invasion in 1937. Ten famous actors and actresses took part in poetry reading and it was highly admired.

There will be the 70th anniversary of 9.18 Incident on September 18th. Japanese Army started to attack China on September 18 in 1931. The International Academic Symposium will be held by Japanese Institute of Chinese Social Science Academy and Society of the Chinese People's War History of Resistance Against Japan in Beijing. The exhibition of "Blood and Tears in Forced Labor by Japanese Army" will be held by Memorial Museum of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japan. A series of books will be edited by Beijing Board of Education and published by the museum.

Director: Chang Chengjun

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Indonesia

Efforts for Peace: Helping Street Children

The following article was introduced by Ms Yoko Uemitsu, a member of Association for Friendship between Japan and Indonesia, and also Grassroots House.

It is said that there are almost 10,000 NGOs and most of them are new because they started activities from the latter half of the 1980s and the beginning of the 1990s. I'd like to introduce NGO called Sutala that tries to help street children.

It was started by college students who couldn't ignore street children in Semarang, the capital of Java in 1993. The Dutch NGO called NOVIB, the German NGO called TDH and citizens of Samarang started to help about **500 street children**. It became a social foundation and has an office with four staff members who get paid.

Shelters were made for girls in 2000 as a two-year project and this is the third biggest shelter in Indonesia. The purpose is to educate them so that they will be able to live independently such as learning handicrafts. (Incidentally 30 % of the girls have an experience of being raped, 46.6% being a prostitute and 50% sleeping on a street.) However, there is a problem that they have to earn money to live by themselves because only the shelter is offered, not food and other things.

It is necessary to teach children technology, raise fund to operate the NGO, money for children's living and recreational facilities. I hope such activities will save street children.

(Mr. Okcho Kimura in Salatiga translated this article in Japanese from Report of SUTALA.)

Sri Lanka

The Consortium for Peace and Progress

The following article was written by Mr. C.S. Samaradivakara.

The Consortium for Peace and Progress implemented following programs to promote peace at grassroots level in Sri Lanka.

1. **Cross – cultural programs:** street theatre and school drama in which cultural diversity and ethnic harmony were upheld. The young artists who took part in these dramas were themselves peace activists on their own.
2. **Literacy education** among the children of marginalized plantation worker families belonging to the minority community surrounded by the traditional villages where the majority community live, was promoted through activity – based non–formal education centers set up in the plantations.
3. **Street theatre on ethnic harmony** was performed in towns and villages bordering strife – torn areas.
4. **Traditional cultural heritage** of all communities – Music, Dance and Theatre – were promoted and enriched with young people with aptitude trained in both their own and other traditional arts.
5. Marginalized families in all communities were organized in community – based organizations to promote habits of savings, reproductive health, literacy and culture. Also a micro – credit projects were linked to their programs. Women of all communities played a key role in these grassroots organizations.

Three members are planning to visit Grassroots House and so forth in fall.

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The Marshall Islands: Peace Museum Project

The following information is from Ms Yayoi Tsuchida.

There is a **plan to make a peace museum in Majuro, the capital of the Marshall in 2004**, the 50th anniversary of the hydrogen bomb test on the Bikini Atoll. It will exhibit the information and material on the damage of Rongelap islanders from the U.S. nuclear tests, their struggle for compensation from the U.S. and the restoration of their community life and the history of solidarity between the people of Rongelap and the Japanese anti-nuclear movement. Attached to the museum, a facility benefiting the islanders (to help self-reliance, medical care and education of the islanders) will be established, and it will function as a center for support and communication between Rongelap and the Japanese movement.

Exhibits would be witnesses of the victims (publications, audio & video tapes, CD-ROM, etc), photos depicting the victims and the history of Rongelap before and after the test, facts, data and Information about the damage from nuclear tests, materials about the islanders' struggle for compensation from the U.S. and the restoration of their traditional life and the Japanese movement to support their cause and to abolish nuclear weapons, information obtained from the U.S. about nuclear tests and their damage, materials about historical relations between Marshall Islands and Japan, materials about solidarity history between the movements of the Marshalls and Japan

Contact: Abacca Anjain Maddison, Senator of the Marshall Islands

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Spain

The following is news of **Peace Museum in Spain** written by the director, Ms Natividad Fortea.

In December we started to work on **the Human Rights Commemoration Day**. We opened the doors with the exhibit about the effects of the atomic bomb of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This exhibit is a donation from the Peace Museum, Grass Roots House in Kochi. This exhibit was at the Museum until January the 29th. This day we celebrated the International Day for Peace. To work about this issue, we contacted with the UNHCR. They have **an exhibit with drawings made by African children in refugee camps in Kenya**. The Museum contacted with a monitor who guided the students in the exhibit and prepared activities for them. This activity lasted for a month, in February, and has been followed by many students coming from La Vall d'Uixó and around. They have produced drawings and letters. With the little ones we worked on the Sadako's story and they folded a crane which they brought to the Peace Museum.

In March, and for the commemoration of the Women's Day we organized two activities. The first one was promoted by a Scientific Researcher who worked with a painting product to preserve people from the "Chagas" disease in Central America. The exhibit is called **"Painting the Life"**. And the second was to remember **the women in Afghanistan**. We had an exhibit of twenty photos in collaboration with an NGO. We have had a person who has given a conference to introduce all these activities.

And to finish, now we have had **an artistic exhibit "Pictures for Peace"** in collaboration with the Peace and Conflict Institute from the University of Grenada.

Publications

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Institute for Peace Science, Hiroshima University. *Hiroshima Peace Science* 23. 2001
There is an English article of "Conscientious Objection in Japan in Contrast to that in Europe" by Hiromi Ichikawa.

Umbach, Frank. "Strategic Trends of Global Denuclearization and Nuclearization: Implications for Japan's Security Policies, Regional Stability and the TMD-Debate in East Asia" in IPSHU Study Report No. 27. Institute for Peace Science, Hiroshima University. April, 2001.

Sotozaki, Mitsuhiro. *Study of Emori Ueki (Ueki Emori Kenkyuu Shiryo Mokuroku)*. Grassroots House, 2001. The life of Ueki who drafted the Japanese Constitution is introduced in Japanese.

Website

International Museum of Peace and Solidarity: PO Box 76, UZ-703000, Republic of Uzbekistan. Email address for urgent contact: peacetur@samarkand.uz (messages in text format, .txt).

Website: <http://www.friends-partners.org/~ccsi/nisorgs/uzbek/peacemsm.htm>

The Editor's Notes

I hope you enjoyed reading Muse No. 5. Please notice that the homepages in Japan are not necessarily written in English. The details of the contact address of peace museums that were reported in Muse before are not written this time.



WE WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS AND HOPE YOU WILL HAVE
HAPPY Holidays! Best wishes, Kazuyo Yamane(KyYamane@ma1.seikyoku.ne.jp)