

# THE BULLETIN OF JSA

## THE JAPAN SCIENTISTS' ASSOCIATION

Chasu Bldg. 9F, 1-9-15 Yushima, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0034, JAPAN

Fax: +81-3-3813-2363 <http://www.jsa.gr.jp/>

---

No.115

February 25, 2010

---

### *SYMPOSIUM "RIGHT TO WORK AND EMPLOYMENT (5)"*

The JSA ad hoc committee of the Constitution has held a series of symposium entitled "Exploring the significance in the 21<sup>st</sup> century of the Constitution of Japan". The 5<sup>th</sup> symposium was organized under the above theme on September 26 at Surugadai Campus of Meiji University. The symposium's aim was to investigate what concept of society the Constitution postulates for right to work, especially to this end focusing on "labor" of employees.

To clarify the norm of the Constitution in the relation to right to work, Prof. Kitagawa (constitutionalist, Yokohama National Univ.) gave a lecture on the concept of labor in the Constitution. The professor compared the Constitutions of European countries with the Japanese one basing on the fundamental concepts, "labor" and "labor contract", making a conclusion that "labor" has no direct relationship with right to live, right to work, and right of association in consideration of human rights history in France. He stressed that employee party had been admitted right to work and right of association, while employer party won liberty of business and possessive right. He reviewed the employment change in recent Japan since the divide in 1980s and the development in the theory on right to work in the postwar constitutional academy, posing the task to make a further discussion on right to work with relation to individual dignity and freedom to choose one's occupation.

Prof. Goto (social philosophy, Tsuru Univ.) reported rich statistical data concerning current employment under the theme "The bold retreat of employment standard and unemployment compensation and right to work". He pointed out the bold retreat of employment standard had been caused by the structural reform from the viewpoint of the concept "right to be employed for the purpose of fulfilling living cost with full-time job or without time limit". The current state shows that low-income regular workers increase, half slave-labor conducted, the unemployed without compensation increasing, status "half jobless, namely, half working" untouched. He also pointed out that we see a low unemployment but high poverty in Japan though a high unemployment rate but low poverty in Europe.

Participants discussed the relation between regulation and freedom. Some asserted one must conceive right to work on the base of freedom, and some presented an opinion that the freedom of employers should be restricted by the regulation, while the freedom of workers must not be restricted in general though it may depend on cases. The relation between war and welfare states was brought question. Welfare states once have been progressed for all-out war. Contemporary global capitalism needs no more welfare states for governing. Nation states have been unable to control economics, and hence the foundation of welfare states has been collapsing. New activities toward welfare states are awaited.

*HOKKAIDO SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM HELD*

On October 30, 2009 at Hokkaido University the JSA Hokkaido branch held an annual event Hokkaido Science Symposium. In the morning the session of general research presentations was performed, where the organizing committee awarded the best presentation of young researcher. The research awarded was the study entitled "The mechanism of lipid accumulation prior to hibernation of Himalayan black bear and its role".

In the afternoon lectures on "How Hokkaido people are brought into working" were delivered. Prof. Kawamura (Hokkai-Gakuen Univ.) reported the actual state of workers obliged to work long hours because of low wages, pointing out that we are too thick to sense such tiredness adhering to workers. Although it is often warned that we must not mistake the labor-management discord for labor-labor one, he stressed democracy should be establish at workplace to solve labor own problems. A company union represents regular workers but not non-regular workers. We must criticize the wild practice of period employment contract and secure the place where workers are able to voice. According to the result from questionnaire of severe shortage of physicians and nurses, Mr. Sato (Hokkaido center for workers' life and health) asserted that besides appealing the government for improvement of the medical treatment fee, medical staff must be aware that they bare a responsibility to provide medical care in the best condition of body and mind. Owing to Mr. Mochida (Hokkaido branch, Faculty and Staff Union of J. Univ.) at Hokkaido University 3874 regular workers and 5246 non-regular workers are employed, the difference between labor conditions and stability of both raised severe problems. He condemns that university and department authorities avoid their responsibilities and severely are devoid of responsibility as employer.

#### ***ACTIVITIES OF RESEARCH COMMITTEES AND GROUPS***

##### ***The JSA headquarters organizes a number of research committees and groups undertaken on a nationwide scale, which are encouraging the members across the country***

#### **1) ACTIVITIES OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE OF POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS**

The committee organized a symposium "The green new deal policy and environmental problems in public projects of Gifu Prefecture" on September 12, 2009. In the symposium were discussed the problems of public projects such as the driving channel from the Tokuyama dam, the west route of the Tokai-Kanjo expressway, and the illegal-dumping problem at the Tsubakibora industrial waste disposal facility, focusing on how these problems will be coped with after the change of power from the Democratic Liberal Party to the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ). Though Premier Hatoyama announced 25% reduction of the CO2 emission compared to the emission in the year 1990, people are still concerned about the implementation. Prof. Ino (committee member) mentioned his expectation to DPJ and proposed its role in the global warming problem.

The driving channel of the Tokuyama dam is a project to stream water from the dam to Nagaragawa River for the purpose of water utilization and keeping fluid flow. However, according to Prof. Kasuya's (Gifu Univ.) report, water has been sufficiently supplied even in the 1994's drought, furthermore it would pollute Nagaragawa River to stream water of the Tokuyama dam, the COD of which is estimated 1.7 times as much as Nagaragawa River.

As to the west route of the Tokai-Kanjo expressway, Land, Infrastructure and Transportation Ministry proposed a plan to dig a tunnel. Dr. Kondo (committee member) pointed out that this plan not only much costs but is fraught with danger of mudslide

The Tsubakibora disposal facility is facing the problem of large scale illegal dumping of industrial waste disposal. Dr. Matsui (Research Inst. Environmental Medicine) indicated problems in the behavior of manufacturing industry and industrial waste processors as well as Gifu City responsible to permit.

These problems correlate with each other, in fact, the Tokai-Kanjo expressway is planned to construct

under the disposal facility, near the driving channel, and it is in danger that polluted water widely flows out.

## 2) ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE OF PROBLEMS OF ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS IN PRIVATE FIRMS

On October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 a symposium “Criticism on science and technology at life and work place” was held at Bunkyo Civic Center, Tokyo. Our committee meets twice a year to share the outcomes and issues of the projects that carried out based on the committee’s action policy, and the symposium has been held as part of the committee’s activities.

The presenters and their topics were as follows; a) Ms. Nishida (member of the committee, Osaka branch): the efforts to support the M. Tomei’s trial, who passed away from overwork, and the excessive burden imposed on postdoctoral fellows, b) Mr. Nagata, the committee chairperson: the significance of fighting back against unreasonable dismissal and judgment from the court on Ms. Kinugawa’s case.

In Ms. Nishida’s report, she disclosed the severe conditions of workers, based on an excessive competition, the performance-based evaluation and unstable employment, in order to demand the court decision be repealed. She also introduced the activity of the supporters and called for further cooperation.

In Mr. Nagata’s report, he indicated that the dismissal of Ms. Kinugawa was a personal attack and unreasonable. The court’s judge did not reflect the Constitution or the Fundamental Law on Education, and he expressed his deep concern about its risk of growing at universities, research institutions and etc. He emphasized the importance of fighting against the personal attack made by the judges, pronounced that the case would be supported by the committee and called for support.

At the discussion, comments on the current labor situations and rights of specialists were offered, and participants actively shared their knowledge and brought up the significance of the judges’ deeper understanding of specialists’ rights.

With a great contribution from one of our committee members, two new members joined at this meeting, the meeting was successful.

### ***DISTRICTS’ AND BRANCHES’ ACTIVITIES***

***The JSA consists of 47 branches which are grouped into 9 districts, and they are independently and/or cooperatively carrying out their activities in addition to the headquarters’ ones***

## 1) PARTICIPATING IN THE JSA OSAKA SUMMER SCHOOL

The JSA 2009 Summer School was held at Tannowa, Osaka on September 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

The first day’s program covered “Primates society and human society.” In the first presentation entitled “How We Treat Human Society — From the Origins of Humanity to Structural Violence“ by Prof. Nagano, he discussed humanism in human society, that is, our ability to understand others. From the standpoint of evolution, we can see the origins of altruistic behavior in the lifestyles of primates. The second presentation, “Thinking about egoism, social order, and the nation-state” by Dr. Minami, discussed the rationale behind the modern nation. We are able to grasp the social order based upon the pursuit of self-interest by understanding the logic of Hobbes’ *commonwealth* and utilizing game theory. However, the existence of classes and their results such as the class struggle show the need for consideration of the “nation state” itself, and the issue of how possible it is to “surpass the nation state.” Although both reports were quite different, they both showed the importance of understanding humanity’s conception of “the other” when tackling global issues such as the environment.

The second day’s program covered “Young researchers’ presentations”. We omit detailed coverage of their contents, but there were two papers concerning economics and management (“The automobile industry’s supplier system”, “War and finances: the August 2008 South Ossetia War and financial crisis”), and another two papers related to science and technology (“The Role of the physical transit of sugar

chains”, ”iPS cells and regenerative medicine”), as created by various young researchers affiliated with JSA. They introduced issues raised by the media, and served as a forum for lively discussion.

Also in the dinner meeting, we discussed evolution theory. We really had a great time at this summer school.

## 2) 2009 SEMINAR OF AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY IN HYOGO

The Hyogo branch together with the Research Institute of local Government in Hyogo organized 2009 seminar of the agricultural community on September 4 and 5, where seven members made a 2-days trip to Tazima, north eastern area of Hyogo Prefecture. The area is famous for a program of stork reintroduction. Local residents carried out the program over a period of forty years enthusiastically and energetically to reintroduce the stork which had disappeared. Local farmers and agricultural extension advisor of Hyogo prefecture tried to produce safe and reliable foods. These stories and a vivid expression of those people as well as the imposing figures of storks flying high impressed the participants.

The members started in the morning from Kobe City by two cars and dropped in at Takeda Castle, Wadayama Town. In the afternoon, they visited the Asago office of the prefecture and were given an explanation about “White stork friendly farming method” by Ms Sugimoto (Chief of agricultural extension center) who graduated from the Dept of Agriculture, Kobe Univ. and the farmer putting a plan in practice. Next day, in the morning Ms. Sugimoto guided them to another two farmers practicing this farming method to learn their experience. In the afternoon they visited Hyogo Prefectural Homeland for the Oriental white stork in Toyooka City. After hearing an explanation by Mr. Matsusita (the director of Eco museum center for oriental white stork) they made a field trip around the homeland and investigated the stork’s real mode of life. They spent a most enjoyable time.

Oriental white stork (*Ciconia boyciana*) is a predatory bird. It needs the environment that fish, frog, insect and so on can propagate abundantly. Many years of assiduous efforts of study and trial and error have succeeded to restore the paddy fields. At last in 2005 the prefecture authorized “White stork friendly farming method” to promote. For this purpose people in the area are trying to improve the environment by cutting pesticides and chemicals, by adopting the early water logging in winter to control weeds and to help frogs propagate, by introducing rotation of rice with soybean and some other techniques. However, this farming method was introduced to only less 10 % of cultivated land. Now, various efforts to extent the methods to a broader range of farmers and to pass on the sprit of the method to the next generation are tried.

The participants were impressed through the long distance trip.

*JSA<sup>NOW</sup>*

*Briefings from organizers*

## HEADQUARTERS

1) Postdoc Forum "To resolve the problems of young researchers" was held on December 5 in Tokyo, where Mr. Enoki (NPO Science Communication) delivered a lecture on the line what groups interested in postdoc problem conceive and a proposed draft for the resolution was discussed.

2) The headquarters and Japan Confederation of Atomic and Hydrogen Bomb Sufferers Organizations organized the 14<sup>th</sup> research conference on the problem of A&H bomb sufferers on December 19 at Nihon University, Tokyo. First session: a) A lecture on home and abroad circumstances around nuclear abolition, b) a panel discussion with panelists Prof. Anzai (Emeritus Prof., Ritsumeikan Univ.), Mr. Tanaka (chair, Conf. J. A&H Bomb Sufferers Org.) and Mr. Miyahara (head, defense team of class suit), "A result of class suit for recognition as a sufferer of radiation sickness and coming tasks". Second session: c) Mr. Maeza (president, A&H Bomb Sufferers Organization in Nagano), "Thinking back on 50 years as a sufferer", d) Mr. Fjidaira (rep. committee, J. Conf. A&H Bomb Sufferers Org.), "Struggle against the voice *You should*

*endure*", e) Dr. Masuda (aerologist), "The movement of A&H Bomb Sufferers from supporter's view", and f) Dr. Takakusaki (president, J. Conf. A&H Bomb Sufferers Org.), "International activities of the Confederation".

3) On January 23 at Homemaker Hall, Tokyo the JSA research committee of foodstuff problems held a regular study meeting, inviting Mr. Fujii (agriculture news reporter) to give a lecture on the policy of agriculture of the new government.

#### KINKI DISTRICT

The district organized a meeting for student/graduate student members in Kinki to exchange their life and research on January 30 at Osaka branch office.

#### MIYAGI BRANCH

1) On December 19, the 3<sup>rd</sup> branch lecture was held. Mr. Ota (graduate student, Tohoku Univ.) made a talk about how salamander lives.

2) On January 30 at Miyagi Women's Hall, Miyagi Prefecture the branch held a new-year lecture, where Prof. Abe gave a review of the history of Chinese literature.

#### TOCHIGI BRANCH

The branch held a study conference on the harmonious coexistence of region, university, and students on December 10 at Utsunomiya University. Two reports were given: a) Prof. Maehashi and students (Sakushin-Gakuin Univ.), "Students' practical activities at Kanuma", b) Prof. Okubo and students (Utsunomiya Univ.), "Science project of *Satoyama* (community forests) in the Nakagawa river area".

#### TOKYO BRANCH

1) The 74<sup>th</sup> new peace colloquium was held on November 20, where Prof. Kaneko (Rissho Univ.) delivered a lecture on the basic of the Japanese Constitution: the function of the Diet (3).

2) The 18<sup>th</sup> Chofu Science Forum was held on December 5 at Museum, University of Electro-Communications, where Dr. Nakagawa (Emeritus Prof., Univ. of Electro-Communications) was invited to deliver a lecture on the faculty meeting resolution in Feb. 1965 "Instructors at our university will not carry on military research".

3) The 13<sup>th</sup> civic gathering to think of intellectual property right was held on December 19, at Bunkyo Civic Center, Tokyo. There were two talks: a) Mr. Arisu (The committee of problems of engineers and scientists in private firms in Kanagawa), "IT, technology, communication, and intellectual property – Thinking about coming society and culture", b) JSA patent office chapter, "Exploring intellectual property policy of the new Administration – Touching science-technology policy".

4) On December 20 the group of individual members organized a field work "Learning the 5<sup>th</sup> Fukuryu-maru and Bombing of Tokyo in World War II visiting The Center of the Tokyo Raid and War Damages".

5) The 75<sup>th</sup> new peace colloquium was held on December 25, where Prof. Kaneko (Rissho Univ.) delivered a lecture on the basic of the Japanese Constitution: the function of the Diet (4), budget and diplomacy.

6) The 76<sup>th</sup> new peace colloquium was held on January 29, where Prof. Kaneko (Rissho Univ.) delivered a lecture on the basic of the Japanese Constitution: the function of the Diet (5), diplomacy.

7) The 19<sup>th</sup> Chofu Science Forum was held on February 6 at University of Electro-Communications, where Ms. Kakurai (Chofu Ass., Air monitoring movement) was invited to provide a subject.

#### KANAGAWA BRANCH

1) The branch organized the 4<sup>th</sup> study conference on December 19 at the branch office, where four lectures were given: a) Mr. Akimura, "My understanding of the world – Economics, Kinetic theory, and a society in the future", b) Prof. Goto (Tsurumi Univ.), "My walk in evolution theory study – On the occasion of the

150-year anniversary of the publication of Darwin's *The origin of species* and the 200-year anniversary of the publication of Lamarck's *Philosophie Zoologique*", c) Dr. Shioya (branch gen. sec.), "Design engineering", and d) Dr. Kawasaki (JSA representative secretary), "Global warning and a society in the future".

2) On January 18 at the branch office the branch held a regular meeting, where Dr. Katayama delivered a lecture on the effect of global warming to coast resources.

3) The 13<sup>th</sup> Article 9 Forum in Kanagawa was held on February 6 at Tsurumi University, where Mr. Shibazaki (ex junior high school teacher) delivered a lecture on schoolbooks of history adopted by Yokohama education board, which disaffirms Japanese war responsibility.

#### ISHIKAWA BRANCH

On December 11 at Kanazawa University the branch held a regular meeting, which was to discuss under the theme "How Ishikawa Prefecture has been changed through traffic policy laying disproportionate emphasis on road construction".

#### FUKUI BRANCH

On the 38-year anniversary of the branch establishment as a memorial lecturer the branch invited Prof. Bando (ex-president of the Physical Society of Japan). She explained the spirit of H. Yukawa (Nobel laureate for physics).

#### KYOTO BRANCH

1) On December 4 at the branch office held a meeting to read the article on "Construction of peace in the 21<sup>st</sup> century in the world and Japan" JJS vol.44 (12).

2) On January 21 at Kyoto branch office the branch held a meeting to read the articles on welfare for the handicapped appeared in JJS vol.45 (1).

3) Ryukoku University chapter held a study meeting on January 26, where Prof. Takamura (Ryukoku Univ.) gave a lecture on the result of COP15 and prospect of negotiation about global warming.

4) The 17<sup>th</sup> Kansai Peace Conference was organized on February 7 at Campus Plaza Kyoto. Three reports were presented: a) Ms. Nakano (news reporter, Mainichi Newspapers), "The reality of news reports on peace and our task", b) Prof. Fukuma (Ritsumeikan Univ.), "Shifts in media space and war memories argument after war – Comparison with words in the mainland".

#### OSAKA BRANCH

1) The Kansai-area's colloquium for scientific workers in private enterprises held a regular meeting on December 6 at the branch office, where Mr. Kitaguchi talked about the characteristics of soft-ware development labor.

2) The 4<sup>th</sup> Science Café was held on December 12 at Nakazaki-cho mall (famous shopping mall in Osaka), where Ms. Honjo (ret., Kansai National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology) was invited to give a lecture on the security of genetically engineered products.

3) The dialectic champuru (hotchpotch) study group held a regular meeting on December 14 at the branch office, where Mr. Takei talked about a theoretical problem of sub-prime crisis and Mr. Hiraishi discussed the individual environment theory of Brudy.

4) The study group of "Capitalism" held a regular meeting on December 25 at the Osaka branch office, where participants read Chapter 1 sections 3 and 4 of Marx's *The Capital*.

5) The 5<sup>th</sup> Science Café was held on December 26 at Nakazaki-cho mall, where Dr. Sawada demonstrated the fact that peacock's feathers extend in water, and Neyagawa circle exhibited "Scientific toy".

6) The Kansai-area's colloquium for scientific workers in private enterprises held a regular meeting on January 10 at the branch office, where Mr. Kushimoto explained the problem of air pollution and the measuring method.

- 7) The 6<sup>th</sup> Science Café was held on January 16 at Nakazaki-cho mall, where Dr. Iwamoto gave a lecture entitled "Let us think about the world in the future – Climate change and our life".
- 8) The 7<sup>th</sup> Science Café was held on January 23 at Nakazaki-cho mall, where Prof. Ushiba (Osaka City Univ.) provided a subject.
- 9) The study group of "Capitalism" held a regular meeting on January 25 at the Osaka branch office, where participants read Chapter 3 of Marx's *The Capital*.
- 10) The study committee of philosophy held a regular meeting on January 27 at the Osaka branch office, where Dr. Iwamoto (JSA secretary) presented a report on COP15 and ITCC.
- 11) The study group Hegel's *the Great Logic* held a regular meeting on February 6. Drs. Makino, Ueda, and Ito were presented reports referring to Hegel's *the encyclopedia of logic*.
- 12) The Kansai-area's colloquium for scientific workers in private enterprises held a regular meeting on February 7 at the branch office, where Ms. Funai explained the new type of influenza.
- 13) The dialectic champuru (hotchpotch) study group held a regular meeting on February 8 at the branch office, where three reports were presented: a) Mr. Hirai, "The study of Brudy (2)", b) Mr. Ueno, "Literature search", and c) Mr. Ise, "The study of Gramsci".

#### HYOGO BRANCH

On January 23, Kobe City, the branch organized a regular meeting, where Prof. Tsuchiya (Emeritus Prof., Kobe Univ.) was invited to give a lecture on the educational policy after the change of power.

#### OKAYAMA BRANCH

- 1) On December 7 at Okayama University group *Chat of various topics* held a lecture meeting, where Prof. Kojima (Natural Science Graduate Course, Okayama Univ.) was invited to talk about color and left and right in catalyst chemistry.
- 2) The branch held a regular new-year study meeting on January 22 at Ryukyu University. Prof. Toyaki (law school, Ryukyu Univ.) gave the second lecture on the Do-Shu system (reconstitution of administrative units) and local government.

#### FUKUOKA BRANCH

Kyushu University chapter held the second regular meeting on December 8, where Prof. Takami (Kyushu Univ.) delivered a lecture on agricultural development at the Isahaya reclaimed land.

#### OKINAWA BRANCH

On December 22 at Ryukyu University the branch held the last year study conference, where Prof. Izumi (medical faculty) delivered a lecture on the achievement of Prof. Chen, Nobel laureate for medicine, and his own research of sea skirt.

#### **ARTICLES OF "JOURNAL OF JAPANESE SCIENTISTS"**

***The Journal of Japanese Scientists (JJS) or NIHON NO KAGAKUSHA (in Japanese) covering all the scientific fields is monthly published and distributed to all the members and other readers***

vol.45 No.1 (2010)

Title-page message

Yoneda, M.: Not "I change the world", but "We change the world"

Special feature: On welfare for persons with disabilities

Minami, A.: Introduction

Hayashi, T.: Historical investigation of welfare for persons with disabilities – Realization of normalization society

Isono, H.: A study of employment for persons with disabilities: Including the ideal way of sheltered employment in Japan

Hirao, T.: A sociological study on social firm for disabilities under the act of services and support for persons with disabilities act in Japan; through narrative of vocational training staff

Kitamura, K.: Abuse to persons with intellectual disabilities in social facilities

Essay

Fujita, M.: A local NPO for fathers – *Club of Karooyaji* in Tottori Prefecture

Review

Nakamura, K.: Forbidden books in the Edo period – The case of Chinese renditions of European science books in the 17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> century

Shioya, H.: Engineers also seek after truth – Tentative of design philosophy

Series: Constitution of Japan (18)

Tanaka, T.: Voices of children, new course of study and the Constitution of Japan

vol.45 No.2 (2010)

Title-page message

Kawasaki, T.: Global warming and the coming society

Special feature: Collapse of Japanese health care system – Under the deepening poverty and economic disparity

Karita, K.: Introduction

Muraguchi, I.: A crisis of the community health care system – the critical tomorrow of public hospital

Shimo, M.: Problems of Japanese health system associated with medical education

Kayama, T.: Situation and problem concerning public health center and public health

Iwakura, M.: Dentistry – A blank zone of the medical treatment administration – Let's progress the movement to be able to use the good dental treatment in insurance

Essay

Azami, S.: Rat, *xenopsylla* and *pasteurella pestis*

Review

Fuyuki, H.: The actual state and the issue on father's childcare

Tatewaki, Y.: Employment issues of postdoctoral fellows peeped through the relaxation of labor legislation

Series: Constitution of Japan (19)

Gotou, M.: Double standard of the social aid program under Article 25 of the Constitution