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JSA Web Symposium Series

"Modern civil society questioned by COVID-19;

1st symposium; from the perspective of biology and medical science"

The 51st regular meeting scheduled to be held at the end of May 2020 has been postponed after August due to the spread of the new coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Instead, a series of symposiums were organized to review this situation. Since COVID-19 affects all aspects of society, we have decided to hold multiple symposia under the major theme of "modern civil society questioned by COVID-19" to deepen comprehensive understanding from multiple aspects. The first symposium was held on the afternoon of May 30th as a symposium on biology and medical science using the web conference tool "Zoom".

At first in the symposium, NAGANO Yatsuhisa (Osaka branch) pointed out, with respect to the major theme of the symposium, that the present age is the "great extinction period" caused by humans in the history of the earth, and is the transitional period from the exponential growth period to stationary period in the history of humankind, and recognizing that, our society should pursue sustainability through and after COVID-19.

Next, Sokawa Yoshihiro (Kyoto branch) plainly explained, entitled "How to deal with virus infections that he fears correctly," about biological aspects such as how the virus propagates, the mechanism by which the new coronavirus invades cells, and the mechanism of the immune system that confronts attacks by virus. He also stated that future infection control should not only be dependent on therapeutic drugs and vaccines, but also on the improvement of human immune function.

Third, Takatorige Toshio (Kansai University) gave a lecture entitled "Public Health and Medical Care to Protect the Life of the People" from the aspect of public health. He answered and explained to a question why, in Japan, where measures against COVID-19 seem to be delayed, the number of infected people and deaths per population is smaller than in Western countries, from the viewpoint of "differences in the development process of public health. "In Europe and the United States, public health developed for cholera, but after that, public health was incorporated into medical

care and shrank. On the other hand, Japanese public health emphasized the prevention of the spread of tuberculosis, for which no specific drug was developed, amid the delay in the development of medicine. There, it was necessary to respond with all the strength of society. Such a Japanese-style public health system that continues to this day worked effectively for COVID-19, which has a character similar to tuberculosis and has no effective drug yet. In other words, it can be said that the reason why the death toll in Japan is less than in Europe and the United States is not because it is a miracle, but because the conventional public health system worked and the public health centers and public health nurses did what they should do. He pointed out that it is a self-centered idea that the "fight against viruses" can be solved only by medicine and science.

In the Q&A time, he was asked why the number of PCR tests is not increasing at present, and pointed out that the Infectious Diseases Control Law, which regulates the activities of public health centers, impedes irrational activities and prevents the increase in the number of tests. Takatorige's lecture explained the characteristics of the Japanese public health system, which cannot be known from the media reports, and that it was effective for COVID-19 countermeasures, which was significant as an aid to understanding the current situation. There were 59 registered participants on the day, of which about 1/3 were university students. The Web symposium seems to be an easy way for students to participate. The video of this symposium will be released at a later date.

(Kotaki Toyomi, Director of Organization Division)

[08-20-02(1)] JJS Vol.55, No.8 August (2020), p.62 (486)

On April 4, the 20th session of the public workshop "YU Manabisha" was held.

The 30th JSA Chugoku District Symposium "Regional Development of Sustainable Agriculture in Rural Mountainous Areas - Chugoku Region Initiatives -", which was scheduled to be held in Matsue City on February 29, 2020, was suddenly canceled as an appropriate protection measure amid news of worldwide pandemic of COVID-19 (although there was no report of an infected person in the Chugoku region). Therefore, we planned to present two reports that were scheduled to be presented by the

Yamaguchi branch at the public workshop on April 4. The planned venue was closed during mid-March and the state of emergency from April to May, but we were lucky enough to hold it in between them.

Yamamoto Yoshizumi reported "The influence of Hilly and Mountainous Community Development in Yamaguchi Prefecture - a case of the merged municipality Shunan City -" based on the research conducted at the Yamaguchi Prefecture Local Government Research Institute. Suzuki Chikara has just been assigned to Yamaguchi, but introduced the town that is at the mercy of the "Aegis Ashore plan" that conflicts with the regional revitalization project-focusing on the project in Abu-cho, Abu-gun. These contents will be omitted here because they will be contributed to the special topic "Regional Development of Sustainable Agriculture in Rural Mountainous Areas" on the October issue of "Journal of Japanese Scientists."

Although it was uncertain how to secure the venue and the trends of the participants on the day, 18 scientists and citizens, an appropriate number to avoid 3Cs, participated and exchanged earnest questions and answers and comments under the clear blue sky and cherry blossoms. It was an intensive mini workshop.

While the Yamaguchi branch has been holding the "Campus Science Gathering" since the spring of 2013, it has been jointly held with a civic group and has been inherited by a mini workshop "YU Manabisha" since the fall of 2016. It was the 33th time. We hope that JSA and civil society can continue jointly.

(Masuyama Hiroyuki / Yamaguchi Branch)

[08-20-02(2)] JJS Vol.55, No.8 August (2020), p.62 (486)

Pursue the promotion of peace activities inside and outside the JSA by old and new means

The research committee of peace issues

The research committee of peace question is a long-standing committee. It has achieved significant achievements in terms of both researches and their dissemination: contributions to theory and movement of banning atomic bombs, the activities of related to the Daigo Fukuryu Maru issues and to the U.S. ground nuclear test survivor issues

that developed from it, the organization of the Academic Research Team on U.S. Army Bases in Okinawa (1997-98), which first conducted a field survey of Henoko area, and activities on low-dose / internal exposure problem.

The committee had been active mainly in the occasions the Comprehensive Scientific Study Convention ((CSSC), the SCIENTISTS FORUM of World Conference Against A&H, and the symposium hosted by the research committee (about once a year), but the symposium on March 12, 2011 was cancelled due to ~~the~~ an earthquake. Since then, the hosted symposium has not been held. We continue to focus on CSSC and the SCIENTISTS FORUM, and we hope that the 23 CSSC in December 2020 will also be held and succeed in a new form of subcommittee with an appropriate theme by cooperation of members.

The committee is working to draft a resolution at the JSA's institutional meeting to ~~poke~~ address the core of the current peace issues. Although it is difficult to pursue breaking news, we would like to provide resolutions, on the JSA website, that citizens, students, and researchers, as well as the members, can use as reference and learning materials at any time in order to promote a-continuous peace movement.

A major achievement in recent years is opposition movement against the military-academia collaboration. Members of the committee greatly have been JAPANESE COALITION AGAINST MILITARY RESEARCH IN ACADEMIA and promoting activities. The activities of the coalition are based on exchanging information and opinions on ML, issuing papers on the web, and campaigns for collecting signatures. Therefore, many activists have done their best to acquire IT skills. I think this is a good reference for JSA, which has difficulty in subcommittee activities and whose members are scattered all over the country, and who are unable to take the form of activities such as conventional meetings due to COVID-19, in exploring new ways of activities.

(Kameyama Norikazu, committee chairman, Okinawa branch)

"Bikini Occupational Accident compensation lawsuit" begins

JSA Kochi Branch

On March 30, 2020, seven attorneys represented 14 former ship crews and family members of victims in the Bikini Incident to sue the workers' accident insurance association, who rejected their application for occupational accident insurance compensation, based the administrative decision.

We filed the lawsuit at the Kochi District Court ("Bikini Workers' Accident Compensation") seeking cancellation of the administrative disposition. The following passage describes the efforts leading up to the complaint and the issues in the trial.

On January 9, 2020, the first preparatory meeting for the Bikini Incident re-appeal was held, and the meeting minutes was published on January 15 under the title "Requesting to join and support Bikini Work Accident Proceedings Support Group" (tentative name). On March 29, the Bikini Incident Study Meeting 2020 entitled "Fieldwork and Roundtable in Muroto" was held with the participation of 22 people. On March 30th, from 10:00 to 12:00, a forum entitled "To widely inform the truth of the Bikini incident" was held on the 2nd floor of Kochi Castle Hall. From 1:00 pm to 1:35 pm, about 60 people, including the media (about 20 people) participated in the general meeting to form the "Bikini Work Accident Proceedings Support Association" calling for participation of 40 groups and individuals. It was originally held, and the rules of the "Supporting Association" were confirmed and co-representatives and others were selected. We delivered the file of lawsuit to Kochi District Court at 2:00 pm and held a press conference at 2:30 pm.

The major issue of the trial is; the application for occupational accident insurance that began in 2016 was denied for the reason which states, "although there was exposure to the nuclear test during operations in the Marshall Island area, the impact of the exposure was too small to detect the relationship between the incident and illness or death. " Despite of a little development, progress, not only did the verdict neglect the affected victims, but also the illegality of the US nuclear test will remain obscure. We have to break through this hurdle.

Furthermore, in addition to the cancellation of the above-mentioned administrative disposition, the political settlement of the Japanese and US governments

deprived the affected ship crews of the right to seek compensation from the US government, based on Section 3, Article 29 (on property rights) of the Constitution. We will keep asking the nation for "loss compensation".

(Iwata Hiroshi, Kochi Branch)

08-20-03(2)] JJS Vol.55, No.9 September (2020), p.63 (487)

***Commemorating lecture "On the new coronavirus infection"
at Kanagawa Branch Regular Meeting***

On the afternoon of May 16, 2020, the 56th JSA Kanagawa Branch Regular Meeting was held. I (Masuda) gave the following commemorative lecture entitled "On the Novel Coronavirus Infection".

Infectious diseases caused by the new coronavirus was reported from Wuhan, China in the end of December 2019. That disease has spread all over the world in a blink of an eye, shaking the whole earth. In January, a large number of people died in China, spreading from Southeast Asia to Europe and the United States, and the number of infections and deaths have rapidly increased.

In a short period of less than half a year, various major movements have occurred all over the world. Comparing the infection situation and medical system in other countries and Japan, it is obvious that this pandemic has never been seen before.

The United States, which has the most number of infections and deaths, has by far the highest medical expenditure, that is, three times more than that of Japan. They have a strong idea of self-responsibility, mainly free-style medical care. It should be added that 17% of the population are uninsured. The United Kingdom, Italy and Spain also have many infections and deaths, but in these countries medical cost per patient has been reduced and so medical quality has declined.

On the other hand, in Germany, where the number of deaths is small, the medical care system has managed to be maintained even after the unification of East and West, the number of beds is not reduced, health insurance is applied to spa therapy, long-term care insurance is introduced quickly, and this time as well, the lock downs have been quickly compensated.

In Japan, on the other hand, medical cost has been always kept low—this is the policy the national government has adopted after WWII, and social insurance has been applied since 1961. Furthermore, pharmaceutical products are covered by insurance at a manufacturer's asking price. Although expensive medical equipment has been introduced, personnel costs have been reduced, and most of the medical personnel are in the working poor state. Healthcare workers must work long hours at low wages, allowing the health care cost low. It seems that we are still under control, but in the future, a dire situation such as corporate bankrupt and increase of college dropouts can be predicted, under the current Abe administration.

(Masuda Fusako, Kanagawa Branch)

09-20-01] JJS Vol.55, No.9 September (2020), p.61(549)

JSA Web Symposium series No.2. "Modern Civil Society challenged by Corona" was held on web, on July 13, 2020.

61 people participated in the symposium. Two lectures were delivered. The first lecture, "COVID-19 Crisis and Human Rights / Democracy-Is the Constitution Powerless in Pandemic?", was delivered by Constitution Law Professor of Kansai University, Hisanori Murata, and the 2nd was ""Capitalist Economy in Crisis", by an economics professor, Hirokuni Honda, Faculty of Economics, Dokkyo University.

The following is the abstract from Prof. Murata's lecture.

We analyzed the situation under the pandemic from the viewpoint of constitutional law. "emergency" is a constitutional "abnormal situation in which the state cannot operate in accordance with the constitution laws". Under the other hand, in the Covid 19 pandemic situation, the three powers of legislation, administration, and judiciary this time are functioning.

However, the emergency situation under the revised Act on Special Measures Concerning New Influenza (Act No. 31, 2012, amended on March 13, 2020) does not follow the definition under the Constitution.

We should question. Was "self-restraint" able to independently judge the flow of Prime Minister Abe's request for self-restraint at the end of February and the

declaration of emergency on April 7? In light of Article 16 of the Infectious Disease Prevention Law, "The Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare ... must proactively publish necessary information ... by an appropriate method", because the reasoning for declaring emergency is not clear. Citizens also have the right to know the reason (Article 21 of the Constitution). Articles 25 and 26 of the Constitution were restricted by the stagnation and suspension of social activities. It is a violation of Article 29, Paragraph 3 of the Constitution that Prime Minister Abe does not compensate for loss caused by "self-restraint". If an emergency clause is included in the Constitution, the Constitution would be suspended, citizens' request for compensation for the loss, or opinions to the government would be all denied. (See JJS Vol.55 No.7 pp. 44-45)

Mr. Honda: While the Great Depression in the 1930s lasted about three years, the economic contraction due to the pandemic has been rapid taking only a few months. Compared to the Lehman Shock, the pandemic really stopped the actual economic activities, so monetary easing or modification of fiscal policy does not work.

The Japanese stock market has not declined due to the support of stock buying by individual investors and the Bank of Japan. An executive of SMBC Nikko Securities said that the stock price was in recession (Asahi Shimbun, June 9, 2020).

Maintaining stock prices is a lifeline for the US Trump and Japanese Abe administrations. The logic for epidemiology is different from the logic of economy, and the economic policies of each country have conducted compromised adjustments between the two logics. On the other hand, European governments are characterized for providing basic income as direct benefits. It is also an opportunity for agriculture and energy self-sufficiency. In any case, nothing can restore the original economy. We introduce John Kenneth Galbraith's ("Abundant Society", 1958) as a suggestion for a possible historical turning point. Galbraith suggests the economic policy subsidize 10 to 20% of GDP, while prioritizing employment security, continuing to provide cash, and financially supporting college graduating students next spring. If this policy fails, there will be tremendous economic disaster.

Once I (Masuzawa) asked Honda, 'Didn't Galbraith's Abundant Society' indirectly create a modern capitalist society where mass production and mass consumption is encouraged, and private investment puts pressure on public investment?' Honda replied, "(In that book) Galbraith pointed out the distorted structure (of the economy)."

University Forum Urgent Online Symposium

"Students support (Aid)" under the COVID-19 infection:

What does it matter?

What should we insist on?

In the middle of the COVID-19, many young people are worried about whether they can continue their studies or not. If things remain as they are, not a few students would be forced to give up their studies. It means also a "crisis for universities". Therefore, we appealed to students' organizations and faculty organizations of national, public and private universities to hold an urgent online symposium. It was held on Saturday, June 13, 2020, from 18:00 to 20:30.

Speakers were Kimura Kazutaka (Free Higher Education Project, FREE), Umegaki Midori (National Council of Graduate Students, Zen'inkyo), Yamagishi Marika (Change Academia), Nagayama Yasuhide (Faculty and Staff Unions of Japanese Universities), Yoshitaka Terumoto. (Japan Federation of Private University Teachers' and Employees' Union), Yamazaki Mariko (Tokyo Federation of Private University Faculty and Staff Unions), and Otake Midori (JSA). Chairman was Niwa Toru (Ryukoku University). About 140 participants questioned and exchanged their opinions using chat-function.

Kimura reported about economic, academic, job-hunting and mental influences of COVID-19 crisis and governmental measures. Umegaki referred to the tentative result of its annual questionnaire survey. Yamagishi emphasized that graduate students constitute an indispensable part of researchers who contribute to academic development and referred to the statement against the amendment of the Basic Law of Science and Technology. Some teachers expressed their opinions approving that half-amount of tuition fee should be exempted and each student will be aided by 100,000 yen stipend. There was also a report which summarized the teachers' difficult situations into five elements.

What kind of tackling will be required in the future? The university forum is expected to be a forum where we can discuss each other in solidarity.

(Ihara Satoshi, individual member of Tokyo branch)

Activities of the Medium- to Long-term Climate Target Research Committee (JSA-ACT)

JSA medium- to long-term climate target research committee (JSA-ACT)

The Medium- to long-term climate target research committee (JSA-ACT) is working on proposals for countermeasures against climate change which should not be left unsolved any more. The following five papers and materials were published in the February 2018 issue of the "Journal of Japanese Scientists (JJS)" which featured on the "Climate change and countermeasures, toward a society of renewable energy and energy conservation". (1) "Unusual weather and climate change in recent years" (by Iwamoto Satoshi), (2) "Paris agreement and the future of humankind" (by Hayakawa Mitsutoshi), (3) "Target of reduction of greenhouse-effect gases emission in the world" (by Utagawa Manabu), (4) "Scenarios for 80 % plus reduction of greenhouse-effect gases by 2050" (by Utagawa Manabu), and (5) "The current situation of renewable energy in Japan and political issues" (by Kono Hitoshi).

In May 2018, the JSA-ACT submitted its opinion in response to the public comment request on the 5th Basic Energy Plan of the Ministry of Economy, trade and industry. This opinion was published in the September 2018 issue of the JJS.

In December 2018, the JSA-ACT organized the panel of "Subcommittee beyond the Paris Agreement" at the 22nd General Academic Research Meeting in Okinawa. The subcommittee invited Kenji Stefan Suzuki who has established the "school of wind" in Denmark to give a lecture on "Energy policy in Denmark". In Denmark, the energy share of wind power amounts to 46 % of national electric power generation. Mr. Suzuki's lecture was published in the March 2020 issue of the JJS.

The IPCC analyzes the climate change caused by greenhouse-effect gases and suggests all of the countries for environmental policies. At the 23rd CSSC (Comprehensive Scientific Study Convention) ~~General Academic Research Meeting~~ held in Tokyo, December 2020, Nakajima Eiji (Professor Emeritus of Tokyo University, Meteorology) will give a special lecture on "Global warming and climate change caused by greenhouse-effect gases" (tentative title). Nakajima is the IPCC's representative from Japan.

(Kono Hitoshi, Osaka branch)

Shizuoka Branch "Modern Japan Seminar"

The "Modern Japan Seminar" is a series of open-seminars for general public, in which branch members make lectures on timely topics. The first seminar was held in 2013. The third seminar in the 7th period, which was planned to be held in April 2020 but postponed, was reorganized into the theme of COVID-19 infection and held on June 20.

At first, Tani Kenji, Professor Emeritus of Shizuoka University, gave a lecture on "New type of epidemic COVID-19 and basic measures for infection control". An overview of epidemic history showed that "disease was a product of civilization" and that "disease changed civilization and drove society". He went back to an old epidemic of plague, referred to Spanish flu, and finally reported the latest knowledge about the COVID-19, e.g. characteristics of virus, immune response, epidemiologic situation, infection route, and so on. He also explained basic measures for infection control. Additionally, related to problems of discrimination and prejudice, we learned about the preamble of the Infectious Disease Prevention Law.

After that, Torihata Yoichi, Professor at Shizuoka University, gave lecture titled "Reconsideration about the urgent economic measures of Abe Administration." He pointed out that the delay of Abe Administration's response was remarkable in comparison with most of other developed countries where financial aids to compensate income-loss of small and medium-scale enterprises and individuals were taken immediately. He mentioned also that the net expenditure excluding tax deferrals and loans was small although project-scale including supplementary budget looked large, and that the procedure of aids was not speedy. He analyzed that the "unscientific" infection prevention measures and the delay of urgent economic measures is attributed to Abe Administration's (1) character: it gives priority to online-ultra-right ideology, (2) insistence on neo-liberal policies which cut off national services, and (3) speculation that low-productivity of small and middle-scale industries would lead to low-productivity of Japanese national economy. In order to make a breakthrough in the crisis, active financial aids are effective in the short term. However, he stressed that it is more important to correct the economic structure which causes inequality and

poverty in the long term.

The next seminar with the theme of "Climate Crisis" will be held on September 19.

(Mizutani Yoichi, Shizuoka branch)

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Fukuoka Nuclear Problems Study Group (Online-Meeting by Zoom)

We had been obliged to cancel or postpone our study group meetings because of COVID-19 infection. At last, on June 6 and 20, 2020, we could have online-meetings using zoom.

On June 6, Okamoto Ryoji submitted a detailed report titled "Reactor-Fuel Plutonium and Nuclear Weapons", in which he considered scientifically and technically whether or not reactor-grade plutonium can be material for nuclear weapon production. According to the Nuclear Energy Encyclopedia, reactor-grade plutonium is available for nuclear fuel in reactors but not suitable for nuclear bombs. The problem with making nuclear weapons from reactor-grade plutonium is that it contains a large amount of ^{240}Pu , which is prone to spontaneous fission, resulting in a pre-explosion (premature explosion) due to an unintended fission chain reaction. In order to avoid this, the Manhattan Project developed an implosion-type atomic bomb, the type of Nagasaki bomb. But Nagasaki bomb is so old-fashioned that, in recent years, there are no nuclear weapons which inherit the original structure from Nagasaki bomb. He said that it is possible to keep the probability of premature explosion of reactor-grade plutonium as low as weapon-grade plutonium, if the implosion time is shortened and the booster effect, i.e. a mechanism that uses nuclear fusion of deuterium (^2H) and tritium (^3H) in order to speed up and increase the efficiency of nuclear fission, is applied.

On June 20, Morinaga Toru made a lecture on "The Health-related effects of organofluorine compounds that have probably leaked from the US Military Bases". In January 2020, high concentration of organofluorine compounds was detected in wells near the Yokota US Air Base, Tokyo and Saitama Prefecture. Yokota Air Base is adjacent to the urban areas of Tachikawa and Musashimurayama. Already, the water

pollution investigation around the Kadena US Air Base, Okinawa, had detected a high concentration of organofluorine compounds in April 2019. Both are supposedly derived from the equipment used in the bases, such as foam digestants. It is known that such compounds have harmful effects on human health and environment. Morinaga concluded: It is necessary to establish a system that admits the Japanese authorities to investigate the inside of the US military bases in order to protect the health of people.

Additionally, we enjoyed an "online cocktail party" after the study meetings.
(Miyoshi Eisaku, Fukuoka branch)

10-20-01] JJS Vol.55, No.10 October (2020), p.61 (613)
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2020 World Conference against A and H bombs

Scientist' Meeting in Fukui ~ Online meeting was held

JSA has formed an executive committee every year to hold the "2020 World Conference against A and H bombs/ Scientist Meeting" (hereinafter, "Scientist Meeting"). The first was held in Nagasaki in 1987, and the second was held in Hiroshima in 1988. This year, the 75th anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb, the 34th "Scientist Meeting" was scheduled to be held in Fukui City, Fukui Prefecture, where the nuclear power plants are concentrated. However, the "lecture" and "excursion" scheduled to prevent COVID-19 infection were canceled, and instead, "online meeting" by "Zoom" method was performed between 13:00 and 15:45 on August 2 (Sun).

The host was Ihara Satoshi, JSA Secretary-General, and the moderator was Sato Katsuharu, Director of JSA Social Activities Department.

As the chairman of the executive committee, I explained the theme of this "meeting", "Responsibility of scientists aiming for environmental conservation and peace realization through non-nuclear and nuclear phase-out" under the title of "Purpose of the event". The expected spillover effect is described.

Next, Ihara Satoshi gave a keynote speech entitled "Social Responsibility of Scientists and Military Research" as an expert in the history of science and technology. While presenting a wealth of material, he stated the definition of military research,

states that scientists were not allowed to do research in the name of Dual use, and that war develops science and technology. It was clarified that the logic such as is wrong. In conclusion, he raised such a problem to all the scientists as "You must not be mobilized to make weapons."

The speakers and titles of the general lectures were as follows;

Takahashi Hiroko: "Historical verification of small nuclear weapons"

Ido Kenichi: "Risk of cesium-containing insoluble particles derived after the Fukushima accident"

Sokawa Yoshihiro: "Fukushima Prefecture Thyroid Testing Evaluation Subcommittee to Conceal the Onset of Radiation Exposure"

Ono Hajime: "Final disposal site for radioactive waste in Germany"

Yamamoto Masahiko: "About Kansai Electric Power's illegal return of nuclear power and the investigation report of the Kansai Electric Power Third Party Committee"

There were 78 registrations (actual participants were 68) in the "online meeting". Most of the participants were given a "Lecture proceedings" in advance. We received 45 comments and 19 comments in the chat. This "online meeting" was well received, although the lecture time was extended and sufficient discussions were not possible.

Participants have requested (1) a PDF version of the "Lecture proceedings" and (2) a video recording of the "Online meeting". The executive committee is preparing to respond to requests in the form of a limited release on the JSA website.

In addition, the executive committee intends to publish the contents of the "online meeting" in booklets and "Journal of Japanese scientists" and send to the world. (Yamamoto Fujio, Executive Committee Chairman of "Scientists' Meeting in Fukui")

10-20-02(1)] JJS Vol.55, No.10 October (2020), p.62 (614)

"The Journal of Japanese Scientists" reading party at the Kyoto Branch:

Reading the June issue of "Gender/Sexuality and Human Rights"

Held at the branch office from 15:30 on Thursday, July 3, 2020 with 5 participants.

Three articles were introduced from the Journal.

On “Thoughts on the Family” (introduced by Fukushima Tomoko), Wakao Noriko argued that LDP’s “Family Protection” (Article 24 of the draft constitution) policy states the family’s obligation to make self-help efforts, and the single-mother welfare seeking self-reliance, and neoliberalism. Its relationship with the Article 9 revision proposal was also discussed. Together with “family protection” argument, care labour requires the bearer “submission” and it defines women’s status. The point of this argument can be understood from the lament that many women were forced to do housework and children's life management as schools and kindergartens were closed in the current COVID pandemic which hindered teleworking.

On “Support for Women in Academia” (introduced by Shimizu Tamiko), Yamaguchi Maki, as a practitioner involved in the female researcher support project from the early 2000s, pointed out that the evaluation and problems of the project of support for female researchers. In particular, it is interesting to point out that it has the aspect of reproducing and strengthening of the life course of <marriage, childbirth, and child-rearing> as a role model in connection with Wakao's paper.

On “The essence of the Japanese military ‘comfort women’ issue in view of ‘The Japan-Korea Agreement’ and ‘Comfort Woman Statue’ “ (introduced by Suzuki Hiroyuki), Honjo Toki stated that while the government contended that the comfort women issue should have been finally and irreversibly resolved by the government’s apology and by contribution of 1 billion yen to the support foundation, the opposition movement is increasing in South Korea and Japan’s international reputation is low. The Mun administration is calling for a review under the 2018 "New Policy on Japan-Korea Agreement." The “Girl Statue” is a historical monument of tradition. I would consider that it is one of the measures to continue to bear the responsibility of accepting the "true apology" to the ages to come.

(Shimizu Tamiko, Kyoto Branch)

***Looking back the activities of the Constitution Research Committee
JSA Constitution Research Committee***

The Constitution Study Committee, formed mainly by members of the Okayama Branch, completed its six-year activities in March 2019 when the 19th Integrated Research Conference was held in Okayama. The basic issues of the committee included; (1) critical elucidation of Abe's politics, (2) clarification of the significance of the Constitution of Japan, (3) synthesis of political science and constitutional law, and (4) cooperation between citizens and scientists. The results of the research activities were presented by hosting a subcommittees at the 20th, 21st and 22nd Conferences (see the Proceedings). The results of research activities can be summarized in the following three points.

- (1) By analyzing Abe's politics in relation to the Liberal Democratic Party's "Draft Amendment to the Constitution of Japan," which Prime Minister Abe considers as an ideal, its "policy" characteristics and "political" characteristics were clarified.
- (2) It was clarified that the perspectives of "policy" and "politics" against Abe's politics are "policy" and "politics" with the basic human rights of the Constitution of Japan as the basic viewpoint.
- (3) In real politics, the driving force that opens up the prospect is the "coalition of citizens and opposition parties with constitutionalism", and the key to its success is "citizens = scientists = political parties equality" rooted in the region. It was clarified that it is in the creation of a "common policy" with the Constitution of Japan as a common perspective through "equal collaboration."

In order to inherit the above results, we made preparations with the cooperation of local citizens' groups and the Constitutional Opposition (individual participation), and in February 2020, we established the "Okayama Human Rights Policy Research Committee" as a research committee of the Okayama branch (currently inactive due to corona pandemic). For more information, see my book, "Rereading the Constitution of Japan: What is Politics?" (Okayama Prefectural Democratic Education Study Group, March 2019) and my article "Regional Policy Making: Searching for Joint Citizens,

Scientists, and Political Parties" (The Human Rights 21, Investigation and Research, No. 263, Okayama Human Rights Research Center, December 2019).
(Obata Takayoshi, Okayama Branch)

10-20-03(1)] JJS Vol.55, No.10 October (2020), p.63(615)

JSA Iwate branch lecture will be held during the corona disaster!

"The essence of mass and charge worth hearing about"

JSA Iwate Branch

An academic lecture was held at the same time as the event "Self-restraint" was canceled in Iwate, the only corona clean prefecture in Japan, saying "Blow away the new corona". The theme is the illusion of particle physics that university faculty members should listen to at least once. In October of last year, I asked a faculty member who was assigned to Iwate University. Audience 14 people (including 3 non-members) gathered and seated sparsely.

The lecturer was Mawatari Kentaro from the Faculty of Education. After graduating from graduate school, he reported on his 14-year fixed-term research life around the world until he won a non-term post at Iwate University.

He talked on his 14-year fixed-term research life around the world after graduating from graduate school until he won a non-term post at Iwate University. He stayed at 6 research institutes, 2 in Japan, and 1 each in Korea, Germany, Belgium, and France. The length of stay was 1 to 5 years.

First, he answered the four questions prepared by the organizer. (1) What are elementary particles? Elementary particles are the smallest elements that make up the world. (2) What is the essence of mass and electric charge? Mass is energy and electric charge is the strength of interaction. (3) What kind of experimental facts brought a standard model of elementary particles? High-energy particle collision experiment using an accelerator did. (4) Should Iwate Prefecture invite the ILC (International Linear Collider)? Yes.

Introducing the history of natural science leading to the standard model of 17 kinds of elementary particles, which is now listed in high school physics textbooks.

The discovery of electrons (1897), the discovery of atomic nuclei (1911), and the discovery of neutrons (1932) are the beginnings. He gave an overview of the history of reaching the current Standard Model, which includes the contributions of many Japanese researchers. However, the current standard model of elementary particles revealed only 5% of the universe, and the remaining dark matter and energy are full of mysteries.

The CERN-operated proton circular accelerator LHC is difficult to analyze due to complicated proton collisions, and will be discontinued in 2037. In order to obtain simple and clear results, it is necessary to have an ILC that can collide at ultra-high speed with linear acceleration of electrons and positrons.

After receiving the lecture, questions were asked by a diverse audience in electrical engineering, philosophy, mathematics, and physics. The schedule was exceeded by 30 minutes, and the serious lecture was over. Unfortunately, the annual social gathering was canceled due to the opinion of the decency branch organizer.

(Shigematsu Koji, Secretary General of Iwate Branch)

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Activities of the Linear Chuo Shinkansen Research Liaison Committee

The members of this study group worked together with local residents on each issue, exchanged and shared information on the results of their research and activities on a daily basis, and presented them at the Tokyo Science Symposium (8 reports). They have also contributed to “Journal of Japanese Scientists”, "JSA Tokyo Chapter Tsushin", "Stop! Linear Proceedings 10th Symposium", "Environment and Pollution", etc. (10 in total). During this time, Shoji Yoshiya (member of the association, representative of the network for thinking of Linear in Gifu Prefecture) ran for the mayor of Nakatsugawa as the candidate backed by Japan Communist party and complained that "Send money to medical care and nursery school from Linear" "I'm glad that it was good," and appealing to public that money should be invested in medical care and nursery school rather than the Linear. He made a good fight in the election and reviewed as “I felt happy that I was a member of JSA.” He received a

noteworthy letter from an anonymous person in Shizuoka City who asked "Please do your best not to take away the water of the lives of 620,000 people."

As pointed out in the "Statement" of the JSA ~~Japan Scientist Conference~~ (July 15, 2014), the serious flaws in the Linear Chuo Shinkansen plan became clear with the forced construction. At present, the discussion on the Oi River water resources issue of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Experts' Meeting is one of the important factors that influence the linear plan. Shizuoka citizens look forward to the scientific discussions and conclusions of this conference. The Governor of Kawakatsu also holds the stance that construction should be put off until the meeting draws a conclusion.

There were some comments: The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and JR Central seem to be strengthening their plans to isolate the conference from the residents' movement and to bias the media. The discussion of "Linear opening" is unreasonable, linear is not required for post-corona, the grounds that construction does not affect the middle and lower reaches of the Oi River should be shown. Only the Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture is asking.

It is an urgent task for JSA to share scientific elucidation and lessons learned from various movements, and to encourage the Council of Experts to draw discussions and conclusions that meet the expectations of the people with scientific knowledge. I would like to make efforts so that the subcommittee of the 23 CSSC (Comprehensive Scientific Study Convention of JSA) will be a place of such encouragement.
(Nagata Yoshihiro, Representative of JSA Linear Research Committee)