

FGC NEWS No.1

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FGC ～Foundation for Global Children～

- Great East Japan Earthquake Support Activity
- ”What true medical support is...”
- Children’s voice from different countries vol.1

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### The Foundation for Global Children

Chairperson	Ryosuke Tsuchiya	Director of Japanese Foundation for Cancer Research
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Councilor	Ken Takahashi	Attorney at Law, Baker & McKenzie
Councilor	Yukiko Miyazawa	Director, Kokusai Gakuen Education Institute

For children to develop a healthy body and mind

Every child is born unique.

Every child is different.

Therefore, every child needs a different “helping hand”.

People cannot survive alone. We need to live in unity.

Help is not always given from adults to children.

It can be given from child to child and even from children to adults.

When supporting children, adults also learn from children.

Help is needed in many fields, among them, education and health care are the most significant.

There are also many ways that you can help:

Spending time with children, listening to them, supporting them, talking to them, offering financial support to them, etc.

The important thing is to never look away from them,

Then, do what is necessary.

All children deserve bright futures.

The future is in their hands.

Please join us in supporting children around the world to pursue and achieve their hopes and dreams.

Where FGC Activities taken place

Cambodia

- Medical & Education Environment Set Up
- Human Development Program
- Vocational Training for victims from land mines

Myanmar

- Medical & Education Environment Set Up
- Human Development Program

Bangladesh

- Supporting Agrasara Complex (Orphanage)
- Medical & Education Set Up

Bhutan

- Medical Set Up
- **Provide educational opportunity to children in areas where access to education is limited**
- **Support for students in cooperation with Royal Thimphu College(RTC), the first private university in Bhutan**
- **Establishment of Ashi Kesang - Miyazawa Seisa Scholarship**

Japan

- Great East Japan Earthquake Support Activity
- Supporting foreign nationalities in Japan
- Promotion

The foundation is also supporting countries, which are not on above, through amateur radio activities to do medical & education set up, vocational training, and science education.

Fork Land, Laos, Yemen, Ethiopia, Eritrea, South Korea, Saipan...others

Provide solutions to problems in child education and health care, and support the development and wellbeing of children.

Develop human resources for the future, and build firm ground for good international relationships.

“Children are our future; we have no future without fulfilling our duty to value and care for each and every child.”

Under this founding philosophy, SEISA has been working with children in areas where the government has traditionally been absent, especially in the field of education. In the forty years since SEISA was founded, we have faced many challenges, but throughout the years, we believe we have built a strong reputation. However, we cannot help all children become truly independent members of society through education alone. For example, in Japan, there are issues related to the provision of health care. These issues extend to the present education system, where children with special needs are not given sufficient attention or the support they need to reach their potential. Globally, there are still many countries where children are denied a proper and happy childhood, due to a lack of medical care. We have sensed a stronger and stronger need for an effective, unified and multifaceted institution to help solve these problems. This is our main reason for establishing this Foundation.

## **Great East Japan Earthquake Support Activity Report**

March 11, 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake occurred

Supplying Basic Needs for Survival      Acting against Harmful Rumors    Restoring  
Education and Health Care

Since the earthquake, the Foundation for Global Children has taken actions to do emergency support.

### **Educational Environment Support Team (EEST) members:**

Led by Mr. Yasuo Miyazawa, Founder & CEO of SEISA Group and Founder of FGC, with teachers and staff members from SEISA Group.

### **Medical Support Team (MST) members:**

Created to study the current status and to understand any health issues for the evacuation center and medical institutions after the great earthquake. The team is led by Associate Professor Dr. Masahiro Kami, and made up of other professors and students of the Institute of Medical Science, the University of Tokyo, in corporation with doctors and nurses.

### **EEST Activities:**

Counseling: students, teachers, nursery teachers, parental guardians in Fukushima Prefecture

Special Education Training Session: primary schools in Fukushima Prefecture

Temporary Class Support: Isobe Primary School, Isobe Middle School in Fukushima Prefecture

### **MST Activity:**

Information Session on Radiation: citizens, teachers, medical related staff

### **EEST & MST Joint Activity:**

Health Checkup & Health Consultation: more than 1,500 people

One day in the morning, while I was commuting to work, I got a call from Mr. Yasuo Miyazawa saying that “We need to take care mental health of children!” Then, I went back home and packed luggage quickly for travel to Fukushima. The support for children started from then. According to investigation by Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), children especially who were in coastal areas need mental care because coastal areas in Fukushima prefecture were suffering from earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear reactor accident. The tsunami destroyed towns and

have forced some children to live in temporary shelter, which cause high mental burden. However, some children started adapting to new life style. Situations of children in Souma city and Minamisoma city, which both cities are lined in the same coastline, are different. Evacuation zone in Minamisoma city was released and, citizens could go back home temporarily. However, life lines were not restored. Therefore, these children could not go back home permanently and go back to their school. Living in temporary shelter, temporary school, and no future reference, we cannot estimate the stress of children. We, EEST, tried to stabilize educational environment for children by consulting and counselling children, teachers, and parents. At first, we worried about appearance of PTSD among children, but now we don't see any sign of PTSD. Future subject is to check children's daily life in 3 years after the disaster. Since temporary shelters are set to lend for three years, individual house needs to be independent by then. If a family is financially stable, then they can move to a different place. If not, they will be left behind. Living condition may change largely. According to investigation by Hyogo Prefecture, statistics indicated that children, who are in concern, were peaked 3 years after the Great Hanshin earthquake. I think it's not possible to persist and continue various support. Therefore, we need to support to make an environment that people come over independently within one and half year.

EEST Masaaki Abe (SEISA Univ. Associated Teacher)

**From medical scene... what a radiation ray is.**

MST Masaharu Tsubokura (Medical Doctor, Minamisoma Municipal General Hospital)

One and half year has passed since I joined with Mr. Yasuo Miyazawa, who started support activities in Fukushima Hamadori, on April 12, 2011. I have continued work as a member of Medical Support Team in the Foundation for Global Children after that. First I worked from radioactive ray information sessions for citizens, health check-up, radioactive ray consultation meeting, and writing articles in "Lohas Medical Magazine Special Volume, Soso Medical."

Now, I mainly working on consultation on internal exposure to radiation.

By using a whole body counter at Minamisoma Municipal General Hospital or Souma Central Hospital, we can measure the amount of radioactive material inside the body. Then, I explain how patients can reduce the internal exposure according to the results.

The results of our inspection showed that even patients, who live in Fukushima prefecture, were internally exposed to radiation, the amount of radioactive materials measured were significantly low. If people exposure to high amount of radiation, they may get acute radiation injury. However, radiological dosage in Fukushima Hamadori low enough at this moment that it is impossible to have radiation injury since I never saw any patient came to consultation with acute radiation injury.

The internal exposure from now on would be caused by consuming polluted food, not by air. The problem is not where food was produced, the concern is whether food was investigated properly or not. In order to prevent internal exposure, continuous food investigation and avoid eating polluted food will be the most effective ways. I will continue this investigation, show information on public as soon as possible, and give necessary information for living in this area to citizens.

"Soso Medical Magazine".

Cooperating with Lohas Media Co., Ltd to publish Lohas Medical Special edition, Soso Medical "Fear Radioactive Material and Ray with Correct Knowledge" volume July, 2011 and Soso Medical "How We Can Reduce Internal Exposure" volume Spring, 2012 were provided as a reference to range of children to adults in the stricken areas. If you are interested reading these magazines, please contact FGC office.



What real medical support is...

Treatment is important after become ill.

Try to be in point of view of patient. Before catching ill, protect your health condition.

This is also important.

## **For the smile of children in Fukushima...**

Hokkaido Tour

July 24 – August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 (Obihiro)

July 30 – August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 (Asahikawa & Ashibetsu)

Participants: 63 children & 2 parental guardians

Cooperation: Kokusai Gakuen School

After the Great East Japan Earthquake, many children cannot play outside due to the radiation. There are various experiences that only can be experienced outside. In this tour, children were able to exercise “sausage making”, “agricultural experience”, and “play at river.”

Thank you message from parental guardians

“Thank you for hosting this wonderful event. When I met my children again at Koriyama station at 14 o'clock in August 7<sup>th</sup>, they were looking happy and smiling. They told me many stories that what they experienced at the tour and said “The tour was very fun.” I think this tour would be a memorable event for my children during the summer break. I hope this fun moment and experiences will lead children to become stronger and kind-hearted. Again, thank you for this wonderful opportunities and hope you have wonderful summer vacation.”

The Second Youth Soccer School and Soccer Coach Training Seminar in Souma,  
Fukushima

Date: August 4, 5, 2012

Participants: Coach Training: 15 people, Primary Schooler: 82 people, Middle Schooler: 26 people

Cooperated with: Football Association Kanagawa Japan & Kokusai Gakuen School

This event was the second time in Souma City, the previous event was taken place in November, 2011. As the same as previous, student volunteers from the Kanagawa University, the Yokohama National University, and the Kanagawa Institute of Technology came to help this event. We hope that this event helped student volunteers to learn the condition of area hit by earthquake and to become soccer coach. We were able to see many smiles on children at this event. Thank you for your kindly cooperation.

Other, Soccer related event

Training camps at SEISA Shonan Oiso Campus for children in Souma.

Odawara Fire Work

Date: August 3-5, 2012

Participants: Nakamura Second Primary School students' families

Cooperated with: Kamimori Foundation, Space Weather Association, Kokusai Gakuen School.

Working with Souma City Board of Education to invite children and students who were in primary and secondary schools that were affected by tsunami to a firework at Sakagawa river in Odawara. In addition to firework, there were papermaking, water rocket making, and night beetle collecting activities to experience reachable science, physical activities, and learn the significance of human relationships.

Message from parental guardian

Since we have been living in temporary shelter, children have been playing outside. However, there is no play zone around the shelter. Therefore, they were playing around the shelter. So that they were scolded by neighborhood for hitting a ball to a car, a squirt gun to laundry on dry, and so on. We, parents, cannot bring them to play outside every day in this environment. Thank you for bringing our children to experience various activities that they cannot do.

Smile face will be linked to the others.

Our activities will be continued until the return of smile face on children.

## **Bhutan**

### **Visit of Princess Ashi Kezang and her family to Japan**

Princess Ashi Kezang of Bhutan (aunt of current King) stayed in Japan from December 27, 2011 through January 6, 2012, together with her family. Mr. Yasuo Miyazawa, FGC Director, who has had close relations with the Royal Family of Bhutan for past 20 years, welcomed her, further deepening their mutual trust and friendship in both public and private life. They also exchanged views and opinions about how to further strengthen the tie between both countries, which kind of support activities to be initiated, and so on. On January 4, a reception party was held to welcome Princess Ashi Kezang. It offered her a good chance to communicate and get acquainted with various guests invited there. On that occasion, she addressed the following generous message.:

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Miyazawa, and Distinguished Guests,

I am very much honored to have a chance here to address my message to all of you. I came to Yokohama for the first time 17 years ago to celebrate the Yokohama Bhutan Friendship Association established in 1995 under the leadership of Mr. Miyazawa. Now I can recall clearly that I stood, like today, in the front of many people to celebrate the friendship between Japanese and Bhutanese. It happened only 9 years after official diplomatic relationship had started between both countries. In 2011, we celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the establishment of our diplomatic relationship. I am confident that our current relation is the best what we can desire. As a part of commemorative events, our King and Queen, who had just married, visited Japan in November 2011, which I think was the best example showing that our country regards Japan as a special and important partner. My visit of this time follows this, and I am very much honored to be able to play a role along this line.

While being pleased with the maturity and success of our two nations' relationship, I am very much distressed about the triple tragedy which attacked Japan and Japanese people and also about the fact that they are still suffering from it. Your country was not only hit by the serious earthquake, but also had to bear the Tsunami and the accident of the nuclear power plant followed. I would like to take this opportunity and extend our heartfelt condolence to all the victims of the disaster and all Japanese people. When visiting Japan in November last year, our King made a speech in your Diet, saying "Any nation and any people should not

have such tragedy. However, if there is one nation that can rise stronger and greater from such adversity, it is Japan and her people. I am confident of it.”

I fully share his thought, and sincerely hope the Japanese people will overcome the tragedy and recover the land with the aim of making the country stronger and better. When having heard the terrible news, I was shocked and overwhelmed with deep sadness. It is well known that Japanese people are very strong and do not yield to difficulties. I was encouraged by the news that many people spontaneously offered supports to help victims of the disaster. Mr. Miyazawa and FGC members have made and are making great contributions to the relief of the attacked area and its people. I admire your efforts made. It is only the effort of each individual that can make the world better and help disadvantaged people. The world has learned the internal strength, discipline and sympathy of Japanese through the tragic incident. I am fully confident that Japan will recover in a stronger way.

### **Short-term Student Exchange Program with Royal Thimphu College (RTC)**

The 1<sup>st</sup> short-term Student Exchange Program was implemented based on the Memorandum closed with Royal Thimphu College (RTC), the first private college in Bhutan. Supported by FGC, 10 students and 1 teacher came to Japan from RTC, and stayed here for 2 weeks (February 7 – 21, 2012), learning Japanese society, culture, technologies and language, and also getting acquainted and communicating with Japanese students.

They visited Sendai and Fukushima, too, seeing the areas damaged by the East-Japan Earthquake Disaster. On that occasion, they were briefed by Mr. Hidekiyo TACHIYA, Mayor of Sohma City (one of Fukushima’s heavily damaged areas) on activities of emergency rescue teams, temporary housing, and current status of recovery and other support activities including medical care, counseling, etc.

Bhutan is one of the countries which offered us supports fastest after the disaster had happened. The students coming showed keen interests, saying that they could learn lots from the recovery plan of Sohma City. Having a clear mission, they participated in the program and tried to learn as much as possible from this visit, showing interest in everything. We were impressed with their honest attitude that they were eager to use the experiences and knowledge gained from this program for their country, and are sure that they will become key persons to

lead Bhutan in the future and play an important role for further development of the country.

### **Ashi Kezang – Miyazawa SEISA Scholarship supports Students**

On July 9, 2011, two Bhutanese boys came to Japan as students of the 1<sup>st</sup> scholarship program of the Ashi Kezang – Miyazawa SEISA Scholarship established by Princess Ashi Kezang of Bhutan and Mr. Miyazawa, FGC Director. It mainly aims at offering Bhutanese students an opportunity to study/learn in Japan, which should lead to further deepening friendship between both nations. Kinzang Gyeltschen and Pema Khandhu Wangchuk enter Okudera Sports Academy (OSA) of SEISA Group, and learn here for about two years, while staying in its dormitory. Although being sometimes bewildered by a difference in language and culture, they learn hard and take part in various events to absorb as much as possible from the new environment. They hope to become soccer players and coaches in the future, and are strongly motivated by their mission to become a bridge between Bhutan and Japan. The 2-year study will be a valuable opportunity to make them grow through learning about Japan. On the other hand, we will also be able to learn lots about Bhutan from them, which will help us to further improve our support activities in the future.

### **Myanmar**

We, FGC delegates, stayed in Myanmar from July 7 through 12.

We arrived in Yangon, the largest city of the country, and moved to the capital city, Naypyidaw, next day. The distance between both cities is 330km. We used the only highway of the country on which also people and dogs walked. We were informed about the health situation of children by governmental officers. We exchanged views and opinions about health issues, confirming the supply of hand-washing soaps and disinfectants to prevent infection diseases. Myanmar is expected to further grow stably thanks to the development plans and economy-promotion programs worked out and implemented since recent democratization. Goods of made-in Myanmar are increasing in our daily life, too, e.g. suites, shoes and so on. It is our hope that the economic development will lead to the improvement of the situation children are placed in. Let us make some comparisons based on JPY. The salary of a company staff just graduated

from the university/college is JPY6,000- per month, while an assistant staff working for an executive of a foreign company gets JPY60,000- per month, i.e. 10 times more. A piece of mango fruit costs JPY10- at an open-air market, while the one sold at a supermarket costs JPY100- per piece, i.e. also 10 times higher. As shown in these examples, the rich and the poor are mixed currently in Myanmar. The Rakhine Prefecture next Bangladesh had a conflict between Muslims and Buddhists in June 2011, and declared the state of emergency. And in August another confrontation between Myanmar's ethnic minority and Chinese was reported, and is still in an unstable situation. Japan owes to Myanmar historically since the country did not arrest Japanese soldiers after the 2<sup>nd</sup> War and gave up the right to claim compensation for war damages prior to other nations and also sent rice to Japan when the world still suffered from food shortage. Myanmar is a country where people live according to the disciplines of Buddhism and which is abound with beautiful nature like lakes and forests available in the plateau of the altitude of 800m (they are comparable with nice private beaches). We are seeing big potentials in children as well as young people living in such a country blessed with rich culture, nature and potential resources.

## **Bangladesh**

What was fed per day were two cups of bean soup. Orphans increased. We did not know how many orphans were in our house and also their names. Such orphanage is located in a village of Bangladesh. Children living there have dreams like "I want to become doctor" or "I will become teacher", but are not given opportunities of receiving corresponding education or have difficulties even finding jobs. Or before everything, it is not sure that they can survive tomorrow, too. We do support the Agresara Orphanage so as to make its operation sustainable. In this conjunction, we will build a sewing factory for them and support its continuous operation, in cooperation with Yabe Procutting, so that orphans can have sufficient foods and can receive job trainings and then can become independent as member of the society.

## **Japan**

Supporting EPA Certified Care Worker Candidates

Since 2010, SEISA Group and Yokohama International College of Social Welfare (YICSW) have been cooperated to provide preparation for the certified care worker examination for Indonesian care worker candidates, who arrived to Japan in 2008, for 2 years. In addition, SEISA Group and YICSW got commission from Yokohama City

and Kanagawa Prefecture to provide preparation for the examination for followings; 6 workers in nursing care homes in Yokohama and 1 worker in prefectural nursing care home in Kanagawa Prefecture. Frequently used Japanese words in exam, knowledge and technique necessary for becoming certified care worker were taught at preparation sessions. The preparation sessions were taken place about twice a month and each session was 4-5 hours long. As a result of sessions, 5 out of 7 people were able to pass the examination for certified care worker in 2010. The national average pass rate was 30%, which indicated our preparation sessions were successful.

Our goal is to create a society that the aged can live safely with support from each other. This will be accomplished by continue supporting certified care worker training not only in Japan, but also outside Japan to help the spread of knowledge and techniques that necessary for welfare.

Other activities...

National activities

- Princess Ashi Kesang Gathering Party (Kingdom of Bhutan)
- Brussel String Quartet Charity Concert
- Dr. Sumana Barua Celebration on Receiving Wakatsuki Award
- Events in Kasumigaseki Building...etc.

Lecture

- Health and Medical Care Promotion Symposium
- Sport of Heart
- Childcare Worker Support Event by Sankei Living
- Summer Camp at Kameda General Hospital...etc.

Celebrating Dr. Sumana Barua, WHO doctor, for Wakatsuki Award in Japan

Brussel Charity Concert

Taiko Concert at Kasumigaseki Building