



International Network  
of Museums for Peace

From

General Coordinator's Desk

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## The Official Organizing Committee for the 10<sup>th</sup> INMP Conference will soon be inaugurated with agreed management rules

There is a unified local election in April this year in Japan and, immediately after that, the present Emperor abdicates the throne and the prince becomes new Emperor. In July a House of Councilors election is going to be conducted. While in such busy political and social situations, preparations for the 10th INMP conference are steadily progressing and the organizing committee is scheduled to be officially launched in May. Management rules of the organizing committee are already being agreed.

Kyoto Seika University, one of the co-sponsors, is now planning a special manga exhibition at the International Manga Museum on the occasion of the 10th International Conference. The university jointly manages the International Manga Museum with Kyoto City.

On February 12, a preparatory meeting for the special manga exhibition was held at the director's room of the Manga Museum which was attended by Hajime Anzai (illustrator), Kotobuki

Shiragari (Cartoonist), Ikuro Anzai (INMP), Kazuyo Yamane (INMP), Kazuma Yoshimura (Vice-President, Seika Univ.) and Yu Tanaka (Curator, Manga Museum).



From the left: Kazuyo Yamane (INMP), Kazuma Yoshimura (Vice-President, Seika Univ.) and Yu Tanaka (Curator, Manga Museum)

The meeting finally decided the theme of the exhibition as "*Heiwa/Boke Manga Exhibition*." "*Heiwa*" means "*Peace*" and "*Boke*" means "*Becoming Insensitive*", thus "*Heiwa/Boke*" implies "becoming insensitive to peace issues while in a fairly peaceful situation for a long time." We are going to ask well-known professional manga artists to offer their works under the theme of "*Heiwa/Boke*", and at the same time planning to open a call from the general public. Professor Oussoubi Sacko, President of Seika University from Republic of Mali, is also expected to join as a judge on manga.

Next meeting will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April at Osaka Campus of Ritsumeikan University.



Oussoubi Sacko



From the left, Hajime Anzai (illustrator), Kotobuki Shiragari (cartoonist) and Ikuro Anzai (INMP general coordinator). These gentlemen collaborated in a joint art exhibition last year commemorating the 77<sup>th</sup> birthday of Anzai.

*The Rose of Aikichi-Suzu* Blooms in Front of Kyoto Museum for World Peace



This red rose blooming in front of Kyoto Museums for World Peace is “*the Rose of Aikichi-Suzu*”. Aikichi Kuboyama is a victim of U.S. hydrogen bomb test conducted in Bikini Atolls on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 1954. He was a radio-operator of a Japanese tuna fishing boat named “*Daigo-Fukuryumaru*” (No.5 Lucky Dragon). Twenty-three fishermen were exposed to strong radioactive fallout at about 160 km from the ground zero. About half a year later, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 1954, Aikichi passed away from the complication of radiation disease and liver dysfunction due to blood transfusion while the whole nation gazed at. He was a rose lover and was growing roses in his home garden in Yaizu, Shizuoka Prefecture. After his death, his wife Suzu continued to look after the roses

On behalf of Kyoto Museum for World Peace, I visited Suzu in July 1993 with my colleague in the anti-nuke movement. She was ill at that time, but she went out to the garden and shared the rose tree.

Kyoto Museum for World Peace named the rose “*the Rose of Aikichi-Suzu*” and has been taking care for more than a quarter century. This rose would be a symbol of resistance movement against nuclear weapons, a violence against all humanity.

It is noteworthy that Keith Reimink, American film maker, made a documentary film titled “Day of the Western Sunrise” which deals with the tales of Lucky Dragon.

The Board of *No More Hibakusha Center for the Preservation of the Legacy of Memory* Decided to Participate in the 10<sup>th</sup> INMP Conference in 2020

Dr. Kazuyo Yamane and I are the board members of “*No More Hibakusha Center for the Preservation of the Legacy of Memory*” which was established in 2011 by the call of Kenzaburo Oe (Nobel Laureate in Literature), Late Shuntaro Hida (A-bomb survivor, former military doctor), Ikuro Anzai (Scientist specializing in radiation protection) and Mikiso Iwasa (A-bomb survivor).

*No More Hibakusha Center* is a non-profit organization authorized by Tokyo Prefecture and has very well been managed since its establishment.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2019, the 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting of FY 2018 was held in Tokyo which was attended also by young board members and discussed about the possible participation in the 10<sup>th</sup> INMP conference in mid-September in 2020.



*The Board Meeting of No More Hibakusha Center for the Preservation of the Legacy of Memory in Tokyo on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2019*

As a deputy representative of the center, I proposed that the center is expected to actively participate in the 10th INMP conference which is going to be organized under the main theme of “Inheritance of Memories to the Generations to Come and the Role of Museums for Peace”.

The board of directors decided in conclusion to propose to participate in the 10<sup>th</sup> INMP conference in the bill of the general meeting of the center to be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2019 in Tokyo.



Symposium against Military Research at University Was Held at Kyoto Museum for World Peace on March 10, 2019

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of March, a symposium against military research at universities in Japan was held at Nakano Memorial Hall of Kyoto Museum for World Peace (KMWP) which was attended by some 80 participants. Theme of the symposium was “Military Research That Undermines University — Crisis of Science and Technology under Abe Administration and the Situations to Be Aimed at”. Two scientific researchers gave keynote speeches which was followed by comments and lively exchange of opinions among participants.

At present, the academic community in Japan has shown a stance against "military research", but some researchers are attracted to research funds from the Ministry of Defense and the US military, and academic societies have not yet put out effective regulations. Furthermore, under the voice for innovation, there is a tendency to encourage the development of technologies applicable both for military and peaceful uses. It is becoming difficult to simply divide by funding sources, and researchers are being mobilized in a soft manner.



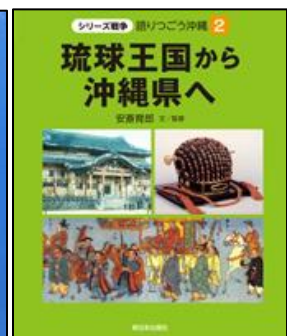
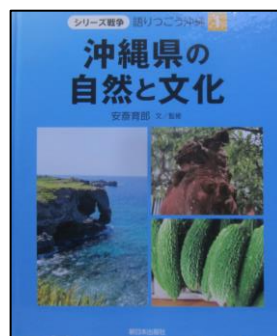
Symposium against the militarization of science and technology policy held at Nakano Memorial Hall of Kyoto Museum for World Peace on March 10, 2019

Prior to the symposium, a number of participants had a chance to visit the permanent exhibition of KMWP guided by the members of a citizens' volunteer group named “Friends for Peace”.

KMWP cosponsored this symposium and offered the venue free of charge, and I gave a welcome greeting at the beginning as the honorary director of the museum.

Completed are Five-Volume Books on Okinawa Authored by Ikuro Anzai in Cooperation with Chohei Futenma, Director of Himeyuri Peace Museum

Five-volume books titled “Let's talk about Okinawa to Generations to Come” published by Shin-Nihon Publishing Company have been completed in March 2019.



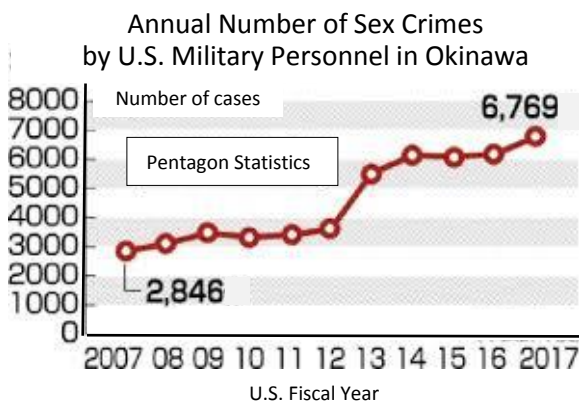
- Vol.1: Nature and Culture of Okinawa (Anzai)
- Vol.2: From Ryukyu Kingdom to Okinawa Prefecture (Anzai)
- Vol.3: Tragedy of Okinawa Land Battle (Anzai)
- Vol.4: Island of Military Bases (Anzai+Futenma)
- Vol.5: Remember Okinawa Land Battle (Anzai)



The intended readers of these books are elementary to junior high school students, and it is aimed to be spread to school libraries. Volume 1 is about the nature and culture of Okinawa, Volume 2 is on the history of Okinawa since the

Ryukyu Kingdom era, Volume 3 is about the tragedy of Okinawa Land Battle in 1945, Volume 4 deals with U.S. military bases in Okinawa co-authored with Chohei Futenma ( Director of Himeyuri Peace Museum), and Volume 5 is on the monuments and peace museums in Okinawa useful for peace education.

Below is one of the statistics introduced in Volume 4 which is indicating annual incidence of sex crimes by U.S. military personnel stationed in Okinawa.



According to the documents by 2016 of Okinawa Governor's Office, since the return of Okinawa to Japan in 1972, there have been 709 aircraft-related accidents, the area destroyed by wildfires due to military exercises etc. has been 381,163,866 square meters, the number of U.S. military personnel arrested for crimes was 5,919 of which 576 were thugs.

There is a big gap between Okinawans and the mainlanders in the recognition of the seriousness of the issue of U.S. military bases. As an author, I sincerely hope that our books would help fill that gap.

In Volume 5, I introduced a number of memorials, monuments, natural caves used as shelters, bases and hospitals for Japanese troops in the Battle of Okinawa, and also a number of museums such as Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum, *Himeyuri* Peace Museum, *Tsushimamaru* Memorial Hall (Museum of Tragedy of Sunken Vessel for Evacuation), *Nuchidotakara* House (“Life is Treasure”

Museum), *Fukutsu-kan* Museum (Museum of Fortitude), Okinawa Peace Memorial Hall, Okinawa *Airakuen* Exchange Hall (Museum of Leprosy), *Sakima* Art Museum, *Haeburu* Culture Center, *Yaeyama* Peace Memorial Museum, *Kadena* Roadside Station and Okinawa International University U.S. Army Helicopter Crash Site.

Okinawa Prefecture established in 1995 “*Heiwano-Ishiji*” (Cornerstone of Peace) in commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of Okinawa Land Battle which was fought by soldiers recruited from all over the nation. Therefore, in Okinawa, there are monuments and memorials built by all prefectures including those erected by the bereaved societies across the country. According to a paper authored by Takehiko Ito, Ikue Miyazaki and Akihiro Sugita published in “The Japanese Journal of Transcend” Vo.10, No.1, p.10-23 (June 2012), most of these prefectural monuments and memorials do not reflect the tragedy of Okinawa Land Battle, and some monuments even use the word “Great East Asia War” instead of “Pacific War”. The paper reported that only the monument erected by Kyoto Prefecture offers sympathy and friendship to Okinawans, and most of other monuments do not have useful content for children's peace learning.



*Kimie and Ikuro Anzai in Okinawa  
In front of Okinawa Peace Memorial Museum*

About “From General Coordinator’s Desk”  
This is a monthly informal newsletter published by Ikuro Anzai, General Coordinator of INMP, about a wide variety of events occurring around his desk. Your comments to [jsanzai@yahoo.co.jp](mailto:jsanzai@yahoo.co.jp)