



International Network  
of Museums for Peace

From

# General Coordinator's Desk

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Ikuro Anzai, Ph.D.

Honorary Director, Kyoto  
Museum for World Peace

INMP's new address: [inmpoffice@gmail.com](mailto:inmpoffice@gmail.com)

Please access to our website: click [here](#)

## Ritsumeikan University formally authorized to host the 10<sup>th</sup> INMP Conference in middle September 2020

On 9 January 2019, the permanent executive board of the School Corporation of Ritsumeikan has officially decided that Ritsumeikan University will co-host the 10th INMP Conference in September 2020 in Japan.



Ritsumeikan University (Kinugasa Campus)

The School Corporation of Ritsumeikan is a huge organization (which has 1 primary school, 4 junior high schools, 4 senior high schools and 2 universities (Ritsumeikan University consisting of 15 colleges and 15 graduate schools, and Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University consisting of 2 colleges and 2 graduate schools)). Regarding the sponsorship of the 10<sup>th</sup> INMP conference, it took almost 2 years to obtain the formal authorization by the permanent executive board.



Permanent Exhibition Room of Kyoto Museum  
for World Peace at Ritsumeikan University

By this authorization, Kyoto Museum for World Peace (KMWP) will be able to formally launch the organizing committee in which the director Professor Shin'ichi Ago, a well-known scholar specializing in international labor law, will play an important role. I, honorary director of the museum, will be involved as an advisor to the organizing committee as INMP's general coordinator.

An official announcement of the conference will be made shortly after the coordination with other co-sponsors.



Prof. Shin'ichi Ago  
Director

Prof. Ikuro Anzai  
Honorary Director

There are a number of world cultural heritage in the vicinity of conference site such as *Kinkakuji* Temple (known as Golden Pavilion) and *Ryoanji* Temple (famous of its Zen rock garden), about 10 minute-walk from the campus. Enjoy your Kyoto life during the conference!



*Kinkakuji* Temple (Golden Pavilion)

2019 is the Year of the Boar  
in the Japanese Zodiac,  
a Traditional Calendar Culture



Votive wooden tablet  
with a picture of boar



New year greeting card from Prof.  
Tomohiko Takasugi, former director

Even in contemporary Japan where science and technology overflows, old-fashioned zodiac is used in various scenes of social customs.

Twelve animals symbolizing the zodiac are assigned each year in the order of Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Boar. Japan's zodiac signs were originally derived from China's with the only difference that the last animal is the Boar in Japan but the Pig in China. The Chinese zodiac is calculated according to the Chinese lunar calendar, while Japan's is now based on the solar calendar since the lunar calendar was abandoned in 1872.

2019 is the year of the Boar. This year I received about 500 new year greeting cards and I found that approximately 55% of the cards used the wild boar's zodiac picture.

The character symbolized by the boar is said to be "Good-mannered, Intelligent, Perfectionistic and Straightforward" without any scientific reasons.

There is a four-character idiomatic language "*Chototsu-Moshin*" (猪突猛进) in Japanese which means "rushing forward like wild boars". This idiomatic word is used not only to criticize hasty actions without thinking, but also to urge people to go straight towards the goal. INMP is now expected, in a sense, to go forward with vitality like wild boar, but at the same time it is expected to behave intelligently and in good manner although we cannot be perfect.

In recent years in Japan, wild boars have been frequently witnessed near the boundary between mountainous areas and human villages in which the agricultural crops are destroyed by them. Not only boars, but also monkeys, bears, deer, racoons, etc. have also been observed in those areas and it is becoming a serious social

problem to ensure that people and wildlife live separately in good relationship.



Ms.H. Matsuya, A-bomb survivor  
living in Nagasaki



Mr. M. Hataguchi, former director  
of Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum



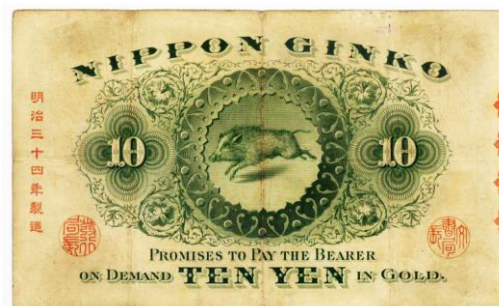
Mr. T. Kikuchi, radiation scientist



Ms. Y. Fujiwara, museum worker

After the serious nuclear power plant accident in Fukushima in 2011, the scenery with wild boar became a daily scene. Fukushima Project Team, of which I am a leader, found feces of the wild boar in a decontaminated field and found that its radioactive contamination level was extremely high. Wild boars are omnivorous and eat anything such as earthworms, wild vegetables and bamboo shoots which were highly contaminated by radioactive fallout.

It should be understood that the nuclear accident affected not only human life seriously, but also gave an adverse effect on the survival of animals and plants.



Once in 1890 and 1899, boar was drawn in 10 Yen bills in Japan as shown above. There is a long story regarding why boar was drawn, but I would like to skip the topic this time because there is not enough space to explain.

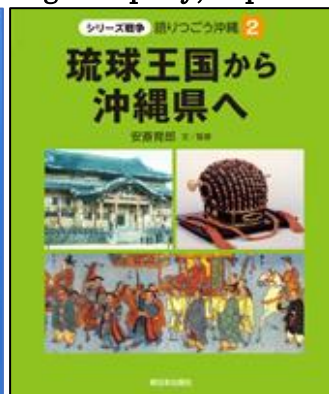
## Anzai's 5 Volume Books on Okinawa are now being published

Five volumes of books on Okinawa authored by I. Anzai are now being published from Shin-Nihon Publishing Company, Japan.



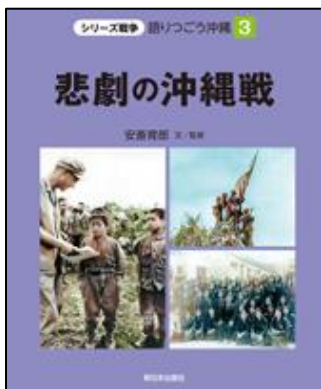
Vol.1

“Nature and Culture of Okinawa Prefecture”



Vol.2

“From Ryukyu Kingdom to Okinawa Prefecture”



Vol.3

“Tragedy of the Battle of Okinawa”

From Vol. 1 to 3 were published in December 2018, and Vol.4 “A Land of U.S. Military Bases” and Vol. 5 “Forget Not the Battle of Okinawa” are coming soon. These books were written for young generations who do not know much about the tragedy of the land battle of Okinawa in 1945 and the problem of U.S. military bases after WW2.

It is worth noting that Volume 4 was co-authored with Mr. Choukei Futenma, director of Himeyuri Peace Memorial Museum in Okinawa, who was born after the WW2. Himeyuri Peace Memorial Museum is a private institution which exhibits the tragedy of girl students of senior high schools in Okinawa mobilized to support injured soldiers' care. The museum has hundreds of thousands of visitors every year including young students from mainland Japan. Mr. Futenma wrote about serious accidents and incidents raised by U.S. military officials in Okinawa after the war. Knowing tragic facts is painful in the mind especially for young children, but it is indispensable for thinking about a more peaceful future.

Volume 5 is introducing monuments, memorial towers, war ruins including caves used as military bases and retreat pits, and social institutions such as peace museums, art museums and culture center which are useful for peace education.

In Vol.1 I wrote about the southernmost and the westernmost primary schools in Japan, both in Okinawa, and introduced messages from the principals of both schools. I sincerely hope these books will be widely disseminated in school libraries throughout the country

Dr. Kazuyo Yamane's enthusiasm to bridge English and Japanese cultural spheres by translating peace museum news media

Dr. Kazuyo Yamane is an INMP's executive board member, serving as the treasurer and an editorial committee member. She not only edits our newsletter of English version in cooperation with Peter van den Dungen, Kimberlye Kim and Ikuro Anzai, but she also takes care of Japanese version for more than sixty Japanese INMP members and peace-related facilities not yet our member. Translation is carried out by herself in cooperation with some volunteers who wish to positively contribute to the development of INMP.



In addition, Kazuyo has long been taking care of the translation of “Muse” (from Japanese into English) which is the official newsletter of the Japanese Citizens' Network of Museums for Peace (JCNMP) established in 1998 when the 3<sup>rd</sup> INMP conference was held in Japan. Before INMP issued our own newsletter, “Muse” was the world's only English periodical on peace museums. Japanese and English version of “Muse” is now mainly edited by Kazuyo in cooperation with me supported by a number of JCNMP members and some volunteers for illustration and translation.

Kazuyo is a specialist in peace studies and peace education, and has been establishing intimate relationships with peace researchers, educationalists and activists in various countries. She is not only “Treasurer of INMP”, but also “Treasure of INMP”, although, I think, she doesn't want to be called so.

## About the access to INMP's new website

As of 1 October 2018, INMP's website moved to the following address.

<http://tinyurl.com/INMPMuseumsForPeace/>

Because this fact is not fully publicized yet, I have heard some complaints about what happened to the website.

The biggest reason why INMP moved the secretariat from The Hague to Kyoto is the problem of income and expenditure imbalance, and in that respect the new office is free of rent, telephone bill and utility bill, and new website is free. Our newly established website itself is working well, and the complaints on accessibility may be a problem in the transition period.

Please try to visit the new website as frequently as possible. I am convinced that the web environment will steadily improve.

## Professor Atsushi Fujioka donated 220 euros to INMP on 21 December 2018

Honorary Professor Atsushi Fujioka, former deputy director of Kyoto Museum for World Peace at Ritasumeikan University, donated 30,000 yen (about 220 euros / 270 dollars) to INMP when he attended the year-end party of the museum on 21 December 2018.

The year-end party is called "*Bōnenkai*" (忘年会) in Japan, in which "忘" means "to forget". So "*Bōnenkai*" means "a party to forget the year". But many people think that "forgetting the year" is not good and the way of writing as "望年会" (*Bōnenkai*, the same pronunciation) is increasing in which "望" means "hope". Kyoto Museum for World Peace has a year-end party every year which is attended by some 20 museum workers (managerial staffs, full-time staffs, contract staffs and part-time staffs), directors (director, deputy director and honorary director), expert advisors, etc.

Professor Fujioka is a specialist in economics, and played an important role in the history of Kyoto Museum for World Peace. Not only he played an active part as a planning director, he was the chairperson of program committee of the 6<sup>th</sup> INMP conference in 2008.



Professor Fujioka

Deeply understanding the meaning of INMP in peace making, he made a lot of donation so far. I would like to deeply thank him.

## About our plan to publish a paper collection on "The Succession of Memories to the Generations to Come and the Role of Peace Museums"

As a part of preparation for the 10<sup>th</sup> INMP conference in Japan in 2020, we are planning to publish two books on museums for peace.

One is to update "Museums for Peace Worldwide" which was once published in 2008 at the occasion of the 6<sup>th</sup> INMP conference in Japan, and a revised one is now available on the website of Anzai Science & Peace Office (my homepage). Dr. Kazuyo Yamane is now diligently further updating the information of each museum one by one and adding new information about the museums for peace recently established. Please send any information you have which is useful for updating the current version to Dr. Yamane ([inmpoffice@yao.co.jp](mailto:inmpoffice@yao.co.jp)).

Second is to publish a paper collection on the main theme of the 10<sup>th</sup> conference, i.e. "The Succession of Memories to the Generations to Come and the Role of Peace Museums". I originally had an idea to publish the book by the opening of the 10<sup>th</sup> conference as we published a book titled "Museums for Peace Worldwide: Past, Present and Future" before the 6<sup>th</sup> conference which was distributed to the participants at the registration desk.

But when I sent my idea to the board members as a part of budget proposal for FY2019 on 17 December 2018 as the General Coordinator's Document #5 (GCoD#5), there was an advice from Professor Joyce Apsel that the book should be published as a collection of selected papers from out of those presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> conference. She also advised that we are expected to publish the book from an acknowledged publisher like Routledge. I fundamentally agree with her idea and would like to establish an editorial committee for this project with the approval of the organizing committee which will formally start in the nearest future.

We would like to more and more enrich the coming conference. Please continue to be interested in the conference and send us your idea to INMP.

→ [inmpoffice@gmail.com](mailto:inmpoffice@gmail.com)

### 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)