



MINATO

みなとユネスコ 会報

Bulletin

MINATO UNESCO ASSOCIATION NEWS & CALENDAR

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A Happy Encounter with the Private-Sector UNESCO Movement

SHIBUYA Megumi, Professor at Meiji Gakuin University, (Director of MUA)



The mission of UNESCO is clearly stated in the UNESCO Charter preamble: "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed."

When I first came across these words, I was strongly moved by their meaning. Later, I had a chance to study international education at university, which made me aware that there are many private-sector UNESCO activities being conducted in Japan. Wishing to take part in them, I made a phone call to the Tsuchiura UNESCO Association which was located near the Tsukuba University where I was attending at the time.

In the following days, I took part in the Tsuchiura UNESCO meetings many times, although I was the only student member there. By working outside the boundaries of the university, I was able to take away a lot. For example, I took part in the Block Meeting held at Yoyogi Center where I had discussions with students from all around the country about the definition of peace; and we held a workshop-style meeting to find out what we could do to help refugees.

It was around this time that I read, both in English and Japanese, together with the Block meeting attendees, UNESCO's 1974 Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. The major guiding principles pointed out by the Recommendation seemed applicable to Japan's education policies over the coming years. They were: 1) Education in all its levels and forms should incorporate a global viewpoint; 2) Students should not only understand their culture and values but also be aware of the increasing global interdependence; 3) Every person should contribute actively in solving problems affecting individuals' and communities' life. As I look back now, the ties and accumulated learnings I gained through the activities at UNESCO associations was one of the driving forces behind my decision to choose to pursue "Comparative and International Education" at graduate school.

Now I am serving as professor of Comparative and International Education, at the faculty of Psychology Department of Education and Child Development, Meiji Gakuin University. As a researcher of multi-cultural societies and among minorities, I also teach such classes as "Education in Intercultural Societies" and "International Comparisons of Education". After graduation, I stayed away from the UNESCO activities for a while. Recently, however, I have joined the Minato UNESCO Association and been appointed a director. I hope I can convey to my students the pleasure and importance I felt while engaging in UNESCO activities in my student days.

Peace is threatened in many corners of the world, not to mention Russia invading Ukraine and inflamed conflicts in Gaza and Israel. I am overwhelmed by many cases and injustice I have witnessed, not only abroad but also in Japan, where human rights and fundamental freedoms are jeopardised by various disputes, conflicts, persecution and poverty. In this day and age, it is imperative for us to remember anew "the defences of peace" in the UNESCO Charter. Let us think together what "the

(To be continued on P.11)

Hands-on Cultural Workshop
“Let’s Make an Original Tote Bag”

Co-Sponsored by Minato City Board of Education
In cooperation with TOKYO TOWER CO., Ltd.

Date and Time: Sunday, August 27, 2023 11:30~14:30
Venue: Second Floor, Foot Town, Tokyo Tower

Program “Make your own tote bag”: Using plain tote bag as a canvas, customers were invited to draw freely, with acrylic paint, whatever they want. (See the finished tote bags shown below.)

Participants (advance application) 20 (same-day application) 8 Total: 28
Age: 3 year-old and older
Fee: ¥1,500
Instructor: NORIOKA Kurumi (Okamotoya Co., Ltd.)

Comment from a staffer:

The venue was rather unusual: it was in the corner of passageway leading to the souvenir shop on the second floor of the Tokyo Tower. As it was Sunday, a lot of tourists came bustling to see gifts, and we could easily attract their attention.

We recruited participants in four different times, and operated while focusing on safety. Children were escorted by parents or grandparents, making the workplace crowded. Luckily, everything went smoothly and children looked overjoyed as they proudly showed off painted animals and towers on the bags. Voila! The world’s only one tote bag! When I looked at those children, I breathed a sigh of relief, thinking “this was a good project”.

There were two walk-in customers from Harbin. I hope those ladies will happily remember the trip to Japan whenever they look at the tote bag.

I would like to thank Okamotoya Co., Ltd. for proposing this wonderful project; TOKYO TOWER CO., Ltd. for generously providing the venue; and Mr. ISHII Yoshiaki, MUA Director, for introducing TOKYO Tower Co. Ltd. to us.



(Written by Hirakata K., the Hands-on Cultural Workshop Committee, and translated by MIYASHITA Y., the PR & Internet Committee)

MUA Zazen Workshop

Date & Time: Friday, Sept. 2023, 18:30 – 20:00

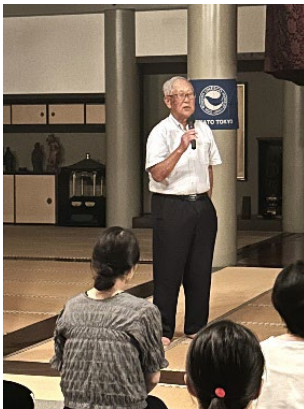
Venue: Seishoji Temple, Minato City

This is the fourth time we have held a meditation course at Seishoji Temple. We received many applications as the event was held in a hectic manner due to the coronavirus outbreak. I realized how much attention I received from the general public. If you're caught up in the hustle and bustle of daily life, it's not often you can spend some quiet time or meditate.

Seishoji Temple is in a quiet location, surrounded by Atago Shrine and Zojoji Temple, but if you take a closer look, you'll find that Seishoji Temple is located in the center of Minato Ward, which is crowded with economic and tourist attractions. .

I think it would be interesting for the general public to be able to pass through the massive gates of a Buddhist temple and spend a solemn time amidst all that clutter. I don't know much about it, but there's a lot of purity in there, and I'm sure your stress will melt away if you sit down with the monks.

There is a sense of mystery surrounding Zen temples that makes you think so.



I think this is the kind of meditation course that people, including myself, have applied for and said, "Please come and join us."

After a difficult decision, we selected a lot of applicants who exceeded our expectations, and we held a meditation session with 65 lucky people.

It is said that Seishoji Temple holds regular meditation sessions every month, so anyone can have a chance to easily participate. I missed the lottery this time and can't wait until next year. If so, please search the internet and gather information.

Practice zazen. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Seishoji Temple and everyone involved for giving me this opportunity.



(Written & translated by ISHIAI K., the PR & Internet Committee)

The 2023 Kanto Block UNESCO Associations Study Forum in Tokyo

Date and Time: Sunday, 3 September, 2023, 10:00-17:30

(Exchange Meeting 18:00~20:00)

Venue: Aoyama Gakuin University (Building No. 17 Honda Memorial International Conference Hall)

Organizer: NFUJ (National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan)
Kanto Block Liaison Council UNESCO Associations
The Tokyo Metropolitan Liaison Council of UNESCO Associations (Toyuran)
Sponsors: Tokyo Metropolitan Government Board of Education
Shibuya City
Shibuya City Board of Education
Aoyama Gakuin University



The 2023 Kanto Block UNESCO Study Forum in Tokyo was held at Aoyama Gakuin University in Shibuya City, Tokyo, with approximately 500 participants. Many members from Minato UNESCO Association participated in the event, partly because Mr. NAGANO Hiroshi, former President of Minato UNESCO Association (now Advisor), has been appointed as President of the Tokyo Metropolitan Council of UNESCO Associations this year. This was my first participation in such a major event since serving as the

Executive Director of "Global Action 21" held in November, 1997 to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Start of Grassroots UNESCO Movement.

The major curriculum and the contents of main activities of the day were as follows

■10:00~12:00 Kanto Block UNESCO Youth Activities Study Group



The students of Tamagawa University and other universities and young people of UNESCO Associations took the lead in holding a study conference of youth activity study group, where they cooperatively learned from each other. In the conference, the lectures with the positive interaction among attendees took place using projection materials and other meeting tools. I myself observed and listened, and was impressed by the seriousness with which the participants discussed "the future of education" and "the cross-cultural understanding".

■13:00~13:30 Opening Ceremony

Addresses from the Organizers and Greetings from the Guests of Honor



The opening ceremony begun with the singing of the UNESCO song by all participants. Then, Mr. NAGANO Hiroshi, President of the Tokyo Metropolitan Liaison Council of UNESCO Association and Ms. SAITO Miki, President of NFUJ (National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan), gave the opening speeches.

Then, Guests of Honor's speeches were followed.

◎ Mr. WATANABE Masami, Director-General for International Affairs of the Ministry of Education

and Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and Secretary-General of The Japanese National Commission for UNESCO Association in Japan

◎Ms. HAMA Kayoko, Acting Deputy Director of the Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education;

◎Mr. HASEBE Ken, Mayor of Shibuya City

◎Mr. YAMAMOTO Yoshiharu, President of Aoyama Gakuin University

All speeches were full of humor and warmth for the event and were very impressive.

■13:30~14:40 Special Lecture by Ms. KOSHINO Junko, a world-renowned fashion designer

The special lecture was given by Ms. KOSHINO on the title of "The Energy That Fashion Offers". She delivered at a brisk tempo and accompanied images from the past and present were splendid. The speech was so engaging that we could forget the time was passing. The images from the 1978 Paris

Collection to the present were very impressive, but what was most memorable was the words Ms. KOSHINO gave to us. She said that nothing is more splendid than actually seeing and feeling. This made me think about how important it is to actually see and feel rather than to think at the desk and preconceive. This is also true of our volunteer activities. We also received a message from her, which is KA (KANshasuru = be thankful), KI (KIbou wo motsu = have hope), KU (KUyokuyo shinai = don't worry), KE (KENkou wa daiji = health is important), and KO (KOudou suru = take action). The lecture was very fascinating and valuable, and impressive, too.

■14:40~15:15 Reports

Japanese National Commission for UNESCO / NFUJ (National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan) / (Toyuren) Tokyo Metropolitan Liaison Council of UNESCO Associations The 2000 New Members Recruit Project

First, Ms. MATSUMOTO Chieko, Councilor of the NFUJ and Deputy General of Takasaki UNESCO Association, reported on recent development at UNESCO and the Japan National Commission for UNESCO. Next, Mr. KASAHARA reported on the Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan and the promotion of UNESCO activities, including the Future Heritage Movement and the UNESCO-Ukraine donations. Finally, Ms. YAMADA Yuko gave a report on "the 2000 New Members Recruit Project" of Tokyo Metropolitan Liaison Council of UNESCO Associations. Listening these reports, I felt again that we should think about "what we can do cooperatively now," and hope that the number of associates who can work together will increase.



■15:30~16:40

No. 1 Subcommittee "Cross Cultural Understanding • International Exchange"

Ibaraki Prefecture"/ Tsuchiura UNESCO Association

"Ukraine Support Concert"

Tochigi Prefecture / Sano Nihon University Secondary School and Sano UNESCO Association

"To build a fortress of peace in students' minds (What's your world peace? Art Festival)"

No 2 Subcommittee "World Heritage • Future Heritage"

Chiba Prefecture / Kashiwa UNESCO Association

"Kombukuro Pond Nature Museum Park - 100 Year Forest Project by Citizens"

Gunma Prefecture / Numata UNESCO Association

"Future: Activities of Numasu Puppet Theater Akebono Za and Cooperation with Numata UNESCO Associations"

No. 3 Subcommittee "Science, Environment, and UNESCO School"

Tokyo / Minato UNESCO Association

"Symposium Series to Think about Peace and Co-creation with Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology"

Saitama Prefecture / Hasuda-Shiraoka Regional UNESCO Association

"Our Activities of School Supporting Actions with UNESCO School"

After 15:30, we were divided to attend lectures of subcommittees. I attended to No. 3 Subcommittee, "Science, Environment, and UNESCO Schools", which consisted of two parts. The first part was about "Symposium Series of Thinking Peace and Co-creation with Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology". The speeches by the students of Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology were humorous and easy to understand. They reported on their daily activities. The second part was

"Our Activities with UNESCO Schools in 'School Support Cooperation Activities'" by Saitama Prefecture / Hasuda-Shiraoka Regional UNESCO Association. Focusing on the aging local people who involve in the UNESCO activities, the speakers talked about the current challenges, including the difficulty of maintaining the quality of activities due to the lack of the younger people. They also talked about the challenges of the new era, such as cooperation among educational institutions and local volunteers, and information sharing in "Local School Collaboration Activities."

■16:55~17:30 Closing Ceremony

Reports from Subcommittees

Reports of Youth Council - Youth Activity

Speech from the Host City for the Next Year

Ibaraki Prefecture UNESCO Association

Closing remarks by Mr. IKEDA Keisuke, Executive Committee Chairman



At the closing ceremony, every representative of each Subcommittee (Subcommittees No. 1 through No. 3) gave their reports. Then, the reports of the Youth Council and Youth Activities were presented. Ms. YOSHIDA Risako, Councillor of Kanto-Block Youth Council talked about councillors of Youth Council, about Nationwide Youth Network Organization, and also examples of youth activities including schooling outside schools of Shibuya UNESCO Association and Nagoya UNESCO Youth Council, and Okayama UNESCO Association and clubs. She emphasized the importance of listening to

the voices about the present situation of the Youth Council, and each UNESCO Association and young people. Finally, the speech from the host city for the next year, the Ibaraki Prefecture UNESCO Association, was delivered. Mr. IKEDA Keisuke, the Chairman of the Executive Committee, closed the 2013 Study Forum in Tokyo by his passionate message

■18:00~20:00 Exchange Meeting Party

Venue: Restaurant SINONOME (3rd floor of former Aogakukaikan)

The exchange meeting is a valuable opportunity to meet old friends, but at the same time, it is a chance to interact with members of other associations. But it is difficult to exchange information on a day-to-day basis and to make new acquaintances. As a whole, we gained much from the reports on the various activities of the different UNESCO Associations. Therefore, it is important for the members of each UNESCO association to actively participate in such meeting. I am very concerned about the aging of the members in all Associations. I, who was active in my younger days but will turn to be 60 in three years, thought that the issue is how to pass on these activities to the next generation. Although this is only my personal opinion, but I would like to see opportunities for university students as in the case at overseas universities to earn credits for volunteer activities, and also to be exposed to volunteer activities in elementary and junior high school students. The day also made me think about the need for cooperation between school education and social education. I asked myself what each of us can do for the next generation? I have a high expectation on "the 2000 People Project" of the Tokyo Metropolitan Council of UNESCO Associations.



(Written by Mr. MINEO S., vice president of MUA and translated by NAKAZAWA M. the PR & Internet Committee)

The Hands-on Calligraphy Workshop

Date: October 7, 2023

Venue: Minato City Life-Long Learning Center

This event was held with the aim of promoting the understanding of Japanese culture and the exchange between foreigners and Japanese through calligraphy, which is a traditional Japanese culture and a registered intangible cultural property of the country. As usual, we had the pleasure of having Ms. KANEDA Suimu, a member of the Mainichi Shodo Association, as our instructor. A total of 26 participants, including 6 foreigners, enjoyed calligraphy.

The workshop contents:

- Explanation of calligraphy and calligraphy tools
- Practice various characters and styles on hanshi paper while looking at a model
- Choose favorite characters and style, make fair copy of them on colored paper, and complete the work by stamping it with either of “Kotobuki”, “Kissho”, or “Yume”.

Participants carefully selected their favorite characters and styles from among many models, and practiced quietly and enthusiastically using dozens of hanshi papers. From among several characters and styles practiced, they chose one that they liked most. Then they completed making fair copy of selected characters on shikishi papers. Some participants took home their favorite one as a souvenir.

The foreign participants who tried calligraphy for the first time this time were interested in practicing while receiving explanations of the meanings of kanji from Ms. KANEDA and the surrounding Japanese participants. All participants seemed to have completed their works satisfactorily with the advice from Ms. KANEDA. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Ms. KANEDA, who kindly instructed each and every one of us, and to everyone who participated enthusiastically.



(Written by YOKOI A, Hands-on Cultural Workshop Committee, and translated by SUDA YY., the PR & Internet Committee Associate)

Minato UNESCO Salon for SDG's
Japanese People's Absence of Anger Toward A-bombings and Beyond
Speaker: Dr. TEZUKA Chizuko

Date: Wednesday, October 11, 2023

Venue: Minato City Life-long Learning Center

The A-bomb droppings have been treated as an important issue in Japanese literature, mass media and war museums. Dr. Tezuka has long studied this issue with a focus on “Where did Japanese people’s anger end up?” In this presentation, after exploring the meaning and background of absence of anger towards the A-bombings, she invited us to reevaluate the way Japanese people deal with anger in their lives. The following is a summary.

Profile of Dr. Chizuko Tezuka

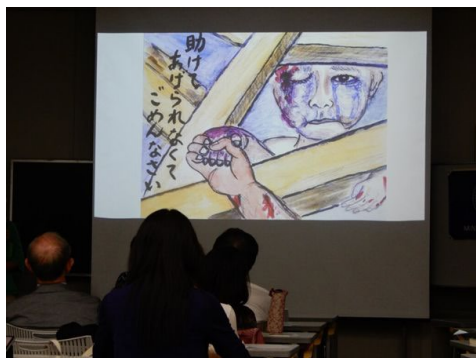
Received doctorate in educational psychology from University of Minnesota in 1986. Upon returning to Japan, joined Keio University and taught Japanese Psychology and Intercultural Communication in English-based classes where both Japanese and international students studied together, and also worked as a counsellor for international students. Became a professor at the Center for Japanese Studies at Keio University, and also facilitated communication between Japanese and international students for a joint project between the university and local community called “Mita-no-Ie”. Her latest book is *Genbaku wo meguru Nihonjin no Katari – Ikari no fuzai no shiten kara* (Narratives by the Japanese on the Atomic Bombing from the Perspective of Absence of Anger.)



○How much do we know about WW2?

The U.S. military placed priority on upgrading the offensive capabilities of air bombers, fighter planes, and vessels, and safety of their pilots. At the front line of war was the A-bomb carrier “Enola Gay” dubbed “Superfortress” in the sky. The German military placed importance on killing the enemy whereas the Japanese military ingrained in their soldiers the spirit of self-sacrifice of dying for the emperor. Japanese militarism abused the traditional aesthetic perception of cherry blossoms to symbolize and glorify such selfless death. Thus it forced soldiers to give up their lives at any cost. After Dr. Tezuka reviewed the realities of Japanese military operations and their background thinking during WW2, she could not help wondering why Japanese citizens and soldiers did not express anger nor object to such unreasonable and reckless thoughts and acts of war. This question led her to examine in depth how Japanese people deal with anger and interpersonal conflict.

○Japanese narratives about WW2



Soon after the A-bombs were dropped, the war ended bringing a sense of immense relief that the misery of war was finally over. Perhaps this is why questioning the legitimacy of A-bombing was not so prevalent, whereas the tragic memories and narratives of the atrocity caused by the A-bombs occupied the minds of Japanese people. Overwhelmed by their defeat to advanced science and abundant resources of the U.S., serious effort to confront the issue of war responsibility was insufficient. Also, many Japanese felt they had been “deceived” by the militarists and war-time government, and lacked in contemplation of what they could have done on their part.

○Foreign scholars are surprised by Japanese narratives of WW2

From the viewpoint of foreign scholars studying pre-WW2 and post WW2, the Japanese seem to have allowed their leaders to engage in war without staging any major opposition. Therefore, they are surprised to find quite a few Japanese talking about the war as if it had abruptly befallen them like a natural disaster. Thus for historians Haruko Taya Cook and Theodore Cook, it is baffling why such narratives given in their post-war oral history interviews were typically confined to personal experiences, and why there are only a few who gave a big-picture talk about the cause or responsibility of the war.

U.S. scholar, John Dower pointed out that in stark contrast to American hatred towards the Japanese ignited by the Pearl Harbor attack, the anger of the Japanese was addressed not so much to the U. S. but to the A-bomb and towards the atrocity of war itself. He concludes this mentality among Japanese led to the anti-war peace movements in the post-war years. According to movie critic Donald Richie, the West perceived the A-bomb attack as an act of atrocity while the Japanese, as something uncontrollable or an “act of God.” He feels the traditional Japanese notion of “*mono no aware*” (an aesthetic response to the transience of life) is embedded in the post-war A-bomb related movies in Japan.

Dr. Tezuka concluded these analyses imply Japanese people’s reluctance to confront their war experiences squarely and the Japanese tendency to perceive unpredictable and uncontrollable circumstances including natural disasters as “*shikata ga nai*” (it cannot be helped).

○Narrative at the war museum

The Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum’s current focus is exhibiting the tragic reality of atrocities as seen from the eyes of the victims. At the center of such exhibitions is “*tamashii no sakebi*” (“cry of the soul”) which focuses on the tragedies of innocent children. There is neither expression of “anger, grudge or revenge” nor discussion of the “responsibility” of those who dropped the A-bombs. Dr. Tezuka introduced the drawing of Guernica by Picasso created in fiery rage when he learned of the atrocity of indiscriminate bombings in Guernica, which has later become a symbol of anti-war movement around the world.



○Narratives in A-bomb-related novels

Dr. Tezuka introduced a passage from NAGAOKA Hiroyoshi’s book *Gembakubungakushi* (A history of atomic bomb literature) — “during the past 23 years since the end of the WW2, not a single work of Japanese literature has been produced directly confronting the country which dropped the A-bomb and inflicted gut wrenching trauma on Japanese citizens.” Dr. Tezuka also referred to additional A-bomb-related novels, including *Natsu no hana* (Flowers of Summer) by HARA Tamiki, *Kuroi ame* (Black Rain) by IBUSE Masuji, and *Shikabane no machi* (City of Corpses) by OTA Yoko. She noted that “in general, with the exception of a few works, anger is not expressed directly towards A-bombs or the country which dropped them. At times, Japanese people’s anger seems to be addressed towards themselves, rather than the country which caused the anguish. Their anger seems introverted and complex.”

○Meaning and reason for the lack of anger in A-bomb-related narratives

--Societal & mental background in Japan during the Occupation period

The occupation forces made thorough preparations and mobilized 8,000 qualified Japanese to conduct an extensive censorship targeting Japanese newspapers, magazines, books, radio programs, movies, and mail. There was almost no resistance or criticism by the Japanese mass media. Due to this censorship, it was not until August 6, 1952 that Asahi Graph magazine printed for the first time, photos of the horrific aftermath of the A-bomb attacks. Dr. Tezuka thinks the following factors contributed to lack of anger towards the US: the war was finally over and the state of Japanese people’s mentality was immense relief and stupor; they were focused on daily survival; they had no time or energy to look back with anger over what had already happened; and their relationship with the occupation forces was relatively favorable.

--Absence of anger as analyzed from cultural psychology perspectives

Although human emotions are universally experienced, how they are evaluated and expressed will depend on the respective culture. In Western culture, individuals are regarded to be separate from their surroundings, and are expected to pursue the realization of their own wants, needs or goals. In contrast, in the Orient individuals are perceived as being defined by their surrounding relationships and are expected to live in a harmonious manner. In Japan where harmonious human relationship is often prioritized, anger tends to be perceived as a negative factor which may damage such relationship. This results in the suppression of anger.

--Approach to investigate the reason for absence of anger in Japanese mentality, from the viewpoint of sorrow

In 2003, Dr. Tezuka organized a workshop which discussed Japanese people's anger from a multicultural viewpoint. On this occasion, Japanese therapists gave comments, such as "Anger of the Japanese is often accompanied by sorrow" and "Japanese lack in awareness or acceptance of their own anger." Dr. Tezuka also cited an opinion from ODA Takao, a Jungian psychologist, to the effect that there is a widely shared negativism about expressing anger beyond therapy sessions in Japan.

--Comparison of Grimm's "Frog King" and Japanese folktale "Crane Wife"

Dr. Tezuka explained these two folktales imply a Western vs. Japanese difference in the perception and treatment of anger, in terms of who broke the promise, whether there was anger or punishment for that person, and how the story concluded. While Grimm's story implies a positive meaning in anger, the Japanese story does not. Dr. Tezuka introduced an interesting response by a female foreign student in her class regarding this difference. The student said she cannot accept the attitude of the crane wife who just left without expressing any anger that her husband had broken his promise. She asserted, "If I were the wife, I would have gotten angry. If the wife had confronted and asked why he broke the promise and talked it out, they might have avoided a sorrowful separation." In this connection, Dr. Tezuka also introduced an opinion from KAWAI Hayao, another Jungian psychologist who said, "In the closing of many Japanese folktales, importance is placed on the feeling of sadness aroused in the listener's mind."

--Japanese affinity with the sense of sorrow

According to Japanese intellectual history scholar TAKEUCHI Seiichi, sorrow is associated closely



with Japanese culture, and that Japanese have positively accepted and almost indulged in it. KATO Seiichi, a literary critic said that "the attitude or mentality of the Japanese to accept or even welcome sorrow has been expressed in a variety of words such as *"aware"* (fleeting nature of things), *"hakanashi"* (ephemeral) and *"akirame"* (resignation). To these opinions, Dr. Tezuka presents a question, "Do the Japanese unconsciously welcome a sad yet beautiful ending rather than express straightforward anger and engage in verbal dialogue? Can such an attitude be valid in the contemporary world in which our lives are increasingly characterized by diversity and having to live with people of

different values and backgrounds?"

○Let's reevaluate how we Japanese deal with anger__episode from *Hadashi no Gen* (Barefoot Gen)

In psychology, anger is defined as a negative feeling, produced by "hurt, loss or frustration." However if we accept and face anger we can clarify our own needs and thoughts, and enhance integrity as a person. Dr. Tezuka explained she does not regard anger simply as something negative but it can teach us something valuable. She cited an episode from *Hadashi no Gen* where Gen's straightforward anger against A-bomb victim Seiji who bullied him out of anguish led to a frank dialogue and mutual understanding.

○Closing: How should we deal with our anger?

Pat Palmer, who authored a picture book titled “Anger Can Be Healthy,” states that anger is only natural, and that it simply implies our mindset to take good care of ourselves. Dr. Tezuka explained it may be a big challenge for us Japanese to communicate anger to another person in a constructive manner because our norm is to regard anger and expression of anger as something negative. She also explained the three types of expressing anger; (1) “Suppressive”__does not visibly express anger even if feeling angry or deserving to be angry (2) “Outrage”__ tendency to go into rage over something trivial, and (3) “Ideal”__able to communicate anger effectively.



In

conclusion, Dr. Tezuka recommended the following steps for communicating one’s anger positively. First, we need to accept and face one’s anger, then follow up with an “I” message using “I” as the subject, clarifying one’s underlying feelings, thoughts and needs in a concrete manner, at the appropriate timing, and without accusing the other party.

(Written by KOBAYASHI T, Vice President, and translated by TANAHASHI S., the PR & Internet Committee)

(Continued from P.1) A Happy Encounter with the Private-Sector UNESCO Movement

defences of peace” truly signify and what actions we should take.

At the United Nation’s 42nd General Assembly in November 2023, UNESCO member states agreed on a revised version of the 1974 Recommendation. This international document provides a clear roadmap for how education should evolve in the twenty-first century to contribute to peace, reaffirm human rights and promote global citizenship and sustainable development in the face of contemporary threats and challenges. I hope this can build momentum for many people to increase their knowledge and take action through UNESCO associations, workplaces, schools and their own communities.

(Translated by MIYASHITA Y., the PR & Internet Committee)

Minato Citizens Festival

Date & Time: Sat., Oct. 7, 2023 11:00 to 17:00
Sun., Oct. 8, 2023 10:00 to 16:00
Venue: Minato City Shiba-Park

It was a warm day for October. Relieved from the Corona restrictions, the Park was crowded with many people for the Festival. At the UNESCO booth, we handed out the flyer, displayed the panels which introduce the activities of each committee to people, and sat up the mini-bazaar.

Many people stopped by the mini bazaar. Though we assume that winter clothes will remain unsold under the warm day, a beautiful lady bought a thick winter coat and take it.



We would like to thank all who donated the goods, sat up the booth, and sold the good with pleasant sales talk. We were able to raise funds more than last year.

(Written by ISOBE T., Vice President, and translated by KODAMA T. the PR & Internet Committee)

FestiBalloon

Date & Time: Thu., Oct. 19, 2023 16:00 to 20:00
Fri., Oct. 20, 2023 11:00 to 20:00
Venue: Minato City Life-long Learning Center

It is the 25th anniversary of the Minato Lifelong Learning Center (Balloon), so we had a special eve festival in addition to the annual day-time FestiBallon this year. Festiballon is an event for the clubs using the City Life-long Learning Center regularly, to show their activities to the public. There were some booths from sister cities and local shops. UNESCO also displayed the panels which shows our activities at the 3rd floor, and sat up a booth for mini-bazaar, to raise funds for donation.

At the bazaar, the Madam from local fried pork (TONKATSU) restaurant bought a perfect set-up for her, and a gentleman from Yakitori restaurant bought a towel for his head band. We appreciate the local hart warm contribution at the bazaar and many thanks to people who sat up the FestiBalloon. Proceeds from the May and October bazaars will be totaled, excluding expenses, will be donated to decent organizations. We hope that we could help in supporting refugees and displaced persons.

(Written by ISOBE T., Vice President, and translated by KODAMA T., the PR & Internet Committee)

In Memory of Mr. YAMAMOTO Shunsuke

MUA member Mr. YAMAMOTO Shunsuke peacefully passed away at the age of 94 on September 13. Mr. YAMAMOTO, who served as a Managing Officer/Chief Engineer and Board Director at Shimizu Corporation, was in charge of building five foreign pavilions at the 1970 Osaka Expo. After retirement, he founded the "Yamamoto Design Laboratory". While working as a designer there, he presented oil paintings, watercolors, and sketches to annual exhibitions. I can clearly recall his talk titled "Journey to a Different Culture" at the MUA Salon of UNESCO Association on September 25, 2008.

Known not only for his artistic talent but originally a photography enthusiast, Mr. YAMAMOTO took photos since his days at the Army Cadet School. During his time at the University of Tokyo, he belonged to the photography club for three years. While studying in the U.S., he traveled around with his favorite camera "Nikon SP" in his hand and the resulting photos were published in Asahi Journal upon his return.

Mr. YAMAMOTO, who mentioned, "My paintings, dealing with the socially engaging job of architectural design, primarily focus on easily understandable representational art depicting humans," received the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Award in 2017 for his masterpiece, "Adriatic Sea Wind" (oil painting, size 100). This artwork was also featured on the cover of the 40th-anniversary commemorative bulletin of the Minato UNESCO Association published in October 2021.

His wife's note, stating, "He led a normal life until that day, reading the evening paper in the dining room, peacefully departing while watching TV on the sofa," reminded me of Mr. YAMAMOTO's happy face saying that his wife was so helpful that she took care of writing New Year's cards, invitations, letters of thanks, etc. on his behalf. The memories are endless. Please rest in peace.

(Written by HIRAKATA K., Vice President, and translated by SUDA Y., the PR & Internet Committee Associate)

(From the 40th-anniversary commemorative book of the UNESCO Association)

Adriatic Sea Wind

Mr. YAMAMOTO Shunsuke



The start of my solo exhibition was in 1995 at the Okura Gallery in Ginza, where I showcased sketch paintings. Serving as an Executive Director and Chief Engineer at Shimizu Corporation, with frequent overseas business trips, I decided to hold solo exhibitions every two years, featuring popular watercolor works from my sketchbook. Many enthusiasts visited, surprising the gallery owner with his first-time experience. MUA kindly provided me with an opportunity to speak at the 11th MUA Salon, on September 25, 2008, with the theme of "Journey to a different culture." My speech covered that I studied in the United States, that I was in charge of building five

foreign pavilions at the 1970 Osaka Expo, and what I experienced on my trip to Iraq under President Hussein.

After retiring from Shimizu Corporation, oil paintings joined watercolor sketches in my repertoire. Watercolors use transparent materials, considering the contrast with the white canvas, while oil paintings layer opaque materials, concealing the canvas. When traveling abroad, as oil painting supplies are too heavy, I create highly detailed watercolor sketches and then transfer them to oil paintings. I hold two watercolor exhibitions and three oil painting exhibitions annually.

(Continued to P.14)

UNESCO Press Release
AI Ethics: 8 global tech companies commit
to apply UNESCO's Recommendations
5 February 2024

Today, GSMA, INNIT, Lenovo Group, LG AI Research, Mastercard, Microsoft, Salesforce and Telefonica signed a ground-breaking agreement to build more ethical AI. The companies will integrate the values and principles of UNESCO's Recommendation on the Ethics of AI when designing and deploying AI systems.



In November 2021, UNESCO forged a consensus between all its Member States to adopt the first global ethical framework for the use of artificial intelligence. Today, we are taking another major step by obtaining the same concrete commitment from global tech companies. I call on all tech stakeholders to follow the example of these first eight companies. This alliance of the public and private sectors is critical to building AI for the common good.

The agreement was signed in Kranj, Slovenia at the 2nd UNESCO Global Forum on AI. It compels the companies to fully play their role in guaranteeing human rights in the design, development, purchase, sale, and use of AI. This is the first time that companies have engaged with the United Nations in this area.

It states that due diligence, must be carried out in order to meet safety standards, to identify the adverse effects of AI, and timely measures taken to prevent, mitigate, or remedy them, in line with domestic legislation. The agreement also notes that *ex-ante* testing, (testing before a new AI system is released onto the market) is essential. But given the fast evolution of AI systems already on the market, it also calls for the development of *ex-post* (post-deployment) risk assessments and mitigation practices. (Excerpted)

(Continued from P.13) In Memory of Mr. YAMAMOTO Shunsuke

For 20 years, I exhibited annually a 162cm x 112cm-size oil painting at the Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum's "Soujuten Exhibition" for the improvement of my oil painting skills, and won many awards. In 2017, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology awarded my work "Adriatic Sea Wind." Furthermore, I was so grateful that MUA posted it on the front cover of the booklet commemorating the 40th anniversary of MUA's foundation.

(Written by YAMAMOTO S. and translated by SUDA Y., the PR & Internet Committee Associate)

Minato UNESCO Association is a citizens' voluntary membership organization that promotes Japanese traditional culture, holds cross-cultural workshops and presents multicultural events and international symposia for world peace. For any questions or comments about our articles, please contact our secretariat office at:

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