



MINATO TOKYO

# Bulletin

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MINATO UNESCO ASSOCIATION NEWS & CALENDAR

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## How I interpret the “San-mu Shugi” in Japan

Yoshiya Mikami, Advisor, MUA

It is said that we Japanese are undergoing an age of “San-mu Shugi” or a mindset characterized by the lack in three important virtues – responsibility, consideration for others, and proactive concern. I experience an accelerating and very visible spread of this mindset in the behavior of young people as well as elderly citizens in their sixties or so. They seem to act upon their egoistic desires only.

Recently I saw Audrey Hepburn, after many years, in a TV program – an old movie titled “Charade.” The character she acted took interest in everything around her, maintained strong curiosity, and took quick actions in facing & solving problems. Her attractive facial expression changed flexibly, depending on different emotions. My interest in her role grew all the more because the character was a simultaneous English & French interpreter who belonged to the Paris-based UNESCO headquarters.



For many years I have been professionally engaged in fostering people whose job is to express. Whether it's stage plays, movies, TV or radio programs, these activities cannot be performed without the support by acoustic art. In whichever genre of performance, it is the expression by actors/actresses that infuses life into the story. To foster the performers, it is indispensable to teach them the history of theatrical plays on top of acting theories of the East and the West.

Starting with King Oedipus which was allegedly created by Sophokles in BC400 – 500 adapted from a real story, we teach major plays of Shakespeare, Racine, Moliere, Ibsen, as well as traditional Japanese plays in Noh, Kyogen and Kabuki. Based on the acquisition of such basic knowledge, we teach acting theories. In acoustic art, we offer advanced techniques for expression for concerts, stage plays and visual presentations.

Renowned classic plays have been created in all times and in different places, presenting complicated human relations as well as different phases in politics, economy and society. We can perceive in such plays the eternal human dramas which are valid today or in the past.

I was a 5<sup>th</sup> grader of an elementary school when Tokyo was bombarded by the massive U. S. air force raids. The war left an unforgettable memory in me as a survivor of the cruel attack. Thus I cannot turn my eyes off from the persisting war scenes in the Middle East.

I once read a paper titled “Various issues in the past which are yet to be settled,” which was written by Mr. Tatsuji Iwabuchi, an expert in German theatricals plays. I'd like to discuss Japan's war responsibility in the light of the “San-mu Shugi” mentality of Japanese today. German people held war trials by themselves, separate from the war tribunal staged against Germany by the Allied Forces.

In Japan, however, people did not take action to seek and identify where the war responsibility resided. The society even accepted the case where a renowned figure, who was once put into prison as a Class A war criminal by the Allied Forces, became Prime Minister later. If my understanding is

**(To be continued on P.9)**

# UNESCO YOUTH FORUM in Minato 2013

**Let's foster and extend to younger generations**

**"Spirit of UNESCO : heart for peace"**

Let's have fun with foreign students of Universities

~ ~Wishing for the early recovery of East Japan from the Big Earthquake~ ~

Date & Time : 13:00-16:30, Saturday, October 5, 2013

Place : Minato Gender Equality Center, 5F Hall

This year we had 9 foreign students as panelists who are studying at universities in Tokyo and Utsunomiya city.

They come from various home countries, and each of them differs in the terms of both the years spent in Japan and their major. This time as done in the last 2 occasions, we maintained close cooperation with the Utsunomiya UNESCO Association.

In the hall, many Japanese and foreign students participated from Chuo University, Keio University, Nihon University, Rikkyo University, Tamagawa University, Tokai University, and Waseda University. Also many citizens of Minato City and members of MUA attended this event. The hall was full to the maximum capacity of 130 people..

## **13 : 00 Opening**

Two Youth Committee members of MUA, Mr. S. Sato and Ms. M. Iwata, who are Japanese students of Chuo University, played the role of the Chairs. Thanks to their friendly and excellent MC, the Forum went well.

The program consisted of four parts.

1. **Introduction of Home Countries** by 5 foreign students
2. **Panel-talk** by 9 foreign students : **"Main Theme : Japan and I, and Future"**  
**Sub-topics** : "Reason for studying in Japan", "Outcome of studying in Japan"  
"What I thought about East Japan Big Earthquake on 3.11,2011"  
"My Dream—Cooperation between my country and Japan"
3. **Q&A session** with the audience
4. **Let's sing together** wishing for early recovery of the East Japan from the Big



Earthquake

## **Welcome address by President of MUA, Ms. M. Takai**

"We deeply appreciate each of the participants and attendees to share with us the third UNESCO Youth Forum in Minato. It would be an important role for us to foster and extend the UNESCO spirit of "Heart for Peace" to younger generations as the future of the world depends on their shoulders. The aim of this Forum is to provide an opportunity to meet together for the exchange and thereby encourage the mutual understanding. Thanks to Ms. Y. Nagato, a founding Director of MUA, who now lives in Utsunomiya City and serves as president of Utsunomiya UNESCO Association, two UNESCO Associations are able to collaborate on this precious project. We are very glad if this Forum would demonstrate a good model of excellent cooperation.



## **Address by Ms. Y. Nagato, Director of MUA, and President of Utsunomiya UNESCO Association**



Thank you very much for inviting us, foreign students of the Utsunomiya UNESCO Association, to the third UNESCO Youth Forum in Minato. Utsunomiya city is located within an hour ride by Shinkansen bullet train. However, for many foreign students, it is a rare opportunity to come to Tokyo. They are looking forward to joining this UNESCO Youth Forum in Minato. I wish this project would be fruitful and productive for better

understanding and would become a new wonderful meeting place and birth place for a global peaceful family.

**13:10 Introduction of their home country by 5 foreign students**

**( 1 ) The Republic of Armenia by Ms. Karine** (Researcher on the fellowship of the Japan Foundation)



Armenia is a small country with a population of 3 million. It is landlocked in the South Caucasus and located between the Black and Caspian Seas. The country is 1.6 times larger than Shikoku in Japan. Armenia became the first state in the world to adopt Christianity as its religion in 301 AD, ten years before the Roman Empire granted Christianity an official toleration. So it has many unique old churches. Armenia is famous for chess. "Narine lactic acid bacteria", which was found in Armenia, is known all over the world because it has a lot of effective factors for good health. A famous music piece "Sabre Dance" was composed by an Armenian, Aram Khachaturian.

**( 2 ) The Republic of Indonesia by Ms. Susan** (Master's course, Environment Design)

Indonesia is an archipelago comprising approximately 13,000 islands that straddle the equator. It consists of hundreds of distinct native ethnic and linguistic groups. Indonesia is five times larger than Japan. It has a population of 237 million, 88% of which are Muslim. However Islam is not a state religion. Today, I will talk about the Dayak people in Borneo who maintain their traditional culture. They have many tattoos on their bodies and wear large links on their ears.



**( 3 ) The Gabonese Republic by Ms. Mabike** (Doctoral course, Engineering)

Gabon is located on the Atlantic coast of central Africa. Gabon generally has an equatorial climate with an extensive growth of rainforests covering 85% of the country. It has a plentiful habitation of animals, plants and natural resources. It has a population that is estimated at 1.5 million and consists of more than 50 races. In 1996, the nation's first Cultural Festival was held to promote cultural exchanges among the different races in Gabon. Today it is a big event to demonstrate their science and culture, respectively.



**( 4 ) The Kirgыз Republic by Ms. Asel** (Doctoral course, International Studies)



I will play the Komuz, a traditional string instrument, with songs. Kirgызstan is a country located in Central Asia. The Komuz is similar to the Japanese Shamisen and is the instrument every kid learns how to play with songs. You can see it in every house in Kirgыз. It created somewhat gloomy but beautiful sound. This instrument might have been imported to Japan after a long journey through areas along the Silk Road. My son, Asanov Nurbol, is in the 1<sup>st</sup> grade of a primary school in Utsunomiya city. He joined the Forum with me, dressed in an ethnic costume.



**( 5 ) Mongolia by Ms. Undral** (Master's course, Commerce)



Japanese people have an image of Mongolia as a country of horsed on the steppe. Ulan Bator, the capital of Mongolia, has been rapidly urbanizing year by year and now has many large buildings. The number of cars has increased to an amazing degree, which causes heavy traffic jams. People who live in Yurts (portable, bent dwelling structures traditionally used in the steppes of Central Asia) can lead a comfortable life, using electricity generated by solar panels installed on the roof. The Internet and cellular phones are popular among many people. We often see people on

a motorbike chasing cattle. The rich underground mineral resources have drawn the attention of all the advanced countries. Mongolia is expected to be one of the countries that will accomplish the most remarkable development in the next ten years.

**14 : 20 Panel-talk by 9 foreign students**

**Main Theme : “ Japan and I, and Future”**

Sub-topics :

- “Reason for studying in Japan “
- “Outcome of studying in Japan “
- “My Dream -Cooperation between my country and Japan”
- “What I thought about East Japan Big Earthquake on March 11, 2011 “

Coordinator: Prof. Kazuhiko Yoshida of Utsunomiya University

**Nine Panelists** : Ms. Karine from Armenia, Ms. Mabike from Gabon, Ms. Susan from Indonesia, Ms. Asel from Kyrgyz, Ms. Undral from Mongolia, Ms. Shu from China (Master’s course, Business Administration) , Ms. Inna from Indonesia (Doctoral course, Agriculture) , Ms. Jang from Korea (Undergraduate, Law) and Mr. Sasanka from Sri-Lanka (Undergraduate, IT)



Ms. Chu



Ms. Inna



Ms. Jang



Mr. Sasanka

The 9 students expressed and exchanged their views and experiences in Japan, actively and frankly with sometimes humor. The audience & participants were all ears, smiling, laughing or clapping.

**15 : 30 Q & A session with the audience**

The following are examples of questions raised from the floor:

- \*How many students among you are studying in Japan on a government scholarship?
- \*In the eyes of foreign students, do you find Japanese students diligent?
- \*Do you have close friends and familiar persons in Japan?
- \*How many persons do you want to keep company with even after your departure from Japan?
- \*Where were you when the big earth quake hit Tohoku on March 11, 2011?
- \*How did you get the news of the disaster and how did you feel then?
- \*Did not you have any fear to continue your stay in Japan after this catastrophe?
- \*Did you do something to support the victimized people after that disaster?
- \*Please tell us pleasant or unpleasant experiences you’ve had in Japan.
- \*When do you feel a sense of fulfillment? Do you lead a worthwhile life in Japan?

**16 : 05 Let’ s sing together wishing for early recovery of East Japan from the Big Earthquake**

**Mr. Gunji Shimizu, Director of MUA, undertook the MC role as he played the accordion.**

All the participants of the day sang songs, to the accompaniment of Mr. Shimizu’s accordion and Ms. Mariko Makiyama’s piano. The chorus group “Doyo- Rakusho-kai” helped us with the singing.



- Japanese songs
- ① Furusato
  - ② The one and only flower in the world  
    «Vocal solo : Ms. Undral»
  - ③ Flowers will bloom again



- ④ Furusato wa imamo kawarazu
- ⑤ If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands

We wished that our vigorous singing voice would reach the families of foreign students far away in their home countries, and also to the hearts of those who have experienced sufferings in the 3.11.

## **16 : 30 Closing**

### **Words of thanks representing foreign students**

Ms. Karine kindly offered words of thanks on behalf of the 9 foreign students.



Thank you very much for giving me a chance to join this forum. I don't know how to thank you enough. Foreign students like me can learn about Japan during our stay in Japan but we have few chances to introduce our home countries to Japanese people. In front of many students and the UNESCO staff, we could introduce our respective home countries and our opinions about our life in Japan, using the Japanese language. Though our hearts pounded, we could talk with a great deal of pride.

This program has given us a wonderful opportunity to learn about countries different from ours. By knowing the differences between other countries and our own, we can accept each other and can move forward. I really had a wonderful time and it truly exceeded my expectations. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Ms. Takai, Ms. Nagato, all the members of MUA and everyone involved in this forum.

### **Closing remarks by Mr. H. Nagano, Vice president of MUA**

In closing the forum, let me express my sincere thanks to the foreign students for their wonderful presentations and their active discussion in the panel talk session. Also I would like to express our thanks to various peoples for their support and active cooperation.

I had the first experience to study abroad 45 years ago. Hearing the talks by foreign students, I remember the fond memories of my young days.

Today many foreign and Japanese students came to join us in this hall. I would like to strongly encourage Japanese students to go abroad and study in foreign countries, even if it's a short period. If you do, you can truly appreciate the experiences spoken by foreign students.

The spirit of UNESCO is summarized as follows: "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed." I think today's forum was perfect from this viewpoint. I trust this kind of event will be beneficial for the Minato UNESCO Association, I hope MUA will continue this program Mr. Sato and Ms. Iwata, thank you for the excellent MC jobs today.



**16 : 40 closed** The Forum ended on schedule. All participants left the hall reluctantly.



*Listed below are the comments sent from the students describing their impressions on the UNESCO Youth Forum in Minato 2013.*

#### **Ms. Inna from the Republic of Indonesia**

I would like to thank you for giving me a chance to participate in the panel discussion. I really had a wonderful time, exceeding my expectations. This youth forum gave me a good chance to learn not only about other countries but also about my own. There were many questions raised from the audience, to which we could express our own opinions. This made the forum very exciting and meaningful. We engaged in thoughtful dialogue with the audience, making the interactive event a success. Even though we all live in Asia, there are many things which we don't know about each other. I would be more than happy if Japanese people and other Asian people learned much more about Indonesia. Sincere thanks to MUA for inviting me to this forum.

**Ms. Susan from the Republic of Indonesia**

Many listeners were interested in our talk and asked us many questions. It surprised me very much and made me happy. Foreign students from different countries spoke about their life in Japan and about their home countries. It was very interesting and worthwhile. To tell the truth, I would have liked to talk directly with the audience and with the MUA staff much more. Unfortunately, we didn't have enough time to talk with them personally. I had a truly wonderful time at the forum. I appreciate all the help you have offered to me.

**Ms. Mabike from the Gabonese Republic**

I had a wonderful opportunity to interact with foreign students who participated in the UNESCO Youth Forum 2013 in Minato. I was able to learn what other exchange students in Japan experienced. Through this forum, I learned much about Japan and had an invaluable experience which will remain a precious memory for the rest of my life. I hope this type of gathering can continue to take place. I appreciate all your help. Thank you very much!

**Ms. Asel from the Kyrgyz Republic**

This is the third time for me and my son, Nurbol, a first grader in an elementary school, to join the UNESCO Youth Forum in Minato. It will remain as a precious memory throughout the rest of our lives. The large audience, as many as one hundred people, truly gave me the feeling that this was the best chance for us to share the voices of foreign students and their opinions about college life, and to explain about life in our home country.

In the forum, we met many Japanese, young and old. Through participation in this forum, I learned many things about Japan and also about other countries. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Ms. Takai, Ms. Nagato and to all the members of MUA. I was very grateful for the convenience to visit Tokyo by Shinkansen bullet train. Thank you also for sending us many wonderful photos.

**Mr. Sasanka from Sri Lanka**

I came to Japan with the aim of acquiring new technology unavailable in my home country, and of returning home with it. Therefore, I concentrated my whole efforts on studying in a technical junior college in Hokkaido. I took part in many volunteer activities and many cultural exchange activities with the citizens of Hokkaido. It's because I knew I could never learn the Japanese culture and customs only through studying hard at college. Because of these activities, I made many Japanese friends from whom I learned much about Japanese culture.

But after I moved to Utsunomiya city, I had no chances like the ones I had experienced in Hokkaido. Fortunately, Ms. Nagato, the leader of the Utsunomiya UNESCO Association, invited me to join her circle, and I had the chance to associate with citizens of Utsunomiya.

Because I participated in the Minato UNESCO Forum, I had a wonderful time talking with the members of MUA. Through the forum, I could talk with foreign students studying at various universities, the community members, and many Japanese students. I spoke in front of a large audience for the first time in my life about my own experiences and expressed my opinions about life in Japan and about my dreams. The forum was such a wonderful experience that my world became wider and richer. I would like to express my deep appreciation to the members of Minato UNESCO and to all the people who took care of me.

**Ms. Shu from China**

Please let me first express my sincere appreciation for inviting us to the Minato UNESCO Forum. Because I had never spoken in front of a large audience, I was very nervous at the beginning of the forum. However the event turned out to be very exciting and enjoyable for me. I got up very early on the morning to take the Shinkansen bullet train to Tokyo. It was my first experience to ride the Shinkansen since my arrival in Japan 8 years ago. The ride to Tokyo took only 50 minutes and I was surprised at the speed and the splendid atmosphere of the train. I had a chance to speak with foreign students from Mongolia, Armenia, Indonesia, Gabon, Kyrgyzstan, Sri Lanka and South Korea. I learned about their culture and daily lives which I had never learned in my own college. All of them were excellent students representing their home countries. I was a little nervous to share my opinion with them. It's because my Japanese is not so good even though I have been in Japan longer than them. I will do my best to learn the Japanese language from now on. The memorable day in Tokyo went by

in an instant. I enjoyed it very much and learned a lot of valuable things . I would like to express my hearty thanks to the members of MUA and to all the people who helped us. Thank you very much from the bottom of my heart.

**Ms. Undral from Mongolia**

I am very happy to have had a chance to take part in the Youth Forum of MUA. I would like to thank the members of MUA and the Utsunomiya UNESCO Association. The half-day forum was over in an instant, but I was able to make friends with other foreign students and talk a lot with the members of MUA. I had a good chance to introduce my home country, talk about my life in Japan, and explain my future dreams. Thank you very much for giving me a precious experience and wonderful memories. I will never forget them. I hope I will be able to join such a good event again next year.

**Ms. Iwata (Japanese), Co-chair of the Forum**

It is a great honor for me to be engaged in this wonderful UNESCO Forum as a chairperson. Foreign students, studying in Japan far away from their home country are doing their best in order to fulfill their aims despite their various anxieties. Their words exemplify their endeavors to do their best and have impressed me deeply. The 5 foreign students took a lot of time for the preparation of their Power Point presentations. They told us, among other things, about their college lives, their daily lives and their part-time jobs. While listening to their speech, I came to regard them as friends near and dear to me. Because of the elaborate plan prepared jointly by the foreign students and the forum members, this event was tremendously successful. I would like to express my thanks to everyone involved in this forum.

**Mr. Sato (Japanese), Co-chair of the Forum**

This was my first time taking part in the UNESCO Forum as Chairperson. I had a wonderful time with all of the participants. When the foreign students talked about their home countries and their lives in Japan, I was reminded of my own stay in France as a student. I sympathized with their experiences and missed France. The foreign students gave such an interesting speech that the audience in the hall paid close attention to them and sometimes even burst into laughter. The forum was filled with a wonderful atmosphere. I hope such an event will continue to be held in the future.

**Ms. Mochizuki (Japanese), Tamagawa University' s UNESCO club member**

This was my first experience participating in this international exchange event. I had a very positive and unique experience. It was a fulfilling event far beyond my expectations. I learned a lot about the countries and the life of each foreign student in Japan. I was deeply moved by one of the foreign students who particularly loved Japan. They all spoke in fluent Japanese concerning the theme. Their attitude motivated me to think that I should do my best to follow their example. I really enjoyed the event and would like to join it again next time.

***This event was broadcast as a cable television program, "Minato Public Information Topics," for 10 days from November 1. I would like to list below major comments received from the students who were interviewed on the cable TV program:***

- (1) At college I participate in an international exchange group. Knowing that foreign students here are leading their life with a sense of fulfillment, I also would like to study abroad. ( **male Japanese student**)
- (2) I sympathized with the foreign students because I am also one of them. The forum gave me a good chance to learn about the opinions of foreign students. ( **female foreign student**)
- (3) I agreed with the foreign students on some points but not so on others. It was very interesting to me. ( **male foreign student**)

*(Written by M. Takai, MUA President, and translated by K. Murayama and M. Takai. Photos by Y. Sakashita)*

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Cross-cultural Awareness Lecture 2013  
**The Tension in East Asia and Challenges for Japan's Foreign Policy**

Date & Time: Tuesday, September 3, 2013; 6:30 – 8:30p.m.  
Place: Minato City Lifelong Learning Center, Room 305

We had the pleasure of having Mr. Mikio Haruna, Professor, Graduate School, Waseda University, as the speaker for this lecture series. First we'd like you to share a brief profile of Mr. Haruna shown below:



Profile: Born in 1946; Graduated from Osaka University of Foreign Studies (current Osaka University) and joined Kyodo News Service in 1969; Chief correspondent of Washington Bureau from 1993 to 1996; worked as the U.S. correspondent for 12 years; held positions as Chief editorial writer, senior staff writer; Retired in 2007; then, became the professor of graduate school at Nagoya University

Prizes won: Vaughn-Ueda International Journalist Award in 1995, Japan National Press Club Award in 2004

Major Publications: "Hibakusha in USA" (Iwanami Shinsho)

"Secret File – CIA operation on Japan" (Kyodo News Service)

"Japan and the cold war between The US and China" (PHP Lab)

Mr. Haruna spoke enthusiastically about the subject from a global viewpoint, based on his long experience as the correspondent in NY and Washington DC. The following is a summary of his speech:

1. I worry about an estranged relationship between Prime Minister Abe and President Obama. Upon the election as the prime minister after the landslide victory of the Liberal Democratic Party in the 2012 Lower House general election, Mr. Abe asked Mr. Obama for a meeting. It took quite some time before the meeting was actually established. What this meant was the signal from Mr. Obama that he did not acknowledge the necessity of the meeting with Mr. Abe as there existed no significant issue between two countries. The meeting was quite short and ceremonial. This contrasts markedly with the long meeting with Mr. Xi Jinping, Chinese President held in California. It seems that Mr. Abe's remarks on the comfort women during the World War II casted a dark shadow.
2. The Japanese Government has handled the issues surrounding Senkaku Islands very poorly. Rising to the provocation by Mr. Ishihara, the former Governor of Tokyo, Mr. Noda, the former Prime Minister announced to place the Senkaku Islands under the state control. It turned out that the U.S. Government was against the course of action taken by the Japanese Government as it would seriously heighten tension between Japan and China. At the Cairo Conference during the World War II, President Roosevelt twice offered to cede control of Okinawa (Senkaku) to China. Chiang Kai-shek declined the offer stating that he would accept if it were the joint-control by the US and China. The basic stance of the US is not to be involved in the territorial dispute. China seems to be taking a strong position against Japan as the US apparently acknowledges the existence of the issue of territorial rights over Senkaku Islands
3. The US Government does not expect Japan to build up military power. They believe that the Japan-U.S. security treaty works as the deterrent against the expansion of military forces of Japan. The decision by the U.S. not to sell the cutting-edge combat fighter F-22 to Japan explicitly shows this. Abe Administration seems to be trying to improve relations with the U.S. through the constitutional interpretation on the right of collective self-defense. This means that the Administration has dropped the plan to amend the constitution.
4. The U.S. Government is concerned about the increased military forces of China as well. The biggest concern is that China may acquire the military forces equivalent to the U.S. In other words, the second attack capability. China would be able to give the second attack against mainland U.S. by equipping with SLBM (submarine-launched ballistic missile), even if all of their land-based ICBM (intercontinental ballistic missile) are lost to attack. China already has one or two submarines with SLBM capability. As the missile range of those SLBM's is around 7000km, they would reach the U.S. if launched out in the Pacific Ocean. To avoid this to happen, Senkaku Islands and Okinawa are considered to be quite critical to the security of the U.S.
5. President Obama has not hosted the six party talks with North Korea yet. Thus, he does not seem to deal proactively with the diplomatic issues surrounding North Korea. He only thinks to withdraw from Afghanistan as well. We cannot identify any single diplomatic accomplishment since Mr. Obama took up a post as the President of the U.S.

6. We would expect the relation between Japan and the U.S. be further tightened thanks to the appointment of Ms. Caroline Kennedy as U.S. Ambassador in Tokyo. She holds liberal-views and speaks quite straightforward. She could talk to senior Japanese government officials on a very delicate issue on behalf of President Obama.
7. Population of minorities is increasing in the U.S. White people occupied 85% of the total population back in 1960. It kept decreasing every year since then, and went down to 70% in 2000. It is expected to further decline to 2/3 or less in 2010. Asian-Americans have a high level of education, earn a generous salary and gathering an increased power.

Q & A:

1. When did people start to call Japan-U.S. Security Treaty the “Japan-U.S. alliance”?
  - “Japan-U.S. Alliance” first appeared in the joint communiqué with U.S. during the age of Prime Minister Suzuki and Foreign Minister Ito. Mr. Ito had to step down as Foreign Minister by this.
2. Are formal documents disclosed to public in Japan as they are in the U.S.?
  - They are open to public viewing at Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.
3. What is the scenario for ice-breaking between Japan and China?
  - Both countries need to exercise the utmost efforts to put the past history behind.
4. Was the internet developed by the forces?
  - It started when the U.S. Government made the information network of the forces available to civilian use.
5. What is your opinion about the breakaway from the post-war regime which Prime Minister Abe seems to advocate?
  - The U.S. expects that Japan exercises the right of collective self-defense. However, the Far East is considered to be included in the coverage of Japan-U.S. Security Treaty. Japan should develop its soft power in such areas of culture, education, tradition and so forth which are different from those of the U.S. Historical perception is also quite important.

Though the theme given was quite touchy and difficult, Mr. Haruna gave a predigested speech for those who are not quite knowledgeable about the issue. He made the essence of issues relating to foreign policy very clear which we cannot obtain by going through the news media. We should not leave the issues associated with foreign policy as well as military affair only to specialists. We all need to take an interest in those issues in an effort to find the way they should be.

*(Written by Masaaki Shiose, the International Science & Culture Committee and translated by Yasushi Suda, the PR, Bulletin & Internet Committee)*

**Note from MUA Editorial Office: The opinions & viewpoints expressed in this article are solely those of the speaker’s own and do not represent in any way those of MUA’s.**

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 (Continued from P.1) **How I interpret the “San-mu Shugi” in Japan**

correct, Japan is yet to ratify the treaty titled “Convention on the non-applicability of statutory limitations to war crimes and crimes against humanity, “ which was adopted by United Nations General Assembly resolution and put into effect in 1970.

I think we Japanese are known for faithfulness and diligence. However we seem to have a weakness to be negligent of coping with important issues. This weakness may not apply to all Japanese but I’d like to call for your reflection on whether or not you have had any tendency to avoid facing challenging issues. When a problem arises, we should face it squarely and seek a valid solution. I’d like to propose strongly that we respond likewise to the current international conflicts Japan is experiencing with neighbor countries. We should proactively talk with them and take appropriate actions.

All in all, I suspect that the “San-mu Shugi” has its origin in the aforementioned weakness of our people. (November 29, 2013)  
*(Translated by S. Tanahashi, VP, the PR, Bulletin & Internet Committee)*

## 2013 32<sup>nd</sup> Minato Citizen Festival

2013 32<sup>nd</sup> Minato Citizen Festival was held in the Shiba Park on October 12<sup>th</sup> (Sat) and 13<sup>th</sup> (Sun) under the fine autumnal weather. MUA has joined it 32 times since the beginning. Our tent is located near the spot of swings as the previous years.

As the last year, we had a charity bazar with accessories and bags which were presented by MUA members and others and with tea ceremony experience of ¥200 per one bowl. This year, participants of the bazar were required to put the money into the boxes of donation to the suffering kids of the East Japan Great Earthquake. Thus they must have understood the purpose of our charity bazar. An exceptionally strong sunshine in mid-October made the entire tent including people and goods for bazar feel warm.

Quite a few visitors to our corner bought several items to help our activities which aimed to help young victims of the earthquake. And some people took our pamphlets after talking with MUA staff or observing the panels of each MUA committee's activity.

There was good news. One lady came to MUA tent with her daughter, saying "I participated in the activity of MUA Youth Committee when I was a student, and, now, my daughter wishes to work voluntarily for international activities. Ms. Takai, our president, explained to them about the current Youth Committee. We will be more than happy if such two generation people would join MUA activities.

On the afternoon of the first day, Mr. M. Takei, Minato City Mayor dropped in our tent while he was calling on all the exhibiting groups, and we took a memorial group picture with him.

The second day had another very fine autumnal weather and many MUA members came to help us from 10 AM till 4 PM. The bazar ended with a great success. Thank you very much, all the MUA members who helped this event, and I want to thank all the people helped us perform the tea ceremony.



*(Written by Ms. T. Watabe, Standing Director and Chairperson of the Minato Festival Special Committee, and translated by Ms. T. Nagakura, a member of the PR, Bulletin & Internet Committee)*

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