

Muse No. 36

Japanese Citizens Network of Museums for Peace

Newsletter: January 2018

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The 14th National Exchange Meeting of Japanese Citizens' Network of Museums for Peace

The 14th National Conference of Japanese Citizens' Network of Museums for peace will be held at the Kyoto Museum for World Peace. A special lecture was given in cooperation with Peace Education and Research Institute of Kyoto Museum for World Peace.

Dates: Dec. 9-10

Place: Kyoto Museum for World Peace at Ritsumeikan University

Schedule:

Dec. 9 (Sat)

13 : 00~ Registration

13 : 30~Greetings by host organization

13 : 45~ Special lecture on dark tourism

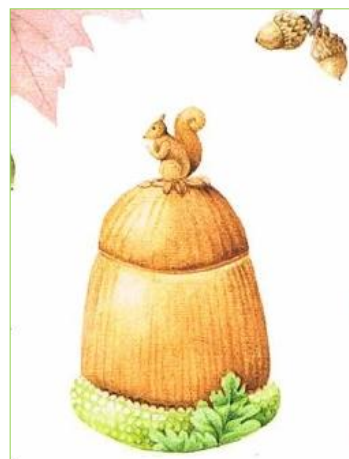
Lecturer: Professor Akira Ide, Otomon Gakuin University

Chair: Prof. Ikuro Anzai (Honorary Director of Kyoto Museum for World Peace)

* Open to the public (hosted by the Peace Education and Research Institute)

16 : 00~ Reports from various museums for peace

18 : 00~ 20:00 Social Gathering



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Dec. 10 (Sun)

9 : 30~ reports from various museums for peace (continued)

11:45~12:30 general meeting (report on activities, the next venue of the national conference, finance, etc.)

14:00~16:10 Fieldwork: visit to Kyoto Railway Museum

Highlights of Fieldwork

Kyoto was the first target of the atomic bombing. It is said that a round turntable of steam locomotives at Umekoji steam locomotive garage, now at Kyoto Railway Museum, was the target of atomic bombing. The bomb would have been dropped from the sky above about 10,000 meters. The target point is located about 1 km west of Kyoto Station.



- ☆ Fees of participants
- 500 yen for special lecturer, etc. and 3,000 yen for social gathering.

Publishing a book on the 10th anniversary of YPM

Tamotsu Asakawa
Yamanashi Peace Museum (YPM)

Ten years have passed since the

foundation of Yamanashi Peace Museum in Kofu City in Yamanashi Prefecture in May 2007. Mr. Toru Magozaki gave a special lecture in celebration of the 10th anniversary of the YPM.



YPM published a booklet entitled *The Port of Peace: 10 year History of Yamanashi Peace Museum* in September reflecting on activities for ten years for the better future, which consists of 110 pages of three chapters: (1)course of establishment of YPM, (2)permanent exhibition and special exhibitions, and (3)various events and programs.

In chapter 3, events such as Tanzen Ishibashi Peace Prize lectures and symposium on Tanzen Ishibashi were introduced based on newspaper articles, which shows important part of activities of YPM for ten years.

* **Tanzan Ishibashi** (1884-1973): a journalist, an educator and a politician who criticized Japan's policy of colonialism.

Summaries of lectures by distinguished speakers exemplified below are also available in the booklet: Prof. Ikuro Anzai's lecture on "Creating Peace from the Community: Contributing to world peace throughout peace museum movement" in June 2008, Mr. Magoroku Ide's lecture on "Keep asking war: the past that cannot be erased" in June 2010 and Ms. Hisae Sawachi's lecture on "Learning from history and living in the present" in June 2016

Regarding symposium on Tanzan Ishibashi which has been held every two years, it is possible to find abstracts of special lectures on Ishibashi by the experts such as Prof. Hiroshi Masuda of Rikkyo University and Prof. Jiang Keshi of Okayama University, etc. The booklet (1,200 yen) has been receiving high reputation. Please contact: Yamanashi Peace Museum (1-1-30 Asake Kofu City).

Conveying both Sides of Japan in Exploiting Manchuria and Mongolia during WWII

Hidefumi Terasawa: Vice Director of
Manmo Kaitaku Peace Museum

Four years and a half passed since Manmo Kaitaku Peace Museum was opened to convey the "development" of former Manchuria (North east part of China) by Japan. About 270,000 people

were sent as agricultural immigrants from all over Japan. Both sides of Japanese people as aggressors and victims are dealt with to think of the horror of war and preciousness of peace.

The peace museum is a private institution and it is not financially easy to run. On the other hand, there is a merit such as freedom of speech, and we have been making efforts to pick up even politically subtle issues from the citizens' viewpoint. Many people support such museum's standpoint and almost 30,000 people from different parts of Japan visited. There is a volunteer support group called "Peace Labo" and the number of volunteers is increasing including young generation for explaining exhibits to our visitors.

The Emperor and the Empress of Japan visited the peace museum on Nov. 17 in 2016 because they strongly hoped to do so. Thanks to their visit, the number of visitors increased this year. I understand that there are various opinions on the emperor's war responsibility, etc., and I would like to convey historical facts of Japan's exploitation of Manchuria and Mongolia without any hesitation. We should not forget Japan's national policy to try to make civilians take part of national defense, and we should also learn lessons from such "inconvenient historical facts" for peaceful future so that citizens would be able to be wise enough to criticize such a national policy.



Yoshiko Yamane

Women's Active Museum on War and Peace (WAM)

Director Eriko Ikeda

NGOs in eight Asian countries (South Korea, China, Taiwan, Japan, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Indonesia and East Timor) that have been advocating the "comfort women" issue jointly submitted "Voices of Comfort Women" to UNESCO as an application for UNESCO's Memory of the World (MOW) at the end of May 2016. The submission was examined by UNESCO's International Advisory Committee in Paris in October 2017. In reaction, the Japanese government moved to block the registration of Memory of the World (MOW) and was even ready to suspend a financial contribution to the institution. Eventually, it was not approved as MOW. The Japan Committee for Joint Nomination of the Documents on the Japanese Military 'Comfort Women' to

UNESCO Memory of the World Register of which the *WAM* is a part expressed that the decision of UNESCO was extremely regrettable. UNESCO seemed to have succumbed to the pressure of the Japanese government. The committee is planning to take further actions.

In recent years, the Japanese government has gradually been vocal to deny "comfort women" together with right-wing media and organizations. To counteract this wave, *WAM* has been working with both national and international organizations in civil society. From July 2017 on, these organizations plan to make "Wednesday action" once a month around the west entrance of Shinjuku station and appeal "comfort women issue" on the streets in solidarity with Wednesday demonstration in Seoul, South Korea.

On 14th August 1991, *Kim Hak-Soon* of South Korea testified about her experiences as a "comfort women". She was the first woman in her country to break the silence over decades. To commemorate this fact, citizens' organization advocates the day as "UN Comfort Women Memorial Day" and organized the event in Japan and abroad. On the same day, *WAM* had a memorial ceremony to 179 victims whose portraits are exhibited in the museum entrance. During the ceremony, their names were read out and a white flower was offered to them.

On the 1st of April 2017, *WAM* organized the first museum conference on Japanese military 'comfort women'. Over three hundred people participated in it including those who represent comfort women museums of respective countries in the Republic of Korea, the Philippines, China, Taiwan, the United States, East Timor and Japan. The conference gave an opportunity to share information for storing memories and records of "comfort women", and to discuss future prospects.

WAM started a digital archive project in 2015. It is time-consuming and labor-intensive to store, organize and digitalize records. But, fortunately, all resources needed for this project such as donations, volunteers and staffs were successfully secured which has been making the project work well.

It is urgent issue to preserve the records on this human rights violation case by the state. In Japan the facts and the related materials have long been concealed. On the 3rd of November 2017, *WAM* invited archive specialists from the U.S. and held an international symposium on "official document management and grassroots archives" with Japanese experts.

From the 5th of August 2017, *WAM* started a special exhibition on "Silence of Japanese comfort women: state-controlled sex ", which aroused visitors' interest because such information and testimonies of Japanese

"comfort women" have been limited. This was a collaborative exhibit with the "comfort women" exhibition by a Korean museum in Shinokubo, Shinjuku, which focuses on the Korean "comfort women" who were mobilized through so-called comfort women brothels all over the country. Discounts for admission fees were offered for citizens who visited both museums.

An Art Exhibition of the 5th Lucky Dragon Boat

Yusuke Hasunuma: Secretariat of
Daigo Fukuryu Maru Exhibition Hall

2017 was the 70th year since the building of *Daigo Fukuryumaru* (Lucky Dragon), a Japanese tuna fishing boat which experienced radiation hazard due to the U.S. hydrogen bomb test in 1954. The Luck Dragon Exhibition Hall in Tokyo planned a special exhibition entitled "Let's learn about this boat" and "Let's make this boat." The special exhibition which started on the 3rd of November 2017 was entitled "Let's draw this boat" in which five paintings by Mr. Kazuo Oga and 60 paintings drawn by Japanese children all over the country were exhibited.

Mr. Kazuo Oga is known as an art director of many works by Studio Ghibli and also as an artist of trees and forests. He painted five art works: The 5th Lucky

Dragon in the Forest of *Yume-no-Shima* (Island of Dream), The 5th Lucky Dragon Sailing for a Big Catch, Glass Float, Sextant, and Yaizu Port.

In the opening ceremony, speeches were given by Mr. Kazuo Oga, Mr. Matashichi Oishi (crew member of the Luck Dragon), and Ms. Sayuri Yoshinaga (well-known actress who has been continuing public reading of poems written by A-bomb survivors). Many children who painted the boat also attended it and Ms. Yoshinaga addressed them, “Please talk about today’s experiences to your friends. I would like much more people to know about the 5th Lucky Dragon which was exposed to nuclear radiations by the U.S. hydrogen bomb test in 1954. Let’s realize the future free of nuclear weapons.” The exhibition will be held by the 25th of March 2018.



“The 5th Lucky Dragon in the Forest of Yume-no-Shima” painted by Kazuo Oga

Peace Aichi’s Exhibition on “Children in War” Admonishing their Surprise and Wonder

Yutaka Maruyama: Peace Aichi

Are we aware of listening to children’s voices and muttering such as “Wow! What’s this?” and “Why?”? Do we encourage them to ask questions? Do we explain exhibits too much to visitors?

It is possible to ask the same questions to teachers. They tend to aim at conveying the content of education and their ideas rather than listening to children’s ideas. When children think by themselves, school textbooks are sometimes obstacles. It is important for children to ask questions and solve them in class. Teachers tend to struggle to make it possible and make good teaching materials. An exhibition to make children think is the starting point if a peace museum holds an exhibition for children, which is very difficult.

We hold an exhibition for children in fall and winter every year. This year an exhibition for them has 22 paintings by children of *Unuma* Elementary School in *Gifu* Prefecture drawn in 1944. The pupils painted their daily life and events at school and I would like to introduce a painting which children may wonder what they see.

For example, there is a painting of children peeling a mulberry tree. I myself wondered what it was. Visiting college students told me that they had never

seen mulberry trees. They know about mulberry, silkworm culture and silk reeling, but they wondered why children peeled mulberry trees. When I explained that clothes were made from them, they were really surprised. Naturally they became interested in the painting wondering what kind of clothes were made for whom and why. Peels of mulberry trees was used to make staple fiber, but they were not popular because they could not be used often after washing them. Later I regretted that I should have shown an article of *Osaka Asahi Newspaper* of the 29th of June in 1938. According to the article, cotton was used for clothes of the military and soldiers while ordinary people had to put up with staple fiber.

Children can learn that all the children in Japan were forced to peel mulberry trees by watching the painting of children peeling a mulberry tree. There is also a painting of children catching locusts to eat, but the former painting would be more influential to learn how children were during World War II.



Tree Angel by Pegge Patten

Kyoto Museum for World Peace At Ritsumeikan University

Kazuyo Yamane: an expert advisor

World Press Photo Exhibition in 2017: Changed Destiny was held at the Kyoto Museum for World Peace.

The World Press Photo Contest is held in the Netherlands every year and about 5000 photographers from 125 countries in the world participated in it and over 80,000 photos were applied.

Awarded 45 photos from eight fields were introduced in the exhibition. Exhibited were a photo awarded the best prize by Mr. Burhan Ozbilici from Turkey which shows that a policeman shot Russian ambassador in Turkey at the opening of a photo exhibition in Ankara, a photo of refugee children who are forced to leave their home because of their fear of the IS

and the shortage of food, a photo which shows highlights of the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, a photo of a sea turtle whose life was threatened by the left fishing net and so forth. They show the reality of the world which people do not see in their daily life.

The special exhibition celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Kyoto Museum for World Peace was opened on the 1st of November 2017 and it will be held until the 23rd of December. It was a wood print exhibition about Okinawa by Hiroshi Gima from Nov. 1 to Dec. 23. His works show Okinawan's life, their traditional festivals, the battle in Okinawa and so forth. Forty-five years passed in 2017 since Okinawa was returned to Japan from the United States. This was a good chance for visitors to think of the land battle in Okinawa and serious issues today such as U.S. military bases there.

Oka Masaharu Memorial Nagasaki Peace Museum

Director: Nobuyuki Sakiyama

Since 2016, the former chair person, Mr. Takazane's health had been deteriorated, the board of director have been try to meet the needs of visitors (tour guide, lecture, field work etc). Through these works, I could come to know how much work Takazane has done. On the 22nd of

July 2017, "The 2nd Gathering to Recollect Oka Masaharu " was held. It was the first time after Takazane has passed away on the 7th of April 2017. After they watched the video of Takazane talking about Mr. Oka, participants exchanged their views and opinions.

Three guests whom I had exchanges of ideas in Germany last year came to Nagasaki. On the 2nd of August 2017, we invited Mrs. Heidemarie Dann of NGO named Hiroshima and Hanover Coalition and organized the forum on Germany's anti-nuclear movement.

From the 22nd through 26th of August 2017, I went to Korea with a deputy chairman, Mr. Tomohiro Shinkai and two college students. Our travel aimed to learn from Korean educators how they discuss with their students about the Japanese colonial rule such as the Japanese army "comfort women" issue. The journey was fruitful and made us learn a lot.

On the 15th of October 2017, China marks 80th anniversary of Nanking Massacre. To commemorate the day, our museum made a documentary film show of "*Tàipíngmé, disappeared 1,300 people*", directed by Tamaki Matsuoka.

Himeyuri Peace Museum

Katsumi Maedomari, Curator

Since last May, we participated in many projects and events in collaboration with other associations. For instance, as panelists, we participated in a symposium in commemoration of the publication of *“History of Okinawa Prefecture (No.6): The Battle of Okinawa”* in which 3 members from Himeyuri Peace Museum wrote articles, and also another symposium entitled “Mabuni Peace Project.” We also hosted a training course for teachers during summer, and other events relating to peace education.

In August, a special lecture “War Stories of Himeyuri Students” was held. As many people still request to listen to stories from the survivors directly and it was held during the summer vacation with the attendance of many people. Due to very high average age of *Himeyuri* survivors, we recently have been concerned that “the next lecture meeting would be the last...”

There was another lecture for peace education by our museum staffs which was also well attended by many citizens with their family members. Some children seemed to participate to learn about war history for their summer vacation homework study on voluntary themes.

In addition, the museum organized workshops for teachers, training courses for teachers, “Uchina(Okinawan) Junior Studies Project,” a special peace project for children of Okinawan immigrants

around the world (organized by Okinawa Prefecture). In September we held a lecture meeting about Yamashiro Headquarter Cave (Japanese army hospital during the war) to meet the request from Okinawa Peace Network which is an organization of peace guides. It was encouraging for us to see that different generations of visitors and participants are studiously trying to understand history.



Junior Study Tour: a study group of foreign children whose families are Okinawan immigrants. They learnt history of the Battle of Okinawa at our museum and participated in a workshop to exchange their opinions.

In October, the school excursion season begins, and many high school students visit our museums. While enjoying meeting younger generations, our museum staffs need to work quite busily during the season. It is hard to believe but today’s high school students were born in 2000’s! We sincerely hope that visiting our museum can be a motivation for them to know the history better. The school excursion season usually continues until December.

As mentioned in previous issue of the

newsletter, our new exhibition “Passing on the Experience of War to the Future—Our Trip to Europe and the Himeyuri Future Generation Project” has finally started since last December. With a report on the trip to Europe in April 2017, it introduces our effort to pass the memory of the war from the survivors to younger generations. It is the first time to show our future generation project as an exhibition.

If you have a chance to visit Okinawa, please come to see our museum as well.

Tel:098-997-2100 Fax:098-997-2102

HP: <http://www.himeyuri.or.jp>

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/HIMEYUIRI.PEACE.MUSEUM/>

Hiroshima/Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Exhibition held in Hanoi, Vietnam

Ryotaro Katsura: Professor of
Vietnam-Japan University in Vietnam

On the 25th of September 2017, Hiroshima and Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Exhibition began at Hanoi University of Humanities and Sciences, National University of Vietnam. In the opening ceremony, following the greeting by Dr. Pham Quang Minh, Rector of the University, there were speeches by Kunio Umeda (Japanese Ambassador), Michinobu Tomita (organizer of the exhibition who is a member of the

Nagasaki National Peace Memorial Hall for the A-Bomb Victims), and Mr. Hiroyuki Morita (A-bomb survivor who is a member of the Nagasaki Council for Promoting Peace for Inheriting A-bomb Victims' Memory). The ceremony was attended by many people from Indonesia, the Netherlands, Canada, Sri Lanka, Czech, New Zealand, Finland, Belgium and other countries including ambassadors, residents of Japan, students who all were interested in the exhibition.

The A-bomb exhibition was held until the 5th of November, and a number of panels on the atomic bomb, experience of A-bomb survivors, folded paper cranes, etc. were displayed.

Vietnam is a country that has achieved peace by overcoming severe wars for a long time, and both Japan and Vietnam can contribute to disseminate to the world "preciousness of peace" by organizing such peace exhibitions.

A Photo Exhibition on Okinawa

Hiroshi Inaba: Okinawa Peace Support

Exhibition on Okinawans against new U.S. military bases has been displayed at almost 100 places in Japan since 2014 including photos showing sit-ins against

deploying new U.S. military bases in Henoko and Takae which were taken by the participants of such sit-ins. Over 70% of the people in Okinawa are against new U.S. military bases, but the Japanese government does not listen to Okinawan voices, which is against democracy. Both Henoko and Takae are full of beautiful nature with various kinds of rare species.

Okinawans suffered from Okinawa land battle over 70 years ago and now they are still suffering from big noise, crimes of U.S. soldiers, accidents and so on.

Our slogan is “Never give up until we win.” We have more than 200 photos.

The rental fee:

10000 yen for 100 photos

15000 yen for 200 photos

Please pay the postage about 1800 yen to send photos. The rental period: 1-10 days, but if you want to rent them longer, please let us know.



The photos are laminated with short

caption. There are captions in Japanese, English, Chinese and Korean. The size of photos is mainly A3.

T-shirts, books and pamphlets are also available. You can see photos in the following youtube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBUgDvhcsU>

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Peace Academy at No Gun Ri Peace Memorial and Jeju 4.3 Peace Memorial in the Republic of Korea

Kazuyo Yaman: Advisor to the Kyoto Museum for World Peace

The Peace Academy was held at No Gun Ri Peace Memorial and Jeju 4.3 Peace Memorial in the Republic of Korea from August 7 to 12. First, it started as the Peace Camp, but the name was changed and it was the 10th time to hold the Peace Academy.

Twenty seven students from ten countries attended it and some students canceled it because of a missile issue in North Korea. It seems that it was shocking for Japanese student who had not studied modern history to learn about the massacre in No Gun Ri and Jeju Island. However, they learned much about

Korean people's patient search for the truth and efforts for demanding apology and compensation leading these places for peace and human rights.

Students learned not only Korean history but also culture such as Korean drum and old temples and they enjoyed beautiful scenery in No Gun Ri and Jeju Island.

Students talked about their impression of the Peace Academy that they could learn Korean history deeply by visiting historical sites: it was not only increasing historical knowledge but also having a chance to imagine victims' fear and sorrow.



Participants in front of No Gun Ri Peace Memorial

There was much report on missiles from North Korea by the mass media in Japan, which made people feel fear and insecurity. On the other hand, there was not so much report in the Republic of Korea, which made students question the

way the Japanese media reported.

The APPRA Conference in Malaysia

Kazuyo Yamane: Advisor to the Kyoto Museum for World Peace

The APPRA (Asia Pacific Peace Research Association) Conference was held during August 23 – 25 at Universiti Sains Malaysia in Penang. The theme was “Promoting Peace and Upholding the Transcendent Dignity of the Human Person in the Asia-Pacific”. Sixty seven peace researchers attended it from 15 countries. Some sessions were held at the same time and it was not possible to attend all of them.

I organized a panel on peace education through peace museums as follows:

Panelists

1. Kazuyo Yamane: Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University
“The Present Situation of Museums for Peace In Japan and Peace Education through Grassroots Museums for Peace”
2. Yuchao Wang: John Rabe Memorial, John Rabe Memorial at Nanjing University and Self-Formation
“A Philosophical Perspective on the Reconciliation Process at Peace Museums in Japan and China”

3. Koodo Chung/ Hyeyeon Kim: No Gun Ri Peace Memorial

“Tragic Memories of No Gun Ri Victims’ Community and Review on their Efforts for Human Rights Enhancement, Social Healing and Reconciliation”

4. Roy Tamashiro: Webster University, U.S.A.

“Lessons from Jeju 4.3: Social Healing & Reconciliation at Sites of Massacre”

5. Ahmad Murad Merican: Unversiti Sains Malaysia

“Representing Colonialism. A Museum Reminding Us “It Is Not Over.”

A peace researcher said that it was the first time for him to learn efforts for peace education through peace museums in Asia.



The most impressive thing in Malaysia was that people with different culture and religion live together in harmony. It is probably because children go to same public school and learn how to respect one another. However, it was not easy for Japanese visitors to learn Japan’s colonialism and how much people were

killed and suffered from damage done by Japanese military forces during World War II. There was no time to visit War Museum in Malaysia, but participants could visit the cemetery of Malaysian soldiers killed by Japanese military during World War II. It was also nice to visit a peace park where participants planted young trees for peace in Taiping. There was a welcome party in Taiping and four participants talked about museums for peace at the reception (Professor Takao Takahara of Daigo Fukuryumaru Display House, Mr. Ryozo Teruoka of Kawasaki Peace Museum, Professor Roy Tamashiro of Webster University and Kazuyo Yamane of Kyoto Museum for World Peace.)

It is said that the next IPRA Conference will be held in December 2018 and the next APPRA Conference will be held in Indonesia in 2019. It was a good opportunity to promote peace research and peace education by exchanging ideas and networking at the APPRA Conference. A book with selected papers will be published in the future.

Cooperation of Japanese Peace Museums with the Nobel Peace Center

Ikuro Anzai: Honorary Director of the Kyoto Museum for World Peace

It was announced that the ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) would be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize on October 6 in 2017. On the next day Ms. Liv Astrid Sverdrup of the Nobel Peace Center who is a board member of the INMP emailed other members to ask for their cooperation for exhibits related to the ICAN from the 11th of December 2017, the day after the Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony.

Kazuyo Yamane, an executive board member, emailed her about various ideas for the exhibition such as her father's atomic bombed experiences, her poem as one of the second generation of hibakusha, DVD with hibakusha's testimony, Peace Masks of hibakusha, poems by Sankichi Toge and Sadako Kurihara, Hiroshima Panels by Iri and Toshi Maruki, paintings by hibakushas, hibakusha's comics such as *Barefoot Gen* and so forth.

I, Anzai, introduced Ms. Sverdrup some artifacts kept at the Kyoto Museum for World Peace, and visited Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, Nagasaki National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims, and Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum on the 19th and 20th of October to seek for their cooperation for exhibits at the Nobel Peace Center.

Ms. Sverdrup finally came to Japan on the 15th of November and visited Kyoto and Hiroshima to collect five atomic bombed artifacts. Artifacts from Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum were carried to Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum by the deputy director. There were some limits to borrow artifacts because the period of the exhibition is very long (from December 2017 to November 2018). However, it was possible to borrow a rosary and a watch from Nagasaki, a bag and an air-raid hood from Hiroshima and a lunch box from the Kyoto Museum for World Peace.



Ms. Liv Astrid Sverdrup with members of peace museums in Ritsumeikan in Kyoto, Hiroshima and Nagasaki (taken on Nov. 17 at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum)

Such cooperation became possible through the INMP, which shows the value and importance of the network of peace museums beyond border. It is expected that such international network of museums for peace will be developed more in the future.



Ms. Liv Astrid Sverdrup with Kazuyo Yamane in front of artifacts (taken at Ritsumeikan University on Nov. 18)

Yun Dong-ju's Monument Built Near Uji River in Kyoto

Nobuko Kontani: Secretary-general
of the Committee for Building
Poet Yun Dongju's Monument

A monument of Yun Dong-ju was built at the foot of Hakkou Bridge over Uji River and an unveiling ceremony was held on the 28th of October 2017 after 12-year efforts by citizens. He was a Korean poet who studied at Doshisha University when Korea was under the colonial rule of Japan. He became a victim of so-called Peace Preservation Law.

Over 200 people participated in the unveiling ceremony though it was rainy: Yun Dong-ju's bereaved family, the president of Yonsei University (Dong-ju's old school), the head of the Korean Center of Doshisha University, a deputy

president of the Kyoto University of Art & Design, Korean Consul General and so forth. Many people including Honorary Professor Ikuro Anzai of Ritsumeikan University, the head of the committee for building the monument, attended the memorial meeting.

Yun Dong-ju was arrested by Kyoto Prefectural Shimogamo Police Head-quarters on a charge of violating Peace Preservation Law. The police regarded that he was involved with Korean independent movement by writing poems in Korean language. He was sentenced to two years by Kyoto District Court and died in a prison in Fukuoka Prefecture when he was 27.



Yun Dongju

Before he was arrested, he went to hiking with his friends to Uji River and enjoyed cooking a meal using a mess kit. A photograph was taken then and it became the last one so far found. Many citizens outside Uji and researchers also cooperated with the project. It is expected that events will be held to disseminate the oppressive politics against freedom and human rights during World War II and current issues.

The monument was introduced at the 14th national exchange meeting of

Japanese Citizens' Network of Museums for Peace held at the Kyoto Museum for World Peace on the 9th and 10th of December.



Japanese and Korean stones were used for 2-meter high monument. Round column at the upper center symbolizes Dong-ju. His poem entitled "A New Way" is carved both in Japanese and the Hange.

News on Museums for Peace Abroad

Japanese version of the INMP Newsletter is available on the following website.

<https://www.inmp.net/newsletters-in-japanese/>

Editors Notes

We'd like to thank Ms. Noriko Hashimoto (freelancer living in The Hague, The Netherlands) and Ms. Emi Karimata (Himeyuri Peace Memorial Museum, Okinawa) for their voluntary cooperation with Kazuyo Yamane in translating articles into English.

In Muse newsletter it is possible for those involved with peace museums to share ideas, experiences, lessons and issues with others. It has been edited by Kazuyo Yamane in cooperation with Ikuro Anzai and translated into English to introduce activities of Japanese peace museum

Announcement of future exchange meetings of the Citizens' Network of Museums for Peace

Ikuro Anzai

As introduced in pages 1~2, the 14th National Exchange Meeting of Japanese Citizens' Network of Museums for Peace was held at Kyoto Museum for World Peace on the 9th and 10th of December 2017.

At the general meeting, an offer of *Himeyuri Peace Memorial Museum* to organize the next meeting in Okinawa was unanimously approved. The museum was established in 1989 in Itoman City and was awarded Kikuchi Kan Prize in 1992 which honors achievement in all aspects of Japanese literary culture.

The general meeting also approved an offer of *Chorokan* (Morning Dew Museum) to host