



Preface: How Do We Face Fading Memory?- Ten years have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake-

Ten years have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake. The activities of NCM Japan started in the wake of the earthquake. Immediately after the earthquake, many people participated in the volunteer activities and did valuable work. They also remember well disaster areas. We are really thankful for that.

We often hear the word "Fading memory" in the reports of the earthquake. Fading memory is a serious problem and a wish for the disaster areas and victims. The feelings cannot be seen, but it is really comforting to find out that it is still there.

The other day (February 13, 2021), there was an aftershock with a seismic intensity of over 6. Fortunately, there was no direct damage to us and people nearby, but it still makes us anxious.

At that time, we received concerns and kind words from people all over the country. How encouraging it was to have people connect with each other. We really appreciate it.

We realized that your remembering has the power to support living once again.

I think that you remember us means that we also remember you at the same time. While thanking you for your prayers, I would like to pray for you and for those who are connected through the activities of NCM Japan. We hope that NCM Japan's activities will be further enriched in such a connection.
NCM Japan Board member Syoei Abe



Topic of this issue

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Myanmar Situation Report

NCM Asia-Pacific Myanmar officials have provided information on the latest local situation regarding military coups and illegal violence against Myanmar citizens in Myanmar. NCM Japan will show its solidarity to the Myanmar citizens who were hurt by this coup d'etat, and will post the latest situation in Myanmar on the NCM Japan official website. If you are interested in the situation in Myanmar, please take a look. I pray from the bottom of my heart that peaceful days will return to Myanmar as soon as possible.

Tokyo Office staff: Fumiya Kitafuji



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Let me introduce you our reliable volunteer as member of NCM. ' Part-3

Part-3, this time, we interviewed 'Kawanabe Sara-san'! She's a member of Kodomo-Kai (: Children's Circle) and also of volunteer at Kyoto office. She let us know the now and then, plus the future of Children's space support at Kyoto office, and also her future dream. This time, Interviewer Aoyama and Kitafuji listened the story.



Interviewer (Aoyama):

How do you influence on Kodomo-Kai in Kyoto office?

Volunteer (Kawanabe):

Originally was one member. But now I belong it as especially a volunteer stuff. Moreover, using the arts I learnt, I am involving in making some pamphlets or posters of our circle.

Interviewer (Kitafuji):

How is it like Kodomo-Kai these days?

Kawanabe: Recently getting new members, we have about 10 children per every week. Playing a band, starting a mini 4WD club or something like that we do lately. I mean there are more chances to plan and do something on ourselves.

Aoyama: I want to know the "HANASUI Official Character" 'Paaru-Chan'

Kawanabe: Initially I created 'Paaru-Chan' imaging Axolotl, (is called Whooper-Looper in Japan). Considering their red beard as a ribbon, painting its body pinky, creating and re-creating many times, and then 'Paaru-Chan' was born!

<notes>

HANASUI / Hanazono Church Aquarium

: the private aquarium have being ran by Hanazono Christian Church, is a member of Kyohakuren (Kyoto museums Association). With NCM Japan Kyoto office, relating each other from the viewpoints of human rights and environment.



Paaru-Chan

Kitafuji: What did you learn through Kodomokai (Children's Circle)?

Kawanabe: I learned that each child has a different way of thinking. It is also important to share your ideas and thoughts to others. I'm not good at socialising with people, but I made many friends.

Aoyama: As I mentioned in our previous letter, you are concerned about SDGs (Sustainability of Developing Goals), aren't you?

Kawanabe: Yes, I am. Especially such as focusing on poverty, inequality and fairness for people and countries. I felt judged by others when I lost my father and felt shame for losing him. I want to encourage and support children who are under similar circumstances. My illustration named Pearl comes from this background.



Kitafuji: Would you give messages to everyone in Children's Circle?

Kawanabe: I'm getting active as an illustrator, but SNS bullying is unacceptable.

I wish every child to remain kind and gentle to others.

Thank you for interviewing with us.

Left photo) The Kid's band is playing "Alexandrops". The drummer is Ms.Kawanabe.



Profile Sara Kawanabe

She is a High-School student.

She enjoys Illustration and also is a drummer in the worship team of Hanazono Church.

She wants to work in the design field as an illustrator. She was inspired by Jesus Christ who was crucified and saved people.



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