

United We Stand Fukushima

~ Voices from Fukushima ~



Three years have gone by since the Great East Japan Earthquake. With the influence of nuclear disaster still lingering over Fukushima, there are many evacuees from Fukushima residing all over Japan.

Fukushima International Association (FIA) has produced "United We Stand Fukushima", which aim to allow the voices from the foreign-born residents in Fukushima to reach to more people.

※You can find the translated versions at other languages from the FIA homepage.



Scenery of Fukushima

Thinking about these dearest—memorial service

On March 11th (Tue), an event called "Memorial service for the Great East Japan Earthquake" was held at Fukushima prefecture Cultural Center. The family survivors of that day came to mourn for their lost family members. They all became silent at 2:46 p.m. when the earthquake happened three years ago.

Representatives from the family survivors expressed their words at the service, the high school students at Fukushima prefecture made a poem which further conveyed their feelings of that day. People who came to the service all listened carefully to these words. (Fukushima city, taken on March 11th, 2014)



At the memorial service



The lighthouse after the road has been repair

Iwaki tourism revitalization—Shioyazaki lighthouse

Iwaki Shioyazaki lighthouse was reopened after three years on Feb 22nd (Sat) to the public. Although this reopening has been a great hope for the Iwaki to revitalize its tourism, the location of which the lighthouse situates was the most hardly hit by the tsunami. Even now the seashore is undergoing the constructions and that there are many "no entrance permitted" areas too. (Iwaki city, taken on March 4th, 2014)

The gathering after three years of the Great East Japan Earthquake

The group called *Hawaku Kamai Fukushima*, formed by the Filipino-born residents who went to visit the temporary houses in Date city, where there were about 90 families living there from litate village.

The people gathered there tried the Filipino cuisine with the group members; they also sang Karaoke and danced together. (Date city, taken on March 9th, 2014)



The Filipino group dancing with the applause from the participants



Performers and the people who came singing "Flower shall bloom" together

March 11th, Rwanda Fukushima Charity event

The charity event hosted by the NPO from Rwanda thinking about education was held on March 11th (Tue) in Nihonmatsu at Fukushima prefecture Gender Equality Center. Representatives such as Marie Louise Towari, Janpool Sampton, Aron Nitonga demonstrated various music performances with the title "Crossing the nations with music tonight".

Moreover, children from Nihonmatsu Sugita elementary, Nihonmatsu South elementary as well as Nihonmatsu North elementary formed a special choir. They sang a song called "To bring the happiness" which reached to the hearts of people who came. (Nihonmatsu city, taken on March 11th, 2014)



Rei Washio(Chinese-born female. Living in Koriyama city currently; lived in Kawauchi village before March 11th earthquake)

Because I lived in Kawauchi village, I had to evacuate. I went to Koriyama with my husband, however, my husband has to leave Koriyama to work; I am currently living with my three small children. I have not accustomed to the current life. I wish to find a full-time job soon, but I am still trying to maintain the work-life balance. However, ever since I started to live in Koriyama, I have met many mothers whose children go to the same school as mine. I have realized the importance of maintaining a good people relationships and help each other. I am very grateful to these who helped me and I wish to maintain a close tie with these people in the future too.

Bat-erdene Lkham-Yanjin (From Mongolia, living in Fukushima city)

I went to Fukushima University in 2011 right after the earthquake. At that year, where were only 7 exchange students, I started my university life in worries in the beginning. At the university, I received helps from another Mongolian student who came from the same high school as I did. Furthermore, after volunteering to visit the temporary houses, I feel my university life has become richer. Currently, I am helping out with FIA to introduce Mongolia to more people. It made me want to know about my own country more. I have only 1 year left at Fukushima University, and I hope to contribute more to Fukushima in a meaningful way during my stay.

Jaliet Tanno(Filipino-born female, living in Iwaki city)

After the Great East Japan Earthquake, the small Filipino communities living in Iwaki came together to form a big group called "Iwaki-Filipino community". There are 50 members registered now and they hold monthly meetings. They try to exchange information about living in Japan among themselves. Recently, the Iwaki community center is holding English workshops for Grade 5 and 6 elementary students. Although the strength coming from one person may be small, cooperation with each other will definitely make a strong team. I hope that these types of activities can be continued into the future.



Measurement of radiation level in Fukushima Prefecture (provisional value)

This information was taken from the Fukushima Prefectural Government website.

The Fukushima Prefectural Government website provides updates on the radiation level in Fukushima Prefecture in Japanese, English and Chinese. The Fukushima International Association website also provides the information mentioned above and on top of that, Tagalog, Korean and Portuguese are also provided. <http://www.worldvillage.org/>

Unit : $\mu\text{Gy/h} \approx \mu\text{Sv/h}$ (micro gray/hour \approx micro sievert/hour)

Date, Measuring time	Fukushima City	Koriyama City	Shirakawa City	Aizu Wakamatsu City	Minami Aizu Town	Minami Soma City	Iwaki City
(Normal value)	0.04	0.04-0.06	0.04-0.05	0.04-0.05	0.02-0.04	0.05	0.05-0.06
2014.3.20 9:00	0.28	0.15	0.11	0.07	0.04	0.13	0.08
Measurement device	MMP	MMP	MMP	MMP	MMP	MMP	MMP
Direction and Distance from 1st power plant	North west About 63km	West About 58km	West south west About 81km	West About 98km	West south West About 115km	North About 24 km	South south west About 43km

※Measurement of the radiation level in Fukushima city was taken in the parking lot on the north side of the Kenpoku District Health and Welfare Office, Koriyama city was taken in the parking lot on the south side of the Koriyama government office complex.

※The normal value mentioned above are from the result of radioactivity levels surveyed within Fukushima prefecture in 2010 (21st year of Heisei period). MMP is Portable Radiation Monitoring Equipment (Mobile Monitoring Post).



FIA Information

●Counseling service for foreigners

Here at the International Association, we provide counseling services for foreigners in English, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, and Portuguese.

- English, Chinese, Japanese
Every Tuesday to Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm
- Korean, Tagalog, Portuguese
Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm
※Appointment necessary for the 4th and 5th Thursdays.

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