

Announcement

Visitors

Yuki Hosokawa Visitor from Japan
 Yasuhiro Hosokawa Visitor from Japan
 Kaori Oneda Visitor from Japan
 Yukiko Isayama Visitor from Japan
 Students group of Bridge of Smile (Japanese students NGO)

Prof. Takashi Daimon, and a group of students from Waseda university and from Tokyo Univ. of Agriculture
 Maki Miura for Home page construction
 Miki Hattori Visitor from Japan
 Nozomi Fujiwara Visitor from Japan
 Poorva Sagar One world (Publication office in Delhi)

Refresher Training Short course for rural leaders on 19th-24th Feb 2012 emphasis on Mushroom cultivation

Curriculum includes;
 "Mushroom spore, mycelium, plastic mushroom cultivation, sharing work experience, fellowship program, Food Fair, City tour, etc."

Registration Fee: Rs.2000 for Lodging, Food and Tuition

***Registration fee will be waived for SCSA graduates!!**

Application should be submitted by Jan.15th 2012

Please contact "recruitment@ashaasia.org" for any inquiries.



Job Recruitment SCSA Coordinator

MSCNE wants a SCSA coordinator for 2012 training. Candidates must be SCSA graduate, graduates with a bachelor's degree, interested in organic farming, and has English and computer skills.

Basic salary: Rs.8,500 –11,000+ fee food and lodging (can be considered as working experience)



WANTED !!! MSCNE Volunteers

MSCNE wants working volunteers from all over the world. In the MSCNE community, staff and students are living together on campus.

You are expected to take part in and to share your life.



Request for application form, visit our website <http://mscne.org> or Contact e-mail: recruitment@ashaasia.org Tel/Fax: 0532-2684306

Newsletter from Makino School of Continuing & Non-Formal Education
 Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture, Technology & Sciences
 Allahabad, U.P. 211007 India

HARVEST



No.31

Dec 2011



“Population on Earth is Now 7 Billion” What Do You Think?

Prof. (Dr.) Teruo Miura, Dean

The human population on earth has reached 7 billion at the end of November. “Oh! At the time of my birth in 1953, world human population was only 3 billion, but now it's more than twice the size.” “Japan's population is declining, so which countries could be contributing to such vast increase in population? How will we feed ourselves in the future if the human population continues to expand like this?” Such are the types of questions that come across many people's mind.

Simultaneous to the rapid population growth in African countries, Asia's big country, India, catches one's attention on how its population is increasing. Indian population used to be 350 million in the 1950's, but its current population is as high as 1200 million. Indeed, Indian population has increased by x3.5 since its independence. If this expansion continues, India will probably outgrow China in a couple of decades, and will stand as the country with the largest population in the whole world. Furthermore, India's rapid growth in its economy as well as population is providing them with the opportunity to appeal to the world that they are the largest consumer in the world. In fact, they are calling in an overseas investment, and their consumptions in automobiles, bikes, cellphones, television, etc. are growing.

However, this simultaneous growth in population and economy in India are somewhat irregular and is creating social inequality. For the farm families living in rural areas, which occupy 70% of the entire population, it is still common to have more than 4 children per family, but in urban areas, most families have either 1 or 2 children nowadays. The reality is that many upper middle class people in the cities are considering family planning for the sake of future public welfare benefit, but on the other hand, there are still about 25 % of the population that are living on a budget of less than a dollar per day, and there are 1 in 5 children that are undernourished. Furthermore, there are still many children who are not able to attend schools in rural India. Most of

them are living in the rural villages. There are risks that these undernourished, uneducated people and children are only going to increase in the future with the ongoing rapid population growth.

According to the teachings in Christianity, children are precious gifts from God. It may be an unfaithful approach to control this by either “increasing” or “decreasing” the number of children. Nevertheless, learning about such reality in India only makes me think that it may be necessary to think about controlling the population growth. It is not to force anybody, but to make the married couples aware so they would volunteer to do so at their will. In order for this to be successful, it is crucial to create an appropriate social environment. One action to take, obviously, is to provide women and children with valuable education. We must think about this matter, because our earth is limited, and its capacity to hold us is limited.

The married couples shall think about the future of their children and raise them with hopes and dreams, and these children, in turn, shall live their lives with their hopes and dreams. In hopes that this happens, we nurture the rural village leaders, run ASHA Schools, raise Village Health Volunteers (VHV) and Self Help Groups (SHG), and manage Allahabad Organic Agricultural Cooperation (AOAC), and support them in multiple ways, which they can generate more hopes in rural settings. Furthermore, they will create much social environment which can sustain present and future generations.

Just as how people in Jerusalem who suffered from severe social discriminations and social depression were saved by Jesus and works of God, we hope that our activities will provide as many people as possible with hopes and dreams.

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