

“Humanity’s greatest Humanitarian Tragedy—The 2nd Syria Volunteer Report—”

“The World is teetering on the edge of a cliff.”.

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Theme scripture: *“This is what the Lord says: Do what is just and right. Rescue from the hand of the oppressor the one who has been robbed. Do no wrong or violence to the foreigner, the fatherless or the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place.” (Jeremiah 22:3)*

<Introduction>

This year, I visited the Middle East twice. There were many Japanese travelers on Qatar Airlines until Doha, the capital of Qatar, for by transit. And there was no Japanese passenger from Doha except us. That is the way should be. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan has issued warning to voluntarily from traveling to Syria.¹ We received a strict immigration procedure at Beirut Airport in Lebanon. I was never asked “Are you Japanese?”. Because, they might see Chinese or Koreans, but Japanese are rarely visiting. When Shyosei Koda [1979-2004], who was doing a care work at welfare facility, was involved in terrorism attack, the atmosphere of abandoning humanitarian rescue was raising because Japanese medias were reporting the critic word “self-responsibility” by former Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi.² There was used to be a spirit of Bushido, “Side with the weak and crush the strong”. The moral view that common people were used to have, “惻隱の情 (Sokuinno-Jyo: compassion to others)”, has been lost. Chinese character “惻(Soku)” means to have sympathy and feel pain with others. “隱(In)” means to hurt heart deeply for others. It is the heart of “自他一如(Ji-Ta-Ichi-Nyo: I and others are just like a one” that feel other’s sufferings and pains as own.

I think that the original way to take “responsibility” is the stance that if there is a person who is suffering humanitarily, to rescue even if only one “life” as the honor of the country. I wanted the government to show responsibility of taking any request on the terrorism group side. The nation that doesn’t have any “sympathy” for people who have taken as hostage or became victims of conflict is unhappy. Even for the economy, it run almost parallel to Ethea that only a limited people become wealthy and a cutting off of the weak has being done with nonchalance, such as retaining wealth internally at large companies, and putting shareholders priority over distribution to employees. Also politic is leading the growth path rather than the natural disaster reconstruction that has never seen before in Japanese history since March 2011. With uncertain political policies like a mirage such as 2020 Olympic Games, Linear car, and restarting Nuclear plants, the state is doing a mind-control its nation. Instead of learning the basic academic skills, universities have become like a

¹ 2017. “MOFA Ministry of Foreign Affairs Overseas Safety Homepage”. Ministry of Foreign Affairs. December 28.
“Level 4: Please evacuate. Please stop traveling. (Evacuation Order)”

If you are staying in that country / region, please evacuate from your place to safer country / region. In this circumstances, of course, please stop making a new travel under any purposes.

² Utsunomiya, K. 2014. “Jikosekinironno Uso”. KK Bestsellers. p.14.

specialized schools to grow global corporate warriors. Universities are truncating the literature department and entrusting the fate of the technology-based nation to the engineering department, and just like in the general society, they hire only part-time lecturers because they cannot manage their school due to a declining birthrate, therefore the original academic research has weakened.

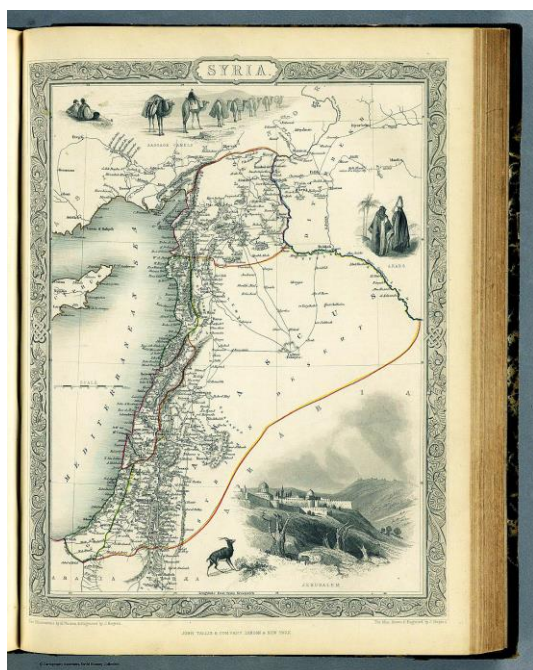
On the other hand, when Japanese go to the Middle East, they surprise at the intimacy of parents, couples and families. Hugs and kisses on the cheek even between men, would be said that something Japanese people have lost in somewhere. The life line of the community has been lost.

Just like the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami on March 2011, the reach of the great power's devil that have interests on right hunting in Syria is sneaking so that the people of Syria are crying out because they cannot do any restoration, reconstruction and rebuilding. Since when had the Japanese become a ruthless people who only care about ourselves?

I do like to report the experience about my visit for relief work for Syrian refugees with brother Hisanori Hirazawa.

(1) Syria

a. About Syria



Syria locates in the western part of West Asia, the area is about a half of Japan, the population is about one-thirtieth of Japan, and the latitude is between 33~36 degrees of north latitude as same as Japan. When we visited Syria on February 7, 2018, Anti Lebanon Mountains on west border of Syria was covered with deep snow. From Beirut, we went through Bekaa Valley. In the west, there is Qurnat as Sawdā' (3088m) and I heard that there are people who enjoy skiing. About passed 85 km northeast of Beirut, the Phoenician God Hadad (Baal) is enshrined at an ancient ruins at the center of Bekaa Valley. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Speaking of mountains, there is Mount Hermon on the border with Israel. It is said that Jesus transformed himself as the mountain. (Matthew 17)

Map of Great Syria Wikipedia

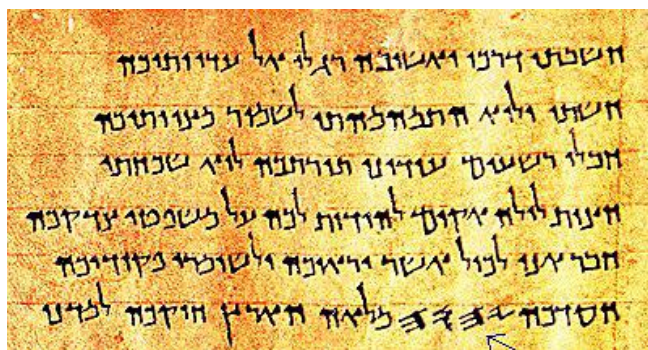
Compared to the other cities in Arab countries, Damascus, the capital of Syria, has many forests and the Barada River flows in the center. Cairo in Egypt is the watershed areas of Nile, but it has an image of a city in the desert. However, Damascus has a lifestyle that seems typical in an oasis, and even the river itself is not so clean but people carry teas and coffee to enjoy sunset on riverside. People in Damascus call themselves as "Shām". "Shām" refers to the Syrian region (Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Jordan) where is one of the few

granary-farming areas in the Arab World.³ Originally, it was a common cultural area called “Great Syria”.

b. A region deeply related to the Bible

The Syrian region is the birthplace of the alphabet. The Phoenicians were active not only in the Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea and other ocean trade but also in Mesopotamia area that along with the Tigris–Euphrates river system.

Alphabets are created by using benefit characters of the Mesopotamian cuneiform and the Egyptian hieroglyph. In Dead Sea Scrolls written in Hebrew, it used the Phoenician script only for the divine name Tetragrammaton YHWH.



On the bottom line, the four letters of the Phoenician letter are in Hebrew.

The Mesopotamian region is called the Fertile Crescent where is suitable for agriculture. A tribe that was used to be a nomad group had settled and a big city was born. Abraham (in Arabic, Ibrahim) moved to the place from the present Iraqi “Ur” with all of his family together with believing that the place is the “promised land” of God. In the later era, the people who were suffering in Egypt were also brought by Moses (in Arabic, Musa) to the place as Canaan where milk and honey flow.

Syria was used to refer to entire areas including former Jordan, Lebanon and Israel.

According to the records in Bible, the area where King Solomon [around 1011BC – 931BC] was dominated includes the current Syria.⁴

2 Chronicles 8:4 “He also built up Tadmor in the desert and all the store cities he had built in Hamath.”

1 Kings 4:21 “And Solomon ruled over all the kingdoms from the Euphrates River to the land of the Philistines, as far as the border of Egypt. These countries brought tribute and were Solomon’s subjects all his life.”

The dominant area of King Solomon, who created extreme successfulness and prosperity, was covered over the east border of Euphrates River, Egypt on the south, Antioch in the present Turkey on the north and Cyprus in the Mediterranean Sea on the west.

Eventually, powerful states such as Assyria, Babylonia, Media, and Persia took control the area.

It became the center of East-West trade at the time of Alexander the Great and the Roman Empire. The Arameans, Arabs, the Persians, Jewish people lived in the international city Palmyra.

In the seventh century, the Muslim prophet Muhammad was born and the power of Muslims explosively

³ Shimizu, H. 1999. “Chyuto Nyumonsho”. “Kite Mite Syria”. Mr Partner Publisher. p.311.

⁴ Ushiyama, T. 1988. “Jordan / Syria, Seishono Tabi”. MYRTOS.INC. p.58.

increased, and the Damascus became the capital during the Umayyad Caliphate.

Saladin [1137-1193], the Kurds, drove out the crusaders. However, he allowed Christians to do pilgrims to Jerusalem, and he treated prisoners tolerantly with respect. Even in the time of the Ottoman Empire, Islam was the centripetal force for the people of Syria.

c. Geography of modern Syria

As capitalism develops and expand in European countries, the Middle East also started to be affected. As the Ottoman Empire weakens, Germany, the United Kingdom and France began to extend their land through the Middle East as a foothold in Asia. Europe began colonizing of Asian country Asia, India and Africa.

At the same time, Pan-Arabism movement also occurred in the Middle East, and the voice of independence rose.

After the First World War [1914 – 1918], the Ottoman Empire was dismantled, and at the League of Nations, the split control of Syria by the two countries the United Kingdom and France was resolved in 1922. The United Kingdom took the Transjordan region and the Palestinian region, and France took the current Syria-United Arab Republic and Lebanon. While The United Kingdom suggest independence to each ethnic groups in Arab and Israeli ethnic groups, it carried out a secret deal with France on dismembering the land by “三枚舌(Sanmai = Three tongue) 外交 (Gaikou = diplomacy): British foreign policy on problems of the Middle East”.

Since the great countries decided the border line of the territory without consideration with the people of Middle East, it became impossible to solve the tragedy in that region.

Therefore, it is a historical fact that Europe is the blasting fuse for the split of the Middle East.

(2) Syria: How far is Japanese coverage true?

a. What was happened in March 2011?

In March 2011, at Daraa, the northern city of Syria. 15 boys whom were inspired by the large democratization demonstration “the Arab Spring” that occurred in Tunisia and Egypt since the end of the previous year, did a government criticism graffiti on the school walls.⁵

Mr. Naoto Amaki, the former Ambassador of Japan in Lebanon, said about the incident in 2001 “Since the September 11 attacks, every single diplomacy in the United States seems to be concentrated on ‘War on Terrorism’. And the diplomacy of the world seems no room to object to the United States’ ‘War on Terrorism’. The large scale attacks of Israel against Palestinian have been repeated and that looks like to adjust to the sign of the United States’ ‘War on Terrorism’. The accumulation of peace dialogues after the Oslo agreement has been completely vanished. And the international community has failed to make any effective solution.”⁶

Is it possible to say that the United States’ action to kill Syrian citizens is the justice by indiscriminant air bombings while sending images to seed the fear in the world with criticizing a decapitation by a knife as the evil act of Islamic extremism group “Islamic State (IS)”?

There is absolute darkness that cannot be acknowledged through Japanese coverages.

⁵ 2013. “*Newsweek, Fukakaina Syria Kougekiron*”. Newsweek Japan. September 13. p.28.

⁶ Amaki, N. 2003. “*Lebanonkara Mita Arabno Kunou. Americano Fuseigi*”. Tembo. p.91-92.



Raqqa attack by the United States military on August 21, 2017

In 2017, the civilian journalist group “RBSS (Raqqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently)” was driven out from Raqqqa in Syria where was the home of “Islamic State”. The number of death reached 3,259 people. Among this, the victims by “Islamic State” are only 548 people. The remaining 63% are victims by the United States military bombings.



December 28, 2017
Escaped refugees from Raqqqa
Malish

February 8, 2018
Refugees from Raqqqa, Aarsal



United States Army general Herbert Raymond McMaster, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, said “The United States government has been thinking that we can solve the war by using the technology that learned through Vietnam, Afghan and Iraq war, but it was a mistake. The war has been

always politic and human thing.”⁷

It was just like, “The United States government seems to have a think that just remain the fact of ‘something done’ for the Syrian situation for the time being, but this way is the worst choice. In 2006, Germany also had an experience to lose 55 people in Afghanistan.”⁸

When the day we left the Middle East on February 10, the Israeli Air Force bombed 12 locations.

b. Whether the al-Assad administration is the root of cause of all evil

By the United States harmful rumor that the al-Assad administration uses chemical weapons such as sarin and its act goes against the Arab Spring in Syria, many of Japanese experts have understood that the al-Assad administration is carrying genocide (collective killing) to his nations. In the West European medias, they do unilateral reporting about the al-Assad administration, such as like “the evil dictatorship administration” and “cruel murderous administration”. However, it is true that the many of Syrian we met were supporting the al-Assad administration. I got an impression that the anti-government group was rather isolated.

How do neighboring Lebanon people think about al-Assad? The existence of the Maronite Church in Lebanon is great. Cardinal Patriarch Bechara Boutros al-Rah, who should be called as the representative of Christians, talked about al-Assad in March 2012. “We say now that we are living in the Arab Spring, but this spring is full of violence and killings and it can be said that it is heading to the winter. We cannot realize the reform by military force. The loss and the damage will be immeasurable. The Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party in Syria is actually a tremendous dictatorship administration. However, looking at the Arab world, dictatorship administration is in everywhere. And all of them seat Islam as their state religion. But Syria is different. Therefore, it can be said that Syria is the closest country to democracy. I am not a vindicator of Syria. However, it is unfortunate that violence and destruction are wrecking strongly in Syria when the country is trying to take a step forward.”⁹ Mr. Masaki Kunieda, the former ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary in Syria, also quoted this word.

Why did the IS expand its influence based in Raqqa, and extended the power inside Syria? It is considerable that the world supports the United States and Israel and indifferent to the conflict war between the al-Assad administration and the anti-government group was the biggest reason. There is also a report that “IS did not expand its power such range if we were able to make a compromise with this civil war earlier”.¹⁰

It was introduced that the former Lebanese Ambassador told the Arab policymaker who is frightened by the anger of the United States, “Be cooperate in the war on terrorism, otherwise you will cause the same crime as terrorist organization”.¹¹ Western countries hide their unfavorable news. History has proven a conspiracy to lead the international public opinion by the unilateral report to treat particular countries as enemies with blaming that they hold biological weapons, sarin, weapons of mass destruction and so on. Actually, European powers seem that they had an intention to collapse the Arab region quickly; therefore the destruction of Libya

⁷ Bassner, D. 2017. “*H.R. McMaster and the tragedy of American empire*”. May 19.

⁸ 2014. “*The Asahi Shimbun*”. June 15.

⁹ Kunieda, M. 2016. “*Terebi/Shimbunga Keshite Houdoushinai Syria-no Shinjitsu*”. Asahi Bunko. p.14-15.

¹⁰ Fujimoto, T. 2015. “*Shyokubakankou ~ Syriade Mottomo Yumeina Nihonjin*”. Gentosha Literary Publication. p.276.

¹¹ Amaki, N. 2003. “*Lebanonkara Mita Arabno Kunou. Americano Fuseigi*”. Tembo. p.113.

was very aggressive. The Gaddafi administration was not collapsed naturally by the people's uprising, but was forced to collapse by European powers.

Germany also switched the position of "exclusively defensive defense" in 1990's, and they dispatched soldiers as a limited "後方支援(Kouho-Shien=Backside logistic support)" at the Afghan war. Needless to say that the front line is dangerous, but it is common sense for "兵站(Heitan = Military logistics)" to be targeted. The Japanese word "後方支援(Kouho-Shien)" began to be used to hide the war action of military logistics.

Even here in Syria, we can see the intention of the great countries to collapse the existing administration in the Arab region at any cost. Let's see the movement of the Arab world since the 21st century.

2001: Collapse of Afghanistan Regime

2003: Collapse of Iraq

2009: Failed to collapse Iran

2011: Collapse of Tunisia

2011: Collapse of Egypt

2011: Collapse of Yemen

2011: Collapse of Libya

2012: Failed to collapse Libya

The world must be awake about the fact that the civil war perpetuated by the exclusive point of view of the United States became the trigger of the Israeli bombing and IS expansion.

c. Hezbollah

When you hear "Hezbollah" in Japan, it sounds like a stronghold of anti-government terrorist organization.

The report of "In Syria where civil war is continuing, Shiite Muslim Militia Hezbollah in Iran and Lebanon support the al-Assad administration" is spreading repeatedly.¹²

"Hezbollah" is a Shiite Islamic Fundamentalism party in Lebanon, as well as meaning of "the party of God". Mufti, Grand Ayatollah Mohammad Hussain Fadlallah is said to be a spiritual leader. It was established with the help of Iran after the Israel's Lebanon invasion in 1982, and it has also been receiving support from Syria.

"Hezbollah" is a legitimate political organization and the Lebanon people, especially Shiite, support it strongly. It participated in the 1992 general election for the first time as a party. It has a militia organization of the same name that repeatedly attacking against the South Lebanese Army (SLA), which is supported by Israeli army and Israel, while keeping the opposite position on the Israeli-Palestinian peace process that has been promoted by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). In April 1996, it intensified the rocket attacks to the norther part of Israel, therefore Israel also started to strengthened counterattacks. However, you will know clearly once you visit Beirut that Hezbollah is not a terrorist group than what Western people and Japanese people think. In Lebanon's cabinet, 10 seats out of 128 seats of parliament are Hezbollah.

In other words, Hezbollah is a legitimate organization. Among the Lebanon-Japan Friendship

¹² 2018. "The Nihon Keizai Shinbun". February 10.

Parliamentarians' Union also includes member of Hezbollah and we are exchanging.

The United Nations set up a Blue Line along the border between Lebanon and Israel. It adopted the Resolution 425 in 1978 that order Israeli army to withdraw from the entire land of Lebanon, and exacted to Israel to obey. Shab's Farms, 25 square kilometers consisting of 14 rural areas begins to be a flash point of the restarting of the conflict. It is the same situation as an resolved territorial dispute between Syria and Israel over the Golan Heights. Since Hezbollah is preventing of the invasion of the Israeli army at the Blue Line, they are very popular in Lebanon.

Israeli troops bombed at least 12 locations, including Iran's military facilities in Syria, on February 10 during our visit at the Middle East. Israel is tremendous existence like a gangster at the Middle East.

Israel is a country where has been receiving hatred from neighboring countries. The more they receive hatred, the more they have been made their opponent to be silence by strong military attacks.

After the one-side defeat of PLO and Syria on the Lebanon war in 1982, Israel began moving their hand over to the remaining half. As the "Iran – Iraq War [1980-1988]" gain force by, Israel was about to begin complete control of the City of Jerusalem behind it.¹³

"Israel continues the national terror to the citizens of the non-confrontational as they wish. So that there is no way for the Arab people but to run for the extreme actions because they feel despair and misery. Israel is the country that believes the illusion of military superiority and only the unyielding hardline policy will bring security for them."¹⁴

"The Japanese media mourn when Israeli citizens died as victims of terrorism, but they will not report even if Palestinians are died by air bombing of Israel."¹⁵

Kyodo News reporter Tadashi Tsumura pointed out about the talk of xxx, who runs a bakery in Damascus. He said that even through my government promises to eliminate chemical weapons completely, "We have no idea what the United States will complain about next. They will continue to support the anti-government group with intention to prolong the civil war".¹⁶

Therefore, we should not simply believe various media reports and government announcements. Historian Howard Zinn [1922-2010] says, "Governments lie all the time. Therefore history exist to understand lies and to judge what governments say without taking it as they say." We must pay attention to his words.¹⁷

There is also a record that exposed the constitution which hid the country's secret over the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident, "We are the first to know how the state behaves shamelessly behind human beings. The state concentrate on protecting own problems and governments and human beings disappear into the history."¹⁸

¹³ Sasaki, Y. 1987. "*Islamwo Shiranaito Sekaiga Mienai*". Yo-Yo Shyupan. p.67.

¹⁴ Amaki, N. 2003. "*Lebanonkara Mita Arabno Kunou. America-no Fuseigi*". Tembo. p.108.

¹⁵ *ibid.* p.116.

¹⁶ Tsumura, K. 2015. "*Chyuto Tokuhainwa Syriade Naniwo Mitaka*". dZERO. p.85-86.

¹⁷ Tsutumi, M. 2012. "*Seifuwa Kanarazu Usowo Tsuku*". KADOKAWA MAGAZINES. p.19.

¹⁸ Alexievich, S. 2015. "*Chernobyl Prayer: A Chronicle of the Future*". Iwanami Shoten. p.303.

(3) Has the world refused Syrian refugees?

a. The greatest humanitarian crisis since the 2nd World War

Syria, where is the birthplace of the oldest civilization of the world at the Tigris–Euphrates river, has turned into the land of the greatest humanitarian tragedy that has no longer the end.

Among 18.564 million Syrian population (UN World Population Prospects. 2016), the number of internally displaced people is 6.5 million, and the number of refugees outside of Syria is 6,909 (UNHCR, as of July 6, 2017).¹⁹

“Rocket bombings launched by anti-government groups become a daily threat.

In the first couple of years, many people thought that the war would end sooner, so they stayed at relatives or friend’s houses. But it was impossible. Children have not been attending to their school for years. It is impossible to rebuild their destroyed houses. Therefore, there is no other way but leave this country.”²⁰

Murder has become a daily routine in a beautiful country where has turned into the bloodshed breeding ground, and it has been no longer covered by the world news.

“In the Syrian Civil War, the administration that conquers the Citadel of Aleppo in norther part at the end of 2016 will gain the military advantage. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, a series of battles from December 1st of last year until the 9th of this month created about 100,000 displaced people.”²¹

b. The influence of “the Holy Quran”

Probably, there are many people who have the impression that “same” Muslims are killing each other in Syria. For example, it is common understanding for Japanese people who seriously believe that the confrontation between Shiite and Sunni, Christianity and Muslim is the cause of religious war. Actually it is not like that. For example, even about a marriage, different religious people got marry and live as a husband and a wife and increase their family members. Therefore, even a half of Muslim people go to their local Christian church. Even Muslims say that they are looking forward the most in a year to celebrate the birth of the prophet Isa (Jesus). They also go to Christian church.

In the same way, Christians also go to the mosque and pray “Inshallah (May there will be Allah’s will to you)”. What I experienced clearly while I was staying in the Middle East is that there is no religious dispute among ordinary people.

There are three famous towers at the most famous Muslim mosque in Damascus, the capital of Syria. It is said that the middle tower is called Isa (Jesus in Arabic) and he will return to that tower. Unfortunately, the mosque, which was the biggest notable site in Damascus, was destroyed by the air bombing on January 8.

¹⁹ 2017. “*The Chunichi Shimbun*”. July 30.

²⁰ Kingsley, P. 2016. “*The Story of Europe’s Refugee Crisis*”. DIAMOND, Inc. p.176.

²¹ 2018. “*The Asahi Shimbun*”. January 12.



The beautiful oldest Islamic temple in the world, Umayyad Mosque at Damascus. The tower called Jesus's Minaret (original meaning in Arabic is "the tower of light"), which Jesus will descend at the Great day, is also a subject to worship by Muslims as a brotherly religion.

By the way, although Israel is Judaism, it is also a reality that many of Palestinians who are driven to the other side of the wall and receiving discrimination on work, education and medical service, area also Christians. Religious conflict is rather used by politicians. We will notice that there is a strategy of the United States military's advancement on behind the scene.

When you say "As-salamu alaykum (Hello)" from you, the same words will never come back to you.

They will reply "Wa alaykum as-salamu (Hello)" to you. At first, I thought that my greetings in Arabic were not understood by people. Actually, the words express the ordinary life that is based on religion. Based on "Answer a greeting in kinder words than those said to you in the greeting or at least as kind. God keeps account of all things. (The Quran 4:86)", the response changes. I could not know until my second visit that the response words are more polite than the first phrase. Even in a conversation between close friends, the words changes. In response to "Marhaban (Hi)", people say "Afwan (Hi)" as response.

There are many phrases that declare "The Quran exists to prove the correctness of the Bible". Moreover, it is written that "Both Jews and Christians go to heaven". ("The Holy Quran". 2:59 (62), 3:19(20))

Therefore, as it is stated "It is the act to seek the political advantage by simple religious matter and to seek the power, so it has no relation to the religious conflict"²². So if you say definitively the cause of the war, conflict and dispute is the religion, you will never know the truth.

c. The last opportunity of peace

I do like to "empathize" with the Syrians who struggle to overcome hatred.

Syrians are excellent people with a history of nearly 5,000 years.

In the ancient Orient period, a technology was born to produce glass-like objects, which were used to only happen accidentally, as a product.

Glass containers had been started making in the latter half of the 16th century BC in Syria and Mesopotamia.²³

What I surprised in Syria is to meet craftsmen who create furniture and house decoration by complex mosaic. They make handicraft product with using Blue-lip Oyster Shell, Silber-lip Oyster Shell and Black-lip Oyster Shell. The complex mosaic in Hakone Japan is a technic delivered from the western end of Silk Road, Syria. Pearl oyster shell produce pearls, so Syria, as the original area of natural pearls, is the place where Japanese learnt about the pearl aquaculture.

²² Amaki, N. 2003. "Lebanonkara Mita Arabno Kunou. Americano Fuseigi". Tembo. p.288.

²³ Taniichi, T. Shioda, H. 2001. "Kodai Garasu". Ribun Shuppan. p.3.

Steve Jobs [1955-2011], Apple's founder that is one of the strongest companies in the recent US, was a child of Syrian immigrants who moved to the United States in 1954.

There are Syrians who are seeking the place “to be exist” in Japan and waiting for refugee status recognition. After one or two years goes by since they reached to Japan, but they have still been not acknowledged. Without certification, they cannot live a life like a human being. They cannot even work, and their life is pending with full of stress.

Even more than 400 Syrians are living in Japan, but only 6 people have ben acknowledged as refugees until now. Unless they are recognized as a refugee, they cannot receive any public services such as employment support and language support.²⁴

Although Japan is facing a severe financial crisis that won't be surprised if it collapses, the self-proclaimed patriot Right wings cut off the weak and criticize the poor, and the mass media is an accomplice in this.²⁵



Most of them are women and children. Because Syrian men try to let at least their wife and children to survive by escaping from their country where turned into the place of the civil war.

The place where refugees will reach is the refugee camps. It is a simple tent that set in once corner of the vacant space, and each escaped family are living together as a group.

Although the United Nations declares to support 100 US dollars a month, people at Malish refugee camp are crying that they have not received any single dollar in 2017.

The international community has not expressed any interests in the Syrian situation, so that the necessary supporting money to care refugees is not enough. Therefore, not only water but also foods are lacking. It is just like the affected area where does not have lifeline. Education is not served properly, and medical care is also not enough. For all that, the number of refugees is increasing more and more.

Mr. Mahanmad Ali (40 years old) in Aleppo told us the details and our backs felt freeze.

²⁴ 2017. “Amnesty Newsletter. Vol.470”. Amnesty International Japan. July & August Issue. p.11.

²⁵ Wada, H. 2016. “Konokunino Tsumetasano Shotai – Ichioku Sou ‘Jikosekinin’ Jidaiwo Ikinuku”. Asahi Shinsho. p.70.

Aleppo in Syria was completely destroyed by air bombings. That is the place where we were going to build an orphan's house. Schools, hospitals and houses, all became ruins and rubble.



The devastation in Aleppo, the second main city in Syria.

The soap produced in Aleppo was the most famous in the world. “It was the Phoenician (now Syrian) who taught Italy how to make this soap”.²⁶

The birthplace of human civilization is attacked by the greatest tragedy of humanity. If we keep pursuing to the selfish ego and drowning in greed, what the world will be like? Is it fine to be indifferent and have a stone-cold love for refugees who have been hurt? We should awake to make the entire Earth as the place with crisp environment, just like cleaning the dirt on body by soap.

Can you hear the voice of “Not want anything more wars, internal conflicts and wartime damages”?

Let's practice the words written on the base of the United Nations, “*They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation. Neither shall they learn war any more.*” (Isaiah 2)

<Conclusion>

Last year, ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) received the Nobel Peace Prize. Many countries on the Earth have always been threatened by the great nuclear-capable states. Human seek peace cannot coexist with nuclear weapons. Mrs. Setsuko Thurlow [1932-] speeches, “The nuclear weapons are not the necessary evil but the absolute evil”.

Don't you think that the war in Syria that becomes the greatest humanitarian tragedy is not the necessary evil but the absolute evil? “For all who draw the sword will die by the sword.” (Matthew 26:52)

If the Japanese constitution “Article 9” will be adopted by the United Nations, I expect that the road to receive the Nobel Peace Prize will be open.

Headquarters of Executive Board of Kobe “Nobel Peace Prize for Article 9” had also sent out the message by the 130 competent people to the Oslo committee on the end of January with aiming to receive the prize. The contents are the same as last year. There is a wish that the “Article 9” will become the treasure of the

²⁶ Miki, S. Miki, H. 1994. “*Setsukenyasanga Kaita Setsukenno Hon*”. Sansuisha. p.28.

world and the hope of the all human beings.

Totalitarian regime like the prewar fascism has the absolute power. It did not respect human life, human rights and peace. Therefore, it is definitely necessary to have a safety valve to control the highest authority of the country by the constitution. The law has regulatory power on people's rights and conflicts. On the other hand, the constitution has a binding power to the monarch and the authority. If the monarch says "I am the absolute, so you all are wrong", no one can resist it.

If the human beings see themselves as the absolute power and to be god, it is the act of perversion. We will enter the era of darkness, shadowy and death. If you do not care about the religion that makes God absolute one, but let human beings to be absolute, oppressions, violence and disputes will arise.

The movement of strengthening the military power is also arising in Europe. It is, "History repeats". Knowing history leads to aware about the structural violence.

Following Sweden, France is also trying to revive the military conscription. Meanwhile, countries that have enshrined into law the conscientious objection are increasing. They are the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Belgium the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Israel, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Austria and Brazil.

However, why is the Japanese mass media indifferent to the United Nation's debate on conscientious objection? It is erased by the weak human rights awareness of society and the momentum by Shinzo Abe administration to kill the Article 9.

I hope that Japan is the country where "Conchie" (abbreviated form of "conscientious objector" can "make use of" the Article 9 of the Constitution more than just protect it.

I hope that the Japanese will receive the Nobel Peace Prize for the Article 9 of the Constitution and it will link to the world constitution for the all mankind who has been wished for ending the war.