

## “True identity of Leviathan (1) ”

September 6, 2020

Kobe International Christ Church, Pastor Iwamura Yoshio

### Main Scripture: Job Chapter 41 Verse 9

“Any hope of subduing it is false; the mere sight of it is overpowering.” (New International Version)

#### <Introduction>

Leviathan is the name of a mythical monster that appears in the Old Testament. Political philosopher, Thomas Hobbes wrote about this aquatic creature, Leviathan in 1651<sup>1</sup>. It is translated as “*Lebiyatan*” in the “*Seishyokixyokai kyodouyaku* (Japan Bible Society Interconfessional Version)”. The Bible describes about Leviathan as follow. It has “rows of shields” on its back (chapter 41 verse 15), “its undersides are jagged potsherds” (verse 30), “flames stream from” its mouth (verse 19), “smoke pours” from its nostrils (verse 20), and its chest is “hard as rock” (verse 24). It is impossible to pierce since “The sword that reaches it has no effect, nor does the spear or the dart or the javelin” (verse 26). Nothing can stand up to the strength of Leviathan because “Iron it treats like straw and bronze like rotten wood”. “It makes the depths churn like a boiling caldron” (verse 31), “the mighty (gods אֱלֹהִים *alim* <<gods with power>>)] are terrified; they retreat before its thrashing” (verse 25), and it is the one that “nothing on earth is its equal—a creature without fear. It looks down on all that are haughty; it is king over all that are proud” (verse 33-34). *alim*

I, the author, am a pastor of the Christian church. I am extremely opposing to nuclear weapons since I am a religious person. However, there is a historical background that Christians have actively supported nuclear power plants from the perspective of peaceful use. It is a fact that Christian and American theologians were the ones who promoted without criticizing it, and the first nuclear research and development against Japan had carried under the slogan that advances in science and technology brings dreams to human beings. And the impact of the atomic bombing on Hiroshima and Nagasaki prefecture brought a reaction of remorse to those people. There is regrettable sadness on why we could not penetrate into the riskiness of nuclear meltdown, exposure and negative influence to descendants in the beginning stage. It is a serious problem that cannot be disposed by just “ignorance”. Because it trusted technology more than God and brought about the catastrophe of human beings.

When the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami occurred on March 2011, I was worried whether the Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant in Miyagi Prefecture was harmed or not. Since then, we have visited Tohoku 110 times, almost once a month, to serve volunteer work to do “Resurrection of Rice Field, Mountain, and Bay”. On August 18, 2020, I participated in a study tour at Fukushima Prefecture. My eyes were glued on page 70 of Seki Hisao’s book “*Najyosube* (=What should I do)” who explained us the disaster area.

---

<sup>1</sup> 2018. Hobbes, T. *Leviathan or The Matter, Forme and Power of a Commonwealth Ecclesiasticall and Civil*. Translated by Kadota Yasumasa. Kotensinyaku Bunko. Its name derives from the interpretation of Akkadian language, and it means “rule over, have a ruling power”.  
2007. Rahmouni, A. *Divine Epithets in the Ugaritic Alphabetic Texts*. Translated by J. N. Ford; Leiden: Brill. 302-333.

He said, “The first president of the Sōka Kyōiku Gakkai, Makiguchi Tsunesaburō imprisoned under the 1925 Peace Preservation Law and probably killed in prison. The second president Toda Jōsei was also imprisoned and he realized what the ‘*Namu Myōhō Renge Kyō* (南無妙法蓮華經)’ was and he told that those who use atomic bomb must be given the death sentence and he did “declaration of the abolition of nuclear weapons” at place called Mitsuzawa.” He is not only as a believer of Sōka Gakkai, but he is also screaming at his own supporting government party because they are proceeding to restarted nuclear plants.

It is a cry of a religious person.

In this morning service, I do like to include my encounter with those who are fighting against Leviathan.

### **(1) It began from the “public decision”.**

#### **a. The Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant (Oshika-gun Onagawa-chō, Miyagi Prefecture)**

In February 2019, 8 years after the accident of Tokyo Electric Power Company’s Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster, a referendum to ask whether the Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant should be restarted or not was not accepted. Governor of Miyagi Prefecture, Murai Yoshihiro who is the former Self-Defense Official, rejected this at the prefectural assembly. “Kahoku Shimpō” also reported on its front page that 110,000 citizens wish did not reach to the unsatisfactory debates at the assembly<sup>2</sup>. One year after that, “Ishinomaki Kahoku” also took up the voices of the people that whether officials listened to the people’s silent majority or not when the time was approaching to give decision to the restart of the Tohoku Electric Power Company’s Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant-unit 2<sup>3</sup>. On August 6, Governor Murai, Mayor of Onagawa-chō Suda Yoshiaki, and Mayor of Ishinomaki City Kameyama Hiroshi visited the site of the nuclear power plant, the seawall, and the inside of the building. I visited the “Onagawa Nuclear Power Promotion Center“(Onagawa-chō Tsukahama) and had a look around the power generation mechanism, safety, filter vent device, etc. on March 19, 2018 at the time of our the 94th Tohoku Volunteer. Governor Murai was pleased and said “the facility is meeting with strict new regulation”, for the explanation from Higuchi Kojiro, President of Tohoku Electric Power, and Wakabayashi Toshiaki, Director of Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant<sup>4</sup>.

Even myself is not a professional but got angry for the researching report that it is impossible to think that they did proper checking for what had happened after the 3.11, such as the reason why the Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant-unit 1 was decommissioned, the run-up height<sup>5</sup> of the tsunami could not be protected by the seawall, and what kind of damages were caused on the buildings.

The three chiefs should be responsible to think that restarting the Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant will be a burden to our future descendants.

#### **b. The Nuclear Power Plant is the same as an apartment without a toilet.**

I met with Miura Kazutoshi, a member of the Miyagi Prefectural Assembly of the Communist Party, at

---

<sup>2</sup> 2019. *Kahoku Shimpō*. March 16.

<sup>3</sup> 2020. *Ishinomaki Kahoku*. August 18.

<sup>4</sup> 2020. *Ishinomaki Kahoku*. August 7.

<sup>5</sup> 2012. *The Asahi Shimbun*. March 17. Associate Professor Tuji Yoshinobu from Earthquake Research Institute, University of Tokyo measured the maximum runup height at Kasagaijima (uninhabited island) in Ishinomaki City Miyagi Prefecture as 43.3 meters.

Ishinomaki City on Monday, August 1, 2020<sup>6</sup>.



He told me that there is a concern that “the voice of anxieties on indoor evacuation and continuous flooded areas”, and most of objections from the residents of Ishinomaki City were strict at the briefing session. He said that most of opinions from the participants were occupied with objections, such as “There is a risk possibility of releasing radioactivity from the pressure-resistant belt when a Filtered Containment Vent for Nuclear Power Plants cannot be operated”, “In the case of an accident, it will take several days for evacuation of all of 190,000 residents”, and “Renewable energy is cheaper than the cost of nuclear power generations since solar power system cost 5.5 yen per kg, and wind power cost 8.6 yen per kg.”

On August 1, the first day of the meeting to explain restating of the facilities to local residents, a person in charge from the Cabinet Office explained. “Ishinomaki Hibi Shinbun (August 3, 2020)” covered details about this meeting on it’s one page that complains from the participants were raised up one after another. People those who are physically challenged, the elderly living alone, and with dementia are impossible to escape for 30 km. Elderly people and people using wheelchairs because of their weak legs and live in one-story buildings instead of two-story buildings have no way to escape vertically in the case of a river flood. Even if you can escape to the higher place, there is no evacuation space if mud flood into the second floor of your house like the Kuma River (Kumamoto heavy rain disaster) case that was occurred on around 7am on July 4, 2020.

The state and prefectural government’s evacuation plans on their desk have no perspective for the vulnerable people.

After the incident of Tokyo Electric Power Company - Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster (hereafter “*Fukuichi*”), four out of the nine nuclear power plants that have been restarted by the Nuclear Regulation Authority are actually operating, but it will be decreased to two in October. According to the government’s basic energy plan, nuclear power plants are positioned as “Base load power” that can generate electricity cheaply and stably. On August 19, at Onagawa-chō, regarding the restart of the Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant, the act of resumption of operation was passed as “Unless the restart of the facility is approved, the local economy cannot be established”.

I deeply regreted that same thing is happening here. I recalled a passage from the writer Ishimure Michiko [1927-]’s “Paradise in the sea of sorrow: our Minamata disease”. She disappointed with the attitude for the limited people’s economic priorities in this way that “Minamata disease has become a great matter, because they left it alone until it becomes like this. The company will collapse. Minamata become the world of

---

<sup>6</sup> 2020. Iwamura, Y. *Meimai Kyujyo News*. August 30.

darkness. It is not only the problem of Minamata disease patients.<sup>7</sup>”

**c. Restarting of the Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant (Oshika-gun Onagawa-chō, Miyagi Prefecture) will be the burden to future generations.**

On August 18, at the 110th Tohoku Volunteer, Sumiio Konno (55 years old), a former Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant worker<sup>8</sup> at Namie-machi Fukushima Prefecture, guided us around Namie-machi.

Mr. Konno told as follows. “The nuclear disaster has not over yet. It is an accident that is still going on, and even it is said that there are 30,000 or 40,000 evacuees, but in the reality, more than 100,000 people are still living in temporary places. They are not just uncounted as evacuees, but in fact, 100,000 people are still continuing to live in evacuation condition. This is the horror of the nuclear incident. I came to know so well about a nonsense returning policy after the nuclear disaster occurred, and the government and the state would not help us. It is just a policy of abandoned people. Therefore, not to be like this, please oppose the nuclear power plant. Please stop it.”



The 108<sup>th</sup> Tohoku Volunteer  
Loot at tower of the Onagawa Nuclear Plant from  
the Oshika Peninsula.  
July 21, 2020.

Mr. Konno was working at the Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant when *Fukuichi* Nuclear meltdown occurred in 2011. Although Onagawa was also in an emergency situation, he was worried about his wife and child in Namie-machi Fukushima Prefecture. Namie-machi is more than 110 km away. Even he worried about safety of his 5-year old son Hayato (Middle age class at Namie Kindergarten) and his wife, but phone call was not connecting. In the morning of 15th, he left from the Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant and reached Ishinomaki City, so that he could communicate through phone-mail, and he could know that his family escaped to their aunt’s house in Ibaraki Prefecture. As soon as he reached at JR Koga station at Ibaraki Prefecture at 8 pm, a small body bumped to him. “Daddy, you are alive”. It was his son. His son was trying to make sure that “you have your legs”. The boy thought that his father was dead. When he lifted his boy in his arms, he hugged around his father’s neck<sup>9</sup>.

Even after I returned to Kobe City, I become to learn about the scientific threshold<sup>10</sup> from the nuclear power plant worker.

---

<sup>7</sup> 1979. Ishimure, M. *Paradise in the sea of sorrow: our Minamata disease*. Kodansha. 283.

<sup>8</sup> He engaged in installing and inspecting automatic controller measurements at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, the Daini Nuclear Power Plant, and other nuclear power plants nationwide, as well as maintaining and checking other instruments (automatic control device, electronic converter, electronics).

<sup>9</sup> 2018. Aoki, M. *Chizukara kiesaru machi. 3. Iigono “Itsutewa ikenai shinjitsu”*. Kodansha's new library of knowledge. 44.

<sup>10</sup> Absolute threshold. “A value that is the boundary of conditional branching”.

## **(2) Causal relationships denied by science**

### **a. Childhood thyroid cancer**

Thyroid cancer occurs frequently in children in Fukushima Prefecture.

Parents are worried. However, the state and prefectural governments deny the causal relationship with radioactivity. Their excuse is that there is no scientific basis. The proof of a doctor and the proof of a lawyer never come together. Lawyers consider that there is a risk if the risk cannot be “denied”. On the other hand, scientists (doctors) deny at the medical conference that the relationship between radiation and thyroid cancer has not been proven, therefore there is no causal relationship, and they deny “the risk has not been rectified.” In the Minamata disease trial in Kumamoto Prefecture, the relationship between organic mercury and the disease cannot be proved at the scientific level, but if trace the cause of it, you will reach the drainage outlet where the waste liquid of Chisso was flowed. Even though we cannot deep inside of it, and the causal relationship between the onset of Minamata disease and the waste discharge of Chisso cannot be scientifically proved, it was determined as black in legal way, so that the causal relationship was affirmed at the court<sup>11</sup>.

### **b. Lack of knowledge**

Of course, Mr. Kobayashi Tadashi, an emeritus professor at Osaka University, contributed an article to the Asahi Shimbun that a thinking that science should always be able to give the correct answer is a kind of faith. He despairs that “Recently, politicians have come to make a conclusion before hearing the opinions of experts, and experts may be used to endorse politics”, “The current Group Discussion just only report to political advisory, and more than that, it has changed to a traditional council meeting that bureaucrats prepare the draft of the meeting in advance”<sup>12</sup>.

The authoritative industry, government, academia and IAEA have been effervescing just like “go counting chickens before they hatch” for the construction cost of a nuclear power plant is 2000 dollars or less per 1kW of power generation output<sup>13</sup>.

Former GE engineer Mr. Sato Satoshi points out that the safety review system for nuclear power plants in Japan lacks the criterion for picking up public opinion compared to that of the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)<sup>14</sup>.

The “public” opinion, that is, the “common” opinion. In particular, the disaster affected area is the “common space”, and the voices of the victims at the site often tell the truth.

---

<sup>11</sup> 2020. *Michishirube. Vol. 14.* Kodomodatsuhibakusaibanno kai. May issue. 6.

<sup>12</sup> 2012. *The Asahi Shimbun.* August 28.

<sup>13</sup> 2017. *Science Journal, Kagaku. Nol.7.* Iwanami Shoten. 618-623.

No one has appeared in the nuclear industry who can be paralleled to John Rockefeller (oil), Andrew Carnegie (steel), Henry Ford (automobile), and Bill Gates (computer).

In the 15 years since the Chernobyl disaster in 1986, there was the nuclear renaissance that one of the world's leading companies jumped into. Japan was not an exception, Toshiba bought up Westinghouse Electric Corporation in 2006 for \$ 5.4 billion. Entering to year of 2000, in United States, nuclear power emerged as the most promising solution to global warming due to rising sea levels, shrinking Arctic ice, droughts around the world, extreme weather occurrences, and disasters.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) estimated that by 2050, 300 units of nuclear plants would be in operation in the United States alone and 100 units in the world.

<sup>14</sup> 2014. *Science Journal, Kagaku. August Issue.* Iwanami Shoten. 834.

### **c. “Government” who does not want to do disaster prevention, compensation, and restoration.**

In a disaster-prone country, the industry, government, and academia, which behave as if they control “common space”, do not step into the real site.

“Jesus replied, ‘And you experts in the law, woe to you, because you load people down with burdens they can hardly carry, and you yourselves will not lift one finger to help them.’” (Luke 11:46)

They are not trying to know about the trace of disasters, such as isolation of the villages at Hakimasue Asakura City Fukuoka Prefecture (July 5, 2017) due to heavy rain in northern Kyushu area, river flooding at Mabi-chō Yata Kurashiki City Okayama Prefecture where is away from the sea (July 7, 2018), the 2018 Hokkaido Eastern Iburi earthquake at Atsuma-chō Hokkaido (September 6, 2018), overflow of the Rokaku River that attacked Saga Prefecture (August 27, 2019), the Typhoon No.19 (October 12, 2020), and Kuma River overflow (July 4, 2020). They don’t even have a knowledge, courage, or power to stand against the turbulent surging floodwater.

Even in times of crisis, they are eager to guard their fame, money and social status. On the other hand, the Bible recommend us to do no disrespect “fairness” that “When you spread out your hands in prayer, I hide my eyes from you; even when you offer many prayers, I am not listening. Your hands are full of blood! Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong. Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.” (Isaiah 1:15-17)

Some groups have a tendency to react nervously to how to be liked by the “government” rather than how do they fight against Leviathan.

The Bible talks about Leviathan that “Nothing on earth is its equal (Latin: *Non est potestas super terram quae compareturi*)”. Leviathan is described as “a creature without fear” (Job 41:33). Leviathan advocates militaristic “security” while talking “peace”. Political scientist Mitsuo Miyata, Professor Emeritus of the Faculty of Law, Tohoku University, rebukes on militaristic “security”. “There is no path to ‘peace’ through the road of security. Because peace is something that must be done, and it is a great adventure. Peace is the opposite of security. Seeking safety means having a sense of distrust [to the other person]. And this distrust feeling causes war again. There is no victory in battles with using armaments”<sup>15</sup>.

It only foments the threat of neighboring countries and increase military spending, and disaster compensation for affected victims is neglected.

### **(3) Kawabe River Dam**

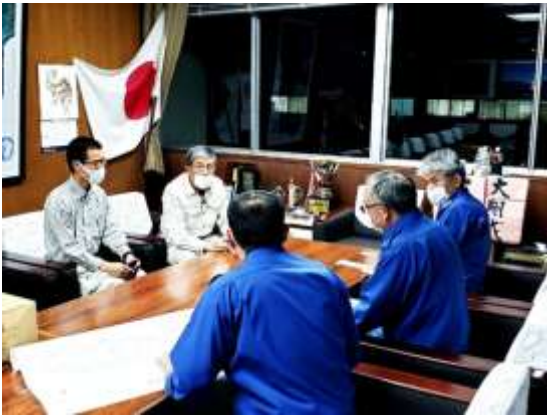
#### **a. Review Committee of Kuma River Heavy Rain Disaster with already-made Dam decision.**

On April 7, 2020, the flood damaged the Kuma River basin in the southern part of Kumamoto Prefecture. There are 65 victims in Kumamoto Prefecture. Of these, 50 were dead in the Kuma River area. The cause of death of 49 people were drowning (including suspicion). The both victims of 25 people in Kuma Village and the 20 people in Hitoyoshi City are the number of deaths at Kuma River area. Damages caused such as, river clogging (rivers are roads are blocked by landslides, etc.), levee breach, and lateral erosion. The flooding of the Kosade River in Nishiki-machi, which is one of the tributaries of the Kuma River, and the overflow

---

<sup>15</sup> 1988. Miyata, M. *Heiwa no hatto to rivaiasan: Seisho-teki shocho to gendai seiji*. Iwanami Shoten.252.

stream (water overflows where there is no embankment) to lower land along the river attacked<sup>16</sup>. Residents of Hitoyoshi City and its neighbors are skeptical that the Ichifusa Dam must have been released in advance. Just same as the event of Kumamot Earthquake in April 2016, Kobe International Sustaining Organization arrived at Ashikita-machi Kumamoto Prefecture on that day. There was a voice of “help” on SNS. On the day, I went to the site while biting my lips.



At Ashikita Town Mayor’s office, Kumamoto Prefecture. July 4, 2020.

At the Mayor’s office of Ashikita-machi, where 11 people were dead, we met with Deputy Mayor Nasashi Fujisaki, Superintendent of education Shigeyoshi Iwata, and General Affairs Division Manager Takashi Fukuda. We heard about the damage situations at Sashiki River and Yunoura River area while looking at a map of the entire town area<sup>17</sup>.

Every Sabo dams, which are placed at tributary of the Kuma River area, on the way to Kuma Village are all accumulated by sand. There were no benefits of flood control, and they only impair ecosystems of such as *ayu* and salmon.



The 5<sup>th</sup> Kumagawa (Kumamoto Flood Disaster) Volunteer. August 3, 2020. The 4<sup>th</sup> bridge of Kumagawa railway. Murakami Hiroataka, Oshima Kenjiro, Kitamura Yasuo (From the right)

<sup>16</sup> 2020. *Hitoyoshi Press*. September 3.

<sup>17</sup> 2020. *Seasonal magazine “Shien”* No.32. August. 1.

Removal of dam has become an international trend. For example, the economic policy that US President Franklin Roosevelt started in 1933 is called the “New Deal”, and I remember learning about it when I was in junior high school. It gathered the unemployed and build more than 300 multipurpose dam facilities on the Tennessee River to contribute helping the unemployed. However, after the 1970’s, the United States has encouraged the removal of dams, and more than 700 weirs and dams have disappeared. When Mr. Daniel Beard, the former President of the United States Bureau of Reclamation, visited Japan, he said “The era of dam construction is over” in his speech<sup>18</sup>.

This time, even there is a protest by the locals in Kumamoto, the central government exhorted a necessity of dam construction to Governor of Kumamoto Prefecture Kabashima Ikuo and the chiefs of 12 municipalities at the Review Committee of Kuma River Heavy Rain Disaster that if there was the “Kawabe River Dam”, 4,700 tons, that is 40% of the flow rate, would be reduced<sup>19</sup>. However, Professor Emeritus Imamoto Hirotake of Kyoto University argues that even if there is the Kawabe River Dam, it will only decrease about 2,000 tons, and still 6,500 tons will attack Hitoyoshi City and great damage cannot be avoided<sup>20</sup>.

The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) is trying to rehash the dam construction and I have no choice but to hope that the citizens of Kumamoto Prefecture will not give decisions by the economic profit and loss account like the council members of Onagawa-chō did. As it is written that “The one who is greedily and hungrily brings troubles to its house, and the one who hates bribes lives”, the “house” and the state where does not deny the value of greedily and hungrily cannot be endured to exist. Christ said, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions” (Luke 12:15). Even the person who lives at high-class residential area of Hitoyoshi City with the finest automobiles, furniture, and property, everything was brought to nothing. As it is described as “In that day, the Lord will punish with his sword— his fierce, great and powerful sword— Leviathan the gliding serpent, Leviathan the coiling serpent; he will slay the monster of the sea”, the disaster attacked innocent people at the Kuma River area by mud like a “serpent” (Isaiah 27:1). Governor of Kumamoto Kabashima Ikuo, who opposes the dam, is struggling for the pressure of the MLIT to build new dams with a vested-interest structure for the safety from flood disaster. Isn’t it similar to the structural outline of Fukushima nuclear incident that the overconfidence in technology, which brings human’s dream, caused human-generated disaster? We must not let the mercury intoxication incident fade away. We must not forget *ku-raku-jyo-do* (苦海浄土: Paradise in the sea of sorrow) of Minamata City Kumamoto Prefecture.

The people of Hitoyoshi City were angry and said, “Nobody want to be built any dams. Only the state wants to do it”.

---

<sup>18</sup> 1995. Okuma, T (Coauthor). *Nihon no dam wo kangaeru*. Iwanami Shoten.

<sup>19</sup> 2020. *Kumamotonichinichi Shimbun*. August 27.

<sup>20</sup> 2020. *The Asahi Shimbun*. September 4.





The most transparent  
river in Japan.  
Kawabe River

#### **b. Common point between the dam and the nuclear accident.**

The nuclear accident completely took away people's daily life, and people lost their jobs and even the surviving companies have to decrease their payments to their employees. On the other hand, civil servants working at government offices are paid their summer bonus.

Kuma village, which was a depopulated, aging, declining birthrate and marginal village, is the same situation as other areas. As a campaign to get even on person to move in to their place from the city, they did promotion that if a person settle down for 15 years in the village, the land will be their own property. The day before, I met with Mr. Funato, who built a new house 8 years ago by using a mortgage, at the bathhouse of Mr. Norio Torigoe who recommends people to take a bath for free. Mr. Funato said that if he tries to build a new house again as a parent to raise two elementary school children, he must be prepared for repayment for two the mortgage payments. I could see that he was worried about whether he could continue to repay after 30 years.

How long do the people have to bear for this situation silently? It is almost impossible to rebuild a new house from a completely destroyed house with only 3 million yen. People's life face severe condition such as double mortgages and children's education costs. The "government" use global warming as their excuse and they love meaningless spending projects that prioritize civil engineering and construction that bring ecosystem destruction rather than forest maintenance. On top of all that, the melody of sorrow of the people who are wandering on the street echoes through entire Japan.

Welfare recipients line up for meal distribution at Onohama in Kobe City. When there are many, it will be about 150 people. Among them, about 140 people receive 120,000 yen a month. In addition, since April 2014, Kobe International Sustaining Organization has been providing meals for street living people who have not been receiving living expenses. There are not more than 20 people in whole Kobe City. The central government provided a uniform of 100,000 yen, "Special Cash Payments", to all people in Japan. If so, I do like to propose to provide a uniform of 3000,000 yen to those who have lost their homes, jobs, and house properties in a disaster. The government must provide a temporary disability compensation to those who have no prospect of rebuilding their lives and house that was completely destroyed. In order to support

the victims, in order to secure financial resources, the state should try to cut the annual expenses of parliamentarians and salaries of civil servants, and cancels such as the Olympic Games, space development, linear development, and especially must stop buying military equipment from the United States like a shopping spree. If they can do it so, they will be able to distribute 700,000 – 800,000 yen instead of 300,000 yen. Kagawa Toyohiko [1888-1960], who was a candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize, opposed a military arsenal as a flagship of liberation theology, engaged in establishing a consumers' co-operative, Japan Agricultural Cooperatives, and a labor union, and worked for “one of the least of these” (Matthew 25:45)<sup>21</sup>.

### c. True identity of Leviathan

In the diary of Tanaka Shozo [1841-1913], who confronted the coalition of politicians, officials, economic leaders, scholars, and media by dedicating oneself wholly to the victims of the Ashio Copper Mine Incident, he says as follows. “The old water control was done according to natural features. Therefore, the current water control is against to this old style, and it like drawing thoughtless lines with a ruler. People make straight and right-angled lines without considering shape of mountains and hills, and disregarding the natural features and environments. They say that it is the way to create the water control. However, the water control is not the thing to create.<sup>22</sup>” He raised that the nature should be restored by the nature, not by “creating the water control”.

Politicians, officials, economic leaders, scholars, and media should admit that the negligence of water control measures in the Kuma River area rather than the dam was a human-generated disaster and it caused a lot of damage by the collapsing of the embankment and the emergency releasing from the dam. As it is written “But they did not listen to me or pay attention. They were stiff-necked and did more evil than their ancestors”, it oppresses the people who are the original “public”, ignores the existence that controls the natural world, and destroys the ecology with the hardened attitude that is just the conscience has been burned. (Jeremiah 7:26) In the past, electricity was supplied by a small hydroelectric generation using the vertical gap of the river for each individual, neighbor, and village. It was like a water wheel. The conversion from electricity to renewable energy will solve global warming, deforestation and natural ecology. Japan's first river law was enacted in 1896 [Meiji 29]. Until that time, river had been taken care through the practices and traditional methods, such as masonry dam, and those had continued mainly by the local residents. Emeritus professor of Niigata University, Okuma Takashi points out in “Create a local idea” with saying “The state started to control it, and the water control cost has become to be paid from taxes instead.” In addition, Hidejiro Yazama, co-representative of the “Chikuma River / Shinano River Restoration Society”, also presented the idea of water systems as follows<sup>23</sup>.

“If you don't look at the river from the headwaters to the end of the river, you will make a mistake. In order for Japan to grow rapidly, we must make iron and cement, and after we make it, we have to use it somewhere.

---

<sup>21</sup> Iwamura, Y. <http://kicc.sub.jp/ecumensty/%E8%B3%80%E5%B7%9D%E8%B1%8A%E5%BD%A6%E3%80%80/>

<sup>22</sup> 1989. Tanaka, S. *Tanaka Shozo senshyu <6> Kami to shizen (Taninaka II)*. Iwanami Shoten. 201.

<sup>23</sup> 1998. Okuma, T (Coauthor). *Rocalna shisowo tsukuru – Datsusekaishisono houho*. “Kawato ningenko kankeikara – Chisuigijyutsuto chiikino minshyushyugi”. Nobumkyokan. 124.  
2011. Yama, S. *Yuruginonai jaiwo ikinuku*. Godo shuppan. 173-174.

It is not a matter of useful or not. So, they searched for a place to use cement and started to utilize it to cover three-sided of even the irrigation canal, until they destroy the natural water circulation. Then it became that weeds did not grow and saved the local people from doing weeding. Moreover, money fall into the industry, including the local construction industry. Public opinion will be leaded in the direction to think that kind of situation is better. In half a year, the clear beautiful stream disappeared, the fireflies gone, and people moved away from the waterside.”

Something can only be brought by a clear beautiful stream. Tsutsumi Jyunko, President of Sengetsu, a brewing company that is trying to stand up from the devastating damage in Hitoyoshi City. She said, “This *shochu* is drawn from a clear stream and is from the Kawabe River. We use the best rice, *hinohikari*.” Certainly, the river I saw on July 5 was mud-colored, but on my 6th visit on August 25, the river recovered its transparency that I have never seen it before and fully understood its beauty. The record heavy rain (from August 27) that hit Saga Prefecture in August 2019 damaged the rice fields of *hinohikari*<sup>24</sup>. We must not ignore food security.

85% of the local residents opposed the construction of Kawabe River Dam, and in 2008, Kumamoto Prefecture Governor Kabashima Ikuo expressed opposition and the dam construction was canceled. However, the MLIT has not cooperated to execute river-bed excavation what local residents requested up to today<sup>25</sup>.

Doctor of Engineering Ishizaki Katsuyoshi talks details about the inconvenient truth of the government regarding to the Kuma River Flood Disaster in “Science Journal, Kagaku”. We have to get away from the water control of just building public facilities which have forgotten the original purpose of water control, and shift to crisis management type water control to protect the people who are at the risk of their life. He pinpoints that the government had neglected to formulate a river improvement plan<sup>26</sup>.

The government ignored the reservoirs along the Kuma River improvement plan, which include water control measures instead of the Kawabe River Dam construction. 12 years have passed without taking any actions, such as river-bed excavation, raising land level of residential area, and the river control that does not depend of the dam, while the authorities sticking to the dam project. Therefore, the heavy rain damage of 135.2 billion yen of civil engineering facility along the Kuma River was caused by human-generated disasters<sup>27</sup>. Leviathan of politicians, officials, economic leaders, scholars, and media must reflect on it seriously. “But the wicked are like the tossing sea, which cannot rest, whose waves cast up mire and mud. (Isaiah 57:20)” As soon as the dam is constructed, dirt accumulate at the bottom of the river and the river will no longer maintain its clear beautiful stream.

It is our responsibility to our future descendants to protect the Kawabe River, the most beautiful clear stream in Japan<sup>28</sup>.

---

<sup>24</sup> *Saga Water Flood Volunteer*

[http://kisokobe.sub.jp/article/proposal/15029/?fbclid=IwAR3npPpPKkv1mmMtjx7Ea0xtlpn1czhwg919h0nXUj\\_f](http://kisokobe.sub.jp/article/proposal/15029/?fbclid=IwAR3npPpPKkv1mmMtjx7Ea0xtlpn1czhwg919h0nXUj_f)

<sup>25</sup> According to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, since the Hitoyoshi layer, a soft rock layer, is exposed and it cannot to keep the revetment and piers because of its unstable riverbed, therefore they have been refusing to conduct a riverbed excavation.

<sup>26</sup> 2020. Ishizaki, K. *Science Journal, Kagaku. September Issue*. Iwanami Shoten. 775.

<sup>27</sup> 2020. *The Nihon Keizai Shinbun*. July 20.

<sup>28</sup> The Kawabe River has been designated as the “River with the best water quality (AA rank)” for 13 consecutive years since 2006.

## <Conclusion>

The Bible writes about Leviathan that “Nothing on earth is its equal (verse 33)”. The first “post-COVID 19” is “economy”. Our organization has been advocating basic income even before the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Economic inequality has led to significant class inequality, and it brings indifference, ignorance, and oppression to “one of the least of these (Matthew 25:45)”. “Ignorance” is a “sin” that leads to “eternal punishment” (Matthew 25:46). This includes orphans, single women who lost their husbands due to war or disaster, elderly living alone people, those who are imprisoned for condemnation, and foreigners. The reins of power induce guilt. It has been eliminated people who do not obey to the power due to strengthen its power stable. But Leviathan is silent with a daring smile.

The second is “καιρός: Kairos = time” that shifts renewable energy from electricity for the earth

The third is, if we do not back to the local production for local consumption for what we eat, we will have conflicts with other countries to secure food for our “food security”, and it may call for militaristic security. Food security is more urgent than to carry military equipment. It is not remodeling the Japanese archipelago for seeking efficiency, productivity, and convenance. For that, it is desirable to raise children at home, education at school, and grow in society to let them have an interest in “Resurrection of Rice Field, Mountain, and Bay”.

In recent years, economic-oriented natural alterations that supply large amounts of water to industrial areas have caused continuous disasters in conjunction with extreme weather events. In other words, Leviathan = public work projects, which even it has been became decrepit and ugly with age, have eaten up the local traditions, culture, and indigent tastes. It is a monster that cannot be defeated without complications. It is hard to deal with more than Godzilla, which appeared in the movie on next year after the Daigo Fukuryū Maru that was contaminated by nuclear fallout from the United States Castle Bravo thermonuclear weapon test at Bikini Atoll in 1954, since it thrashes around violently from the dam.

Our organization is one of the complainants in the radiation-exposed child trial. I wish to consider about it together from the Bible next week together. Amen.

The following week, Mr. Murata Jyuhachi, director of the Kobe International Sustaining Organization, proofread my sermon. Also, I would like to thank to translator Ms. Tokudome Yumi and Ms. Sasaki Miwa of our office staff for improving unclear parts of this sermon.