



have not experienced teaching in a class. It would be their first time to introduce their home country and culture. We expect that the supporters would be able to conduct a class where students would enjoy understanding a foreign culture. Below is Ms. Tsuda's explanation of the aims of the training, including some of her comments.

#### ■ Completing the International Understanding Education Supporter Training

Ms. Tsuda

Kaori Former Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV)

This training for supporters is an introduction on how to introduce their countries and cultures or a specified topic (educational system, food culture, etc.) when they are dispatched to an elementary school, Junior high school or high school. Since the participants did not have much experience, The training was designed for beginners. The training consisted of "The ideal Class", "Planning", "Presentation techniques".

First, for the ice breaker, I started by greeting everyone in a language of Malawi. Since they were greeted in a language they have never heard before, the supporters were surprised, yet responded enthusiastically. Through this experience, they could understand the meaning of giving a class in school and the enjoyment of interacting with the children.

Next, tackling the theme of "What is a good presentation or class", participants brainstormed and ranked their ideas into 6 categories, which they later presented. It was the aim of this activity to have participants experience a participatory method called ranking and determine the skills they need to acquire.

Afterwards, they answered a 50-Question worksheet, guide questions to help them think about what they could share with students. Even during break time, there were many who were still answering the work sheet. I could sense their earnestness in trying to learn something.

Next, I explained how to design the class, using the structure of a class I am conducting. I also included effective PowerPoint techniques and samples of common mistakes. Having the participants experience a participatory teaching method and employing what they have learned, I introduced how speak while showing teaching materials and integrating hand games in class.

During the Q&A, participants asked questions such as, how to adapt the presentation depending on the the age of the children or how to respond to slightly mean questions.

Even after the training, I received many questions. I could understand the meaning of this training. Introducing their country in Japanese schools is an opportunity for children to experience a different culture. The supporters who participated in this training are excellent human resources who can enjoy teaching this in school.

I hope that I could have been some help in training human resources for teaching international understanding education in schools within Osaka Prefecture through this training.

★Foreign Supporter Talk

■ Lodi Pable (Philippines)

St. Andrew's University Department of International Studies and Liberal Arts (MA)

I came to Japan because I was interested in Japan and the Japanese language. I graduated from St. Andrew's University this March and entered the graduate school of the same university in April. When I was in the university, I registered as an OFIX International Understanding Supporter and participated in international understanding education activities. I visited schools in Osaka together with people from other countries and introduced the Philippines and its culture to students. Not only could I share my country and culture to the students, but it is also a valuable opportunity where I could also learn more about Japan and its culture. I recommend international students to join these activities. Please register as a supporter.

■ Wang Lei (China)

Kansai University Graduate School of Psychology (PhD)

I have been involved in the OFIX International Understanding Education Program for 4 years now. I have visited elementary, junior high school and high schools in Osaka Prefecture together with people from various countries. After introducing myself to the students, I would share my country and culture using a PowerPoint presentation, eat lunch and play together with the students. Learning something you cannot get from textbooks is very meaningful and I enjoy the time I spend answering the questions of students. Looking at their smiling and surprised faces, I could feel the charm of international exchange. And when I hear the students say, "My impression of China has changed" and "I want to go to China", I feel this activity is worthwhile.

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【02】 Activity Report

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■ Foreign Residents' Meeting

◎ Date: May 8 (Friday)

Venue: My Dome Osaka 8th Floor Salon

One of the goals of OFIX is to promote the establishment of a consultation desk for foreigners at the municipalities. To realize this, OFIX holds a "One Day Consultation for Foreigners" together with municipalities.

The "Foreign Residents' Meeting" was held with the aim of considering how to make the one day consultation easier to avail of through a hearing among foreigners tackling the problems of the "One day Consultation".

11 people active in volunteer activities in their local communities, from 10 countries: China, Korea, Brazil, Peru, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Switzerland, Italy, Mongolia, participated in the meeting. Furthermore, the person in charge of international exchange projects at the Minoh Association for Global Awareness, which aggressively incorporates the opinion of foreign residents into their programs, also attended and there was a lively exchange of opinion.

There were specific advices such as, "holding another event together with the consultation event, so that it would be easier for foreigners to come. Even if they do not consult in much detail, the event may serve as a springboard for them to ask for detailed information later on." Among the participants, there were many foreigners who want to start their own coffee shop, dance studio, etc. and requested for a consultation desk where they could ask about those matters.

Based on the opinions achieved during this meeting, we will be considering a "One day Consultation for Foreigners" that incorporates the needs of the foreign residents.

■ OFIX Co-sponsored Events: One Day Consultation Service for Foreigners Shijonawate City/ Izumi City

◎Date: June 5 (Friday)

Venue: Shijonawate City Shimin Sougou Center

◎Date: June 7 (Sunday)

Venue: Izumi City Hall

Shijonawate City Hall and Izumi City Hall, together with OFIX, held a One Day Consultation for Foreigners to create a city where life is easier for foreign residents. It is a first for both cities.

The consultation at Shijonawate City was held together with the evening Japanese language classes for foreigners every week by the Residents Center. To make it easier for the foreigners, consultation booths on residential status, human rights, education, National Health Insurance, General Living were set up.

The consultation at Izumi City was held together with the "Izumi World Festival". Foreigners consulted on topics of residential status, law, social insurance, labor, etc. The inquiries were handled by specialists: a notary public, lawyer, labor and social security attorney.

For interpretation support, OFIX had its volunteers participate and helped those consulting with difficult Japanese.

In the future, we will be planning together with the municipalities a consultation event where more foreigners would be able to participate in.

■ Interpreter and Translator Volunteer Training

◎ Interpreter/Translator Volunteer in Times of Disasters

Date: June 19 (Friday)

Venue: Osaka City Abeno Life Safety Learning Center

Participants: 28 (English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, Thai, Vietnamese, Nepalese)

A joint endeavor with Osaka Prefecture (Crisis Management Office, International Division) with the aim of training interpreter and translator volunteers that would help provide foreigners with information during disasters.

This fiscal year, Mr. Yoshihiko Doi of the NPO National

Council for Multicultural Corporate Manager served as a lecturer and conducted a workshop and case study on the theme of "Providing Multilingual Information during a disaster." Simulating an actual activity of a support center, the participants were divided into translation, consultation, information and patrol groups and discussed among themselves what they can and can't immediately do and what role each volunteer or staff would play.

In the future, OFIX will take steps in preparing a Support System for Foreigners in times of disaster, which will include conducting drills on setting up and managing a Multilingual Support Center in times of Disaster.

◎ Community Interpreter Volunteer Training

Date: May 29 (Friday) ・ June 3 (Wednesday)

Venue: My Dome Osaka 8th Floor 3rd and 6th Meeting Room

Participants: 33 (English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish  
Portuguese, Thai)

We have conducted a training to develop community interpreter volunteers who will aid in bridging communication between foreigners and administrators.

This year, lectures on the new Prefectural High school entrance system and given the increasing number of foreign patients, infection control measures (medical examinations, etc.) were included and role play, an exercise where each plays a role of an administrator, a foreigner or interpreter, was conducted.

The following is a comment (partly selected) of someone who played the role of an administrator.

"I played an administrator this time. Although I had a script, there were many specialized terms and the 3 of us discussed how to interpret it.

Some interpreter volunteers said it is a valuable learning experience and those who played the role of the foreigner said that by looking at the enthusiasm of the participants, foreigners in Osaka can rest easy.

I wasn't used to the role I played so it was difficult, but I'm happy that I could be of some help."

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**【03】 Osaka International Residence Orion International House**

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- Towards an Outstanding International Residence, in times of Peace or Disaster  
-Improving Disaster Prevention Consciousness with the Local Community-

OFIX operates the Osaka Prefecture Sakai International Hall (Orion International House) to accommodate international students from universities and vocational schools in Osaka.

《Increasing Consciousness Towards Disaster Prevention》

Disaster prevention consciousness is increasing nationwide.  
OFIX has established a support system for foreigners in times of

disasters. As part of that, with the aim of increasing the disaster prevention consciousness of international students and supporting foreign residents in Osaka, the "Disaster Prevention Drill for International Students" at Orion International House has been conducted since 2012. It will be conducted again this year on July 4 (Saturday).

During the drill, "Experiencing an Evacuation Center" and "Interpretation and Translation during a Disaster" will be conducted at the same time with 60 international students and volunteers as participants.

"Experiencing an Evacuation Center" is not only for dorm residents, but also for other students in Osaka to experience how to protect oneself and how to prepare for a large scale earthquake, as well as learning about the role of an evacuation center.

Residents who participated last year gave comments such as, "I have never experienced an earthquake, but if an earthquake occurs, I would first remain calm and think about protecting myself", "when I evacuated to an evacuation center, it is important to let my family and university know where I evacuated."

On the other hand, the "Interpretation and Translation drill" is an interpretation and translation simulation training for volunteers who support international students and foreign residents during a disaster. The drill will also include a simulation of patrolling evacuation centers.

This training does not only target Japanese supporting foreigners, but also educates international students to support other foreigners. Actually, the number of international students who want to participate as supporters is slowly increasing.

Furthermore, since it is important to cooperate with your neighbors during a disaster, the fire extinguishing drill by the Sakai North Fire station and checking the route to the specified evacuation center is done together with residents of Osaka City University International Residence (Uenoshiba Dorm).

#### 《Valuing Interaction with Local Residents》

Every year, we hold a Community Exchange Party (Welcome Party, Winter Party) in May and December to welcome the new residents. Neighboring residents participate in the party and they understand that foreigners are living nearby. We also hold it as it is an important venue for the residents to have and exchange and talk with the neighbors.

#### ●This year we had the Local Community Exchange (Welcome Party) again on May 31 (Sunday)!

There were 64 dorm and local community residents who participated.

This year's party had a substantial program that included the usual North Sakai Police Department explanation of how to avoid accidents and crime, local residents' Seniors Club members teaching calligraphy, and this year there was a performance by the Osaka University Cheering Squad and the dorm manager.

At Orion International House, we promote disaster prevention consciousness and value exchange with the local community. Our motto is Safe, Peaceful and Enjoyable. We await new international students.

★ Orion Residents Roundtable Discussion

We have interviewed 3 new residents and 2 tutors (resident leaders), who have moved in in April, about their earthquake experience.

Date: May 29 (Friday)

Participants: : Wang Hyun Sik (Korea/Osaka University)

DO TUAN AN (Vietnam/Osaka University)

Zhou Yun Ting (China/Osaka University)

\* Shogo Nagano (Japan/Osaka University)

\* NGUYEN LE AN (Vietnam/Osaka University)

※Names are abbreviate below, "\*" is for Tutor

Please tell us about your life in Orion.

NGUYEN : Orion Hall is a bit far from Osaka University, but compared to the others, the rent is cheap so I like very much.

Zhou : I could live at ease since there is a dorm manager and no one can enter the living quarters except for dorm residents. However, it is a shame that there is little opportunity to communicate with other dorm residents.

NGUYEN : I am enjoying Vietnamese food together with the Senior Club members I have met at the Local Community Exchange party. I would like to introduce them to the other dorm residents, too.

Have you ever experienced and earthquake before?

NGUYEN : Two days ago, I felt a tremor while I was sleeping. I was surprised. It was a good thing it wasn't much.

DO : There are no earthquakes in Vietnam.

Wang : There are few earthquakes in Korea, so I want to join the integrated disaster prevention drill with my friend.

Nagano : As my daily preparation, I don't put furniture that pose a danger of falling over around my bed. I learned this when I participated in the disaster prevention drill last year.

In the yearly Disaster Prevention Drill, aside from earthquake drills, you can also learn about first aid and how to use a fire extinguisher. Please invite other dorm residents and friends and participate. (For details, please refer to "Notices" on the next page.)

※For details on the round table discussion, please see the OFIX homepage.

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/accept/support/orion.html>

◎Integrated Disaster Prevention Drill for International Students  
--Experiencing an Evacuation Center and Drill on Setting up  
a Multilingual Support Center during a Disaster--

A training where you can learn how to protect yourself in an earthquake and how to prepare for a disaster will be held. You can also experience what it is like interpret and translate for foreigners in need of support during a disaster.

Date: July 4 (Saturday) 10:00 am – 1:30 pm

Venue: Sakai International Hall (Orion International House)

Target: International students, disaster volunteers, language volunteers, etc.

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/news.html#20150518-2>

◎Career Counseling for International Students

OFIX will co-sponsor a Job Fair with the Osaka Labor Association (L-Osaka) and will offer career counseling for international students.

Date: July 17 (Friday) 2:00 pm-8:00 pm

Venue: Congrès Convention Center

(Grand Front Osaka North Building B2F)

Target: International students studying in Universities, junior colleges and vocational schools and graduating in March 2016

<http://osakajobfair.com/event/detail/20150717.php>

◎ 2015 Osaka Invitational Program for Short Term Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts (Ando Program) Selection of Trainees

8 trainees from 8 countries (India, Indonesia, Korea, China, Nepal, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Philippines) were chosen at the June 23 Trainee Selection Committee.

The deadline for converting your Alien Registration Card to a Resident Card or Special Permanent Resident Certificate is drawing near.

★ Did you know?

The alien registration law has been abolished and there is a need to convert the Alien Registration Card to a Resident Card or Special Permanent Resident Certificate. Mid to long term residents may have their cards converted at the nearest immigration office or its satellite office. The Special Permanent Resident Certificate can be applied for at the municipal office of your residence. Permanent residents 16 years old and older need to complete procedures by July 8, 2015.

<http://www.immi-moj.go.jp/keiziban/pdf/150331.pdf>

The Chinese version of the "Naruhodo Guide for Interpreter and Translator Volunteers during Disasters" has been completed!



We have made the "Naruhodo Guide" Chinese version to be used as a textbook during volunteer trainings. This was made after the English version. Do download and utilize it.

[http://www.ofix.or.jp/accept/volunteer/pdf/guide\\_c.pdf](http://www.ofix.or.jp/accept/volunteer/pdf/guide_c.pdf)

■ Notice from Osaka Prefecture

◎ "Peace Osaka" Renewal

In April, the Osaka International Peace Center has renewed its exhibit focusing on "Osaka Air Raids". Aside from the Osaka air raids, the Center also introduces life during and after the war. There is also free rental of audio guides in 4 languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean) .

<http://www.peace-osaka.or.jp/>

■ Call for applications:

◎ Orion International House Autumn Call for New Residents

Orion International House will begin accepting applications from August for residents moving in starting October 2015. There will be about 20 rooms available. Applications for residents who will stay until October are accepted anytime.

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/accept/support/orion.html>

◎ Osaka Information Service Registered Interpreter/Translator

Wanted: interpreter/translator for the following languages: Filipino, Thai, Portuguese, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Coordinate with the counsellor rendering interpretation/consultation .

(We will end the application once the limit has been reached.)

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/news.html#20150615-2>

◎ Wanted: OFIX Registered Interpreter/Translator

Wanted: Spanish, Filipino, Thai, Portuguese, Vietnamese registered interpreter and registered translator. (Call will end when post has been filled.)

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/news.html#20150615-3>

Editorial Note:

I was surprised at how the disaster prevention consciousness of the international students has increased through the roundtable discussion with the dorm residents. It is also necessary for foreigners to support other foreigners. I hope to conduct more useful training for international students and volunteers. (N.S.)

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≫≫ Comments/Suggestions: [info@ofix.or.jp](mailto:info@ofix.or.jp)

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