

East Japan Disaster Relief – PHJ's Support

Since the East Japan Disaster of March 11, All Japan Hospital Association (AJHA) has been providing medical care services at the disaster areas. PH-Japan (Peoples' HOPE Japan, PHJ) wishing to help the people in devastated areas decided to support AJHA's disaster relief program with the donation campaign. At the same time, PHJ decided to station one PHJ staff at AJHA's office for coordination.

PHJ's fund raising campaign started on March 14. PHJ received the donation



from individuals, corporations, hospitals, and other organizations in and out of Japan. On June 4 at the general assembly of AJHA, PHJ chairman Katsuto Kohtani presented to the AJHA chairman, Hirotoishi Nishizawa, the list of donation including 15 million yen, 300 units of personal computers and 100 units of printers and clothing.

The donation covers the transportation, accommodation, and other expenses of AJHA medical teams and for recovery and restoration of damaged AJHA member hospitals in the devastated areas.

Donation to PHJ was not only monetary one but also in various forms as shown below. We also received following warm messages:” I would like to help the people in the disaster areas. “ “Membership fees for the alumni club will be donated to the East Japan Disaster Relief as the club will be dissolved soon. “ “I am stationed in United States and sends my wishes to the recovery of Japan.” “Having survived

the scale 7 earthquake of Hanshin Disaster, I know how terrified the people were in East Japan Disaster. It may take a long time to resume a normal life but please do not give up. Believe in the Japanese strength. Tomorrow will come!

Photo: The donation ceremony at the AJHA general assembly

On East Japan Disaster Relief – AJHA and PHJ



**Toshihiro Nishizawa, PHJ Director
Chairman of AJHA and
Chairman of Nishioka Hospital**

I would like to express my sincere condolences to the victims of the East Japan Disaster and wish that the people suffering from the disaster would have peaceful and happy lives as soon as possible.

Immediately after the March 11 disaster, All Japan Hospital Association (AJHA) established a disaster relief office and dispatched medical teams to devastated areas. A typical medical team consists of four or five members including doctor, nurses, administrative staffs, etc. were formed by volunteer staffs of AJHA member hospitals. Altogether 115 teams, 485 personnel were dispatched as of June 10 .

At the same time, AJHA solicited donation to 2300 member hospitals in cooperation with PH-Japan (PHJ). PHJ that I serve as a board member is a certified NPO engaged in medical and health support. The donation collected covers transportation, accommodation, etc. of medical teams as well as medical support for reconstruction of devastated areas. AJHA also received donation of 300 units of personal computers and 100 units of printers to be used by clinics and medical facilities in the devastated areas.

Three months and a half passed since March 11, it is a long way to go for the recovery and reconstruction of the devastated areas.

AJH's three chairmen including myself have served as PHJ director and many AJHA member hospitals are also supporting PHJ's medical and health programs. PHJ's major activities are carried out in Southeast Asia such as Cambodia, Indonesia, and Thailand. On the March 11 disaster, PHJ expanded its medical support activities to within Japan and the cooperation between AJHA and PHJ has deepened. I hope that this cooperation will grow further for mutual benefits.

East Japan Disaster Relief Support - Donation from Corporations and Organizations

PCs, Printers, Electronic Medical Recording System Donated to Medical Facilities in Disaster Areas

PHJ received donation of 300 units of notebook PCs including 20 units of tablet PCs and 100 units of multi-function printers from Hewlett-Packard Japan (HP). They were given to clinics and medical facilities in the devastated areas through All Japan Hospital Association. NTT Group also donated its electronic medical recording system installed on the tablet PCs. Early May, HP, NTT-ME, PHJ staffs visited the devastated areas to install these IT equipment. On May 28 and June 18, 30 HP employees in total volunteered to install software on the PCs.



HP employees installing software on PCs



Installation of electronic medical recording system in northeast Japan

Donation of 10% of Price of Japan Soccer Team's Official Suits and Accessories and Matching Gift of Same Amount to PHJ

dunhill Japan offered to support PHJ's East Japan Disaster Relief program. dunhill Japan has been sponsoring to provide official suits of Japan Soccer Team

for past 11 years and accepts orders of 150 suits and accessories from individuals. Facing the East Japan Disaster, the company decided to donate the 10% of the sales price of goods to PHJ advising the purchaser on this donation, while the company donates the same amount as matching gift.

East Japan Disaster Relief Support – Donation from Thailand, Cambodia, and Indonesia

Thailand

PHJ Thailand staffs, the children under HOPE Partner program and their families, as well as hospital staffs, health center staffs, university faculty, health volunteers were sad to learn that a giant earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear power plant accident hit northeast and east Japan. All of them expressed their sympathy with cards and donations. Some persons sent hand woven caps and mufflers to be used by the people in the devastated areas. These goods were handed to the community center in Kesen-numa, Miyagi Prefecture early May.



PHJ-Thailand also made fund raising campaign with T-shirts bearing “You are not alone” and “Cheer Up Japan” in Thai, English, and Japanese languages. The office raised 380,000 yen and handed the donation to PHJ. We are grateful for the prayers and friendship of the Thai people.

Photo: PHJ Thailand staffs with the T-shirt

Cambodia

PHJ Cambodia staffs participated in the T-shirt fund raising for the people suffering from the East Japan disaster. Principal of the school supported by PHJ individual members started donation campaign for Japan. Principal Suon Nyor and School Committee Representative Haul Phalla wrote a message, “the Russei Doi School committee members, teachers, students and villagers were saddened to hear that more than ten thousand persons died in the March 11 disaster.



We pray that the people in the devastated areas would have peaceful and happy lives again as soon as possible. Although the sum of our donation is small, please remember, we are thinking of you.”

Photo: School principal holding the letter and donation money

Indonesia

People in many parts of Indonesia have suffered from earthquake and tsunami many times. So, they were concerned with the Japanese people who experienced the disaster of March 11. Fourteen restaurants placed donation boxes to help PHJ Indonesia raise funds to support PHJ’s East Japan Disaster Relief support. They raised 300,000 yen worth donation and handed to the Director of PHJ Indonesia who handed it to the PHJ representative on May 18. All of us at PHJ were overwhelmed with the kind thoughts and prayers of the Indonesian people.

In these countries, despite economically tight conditions, the people, who have received some sort of support from Japan, wished to express their appreciation for the support up to now. Regardless of economic and industrial development stage of each country, people expressed their wish to do something for the people suffering from disaster. We were very much moved with their warm hearts.

East Japan Disaster Relief – PHJ Certified as Designated Donation NPO

On April 27, the Japanese Government passed East Japan Disaster Related Tax Scheme. This scheme covers designated donation to NPOs certified by the Japan Tax Agency. Under this scheme, donation to a certified NPO soliciting donation to extend relief support and reconstruction support to the devastated people will have tax exemption. On May 9, PHJ was certified as the designated donation NPO. The donation paid to the PHJ’s disaster relief bank accounts will be covered by the scheme.

Donation by an individual: Exemption of 50% of donation from tax*

***(donation – ¥2,000) x (national tax 40% + local tax 10%)**

Local tax depends on the location of the residence of the individual)

Donation by a corporation or organization: Inclusion in charges against revenue (without any condition)

Cambodia - Program Evaluation Sharing Seminar



PHJ Cambodia's maternal and child health care services program in Kampong Thom Province started in 2008 and ended at the end of 2010. To evaluate the achievements, we conducted a survey in the province.

We also made a group interview of members of Village Health Support Group (VHSG) and traditional birth attendants (TBAs) who are taking care of health issues in villages.

From the survey, we found that pregnant women's attitude toward the health care services at a health center has changed considerably in the three years. Comparing with prior to the program start, a greater number of pregnant women make use of the services now.

To announce these program achievements to stakeholders, PHJ Cambodia organized a seminar in May at the largest hotel in the province. Deputy Director of the Provincial Department of Health, Operational Health District officers, and health center staffs as well as VHSG members were invited. We were not certain how many persons would attend the seminar as the program site is 50 km from the provincial capital. But more than 100 persons came and the seminar room was packed as shown on the above photo. Since the program is financed by the Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a staff from the Japanese Embassy joined the seminar.

We reported the achievements of the program and introduced the next phase program. The participants were pleased to learn the fine accomplishments of past phase and expressed their determination to work with PHJ next three years for health care services of mothers and children in the program site.

Deputy Director of the provincial health department mentioned in his speech that to keep each village healthy, not only health care staffs at the department of health and health centers but also VHSG members and TBAs have important roles. He also praised the PHJ's efforts to improve health care services at village level by fostering cooperation between villages and health centers.

Without the cooperation of PHJ staffs and all persons concerned at Kompong Thom and without the support of the PHJ individual and corporate donors, we could not have achieved these fine results. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincerest appreciation to all of you. PHJ Cambodia plans to continue promotion of health information and practical health training in the next three years so that these achievements will stay and contribute to improve daily health of people in the program site.

By Yoshimi Nakata, Director of PHJ Cambodia

Director Saotome's Column Vol 3

Mitsuhiro Saotome (Japan's First Ambassador for Civil Society, One of the best essayists of Bungei Shunju Magazine, PHJ Director)



Splendid Dawn of New Japan

From the last days of the Tokugawa shogunate to early Meiji era, many foreign personnel visited Japan leaving glorious influences on the dawn of new Japan. One of them is Commodore Matthew Gabriel Perry, a very familiar American for the Japanese people. Before visiting Japan in 1853, he regarded Japan as a small island country in the Far East without notable culture or technology. But his report of Japan published on the New York Times on September 28, 1854 titled *Commodore Perry's Narrative on Japan* reads, “.... Japanese people are kind and



cordial, and treat us with respect. Education level in Japan is very high and the Japanese people are diligent and have very fine technology. I am sure that Japan will one day, not so long, become the most industrialized country in the world.....” This was Perry's prediction 160 years ago.

Edo Castle at the end of Edo era
(Yokohama Archives of History)

Another notable person of this era was a British diplomat Ernest Satow. In 1862, he came to Japan as a translator of British Mission and for the next 20 years he contributed for the friendship between Japan and United Kingdom as well as introduction of Japan to Europe. After serving as Minister of UK to Thailand and Morocco, he returned to Japan as the Minister to Japan (this post was his heart's desire, equivalent to present Ambassador). (He was knighted the same year.) He was not only an excellent diplomat but also the first rate scholar on Japan.

In his memoir, *A Diplomat in Japan*, he wrote that he had never expected to see the people with such outstanding culture east of Cape Town, South Africa. Until he passed away at 89 years in 1929, he loved Japan and worked for the exchange between Japan and Europe.

Today, Japanese people in varied sectors are working for the development of many countries. I have visited countries in Asia and Africa and witnessed the Japanese NGO staffs and JICA volunteers working with local people in such nation building processes. Looking at them, I cannot but think of those foreign personnel who toiled for the dawn of Japan.

*This article was translated by PHJ from the Japanese original.

Member's Voice

What Happened to My Memorial Stamp Collection!!

By Haruo Ito, Individual Support Member

One day last fall, I was strolling around Kichijoji and found a ticket broker shop. I thought of my memorial stamp collection. When I joined a company after graduating from university, a senior employee of my department encouraged me to start collecting memorial stamps that was a very popular hobby at that time. Fifty years have passed since then and my stamp collection has grown quite a lot. I wanted to know how much my collection would be worth at the present market.

The owner of the shop told me that the market is very weak. He further told me that if I wanted to sell, my collection would be dirt cheap and that the best solution would be to write many letters and post them. I was truly disappointed to hear that and let it go.

Then the March 11 disaster hit Japan. PHJ started East Japan Disaster Relief Support donation. I made some contribution for the PHJ program and thought that PHJ or some organization in the devastated areas may make use of my stamp collection. Having learned that the best way to get the value is to exchange the collected stamps to widely used stamps today at a post office. I thought that PHJ could make use of the stamps as another form of the donation.

I asked PHJ whether they or hospitals in the devastated areas could use the stamps. PHJ accepted to receive my stamp donation. I checked how many memorial stamps I have with my PC and found there were more than 6,000 pieces. So I took them to a nearby post office to convert them to 80 yen stamps.



As shown on the photo, I took the converted 80 yen stamps to PHJ and thanked for their sincere efforts to promote health and hope for people in Asia. I hope this article would be of use to other persons who are wondering what to do with their collection of memorial stamps.

The 80 yen stamps Ito-san brought to PHJ

Report on 2011 Thailand and Cambodia Study Tour

In 2009 PHJ started an organized tour to study medical and health conditions of South East Asia. This year we organized an eight day study tour starting from February 20. Seven persons (doctor-in-training, midwife, nurse, student, etc.) applied for the tour and Masahiro Ishizeki and Michiko Nanbu joined them and visited Thailand and Cambodia.

In Thailand, the participants paid much attention on PHJ's HIV/AIDS prevention education. PHJ is featuring peer-to-peer education to promote the HIV/AIDS prevention among high school and university students.



In Cambodia, the participants learned how the local people live and their health and sanitary conditions by interviewing villagers as shown on the left photo.

As a PHJ staff, I was glad to know that villagers are now paying more attention on health and sanitation as the outcome of the PHJ education activities. One thing in common in both countries was that village health volunteers and traditional birth attendants have important roles in villagers' health and in communication between villagers and PHJ. I thought there are many things that the Japanese people can learn from their medical and health activities.

The study tour group visited following places (February 20 to 27)

Thailand: *PHJ Thailand Office, health education toward parents and children at public hospitals, contribution to society at temples, HIV/AIDS prevention education at a technical institute, cervical cancer and breast cancer prevention education*

Cambodia: *PHJ Cambodia Office, Toul Sleng Genocidal Museum, National Maternal and Child Health Center, visiting villages and interviewing villagers, Barai Sangtok Health Office and Health Center, Angkor Wat, etc.*

By Michiko Nanbu, PHJ Tokyo

The 43rd Steering Committee Members Receive Reports on Activities of PHJ Offices and East Japan Disaster Relief Support

PHJ held the 43rd Steering Committee Meeting (SCM) on May 19 from 5:00 to 7:30 pm at GE Japan's Conference Room. After the activities report from Directors of PHJ Offices in Cambodia, Indonesia, and Thailand, Shin Urakawa, Secretary General of All Japan Hospital Association (AJHA) reported on AJHA's activities



on the East Japan Disaster relief. He reported on the medical teams dispatched to the devastated areas and AJHA plans for the reconstruction phase. He also expressed appreciation on the PHJ's strong support to AJHA. Toshio Kimura, PHJ President, reported on the support programs described on pages 1 through 4 of this Newsletter.

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