# Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy Newsletter No.24

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# Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy has started with the 5<sup>th</sup> Term Committee Members!

Twelve people were newly entrusted to the position of committee members on April 1, 2018, and the 5<sup>th</sup> Term "Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy" has started. The members had a series of discussions on "making a livable city for people including foreign residents".



The first council meeting in FY2018

# The 5<sup>th</sup> Term Committee Members for Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy

					without honorifics)
Nominated Members	Name	Occupation		Name	Nationality or Identity
	Milaana Salar	Associate Professor, Graduate	S	Shahbaz Khan	Pakistan
	Mihaeng Sohn	School, Osaka University		Michi Saki	Canada
	Sunhwa Jang	Official Kyota XWCA	mbe	Sylvain Cardonnel	France
		Official, Kyoto YWCA		Song Migyue	China
	Mari Hamada (Chairperson)	Professor, Kyoto University of Education Director, Kyoto City International Foundation	ly recruited members	Megumi Nishi	Japan
	Shigemitsu Murai*	Director, Kyoto City Youth Service Foundation Fushimi Branch	Publicly	Fitriana Puspita Dewi	Indonesia
	Kiyoshi Yamauchi	Superintendent, Kyoto International Community House Managing Director, Kyoto City International Foundation		Hitoshi Yanase	Japan

\*Atsuo Mizuno, Director of Kyoto City Youth Service Foundation Fushimi Branch took over the position of Shigemitsu Murai on November 1, 2018.

• The term of office is two years from April 1,2018 to March 31, 2020.

•Nominated members were appointed at the discretion of the Mayor.

•Publicly recruited members were selected after a public appeal process.

# Introductions of the 5<sup>th</sup> Term Committee Members

#### Mari Hamada (Chairperson)

I teach teaching methods for children with foreign backgrounds at Kyoto University of Education. I promote exchanges among children with those backgrounds with university students setting up a volunteer group named "*Kikoku Tonichi Jido Seito Tsunagaru Kai*."

#### Sunhwa Jang

I am from Korea. I came to Kyoto ten years ago to study Psychotherapy. Currently, I work at Kyoto YWCA and I am in charge of committee on multicultural coexistence providing support such as multilingual telephone helpline, Japanese language classes, and study support.

#### Kiyoshi Yamauchi

I work as Superintendent at Kyoto International Community House and as Managing Director of Kyoto City International Foundation. The foundation implements various initiatives such as providing counselling services, managing Japanese classes, supporting childrearing for foreign residents, and holding international exchange events.

#### Michi Saki

I am from Canada and it has been 22 years since I came to Japan. Currently, I am a faculty member of Doshisha Women's College of Liberal Arts and the Board Chair of Kyoto International School. I am researching on education and study support for children with foreign backgrounds at university.

#### Song Migyue

I am from China, but I ethnically belong to Korea so that my native language is Korean. I came to Kyoto to study Social Welfare. I am currently working at Kyoto City Networking Center for Community Welfare and Multicultural Exchange located in Higashikujo to be involved in initiatives to promote multicultural coexistence

#### Fitriana Puspita Dewi

I am from Indonesia. I am currently writing a PhD dissertation at Ritsumeikan University Graduate School of Letters. I am also serving as Kyoto Prefecture Friendship Ambassador.

#### **Mihaeng Sohn**

I am a Zainichi Korean. Currently, I research on peace education in Korea and Japan and education on multicultural coexistence at Osaka University. Also, I give classes with foreign students and local residents at elementary and junior high schools. I hope that I can make new connections through this committee activities.

#### Shigemitsu Murai (until Oct. 31, 2018) Astuo Mizuno (since Nov. 1, 2018)

I work at Kyoto City Youth Service Foundation Fushimi Branch. There are many people who are originated in foreign countries living in Fushimi area, therefore we undertake various initiatives focusing on multicultural coexistence.

#### Shahbaz Khan

I am from Pakistan. I came to Kyoto to study Physical Chemistry and Life Science. Currently, I work at Kyoto Islamic Culture Center providing Muslim visitors with various information such as spaces for having prayers in Kyoto.

#### Sylvain Cardonnel

I am from France. Currently, I teach at Ryukoku University and specialize in Japanese modernization. I am also a translator of Japanese modern literature.

#### Megumi Nishi

I offer support for foreign residents in childrearing and daily activities. I personally have been saved many times exposing myself to new views and various values, therefore I would like to disseminate a message that multicultural coexistence will make Kyoto a better community to live in.

#### Hitoshi Yanase

I provide telephone counselling support for foreign residents at Kyoto YWCA. Since I joined a NGO study tour to the Philippines when I was a student and saw poverty there, I visit slums etc. in the Philippines every year.

# 1. The First Council Meeting in FY2018

Date & Time: July 3, 2018 (Tue) 3:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Venue: Kyoto International Community House (Training room on 3F) Discussion Topics:

- (1) Outline of Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy and how to proceed discussions
- (2) Foreign residents etc. and Japanese language education Part 1

**Report: Multicultural coexistence and Japanese language classes** (Reported by Mr. Shigemitsu Murai, Committee Member)

#### • About Kyoto City Fushimi Youth Center

Location:	Fushimi Ward Office, 4F (10 minutes' walk from Tambabashi station)
Opening Hours:	Weekdays & Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
	Sundays and Holidays: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Closed:	Wednesdays, Year-end & New Year (from Dec. 29 until Jan.3)

Kyoto City Fushimi Youth Center is equipped with rooms such as rooms for sports including dojo, meeting rooms and a dance studio, a cooking room and a Japanese room, and various activities can be organized. As many people with foreign backgrounds live in Fushimi, the center promotes projects featuring "Young Generation and Multicultural Coexistence."

## • About Japanese Language Class

Date & Time: Every Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Volunteers: Young people with the age up to 30 years old. The number of current students: 10

Fee: 2000 yen for 10 classes

Issues:

- There are so many people who want to take the class. Therefore, they need to wait for one year until admission.
- The center sometimes receives inquiries from companies if their technical intern trainees can attend the class.

#### <Reference> Japanese language classes at other Youth Center.

- o"Tachibana Club" at Yamashina Youth Center.
  - Kyoto Tachibana University students conduct Japanese language classes as a part of their club activities.

Classes are offered every Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.





echnical intern trainees car

A scene of Japanese language class

#### • Japanese Talking Lesson (JTL)



The center aims to offer foreign residents an opportunity to enjoy a conversation in Japanese more casually compared to the aforementioned Japanese language classes. A topic is picked up for each lesson and participants enjoy conversation with volunteers.

Date & Time : Every Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Fee : 100 yen per class

A scene of Japanese Talking Lesson

#### • Other initiatives on multicultural coexistence

The center runs "International Event Club" which organizes events together with people with diverse backgrounds regardless of nationality and origin.

— Comments by committee members (Extract) —

- There are no Japanese language classes where mothers can take their children with. We should consider setting up Japanese language classes with daycare services. Kyoto City gives medical check-ups for children up to the age of three, therefore it maybe one of the solutions to offer Japanese language classes where check-ups are done.
- Brushing up Japanese may be necessary even for those who have mastered Japanese at a certain level. Some people can use Japanese in a daily conversation but may have difficulty in reading and writing. In addition, some do not understand Japanese when it comes to technical words such as those in a contract.
- In a community where many returnees from China reside, communication problems arise in senior day-care practices.
- Required Japanese levels to acquire vary according to individuals. For example, some people do not plan to live in Japan for a long term. For those people, it is more necessary to provide support in their mother tongue other than to provide support in teaching Japanese.
- The Earthquake Early Warning of the earthquake on the other day was issued only in Japanese. It is necessary to make an announcement in foreign languages in case of emergency.

# 2. The Second Council Meeting in FY2018

Date & Time: September 10, 2018 (Mon) 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Venue: Kyoto City Hall (Meeting Room G on 1F) Discussion Topic: Foreign Residents and Japanese Language Education - Part 2



**Report 1:** Designing a Japanese Language Education System in Kyoto Prefecture and Initiatives Taken by Kyoto Prefectural International Center (Reported by Mr. Noriaki Kondo, Kyoto Prefectural International Center)

#### • Japanese Language Classes in Kyoto Prefecture – Current Status

Japanese language classes are offered in fifteen municipalities out of twenty-six in Kyoto

prefecture. In Kyoto prefecture, there are nearly thirty classes, but the number is quite a few compared to that in Osaka prefecture where about two hundred classes are conducted and that in Hyogo Prefecture where about one hundred classes are run. Most community Japanese language classes are largely depended on good wills and enthusiasm generated by volunteers.

#### • Issues and Countermeasures of Japanese Language Classes

Issues	Countermeasures	
No place/class to learn Japanese language	To set up Japanese language classes	
Shortage of instructors to teach Japanese	To develop human resources	
Not much chances to have trainings on teaching Japanese	To provide people with training opportunities	
No network among Japanese language classes	To make a network of Japanese classes $\rightarrow$	
	Kyoto Nihongo Rings will play an important role.	

#### •About "Kyoto Nihongo Rings" (Official website: https://www.kyo-rings.org/)

Kyoto Nihongo Rings is a networking body that consist of twenty community Japanese language classes in Kyoto Prefecture, which formed in July 2002. It supports volunteers and organizations for teaching Japanese language in cooperation with Kyoto Prefectural International Center, organizes regular meetings four times a year, plans and runs training sessions, and maintains its website and mailing lists.

## • Training Session for Volunteers for Japanese

#### Language Classes

The session is for those who are already active in teaching Japanese. It aims to enhance and activate support for foreign residents to learn Japanese by improving volunteers' teaching skills. The sessions are conducted in collaboration with Japanese language schools which are specialized in Japanese language education.



#### • Training Course for Beginners in Volunteering for Japanese Language Classes

This session is for the general public who want to work as volunteers. Developing human resources for supporting foreign residents to learn Japanese language will help setting up community-based Japanese language classes. It is noteworthy that community Japanese language classes are established at all municipalities where training courses were offered.

#### •Model Sessions for Japanese Language Classes

Japanese language classes for foreign residents are offered three terms a year (May - July, September - November, January - March). It is assumed that those who wish to learn Japanese language participate in the session at first and become able to communicate in Japanese at a certain level, then will attend a community Japanese language class. Those sessions are provided by qualified instructors.

#### • "Map of Japanese Classes in Kyoto" for distribution

This Map shows community Japanese language classes in Kyoto Prefecture in five languages; Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, and Filipino. The Map helps to publicize each Japanese language class. It is available on the website below.

https://www.kpic.or.jp/njfumin/nihongo/kyoshitsumap.html

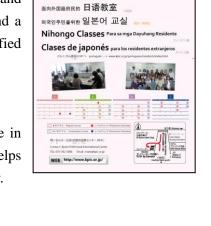
#### •Outcomes and Future Initiatives

#### <Outcomes>

- Networking of Japanese language classes made it possible to share information amongst classes and to have a place to discuss on improving Japanese education system.
- Developing human resources by providing training sessions has led to set up new Japanese language classes and improve volunteers' teaching skills.
- Setting up a model session for Japanese language classes has provided local communities with useful information such as its curriculum and teaching methods.

#### <Future Initiatives>

- We aim to hold Japanese language classes in all communities and support them to carry on by collaborating with administrative bodies.
- We plan to offer countermeasures against a teaching method at an introductory level which has been an issue at Japanese language classes.
- We will appeal the need of Japanese language education so that local residents can understand it.



にほんご教室

Japanese Classes for Inte



## Report 2: Japanese Language Education Project in Sakai City and Developing Its Human Resources

(Reported by Ms. Mayumi Segawa, International Section of International Affairs Department, Sakai City Culture and Tourism Bureau)

#### •About Sakai City, Osaka

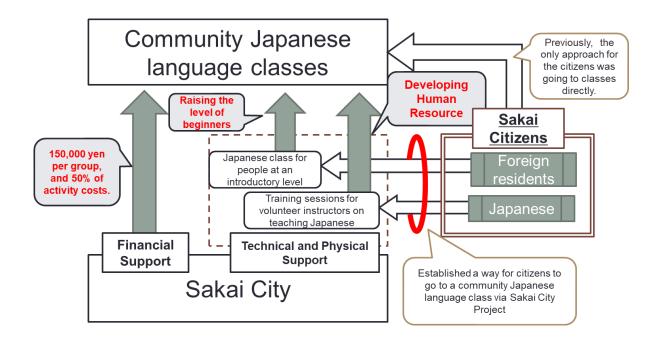
Total Population: 831,521 people (as of July 1, 2018) Population of Foreign Residents: 13,567 people (as of the end of June 2018) Raito of Foreign Citizens: 1.6% X The number of Vietnamese is increasing in recent years.

#### •History of Japanese Education Support

- Originally, private bodies initiated in offering Japanese language classes.
  \*In 2018, fifteen classes were held. (Two classes for children and thirteen for adults)
- 2006: Sakai City converted to the ordinance-designated city and <u>started providing subsidies for</u> <u>community Japanese language classes.</u>
- 2008: Sakai City formulated "The Sakai City Internationalization Promotion Plan" and <u>started</u> providing volunteer instructors with training sessions for teaching Japanese.
- 2010: Sakai City established a base for international exchange (Sakai International Plaza) .
- 2013: Sakai City started Japanese language education for people at an introductory level.

### • Current Project Structure for Japanese Education

Sakai City has provided community Japanese language classes with financial support by providing subsidy, and with physical and technical support by fostering volunteers and organizing Japanese language classes.





#### **Training Sessions for Volunteer Japanese Instructors**

The sessions are mainly for people who are about to start voluntary activities and aim at increasing the number of volunteer Japanese instructors to support community Japanese language classes etc.

Session participants are required to attend total nine sessions. The participants need to observe actual lessons given for 3-4 weeks between the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 7<sup>th</sup> session in order to have a clear image of classroom activities.

#### Japanese Language Classes for People at an Introductory Level

- The classes are for the foreingn residents whose Japanese ability is at an introductory level.
- The classes also work as practical training opportunities for volunteer Japanese instructors who have already started teaching Japanese. Becoming an assistant to a professional Japanese teacher, volunteers can learn how to teach and communicate with students.

#### •Outcome and Challenges of Japanese Education Support as a whole

#### <Outcome>

• We have established a closer relationship with community Japanese language classes through various activities.

#### <Issues>

- We have little opportunities to share and discuss on individual issues faced by each classes.
- We have little chances to disseminate policies and projects implemented by Sakai City to community Japanese language classes.

#### <Future Plan>

We will organize meetings to exchange views with community Japanese language classes.

# **Opinions by the Committee Members (extract)**

• Even a Japanese language class is held, its information is not reached to those required, which is another issue.

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- Younger generation cannot afford to participate in voluntary activities. There is a limitation to operate Japanese language classes depending only on volunteers.
- We need to consider recruiting foreign residents or university students who want to be Japanese teachers as instructors for Japanese language classes.
- A community Japanese language class also plays a role as an exchange place between foreign and Japanese residents.
- I think it is necessary to have a vision why we conduct Japanese classes and share it with volunteers.
- It might work if we offer classes according to participants' occupation such as students, house wives, and workers.
- There are many people who want to become volunteers for teaching Japanese. If more Japanese classes are set up in local communities, we expect more people participate in volunteering.

# 3. The Third Council Meeting in FY 2018

Date & Time: November 13, 2018 (Tue) 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Venue: Kyoto City Hall (Strategy Room on 7F of Fire Department Building) Discussion Topic: In regard to FY2018 Proposal

#### **Opinions by the Committee Members (extract)**

- A Japanese language class plays a role as a place to connect people. Once a bound between people is established at a class, a community is gradually improved. We would better share such a positive message.
- Some volunteers stop teaching Japanese even they wish to continue because they lack sufficient skills or know-how. It is necessary to train volunteers.
- We need to foster coordinators who liaise between students and teachers/instructors.
- It is necessary that we provide accessible information for foreign residents who do not understand Japanese systems and practice.
- If a database of teachers at Japanese language classes is available, we may be able to solve problems such as mismatches between students and teachers before classes start.
- We should include our comments in our proposal that companies should be responsible for supporting their employees to have opportunities to learn Japanese language.

# [Reference] About 46,500 foreign nationals live in Kyoto!

(Number of individuals as of the end of December 2018)

(unit: person)

				(unit: person)		
	Number Registered	Country of Nationality	Number	Country of Nationality	Number	
Country of Nationality			Registered		Registered	
South Korea	19284	Czech Republic	20	Cuba	3	
China	12396	Republic of South Africa	19	Guatemala	3	
Vietnam	2343	Denmark	18	Kuwait	3	
Taiwan	1608	Laos	17	Saudi Arabia	3	
North Korea	1395	Norway	16	Slovenia	3	
U.S.A.	1211	Austria	15	Dominican Republic	3	
Philippines	1180	Kazakhstan	15	Fiji	3	
Indonesia	669	Greece	14	Benin	3	
Nepal	612	Portugal	14	Bosnia and Herzegovina	3	
France	606	Nigeria	13	Honduras	3	
U.K.	427	Bolivia	13	Azerbaijan	2	
Thailand	418	Slovakia	12	United Arab Emirates	2	
India	364	Morocco	12	Cabo Verde	2	
Canada	280	Democratic Republic of the Congo	11	Georgia	2	
Germany	253	Jamaica	11	Serbia	2	
Australia	244	Syria	11	Nicaragua	2	
Italy	186	Madagascar	11	Panama	2	
Malaysia	182	Lithuania	10	Papua New Guinea	2	
Russia	179	Tunisia	9	Brunei	2	
Sri Lanka	178	Palestine	9	Malawi	2	
Brazil	147	Zimbabwe	8	Mali	2	
Myanmar	135	Senegal	8	Moldova	2	
Bangladesh	128	Bahrain	8	Libya	2	
Spain	105	Estonia	7	Armenia	1	
Mongolia	100	Guinea	7	Yemen	1	
Egypt	79	Tonga	7	Ecuador	1	
Cambodia	77	Jordan	7	Gambia	1	
Peru	77	Iceland	6	Cyprus	1	
Singapore	75	Algeria	6	Grenada	1	
Mexico	74	Croatia	6	Kosovo	1	
Netherlands	68	Costa Rica	6	Samoa	1	
Sweden	66	Lebanon	6	Sierra Leone	1	
New Zealand	63	Uganda	5	Swaziland	1	

Iran	62	Oman	5	Seychelles	1	
Turkey	56	Gabon	5	Serbia and Montenegro	1	
Switzerland	51	Cameroon	5	Somalia	1	
Poland	45	Cote d'Ivoire	5	Solomon Islands	1	
Finland	40	Zambia	5	Togo	1	
Belgium	40	Venezuela	5	Vanuatu	1	
Israel	39	Luxembourg	5	Palau	1	
Ukraine	39	Ethiopia	4	Barbados	1	
Romania	35	Ghana	4	Bhutan	1	
Pakistan	30	Sudan	4	Botswana	1	
Afghanistan	29	Tanzania	4	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1	
Hungary	29	Paraguay	4	Mauritius	1	
Ireland	28	Burkina Faso	4	Mauritania	1	
Kyrgyzstan	26	Belarus	4	Maldives	1	
Bulgaria	24	Mozambique	4	Liechtenstein	1	
Uzbekistan	23	Latvia	4	Liberia	1	
Colombia	23	Albania	3	Timor-Leste	1	
Chile	23	Angola	3	Stateless/no fixed nationality*	33	
Argentina	22	Uruguay	3	Total (147 Countries	46,451	
Kenya	22	El Salvador	3	& Regions)		
Reference						
Number of registered for	eign residents					
for the last 5 years						
2013	40,323					
2014	40,565 *Concerning			cerning the meaning of Stateless/no fixed nationality		
2015	41,609	It includes children born in Japan and issued birth certificates, but who are awaiting visas, in addition to persons who do not				
2016	42,567					

etc.

have passports, IDs, or documents confirming their nationality,

2017

44,282

# About Kyoto International Community House (kokoka)



# About Kyoto City Networking Salon for Community Welfare and Multicultural Exchange

Kyoto City Networking Salon for Community Welfare and Multicultural Exchange implements various initiatives such as renting meeting spaces to the registered groups, holding Japanese, Chinese and Korean language classes, offering cooking classes for foreign residents etc. and organizing events including" Higashikujo Spring Festival" to promote multicultural coexistence.





Address: Kyoto City Networking Salon for Community Welfare and Multicultural Exchange Center 31 Higashiiwamoto-cho, Higashikujo, Minami-ku Kyoto 601-8006 Tel: 075-671-0108 Opening Hours: Weekday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Access : 15-minutes' walk from Hachijo-guchi Exit of JR and Subway "Kyoto Station" 15-minutes' walk from Subway "Kujo Station"

# We submitted FY 2018 Report



On January 22, 2019, Chairperson Mari Hamada representing the Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy submitted FY 2018 Report to Daisaku Kadokawa, Mayor of Kyoto. The Report includes a proposal from the Council,

#### -A Proposal to Kyoto City-

# Promoting initiatives to provide a communication support such as assisting Japanese language learning considering individual circumstances of foreign residents etc.

- It is necessary to release municipal information which is easily understandable by foreign residents who are not familiar with Japanese culture or systems.
- It is crucial to examine issues that Japanese language classes are confronted with.
- A Japanese language class is expected to play a role for an exchange. Therefore, it is important to offer support to set up classes in more accessible areas of each community.

% If you would like to obtain the FY2018 Report, please contact the secretariat below. The report is also available on the website of International Relations Office, City of Kyoto, at https://www.city.kyoto.lg.jp/sogo/page/0000101489.html.

#### Notice from the Secretariat:

If you have any opinions regarding the newsletters or the council, please contact us at the following address. For back numbers of the newsletter in English, please contact us below.

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