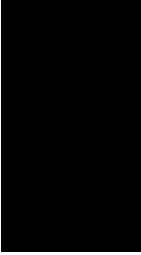


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# Empowerment of Immigrant Women Affiliated Network (EIWAN)

◆July 11, 2014 (Published bi-weekly)

第3号

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「やさしい日本語」でコミュニケーション

Communicating with Yasashii Nihongo (Simple Japanese)

阪神・淡路大震災（1995年）や東日本大震災（2011年）では多くの方が被災しましたが、その中にはかなりの数の外国人がいたことは、よく知られています。彼ら彼女らは、災害の知識が乏しいのと、日本語が不自由なために、正確な情報を得ることができず、被害が大きくなりました。

In the 1995 Great Hanshin Awaji Earthquake and the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, a great number of people were affected, and it is well known that there were also a fair number of foreign nationals among them. The level of damages on these foreign nationals tended to be higher because many were unable to obtain accurate information due to a limited knowledge of disaster prevention and Japanese language skills.

地域防災計画の中に「災害時要支援者」というのがあり、その中に外国人の項目がありますが、これも日本語が不自由なことと災害の知識がないことがその理由です。だとすれば、彼ら彼女らが災害時の知識を持ち、災害時の日本語が理解できるなら、その被害をかなり減らすことができるはずで

The regional disaster prevention plan has a category on "People who require support during disaster"; and under this category, there is another category on foreign nationals, who are defined as those who have trouble with Japanese language and do not have knowledge about disasters. If this is true, the level of damages these foreign nationals receive can be lowered considerably if they learn about disaster prevention and improve their Japanese language skills.

阪神淡路大震災の後、日本に住む外国人なら簡単な日本語は理解できるはず、とやさしい日本語で情報の発信を始めたのが、「やさしい日本語」の始まりです。「文を短くして構造を簡単にする」「漢字や仮名にはルビを振る」「カタカナ外来語は使わない」「擬音語、擬態語は使わない」「ローマ字は使わない」など、いくつかのルールがありますが、そんなに難しくはありません。また、こうしてできた「やさしい日本語」文は、外国語に翻訳しやすいという特徴も持っています。

After the Great Hanshin Awaji Earthquake, we started to provide information to foreign nationals using "yasashii nihongo" (simple Japanese) because we believed most foreign residents in Japan should be able to understand the language if it is made simple. This is how we started the Yasashii Nihongo workshop. There are several rules about yasashii nihongo, such as: Make sentences short and structures simple; Have hiragana or katakana pronunciation printed alongside each Chinese character; Do not use foreign words written in katakana; Do not use onomatopoeia and mimetic

words; Do not use Roma-ji. Though these rules might make it seem difficult, it is actually easy to understand. Japanese writings that follow these rules are also simple to translate to English.

5月11日、白河市で行なわれたワークショップ「やさしい日本語で伝えよう～防災と多文化共生」には、日本語教師や日本語サポーター（ボランティア）、日本語学校校長、元消防署員、市会議員、スポーツインストラクター、高校生、職場に外国人の友人がいる方、施設職員などが参加し、災害時に外国人が陥る状況や、やさしい日本語の作り方などを学びました。

At the workshop titled: "Let's communicate in Yasashii Nihongo ~ Disaster prevention and multicultural cooperation" held on May 11 in Shirakawa, we not only had Japanese teachers and Japanese language supporters (volunteers) as participants, but also Japanese language school principals, former fire-fighters, city council member, sports instructor, high school student, a person who had a foreign friend, and officers of various institutions. They all learned about what kind of situations these foreign nationals tend to fall in to during disaster, and how to make simple Japanese sentences.

東日本震災から3年の今、災害時対応だけでなく日常的なコミュニケーションを図るためにも、「やさしい日本語」をできるだけ多くの人たちに普及させることは、大いに意義のあることだと思います。

●花岡正義（はなおか・まさよし）

After three years from the Great East Japan Earthquake, I feel it is extremely important to have as many people as possible learn about yasashii nihongo, not just for using it during disaster but also for communicating with foreign nationals in ordinary situations.

by Masayoshi Hanaoka

## 日本語サロンのサポーター研修会

Workshop for Japanese language salon supporters

4月13日、福島市で、日本語サロン・サポーターのための研修会を開催した。講師として、京都で移住者を対象に活動されている渡辺真理（わたなべ・まり）さんをお招きした。この研修会に参加したのは、EIWAN 運営委員・協力委員に加えて5名の地元サポーターの方たちである。今回来てくれたサポーターの方々の参加動機は、社会貢献活動や国際交流活動への関心を持っている、または、過去に移住者の方々と交流する機会があったのでその経験を役立てたい、などであった。

On April 13, a workshop for Japanese language salon supporters was held in Fukushima City. As the speaker, we welcomed Ms. Mari Watanabe, who has been involved in various activities for supporting immigrants in Kyoto. In addition to EIWAN steering committee members and cooperative members, five local Japanese language supporters joined the workshop. Some decided to join because they were interested in making social contributions and taking part in international exchange activities. There were also people who had opportunities to meet immigrants in the past and wanted to make use of the experience.

研修は、渡辺さんのこれまでの経験をもとにして進められた。

The workshop proceeded based on Ms. Watanabe's experience.

### ○相手が話しやすくなる状況づくり

渡辺さんは、移住者の方々と接する際に、こちらから一方的に質問するのではなく、自分のことも紹介したり、話したりするようにしているそうだ。そうすれば、自分と相手のあいだに共通の関心や話題が見つかることがあり、移住者も話しやすくなることもある。つまりは、双方向のコミュニケーションを重視するということである。

### ○ Create an atmosphere that makes it easy for people to speak.

Ms. Watanabe said that when she speaks to immigrants, she tries not to only ask questions, but tries to introduce herself and talk about herself as well. This makes it easy to find some common interests between each other, which will allow the immigrant to begin talking. The point here is the importance of having two-way communication.

### ○日本語を「教える」のではないということ

渡辺さんは、ボランティア・ベースの日本語教室では、「教える」という言葉を使わないようにしているという。それは、日本語の「できる人」と「できない人」という非対称な関係をできるだけ回避しようとする一つの心がけなのだろう。つまり「先生」と「生徒」という関係ではなく、同じ生活者同士としての関係づくりが重要だといえる。

### ○ Do not "teach" Japanese language.

Ms. Watanabe said that in a volunteer-base Japanese class, she tries not to use the word "teach." The reason for this is probably because she wants to avoid the kind of asymmetric relationship between those who "can" and "cannot" use Japanese. In other words, instead of a "teacher" and "student" relationship, it is important to create a relationship that is between people living in the same community who are ultimately equals.

### ○日本語をガイドするバランス

日本語を「教える」または「教えてあげる」という立場をとることは回避したいし、移住者が話す日本語のなかに間違いがあるたびに逐一指摘することで、相手の努力に水を差すようなことは、可能な限り控えたい。けれども、ときとして、相手の日本語表現に気をつけなくてはいけない場合がある。それは、相手がある場にふさわしくない日本語表現をそうとは知らずに使ったときだ。どうしたらいいだろうか。これは、サポーターの方からの質問だ。

### ○ Balance in guiding through Japanese language.

As mentioned above, it is important not to "teach" or "instruct" the immigrants who are willing to learn Japanese. We also want to avoid ruining their motivation by pointing out every mistake he or she might make while speaking Japanese. However, there are times when you need to listen carefully to see if there might be some misunderstandings. That is, when a person is using certain expression that may not be proper for that particular situation. So, what should we do? This is actually a question raised by one of the participating supporters.

移住者の方が、たとえば職場でまた子どもの学校で、その場にふさわしくない日本語をそうとは知らずに使ってしまうと、意図しないトラブルにつながることもある。渡辺さんによれば、しばしば日本社会は、相手が日本語を母語としていなくとも、「不快な言葉を使うと排除される」ことがあるという。移住者がそうした社会的排除の対象とならないために、日本語サロンでは、移住者の日本語を尊重する一方で、日本

人と「衝突しない」日本語へとガイドするバランスを取ることが必要なであろう。

When an immigrant unintentionally uses improper Japanese expressions at work or at his or her child's school, it could lead to unwanted trouble. Ms. Watanabe said that in Japanese society, "if a person uses bad language, he or she can be rejected" even if the person is an immigrant who doesn't speak Japanese. To help prevent immigrants from becoming the target of such social exclusion, EIWAN Japanese language salon will focus on the importance of paying respect to the immigrants' Japanese, while at the same time, guide them to learn the kind of Japanese language that will help avoid frictions with Japanese people. This is the balance that is very important to keep in mind.

渡辺さんのお話は、上記以外にも学ぶところが多くあった。効率よく日本語を教えることを目的とする日本語学校とは違い、ボランティア・ベースで行われる教室は、日本語能力の向上のみならず、日常生活で起こることについてのカウンセリングの場ともなるという。

EIWANの日本語サロンが、移住女性にとって気兼ねなく会話を楽しむことができ、また、ささいなことであっても相談できる場となることを目指したい。そうした場を、地元サポーターの皆さんと共に作り上げていけたらと思う。

There were also many other things we learned from Ms. Watanabe. Instead of the ordinary Japanese language schools, which focus on teaching the language in an efficient way, the volunteer-base language classes are not only place to improve Japanese skills, but they are place to listen to the immigrants and give advise to problems they have in their daily lives.

Together with the local Japanese language supporters, I hope to make EIWAN Japanese language salon a place where immigrant women can gather and enjoy speaking to each other and ask for advise, even for some minor problems, whenever they feel in need.

by Kumiko Tsuchida

●土田久美子（つちだ・くみこ）

## 継承語教育の研修プログラム in 仙台

Heritage language education program in Sendai

5月31日～6月1日、私は福島県須賀川市の「つばさ」の移住女性とその子どもたち8人と一緒に、仙台市にある韓国語教室「チングドウル」と中国語教室「瀛華（いんか）中文学校」を見学し、教師や親たちと交流した。両教室とも、仙台の移住女性たちが中心になって運営している母語教室である。

From May 31 to June 1, I joined a group of eight immigrant women from Tsubasa, a self-help group launched by Chinese immigrant women in Sukagawa, and their children to participate in a trip to Sendai. In Sendai, we visited a Korean language class called "Ching dul" (「チングドウル」) and a Chinese language class "InkaChubungakko" (「瀛華（いんか）中文学校」), had some conversations with the teachers and parents. Both classes are operated by immigrant women living in Sendai for the purpose of learning their native languages.

「つばさ——日中ハーフ支援会」は、震災直後の混乱の中、須賀川に住む中国人女性たちが子どもの命と健康を守るために立ち上げた自助組織である。彼女たちはいま、保養プログラムや、公民館を借りて毎

月3回、中国語教室をやっている。「他の教室ではどのように教えているのか知りたい」という彼女たちの要望を受けて、仙台での研修プログラムを企画し、中国人と韓国人の協力委員が準備してくれた。

"Tsubasa: Support group for Japan-China half-blooded children" is a self-help group launched by Chinese women living in Sukagawa during the chaos right after the earthquake in order to help their children's lives and health. The group organizes recuperation programs for children and operates Chinese language class held three times every month at a local community hall. Because the group members were curious about how other foreign language classes were being operated, we decided to organize a workshop in Sendai with help from our Chinese and Korean cooperation members.

外キ協・外国人被災者支援プロジェクトが、地元の自治体・NPO・研究者と共同で実施した石巻調査(2012年)と気仙沼調査(2013年)で特筆すべきことは、アンケートの中で移住女性たちが、「家族の中であなたの国のことば(母語)が普段から使われている」(29%)、「子どもは、あなたの出身国の文化や歴史についてよく知っている」(40%)と回答している一方で、「子どもには、あなたの出身国のことを教えるのが望ましい」との回答が82%にも上ったことである。つまり彼女たちは、父:日本人、母:外国人のダブルで、日本国籍の自分の子どもたちに対する、母語=継承語と、母国の文化=継承文化の「教育の場」を強く求めているのである。

In a joint survey conducted between the foreign victims support program of National Christian Conference for Promotion of a Basic Law for Foreign Residents, local governments, NPOs, and researchers in Ishinomaki (2012) and Kesenuma (2013) of Miyagi prefecture, there are some results about the immigrants' native languages which we should take note of. In the survey, only 29% of the immigrant women said they use their native languages every day at home, and 40% said their children are familiar with the culture and history of their home countries, while 82% said it is desirable to teach children about their home countries. This indicates that these women, whose husbands are Japanese and children are double-blooded and hold Japanese citizenship, strongly seek a place where their children can learn their mothers' native languages = heritage languages, and native cultures = heritage cultures.

仙台や須賀川で移住女性たちが実践しているように、子どもたちがダブルの文化をもって生まれた人間としての自覚と尊厳を育む場と機会が必要である。それは、子どもたちが被災地での困難な状況を打破していくためにも、日本社会と学校の中での差別に立ち向かいながら「生きていく」ためにも――。

Similar to what the immigrant women in Sendai and Sukagawa are doing, we need to provide a place and opportunities where these children born with double culture can become aware and feel proud of what they have. This is also necessary for them to overcome the difficult situations particular to the disaster-hit areas, as well as to stand firm against discriminations that they may face in society and schools and live on.

by Nobuyuki Sato

#### ◆ EIWAN Activities during January - June, 2014

##### (1) Japanese language salon in Fukushima

- January 19: 3 participants (Filipinos), 4 supporters (Japanese) \*New year party was also held
- January 26: 3 participants, 4 supporters
- February 9: Cancelled due to heavy snow
- February 23: 6 participants, 6 supporters

- March 16: 2 participants, 5 supporters
- March 23: 3 participants, 5 supporters
- April 13: 9 participants, 9 supporters \*Exchange salon "Self-jell nail" was also held
- April 27: 8 participants, 6 supporters
- May 25: 3 participants, 4 supporters
- June 15: 1 participant, 4 supporters
- June 22: 2 participants, 3 supporters \*Exchange salon "Color communication" was also held
- June 29: 3 participants, 3 supporters

## ( 2 ) Japanese language salon in Shirakawa

- January 12: 8 participants (Filipinos), 3 supporters (Japanese)
- January 19: 8 participants, 4 supporters
- February 9: Cancelled due to heavy snow
- February 23: 6 participants, 2 supporters
- March 9: 4 participants, 3 supporters
- March 16: 5 participants, 4 supporters
- April 13: 7 participants, 3 supporters
- April 27: 7 participants, 4 supporters \*Exchange salon "Self-jell nail" was also held
- May 25: 5 participants, 3 supporters
- June 22: 6 participants, 5 supporters
- June 29: 7 participants, 3 supporters

## ( 3 ) EIWAN sponsored programs

- January 19: Exchange meeting for Japanese supporters, 7 participants
- March 30: One-day refresh bus tour to Nikko (Fukushima—Shirakawa—Nikko), 37 participants
- April 13: Workshop for Japanese language supporters, 11 participants
- May 11: Workshop for local citizens "Yasashii Nihongo Workshop" (Held in Shirakawa City), 12 participants
- May 31 - June 1: Workshop on heritage language education in Sendai for Tsubasa self-help group of Sukagawa, 8 participants

## ●Meetings / Business trips ●

- January 19: EIWAN steering committee meeting
- January 26: Opinion exchange meeting with new board members of Hawak Kamai
- February 2: Participated in "Intensive workshop for Japanese language volunteers" sponsored by Koriyama International Exchange Association
- February 23: EIWAN case study meeting
- March 16: EIWAN Extended steering committee meeting
- April 13: EIWAN case study meeting
- May 18: EIWAN steering committee meeting; Participated in Hawak Kamai 3rd annual event

- May 24: Preparatory meeting for Fukushima Forum to be held September 7
- June 7 ~ 8: Participated in "Japan workshop" held in Sendai sponsored by national network for solidarity of immigrant workers
- June 9 ~ 11: Participated in "Japan activists meeting in Aizu" sponsored by Aizu Radiation Information Center, The United Church of Christ in Japan Tohoku parish Aizu district (日本基督教団東北教区会津地区), and The United Church of Christ in Japan buraku liberation center (日本基督教団部落解放センター主催「全国活動者会議 in 会津」)
- June 11: Participated in "Liaison conference of groups for returnees and foreign children" in Koriyama sponsored by Fukushima International Association
- June 22: EIWAN extended steering committee meeting