

—SUMMARY—

Special Issue

Kyoto Museum for World Peace•Story of Renovation: The museum's progress in its 30th anniversary and the significance and prospects of the second phase of the renewal.

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On 15 September 2023, Ritsumeikan University's Kyoto Museum for World Peace held a reopening ceremony and will be open to the public from 23 September. Prior to the reopening, a two-day event entitled 'Kyoto Museum for World Peace•Story of Renovation: The museum's progress in its 30th anniversary and the significance and prospects of the second phase of the renewal' was held at the Ritsumeikan Saturday Seminar Series on 5 and 26 August 2023. This programme was conceived as part of a publicity campaign to introduce the main points of the current renewal and to encourage visitors to come to the museum after its reopening on 23 September. For example, the reports of the speakers included in this brochure provide an insight into the day of the presentation, the key points of the renewal, changes in the exhibition structure and renewal-related 'spills', all of which were carefully prepared by each of the speakers.

TANABE, Toshiaki

Director, Institute of International Public Affairs

Recent debate on the pacifism of the Japanese constitution has been shifting from the interpretation of Article 9 to the fundamental question whether and by what principle pacifism could be justified. Based on this understanding, this Article tries to explore the political-moral principle underlying constitutional pacifism by critically examining John Rawls's political philosophy and his idea of "the Law of Peoples."

Collective trauma and the role of peace museums.

~ Tracing the history of the establishment and evolution of "Peace Osaka"

MURAMOTO, Kuniko

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This paper examines the role of peace museums from the perspective of collective trauma, using Peace Osaka as an example. They can contribute to recovery from collective trauma in terms of constructing collective memory, mourning and meaning-making. It is important to look not only at the content of current exhibitions, but also at the process of establishment and evolution, and to bridge the disconnect between groups by making potential movements visible.

The Prospects and Limitations of Urban Development in Osaka under Wartime
—Aiming for a Unified Understanding of “Aggression and Victimhood”—

ODA, Naohisa

Osaka Electro-Communication University part-time instructor

This paper discusses the issue of integrating the themes of “aggression and victimization” in the study of wartime Osaka, in relation to the various problems raised by the Osaka International Peace Center. The paper argues that the current situation, where the museum has separated the themes of “aggression and victimization” and reduced the exhibition of “aggression” under the background of social issues and controversies, is detrimental to the historical understanding and peace education. To solve this problem, the paper explores the causes that led to both aspects of “aggression and victimization”. Specifically, the paper focuses on the wartime development prospects of the city of Osaka, and empirically elucidates its overall picture. The paper discusses the active war cooperation of wartime Osaka, and its consequences for “aggression and victimization”.

After the First World War, Osaka was the most economically developed city in Japan with its light industries. However, after the prosperity following the Manchurian Incident, Osaka faced a deadlock again due to the heavy chemical industrialization and the controlled economy that accompanied Japan's militarization. In Osaka, the urgent issue was how to redevelop the city under such circumstances. In the core of Osaka City, a vision of redeveloping Osaka as a core trade and industrial city in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperty Sphere was discussed, and concrete measures were taken accordingly. This involved not only trade and industry, but also the entire social organization. But precisely because of this, Osaka was clearly designated as a target for US air raids and was devastated. The urban development vision based on militarism supported the military aggression and invited the air raid damage; “aggression and victimization”.

Records and memories of Fumiko Kawada's air raid death:
Challenges and possibilities for its succession to the next generation

MURAKAMI, Tami

Archivist, Jiyu Gakuen Archives

Fumiko Kawada was a victim of an air raid at a fighter manufacturing plant during the mobilization of the faculty and labor at the end of the Asia-Pacific War. Modern high school students who read through her death records and memories put together a book "About Fumiko Kawada". In this paper, we will introduce the efforts of the high school students and follow how records and memories of Kawada's death have been inherited and reinterpreted for over 70 years. Through that analysis, we identify the challenges and possibilities for the success of war experience records and memories for the next generation.

A Discussion of Exhibits on Perpetration in Wars :
The Issue of the Removal of the Unit 731 Panel from the Iida City Peace Memorial Museum.

SUENAGA, Keiko

Fukushima Medical University /Lecturer

In 2022, the Iida City Peace Memorial Museum had a problem in that the panels on the perpetration of war, including an overview of Unit 731 and testimonies of former unit members, which existed at the manuscript, was removed from the exhibit just before the museum opened. This report summarizes the background and issues surrounding this problem, compares the Iida City Peace Memorial Museum and the Memorial Museum for Agricultural Emigrants to Manchuria, and then discusses how the war exhibit should be presented. Since Unit 731 was a particularly important part of the war-related harms that were removed, we will focus on the "Issue of Removing Unit 731 Panels from the Iida City Peace Memorial Museum".

Citizens' "battlefield" seen from the radio program guide
~ Media Literacy on the Home Front during the Pacific War

KAWAMURA, Makoto

NHK Museum of Broadcasting • Director

The NHK museum of broadcasting preserves radio program listings from 1925 to the present, and from the program listings after the start of the Pacific War, you can learn what kind of programs the broadcasters used to broadcast information to the people on the home front. In this paper, we will clarify how programs aimed at promoting national prestige changed during the approximately three years and nine months of the Pacific War, and how their contents influenced the formation of public opinion on the home front, and examine the state of media literacy during the Pacific War.

Summer 2022 "Jibungoto" Okinawa Peace Study Tour

MIGITANI, Hiroshi

International Peace Museum, Ritsumeikan University
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Ritsumeikan Keisho Junior and Senior High School

From Thursday, July 21 to Saturday, July 23, 2022, we visited Naha City, Onna Village, and Okinawa City on an Okinawa Peace Study Tour. On the occasion of the 77th anniversary of the Battle of Okinawa and the 50th anniversary of Okinawa's reversion to mainland Japan, we would like to consider training to learn about the foolishness of war and the desire for peace, which we consider as "Jibungoto" from Okinawa, the "Island of Bases."