



Tohoku/Christchurch: Reflections on the Socio-cultural Impacts of the Quakes

Dates: 30-31 October 2014

Venue: University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand

Acknowledgements:

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Organizers:

Takakura, Hiroki, Professor in Social Anthropology, Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University, Japan

Bouterey, Susan, Senior Lecturer in Japanese Studies, Department of Global, Cultural and Language Studies, University of Canterbury, New Zealand

Workshop Description:

The idea of this workshop is to share the knowledge and to exchange the view on the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake with the researchers and students related to Japanese Studies outside Japan. The first purpose is to provide the chance to understand what happened in Tohoku local communities after the earthquake with those in who may show interests, focusing on the research results of the anthropological documentation project on the disaster damaged local intangible cultural heritage in Tsunami victim area. The second purpose of the workshop is to exchange the opinions what implications could be obtained from the various types of humanities and social science researches on the Japan disaster on behalf of the education for Japanese Studies. Finally we would like to consider together the way of contribution for the disaster risk reduction from the perspectives of anthropology and sociocultural studies related to Japanese Studies.

The one of organizers of the workshop was the leader of "Investigation of the Damage to Folk Cultural Assets from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami in Miyagi" as a project commissioned by Miyagi Prefecture from November 2011 through March 2013. The survey was conducted in about 23 districts hit by the tsunami along the coast of Miyagi prefecture regarding folk performing arts, festivals, annual events, traditional occupations, and other intangible folk cultural assets, in the attempt to determine their state before the March 11 disaster, affects of and state following the disaster, and process for restoration. The project produces massive documentation: two reports presenting interview materials, one analytical book and the online database. At this moment, the continuous project explores the way of social and academic engagements of these documents and materials both with the recovery process of local communities and the school/university education.

The background of this workshop lies in these projects. Based on the projects results, we would like to provide to the participants the knowledge sharing of the disaster aftermath of the intangible cultural

heritage and Tohoku local communities, and the knowledge exchange for the role of the humanities and social sciences related to Japanese Studies for the disaster risk reduction.

Thursday 30th October Venue: James Hight 210

Time	Presentation	Presenter
1:30	Opening	Prof. Hiroki Takakura & Dr Susan Bouterey
2:00	"Lost community ritual and its revival after the Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami"	Prof. Toshiaki Kimura , Religious Studies, Tohoku University
2:40	"Towards an Interdisciplinary Perspective on Japanese Cultural Responses to Disaster"	Assoc-Prof. Roy Starrs , Japanese Studies, Otago University
3:20	Refreshments	
3:35	"Applied disaster anthropology: lessons learnt from the Tohoku Earthquake"	Prof. Hiroki Takakura , Social Anthropology, Tohoku University
4:15	"Practising Resilience: Women's Earthquake Stories"	Adjunct Assoc-Prof. Rosemary Du Plessis , Sociology, University of Canterbury

Friday 31st October Venue: Kirkwood Village KH01

Time	Presentation	Presenter
10:00	Refreshments	
10:10	"An Anthropological Examination of Differences between the Tohoku Earthquake and the Kobe Earthquake"	Prof. Hiroki Okada , Cultural Anthropology, Kobe University
10:50	"UC Ceismic" Project	Prof. Paul Millar , English & Digital Humanities, University of Canterbury
11:30	"Performance of, and in, everyday life: cultural responses to the Christchurch earthquakes"	Dr Ryan Reynolds Gap Filler Trust & Lincoln University
12:10	Lunch (Logie 401)	
1:40	"Impact of the Tohoku Earthquake on the folk performing art <i>Omagarihama Shishi-mai</i> in Higashi Matsushima"	Mr Takuro Aizawa , Folklore Studies, Tohoku Gakuin University
2:10	"Japanese Response to Natural Disaster"	Associate-Professor Ken Henshall , Japanese Studies, University of Canterbury
2:40	Short Break	
2:50	Panel Discussion: Researching & Teaching Disaster	Prof. Takakura & Prof Kimura , TU, Prof. Okada , KU, Dr Bronwyn Hayward (Social & Political Sciences), UC, Drs Rachel Payne & Susan Bouterey (Japanese Studies), UC
4:00	Close	Prof. Hiroki Takakura & Dr Susan Bouterey