

Messages for TIFA's 30 Anniversary

◆アメリカより ハイラさん（元 TIFA メンバー）

Dear TIFA Members,

Congratulations on your up-coming anniversary, a time when so many people can reflect on the extraordinary ways your friendships have meant so much to them. The world continues to be a better place every day because of your unselfish kindnesses to people from all over the world. My grandchildren and I are so fortunate to be touched by your heartfelt goodness.



All of the TIFA members bring good to this world and are a model for human kindness, kindness without borders.

Gratefully with love,
Hilah Edney Stiles

◆中国より ソウエイさん（元留学生・大学教員）

2008 年に来日して、留学生担当の山田さんから TIFA を紹介されたのをきっかけに、TIFA の事務所の一室で住み込み始め、メンバーの皆さんと次第に親しくなりました。



中国人は 60 歳になると家で麻雀をしたり孫の世話をみたりして過ごすので、TIFA で日本の“オバさんたち”の暮らしぶりを見て、感心することしきりでした。葛西さんはまるで伝奇的で、ネパール女性の自立の達成のため、70 代で年に何回もネパールを訪れるなど、旺盛なエネルギー、国際的な共生意識、流暢な語学力、私は大きな刺激を受けました。ほかのメンバーも、主婦でありながら平和を守る心は学者以上に強いことも印象的でした。

TIFA 事務所で日々暮らしていた私は、このような素晴らしい女性達に囲まれて 本当に幸せでした。そこで NPO の活動にも参加し始め、自分の勉強を社会や政治と結びつけることにしました。日本の神道では魂はある儀式によって浄化できるそうですが、TIFA は私にとって浄化場でした。一生この経験を忘れず感謝しつつ、学生に伝えようと思います。

◆スリランカより サマンティカさん （元留学生・大学教員）

TIFA 30 周年おめでとう！！遠いスリランカから応援しています。

広～い海で離れているけれど、心の中では TIFA と一緒にした。様々な活動の光が、あのころの勢いとおちとも変わらず、私のエネルギーの元になっています。



サマンティカさんの日本語クラス
Samantica's Japanese class

ロクガマゲ・サマンティカ

◆ネパールより バスーさん (NGO・HANDS 代表)

Thank you TIFA

In Nepal we have a saying "God cannot stay together so he create mother and motherhood", for HANDS Nepal and for the people of Sindhuli, TIFA Japan resemblance our mother and motherhood.

Since 18 yrs TIFA's grants, supports, suggestions and initiatives enhancing our livings. By taking initiative for women empowerment; more than 700 women are already trained on sewing of which more than 300 women run it as a profession. Similarly by Quilt making trainin15 girls are utilizing their free time as employment and become financially self independent.

TIFA's support on health care becomes a hope for more than 50,000 people around the river Kamala. 24/7 hour treatment, hi-tech equipped facilities, laboratory and ambulance service expand its boundaries and reach. More on educational sponsorships, timely health camps, irrigation projects, livelihood projects, emergency response efforts are also key elements for uplifting our socio-economical scenario.

On behalf of those independent women, On behalf of those students, On behalf of those patents; on behalf of all the people in Sindhuli; we would like to thank you TIFA Japan for your restless, precious humanitarian support.



In front of the Dudhauri Hospital

Basudev Adhikari
Managing Director
HANDS, Nepal

◆タイより スマリー先生・ソンマイ先生 (日・タイ青少年交流)

To Ms. Fusa Kasai/ President of TIFA

It has been an honor for the Singburi School to be able to receive great supports from TIFA throughout these years. We heartily welcome your supports, in order to advance our educational programs, and to enhance the intellectual life and cultural development in the field of education and research.

We are grateful for the excellent services provided to our students and our International Language Department. Your supports in scholarships, innovative programs, and cultural learning, which are generously funded by the members of TIFA community, have been graciously appreciated.

Your personal commitment in helping us to grow and enabling us to learn Japanese culture has been one of the kindest friendships you have handed to us. Our school has incorporated the Japanese Curriculum to our Japanese language program by segmented the program into 3 different levels.

The secondary students also get the opportunity to select Japanese language class as their selective subject.

The Singburi School has been giving every effort in every way to promote the Japanese language program at our supreme level.

We, as the Singburi School team, would like to take this moment to send our heartiest appreciation to Ms. Fusa Kasai and all the members of TIFA for your outstanding and your continuing supports toward us. We hope that our friendship continues to grow forever hereafter.

Sumalee Sriprasert
President of Singburi School,
Singburi province, THAILAND



Thai-Japan youth exchange program

To Ms. Fusa Kasai / President of TIFA

I have been known TIFA for more than 15 years since I was a student in Osaka University. My deep impression on our first time of teachers from Singburi School visited TIFA in 2000 by guidance and generous hospitality of Ms. Fusa Kasai. That was a great starting point of cultural exchange between Thailand and Japan. TIFA has given the significant opportunity for Thai high school to learn Japanese language. TIFA supports the Japanese teachers to teach Japanese language at Singburi School continuously. Moreover, TIFA also provided supporting fund for Thai students to have great experience of cultural exchange with 11th Toyonaka Junior High School. They have chances to learn Japanese culture by home stay.

As a result the Thai students from Singburi School joined the exchange program with TIFA are very successful in their study in higher education. Many of them are studying at Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi. They express to us their impression on experience of their visited Osaka for the first time of their lives on going abroad. The kindness and hospitality of Japanese students and people are always impressive. Japanese culture taught them of being good students and responsibility.

Furthermore, lecturers of Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi also have chance to exchange our culture with TIFA members. The memory of our experience on traditional Japanese dance is always in our hearts.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the president of TIFA and all TIFA members for your kindness to give great opportunity to Singburi School and Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi to exchange our academic and culture. We hope our friendship will be continued to grow and beautifully progress, forever.

With best regards,

Somma Pivsa-Art, Ph.D.
Vice President
Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi
Ministry of Education, Royal Thai Government

◆ドイツより ミハエルさん（元 TIFA ボランティアスタッフ）

Dear TIFA,

Sad to not be able to share this amazing moment of TIFA's 30th birthday with you, I still want to participate in today's celebration this way. TIFA not only gave me the opportunity to come to Japan, but also used his most precious and relentless resource Karsai Sensei to organize an apartment and a job for me. For this one year's experience, I will remain grateful until the end of my life.



Something all too rare in Japan is the amount of open minded people towards foreigners, who want to extend conversation with foreigners beyond praising their home-country and the level of their Japanese (no matter how bad it is – as displayed in my case). In order to master the challenges of globalization, the ingredients of openness, cross-cultural understanding and historic conscience for the Japanese population is irreplaceable. All of these requirements are rare in Japan but none more so as the last one. Nothing has reminded me more of this truth than my recent visit to Tokyo's Yakusuni Shrine. As long as Japan continues to neglect its own history, this today very peaceful nation will never have real peace with its neighbors who are its most important partners as well as in the case of China the most powerful nation of the future. But most importantly, Japan cannot find peace with itself by continuing to neglect this reality. Nobody knows this bitter truth better than myself – the German grand-son of a convinced Nazi whom I got to know for

most of my life. One of the key experiences I always connect to TIFA was its request towards me to make a presentation on the historical refurbishment of the German WWII past. Other experiences include the annual, international kids' camp and the countless international projects for which relentless fundraising was done at any possible and impossible occasion. All of these memories are anti-venoms against Japan's greatest problems.

For this reason, the work of TIFA remains a battle at the very most important front-line to prepare Japan for its future. TIFA is not big enough to save all Japan from its future developments but it can be among the forces, which can soften the country's perspective.

In this mind: please continue your struggle for TIFA's values – also against all obstacles. If I ever come back to live in Japan, I will be ready to be your foot-soldier again. And one last request: please stay with us Karsai Sensei for many years to come. This organization needs you, this city needs you, this country needs you and I need you too.

Thank you TIFA, thank you Fusa Karsai!

ミハエル Michael Demel

***** *Thank you!* *****