



In Kobe where Popoki lives, it is the hot and muggy season. He uses a big leaf instead of an umbrella. Popoki is thankful for the rain, but hopes there will not be any floods.

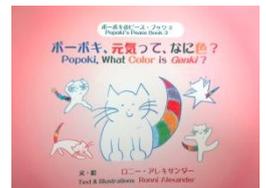


Popoki's Hot News!

It's here! Popoki's Peace Book 3!



The third book in the Popoki's Peace Book series, *Popoki, What Color is Genki? Popoki's Peace Book 3* is out! You can get a copy at your local bookstore (in Japan), from the publisher Epic (<https://bookway.jp/epic/>), at the Kobe YMCA or from the Popoki Peace Project! We look forward to your orders and comments.



Pieces of Peace



One of Popoki's friends, Aastha-nyan, sent the following piece of peace:

"I am in the lowest point of my life these days. I have not been more unhealthy, poor, depressed, or unproductive than I am now. Nevertheless, amidst my tears and confusions, I feel peace and happiness in the laughter of my students, generosity and consoling words of my friends, and support of my parents. I wonder if I, by any chance, engender peace in their lives too!"

What sort of 'peace' did you encounter today? Please contribute a bit of peace! Please let us know by sending a message to Popoki's e-mail.



Popoki has a facebook page! Please have a look!

www.facebook.com/pages/Popoki-Peace-Project/1384738958444817

Thank you for your continuing help!

Popoki's Friendship Story - Our Peace Journey Born out of the Great Northeastern Japan Earthquake is getting a good reception, thanks to help from his friends. Please help to let more people know! More information about the book at: <http://popoki.cruisejapan.com/monogatari.html>

* You can purchase a copy at the Kobe YMCA!



Popoki at Kio University!

Yasu-nyan

Nice to meet you, I'm Yasu-nyan (Yasuhiro Nakagawa), a new Popoki member!

Actually this workshop was the second time for me to participate in Popoki activities, but I report in this Popoki newsletter for the first time.



On the morning of May 17th, Popoki held a workshop with about 80 students of Kio University. The topic was “Health of people and peace in the world ~ Popoki, what colors is health?”

This workshop was not only to listen to a lecture and watch a DVD, but to do some exercises, read from Popoki’s picture book to the students, discuss frankly, and draw. It was a lot of fun to learn.

At first the students were hesitant to express what they thought because the workshop was big, having about 80 people. But they gradually began to feel free to express what they thought through group discussions and drawing.

These students majoring in nursing had their own strong opinions about “health and peace.” It will relate to their jobs in the future. So I hope this workshop helped them to know others’ frank values and to review their own.

Finally I really appreciated Professor Horiuchi at Kio University, Ronyan –Professor Alexander-, and the senior-nyans who participated.

I hope I can attend many workshops as Popoki. Thank you.



Popoki at Nada Challenge 2014

Ana-nyan, Federico-Nyan, Mari-nyan

Introduction: Nada-Challenge 2014 (Popoki Peace Project)

On 1st June 2014, approximately 20 members of the Popoki Peace Project gathered together at the Togagawa River Park to participate in the Nada-Challenge 2014, community festival. This festival was initiated 19 years ago with the aim of the community's early recovery in the aftermath of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake that tragically affected Kobe and its residents in 1995. Today, however, this festival seeks to foster interaction among people within the Kobe community, but also to call to attention social and regional issues experienced by people from all walks of life.

The Popoki Peace Project team prepared numerous activities to contribute to this festival which included (1) a theatrical play based on the Popoki Peace Books (2) the Popoki Peace Project's peace exhibition, which encouraged people to draw or write a message of 'peace' and lastly, (3) a stall which encouraged chalk drawing and bubble blowing activities for young children as well as the sale of Popoki's Peace Books and t-shirts.

Here, we share the experience of 3 Kobe University graduate students in their participation in the activities mentioned above. Enjoy!

Popoki's Booth

Meeting with new friends and communicating with different generations
in many different ways

Mari Saigo



Although it was the first time for me to join the Popoki activity, I felt so at home while working with the Popoki members. At our booth we had mainly two kinds of jobs to do. Those jobs were to sell the Popoki goods (postcards, stickers, books and t-shirts) and to play with children. We prepared two kinds of activities for children (drawing pictures on the ground and blowing bubbles.) Many children came to our booth and played with us.

Since there is little opportunity for me to play with children in my everyday life, it brought me a special feeling. "Wow, the smiling faces of children have a strong power to ease people's tension." I suddenly thought like that. It was a really nice place where people from different countries, backgrounds and generations worked together happily and cooperatively. It was a fantastic day for me which made me realize the power of Popoki the cat to bind people's feelings.



Mini stage

Federico Tombari

This year's script for the mini stage was written by me. Following the three Popoki's Peace Books written by Ronni Alexander, I tried to show the different shades of Popoki behavior in his seeking for answers: What is peace? What is friendship? What is *genki*?



The first part was about peace: Popoki searches for the meaning of peace (what color is peace? What does it feel like to the touch? Is it connected with friends?). Then, the second part was about friendship: the main topics were the importance of sharing (with the actors giving candies to the audience, mainly children) and the communication that was unnecessary since “friendship is something we feel without words”. The moving part happened when the girl from Tonga

tried to speak in her native language with Popoki and, even if the cat did not understand her, he hugged her. And then Popoki tried to discover what was genki. In his journey around the globe he met different species of animals who advised him about the importance of being *genki* and the different shapes of it: for a flamingo it was *genki* standing on one leg, for a rabbit eating his carrot, and so on.

The stage was played by a group of actors of different nationalities, mirroring the amount of different species in the Popoki's world; this fact was also underlined by the use of different languages (English, Italian, Tongan...) and different accent when the actors were speaking Japanese.

I wrote the script by myself following the books (modifying something) but when, with the work of a fantastic group, my play was taking form of something

real, I felt amazed! We made the animal's figures at the university and also the cards with the titles. Then, on the very day of Nada Challenge, everybody, amazingly, was focused on memorizing the lines I had written the days before and in my opinion the result was great. Even if there were not some many people due to the hot sun and the timing (the play was



right after the lunch break) the audience enjoyed our play and everybody had fun. We had fun making it, we had fun doing it, everybody else had fun watching us. That is exactly the purpose of the play and the books: entertaining but at the same time saying important things, thinking, and suggestions. I think that those who was listened to our play went back home, in the evening, enriched.



And the last memory of Nada Challenge. Before the event I took home the big drawing of Popoki, and when it was time to go to Nada we went there by bus and train. I cannot forget the faces of the people, especially little children, who were staring at Popoki, smiling. That's it, Popoki is happiness.

Popoki's Friendship Story Exhibition: Messages of Peace

~Ana L. Kolokihakaufisi~



Many messages are woven together to create this tapestry of different colors, words and pictures. Unified with lyrics of hope, friendship, and of encouragement, I think of a picture to weave into Popoki's friendship story. "A rainbow!" I think to myself, "Yes, I will draw a rainbow".

A rainbow is beautiful with its treasures of colors, and just like a rainbow, Popoki's friendship exhibition radiates colors of peace that we try to express through words or pictures. When was the last time you saw a rainbow? Where did you see it? And what were you feeling when you last saw one?

For me, memory takes me back to my home country, Tonga; this is where I last saw a rainbow. I remember the smell of the grass freshly sprayed with rain. I remember the sky painted with a misty orange as the sun was setting during this time. I remember the warmth of my mother's presence and the laughter of my younger brothers. I am at home when I last saw a rainbow, and I feel happy because family is close by.



Talking with Mochi-nyan about being and feeling safe

On 3 June, Mochi-nyan visited Prof. Ronni Alexander's seminar at the Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies, Kobe University. There were about 15 participants, Popoki's nyan friends and their classmates. After a presentation on the current situation and problems in Otsuchi-cho, everyone talked about what it meant for them to be and feel safe. In addition to physical needs such as food, clothing and shelter, many felt they could not feel safe without support from their family and friends. The discussion grew lively when the question of whether strands of paper cranes and religion are necessary for being or feeling safe. In the course of the discussion, everyone became confused, but by the time we finished, the idea that being and feeling safe was basically linear had changed to a more dynamic and multi-layered concept. Mochi-nyan, thank you so much for giving us so much food for thought. Please come again!



How about folding some paper cranes?

Among Popoki's friends is a group called "Make 28 July a 'day to protect children'". On 28 July 2008, there was an accident in the river at Togagawa Park, the place where Nada Challenge is held. Five people were killed, and three of them were children. These friends think that there is something adults can do on an everyday basis to protect the lives of children in the case of an accident. Every year on 28 July they hold a memorial service. They are asking people to fold paper cranes for it.

- The cranes should be strung with thread into strands about 1 meter in length.
- They will accept the cranes after 1 July at the Nada Kumin Hall.
- If you cannot deliver your cranes, please contact the organizing committee at:
090-2704-0546 rurenokai@gmail.com

Memorial service: 28 July, 14:00~ at Togagawa Park (you can bring cranes 13:30-19:00). Lecture (in Japanese) on 6 July 14:00~16:30

Popoki in Fukushima - Number 2

Ronyan

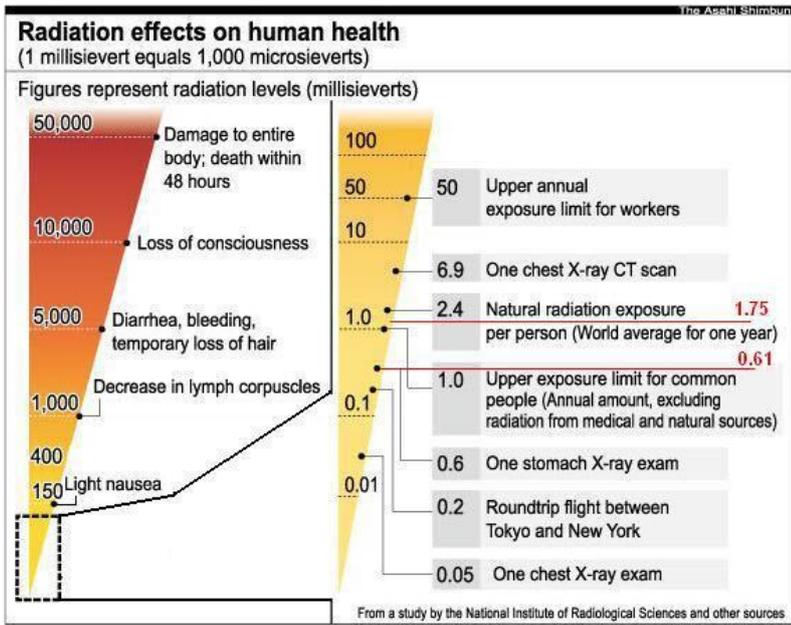
From 9 to 11 May, Popoki and I had an opportunity to visit Fukushima Prefecture with photographer Takashi Morizumi to think about the effects of the nuclear power plant accident. This is the second of a series of articles about my impressions. The theme for this month is 'radiation'. I will include some basic information, which I hope will enhance your understanding of the interview with Takashi Morizumi on page 10 of this issue. For some readers, it might be a review of what you already know, but please bear with me. Explaining increases my own knowledge, and I think it is very important to share basic information so that more people understand the issue and can participate in debate about it.

When did you first learn about radiation, and what did you learn? I think I first learned about it in junior or senior high school, probably in the context of learning about the atomic bomb or history of science. It did not make much of an impression on me, but I think I learned that: radiation is dangerous; it exists naturally in the environment and is also made by humans; it has a very long half-life and it is hard to dispose of; and that in addition to killing one another, humans use nuclear technology for medical purpose and to make energy.

For the first five years I was in Japan I lived in Hiroshima and learned about the horror of radiation directly from *hibakusha*, survivors of the a-bomb. In graduate school I studied about nuclear testing, and learned not only about the effects on humans but also the complexity of disposal. Even if nuclear weapons were to be abolished, they cannot just be thrown away, and even if nuclear power plants do not have accidents, disposal of nuclear waste is still difficult. Moreover, although exposure to large amounts of radiation can kill people instantly, the effects of radiation continue to injure living things over many generations. Unfortunately even after Hiroshima/Nagasaki, hundreds of nuclear tests and many nuclear power plant accidents, we still do not really know just what the effects of radiation are or how to deal with them.

The first problem is how to measure radiation. As you know, radiation exposure is measured in 'sieverts'. Exposure to one Sievert (1Sv) can be deadly, so usually radiation is measured in millisieverts (mSv; 1000th of 1Sv) or microsieverts (μ Sv; 1000th of a mSv). Please refer to the figures below to see how much radiation we are exposed to in our everyday lives.

When I entered the exclusion zone in Fukushima, I was very nervous. Before entering the zone I put on a hazard suit, and when I went inside I put on my hood, gloves, and shoe covering. The photo was taken at a rest area near the entrance to the exclusion zone. It felt strange that people were just eating and shopping and nobody paid me any attention. It made me wonder, just what do we mean by 'normal'?



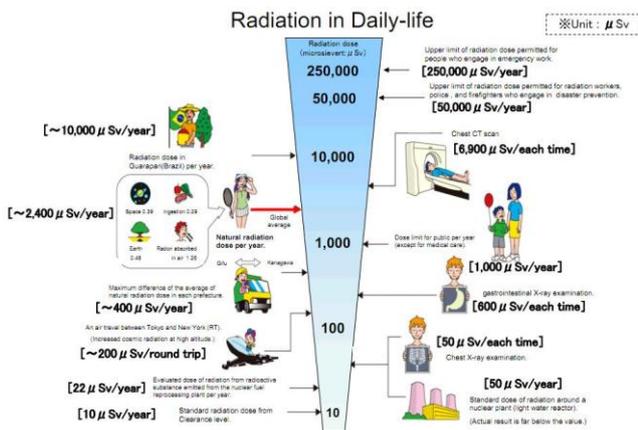
Since I was going into the exclusion zone, I borrowed a dosimeter. There are many different kinds, and the one I had was very simple. The photo below was taken in the car near the entrance to the exclusion



zone and shows the amount of radiation per hour: μ Sv/hr.

Source: <http://www.nikko.gr.jp/news/20110408/>

The figure "Radiation in Daily Life" is in mSv, or 1000 times the amount in μ Sv. But prolonged exposure to even with low doses can be harmful, so it is important to be careful. The global standard for annual exposure to radiation is 1 mSv/year. After the Fukushima Daichi accident, the Japanese government raised the level to 20 mSv/year. Source: <http://baleta.blogspot.jp/2011/03/nuclear-radiation-effects.html>



I measured the radiation in various places in Tsushima, Namie Town.



The amount of radiation varies greatly, even in places that are seriously contaminated, but without a dosimeter, you cannot see or feel whether it is high or low. At first, I was

curious and the experience of measuring was new, but it gradually became more and more frightening.



At 9.99 μ Sv, my dosimeter began to blink. I learned that it could not measure anything higher. I was with Morizumi, and at that time, I think his reading was 14 μ Sv. We had been visiting the home of the couple who were our guides that day, looking at what wild boar and monkeys had done to their house. I started to feel sick, and went outside and gazed at some beautifully blooming flowers (of course the radiation is higher outdoors). Their precious home.... But they cannot clean it up, or throw away the wreckage. At that time, I felt an almost instinctive terror exploding inside me. "This is dangerous! I want to run away!" I tried frantically to convince myself to remain calm, saying "This is why you came here, to experience this feeling, so deal with it!" I was really scared.



Radiation is blown by the wind, so not every place in Fukushima has the same degree of contamination. Of course radiation does not pay attention to municipal boundaries, and has traveled to places outside of

Fukushima Prefecture. I have no proof, but I got the strong impression that the risk managers are paying more attention to municipal boundaries than to safety. I need to learn more!

As we were leaving Namie Town, I realized that I could not just throw away my protective clothing. I could not wash the dosimeter and camera I had been holding, and if I wiped them, I could not throw away the paper I used to do it. What happens to the radiation that gets on my hands when I take off the hazard suit? What about the mud left on the soles of my shoes? I began to understand a bit of the terror of not being able to see or feel radiation. I had just myself to take care of, but what if I had children...? What if Popoki were there...?

I felt rage at the human arrogance and folly that allows us to destroy our homes, environment and friends.

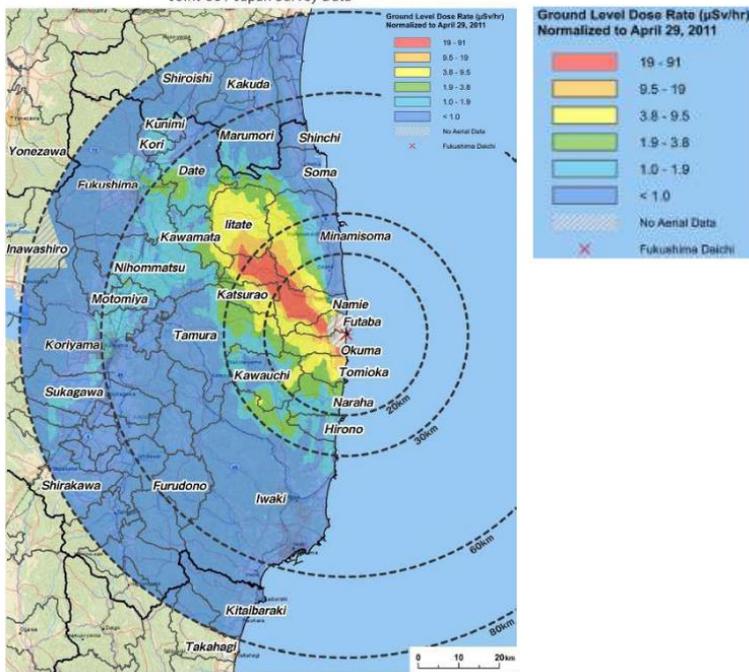
In order to find out how much radiation there is in a particular place in Japan, you can refer to sites such as the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (<http://radioactivity.nsr.go.jp/map/ja/download.html>). The problem is that internal radiation is much more serious than the outside radiation. For that reason, when you go to a place that is highly contaminated, it is better to wear a mask and protective clothing and be careful of what you eat or drink.

How much radiation spread after the Fukushima accident? The map below shows the spread of radiation and will help you to identify places that Morizumi talks about in his interview.

(Top) https://encrypted-tbn3.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSMtPN7J5B91PmoRrrrsJ0KWzaVwMywL-qGmh_fYI8lCt1AP_cx_5Zyyw
 (Bottom) <http://feministssa.files.wordpress.com/2012/03/nuclear-radiation.png>

Aerial Measuring Results

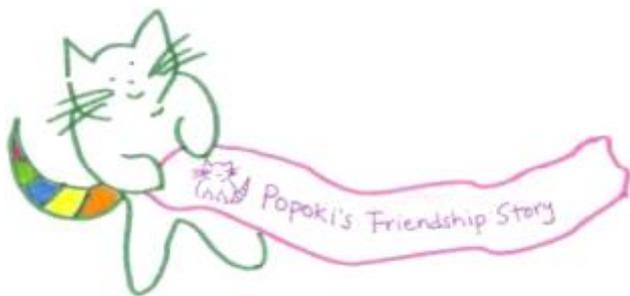
Joint US / Japan Survey Data



地図から市町村を選択してください。
 Please choose cities, towns and villages among a map.

閉じる X





Popoki's Interview

Morizumi Takashi san

Ronyan

From 9 – 11 May, I went to Fukushima with photographer Takashi Morizumi. On the evening of the last day, I interviewed him as we were driving to Fukushima Airport.

R: You've been following the 11 March 2011 Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Plant accident right from the beginning, haven't you?

M: Well, on 12 March, I got as far as Koriyama. On the 13th, I went to Futabamachi where the Fukushima Daiichi plant is located. At that time, you could still go there. The Number 1 reactor exploded on the afternoon of the 12th. At that time there were six of us in three cars. We are all members of JVJA (Japan Photo and Journalist Association) and had been following nuclear issues, so we had dosimeters and hazard suits. We just got in the car and thought we would go until we ran out of gas. There is a family-run inn in the town of Miharu on Route 280, and we stayed there. And when we measured the amount of radiation, we were really surprised.

R: Did you stay around the area of the Fukushima Daiichi plant?

M: Futaba was really contaminated, and we wanted to see the tsunami damage so we headed for Sendai. We slept at the Migayi Prefectural Headquarters on the 14th. It was there that we heard that on the afternoon of the 14th, the No.3 and No.4 reactors had exploded. We decided to split into two groups: those who wanted to return to Fukushima and those who wanted to stay. I tried to go toward Iwaki in Fukushima, but the road was blocked. I was afraid of another explosion, so I returned to Miharu.

On the 15th, I went to Soma to look at the tsunami damage. There were lots of aftershocks, and I was worried that there would be another tsunami. Around that time, they established a 20km exclusion zone. That afternoon, as I was heading from Soma to the Daiichi plant, I stopped to eat in Date. Out of curiosity I checked the radiation level, and it was 40 μ Sv!

R: 40!?! What did you do?

M: I told the people there to run away, and I left. On the other side of the mountain is Iitate Village. The weather was bad and it was beginning to rain. When I measured the radiation in Iitate it was 100 μ Sv! I decided to return to Miharu.

On the 16th, I went to check out where they were screening people who had been exposed to radiation (*hibakusha*) in Nihonmatsu. There was a really long line, and nothing much for me to do so I decided to go alone to Miyagi Prefecture. That night I slept in my car, and the next morning I arrived in Kesennuma. There the radiation level was 10 μ Sv. Actually, the level was lower outside of my car, so I realized that the interior of my car had been contaminated.

Actually, that car was a rental and so when I got back to Tokyo I measured the radiation and it was 2 μ Sv. I thought that since I had contaminated the car, I should clean it before returning it. Later I found out that rather than having brought the radiation from Fukushima, 2 μ Sv. was the level in Tokyo at that time.

I went home, but on 27 March I returned to Iitate Village. The weather was good and there was no wind, so I tried going to the nuclear plant. At the gate the level was 400! It was really dangerous. IAEA told the Japanese government that everyone within 30 km should be evacuated, but the government ignored them.

R: Weren't you afraid?

M: No, not particularly. On the 15th when I went back to Tokyo I told my daughter to leave for someplace safer. She was three months pregnant. In the end, she went to Nagoya, but came back the next day saying, "I had nothing to do." But her baby gets lots of colds and has nosebleeds.

R: The other day, I was surprised when someone said they had heard the Fukushima Daiichi explosion. What sort of sensory expressions can you use to describe the explosion?

M: People say lots of things. It smelled like burnt plastic, or it tasted like iron. You could smell it and see white fog 30-40 kilometers away in Nagadoro

R: You have been taking photos of this nuclear disaster from the beginning, but what do you want people to see?

M: I want to tell them that the contamination is continuing. There are those who want to make people forget the disaster and contamination, and my work is a response to them. For those who want to forget, I want them to have courage and look at what is happening. And especially, I want those who are not interested to see my work. A nuclear plant accident could happen in Tokyo or anywhere. I want them to feel that, and to think that they cannot be silent about it. We all have to raise our voices. I want to use my new photos (of radiation) to get those people interested.

R: New photos?

M: Photos of everyday items that have been contaminated. I use a special method to make the radiation visible.



Morizumi-san gathering samples for photos

R: Those photos are in you blog. They have a really strong impact. I hope those of you reading this will have a look at: <http://mphoto.sblo.jp/>

R: I think the reason I could never be a photographer is that regardless of how bad their situation, you have to point your lens at people. In a situation like this with the nuclear accident, you can't see radiation, or use your senses to identify it, so it must be really hard to be a photographer. In order to make it visible with photographs, you have to keep on pointing your lens at the people who are living in the midst of radiation. How do you do it?

M: It isn't really a question of whether I can do it, but more that I have to do it. But at the beginning, I couldn't take photos of Fukushima in normal colors. I made them all blue.

R: Blue?

M: Yes, I changed the color balance. I felt like I couldn't photograph unless I did that.

R: I can understand that. Just in these few days here in Fukushima, I have lost my sense of

what is 'normal' and 'abnormal'. I can see why it was hard for you to take 'normal' photos.

R: You have been photographing nuclear issues and *hibakusha* for many years. Why?

M: Coincidence. In 1975 at the Bikini Day Conference in Yaezu, I heard Nelson Anjain from Rongelap appeal to the audience in Japanese, saying "Please rescue us." At that time, Greenpeace had sent the ship Rainbow Warrior to evacuate the people of Rongelap. It was the first time I learned about nuclear test *hibakusha*. I kept thinking about Nelson, and wanted to go to the nuclear test site, but had no money. When I met him at the 1994 Gensuikin Hiroshima/Nagasaki Conference, I told him I wanted to go to the Marshall Islands.

1995 was the 50th anniversary, but photos cannot express the past. You have to use photos to express it as a contemporary issue. My photos were published in the Japanese media, particularly the magazine *Friday*. Thanks to that scoop, I could keep on going to the Marshalls and thought that I could afford to address this issue. Being able to eat is important. In 1994 I spent 3 weeks in the Marshall Islands and then in September I went to the former Soviet nuclear test site in Semipalatinsk. A child I met on the first day became another scoop. My whole life is all lucky coincidences. Everything began from some coincidental encounters.

R: You have had a lot of good encounters in Fukushima, too. Thank you for introducing me to lots of wonderful people.

M: I've been here so many times, but for you it was the first. It was refreshing to see things from your perspective, so thank you.

R: My last question might be too general, but what is a good photograph?

M: One you want to keep on looking at. With some photos I get tired of looking at them after a while. Photos you can keep looking at without getting tired of them are good ones.

Please have a look at Morizumi-san's website. It has lots of 'good photos'!

<http://www.morizumi-pj.com/>

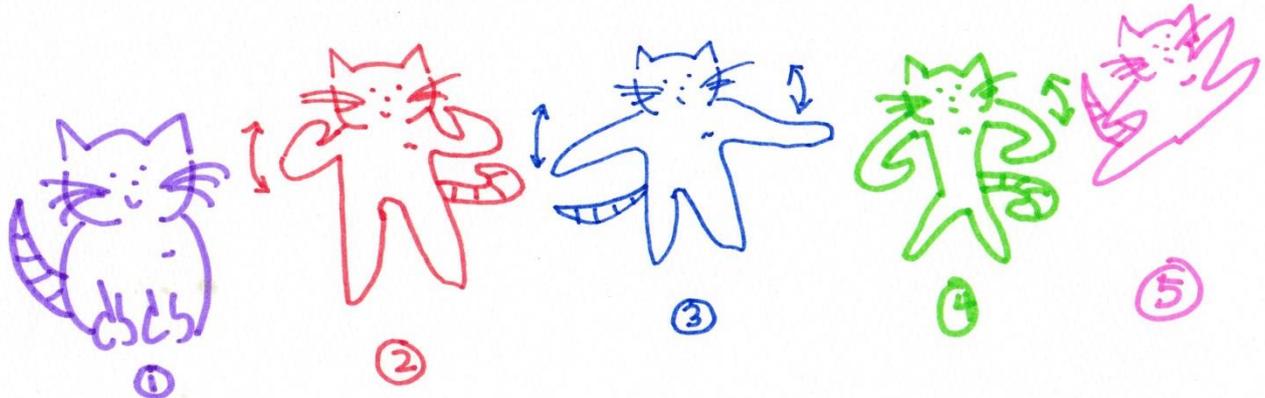


When we visited the area affected by the tsunami just north of the Fukushima Daiichi Plant, I slipped in the mud. Morizumi-san cleaned my shoes for me!

POPOKI'S EASY POGA

Lesson 73

This month's Poga is about shoulder blades!



1. As always, begin with sitting up straight and making yourself look thin.
2. Stand up and with your elbows bent to the sides, touch your shoulders. Now keeping your hands on your shoulders slowly move your elbows (and your tail) up and down.
3. Next, stretch out your arms and with your palms facing up, move your arms (and tail) up and down. Try it with your palms down, and with one up, and the other down!
4. Finally, place your hands in your armpits and move your elbows up and down.
5. Did it? It is time for the 'success pose.'

Congratulations! You have successfully completed Lesson 73. Do you feel refreshed? Please remember to relax, breathe, laugh and practice for 3 minutes every day.

Please join us!

Next Po-kai: 7/14 Kobe YMCA 19:00- Rm.306

7.12 Popoki at Kodomo no sato, Nishinari-ku, Osaka. 10:00~12:00.

8.5 Popoki at the Seminar on Education for International Understanding, JICA Kansai

8.6 Popoki's Hiroshima Day shadows and skype. Gather at 8:00 at Ikutagawa Park.

From Popoki's friends

6.28 14:30-16:00. Mid-term Report, Film Showing and Talk with Producer Mizue Furui. Living in Fukushima. "litatemala no Kachantachi" (Mothers of litate Village). Venue: Kobe YMCA 1F Chapel. Fee: ¥500. Info: Kobe YMCA International Community Center Tel: 078-241-7204

7.5 16:30-18:30 Wakazaru Café: Talking about Peace – Japan and the United States. Popoki's friends Mairead-nyan and Mori-nyan will talk. Venue: Kobe YWCA 5F Chapel. Fee: ¥500 (includes tea and tasty snack). Info: Kobe YWCA Tel:078-231-6201; e-mail: office@kobe-ywca.or.jp; www.kobe-ywca.or.jp

7.7 19:00-20:30 Talk Event: "The spirit of the constitution Part 2." Venue: Kobe YMCA 1F Chapel. Fee: free; Everyone is welcome. Please register with the YMCA in advance. Tel: 078-241-7204. E-mail: houshi@kobeymca.org

Raisins from Afghanistan Project (CODE): The amount of the grapes is increasing year by year with the project. We want many people have chance to taste the Afghan grapes and we have finally begun importing their grapes as raisins. The grapes are dried in the sun in Mir Bacha Kot by the grape farmers and delivered to Japan Fairtrade Committee to get packed. The grapes have a naturally sweet taste with no use of agrichemicals or added substances. The profit goes to people in Mir Bacha Kot. You can order them from us or get more information from: <http://code-jp.org/afghanistan/index.html>

Popoki in Print

- ESD Digital Archives, Kansai Council of Organizations for International Exchange <http://www.interpeople.or.jp>
- “Peace Picture Book Published – linked to disaster support in East Japan” *Kobe Shimbun* (2014.3.25) KIHARA Kana
- “Awards given to 37 groups Daiwa Securities Foundation” *Kobe Shimbun* (2013.8.23 p.8)
- “Reproducing ‘human shadows’ and asserting no nukes” *Kobe Shimbun* (2013.8.7 p.22)
- ‘Draw inner thoughts about disaster’ *Yomiuri Shimbun* 2013.2.16:4 (evening edition; Japanese)
- “‘Safe’ and ‘Secure’ Society is from the bottom-up”, *Mainichi Shimbun Interview with Ronni Alexander*, 2012.10.29, p.1 (evening edition; Japanese)
- R. Alexander. “Remembering Hiroshima: Bio-Politics, Popoki and Sensual Expressions of War.” *International Feminist Journal of Politics*. Vol.14:2:202-222, June 2012
- “Article 9 is at the base of Peace with Popoki” *Kodomo to Mamoru 9 jono kai News*, No.66, 2012.5.12
- “Hope on 60 meters of cloth” Etsuko Akuzawa. (In Japanese) *Asahi Shimbun* 2012.1.21
- “Voice for Peace made into a book” Masashi Saito. (in Japanese) *Kobe Shimbun*, 2012.1.19
- K. Wada. “Conversations with Ronni Alexander: The Popoki Peace Project; Popoki, What Color is Peace? Popoki, What Color is Friendship?” *International Feminist Journal of Politics* Vol.13, No.2, 2011, 257-263
- S. McLaren. “The Art of Healing”(Popoki Friendship Story Project) *Kansai Scene*. Issue 133, June 2011, p.10. kansaiscene.com
- R. Alexander. (2010) “The Popoki Peace Project: Creating New Spaces for Peace in Demenchonok, E., ed. *Philosophy after Hiroshima*. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, pp.399-418
- 省窓: Column in *Kobe YMCA News*, No.606, 2011.1, p.1 (In Japanese)
- “If we all participate, something will change! Reflecting on Palestine” *THE YMCA* No.607 June 2010, p.1 (YMCA Japan Monthly Newspaper)
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- * **Back issues of Popoki News:** http://popoki.cruisejapan.com/archives_e.html





What Popoki Means to Me

Popoki has a variety of friends. Some of them write in Popoki News, and others keep watch from far away.

In 2006, when the Popoki Peace Project was just beginning, Tsurumi Kazuko looked at Ronyan and encouraged her by saying, “Keep at this and see it through!” Thanks to everyone, we have managed to come this far.

That day, there was another person in the room with Prof. Tsurumi. She became a supporter of Popoki, and sent us the following new year’s greeting.

“Last year, there were many natural and human disasters and other events that made my heart ache. I really respect Popoki’s hard work to deal with them. I pray for happiness for all in the New Year and that Popoki will continue to work hard and grow.”

Another friend, one who is having a hard time in the disaster area, sent the following comment about *Popoki, What Color is Genki? Popoki’s Peace Book 3*.

“The picture book is a very enjoyable book about the cat’s adventure. I was very excited. (Popoki is so nice).”

Another friend said, “I picked up the book and looked at? read? it. I had not imagined what it would be about. ... I felt it was very deep. I read No.3 and No. 1, and cried so much I ran out of tissues.”



PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THE POPOKI PEACE PROJECT!

The Popoki Peace Project is a voluntary project which uses Popoki's peace book and DVD to promote peace through various activities such as peace camps, peace workshops, seminars and other activities. Since the March 2011 earthquake, we have also worked in the disaster area and in 2012 published a book about that work: *Popoki's Friendship Story - Our Peace Journey Born Out of the Great Northeastern Japan Earthquake*. *Popoki, What Color is Peace?* has been translated into Thai, Chinese, Korean, Khmer, Indonesian, Tetun and Bengali, Vietnamese, Arabic and Hebrew. Spanish, Farsi, Lao, Swahili, translations are underway. If you would like to translate Popoki, or have a way to have the book sold at your local bookstore, please let us know.



How to purchase Popoki's books from outside of Japan



1. Go to your local Japanese bookstore: Kinokuniya, Maruzen, etc. (or their website)
2. In the US, thanks to a very satisfied customer, *Popoki, What Color is Peace? Popoki's Peace Book 1* can be ordered from Kinokuniya Bookstore in Los Angeles. The bookstore is at www.los_angeles@kinokuniya.com and the telephone number is 213.687.4480. The price is US\$20.00 plus tax.

Some ways to purchase *Popoki, What Color is Peace? Popoki's Peace Book 1, Popoki, What Color is Friendship? Popoki's Peace Book 2, Popoki, What Color is Genki? Popoki's Peace Book 3* and *Popoki's Friendship Story* from inside Japan

From the publisher, Epic: TEL: 078-241-7561 · FAX: 078-241-1918

From Amazon.co.jp or your local bookseller

From the Popoki Peace Project ([popokipeace\(at\)gmail\(dot\)com](mailto:popokipeace(at)gmail(dot)com))



Contributions are always welcome!

Popoki Peace Project popokipeace-at-gmail.com

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