



October is here, and the mornings and evenings have grown chilly. The cats who remained hidden during the summer have started to get active. In my neighborhood, they still lounge under the trees while the sun is out, but in the evening they gather together for a chorus! Maybe the humans should join them. (Ronni)

Popoki's Hot News



Popoki Peace Challenge in Nada!
Using the key words 'Life' and 'Peace', Popoki will host "What Color is Life?" Takashi MORIZUMI Photo Exhibit (2010.1.8-14), lecture by Takashi MORIZUMI "Looking at peace and Life through a Lens" (2010.1.8) and Peace Map Making in Nada (2010.1.9). See pp.2-3 for more details.



Popoki T-shirts!

Po-T-shirts will be available in white, green, yellow and pink. We will have them at the next Po-kai on 24 November. It is a bit out of season, but it might be fun to all wear Popoki T-Shirts!



Popoki and Mimi take another peace journey on DVD! The latest 'Peace Machine Journey' is a 17-minute documentary about aerial bombardment. Like the others in the series, this DVD (about 17 min.) also has English subtitles. (Iwanami DVD Book Peace Archives Series, *Tokyo/Guernica/Chongqing: Learning Peace from Air Raids*, Iwanami Shoten, 2009).

Popoki Peace Project presents a 3-part Photo Exhibit Event for peace!

Popoki Peace Challenge!

Please join Popoki the peace cat to look for peace in Nada!

Part 1 “What Color is Life?” Takashi MORIZUMI Photo Exhibit for Peace

2010.1.8 (Friday) – 1.14 (Thursday) Admission: Free

Hours: 09:00-22:00 (1/8 opens at 15:00; 1/14 closes at 15:00)

Part 2 “Looking at Peace and Life through a Lens” (in Japanese)

Lecture by **Takashi MORIZUMI, Photo Journalist**

2010.1.8 (Friday) 18:30-20:30 (Hall opens at 18:00) Fee: ¥300

Part 3 Peace Map Making in Nada 2010.1.9 (Sat.) (See below for details)

Profile: Takashi MORIZUMI. Born in Kanagawa Prefecture in 1951. Photo journalist. Morizumi continues to work to expose such topics as children of the Iraq War, people contaminated by radiation from the nuclear tests in Semipalatinsk, Okinawan civilians who experienced the war, and the effects of the depleted uranium used by the US in the Gulf War. He has many publications. <http://www.morizumi-pj.com/index.html>



Life... Life comes in many different forms. Think of your own life, or the lives of those close to you. Your pet has life, as do people around you and all the plants and creatures on the earth. The earth itself has life, too. Every life is very important, but everywhere lives are being threatened. Where? How? These photos depict children in war-torn areas such as Afghanistan and Iraq, people who are living with radiation poisoning, or people who survived the war in the former Yugoslavia.... They are all alive.

We are hoping that this three-part event will provide a space for thinking together about ‘life’ and ‘peace.’

Part 1: The Takashi MORIZUMI Photo Exhibit for Peace will help us think about ‘life’ and ‘peace’ in other parts of the world.

Part 2: Morizumi works in war-torn and other devastated areas. Through his lecture, we will learn about ‘life’ and ‘peace.’

Part 3: Through peace map making, we can find our own ‘life’ and ‘peace.’

Our lives, other’s lives, the earth’s life.... What is the color of life?

Reservations & Information: Please send your name, contact information and age by e-mail or fax to the Popoki Peace Project by 16 December 2009.

e-mail: popokipeace@gmail.com Fax: 078-803-7295 (GSICS office, Kobe University)

Venue: Kobe Student Youth Center (5 minutes walk from Hankyu Rokko Station)

Yamada-cho 3-1-1, Nada-ku, Kobe. URL: <http://ksyc.jp>

Tel: 078-851-2760; Fax: 078-821-5878

こうべ がくせい せいねん

神戸 学生 青年

センター

センター



Check the Peace
Map information on
the reverse side!



SPONSOR: Popoki Peace Project <http://popoki.cruisejapan.com>; popokipeace@gmail.com

*This event was made possible by a Kobe University/Nada Ward Community Building Challenge Grant

http://popoki.cruisejapan.com/index_e.html

[popokipeace \(at\) gmail \(dot\) com](mailto:popokipeace(at)gmail(dot)com)

Popoki Peace Project presents a 3-part Photo Exhibit Event for peace!

Popoki Peace Challenge!

Please join Popoki the peace cat to look for peace in Nada!

Part 3 Peace Map Making in Nada

Our town, Nada. There are lots of good things about it, and if you look, you can find many different kinds of 'peace' hidden in it. What is the color of peace? How about the taste, or smell or sound? Won't you join us in taking a moment to really look at this town where we walk every day, and discover your own special 'peace' places?

I'm Popoki. I love peace! Won't you join me in looking for it?



WHEN: 9 January 2010 (Saturday) 13:30-17:00 (It will be held regardless of the weather)

WHERE: Kobe Student Youth Center (神戸学生青年センター) (5 min. walk from Hankyu Rokko Station) Tel: 078-851-2760; Fax: 078-821-5878 (See map on above for details)

WHO: Anyone who can walk for about 1 hour is welcome to participate

COST: ¥500 (Primary, Junior High School Students: ¥300)

RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION: Fill in your name, contact information, emergency contact, age, and any other necessary information (ex: use a wheelchair, etc.) to Popoki Peace Project by e-mail (popokipeace@gmail.com) or Fax (078-803-7295, GSICS Office, Kobe University). *If you plan to come as a family, please include the names of each person. **Please indicate whether you need English translation

RESERVATION DEADLINE: 16 December 2009 (Wednesday)

ACTIVITY CONTENT

We will divide into groups and explore parts of Nada Ward together, looking for 'peace.' Then we will come back to the Kobe Student Youth Center and working together, make a 'Peace Map of Nada.'

What to Bring: Please wear loose clothing good for moving around both indoors and outside. Bring a digital camera if you have one and a notepad.

What color is peace in Nada?



Schedule

13:30 Workshop: 'Popoki, What Color is Peace?'
14:00 Takashi MORIZUMI: 'Looking for peace with a camera'
14:15 Group Time Explanation of activity
14:30 Let's go!
15:30 Return to Kobe Student Youth Center, make maps
16:30-17:00 Conclusion: Presentation of our maps



SPONSOR: Popoki Peace Project URL: <http://popoki.cruisejapan.com>;
e-mail: popokipeace@gmail.com

*This event was made possible by a Kobe University/Nada Ward Community Building Challenge Grant

Transcultural Popoki!

Popoki at the 24th 'Transcultural Salon'!

On 26 September, Popoki, Ronni and Satoko attended a session of the 'Transcultural Salon' held at the Umeda Satellite Campus of Osaka Sangyo University. Ronni's talk entitled "Popoki, What Color is Peace? Understanding Other Cultures with our Bodies and Senses," gave participants opportunities for not only discussion, but also drawing and Poga. We all had a good time. In addressing the topic of 'intercultural Popoki,'



Ronni spoke of her experiences in using Popoki in a variety of countries and locations with a wide range of audiences, and what she has learned with Popoki's new friends. This type of participatory presentation was an unusual approach for the members of the Transcultural Salon, but everyone participated with enthusiasm. Thank you! (Ronni)



'Cats' →



Discussing what to draw →



Popoki in Okinawa

We went to Okinawa from 22 – 25 September to learn about peace, military bases and war experiences. The first thing we discovered was Popoki at the International Street Junku-do Bookstore!

Yoneko Arashiro, a lecturer at Okinawa International University, took us to see the huge US Futenma and Kadena, Bases. At the site on the university campus where a US military helicopter crashed, she told us of her experiences. It really made us understand the 'terror' involved in living in the midst of military bases. Prof. Arashiro has cats, and immediately became Popoki's friend.





Prof. Arashiro introduced us to Yoshiharu Miyazato (left) who is gathering testimonies about the deaths of groups of local residents at the end of WWII on Zamami Island. Miyazato-san took us around the island, showing us various locations where local people killed themselves under orders from the military.



Zamami is a really beautiful island! Yoshiharu-san also took us to the best spot on the island see the sunset and in the evening we shared a delicious meal and sake!

チビチリガマで亡くなった人たちの冥福を祈るポーポキー



Popoki's Friends at Hyogo International High School

On 16 October, Ronni taught a session of the international subject "International Relations" at the Hyogo Prefectural International High School. The students were active and interested and Ronni was very impressed with them. Everyone had a good time. Thank you all. We are looking forward to seeing you again.

(Ronni, Sofia and Popoki).



What Color is 'Sensei'?

Ronni Alexander



On clear nights, if you look closely, you can see Popoki dancing among the glittering stars. Today, he has a new partner, Professor Michio ROYAMA. Will the professor scold the dancing Popoki and make him sit down and study, or will he smile and begin dancing with him? Royama-sensei is serious and loves to study, but actually he loves to play, too.

How long has it been since the two have been together? More than twenty years ago, when Popoki was still a kitten, I put him in a basket and took him on the Bullet Train to visit Professor Royama in Tokyo. At first, Popoki was scared but as he became accustomed to his new surroundings and began to play. Watching the naughty Popoki, Professor Royama's gaze was gentle but his attitude, as always, was strict. After all, he is a 'sensei.'

Many years ago, when I was just setting out on my journey down the long road of peace research, Professor Royama threw me a question that would last a lifetime. "Is there anything more important than peace? Maybe justice and/or freedom tomorrow are more important than peace today." Professor Royama always greeted my pursuit of peace with an incisive comment, counter-argument or sometimes even a harsh word, but he always listened and gave straight and honest answers. "You don't have to agree with me, you just have to convince me." Sometimes I found him frustrating, but Professor Royama was also inspiring. He was not only a real sensei, but a real person.



Today, as I said my last farewell, I imagined Professor Royama playing in the sky with Popoki. Suddenly, I had a thought. Maybe life, and perhaps love, or hope, or continuing to be curious are more important than peace. Or perhaps it is the other way around; maybe having life, love, hope and a never-ending string of questions are the meaning of peace.

All living things must eventually die. If peace is being able to celebrate life, it is also being able to grieve at the passing of those you love and respect. Today, I thanked Professor Royama for helping me to become who I am and swore that I would continue to seek the answers to his questions with life, love, hope and curiosity....and of course, Popoki.



Popoki's Easy POGA

Lesson 17

Welcome to Halloween Poga! Try this poga before your Halloween celebration. You can do it either sitting or standing.

1. Begin as usual by sitting up straight and making yourself look thin.
2. Now stretch your right arm over your head and stretch to the left side.
3. And now to the right side.... Remember to stretch your tail, too!
4. And finally stretch your arms and upper body forward.
5. Good, you did it! It's time for the 'success pose.'



Congratulations! You have successfully completed Lesson 17. Remember to practice every day for at least 3 minutes. See you next month for lesson 18! Happy Halloween!



Please join us!

- 10.24 Po-kai. Popoki Peace Challenge – dry run and planning meeting. Kobe Student youth Center, 14:30-
- 10.25 “Popoki, What Color is Peace?” 37th ‘Kobe Kita-ku Mothers’ Association Meeting, 13:30-15:30 Tanpopo no ie, Shiwasenomura
- 11.24 Po-kai Kobe YMCA 19:00-21:00 Rm.304
- 12.13 “Popoki, What Color is Peace?” Nishinomiya City, Nishinomiya Board of Education, Nishinomiya Anti-nuclear Council. 14:00-
- 12.23-2010.1/3 Popoki in Palestine/Israel Part 2
- 2010.1.7 Set up Popoki Peace Challenge Photo Exhibit. Volunteers welcome!
- 2010.1.8-14 ‘Popoki Peace Challenge’ MORIZUMI Takashi Photo Exhibit and
- 1.8 MORIZUMI Takashi lecture, 18:30~ (In Japanese). Kobe Student Youth Center
- 1.9 Peace Map-making event. 13:30~ Kobe Student Youth Center. (English OK)
- 1.30 “Can Human Beings Make Peace?” 13:30-16:30. Dankai Action Network. 06-6428-1402, <http://dankaiaction.jp> ¥500

Popoki in Print



- 'Yujotte...Kangaeru Ehon.' Asahi Shimbun 2009.7.2 AKUZAWA Etsuko
 - 'Yujo wo kangaete – Ningen to, Neko to, soshite Jibun to,' RST/ALN, No.259 2009.6.28, p.11
 - 'New Books: Popoki, What Color is Friendship? Popoki's Peace Book 2 ' (Rebecca Jennison) "Cutting-Edge," Vol.35 2009.6, p.3
 - 'Thinking about Peace with a Cat: Second Peace Book Published.' (SAITO Masashi) Kobe Shimbun, 2009.4.21
 - 'Popoki, What Color is Peace?' Kobe YMCA News, 2009.3.1. No.593. p.2
 - 'Popoki, What Color is Trash?' Kobe YMCA News, 2009.1.1. No.592. p.2
 - 'Tomodachi ni Natte Kuremasenkai,' RST/ALN, 2009.2.22
 - Popoki on the radio. <http://www.kizzna.fm/> Click on 6CH to hear the program and reading of Popoki in Japanese
 - Yasashii kara hito nann desu Exhibition Organizing Committee 'Universal Declaration of Human Rights.' Hyogo Buraku Liberation and Human Rights Institute. 2008.10. ¥500. For information contact: blrhg@osk3.3web.jp
 - "KFAW College Seminar: What Color is Peace for Women? Thinking about Peace, Violence and Gender with Popoki." Asian Breeze No.54 October 2008, p.8 (Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women)
 - "Peace Seminar in Kumamoto: What does 'peace' mean to you?" Kumamoto YMCA News 10 Vol.437 October 2008, p.1 (Japanese)
 - Kobe Shimbun "Human Rights Declaration Exhibition Panels: 6 Local Hyogo Artists Illustrate all 30 Articles" 2008.10.8. p.10
 - "An Interview with Dr. Ronni Alexander." The Newpeople, Pittsburgh's Peace and Justice Newspaper, Vol.38 No.9, October 2008, p.5
 - "Nuclear Security is Inhuman Security – Dr. Ronni Alexander speaks about Hiroshima and Nagasaki." The Newpeople, Pittsburgh's Peace and Justice Newspaper, Vol.38 No.9, Oct. 2008, p.4
 - Popoki in Pittsburgh. Check out the Remembering Hiroshima/Imagining Peace URL: <http://www.rememberinghiroshima.org/>
 - Global Campaign for Peace Education News #57 August 2008 (The Global Campaign for Peace Education (GCPE) e-newsletter. Sign-up to receive the newsletter and review back issues online at www.tc.edu/PeaceEd/newsletter.)
- * **Back issues of Popoki News:** http://popoki.cruisejapan.com/archives_e.html



What Popoki Means to Me



Shinji MASADA

Chibichiri-Cave is the place that taught me most intelligibly about the meaning of the tragedy of war.

Since I stood there for the first time, I have visited there many times with young people, in order to try to convey the “heart” of Okinawa and “hope” for peace.

There is a very important reason why Shouichi Chibana burned the *Hi-no-maru*, (the national flag of Japan) at a softball game during the Okinawa National Athletic Meet in 1987. Tetsuro Shimojima, a writer of juvenile literature, invited Chibana to join in an inquiry about the mass suicide at Chibichiri-Cave. Chibana found human ashes and fragments of utensils in the cave. Chibichiri Cave is located near a field where Chibana played as a boy. The older women living nearby who survived the tragedy never said a word to him about what had happened there.

On April 3, 1945, 85 civilian residents of Yomitan village were forced to commit mass suicide. They lit fires in the cave, took poison and used sharp razors and other tools. Among those present were children, including infants of only one or two years of age. The mothers killed their young children and daughters. The daughters in law killed parents in law. After that they killed themselves.

They were taught in school that “Death is preferable to the insult of becoming prisoners of the U.S. army”. This is the misery caused by the education by the Imperial government demanding loyalty to the Emperor.

The people who experienced the war tend not to talk about the cruelty they saw, but it is very important to hand down their stories from generation to generation. Chibichiri-Cave is surely one of my Popokis.



(Left) Indian laurel and the word placard of “Song of Chibichiri-Cave” in front of Chibichiri-Cave

(Above) In front of the rise kiln in the village of ceramics “Yachimun” in Yomitan village

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 including work on *Popoki's Peace Book 2. 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, What Color is Peace? Popoki's Peace Book 1* 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. It is also available at Joseph-Beth Booksellers, Pittsburgh, PA and Read For You Life Book Shop, Waterloo, ON, Canada.

***Popoki, What Color is Friendship? Popoki's Peace Book 2* is not yet available at these bookstores.**

Some Ways to purchase *Popoki, What Color is Peace? Popoki's Peace Book 1* and *Popoki, What Color is Friendship? Popoki's Peace Book 2* 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)



Thank you!

Contributions are always welcome!

Popoki Peace Project popokipeace-at-gmail.com

<http://popoki.cruisejapan.com>



From within Japan, please use our Postal account or Postal bank account:

Account Name ポーポキ・ピース・プロジェクト神戸

Postal Account number: 00920-4-28035

Postal Bank (Yuucho Ginko) account number: Branch No.:099; Branch name: 009 店、special account(当座) 0280350

THANK YOU FROM
POPOKI!!

