



The plum trees are finally coming into full bloom, filling the world with pink flowers the color of Popoki's new book!



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, **Bashir-nyan**, sent the following piece of peace:

"This morning while taking a walk along the riverside in my neighborhood, I saw many people having barbeques with family and friends. They were looking very happy. At one corner, there were some stray cats who were watching those people enjoying barbequed food. They were looking hungry, cold and unhappy. Then I fed them some cat food and they looked happy and more peaceful. I felt a bit of peace looking at their happy faces. I wondered whether peace for animals is the same as peace for humans!"

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!



**Lots of good things are happening for Popoki's friends!
New jobs, graduation, matriculation, birthdays, new housing, and
a new book!**



**We celebrated with a strawberry chiffon cake from the Chiffon
Café in Otsuchi-cho.
It was very delicious!**

Popoki, What Color is Genki? Popoki's Peace Book 3!



Photos: Hayashi-nyan

Popoki's Mini Peace Film Festival

On 22 February, the 3rd Popoki's Mini Peace Film Festival was held, sponsored jointly by the Popoki Peace Project, Kobe YWCA and Kobe YMCA. About 20 people gathered and watched the films, discussed them in small groups, and at the end joined together to reflect on the day. The theme of this year's festival was "Things surrounding war; what does it mean to prepare for war?"

In Part I, in order to think about 'aerial bombing,' a feature of modern warfare, we first watched 'The Peace Machine Journey: Tokyo, Guernica, Chongqing' (Iwanami Shoten, 2010) and the section on Guam from 'Living Along the Fenceline' (Gwyn Kirk &

Lina Hoshino). From these we were able to think concretely about what it means to attack from a position of relative safety, issues related to maintaining military bases, and the militarization that goes with it. Next we watched 'Hugging Article 9 - former Marine Allen Nelson talks about war and peace' (Allen Nelson Peace Project 2013). This helped us to think about the meaning of Article 9 of the Japanese constitution and also about what Nelson calls "real war" from his experience as a



US Marine fighting in Vietnam. After that, for a short change of pace, we watched 'One Man Band' (Pixar), a short and amusing animated film. We laughed, but the content was about 'conflict.' The last film was about the struggle against US bases in Takae, a district of Okinawa, 'Targeted Village' (abridged version, Mikami Chie). We learned about the suffering and struggle of people in Okinawa to oppose US bases, helipads, and deployment of Osprey aircraft - all issues we think we know about, but really do not.

After each film, we discussed them in groups of 3-4 people. At the end, we came together to reflect. "The color of war is gray, but now this room has become bright." "How can we tell this to children?" "I liked that they were talking about peace in the kitchen because it seems like that peace is part of their everyday lives." "Why does the US want so badly to deploy the Osprey?" "It was good; let's do it again next year!"

Photo (right): Participants help to prepare messages for Ronyan to take to Henko and Takae.



よかったら署名を集めてくださいね。

平成 25 年（ネオ）第 16 号 通行妨害禁止請求上告事件
平成 25 年（ネ受）第 17 号 通行妨害禁止請求上告受理申立事件
上告人（申立人） 伊佐真次
被上告人

最高裁判所 御中

高江ヘリパッド建設反対運動弾圧訴訟の公正判決を求める要請

米軍ヘリパッド建設に反対する沖縄県東村高江住民の運動を「通行妨害」だとして国が伊佐真次さんを訴えている事件の 1 審、2 審の判決は、伊佐さんの主張をことごとく退けるきわめて不当なものです。

この問題の発端は、防衛省沖縄防衛局が住民の反対を無視して一方的に、高江集落をとり囲むようにヘリパッド建設を強行しようとしていることにあります。

この訴訟は、国が、ヘリパッド建設に反対する運動を弾圧する目的で住民を相手に起こしている前代未聞の訴訟（「スラップ訴訟」）です。「通行妨害」とされた伊佐さんの行為は、住民が平穏な生活を守るために、工事を強行する防衛局の職員に対して抗議の意思を表明した非暴力のものであり、これを禁ずる判決は憲法第 21 条が保障する表現の自由に対する重大な侵害です。

高江のヘリパッドは、日米両政府が配備を強行している危険な欠陥機オスプレイの着陸帯として使用されており、住民の不安と懸念はますます増大しています。

私たちは、最高裁が、高江の住民の置かれている実情をふまえ、被告の行動の事実を検証して、上告を受理し、国の不当な訴えを退ける公正な判決を出されるよう求めます。

氏 名	住 所

高江住民運動弾圧訴訟をたたかう伊佐真次さんの最高裁でのたたかいを支援する会

事務局 安保破棄中央実行委員会 〒101-0061 東京都千代田区三崎町 2-11-13
電話 03-3264-4764

<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0BwP1pRAf90URdDJBWtIRSkNScFE/edit>



Popoki's Interview

☆ Reflections on our exhibition trip to
Otsuchi-cho 2014.12.6-8 ☆

Why do we keep on going to Tohoku?
Satonyan

At first, I just felt I had to go and do what I could to help. I didn't really have any particular reason. Now, I guess it is because I want to go. I want to see the friends I've made there. I want to watch the changes in the process of recovery not as an observer but as a participant. I have lots of different feelings. Popoki's activities have from the beginning attracted people - first children, and then adults. It is still true now. People whose hearts are open respond quickly, but are easily hurt. Some people are guarded, but that doesn't mean they have not been hurt. And sometimes you can be hurt even if you try to keep your heart sealed. Popoki gently sits beside all kinds of people.



Land fill work is beginning to raise the center of the town (roughly 3 square meters) about 2 meters. A new road has been made where Otsuchi Station and the rails were. The present road will have to be torn up for the land raising work.



Ronyan

At first, I felt I had to go, too. And as someone who has studied development, I thought it was not right to go just once; it is important to continue what you begin. So I set 5 conditions: 1. Popoki-style; 2. Low cost; 3. Not one-way; 4. Keeping the rest of the world visible; and 5. Continuity. But it is the personal connections that keep us going to Tohoku. Even if there is no other reason, I want to go to see friends.

There are many natural springs. These pipes are inserted to prevent the water from coming out.



L: Natural salmon returned to Otsuchi last year. This year, they were swimming up the river near Mast.

R: Preserve the salmon with salt, dry them and send them all over Japan!



We learned many things during the Exhibition at Mast last December. Many of the people who came to shop have young children. Lots of those children were born after the tsunami. Very few people used baby carriages. Infants who cannot walk were carried, but even toddlers walked at their own pace with the parents following next to them or behind them. Sometimes they hold hands, but if the child stops, so does the parent. If they run, the parents run, too. Instead of rushing their children, the parents match their pace. At our exhibition space, the same thing occurred. Parents remained there until the children were ready to leave. We could feel the harmony of the family circle as the parents sat watching their children draw happily. When we asked if they talked about the tsunami with their children who are too young to remember or were born after, many replied "We will have to tell them, but we still don't know how or when."



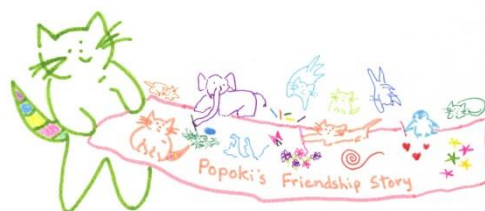
Many children with their fathers, families -a sight we haven't seen before.

We talk with people watching from a distance. "Won't you draw something?" Some say, "I can finally look at what lots of people have drawn, but for myself, I can't yet draw. Someday I hope I will be able to do it, so please come again."

One grandmother told us, "No one said that the tsunami would come to my place so I wasn't worried, but actually I barely escaped with my life. Her family was all right, too, but everything was lost. But old people are OK, it is the young people who have it rough. Staying in the temporary housing with nothing to do is depressing, so I come here. (Looks at exhibit). I am happy to see this bright space. I am grateful for everyone's help. When the disaster happened, I panicked and couldn't do anything. I couldn't even cry. And then I just cried and cried. Now I can't even shed tears." When we said, "Next time we meet, let's hope they are tears of joy," she began to cry.



We left a 'temporary wall' in Otsuchi. A big panel and cloth. Now you can draw whenever you want!



POPOKI'S EASY POGA

Lesson 70

This month's Poga is about looking at flowering trees and plants!



1. As always, begin with sitting up straight and making yourself look thin.
2. Now get one your hands and knees. Raise your tail and stretch your head and neck back as if you were looking up into a beautifully blooming cherry tree.
3. Next, bring your head down and curve your back. Look at your stomach, but steal a glance or two out between your legs to see what is blocking that way.
4. Finally, stand up and stretch your arms, legs, tail - ready to hug a big tree.
5. Did it? It is time for the 'success pose.'

Congratulations! You have successfully completed Lesson 70. Do you feel refreshed? Please remember to relax, breathe, laugh and practice for 3 minutes every day.

Please join us!

Next Po-kai: 4/17 Kobe YMCA 19:00-

3.20-24 Popoki in Henoko and Takae! Popoki will join his friends in Henoko and Takae (Okinawa) who are opposing US bases. Please help, too!

3.26-29 Popoki in Toronto! Ronyan will make a presentation at the International Studies Association annual convention about using Popoki's methodology in teaching.

4.7 Popoki at student welcome event, Kobe University Student Volunteer Center

4.26? Popoki at Kio University (tentative)

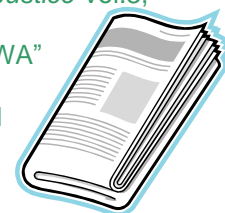
Popoki's Friends

Film showing (Japanese) *Hytteki no Mura (Targeted Village)* Full length. 3/15 14:00, 19:00 Shin Nagata Roudou Shimin Center; 3/16 14:00, 18:00 Kobe Gakusei Seinen Center. Admission: 1000 yen, students: 500 yen. Info: 078-360-3614

Popoki in Print

“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
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- 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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- Nishide, Ikuyo. “Popoki, What Color is Peace? Lecture by Ronni Alexander.” “PPSEAWA” (Pan-Pacific and south-East Asia Women’s Association of Japan), No.63, 2009.12, p.5
- ‘Friendship’ No.2 2009.11 Itami City International/Peace Exchange Commission, Annual Events, p.1-2.
- ‘Not for But With...’ No.79, 2010.1 Notice of the Popoki Peace Challenge event. P.12
- ‘Nada’ notice of the Popoki Peace Challenge event, 2009.12, p.2
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- ‘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
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- 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: blrhyg@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)
- *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
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- Popoki in Pittsburgh. Check out the Remembering Hiroshima/Imagining Peace URL: <http://www.rememberinghiroshima.org/>
- * **Back issues of Popoki News:** http://popoki.cruisejapan.com/archives_e.html





What Popoki Means to Me

2014.2 Taikipapa



I first met Popoki in 2012 when I went with my family to watch a performance on the mini stage at the Nada Challenge Festival (See Popoki News No. 82 "Popoki's New Friend, Taiki" and No.94 "What Popoki Means to Me.")

Since that time, we have tried to attend Po-kai and workshops as a family. It has now been almost two years.

Since meeting Popoki, my world view has changed.

Popoki has friends from many different countries.

In my life up to now, I have rarely interacted with anyone other than Japanese. (The only exception is an English teacher from Ireland who came to my high school for two years).

So I wasn't really interested in world events, and if I saw news about poor countries or countries suffering from war, I saw them as somebody else's problems.

As I listened to the stories of Popoki's friends from other countries who are studying in Japan and his Japanese friends who have studied abroad, I began to feel that the world related to me, too.

When I first met Popoki, I was asked, "What Color is Peace?" and when I saw the drawings on the Popoki's Friendship Story cloths, I was surprised by the differences in the way people from various places and with many different experiences express themselves.

Meeting Popoki has introduced me to a new, fresh world that I have never experienced before. I hope my family and I can continue learning with Popoki as part of our everyday life.



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* and *Popoki, What Color is Friendship? Popoki's Peace Book 2* 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@gmail.com))

Contributions are always welcome!

Popoki Peace Project popokipeace-at-gmail.com

<http://popoki.cruisejapan.com>



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THANK YOU FROM
POPOKI!!