



It has been a busy time, and so this edition of 'Popoki News' is long and has a lot of photos. We hope you enjoy them!

Popoki's Hot News!



Making Peace Popoki Meeting: Thinking about Palestine!

2010. 3.23 Kobe YMCA 19:00-20:30

At this meeting we will report on our recent trip to Palestine. Please join us for photos, video and discussion!

*** Popoki News 'Popoki in Palestine 2'
Photo Exhibit No.1 This issue, pp.7-9**



Report from a friend!



A friend of Popoki's, Takayuki MASAKI, is the director of the Fushimi Youth Activity Center. Masaki-san put Popoki's appeal up next to his collection box for Haitian earthquake relief.



Popoki Peace Project

①

Takashi Morizumi Photo Exhibit

& Nada Peace Map Making

8-18 January 2010

Venue: Kobe Student Youth Center

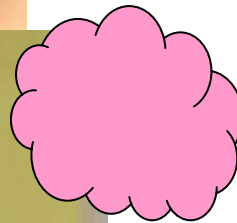
Takashi Morizumi Photo Exhibit and Lecture
"Looking at Peace and Life through a Lens"

8 January 2010

By Shiro Nagashige



世界には、私の知らない所で
たくさんの子供たちが大変な
思いをしているんだと分かって
戦争なんて早くなくたれど
いいのに...と思いました。
私には何もすることができ
ないけど、1日でも早く
平和な世界が実現するまで
祈りしようと思



I learned that there are children in places I don't know about who are suffering, and it would be so good if wars could be ended soon. There is nothing I can do, but I hope that soon things will improve, even a little bit. I pray for world peace. (Comment by a participant)





((Morizumi-san and Project members))



← Ronni's opening
remarks
Participants →



Morizumi's talk &
tracing nuclear
tests conducted
by the nuclear
powers between
1945 and 1998:
2053 times



((Nuclear test sites and *hibakusha*))



Participants with Morizumi after the lecture

Nada Peace Map Making 9 Jan. 2010



Morizumi participates is looking for peace. What does he discover?



Reading Popoki's Peace Book.
What color is peace?

What does peace sound like? Can you hear it?



We leave to search for peace in our neighborhood



What is Peace?



Natural?
Artificial? Or
perhaps food?



Praying?



Maybe looking for
peace like this is really
peace...



Peace is being
healthy!!!

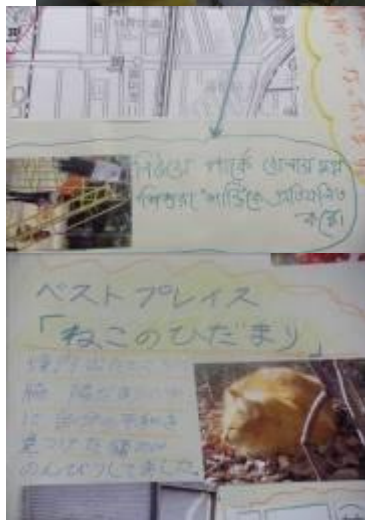
Now we are making the Peace Map



Choosing photos
and eating snacks –
which is peace?



Do as I
say!



The
Map!



I thank
all of you!!



Messages on the Huge Popoki Message Board!

- I learned that there are children in places I don't know about who are suffering, and it would be so good if wars could be ended soon. There is nothing I can do, but I hope that soon things will improve, even a little bit. I pray for world peace.
- There were a lot of different photos, but I think the ones with people are the most interesting.
- I like the smiles best!
- Who is going to take responsibility for robbing these children of their future?
- I am totally against war!!
- I was interested in the expressions on the faces of the children. Some were sad. Some looked angry. Some looked fierce and had weapons. Some looked hopeless. I think these are very powerful photographs.
- I was impressed by the contrast between the beautiful blue sky and the rubble and sad faces.
- It really pains me to think about how people and things are continually being destroyed.
- I felt solidarity 'with the people in the photos, and felt much closer to them than I do to those I see in photographs in magazines like 'Days Japan.' "I can't forget that I didn't know...." What can we do to change things? Written by MEGMON (mixi pen name) on 2010.1.16 (Saturday, 19:50).
- Seeing the exhibit made me think that although Japan is not at war now and is peaceful, we should not just think that if things are good for us then we don't have to do anything for anyone else.
- It made me hope that there will be peace throughout the world.
- This is not just someone else's problem. Japan used to be like this, and in the future, it could happen anywhere. It made me shiver.
- These photos were shocking. I am living in the same time frame as the people in the photos, but their situation is entirely different. It made me want to pay more attention to the rest of the world.
- I was impressed not only by the photos but also by the words, "War is everyday life."
- I am glad I saw these photos. We live in warm houses and eat delicious food, but we need to understand and pay attention to others living on this earth. It made me think deeply. Thank you very much. Okake.
- We are all people living on the same earth. Why are our situations so different?
- We are all living on this earth, but are we really all living?
- If there is no peace, cats and humans can live in happiness!
- Yesterday I heard a report about the situation in Iraq. Japan is too insensitive about the issue of peace. We need to think about it as our own problem!
- I felt like crying after looking at the first photo. As a mother with children, it really makes me feel sad, and I also feel my own powerlessness. Thank you.
- We love you Popoki!" This exhibition was great! (in Bengali)
- La paz no depende de nadie más que uno mismo, si todos lo decidierenos los días de todo el mundo tendrían un mayor prevenir. Gracias por el apoyo.
- Feri Z. Happy. My best.

The Second Trip to Palestine Photos Report by Takeshi Horikoshi

①Scene of Palestine



Houses line a street in Bethlehem



Wide open spaces, but on the far side of the sign are land mines....



Sunset clouds over Palestine

②The 'Wall' as usual



We hope this art becomes reality



Popoki appeals for the end of the occupation!



It's ironic...

③Children who carry the future



There are a lot of children in Palestine!



Let's play football together sometime.



Iyad is struggling for future of the children.



Little Santa Clauses

Palestine Report 1

Christmas in Bethlehem. People from every country in the world gather.



I've seen this shop
somewhere...
'STARS & BUCKS'



Are those bagpipes in Palestine?!
Palestine used to be a British territory....



A lot of small Santa Clauses, but
in the back....



Children always love Santa!!



Wonderful Christmas program at
the YMCA



Of course we attended Christmas Mass on the 24th. But...it was all in Arabic so we did not understand anything.



We joined a Christmas procession with astonishing candles!?!.

And so, the Po-kai group spent Christmas in Palestine.
SATOKO



A small friend

Look forward to more on our trip to Palestine in the next issue of Popoki News!



**“People’s Talk Session/People’s Talk Space”
“Can Human Beings Make Peace?”
30 January 2010 Dankai Action Network**

On 30 January, Ronni gave a 3-hour workshop sponsored by the Dankai Action Network, a group of people from the post-WWII baby boom generation who come together to discuss social issues. She also gave a short report on Popoki in Palestine 2. The following are the results of a questionnaire.

Number of respondents: 13 people

http://popoki.cruisejapan.com/index_e.html
[popokipeace \(at\) gmail \(dot\) com](mailto:popokipeace@gmail.com)

1. Please tell us about yourself

(1) Gender (M-6; F-7). (2) Age (30's-1; 40's-1; 50's-4; 60's-6, over 70-1).
(3) Residence (Osaka-10; Hyogo-2; ?-1). (4) Profession (Company employee-3; Self-employed-1; unemployed-4; other-1)

2. Did you learn or realize something from the lecture talk during the first half?

- The exercise with the rope and the performance exercise allowed us to express and discuss our ideas and it made me think about peace in a natural way. I thought it was interesting how my understanding gradually deepened.
- I think I more or less understood what peace is, but I still haven't figured out concrete things that I can do.
- I realized that I don't really think deeply about anything.
- I was interested in the way the Project developed.
- The situation in Palestine was worse than I had thought.
- I can't say anything more now than that I am trying to be open.
- I understood peace to be the absence of war, but I realized that I had not thought about what peace means for me or what it means for other people.
- I felt it is important to think and to move.
- Given the reality that when faced with violence, people don't know what to do, Japan is peaceful.
- The importance of using one's body and the necessity for deep breathing.
- I felt that there are many different approaches to peace.

3. Did you realize something from the workshop?

- I thought about what is necessary for peace, and thought that at the base are diversity, caring for others, friendship and love.
- I thought that some limited peace is possible but that the world will never achieve positive peace.
- I realized that it is very difficult to express (in a drawing) what I am thinking. I learned the importance of imagination.
- I reconfirmed that physical sensations and imagining peace are important!!
- I was reminded how important it is to work together, and also how difficult that is to do.
- I haven't participated in a workshop and moved like this for a while, and I enjoyed it.
- In our drawing, we could only express peace with flowers, nature and the sun. I was surprised at how superficial it was. I realized that we don't generally think deeply about the meaning of peace.
- I'm a bit disappointed. It was like playing house, and not very realistic.
- Being able to share ideas helped me to clarify my own thinking.
- It was interesting because I realized everyone thought about peace differently.
- It was good that it was not just talk but also action. She is an messenger for international peace.
- I think I learned about diversity. It was interesting.

- In our group discussion, I was reminded that everyone has different ideas about peace.
I enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere

4. Did the program meet your expectations for the 'Talk Space'?

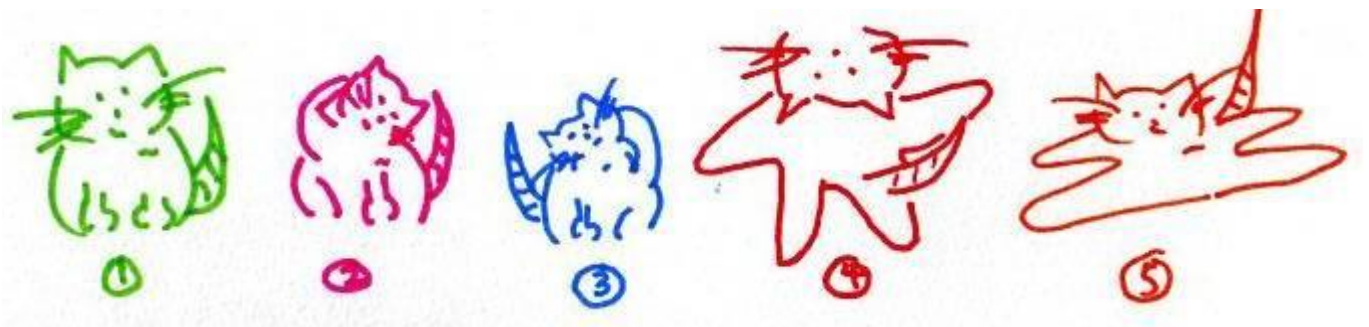
- I wanted more time to discuss the situation in Palestine.
- I thought we would have more time for discussion and I was a bit disappointed.
- I was able to talk about and express my ideas.

Popoki's Easy Poga

Lesson 21

Are you working too hard? Here's a bit of poga stretching to make you feel better.

1. As always, sit up straight making yourself look thin.
2. Using the weight of your hand, slowly move your head to one side, stretching your neck.
3. Now try it to the other side.
4. Feeling better? Good! Stand up and STRETCH!



5. Good, you did it! Time for the success pose!

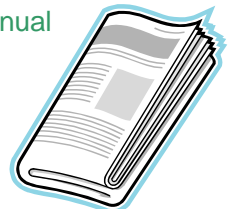
Congratulations! You have successfully completed Lesson 21. Remember to relax, breathe, laugh and practice for 3 minutes every day.

Please join us!

- 3.16 Po-kai 19:00-21:00 Kobe YMCA, Rm.304 All welcome!
- 2.27 (Sat.)-28 (Sun.) Popoki at an overnight seminar! (Some Japanese is necessary).
Central Japan/Western Japan Division YMCA 10th (2009) Global Education Study Seminar. Venue: Rokkosan YMCA
- 3.23 Popoki in Palestine 2 Report! All welcome. Kobe YMCA 19:00-20:30
<http://www.kobeymca.or.jp/kobe/inter/10thglobalrokko.pdf>
- 4.18 "Popoki, What Color is Peace? Traveling the world with Popoki" Afternoon workshop. Association to protect article 9 with children. Osaka.
- 5.21 Reading of Popoki at Kodomo no sato, Nishinari-ku, Osaka 16:00-
- 6.13 Nishinomiya Hahaoya Taikai. Afternoon. Details soon.

Popoki in Print

- FM COCOLO 76.5 'Heart Lines' 2010.1.9 Japanese Interview: Ronni on Popoki in Palestine
- "Human Rights, Popoki and Bare Life." *In Factis Pax Journal of Peace Education and Social Justice* Vol.3, No.1, 2009, pp.46-63 (<http://www.infactispax.org/journal/>)
- 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
- '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: 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)
- "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

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What Popoki Means to Me



Kyoko MORI

(A member of Popoki peace project and YMCA Volunteer)

This is second time for me to write this column. The first time was when the “Popoki Peace Project” had just begun. Now that the second book in the Popoki’s Peace Book series has been published, the project has become more and more widely known. I am very pleased about that.

Through knowing Popoki, joining the peace project, and meeting a lot of people in the project, I have begun to feel strongly about my mission. That is to express my feelings for making peace in our society and our world with others.

The important message in the peace project, I think, is that each person is an actor for making peace. I also got that message from peace project action as my mission.

By the way, I also do volunteer at Kobe YMCA. Our group is mainly focusing on international issues. We are making kids programs and exchange programs for the students who are learning Japanese at the Kobe YMCA. The kids program is called “Peace my land” or “Peace-smile land”, and the purpose is to make a chance for kids to be interested in the world. What I want to do in this program comes from the peace project. It is not only to make the chance for kids, but also to tell them my message, that is, that they are important actors to make peace. It is true that to tell the will or message to other people takes lots of time and energy, but I keep on trying to carry out my mission. Meow~~~



“Peace My land or Peace-smile Land” Part of program “Adventure in the world ~Asia area~(2009.7)”

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. *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.

***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](mailto:popokipeace(at)gmail(dot)com))

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:

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THANK YOU FROM
POPOKI!



Thank you!