

# Africa NOW #113

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### pp. 2-11 **Special Topic: Living together with Africans in Japan**

Nowadays, Africans who reside longer or permanently in Japan are increasing in number, and so are Africans who make a family with a Japanese. In addition, the cases are often seen in which Africans organize their own organization for mutual support, operate a company or restaurant, manage various types of shops, or hold an event such as African Festival in Japan. In response to these situations, AJF started an activity of African Kids Club in 2006. Since then, AJF have continued the activity for connecting or reaching out to families or communities of Africans who stay in Japan. Considering AJF's development of these activities, the current issue of "Africa NOW" presents special feature articles 'Living together with Africans in Japan'.

#### pp .3-7 **'Mobility and social network among Africans living in Japan: Self-help organizations formed by Nigerians' by Matsumoto Hisashi**

Matsumoto Hisashi, an anthropologist, analyzed the statistics released by the Immigration Office. According to his analysis, it revealed that the number of Nigerians residing in Japan has increased since the '90s, their settling-down in Japan is going on, and their cross-border activities are getting active. In addition, he found that self-help organizations formed by Nigerians living in Japan are also getting active, which continue an activities for connecting to their native country or state with the generation of their children involved, and consequently, their own network for self-help is becoming more diversified.

#### pp .8-9 **'What I have gained and can do as a Ghanaian Japanese' by Sena Voncuji**

This article was made up based on Sena Voncuji's presentation at "Meeting for study and exchange to live together with Africans in Japan". Sena Voncuji, whose father is Ghanaian and mother is Japanese, was born in Tokyo. When he was two, his family moved to Accra Ghana. Then, he went on to high school in Costa Rica and college in the US. After graduation from college, he started to work for Ashinaga Scholarship Society in Japan. Now he is doing an activity there, 'African Diaspora in Japan (Jaspora), to disseminate information on Africa. In the article, he talked about how he had lived, and emphasized the significance of acting positively as a 'Double' of Ghanaian and Japanese.

#### pp .10-11 **'My refugee journey, hope for others' by Oumer Abdulahi Kassim**

The article is written, following Oumer Abdulahi Kassim's presentation at "Meeting for study and exchange to live together with Africans in Japan". Kassim from Oromia Ethiopia applied for refugee status after he arrived in Japan to gain a training program organized by JICA in 2014. He was recognized as a refugee at the end of 2016. At the meeting, he reported various difficulties he faced during the application period, support from Japanese organizations for refugee assistance, and his efforts to bring his family (his wife and three children) over from Ethiopia to Japan. At the same time, he expressed his determination to change existing stereotyped images of refugees.

### pp. 12-13 **'My experiences and African Youth Meetup' by Miura Ark**

This is the sixth installment in a series of "Essay Relay - African Kids Club". Here's an essay written by Miura Ark in the first year of high school whose father is Ugandan, and mother is Japanese. She found through her experiences that she had been feeling as a biracial in Japan since her childhood that she was different from others around her, and had lived in two worlds – international educational environment and Japanese life environment. She started 'African Youth Meetup' as one activity organized by the youth having roots in Africa, and talked about what she thought over through the activity.

#### p. 14 **'In memory of Kalubi Bukasa : A board member of SESCO and a medical doctor' by Fukao Koichi**

Kalubi Bukasa, born in Leopoldville, the capital of the Belgian colony of Congo (currently, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo) in 1950, came to Japan after graduation from medical school of Kinshasa university. He was concerned with medical education at universities in Osaka and Tokushima, and committed himself to various activities: for instance, in SESCO (Send Schools to Children of the World), one NGO. However, unfortunately, he died in November 2018. In honor of his activities and himself, Koichi, a board member of SESCO, talks about his memories of Kalubi Bukasa and association with him.

#### p. 15 **'Book review: Shingo Keiko "Teiko no Wadachi : Last Colony in Africa, Western Sahara" ' by Matsuno Akihisa**

Here's Matsuno Akihisa's review of the book "Teiko no Wadachi : Last Colony in Africa, Western Sahara" written by Shingo Keiko. Matsuno Akihisa finds that the book presents a long history of Saharawi's (people in Western Sahara) struggle for independence with Morocco keeping on invasion and occupation of Western Sahara and the international community, and it describes Shingo's own history - Shingo Keiko has been concerned with solidarity movement for Western Sahara for some forty years in Spain.

Back cover **Postscript ('Hitotsu no musubime to shite' in Japanese) and record of activities**