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聖地のこどもを支える会



Israel – Palestine – Japan
Youth Exchange for Peace Project 2020
LET'S BUILD A PEACE BRIDGE IN JAPAN!
～ Peace begins with you ! ～

From the 11th (Tue) to the 26th (Wed) August, 2020 (16 days)

ORGANIZED BY: **HELPING CHILDREN IN THE HOLY LAND (NGO)**
CO-ORGANIZED BY: **JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION FOR THE MIDDLE EAST**
SUPPORTED BY: **JICA (Japanese International Cooperation Agency)**
IN COOPERATION WITH: **SHINSYU ZENKO-JI, GENSHO-IN**

Guidelines for Applicants

INTRODUCTION

Peace in the Middle East is very often at the mercy of the uncertain and confusing international political situations. And the on-going Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, the longest and the most complicated one, has no clear perspective for a peace resolution based on justice and equity. Yet, we firmly believe in the power of grass-root movements that could sometimes have a great impact on the whole world. Specially, we have hope and confidence in the young generation's eagerness and capacity to become true and effective peace builders to achieve true and durable peace in the future.

Therefore, the Organizer of the Project, "HELPING CHILDREN IN THE HOLY LAND", Japanese nonprofit organization (NGO) and the Co-Organizer "JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION FOR THE MIDDLE EAST" (NGO), invite Israeli and Palestinian youth to come to Japan this summer and to take part, with Japanese students, in a **very challenging adventure for peace building**, action, sharing, commitment and togetherness.

Since 2005, this Project has provided every year a very special and unique exchange opportunity for the youths from the three countries. The Project has been already carried out in Tokyo, Hiroshima, Nagasaki, also in the Holy Land. Additionally, for the five consecutive years (2011~2015) after the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake, the project members have served as volunteers in the affected area in Tohoku. This year, the Project will be held in Nagano City, Nagano Prefecture, as well as in Tokyo, the exciting capital of Japan.

BE PEACE BUILDERS !



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You will live a communal life for two weeks, overcoming difficulties together and accepting diversity one another. The key words are **“mutual respect and consideration”**. You will participate in dialogues and workshops and share with each other your own stories of the conflict. This way, you will understand and sympathize with “the other side’s situation” and deepen your understanding about the ongoing conflict.

You will also experience joy of cooperation through volunteer activities for children and senior persons and outdoor activities in the beautiful nature.

In particular, you will build peace and promote mutual understanding among Israelis, Palestinians and Japanese, **through international cultural exchange activities, especially traditional music or dance.**

Through the challenging and intensive two-week experience, you will all find together a “Way for Peace” and cultivate a life-long friendship.

BE PEACE MESSENGERS !

During the project, you will have an opportunity to **give “peace messages” to Japanese citizens** in order to show them your eagerness and determination to achieve peace in your countries - **true peace based on the human rights**. Thus, you will help them to open their eyes and hearts to the necessity to support you in your peace building efforts.

The most important thing is that, once you are back in your countries, you will **share your precious experiences in Japan** with your friends and your families in order to tell them that a **peaceful co-existence based on mutual understanding and reconciliation is possible.**

We have strong hope and confidence in you, youth of Israel and Palestine, that you will be able to assume the important role of peace-building together with Japanese youth, not only in the Middle East, but also in the world. We are sure that the new knowledge and friendship you will acquire in this Project will be a truly precious support in your future.

The world needs you and expect you to become a true peace-builder.

DATES AND LOCATIONS

From the 11th (Tue) to the 26th (Wed) August, 2020 (16 days)

11th August	Departure from Tel Aviv to Tokyo
12th August	Arrival in Tokyo and transfer to NAGANO Join the Japanese Students
12th ~ 23rd August	Stay in Nagano Zenko-ji Temple (Gensho-in, Pilgrims’ House)
23rd ~ 25th August	Stay in Tokyo JICA Tokyo International Center (undecided)*
* Because of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics, the accommodation and the schedule of the project are subject to change a little bit.	
25th August	End of the Project Departure from Tokyo to Tel Aviv
26th August	Arrival in Tel Aviv

Possibility of a longer stay in Japan Ref: p. 5



ACTIVITIES

- Experiencing a **communal life**: you eat, sleep, and spend time together.
- **Cultural Exchange Event in Nagano:**
 - 1) Presentation on your experiences of the Project and deliver your “Peace Messages”
 - 2) Cultural exchange of the three countries which involves **traditional music, dance and foods** of the 3 countries.
- Dialogues, reflections, workshops, discussions on peace-building.
- Sharing of your personal experiences of the conflict.
- Sharing of your experiences of volunteer activities and day-to-day cohabitation.
- Various volunteer activities in Nagano, Zenko-ji area. They will include manual work and social interactions with the people of the area, including children, youths and senior persons.
- Homestay in Nagano
- Experiences of Japanese Culture: Buddhism, traditional festival, bon-odori etc.

NUMBER AND AGE TO BE ADMITTED

NUMBER: **8 ~ 9 participants will be selected (Israelis & Palestinians)**

AGE: **from 18 to 26 years old**

(There will be several Japanese participants and some staff members)

REQUIREMENTS

- **Agree with the purpose and the spirit of the project.**
- **Interested in talking about peace with an open heart.**
- **Continue to be part of a peace process after the project:**
 - * Ready to cooperate with us in our peace programs after going back to your country.
 - * Ready to participate in our exchange programs with Japanese students during the study tour in March every year.
 - * We greatly appreciate your hospitality accepting Japanese student(s) as host family in March 2021 (accommodation and meals) and also all your efforts of finding host families for them.
- **Take part in the preparatory seminars and rehearsals in Jerusalem (COMPULSORY)**

We will have meetings **twice in May, twice in June and once in July.**
The dates will be advised later to those who will be selected.
- **English conversation skills**
- **Adaptability to live together with others**
- **Commitment to follow “the rules of conduct” during the project**

APPLICATION

APPLICATION:

1. DOCUMENTS TO PREPARE



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- **Application form:** Fill in **the application form** that includes personal details and **the questionnaires** as well.
- **Your photograph (good and decent)**
- **Copy of your passport and ID**

2. EMAIL ADDRESSES TO SEND YOUR APPLICATION

TO: **Hiroko Inoue:** **ispalejpn@gmail.com**
Yacoub Ghazzawi : **yacoghaz@hotmail.com**
 CC: **Fr. Ibrahim Faltas** **direttore@tscjerusalem.org**

- **For any other information,** please contact with:
Ms. Hiroko Inoue (the president of NGO) **+81-90-6538-3255 (WhatsApp)**
 Or **Mr. Yacoub Ghazzawi** (our local staff) **050 784 2440 (WhatsApp-texting)**

3. DEADLINES FOR APPLYING **20th March, 2020 (Sun)**

SELECTION:

1. The first selection will be conducted on the basis of the application documents.
2. According to the first selection, you will be advised for **an interview (20 ~ 30 minutes) which will take place in person or through skype.**
Yacoub, our local staff, will contact you for the scheduling of your interview.
3. **The final decision will be made by the 31st March, 2020 (Tue).**
4. The President of the NGO “Helping Children in the Holy Land” will contact, as soon as possible, with those who are selected as members of the Project 2020 and inform them about the details and the conditions of the participation.

* **All those who will have applied are invited to participate in one or both of the “Friendship Meetings”** (for the Israeli, Palestinian and Japanese youth) which will be held twice:

- 1) **in Jerusalem, the 14th March (Sat)**
 - 2) **in Jaffa, 20th March (Fri),** in occasion of the Japanese Students’ Study Tour.
- Please see P. 5 of the Application Form.**

PARTICIPATION FEE

ISRAELI PASSPORT HOLDER	US\$ 1200
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PALESTINIAN PASSPORT or TRAVEL DOCUMENT HOLDER	US\$ 850
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- **Payment:** You will be informed in detail, once selected, about the payment.
- Your own confirmation to participate in the Project should be made through the payment of **US\$ 450 (non-refundable)** by **10th April, 2020**, as a part of the participation fee.
- The full payment of the participation fee should be completed by the **30th April, 2020.**
- The participation fee is requested as your contribution to cover a part of the expenses for



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- your flight ticket and stay in Japan during the Project.
- In case of post-payment cancellation, **cancellation fee may occur. The amount will vary according to the period of your cancellation.**
 - The following fees are not covered by the organizer and should be paid by each participant.
 - Compulsory travel insurance
 - Visa fee for Palestinian or Jordanian passport holders
 - Transportation fees between home and airport
 - Meals and transportation fees during the free time in Japan
 - **About a longer stay in Japan: Accommodation, transportation, meals at your own expenses.**
 - In addition, you are asked to pay:
 1. Supplement fee for extension of your stay: **US\$ 100**
 2. Difference of airfare as well as airport-tax and fuel surcharge which may occur according to the return date you choose.

*** Those who would like to stay longer in Tokyo are strongly recommended to make reservation for your accommodation as soon as possible.**

CONTACT INFO

Staff in Jerusalem:

Yacoub GHAZZAWI

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E-mail: **yacoghaz@hotmail.com**

Organizer:

HELPING CHILDREN IN THE HOLY LAND

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Email: **ispalejpn@gmail.com**

Co-Organizer:

JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION FOR THE MIDDLE EAST

President: Fr. Ibrahim FALTAS, ofm

(Representative: Rami Kattan)

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Mobile: 052 203 7708 (Rami Kattan)

Email: **direttore@tscjerusalem.org**