



認定NPO法人
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Israel, Palestine, Japan

Youth Exchange for Peace Project 2016

LET'S MAKE A PEACE BRIDGE IN JAPAN !

4 ~ 19 August, 2016

ORGANIZED BY: **“NPO HELPING CHILDREN IN THE HOLY LAND”**
CO-ORGANIZED BY: **“JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION FOR THE MIDDLE EAST”**
SUPPORTED BY: **J I C A (Japanese International Cooperation Agency)**

Guidelines for Applicants

INTRODUCTION

“LET'S MAKE A PEACE BRIDGE IN JAPAN 2016” marks the 10th edition of very special and unique exchange programs between Palestinians, Israelis and Japanese youths. This project has begun in 2005, and has been continuing in Tokyo, Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and in the Holy Land. Additionally, for the five consecutive years after the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake (2011~2015), the project members have served as volunteers in the affected area in Tohoku.

Since this year is the 10th anniversary, the project will be a unique one that involves intercultural communication through playing music all together. It will take place in Nagano prefecture and in Tokyo.

Organized by the Japanese Non Profit Organization “HELPING CHILDREN IN THE HOLY LAND”, with the cooperation of “JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION FOR THE MIDDLE EAST”, the project offers a chance for Israelis, Palestinians and Japanese youth to take part in a great experience of action, singing, sharing, peace building, commitment and togetherness.

AIM OF THE PROJECT

The purpose of the project is to offer to the youths from Israel, Palestine, and Japan, a chance to experience the joy of working together and living together, despite their different backgrounds. They



認定NPO法人

聖地のこどもを支える会



will learn it through the communication and cultural exchange each other and with the local people, and most importantly through music performances.

Young members will get the bond of friendship beyond borders by focusing on the understanding of life, peace and respect of others.

Through these activities, they will recognize themselves as builders of a “Peace Bridge”, and, once back to their countries, will share and spread their experiences in Japan through their friends and people around them. Thus they can strengthen their will for resolution of the conflict and for peace.

LOCATION

- 1) Zenko-ji Temple, Nagano, Nagano Prefecture
- 2) JICA Tokyo International Center

DATES

Departure from Israel/Jordan: **4 August 2016**
 Arrival in Japan: **5 August**
 Departure from Japan: **18 August**
 Arrival in Israel/Jordan: **19 August**

(The exact date of return will be given later.)

VOLUNTEER WORK AND ACTIVITIES (especially CHOIR)

Various volunteer activities will take place in Zenko-ji area. They will include manual work and social interaction with the people and with the youth and children of the area. (More details about the specific activities will be provided later and might change according to needs).

- * International and cultural exchanges through singing and dancing (Children practice singing and dancing together with Israeli, Palestinians and Japanese youth and present their performance at the cultural exchange party for the people of Nagano).
- * Cultural exchange between our group and the local people (Israeli, Palestinian and Japanese youth) (adults, youngsters and children): traditional music, dance and foods.
- Participants will stay at Temple near Zenkoji, big temple and experience day-to-day cohabitation during their stay in Nagano.
- Reflection and sharing at JICA in Tokyo about their experience of volunteer activities and day-to-



認定NPO法人

聖地のこどもを支える会



day cohabitation and discussion about lives and peace.

- Open symposium at JICA: Presentation of their learning through activities in Nagano and JICA and future perspectives.
- Charity concerts in Tokyo

NUMBER AND AGE TO BE ADMITTED

NUMBER: **8 or 10 participants: 4 or 5 Israelis, 4 or 5 Palestinians will be selected.**

AGE: **from 17 to 25 years old.**
(There will be 6 to 10 Japanese participants plus staff members)

PARTICIPATION FEE: \$ 650

After being selected as a member of the project, **your confirmation is requested through payment of the participation fee before the deadline.** The participation fee is a contribution requested to cover a part of the expenses for your stay in Japan.

The first amount to be paid is 300 dollars (non refundable if cancelled) when you receive the acceptance letter, and the second amount 350 dollars by the 6th June.

REQUIREMENTS

- Agree with the purpose and the spirit of the project.
- Age: 17 to 25 years old.
- Being interested in building peace and peace talking with open heart.
- Continue to be part of a peace process after the project:
 - * Ready to participate in our exchange programs after going back to your country.
 - * Ready to participate in our exchange programs and activities for Japanese study tour group in March 2017.
 - * Your cooperation is greatly appreciated if you and your family could host Japanese student(s) at your home in March 2017 (accommodation and meals) or you would find families who could host Japanese students at their home.
- **Take part in the preparatory seminars and rehearsals in Jerusalem: to be organized later with Yacoub. (compulsory) It will be a weekly rehearsals.**
- English conversation skills.
- Singing, Dancing, music, cooking, etc.



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- Adaptability to live together with others.
- Readiness to communicate with others.
- Readiness to cooperate with others for various activities and cohabitation.

SELECTION

Candidates will be asked to fill in the application form that includes personal details and to answer some key questions. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted by the local staff for an interview. The committee will conduct an interview and select the participants. Once the candidate is selected as a project member, Hiroko Inoue, the president of “Helping Children in the Holy Land” will contact the candidate.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Please find below the application procedure to participate in the selection of the project.

1. Please prepare the following documents. Please fill the application form completely. Selection will be conducted based on the submitted application.
 - **Application form**
 - **Copy of your passport and ID**
2. Please return the application by **28 April 2016** to the following address by email.
TO: **Hiroko Inoue: ispalejpn@gmail.com**
CC: **Fr. Ibrahim Faltas : economo@custodia.org**
Yacoub Ghazzawi : yacoghaz@hotmail.com
3. Please contact Mr. **Yacoub Ghazzawi**, our local staff, for any further information.
Mobile No : 050 784 2440
4. The interview will take place between **29th to the 30th April, 2016** (The place will be informed later or skype).
5. The 8 selected members will be contacted before the **1st May, 2016**.
6. Your final confirmation for participation is requested through the payment of the first amount of the participation fee (**\$300**) when you receive the acceptance letter, and before the **7th May 2016** to Yacoub by hand or bank transfer, and the second amount (**\$350**) by the **6th June**.



認定NPO法人

聖地のこどもを支える会



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7. In case of cancellation after the issue of the flight ticket, **the first payment (\$300) will not be refunded**; it will be used to cover the cancellation fee of the flight company.
8. The following fees are not covered by the organizer and should be paid by each participant:
 - Compulsory travel insurance.
 - Visa fee (if necessary).
 - Transportation fee between home and airport.
 - Lunch and transportation fee during the free time in Tokyo.

DEADLINES

Please send your application form before **the 28th April, 2016** to the following email addresses:

TO: Hiroko Inoue: ispalejpn@gmail.com
 CC: Fr. Ibrahim FALTAS : economocustodia.org
 Yacoub Ghazzawi : yacoghaz@hotmail.com

- To confirm the participation to the Project “LET’S MAKE A PEACE BRIDGE IN JAPAN”, the first payment of the participation fee (300 US\$) must be made before **the 7th May, 2016**.

CONTACT INFO

Direct contact: Yacoub GHAZZAWI
 Tel: 050 784 2440
 E-mail: yacoghaz@hotmail.com

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 (President: Fr. Ibrahim FALTAS, ofm)
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Zenkoji - Nagano:

<http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e6001.html>

<http://www.zenkoji.jp/ENGLISH/about/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zenkō-ji>
