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Field Trip Report
21st October

On 9th morning, we visited Kinejuka family farm in Fujieda in Shizuoka prefecture. The purpose was rice harvesting, the same rice that we planted in the last season. It was a rainy day and feeling as we were farmers. As we reached the family, there were many enthusiast farmers and interested people to join the function, about 30 in total. All of them were eagerly waiting for harvesting experience, for few of them it was going to be the first experience.

Just few decades ago, farming was main job of every family who were located in the inland, and fishing was the main for those who were located in the coastal land. Now the time has turned and things have changed a lot, coastal areas are mushroomed by factories and harbours, similarly, large cities are located there too, like Tokyo, Osaka and New York. On the contrary, inlands are deserted and seem as ghost villages. These all are consequences of imbalanced modernization, and greed which has overweighed the virtue in the present days. Fujieda experience was one of those to revival of old farmers' life which is a balance of good spirit and hard work in harmony to nature with out hurting the latter ones.

We reached there at 10:30 and started harvesting; at the beginning we introduced each others. The function had participated by many people from different walks of life and ages. It could be considered as a folks' gathering for rice harvesting in old world story. Everyone was impatient to get onto the paddy field with sickle and start to hold bunch of harvested rice plant on their palm. The experience was similar as holding a pound of gold on the palm. But, although, it wasn't gold but worthier for our life than gold; because it was the product of our sweat, it was rice; our main staple to live.

Growing organic rice needs much of effort and massive human labour. It is short of labour, therefore, such organization is required to attract people to get involved and revive old customs, mainly related and revolve around farming. Nature care is not one man's job but every ones responsibility. Unless hands are not joined that is impossible. As we gathered, we communicate each other which role as starting point for understanding each other. Common understanding makes common goal which can be capitalize in generating source of livelihood and nature conservation.

After finishing harvesting, we had lunch; rice with konyaku (yam) prepared in traditional style. That was first time to have paste of raw konyaku with rice; delicious! Although we eat French cake alone it may not taste much, but, if we have even raw konyaku in a group it tastes Grate!! Perhaps it is the message of nature to hold our hand in hand for own well being and well beings of our beloved nature 'our home'.

Future challenge lies on us; increasing population and limited resources. People escape with environmental obligation and more eager on environmental exploitation. The experience taught us one simple event can cater so many essential knowledge and experience. We can work by convincing more people with simple conviction, nature is serving human for thousands of years, it's ,now, our tern to serve it. Organic farming can be one approach like many others; one step to heading in it its direction.