

REPORT FOR VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY IN TOHOKU AREA IN JAPAN MARCH 2012

Student: Co Thi Kinh - 11539706

First of all, I appreciate FOLENS and RQ Volunteer Organization for all your great supports organizing the volunteer activity for us in Tohoku from 7th to 9th March 2012. By this chance, besides seeing in reality how serious the damages of the disaster on human by the situation of Japanese after earthquake and tsunami disaster in March 2011, I can experience well the unyielding character of Japan people as well as apprehend for myself valuable lessons about disaster.

Although the earthquake and tsunami disaster have stolen much of the properties and life of people in the coastal of this area, but just one year later, what Japanese have done for rebuilding this area was extraordinary and respectable. The earthquake and tsunami have caused Japanese many devastating damages such as death, wound, lost houses and properties but also causing environmental damage to people life for long future, especially polluted water and air by radioactivity. However, just one year after the consternated disaster, Japanese have done many of huge works for the recovery this area from rebuilding the new settlement areas, to passing over the serious mental losses, as well as cleaning the broken things. The one year is not sufficient to make this area like in the past, but what has been done is a miraculous revives. That is the forceful evidence of samurai spirit of Japanese which should be learned by people worldwide. Japanese struggled heroically to the enemies, even facing with the nature “mother”.

Joining the volunteer activities together with the RQ group, I admired them so much. They all worked so hard not for themselves, but for self-sacrifice and love for damaged people. With the elevated purposes to recognize the sympathy and sense of contribution that the victims, volunteers and visitor have at disaster area as resources for personal growth and efforts to position it in educational system, RQ has done meaningful works for not only damaged area but also the whole society consolidation. From clean up of the disaster area, to everyday physical and emotional support to the affected people, connect people providing emergency reliefs using outdoor activities skills and long term support with national world-wide network, RQ have contributed significantly to overcoming and rebuilding the area after disaster as well as preparing for future context.

I do not know what extent my volunteer trip in Tohoku this time meaningful to the situation of this area, but I definitely feel that I have achieved many things from this trip. I wish Tohoku will soon restore the entire situation.