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CONTENTS

Page

Reflections on My Attachment at the Kagoshima University 1

Fishing for Truth 6

Symposium 11

Research Seminars 13

Field Research 21

New Staff 23

Recent Publications 23

Cover photo: People in Pingelap, Pohnpei State, Federated States of Micronesia in 2010.

(By Sota YAMAMOTO)

REFLECTIONS ON MY ATTACHMENT AT THE KAGOSHIMA UNIVERSITY

Vina RAM-BIDESI

Visiting Associate Professor, Research Center for the Pacific Islands
Kagoshima University, Japan (December 2009 - March 2010)
Division of Marine Studies, University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji

It was indeed my colleague who was inspired by the experience in Kagoshima who convinced me to apply for the fellowship at the Research Center. The idea was taken up with much enthusiasm as it meant that I could come to Kagoshima after 20 years since my last visit and having graduated from *Kadai Suisan Gakubu* in 1986.

Instantly, I knew that this would give me an opportunity to get some insight into the coastal resource management systems in Japan. I was particularly interested in the role of cooperatives in fisheries management as being one of the oldest examples of formal co-management system that is based on traditional cultural practices. While the type of fisheries, scale of operations, environment and governance structures are in contrast to those found in the Pacific, I, nevertheless wanted to see if there are lessons to be learnt from the Japanese experience. In addition, I wanted to use the time and space to write on a project that I had already undertaken on Gender and Tuna.

I am sincerely grateful to Professor Tominaga and Professor Noda for giving me the opportunity. I would also like to thank other staff members at the Research Center, Professors Kawai, Hidaka and Nagashima, and Ms.Kusumoto for their kind assistance to make my stay pleasant. I would also like to acknowledge Professors Noro, Miguel, Ebata and Torii at the Faculty of Fisheries for their valuable time and allowing me to join their field trips.

What struck me most was that I had to start my fellowship on the day of Christmas Eve and work throughout Christmas and Boxing Day which was rather unusual for me. It was a reminder that I was in Japan where people live to work rather than work to live!

The New Year however was an exception to the routine. It was a time of festivities, having been invited by a friend to enjoy the distinctively Japanese New Year Cuisines, visit shrine (not one but two), enjoy the heat of the Japanese hot-spring and watch special television programmes on New Year. I learnt more about the significance of each food item in the *Osechi Ryori* much of which consists of marine products like shrimp, dried anchovies, fish cakes, herring roe and seaweeds that are reflective of the maritime culture of Japan. I had lots of *Kuromame*, the black sweetened beans which is meant for healthy life, and the

ozone soup with *mochi* that signifies long life and good health in the New Year. The neatly presented and colourful foods also included a variety of vegetables and root crops such as yam cakes and taro which clearly signified the idealistic trait of Japanese culture to start the New Year with good food, merrymaking and good thoughts that will eventually continue to flow throughout the year and bring much happiness and joy.

The landscape of central Kagoshima has changed considerably in the last 20 years except the landmark sight of Sakurajima with its intermittent eruptions. Nishi-eki has been reconstructed into a hustling and bustling Kagoshima *Chuo-eki* which links Kagoshima to the rest of Northern Japan via *Shinkansen*. The Kirishima National Park is transformed into a hub of tourism related activities – hotels, farms, recreational areas and reserves, capitalising on its unique landform and vegetation unlike in other places in the Pacific or elsewhere where national parks are generally restricted areas with few activities only. There are a lot more high-rise buildings everywhere which confused me at times as to whether I was walking in the right direction. What remains the same despite two decades of cultural change are the friendliness, kindness and pleasant etiquette of Kagoshima people; whether it is at a supermarket, roadside, university, restaurant or anywhere.

The Faculty of Fisheries now has an expanded specialised graduate programme covering various aspects of fisheries science, technology and resource management. I am impressed by the close collaboration between academia, prefectural government, research institutes, industry and the community at large. This interdependence not only supports a healthy research and development environment but one that is practical, useful and cost effective. If only such a degree of close collaboration could exist in the smaller Pacific islands between the relevant institutions, benefits would be several-fold and fisheries could be much better managed.

I wondered why my colleagues at the Research Center were always travelling to the Okinawa Islands and what made Okinawa different from the rest of Japan besides being a semi-temperate area that has an American military base. It was interesting to learn that Okinawa has a rich historical and political past and indeed represented the Japanese gateway to the world, particularly China and Europe, thus infiltrating both Eastern and Western culture into the rest of the Japanese Archipelago. What intrigued me were the sorts of economic revitalisation programmes of the small islands to address their isolation and depopulation problems. The concept of "island therapy" through creation of Health Villas on Yoron Island where healing is effectively by the scenery of the surrounding environment and the small scale salt production in Toshima are amongst some of the interesting examples. The Pacific Islands can learn from such innovative ideas given that there are several uninhabited small islands that could be used to promote such tourism activities and unlimited seawater and sunshine to make salt. Diversifying island economies can greatly

assist in relieving pressure on the local fisheries.

Japan's coastal fisheries co-management regime is a blend of an institutional framework that is grounded in the past from the feudal era together with more contemporary systems influenced by modern science and technology. Through a review of the coastal fisheries, some of the lessons from the Japanese experience tells us that sudden changes to institutional structures are not likely to succeed as indicated by the Meiji Restoration; coordination of management activities is really important at the different levels of authority and that empowerment of coastal communities is crucial. These are also essential factors for consideration in the case of the Pacific Islands as they begin to establish their own co-management systems using community-based structures and approaches. There are other practical lessons when considering the role of the central government, powers of the local or provincial government; recognising the importance of procedural guidelines and how finances should be handled. I am hoping that these ideas will be expanded in another detailed collaborative report.

Even though Japan has a long history and experience in fisheries, production in recent years has been declining together with the number of fishers and people interested in fishing as a profession. Reasons for such a trend provide interesting lessons not only on the sustainability of fisheries resources but also on maritime cultural change. The government's effort to deal with such problems is amazing. Because seafood has been so central to Japanese diet and culture, the national campaign "Food Action Nippon" aiming to encourage people to eat locally produced foods leaves much *food for thought*. The benefits of promoting local foods are not only for good nutrition but also to create the demand to support the local fishing industry that has been affected by cheaper imports and hence to rejuvenate fisheries related employment and traditions. I have also learnt of the multi-pronged approach to revitalise the fisheries sector: from rehabilitation of coastal ecosystems and aquaculture, to raising awareness on nutrition and food preparation methods, to supporting school curriculum and recruiting young men and women. In fact, I was fortunate to observe one of such activities in action at the Kaiei Fisheries Cooperative near Mount Kaimon which was organised by Kaimon Junior Secondary School, the Fisheries Co-operative, parents and staff from the Faculty of Fisheries. Besides providing general knowledge on the marine environment, fish species, gear technology and a display of underwater robotic camera, students learnt how to cut, clean and cook fish. This has given me some pointers to how Marine Studies at the University of the South Pacific (USP) could approach high school students during careers expo, USP open day or during individual school visits. On a visit to the Satamisaki Fishing Cooperative, I was surprised to learn that nearly all fishers who go ocean fishing are well above 50 years of age with the oldest fisher being 87 years old. This partly demonstrates that secret to longevity also lies in being active.

I have also become aware of some of the advances in aquaculture, particularly in fish ranching, use of artificial reefs such as for re-stocking of abalone and improvements in water quality through integrated management programmes. I am amazed at the effort put in to tackle the rising cost of fuel and measures to reduce by-catch through gear modification such as making nets lighter to reduce drag and gear design to incorporate escape gaps. I found out the reasons why Japan has been so active at the international level on issues related to illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing. Japan has already implemented the catch documentation scheme for bluefin tuna and is in the process of extending to other tuna species like big-eye. The reasons include the protection of its own domestic industry from cheaper supplies from elsewhere, minimise competition with its own distant water vessels and to keep prices stable.

Indeed there are many aspects of Japanese fisheries that I have been able to up-date myself with as part of my scholarly experience during my stay. The dynamics of Japan's fisheries provides an ideal platform for formulating theoretical frameworks to conceptualise the fisheries discipline whether it is in terms of identifying problems and issues or addressing them.

I have always wondered about the painstaking care in wrapping and packaging of goods and its presentation; whether it is more for economic reasons to create additional employment or a reflection of an affluent society's culture. Despite the additional waste that is generated, I am impressed by how well Japan has kept pace with its waste management. The sorting of household waste, recycling and reducing has kept Japanese households and streets relatively clean. The change in people's attitude to drive eco-cars as something fashionable is also interesting and reminds me of how smoking has suddenly become an anti-social habit. Likewise, I am sure that creating *eco-machi* where kitchen waste is used to generate electricity for local towns will be taken up by local governments in a similar manner.

The construction of concrete barriers to protect coastlines, forested hills and the advances in construction and engineering techniques also shows how Japan has been coping with the vulnerability of island environment and life to natural disasters like earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides and floods.

Above all what makes Japanese so unique for outsiders like me to learn from is how well they have adapted their tradition into modern way of life. The various festivals or *matsuri* provide an insight into their past and defines their heritage. Much effort and resources are put into the preservation and maintenance of Japanese gardens, architecture, shrines and temples, folk-dance, music, and art and craft as elements of cultural identity. Despite a rich traditional culture in the Pacific, documentation and preservation efforts are often a second priority and only a few recognise the relevance of such symbolic treasures.

In terms of business ethics, I have learned that in the western world, individualism is seen as the basic unit of society which puts responsibility of individual welfare on each person whereas in the Japanese culture, an individual is viewed as an integral part of society. Often a Japanese corporate leader assumes responsibility for the welfare of the people he or she leads. In case of corporate failure and loses, the leader is expected to punish himself or herself first before allowing employees to suffer in contrast to the western ideology where workers can be laid off to achieve firm profitability. No wonder the loyalty and dedication of workers to their jobs is much higher and which in turn provides the more stable socio-political environment for the Japanese economy.

In addition to the several personal and professional learning experiences within the three months which no doubt I will share with others in my region, I have also been able to gather some information on Japanese fisheries and solicited interest with university staff in collaborative research. My three months in Kagoshima has indeed been an enriching experience despite the cold, harsh winter.

Dr. Vina RAM-BIDESI at Research Seminars

Professor Ian CAMPBELL (right) and his wife (left)

FISHING FOR TRUTH

Ian CAMPBELL
Visiting Professor, Research Center for Pacific Islands
Kagoshima University, Japan, (May 2010 to March 2011)

Once upon a time, there were two children walking along a beach at the edge of the water. They came to a jellyfish which had just been washed onto the sand by the waves. One of the children stopped, picked up the jellyfish and threw it back into the sea.

'Why did you do that?' asked the other child. "Hundreds of jellyfish wash up here every day; throwing one back doesn't make any difference.'

'It makes a big difference to that jellyfish,' the first one replied.

*

I feel like that child sometimes when people express surprise that my special area of research – the history and politics of Tonga – is a resource-poor chain of islands in the middle of the Pacific ocean with a population of only 100,000.

'Why,' they seem to ask, 'spend your career on such an unimportant place? You could be working on somewhere really important!'

My answer has to be that Tonga is important to the 100,000 people who live there, and about another 100,000 Tongans who live in other countries, mainly New Zealand, Australia and the United States of America. Unlike the child in the anecdote, I am less confident that my work makes a difference to the Tongans, except that without me there would not be a book that puts together the history of Tonga, or a series of essays and a book tracing the important political change that is taking place in 2010, and has been building up for the last twenty years. Writing that book on political change is my task at Kagoshima University in 2010, and I am writing this little essay on 25 November, the day on which the historical parliamentary election is being held. Before I finish writing it, the voting will be over, and the counting probably finished; and long before you read it, the next historic steps will have been taken.

Within seven days of the results of the election being notified, the King will appoint an interim Speaker who will invite nominations from the members-elect for Prime Minister. These must be made within 14 days of the election result being declared. A meeting of the elected members will then take place at which members may speak in favour of any nominated candidate followed by a secret ballot. One nominee must receive at least half of the votes, and if that does not happen on the first ballot, the members will meet again two days later for a second ballot, and so on until someone is elected. That person becomes the nominee for the position of Prime Minister, and will be appointed to that position by the

King. After parliament meets and members are sworn in, the Prime Minister will advise the King as to which members should be appointed to Cabinet. The size of Cabinet is fixed by law.

Commentators and the news media have been welcoming the step forward into democratic government, but their enthusiasm is also tempered by what they regard as restrictions on the workings of democracy. Recent news reports have warned of possible violence if the election does not go 'according to plan', or of the King calling out the army if the elected members do not do what is expected of them, and refer to a 'fragile' balance of power. This is where my jellyfish analogy becomes relevant: that these reports may be wrong does not matter much in a world of 6 billion people; but they are important for this small nation. Many people, even people in high places, rely on the news media for accurate information as to what is going on, and they base decisions of their own on that information. The reports referred to suggest that Tonga is unstable, that the King has somehow 'rigged' the election and that with the threat of force behind him, will dictate policy and legislation to parliament. They see proof of this in the fact that the king has a power of veto over legislation, and that he is the commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

The truth is very different, and can be easily found by reading the documents that set out the form of government: the constitution and accompanying legislation. In fact, government in Tonga is not fragile, nor unstable. The present dynasty has ruled Tonga since 1845. During that time, it has had only five monarchs, four of whom died peacefully in their beds after long reigns. The fifth is the present king, George Tupou V. His father Tupou IV died in 2006 after a reign of 41 years. As in the life of any country, there have been periods of restlessness and of dissatisfaction with government policy or personnel, but Tonga has had no political violence for over a century and half; no political assassinations or attempted assassinations, no military coups and no rebellions. Its non-democratic government provided universal literacy, free and universal health care, a life expectancy at birth of about 70 years, and usually the highest score in the Pacific on most indicators in the Human Development Index (an annual assessment of all countries by the United Nations Development Programme).

Tonga has also had constitutional government since 1875, and its recently amended constitution is one of the oldest in the world today. Why, then, do people call Tonga 'unstable' and 'fragile'?

One answer is that reporters think it ought to be unstable and fragile, because they come from democratic countries and do not make much attempt to acquaint themselves with the Tongan form of government. As democrats, they cannot understand how any other system could work, or could have any merit. Also, reporters get their information mainly from the people who make the news. 'Go directly to the source!' they are advised during

their training, so they talk to the people who make the headlines. In a democratic society, members of government are often headline makers, because it is their role to initiate things, and they also want publicity for the work that they do. But in Tonga it is a little different. The government does not make the headlines, but just gets on with its work. It does not need to be popular and it does not need favourable publicity by which to get back into office because it is permanent. This also means that government can be arrogant and simply disdains giving any explanations about what it is doing. This attitude gives rise to suspicion.

The headline makers in Tonga therefore are those who for one reason or another are discontented. They need publicity, and help journalists give it to them. This means that the information that comes out of Tonga is the information that the opponents of government want disseminated. There is a lack of balance.

Some of the criticisms of Tonga mentioned above are good examples of this tendency. Take the suggestion that the army would be used if politicians do not do the 'right thing'; the army has increased in size in recent years, and the king is the Commander in Chief. But is there a country anywhere, where the army is not available in the event of a civil breakdown? And is there a country where the head of state is not technically the head of the armed forces? Tonga's tiny armed forces are kept busy in fisheries surveillance, and in peacekeeping and similar operations in support of its powerful allies. Overseas peacekeeping is an important source of revenue for Tongans.

The king retains the power of veto: almost all democratic countries have a 'backstop' authority to make parliament reconsider legislation. In some countries the veto power is limited and can be over-ridden by parliament. That is not the case in Tonga, but is this important? This is a negative power: law making is in the hands of parliament, and the circumstances in which the King would want to frustrate the work of his government are hard to imagine. As in these cases, it is often the emphasis that turns a truthful report into a misleading or dishonest one. Imbalance can be worse – as in a report that said that the King signs death warrants implying a power of life and death over his subjects. The same report said nothing about the prerogative of mercy and the fact that the death penalty can only be imposed by courts, nor did it ask when the death penalty was last imposed. It was in 1982.

The news media therefore are often unreliable sources of information especially when it is a case of foreign journalists reporting an unfamiliar society. In Tonga's case, its form of government has often been misreported. The words 'feudal', 'last absolute monarchy' are often used, and the royal family have often been ridiculed in the western media as if the idea of 'royalty' with a small, poor and weak country is too incongruous to be taken seriously.

Tonga's form of government goes back to the 1875 constitution, which provided for a parliament composed equally of elected representatives of the people and the nobles. Parliament's role was legislative, but the authority of government and policy direction lay

with the king and his cabinet. When the king presided over a cabinet meeting, it became the Privy Council. Members of this body were chosen and appointed by the king from society at large, so while there were cases of favouritism, nepotism and badly chosen ministers, more often they were people well qualified by training, education, or experience to head the ministries under their control. Usually they had risen through the ranks of government service and therefore had a thorough knowledge of the work of their departments. However, if a minister proved incompetent or corrupt he could be removed from office only by the decision of the king who might refrain from acting. This practice did open the way to abuse of office, but critics of this form of government should ask whether democratic processes in neighbouring countries have produced a better result. Journalists seldom or never made informed comparisons in order to assess the merits of the governments they loved to criticise.

Parliament had the power to make legislation, or reject the government's proposed legislation. It could suggest initiatives to government, but could not implement them, nor could it ever remove a government by a vote of no-confidence or by defeating its budget. Thus, although Tonga was described as a constitutional monarchy by the better informed observers, even that is not entirely accurate, because it suggests parliamentary processes similar to those of the United Kingdom, known as the 'Westminster system'. It would be better to describe the Tongan form of government as a hereditary presidency, because the form and procedures of government are closer to the American form than the British form. In fact, if we trace the genealogy of the Tongan constitution, we find that it was closely modelled on the constitution of the Kingdom of Hawaii of 1852, which was in turn modelled on the American Constitution (1783), which in its turn, drew heavily on and modified British eighteenth century government. Thus the features that journalists from Commonwealth countries with the British form of parliamentary government find so objectionable would be better understood if they noticed the similarities to modern American government.

The present reform movement began twenty five years ago, though different events with a different date could be taken as the starting point. It arose from three sources: government becoming careless in its observance of correct legal forms and processes, with some well-publicised cases of wrongful dismissal of public servants; second, it had not been in the habit of explaining itself to the public, and when in 1986 it attempted to do so, it exposed itself to criticism over government salaries and allowances; third, the king ignored all requests and petitions to discipline wayward ministers or correct their misdeeds.

Consequently, the reform movement began not with a demand for constitutional change, but for a demand for higher ethical standards for office holders. The king and his ministers refused to respond, and this drew attention to the fact that elected members of parliament and members of the public had no means of influencing or changing the government. From

that awareness came the movement for political reform: if better standards of governance could not be achieved with the present constitution, then the constitution should be changed. Pro-democracy campaigners strove for over a decade to persuade or force government to act; they also laboured to raise public awareness of the need for change; they wrestled with constitutional ideas to try to produce a workable and acceptable constitutional alternative; and they tried repeatedly to bring about a united voice and common action by the elected representatives in parliament. In all of these things they failed.

By 2004 some members of government and the royal family had come to the realisation for their own reasons that things had to change. Misjudgments by government, and continuing controversies would inevitably have an effect eventually in public resentment, but the financial losses of bad decisions by the octogenarian king particularly, were becoming both economic and political liabilities.

Even from that point the reform did not come easily, because reformers whether common people or royalty, did not have the power and could not gain it. Some tentative steps were made from 2004, but the pro-democracy advocates did not help by their own disunity and conflicting ambitions. Once reform was being talked about in higher circles, the process became difficult with differences of opinion and lack of a fixed purpose causing the reform process to falter at critical points.

However, by the beginning of 2006, the grip of the 87-year-old king was fading, and the Crown Prince was able to induce him to accept some key cabinet changes, including a new Prime Minister – a successful businessman, member of parliament and man of low birth, Dr Feleti Sevele. This was unprecedented. The old king died in September 2006, and the new king and his chosen prime minister worked together to bring parliament to an agreement on the constitutional amendments. These were enacted at last in 2010, and are coming to fruition in today's landmark election.

The reform is a finely balanced gamble. At the king's urging, Tonga has changed from a hereditary presidency to a constitutional monarchy, from an American form of government to a British or Westminster form. Power will likely fall to a non-noble member of parliament, elected by the people, on whose advice the king has undertaken to act. The example of democracy elsewhere in the Pacific must give anyone misgivings about this reform, but Tonga has wisely preserved some safeguards: the cabinet is limited in size, the prime minister is to be elected by secret ballot, and the king can veto legislation for which reason parliamentarians should consider carefully before they enact bills.

However, the risks and the safeguards need to be well-understood in Tonga and outside so that ignorance or misunderstanding does not cause trouble of another kind.

I have written my book about this in Kagoshima. I have thrown my jellyfish back into the sea, for it to swim away from the fatal shore of error.

Symposium

2nd October 2010

The Research Center for the Pacific Islands:
Re-opening as "The Center for Island Studies Education and Research"
Symposium Theme: "Nesia empowerment" - Developing Island Futures

The Kagoshima University Research Center for the Pacific Islands was restructured as the Education and Research Center in 2010. For the first time, "Small Islands Studies (Nissology)" began as a new postgraduate course in October. The course covers subject matter which has many applications and implications across many academic disciplines. This re-structuring has also provided the opportunity to reflect back on the achievements to date. As an institution of higher education, we have the responsibility to envision the future possibilities of the islands outside Japan. As a new center, it will face expectations to demonstrate its true value as to how well education and research can benefit local and international societies in a more effective and concrete manner. On the national level this refers particularly to the Kagoshima archipelago, the isolated island groups of Kagoshima Prefecture, and Amami archipelago; internationally it refers to Asian and Pacific Islands.

We invited His Excellency Mr. Renster P. ANDREW, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the Federated States of Micronesia in Japan. With international academic specialists, we would like to open the discussion about the diverse and concrete issues of island futures as well as the current knowledge of the fields.

Contents

Part I　Opening Ceremony

President Greetings

Hiroki YOSHIDA (President, Kagoshima University)

Guest Greetings

Renster P. ANDREW

(Deputy Chief of Mission, Federated States of Micronesian Embassy in Japan)

"On the New Center"

Shinichi NODA (Director of Research Center for the Pacific Islands)

"On the New Educational Program"

Shigeto TOMINAGA (Aide to the President, Kagoshima University)

Part II Symposium Theme: "Nesia empowerment" - Developing Island Futures

Keynote Speech

"Designing Rainbownesia -Connecting Micronesia and Kagoshima (Japan)"

Renster P. ANDREW

(Deputy Chief of Mission Federated States of Micronesian Embassy in Japan)

Paper

"The Front Line of International Cooperation in Pacific Islands - Experience of a Kagoshima University Graduate"

Shinichi HAMADA (the former Resident Representative of JICA Micronesia Office)

"Problems in Small Islands and Prospects for Kagoshima University"

Misao HIGASHI (Chief of General Affairs and Planning, Amami City)

"The Enlightenment Dilemma - A Lesson from History"

Ian CAMPBELL (Visiting Professor, RCPI)

"Nesia Empowerment: Futurability of Kagoshima and Asia-Pacific Islands Region and Educational and Research Contributions from the University"

Shunsuke NAGASHIMA (Professor, RCPI)

Hiroki YOSHIDA (President, Kagoshima University) and Renster P. ANDREW (Deputy Chief of Mission Federated States of Micronesian Embassy in Japan) (Left to right)

Research Seminars

No.102, 25 January 2010

"Fisheries management in the Pacific Islands: can fisheries resources remain the 'lifeline' for the Pacific islanders?"

Vina RAM-BIDESI (University of South Pacific, RCPIKU)

[ABSTRACT]

The 22 developing states and territories of the Pacific Islands region consist of only about 551,390 km2 of land spread across 30 million km2 of ocean that extends north and south of the equator. The islands are linked and controlled by the marine environment.

The dependence of the Pacific Island countries on the ocean resources has been a vital part of their cultural, social and economic development. The coastal and marine ecosystems of the region are extremely important habitats for sustaining the livelihoods. With limited arable land and poor soils in the low-lying islands, reliance on marine resources is extremely important. As the population increases, this dependence becomes even more critical. The ocean is seen as the 'lifeline' that 'provides the greatest opportunities for economic development' (SPREP 2002). Economic activities such as fisheries, tourism and trade are highly dependent on the marine environment.

The seminar will focus on the critical dependence of Pacific Islanders on the fisheries resources, to show that while there has been much progress towards the management of fisheries, the question still remains whether the sector can continue to be the 'lifeline'. Using examples and research experiences influenced by social, economic and environmental policy perspective, policy gaps and future research interests are identified. The nature and structure of the fisheries sector will be described and policy initiatives will be outlined to show that two parallel systems exist. While there are attempts to achieve a more integrated approach, fisheries management and development goals will still not be achieved unless the design of an effective fisheries management regime is considered for both coastal and offshore fisheries.

No.103, 15 March 2010

"Some strategy mistakes in research"

Tetushi HIDAKA（RCPIKU）

[ABSTRACT]

One of the most serious aspects of any research study is planning. Studies should be planned with very careful thinking otherwise only poor results would be obtained. An additional talk on bleeding papaya will be also given.

“Habu and infectious nematode in the Amami Islands”

Korebumi MINAKAMI (Kagoshima University School of Health Sciences)

[ABSTRACT]

The Watase Line at Tokara Strains divides Japanese fauna into Palaearctic to the north, and Oriental to the south. Among terrestrial venomous snakes, the *mamushi* is found in Yakushima and Tanegashima north of the line, but the *habu* is found in the islands south of the lines.

The generic name for the *habu* was recently changed. Previously, *habu* and *tokara-habu* were classified conventionally with adders in the subfamily *mamushi*, genus *habu*. Thus, the *habu* was *Protobothrops flavoviridis*, and the tokara-habu *Protobothrops tokarensis*. The recent revision classifies the *habu* as *Ovophis okinavensis*.

scientific name was changed into Ovophis okinavensis.

Tokara-habu inhabits in the Tokara chain of islands, and both *habu* and *hime-habu* inhabit Amami-Oshima, Tokuyuki Island, and *habu* inhabits Kakeroma Island, Yoro Island, Uke Island, Edateku Island. Neither *habu* nor *hime-habu* inhibits Kikai Island, Okinoerabu Island, or Yoron Island. Although there are various opinions about the reason of specific distribution, generally it is thought that it is caused by changes in sea level.

As for *hime-habu*, amphibians and reptiles hold 81% whereas a roof rat and a brown rat hold 82.5% of all the food individual with the *habu*. In addition, I understand that in the stages of development of the *habu*, the kind of the bait changed.

The sex ratio at the time of the hatching is male : female = 5:4, and the body length of *habu* at the time was 350-410mm. Gestation period for eggs in 45 days, with hatching occurring during the end of July to the end of August from.

The life span of the *habu* is estimated on the basis of body length, centrum size, and growth rings. If the *habu* reproduces once a year, then I estimated the life-span of the female at seven years, and the male at ten.

In addition, I will also report on ecdysis, poison, poison action, etc. The life-cycle of the nematode, *Strongyloides stercoralis*, requires auto-infection when parasitic in humans. Contrary to previous belief, we confirm that cross-infection cannot take place between humans and dogs.

No.104, 26 April 2010

“Embodied ‘nature’ and adaptation to the changing world in central islands, Fiji”

Toshimitsu KAWAI （Sonoda Women's University）

[ABSTRACT]

Before contact with Western countries, Fijians seem to have lived in an ecologically harmonious world. Nowadays, Fiji is a well developed country among the South Pacific

countries. The purpose of this report is to investigate how Fijians have adapted to the rapidly changing situations. Though Fijian culture and society have changed drastically through colonization, urbanization, commercialization and so forth, native Fijians themselves continue to distinguish the "Fijian way" from the "Western way". Is this resistance to foreign cultures as some scholars have insisted? I attach much importance to the continuation of traditional culture rather than the discontinuity between tradition and modernity. Especially, I focus on the cultural notion of Fijians. Nature 'balance' where by everything in the world is supported by "sides". This figurative image is expressed as three sides (triangle) or four sides (square). In any way, the dualistic differentiation and the unity of the both sides is the basic mental image of Fijian culture. For example, they think that land and sea support each other, though they are mediated by the third, sky. A human body is also thought to be supported by the both sides, right and left, and they are supported and controlled by the head, the center of the body. In the same way, anything including human behavior, customs, material culture, animals, plants, and the other natural environments is believed to be the embodiment of the more basic image called "tovo in the head". The Fijian tovo, means "true shape" created by God, is distinguished from the other "false or imperfect shapes". Seeing from the native point of view, the process of modernization in Fiji was that of reorganization which was constructed on the base of "tovo in the head".

No.105, 17 May 2010

"Modernization of Japan and Kagoshima"

Takeichi MINAMURA（Kagoshima University）

[ABSTRACT]

The Japanese government encouraged active modernization policies since the Meiji period. This stimulated the development of modern businesses and enterprises in the property market, commercial market, labour market, and financial market especially in the capital region. The wave of modernization gradually spread to provincial agricultural and fishing districts. By the end of 1890s, modernization had reached the national scale. However, the samurai population dominated the majority. For Kagoshima where farming communities predominate, the route to modernization was slow and fell behind the national averages considerably. The primary reason lies behind the deeply rooted post-domain (han) ruling systems, customs, and other socially related matters. This persistence dragged the reformation of farmers' awareness and furthermore lagging behind in the improvement of the production technology and enhancement in productivity. Industry and commerce also suffered because of lack of funds and also due to markets (property, commercial, labour, and financial) being reliant upon the distant capital city. In Kagoshima there were no businesses that could be described as modern. In terms of politics and the policies, there were stronger

tendencies towards conservatism. From social and cultural point of view, modernization lagged behind other prefectures, and likewise education followed suit.

The democratization of agricultural, labour, and educational reforms following World War II 'greeted Kagoshima with the Meiji Restoration,' as was described back then, after the delay of 80 years. Albeit impeding development in monetary and commodity markets, retrospectively the small and medium enterprises and businesses, which comprised the majority, are rooted back to the farming and fishery practices reliant upon family labour and self-sufficiency. Nevertheless, modernization and globalization in Kagoshima is undeniably developing. The author will explore the light and the shadows of modernization, globalization, and the market economy.

"Tectonic plate boundaries and underground resources"

Munetomo NEDACHI（Kagoshima University）

[ABSTRACT]

Rocks contain all elements in the periodic table, but the consistency of elements are susceptible to change from a few fold to tens of thousands times more concentrated depending on the movement of the Earth. Mankind has efficiently utilized these as underground resources. The majority of these underground resources are the result of magma activities. However, not all magma activities are involved in underground resources. Since being involved in the Nankai (Southern Sea) Research Centre, the author frequently joined the extensive research team and conducted investigations in Papua New Guinea, Palau, Yap, and other western Pacific regions of island arcs which developed along the subduction boundaries between the oceanic plate and the continental plate. The research elucidated the characteristics of magma involved in the formulation of underground resources. The collaboration between the two institutes led to working alongside biologists on numerous occasions. This opened up opportunities to comprehensively appreciate the natural phenomena in question. The involvement facilitated and encouraged the planning of projects in 1) underground resources around primitive Earth tectonic plate boundaries and 2) excavation of ancient life forms. It helped to gain a foot in exploring the co-evolution of life and environment on primitive Earth.

No.106, 14 June 2010

"Islands and volcano"

Gozo YOSHIMASU (Josai International University)

[ABSTRACT]

I would like to begin my presentation with medieval monk Myoe's *Letter to my dear island* as a preface. Also, I would like to contribute some of my own thoughts for this

occasion through my personal cine ? “From island to peninsula or from peninsula to island” (this could be the title of my vision).

Traveling from these islands ? Amami, Kakeroma, Moppo, Tokunoshima, Cheju-do, to the lake island of Innisfree in Sligo, Ireland, also to Paul Gauguin’s Bretagne ? the song of these islands spreads like the sound of waves. Finally to arrive in Kagoshima (is it my own or a common illusion?) is the beginning of a dream. This should be clarified ? yes, mountain of fire.

No.107, 12 July 2010

“Tongan political reform: the odd-one-out among the Pacific Island”

Ian CAMPBELL (Research Center for the Pacific Islands, Kagoshima University)

[ABSTRACT]

The constitutions of the Pacific Island states are mostly the product of decolonisation in the third quarter of the 20th century and capture the values that were current at the time. Several of them have undergone minor modifications since though usually without discarding the received constitution or redesigning the political charter from first principles.

Tonga is the exceptional case, having a constitution that is about 100 years older than those of the other states. It was formulated in 1875 by a non-Tongan, and showed almost no engagement with Tongan culture as it was at the time. On the contrary, the idea was to show that Tonga had moved away from its culture in its new political construction.

However, after having had over 125 years to assimilate culture and constitution by the end of the 20th century political pressures were making it necessary for some changes to be made. The 1875 constitution preserved a strongly hereditary element in government which gave stability, but which also encouraged the idea that king and nobles had a natural right to rule. Therefore, for about 20 years the regime was able to ignore or resist suggestions that democratic reforms would be desirable or necessary.

The resistance to change ended abruptly as the aging king passed into a terminal decline, and power effectively shifted to the next generation. At that point, members of the royal family seized control of the reform process. Legislation was passed in 2010 broadening popular participation in government, and restricting the powers of the king. The changes will come into effect with an election in November 2010.

The effect of this reform is to create a constitution which is perhaps more intimately connected with Tongan culture than are the other constitutions of the Pacific, but also one which is much less democratic than might have been the case had reform been further delayed.

"*Capsicum* used in Asia"

Sota YAMAMOTO (Research Center for the Pacific Islands, Kagoshima University)

[ABSTRACT]

Domestication of the genus *Capsicum* dates back to 5,000-6,500 B.C. and people, such as the Olmecs, Toltecs and Aztecs, are known to have used *Capsicum* extensively since ancient times. After Columbus returned to the old world in 1493 with *Capsicum*, it soon spread from Spain to the other countries. *C. annuum* and *C. frutescens* are now widely cultivated throughout the world and are economically important as condiments, vegetables, and medicines. I would like to make a presentation about 1) the detailed usage of *Capsicum* as condiment, as vegetable, as medicine, as colorant, in popular beliefs, in agricultural rituals, in taboos, and in rice malt in Southeast and East Asia and 2) one possible hypothesis that *C. frutescens* possessing ShDH-B was introduced directly from the Americas via Oceania to Manila and it thereafter dispersed into the insular regions.

No.108, 21 September 2010

"Written in stone: what the stone artefacts of an ancient archaeological site can tell us"

Marion CAMPBELL (Visiting Archaeologist)

[ABSTRACT]

Lapita is the term used for the earliest culture identified in the western Pacific Islands. Moreover, archaeological studies in the western Pacific including Fiji have focussed on pottery analysis as the primary cultural marker. Analysis of stone artefacts has concentrated on adzes and on locating the source of their rock types. Similarly, sourcing of chert and obsidian artefacts as a means of tracing trade and population movements has received much attention. This approach has been adopted, in part, because most Lapita-period sites have been deficient in stone artefacts. A current trend is to move away from studies of individual artefacts and their form to concentrate on methods of production and resource strategies

The early Lapita site at Bourewa, on the south-west coast of Viti Levu, Fiji, has provided a collection of almost 1700 stone artefacts which exhibit a wide range of types and attest to multiple activities occurring at the site. Detailed analysis of this collection has been under-taken combining the older approaches of classification and an assessment of production methods and resource utilisation. Over three-quarters of the flaked material has been either re-touched or has fine wear patterns that indicate the way it was used. Many pieces show multiple use and functions.

Analysis of the distribution of these artefacts from the site has identified focus areas for particular activities and changes through time. This is the first time that such an attempt has

been made for a Lapita site and is especially important because at present Bourewa is accepted as the earliest occupation site yet discovered in Fiji.

No.109, 8 November 2010

"Visual record of Kagoshima Maru II -maiden voyage to Naples half a century ago-"

Kazuo TAGUCHI (Professor Emeritus, Kagoshima University)

[ABSTRACT]

In 1960 the training ship Kagoshima Maru, which belongs to Kagoshima University, made her maiden voyage from Japan to Naples, Italy, via the Suez Canal. While navigating, all the cadets stood on navigation watch, and they practiced fishing by tuna long-line and trawling in the Northern Indian Ocean. They also made oceanographic research and practiced tuna canning. The ship called at Colombo, Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) and Singapore on the return trip for supplies and relaxation.

This voyage was completed in 102 days and proved the excellent performance of every facility, including the safety of the ship's hull.

The speaker originally recorded the voyage with a 16 mm film camera and edited the video images assisted by some volunteers for sound effect to make this video. Today the DVD edition is shown and discussed with the audience about the operation of the training ship.

Another purpose of calling at Naples was requested by the authorities of Kagoshima City under the Kagoshima-Naples Sister City relationship, and some members of the delegation boarded the ship to attend the sister city ceremony in Naples.

No.110, 6 December 2010

"Venice's rule on Crete"

Tetsuya TONAI (Faculty of Law, Economics and the Humanities, Kagoshima University)

[ABSTRACT]

The northern Italian city-republic of Venice, which had prospered from the Levantine trade in the medieval period, maintained overseas territories in the Adriatic and eastern Mediterranean for a few centuries. Though most ports and islands under the Venetian dominion were merely support bases along the trading routes, many Venetian nobles and citizens moved to Crete, one of the biggest islands in Venice's maritime empire, where they owned vast landed estates and produced wheat and wine from the early 13th century. Encountering some revolts by the Cretan people led by local elites, Venetian rule and colonization on Crete has been interpreted as a model of that for modern colonies by European states. This report focuses on the system of Venetian control on Crete and the relationship between the Catholic immigrants from Venice, the Greek Orthodox people of

the island and the Venetian government, and then, compares Venice's rule on Crete with that of the Amami Islands by the Satsuma clan in the early modern period.

No.111, 24 January 2011

"Continuous GPS observation in the Tokara Islands, Kagoshima, Japan"

Shigeru NAKAO (Graduate School of Science and Engineering, Kagoshima University)

[ABSTRACT]

GEONET is a nation-wide GPS array is constructed and operated by the Geographical Survey Institute, Japan. However, there is no GEONET site in the Tokara Islands except in Suwanose-jima where volcanic activity is high. The Philippine Sea plate subducts beneath the Tokara Islands in Ryukyu Trench which is located east of the Tokara Islands. It seems that there is no interplate coupling area because crustal deformation in Tanegashima, Yakushima, Amami-oshima and Kikaijima is not explained by seismic coupling theory.

There is no estimation of interplate coupling near the Tokara Islands and no observation of crustal deformation in the Tokara Islands because there is no GPS site. We occupied a GPS site in Takara-jima, Akuseki-jima in 2007, Gajya-jima in 2009 and Kuchinoshima in 2010 due to observation of crustal deformation and estimation of interplate coupling in this area.

In this presentation, we will introduce outline of our GPS observation and on the coseismic deformation of earthquake M6.8 occurred on October 30, 2009. We will try to determine the depth of the earthquake by using coseismic deformation data.

"Seismic observation in the northern part of the Nansei Islands, Kagoshima, Japan"

Hiroshi YAKIWARA (Graduate School of Science and Engineering, Kagoshima University)

[ABSTRACT]

An island arc, Kyushu and the Nansei Islands, is located at the active area of seismicity and volcanic phenomena. Nansei-toko Observatory for Earthquakes and Volcanoes (NOEV) was established in 1991 in order to develop detailed studies for seismo-volcanic tectonics and to contribute toward reductions of earthquake disasters. The observatory has mainly studied seismicity in the region by use of seismic observation systems. Because that most part of this region is area of sea, we also have temporarily deployed ocean-bottom seismometers along the island arc. As a result of the continuous observation for about twenty years, we estimate that the yearly total of earthquakes in the target area is over 25,000, and that many micro- and middle-earthquakes occurred in clusters along the arc.

The area in and around Amami Oshima is seismically most active. Today, we focus on past studies of seismic observations in and around Amami Oshima. The characteristics of the seismicity are summarized as follows. 1) Noticeable high-seismicity is observed near the

southeast coast of Amami Oshima around 28km depth. 2) No earthquake shallower than 10km depth occurred in and around Amami Oshima. The feature is quite different from that of the ordinary seismicity on land. 3) The dip angle of the subducting Philippine Sea Plate is 25 degrees. In the present, we have been building up the seismic network in Tokara and Amami Islands.

Field Research

1) Interdisciplinary research in Kuroshima island Kagoshima, from 18-22 May 2010.

Research members

2) Interdisciplinary research in Pohnpei state, Federated States of Micronesia, from August 5th to September 8th 2010.

Collecting mosquitoes in Pohnpei Island

Mokil Atolls

Interviewing in Pingelap Atolls

Survey of sea weeds in Pohnpei Island

Meeting in College of Micronesia

Research members

New Staff

Sota YAMAMOTO Associate professor

Profile: Born 1980. Completed his B.S. in 2003, M.S. in 2005, and a Doctorate of Agriculture in 2008 at Kyoto University. Majored in Ethnobotany, tropical agriculture, and crop evolution.

Drinking traditional alcohol (*duai tam*) of Nha Heun in southern Laos

Recent Publications

South Pacific Studies Vol.31, No1, 2010

Research Papers

David HANLON: Aloha for their violence: locating the NFL'S pro bowl within contemporary Hawai'i and the deeper Hawaiian past

Vina RAM-BIDESI: Employment opportunities for women in the tuna industry in small islands: is it really restrictive? A case study of Fiji Islands

Sota YAMAMOTO: Use of *Capsicum* peppers in the Batanes Islands, Philippines

South Pacific Studies Vol.31, No2, 2011

Research Papers

Kei KAWAI, Sueo KUWAHARA, Ryuta TERADA, Shigeto TOMINAGA, Shinichi NODA, and Shunsuke NaGASHIMA: Influence of Environmental Changes on the Micronesian Region: Case Study of Islands in Yap State, Federated States of Micronesia

Notes

Cynthia N. ZAYAS: Describing Stewardship of the Common Sea among *Atob* Fishers of the Pacific Rim Islands - Cases from the Philippines, Taiwan and Japan

Sueo KUWAHARA: Development and Conservation Issues Relevant to the World Natural Heritage Listing of Amami

Occasional Papers No. 50 (December 2010)

The Research Center for the Pacific Islands: Re-opening as "The Center for Island Studies Education and Research" Symposium Theme: "Nesia empowerment" - Developing Island Futures (NAGASHIMA S. and YAMAMOTO S. eds)

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