

3/11 Anti-NPP Fukushima Action 2013: Tremendous Success

International Labor Solidarity Committee of Doro-Chiba



Dalmamori & Eriko, manual arts-musicians, in the pre-event

1,350 participants

On the second anniversary of March 11, the Fukushima nuclear meltdowns, “3/11 Fukushima Anti-NPP Action 2013” took place at the largest room of Fukushima Prefecture Education Hall in Fukushima City with 1,350 participants from the Prefecture and around the country. Thereafter, they marched from the Hall through the area of Fukushima Prefecture Government Building to the Fukushima Railway Central Station.

The Abe administration and the nuclear mafia, who are developing a propagandist campaign of “reconstruction of Fukushima” in an outrageous attempt to wipe out Fukushima disaster from the history, resorted to every measure to intimidate people who were engaged in

organizing the 3/11 Anniversary Action or prepared to attend it. Despite these enormous difficulties, people from Fukushima and around the country and rose up to speak out courageously.

International Solidarity Actions

As of March 8, the endorsers of the Action reached 838. The whole room applauded when the moderator reported that the endorsers include 430 from abroad—to name a few among them, 29 leading activists of Seoul Regional Council of Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, people who are fighting against Gorleben nuclear wastes facilities in Germany, uranium mining in Australia, NPPs in South Africa; doctors who struggle against nuclear weapons and power plants; coordinators of Chieko Shiina’s anti-NPPs tour in California; and Turkish people who gathered tens of thousands of anti-nuke signature and protested Japanese government immediately after the 3/11, 2011. Most importantly, from March 9 to 11, in many places around the world, people held protest actions from on the second Fukushima Day.



Megumi Aida,
Fukushima Women
Against NPPs



Shiina Chieko,
Fukushima Women
Against NPPs



Takuya Terai stopped Wakayama NPPs

At the Fukushima Action Rally, Megumi Aida, pottery artist and member of Women Against NPPs greeted on behalf of the steering committee of the 3/11 Action, “We will continue our fight in solidarity with people not only in Japan but also in the whole world. Despite many difficulties, we will strenuously advance step by step.”



Atsuko Ogasawara, fights against construction of Oma NPP

Chieko Shiina, also a steering committee member and Fukushima Women Against NPPs spoke, “the 3/11 is the Fukushima Day. We must not dismiss the day 3/11, as we cannot neglect August 6 and 9 Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days and May 15 Okinawa Day. Don't allow the Abe administration and the nuclear mafia to evade their responsibility! Speak out our anger at them!”



Reiko Shimoda, Hiroshima A-bomb survivor

Speakers from around the country

Takuya Terai from Wakayama Prefecture shared his experience in struggle against nuclear plants construction, which ended in victory. Atsuko Ogasawara



National Conference of Farmers

spoke about her late mother's resistance to NPP construction and continuation of the struggle thanks to which the Oma NPP cannot yet operate. Reiko Shimoda, Atomic Bomb survivor from Hiroshima condemned Prime Minister Abe who schemes to restart, construct and export NPPs.



Masami Yoshizawa, lives in an adjacent area to Fukushima Daiichi with his cattle

Koichiro Suzuki, farmers from Fukushima, took the rostrum together with other members of the National Conference of Farmers, including Takao Shito, member of the Farmers League Against Narita Airport. There was also an appeal for intensified struggle against deployment of US military aircraft Osprey in Okinawa.

Speakers from around Fukushima

Masami Yoshizawa, cattle farmer from Namie in adjacent area to the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant expressed his anger and resolve, “In my farm, there are still 350 cattle in radioactive environment. I have determined to dedicate my life to struggle against NPPs and the nuclear mafia. Let's fight together!”

“We have launched repeated strikes against work in radioactive environment,” said Katsuyuki Kokubu from Doro-Mito (National Railway Motive Power Union of Mito), located in the neighboring prefecture of Fukushima,

“We are convinced that workers can only survive this catastrophic situation with labor unions and struggle in solidarity with co-workers.”



Katsuyuki Kokubu's Doro-Mito strikes against radioactive contamination in their workplaces

Koichi Hashimoto from Koriyama Factory Branch of Kokuro (National Railway Workers Union) reported that his union

branch had officially endorsed the 3/11 Anti-NPP Fukushima Action.

College and high school students of Fukushima also appeared on the stage and spoke out against nuclear power plants.



Koichi Hashimoto's Koriyama Factory Branch of Kokuro in the second largest city in Fukushima passed resolution to endorse the 3/11 Action

At 2:46 p.m., the time of the Earthquake, the room offered one-minute silence for the deceased in the Earthquake and its aftermath.

Yukihiko Fuse, one of the doctors of Fukushima Collaborative Clinic, and Sachiko Sato, leader of



Yukihiko Fuse and Sachiko Sato work for the Fukushima Collaborative Clinic



People from Fukushima at the head of the march



Fukushima Clinic Construction Committee, appealed for fund raising and other help for the clinic and Fukushima children, "Thank you so much for your support. The Clinic opened on December 1, last year. It is the hope for children and parents in Fukushima. However, much more fund is needed to construct bigger clinic where we can care more patients and anyone can gather together."

Spirited Demonstration

The street demonstration after the rally was warmly and heartily greeted by the people in downtown Fukushima. Out of windows of large buildings, they waved their hands for spirited march of the 3/11 Action. Nurses and other medical workers cheered for the march in front of a hospital. In the Fukushima Central Station Square, the end



End of the march

point of the march, the demonstrators chanted in explosion of their joy and pledged to enlarge and strengthen anti-nuke movement.

News & Documents

Fukushima cleanup contractors told workers to lie about pay in 'surprise' inspections

Asahi Shinbun
March 23, 2013

Contractors were tipped off about "surprise" inspections of decontamination work around the stricken Fukushima nuclear plant, giving them time to order workers to lie about hazard pay they weren't receiving, The Asahi Shimbun learned.

One company official warned that failure to mislead the inspectors could cause every worker to lose financially.

The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare has inspected about 110 companies and confirmed that 11 withheld hazard pay from their workers. The

ministry's inquiries came after The Asahi Shimbun reported on Nov. 5 that contractors in the radioactive cleanup work were apparently pocketing the taxpayer-funded daily hazard allowance of up to 10,000 yen (\$106). [read more](#)

Japan to Begin Restarting Idled Nuclear Plants, Leader Says

New York Times
By Martin Fackler and Hiroko Tabuchi
February 28, 2013

TOKYO — Japan will begin restarting its idled nuclear plants after new safety guidelines are in place later this year, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Thursday, moving to ensure a stable energy supply despite public safety concerns after the Fukushima disaster.

He did not specify when any of the reactors might resume operation, and news reports have suggested that it might take months or even years to make the expensive upgrades needed to meet the new safety standards.

Still, by making the promise in front of the Diet, Mr. Abe indicated in the strongest way yet that he planned to move ahead with a campaign pledge to reverse his predecessor's hopes that Japan would begin weaning itself off nuclear energy.

The speech came as the World Health Organization published a comprehensive, two-year analysis on the health risks associated with the 2011 disaster suggesting that the chance of getting certain types of cancers had increased slightly among children exposed to the highest doses of radioactivity. But the report said that there would most likely be no observable increase in cancer rates in the wider Japanese population. [read more](#)

In a speech to Parliament, Mr. Abe pledged to restart nuclear plants that pass the tougher guidelines, which are expected to be adopted by a new independent watchdog agency, the Nuclear Regulation Authority, as early as July.

Weekly rallies keeping antinuclear movement alive after LDP's return

By Morichika Nakamoto
Japan times / KYODO
March 6, 2013

The weekly antinuclear power rallies are still being staged outside the prime minister's office, as evidenced by a gathering of some 3,000 people one recent cold February evening, but the crowds are getting smaller.

Part of this decline may be because two years have passed since the Fukushima nuclear disaster started. Another factor may be that the Liberal

Democratic Party—the very promoter of nuclear energy over the past half-century—returned to power at the end of last year.

The demonstrations, organized by the Metropolitan Coalition Against Nukes, a body made up of 13 groups as well as individual members, have been held every Friday in Nagata-cho since late last March, when the Democratic Party

of Japan was in power and seemed receptive to calls to end nuclear power.

The movement that originally attracted 300 people grew drastically to draw some 200,000 participants of all ages within three months as the DPJ-led government moved toward restarting two reactors at the Oi nuclear plant in Fukui Prefecture, coalition members said. [read more](#)

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