

Chapter 3 Case Part: Knowledge Activities by NGOs, NPOs, and Networks in Contemporary Japanese Society

Section 1 Introduction

This chapter organizes data in line with the issue. Knowledge activities by NGOs, NPOs, and networks in contemporary Japanese society become data. Text data represents what kind of knowledge an actor produces; and interview data represents what kind of opinions or ideas an actor has for knowledge production and knowledge. These data will be analyzed through the two points: “how we can evaluate from the perspective of knowledge production and circulation” and “how we can evaluate from the perspective of SCKP.”

The procedures to narrow down the actors for analyses are follows: (1) “To be linked on the Internet web page: 21 Portal, which makes lists of alternative groups and networks” ; (2) “To make arguments on the issue of globalization” ; (3) “To have office around Tokyo.” The groups and networks which fill the conditions are “A SEED JAPAN” ; “ATTAC Japan” ; “Gesell research society in Japan” ; Sloth Club” ; and “NAM (New Associationist Movements).” However, these seem not enough case number; then, this paper add groups linked through the web pages of those five groups and networks which cover the (2) and (3) conditions. As a result, “Pacific Asia Research Center (ARC)” and “Debt Net” are added. When the writer asked taking interview of these seven groups and networks, then five groups and networks gave back positive answers. Consequently, this paper settles the actors to analyze as are “A SEED JAPAN” ; “ATTAC Japan” ; “Gesell research society in Japan” ; Sloth Club” ; and “PARC.”

In organizing data this paper prepares following points.

“Format of Data”

Name: URL:

- (1) Year of setting up: If available to describe the reasons of setting up
- (2) Core members and number of memberships
- (3) Brief overview of organization: To explain what it does and what interest it has and such
- (4) As overview of knowledge activities to show “by which media it performs knowledge activities” and “its contents.” Firstly, this paper needs to grasp through what kinds of media produced knowledge appear. As for produced texts this part makes lists of them by narrowing down to those “after 1998” ; “recent three periodical articles” ; “texts related with one’ s own stance” ; and “texts arguing globalization even in broad sense.” In making lists, through classification the point is shown whether a text has features of knowledge production (represented as KP) making innovative elements or those of knowledge circulation (represented as KC) not making innovative elements. At the same time, style of knowledge activities and form of text are also shown. The styles of knowledge activities are classified as for KP into three: to make original research and study (represented as “original”); to compose already existing knowledge (represented as “composition”); and to request another actors to produce knowledge (represented as “request”). Request includes translation also. In terms of knowledge circulation knowledge activities can be classified into transmission or process of knowledge. Knowledge circulation also includes

translation. As to the forms of texts, this paper classifies “consideration” ; “report” ; and “essay.” In addition, if a text can be seen through Internet homepage, the figure (HP) shows it.

Ex) Author ‘title of the text’ (production-composition-consideration) (HP) / Author ‘title of the text’ (circulation-transmission (translation)-essay)

- (5) It defines the text to be analyzed. This article narrows down the objects to be analyzed to those texts having many categories argued in theoretical part and at the same time having significant points for the issue of this article. The texts exclude report and essay, because they are more likely information than knowledge; the texts are confined to consideration. However, if report and essay represent well an actor’s interest and cognition, they can be shown as data.
- (6) It organizes data along with the categories. In doing so, the texts which define an actor’s stance will also be shown. To remind, the categories are “interest” ; “cognition” ; “living together” ; “analytical understanding” ; “problematization” ; and “vision.” The contents of the texts will be classified into those categories. When the contents are consistent with plural categories, then plural categories are shown. Also underline shows the significant points in terms of analysis. In addition, this paper does not make evaluation and make arguments on the quality of texts’ contents themselves; what this part will do lies in to show what an actor provided as knowledge.
- (7) It organizes interview data. The interview data are to show opinions, ideas, and even consciousness on knowledge activities. The procedures to make offer the interview are followings: to ask interview of those might be able to talk a lot on knowledge activities such as a representative or a university professor. The method of interview is semi-standardized interview (Berg, 1998: 61-62). To say concretely, by settling broad framework of questions, interview is conducted, valuing the flows of talks and concerning time. By doing so interviewer might be able to get more honest ideas and consciousness through smooth call and response. Put in differently, if one tries to take interview from the same persons based on the same methodology, then, one might be able to construct data which have not so much difference from what this paper organizes. In addition, in interviewing recorder¹ is not used. The concrete questions and their intentions are follows:

Q1 “What are the significant values of your organization?”

[It intends to extract interest and cognition. It also has meaning to confirm what are expressed through HP and such media.]

Q2 “What kind and world outlook does your organization have which supports the core values, or what kinds of cognition does your organization have for contemporary world?”

[It intends to extract cognition on the world, or comprehension of the world. In other words, it can mean what kind of social consciousness it has. Sometimes, this question can show whether

¹ By using recorder, interviewee might get tense, and free speech might be restricted. Therefore, not using recorder, the interviewer makes memo during interview and organizes data based on them.

it has consciousness on Japanese society or not.]

Q3 “Does your organization think to create knowledge has significance? If so why?”

[It intends to extract consciousness on knowledge production and circulation.]

Q4 “Could you talk about the procedures of knowledge creation?”

[It intends to extract whether one’s knowledge activities are knowledge production or circulation through ways of knowledge activities: such as whether research and study or mere request]

Q5 “What kind of motivation does your organization have for such knowledge activities?”

[It intends to extract the reasons why one does knowledge activities.]

Q6 “Does your organization have satisfaction on knowledge activities?”

[It intends to extract the gap between will or motivation and results of knowledge activities. Also it functions to extract the limitation one has. Moreover, it intends to extract whether one has sense of impacts from knowledge activities.]

Q7 “If your organization wants to enhance knowledge activities, what kinds of challenging points does it have?”

[It intends to extract the challenging points or tasks for better knowledge activities.]

By settling these seven questions as broad framework, the interviewer tries to extract what texts and web page do not represent. Put in differently, the questions having more weight are number 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

These are the format of data.

Section 2 Data on Knowledge Activities

2-1 A SEED JAPAN

URL: <http://www.jca.apc.org/~aseed/>

(1) Year of setting up: In 1991 succeeding to the A SEED international campaign which focused on Rio Summit 1992, A SEED JAPAN started as membership based organization .

(2) Core members: Tanabe Yuki / Suzuki Ryo / Miyakoshi Yoshihito / Ogawa Junko and others.
Membership: about 900 (at 2002/Nov)

(3) Brief overview of the organization: It is youth environmental NGO, in which mostly university students involve. A SEED JAPAN stands for Action for Solidarity, Equality, Environment and Development. This organization has various projects, not only knowledge activities. For example, ASJ (A SEED JAPAN) has conducted “dish-reuse-service” in various events; it means that by providing washable dishes and plates, ASJ organizes place to wash and reuse them. Also, “Gomi zero navigation (navigation for zero garbage)” has conducted in outdoor music festivals. It is the arrangement, due to navigating or instructing, visitors of an event can understand how to classify in casting their wastes.

(4) Knowledge activities of ASJ

The knowledge activities by ASJ can be classified into mainly three. Firstly, some booklets were produced which have around 100 pages. The booklets related with the issue of globalization are follows: A SEED JAPAN (1998) “Semarikuru Globalizeision Watashitatino Shutaitekina Sentakuwo Sagasite [Coming Globalization: To Seek our Subjective Choices]” (Tokyo: A Seed Japan); the co-authorship with SAGE², youth environmental NGO, “Globalarusijoukeizaihenogimon [Doubt on Global Market Economy]” (Tokyo: A SEED JAPAN); and International Youth Environmental NGO A SEED JAPAN Committee of “Rio Minus Ten Campaign’ ed (2002) “Yohanesburugusamittonotameno Earth Navigation [Earth Navigation for Johannesburg Summit]” (Tokyo: A SEED JAPAN). And the following texts can cover the range of consideration.

“Coming Globalization”

Anonymous ‘Souron: Globalizeisiontoiu Chouryu [General remarks: The Trend of Globalization]’
pp. 6-23 (production-composition-consideration)

Anonymous ‘Ajiano Tsukakiki [Asian Financial Crisis] ’ pp. 24-31
(production-composition-consideration)

Tasiro, Yoichi ‘WTO Taiseikano Nougouseisaku [Agricultural Policy Under the System of WTO]’
pp. 36-40 (Production-request-consideration)

Hosono, Takeshi ‘Kokusaikyousouno Genjouto Nihonno Kinyubiguban [The Conditions of
International Competition and Japanese Financial Big Bang] ’ pp. 46-50

² See <http://www.interq.or.jp/green/sageweb/> on SAGE.

- (production-request- consideration)
- Sakuma, Tomoko ‘Takokukantoushikyouteiwomeguru Ronten [Issues around MIE] ’ pp.51-54
(production-request- consideration)
- Saeki, Natsuko ‘Gurobarizzeishonnonakano Roudou [Labor in Globalization] ’ pp.59-62
(production-request-report)
- Terauchi, Kozue ‘Gurobarukarironno Taitou [Rising of Globalization Theories] ’ pp. 63-67
(production-request-consideration)
- Oomori, Mayumi ‘Torendoga Aratanashijouwo Tsukuru [Trend Makes New Market] ’ pp. 76-81
(production-original-consideration)
- “Doubt on Global Market Economy” (only texts written by ASJ)
- Oota, Ryuutarou ‘Semarikuru Kinyuuno Kyoui [Coming Threat of Financial] ’ pp. 6-9
(production-composition-consideration)
- Takeshita, Miho ‘Toushino Chikara ——Sono Zetsudainaru Eikyouryoku—— [Power of Investment
——Its Overwhelming Influences——] ’ pp. 22-24 (production-composition-consideration)
- Kishimoto, Satoko ‘Saabisuno Rontentoha? [What are the Issues of Service?] ’ pp. 30-34
(production-composition-consideration)
- Takeshita, Miho ‘Jiyuushugi VS Hogoshugi [Liberalism VS Protectionism] ’ pp. 36-38
(production-composition-consideration)
- Nakajima, Hitoshi ‘Chiiki Komunitito Takokusekikigyou [Local Community and Multi-national
Corporation] ’ pp. 39-41 (production-composition-consideration)
- Takeshita, Miho ‘Hattenno Houkouseiheno Kadai [Tasks for Direction of Development] ’ pp.
42-45 (production-composition-consideration)
- Tanabe, Yuki and Kayo Yasuda ‘Keizaigakudemiru Jiyuboueikiron [Seeing Free Trade Theory from
Economics] ’ pp. 46-49 (production-composition-consideration)
- Tsunoguchi, Ken ‘Shiatoru Taikenki [Report from Seattle] ’ pp. 52-55 (production-report)
- Sakamoto, Emi ‘Kakuryoukaigino Yukue... [The Destination of a Conference at Ministerial
Level] ’ pp. 56-58 (production-report)
- Sasuda, Kayo ‘Siatoruniatsumatta NGO Mitsunoshuchou [Three Insistences by NGO Gathered at
Seattle] ’ pp. 59-61 (production-report)
- “Earth Navigation for Johannesburg”
- Sevan, Suzuki ‘Hajimeni [Preface] ’ pp. 4-8 (circulation-transmission (translation)-essay)
- Tanaka, Yuu ‘Riokarajuunen shiminga shakaiwo tsukuru kanousei [10 years since Rio:
Possibilities for Citizens to Create Society] ’ pp. 9-26
(production-request-consideration)
- Tanabe, Yuki and Shunji Taga ‘Miraihen Aasunabigeishon [Earth Navigation for Future] ’ pp.
27-41 (production-original-consideration)
- Monoe, Youko ‘Hinkonno Juunen [Ten Years of Poverty] ’ pp. 44-58
(production-composition-consideration)
- Kobayashi, Kengo ‘Bouekino Juunen [Ten Years of Trade] ’ pp. 59-67
(production-composition-consideration)

- Tanabe, Yuuki ‘Ondankano Juunen [Ten Years of Warming] pp. 680-72
(production-composition-consideration) (HP)
- Shiraiwa, Ken ‘Seibutsu Tayouseino Juunen [Ten Years of Diversity of Creatures] ’ pp. 73-81
(production-composition-consideration) (HP)
- Nishiyama, Toshimitsu ‘Seineno Juunen [Ten Years of the Youth] ’ pp. 82-87
(production-composition-consideration)
- Kitazawa, Yoko ‘Samittodeno NGO no Teigenkatsudou [NGO’ s Advocacy Activity in Summit] ’ pp.
90-96 (circulation-processing-consideration)

Secondly, ASJ has published the news letter called “Tanemaki [Sowing] ” for membership once a month. “Tanemaki” is A3 size of newsletter around 12 pages; each volume has focused topic such as “Future of Sustainable Development: Reports on Johannesburg Summit” (2002/10), “Values of Community” (2002/8・9), and such as “WSSD is on SALE!! Reports on Final Preparation Meeting for Johannesburg.” The contents of it are mainly texts on the topics, reports on activities by ASJ, and such as essay on environmental problems or lifestyle. These do not have specific texts covering the criteria to consider. In addition, Tanemaki counts 70 volumes by Oct. 2002.

Thirdly, on the web page ASJ make public several texts related with its projects and campaign. At the point of time: Oct. 2002, ASJ has “Rio Minus Ten Campaign,” “Trash Zero Campaign,” “Energy Team,” “Food Safety and Future of Agriculture Team,” and such as “Ecology Job Navigation.” Most of the contents have features leaning to information rather than systematic knowledge. However, on the pages of “Rio Minus Ten Campaign” several reports called “analytical reports” are available. Some are included in the booklet. The list of the texts is following.

From the page of “Rio Minus Ten Campaign”

- Hoshino, Keiko ‘Sttokuhorumukara Riodejaneirososite Yohanesuburuguhe Chikyuukannkyoumondai Sanjuunenno Seijishi [From Stockholm through Rio de Janeiro to Johannesburg: 30 years Political History of Global Environmental Problems] ’
(production-composition-consideration) (HP)
- Tanabe, Yuuki ‘Ondankawomeguru Juunen [Ten Years on Warming] ’
(production-composition-consideration) (HP) (transmitted to the booklet)
- Siraiwa, Ken ‘Seibutsu Tayouseino Juunen [Ten Years of Diversity of Creatures] ’
(production-composition-consideration) (HP) (transmitted to the booklet)
- Suzuki, Ryo ‘Sekaiha Riopurasutenni Mukete Ugoiteiru [World Moving to Rio Plus Ten] ’
(production-composition-consideration) (HP)
- Kitazawa, Yoko ‘Riopurasutennimuketa NGO no Yakuwaritoha? (Summery of speech text) [What are the Roles of NGO for Rio Plus Ten?] ’ (circulation-process-report) (HP)
- Tanabe, Yuuki ‘Darenotameno Kokusaikaiginanoka? [For Whom is International Conference?]’
(production-composition-consideration) (HP)

Also at the idem of “economic issue report” two texts are available in Japanese.

Takeshita, Miho ‘ “Ima” no Kurashikara Gurobarukasita Shakaiwo Miruto [To See Globalized Society from the Perspective of “Now”] ’ (production-essay) (HP)

Kobayashi, Ichiro ‘Naze Kigyouni Chuumokusuruka? [Why do We Focus on Corporation?] ’ (production-request-consideration) (HP)

(5) Objects of Consideration

From the booklet mentioned above this paper chooses and organizes as data: Nakajima ‘Local Community and Multi-national Corporation’ (consideration); Tanabe and Yasuda ‘Seeing Free Trade Theory from Economics’ (consideration); Tanaka ‘10 years since Rio: Possibilities for Citizens to Create Society’ (consideration); and Tanabe and Taga ‘Earth Navigation for Future’ (consideration). These considerations have many categories of SCKP to analyze, and the content and quality has certain level, these are the main reasons for choice.

(6) Text-based Data

First of all by seeing texts on the web page which define ASJ itself, it grasps interest and cognition.

Interest / Cognition

A SEED JAPAN and its Mission The Earth Summit held in 1992 in Rio, made it clear that each environmental problem that we face is closely related each other and also undoubtedly [sic] related to the international eco system that has been demanding continuous growth and chaotic development programs. Also clarified that those environmental problems do not stay as domestic level but increas [sic] seriousness to the gloval [sic] level. Since then, economic globalization not only complicates but also fasten the speed of degradation of the environmental problems. A SEED JAPAN has been, is, and always will, take actions to balance the social injustice exists in the environmental problems ……. (HP of English version)

After Rio summit ASJ has cognized various environmental problems are intertwined and related with economic system seeking development.

In order to reach the aim ASJ raises three main points to work on:

Interest / Cognition

* We see the environmental problems from the roots: the structure of the economy and the society: The environmental degradation and North-South deviation engraved. We see those problems are caused by the system of the economy and the society itself. We take actions against those root causes as well as the environmental problems we temporarily face.

* We disseminate information from the position of “the youth”: We try to let as many people know about the environmental problems and social injustice in a simple words. We target the youth mainly and tell them how our lifestyle can closely be related to the global issues, and how we can deal with it.

* We change the society in the long term view: We continuously make agendas and policies

to warn our local government and private cooperations the coming crisis. We advocate our new agenda to change this social system to make it better for our future. (HP of English version)

Based on these statements, or definition of itself, as interest and cognition, this subsection goes on organization of data through chosen texts.

(1) Nakajima, Hitoshi ‘Local Community and Multi-national Corporation’ in “Doubt on Global Market Economy” (production-composition-consideration)

This article defines neoliberalism briefly and then argues briefly the issues on international polarization in agricultural field and monopoly by multi-national corporation (MNC) through patent on biological resources.

1-1 Cognition / Understanding (Definition of neoliberalism)

Neoliberalism is liberalism based new economic management way stem from reflection on the failure of government initiative style economic management led by state. The foundations are to put value on international free trade market and to minimize interventions by state on economics. (40)

1-2 Cognition / Understanding (Dual structure related with agriculture-stock raising products)

Seeing agriculture field of the South countries, there is dual structure: on the one hand mass agriculture and stock raising focusing on export oriented products connected with MNC, and on the other hand, small agriculture focusing on producing food grain for self-sustenance and domestic consumption led by local community and small farmers. However, under the economic logic of neoliberalism emphasizing export, the former mass oriented agriculture and stock raising have been given priority, while the latter agriculture has been put aside. As a result, the collapse of community and impoverishment of small farmers occurred. (40)

1-3 Understanding / Problematization (Land Possession by MNC and Inpoverization of Local)

Seventy percent of world agricultural related trade has been occupied by “grain measures” like Kagil corporation. Moreover, most of the shares of production and distribution of food in the South are held by super MNCs adding to the grain measure “chemical measure” like Monsanto corporation, deals with pesticide, which has gene modifying technology joins. And after GATT Uruguay round in 1993, the imbalance of export-import countries has expanded.

Parts of MNCs of the North possessed good land, and Local people cannot make what they can eat. As a result, those live in the South, basically rich in natural resources, have been suffered by poverty and starvation. And it is obvious that WTO succeeding GATT pushes further collapse of local community and destruction of environment through mass scale production. (40)

1-4 Cognition / Problematization (Mono-culturalization through GM technology and patent)

Originally farm village community of the South region has made effort for a long time to raise traditional crops, appropriate for the local land, in community. However, those crops come to be unsalable “possession,” because corporations acquire patents on technical amendment and chemical proof, which the South came to use. If such technologies permeate into the South market, it is obvious that mono-culturalized mass produced crops will exclude original crops. (41)

1-5 Understanding / Problematization (The Danger of Promotion of Gene Mono-Culture by MNCs)

Today, due to pressures from MNCs, TRIPS of WTO have tried to revise the rules on intellectual property rights about bio resources. The preamble of TRIPS draft admits the right of an individual who gets intellectual property rights, rather than that of indigenous people’ s shared intellectual goods. ……

In the future, if globalization of bio patents goes on, MNCs will expand more and more gene uniform mono-culture for the sake of quick benefit from investments. The bio-diversity, which various communities have tried to preserve since the birth of life on earth, has now in crisis. (41)

(2) Tanabe, Yuki and Kayo Yasuda ‘Seeing Free Trade Theory from Economics’ in “Doubt on Global Market Economy” (production-composition-consideration)

This article starts arguing the aim of economics: to make people’ s life better. It explains the social contexts of free trade theory by A. Smith. And by making comparative superiority theory confronted with reality, it argues three contradictions and two countermeasures towards them.

2-1 Cognition / Understanding (Purpose of Economics)

Economics has put its purpose on correction of poverty, abolish of inequality, stabilization of price, and development of economy. Namely, economics started as practical discipline to make life better. …… There is no “Wealth” without “Life,” namely, the aim of economics is to enhance the quality of living and to construct wealthy society. (47)

2-2 Cognition / Understanding / Problematization (The Theory of Free Trade and its Historicity)

The free trade theory has occupied main stream since the birth of economics. A. Smith and D. Ricardo have been said as pioneers of free trade theory. The rationale of the theory is basis of contemporary free trade such as NAFTA or WTO.

However, it seems impossible to apply this theory to contemporary society, because the theory had largely different background at that time. (47)

2-3 Understanding (Contradiction between Contexts of Theory by Smith and Contemporary Conditions)

Smith insisted the necessity of economic wealth as basis for civil society in which each

person can enjoy life by expressing one's feeling freely. He wanted to create society in which even small actors can make free competition; he criticized monopolization by privilege company and trade merchants, for whom ancient regime gave privileges.

Namely, his theory of free trade needs to be seen from historical contexts; it cannot be applied to and supports for contemporary arguments on free trade by MNCs. Referring to Smith's arguments today's economy has orientation towards "monopoly trade" by MNCs rather than "free trade." (47-48)

2-4 Understanding (Understanding on Comparative Superiority Theory by Ricardo)

To say briefly, it means that it might lead to mutual better off conditions, even though one state has absolute superiority or inferiority to another state in all of the fields, if each country focuses on producing relatively superior field in terms of efficiency of production and exchange products through trade. (48)

2-5 Understanding / Problematization (Three Problems of Comparative Superiority Theory)

If one tries to apply this theory to contemporary globalized society, then three problems will emerge.

First, the more deregulation of material and capital are conducted, the more gap between international mobility and labour emerges, then unemployment will increase.

Labour, consumer, environment, and culture has low international mobility (or do not move at all), compared with capital, manager, technician, and information freely move beyond national boundaries.Between high international mobility (first track) and low mobility (slow track) mass scale of unemployment has been created.

Namely, the comparative superiority theory which defines maximization of benefit through trade putting premise: "capital and labour do not move," is far from the reality in which economy has globalized and tremendous amounts of capital have moved.

Secondly, without function of redistribution even if the world as total make economic development, the economic gap or inequality will expand. According to Human Development Report by UNDP, 20% of the richest people in the world occupy 84.7% of world GNP and do 84.2% of world trade. On the contrary, 20% of the poorest people have relations with just 1.4% of GNP and 0.4% of world trade. (48)

While, corporate activities expand beyond national boundaries, in international fields safety nets do not exist almost at all: such as function of redistribution of income and ban on monopoly law also such as tax system, social insurance, medical care, education, which are available in domestic level. Namely, if economic development can be achieved in the world level based on comparative superiority theory, poverty cannot be solved. (48-49)

Thirdly, if the theory was promoted with outside cost remained outside, then the diverse human needs would not be fulfilled. According to Agriculture Comprehensive Research Center of MAF the multi dimensional function of agriculture can be evaluated as 6 trillion and 880 billion yen. It exceeds the net profit of agriculture 5 trillion and 220 billion yen. That is, agriculture has outside cost (effect) such as prevention of flood,

protection of environment, and such as preservation of culture, which price cannot reflect.

Based on the comparative superior theory, it can be concluded that “Japan have to focus on industrial products rather than agriculture which is low productivity,” however, it is not appropriate to compare agriculture which has large outside effects and industrial products. (49)

2-6 Vision (Two Ways of Problem Solving)

Firstly, the adjustment of speed of first track and slow track is needed. In concrete level, it is needed to regulate investment and financial in international level, to raise domestic industry of developing countries, and to organize safety-net such as the Antimonopoly Act in international level. Secondly, internalization of outside cost is needed. Although this internalization has been argued in environmental economics, beside pollution of environment outside cost includes prevention of disaster and cultural values.

..... As nature the purpose of economics lies in “to enhance the quality of living and to construct wealthy society.” At 21c, human beings might stand the position to reconsider economics which oriented towards “live in affluence.” (49)

(3) Tanaka, Yuu ‘10 years since Rio: Possibilities for Citizens to Create Society’ in “Earth Navigation for Johannesburg” (production-request-consideration)

This article argues the trend of ten years after Rio-Summit, 1992, reconsidering what had been talked. He criticizes this “ten years” as nothing can be achieved. On the one hand, citizen movements have risen, on the other hand, the environmental conditions have been getting worse.

3-1 Problematization (Expansion of Inequality and its Structural Causes)

In both domestic and international level, the inequality between the rich and the poor has been expanding. The poor cannot live a life without destroying environment. However, what is more problematic is waste by rich countries; the rich consume tens times more calorie than the poor by importing what the poor produced. For example, although the reasons of forest destruction lie in tree felling by corporate activities and subsequence plantation development, corporations distribute leaflet insisting the cause lies in slash-and-burn farming by the poor. Essentially, the traditional way of slash-and-burn farming is not environmental destructive. Otherwise, forests of the tropics region should had been banished due to the farming has long thousands years. (14)

If the poor lose land, they including their culture will be rootless. Without getting another land, they cannot live. If they lose the system of self-sustenance, they will have no choice but to work as labour to produce commodity. Although it is obviously environmental destructive, they are forced to do so. But no one argues what forces them to do so. (15)

3-2 Cognition / Understanding (Qualitative Transformation of Capitalism, Power of Patent, and

the End of Competition)

Through research one can find strange reversal phenomenon in 1980' s. That is, change of invest-benefit rate. Invest-benefit rate of material production corporation were higher before, but from 1980' s the rate of financial investment came to be higher than material. “The society appeared in which one can get more by financial investment rather than working hard with sweat.” After that, from later 1980' s excessive protection policy on “intellectual property right or patent” began which led by President Reagan. Soviet Union did not have possibility to survive patent war and investment competition, because it heavily relied on basic material production. Then, socialist state collapsed and banished. From 1990' s world was painted all in the color of capitalism. (18-19)

If there are only capitalism states, the frameworks of state will be obstacles for corporate activities. Then, global economics began. Moreover, Internet spread all over the world; corporation can conduct direct dealing with world, staying at specific country. …… Of course, financial technology developed through Internet; it has been protected as intellectual property rights. In a country, Anti monopoly Act exists. …… However, in international level, it does not exist. For those corporations having power to monopolize market world with globalism leads to more profit. State promoted favorable tax system and subsidies in order to invite corporations moving globally. As a result, large corporations come to have monopoly power in globalism and have tremendous power beyond state. (19)

Competition came to be end. Now even patent is banished by monopoly power. So called “defact standard,” which means actual product standard, defines whether actors use patent or not. Defact standard is defined by corporation who have high rate of market share. Therefore, those powerless patent creators, almost always, have no choice but selling patent to powerful corporations. Also those patents which function negatively for a corporation will be bought by that corporation and will put into strongbox. Unfortunately, society loses healthy competition, then, it start retreating. (19-20)

3-3 Problematization

The number of people has increased who cannot find meanings for work. However, it seems natural. If corporate activities as it is will continue, then society will deteriorate. The era ended in which efforts make society better. When to make efforts in corporation make society bad, it is unusual to close oneself in narrow special field and to pretend feeling safe. It is none other than unhappy for individuals living in contemporary society. The expansion of the gap means that if an individual falls from wealth realm, he or she goes into poor realm. The middle does not exist any more. If one make efforts in order to avoid falling from rich, then the gap between the poor will more and more expand. This kind of economic structure itself is our challenging task.

Ten years has passed since Rio Summit, we have to make efforts to change the society getting more and more terrible. (21)

3-4 Vision (Alternative Trials in the World and Japan)

Small finance for citizen called “micro credit” has permeated. Those activities not for profit but for labor and economy have had influences in Japan called NPO, in Europe called workers collective or social economy. Jubilee 2000 actualized release of debt in the field of debt in developing countries. Tobin tax on financial speculation came to be an issue in international conference. Fair trade seeking to fairer trade without exploiting the poor in developing countries has competitive power towards another commodity. Some movements, as citizen business, started recovering projects which they depended totally on government or corporation. Moreover, community currency movements start creating new regional community in Japan.

Citizen does not only say “opposing against,” but starts making invalid incentives which have created problems. For example, not only do they resist against use of fossil energy, but also some citizens have tried to create new future through use of natural energy. For the market capitalism also, not only saying “opposing against,” but also they seek to social economics and citizen business which can make market capitalism invalid. If to work for corporation make society bad, they start thinking different place to work from profit oriented. …… If endless interest on a loan and economic development would lead to collapse, then they think about currency system without interest on a loan and alternative economy model. (24-25)

(4) Tanabe, Yuki and Shunji Taga ‘Earth Navigation for Future’ in “Earth Navigation for Johannesburg” (production-original-consideration)

This article argues “to buy, to work, and to save” as daily practices having relations with economic structures. By changing these activities, it insists society might change.

4-1 Interest / Cognition (The Back Ground of “Cheapness” and Refusal from Consumer)

…… Some have criticized intensively these corporations [McDonald, NIKE, Star-Backs] on excessive work load and environment destructive production system in developing countries. In fact, from 1997 to 1998 at universities in U.S. movements rose to exclude the school sport team wears made by sweatshops, or exploitative factories, and some lawsuits were brought against terrible working conditions. The sales of NIKE, which receive the most intensive criticism, in reality, decreased.

For corporations felt a certain crisis, they disclosed information on parts of factories and production sites. Star-Backs started aids on medical care, education, and community for the sake of enhance of living in coffee cultivating region such as Indonesia, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Guatemala. NIKE declared to make 100% of cotton product’ s ingredient organic cotton till 2010.

It is not sure whether the working conditions or circumstances have been changed completely. However, at least, some have changed, due to refusal reactions towards “exploitative products although cheap” by many consumers. (31-32)

4-2 Cognition / Problematization / Vision (Reconsideration of to Buy and Necessity of Vision)

We think to buy a product of a company by paying at a shop means kind of voting practice

showing “we support this product.” Shopping of everyday might seem very small practice, compared with a vote of election. However, without shopping at the shop, the shop cannot be run. Recently, organic restaurant or cafe and fair trade supporting local industries of developing countries have risen. You might be able to find some shops.

What we want to expect for Japanese citizen movements is to use well the power of consumer in order to change problematic conditions. For example, related with Isahaya-bay problem, the local industry might be sustained through our, living town, consumption practices buying laver of Ariake Sea [Isahaya fronting it] with consciousness. Not only claiming opposition, might it be necessary to create regional vision with regional residents after putting a public undertaking an end. (32-33)

4-3 Interest / Cognition / Vision (Reconsideration of Working and Style of it)

Many people come to choose one' s working style for the sake of one' s values and its protection. We can change society through choosing working style with thought to regards place of work as “a tool to change society” instead of as “system to get money,” can' t we? …… And what we have to remind is corporation is not the only place to work. Recently, return, or I-turn, of agriculture, forestry, and fishery have increased, and ways to work at NGOs and NPOs also have increased. Yes, what is important is not the place to work, but how to work. (33)

4-4 Cognition / Understanding (Reconsideration of to Save and Impacts of Saving)

The saved money at banks or post offices does not sleep at strongboxes of them. Banks finance money and buy stocks. Then, it can happen that your saving is used for construction of gigantic dam or nuclear power station without your awareness.

The choices of your saving and investment might be able to change society. The problem of Apartheid of South Africa is the biggest event the actions of investors changed conditions. In 1985 criticism on white regime of South Africa promoting racism on black rose; in the U.S. some movements sold the stock of companies which raised benefit in South Africa. Due to these movements IBM or such as GM enforced to shrink businesses, then white regime changed its policy towards dialogue oriented. (34)

4-5 Understanding / Problematization (To Save and Flows of Money)

Where do you save your money? Is your money used for environmental destruction or human right abuse? Parts of money of post office are used as ODA destroying environments of developing countries. And many banks do not disclose the information on “where they invest?” . As long as you think “it' s OK to save money at convenient bank,” the money flow structures destroying environments cannot change. We think it is important to prevent problem from happening. Eco-life to change society lies in the choices to buy, to work, and to save. (35)

4-6 Problematization (Postal Savings and its Ways of Use)

…… According to the research in Jan. 2002 by My Voice Com Co. more than 58% of the answer

to the question “Which do you feel the most safe financial organization to save?” was “postal savings.” However, how many of 58% do care about the way of using or investing that money?

.....

Those have critical stance towards nuclear power stations or harm by money lender might save their money to those banks which invest such fields. (37)

..... At either postal office or banks the ways to use saved money are determined by parts of managers; the will and opinion of who saves cannot put influence on them.

..... It is very natural that those have consciousness on environmental problems want to put their savings to account for resolve of the problems instead of interest on a loan. (38)

4-7 Understanding / Vision (Socially Responsible Investment)

Responding to such voices, recently, socially responsible investment (SRI) have been noticed by degrees, which means “in investing not only perspective from financial affairs, but also social values of projects are included.” (38)

.....

Japanese SRI funds do not perform negative screening, so it might seem funds making superior corporations together by seeing manes of them. Also, it is unsatisfied point that the ways are scarce to reflect voices of investors on organizing brands and on management of invested corporations. (40)

..... As citizens, we need to make dialogue actively with asset management corporations, which deal with SRI funds, and to tell “citizens want SRI funds to conduct further screening.” Also, the evaluations on SRI funds must satisfy investors. If citizens can tell certain needs, then SRI funds reflecting voices of citizens can be realized. (41)

These are texts-based data of knowledge activity by ASJ.

(7) Interview Data of ASJ

2002・11・28 at ASJ office

Mr. SUZUKI Ryo

“Q1: What kinds of values does ASJ have as significant?”

A1: We show basic values through home page. We have three main values “to grasp environmental problems through perspectives on economic and social structures,” “to tell environmental problems through the ways easy to understand from stance of the youth,” “to change society in a long run.” And we have four stances as “the youth as future generation,” “as NGO and NPO” which are autonomous and not for profit organization, “to create partnerships among government, corporation, and NGO/NPO” through which we can approach to problems solving, and “to cooperate with the youth around the world” making networking. Another basic values are to tell one of the Japanese NGOs’ voices in international conferences, to change oneself through participating in events, and to keep an eye on local community.

However, inside our organization, the mobility of members and staffs are so high that the important tasks change constantly. We try to define problems or tasks to work on through discussion at head meetings based on analyses of current social trend. At that time we use a lot of knowledge made by another foreign and domestic NGOs having expertise. It has also important to join meetings or conferences held by another organizations. Based on these factors, we want to organize the foundation to realize hopes of each individual.

“Q2: What kinds of world outlook or social cognition do support such values? Or what kinds of cognition on contemporary society do bring such values?”

A2 The strong trend of economic globalism and accompanied expansion of North and South gap and domestic gap has weight. Those are voices of suppressed people abroad or those of NGOs working on such issues. We make use of knowledge made by NGOs having expertise, especially, in the fields of agriculture and such as forestry. Those NGOs have certain distance from orientation towards economic rationality. It is very useful to make use of such existing knowledge. We cannot practice research on specific issue from zero and create knowledge. The accumulated knowledge is available, so why don't we use it? In this sense, ASJ practices in “broad and shallow.” We have rare opportunities to conduct our own research and study.

“Q3: Do you (your organization) think to create knowledge has importance? And Why?”

A3: Of course we think so. Next volume of news letter: “Tanemaki (Sowing)” (2002·12) tells this point. It organizes “let's read what NGO wrote.” Such information or knowledge made by NGOs must be smoky or bothering for those hold power. For example, in Johannesburg Summit held August 2002 Japanese government appealed to introduce “**Nerica Rice**” into African countries, because they said it will make productivity of rice revolutionary high. Japanese government sent some persons to Johannes and have them say “it is great project!” as public relations. And mass media such as large newspaper told “although in Summit consensus did not be achieved, Japan tried to contribute to African countries through Nerica Rice. And it received high praises.” However, Japan already had conducted the projects which introduced mass production oriented agricultural technologies to Africa. The way of agriculture needed mass of agricultural chemical and chemical fertilizers. As a result, what it brought were wasteland and severer poverty. This time Japanese government tries to almost the same thing without reflection. However, such information does not circulate in Japan. Information has one-sided feature. In such circumstances, agriculture related NGOs or Africa related NGOs, making networking, can provide information and knowledge which are hidden by main stream mass media. Of course, in saying networking, not all of the Asian NGOs have mutual linkages.

We always thinks how we can express and show hidden economic and political structures in more sophisticated way, using Internet or such. Saying “for African countries, we will provide Nerica Rice,” on the other hand, agriculture related corporations and African politicians will get money. There is a certain hidden structure. And the voices and perspectives of those need aids cannot put influence on such structure.

On coming September 2003 at Tokyo “Africa Development Conference” will be held. In such events, government will make public relations on Nerica Rice. Against such PR, we need to

continuously organize booklets and such as lectures to express “something wrong.” Of course, we do not take stance to resist every policies made by government, however, we will say “No!” against what is wrong.

At Johannes Summit, MNCs start saying “save the earth through corporate power.” We need to understand such “wrong structure” seriously. Namely, it is very important to treat with something wrong before negative event will happen, rather than after the event.

“Q4: How does ASJ create knowledge? In what ways?”

A4: First of all, we define purpose by clarifying issues and tasks. Then, we access to knowledge created by another organizations in web pages, books, and such as booklets. Also we often invite expertise of the issue. Team or individuals conduct these activities case by case. University students, occupying sixty percent of memberships, are the core members. Anyway we use a lot of existing knowledge made by NGOs of domestic and foreign. These NGOs have a certain capacity to create knowledge, but tend to be awkward to diffuse knowledge. While, ASJ is awkward to create knowledge, but well to diffuse knowledge and idea.

Some campaign continues for maximum two years and minimum six months. During the period we write a booklet, organize an event, hold a lecture, and such as invite an expert.

[Replying the question: “Does your organization collect data?”] We use a lot of existing data. We sometimes made questionnaire. For example, we asked 130 corporations whether they are for or against Kyoto Protocol. We asked also whether they clarify indication on GM ingredients. You can see the result through our web page. At the time of House of Representative election, we asked candidates “what do you think about GM foods?” “what do you think about environmental policies?” “what do you think about nuclear policies?” In saying collecting data or figure, we are doing these kinds of activities. Anyway, we use a lot of existing data. In this sense, we do research and study, although I said we do not do such.

“Q5: What kind of motivation does your organization have in making knowledge?”

A5: In contemporary society, in certain degree, knowledge constitutes foundation of many things, be it the trend of capitalism or neoliberalism. Knowledge constitutes values taken for granted, I think: for example, the logic of globalization, or “money is everything.” We want to express and to value alternative perspectives in contrast to “money is everything.” It is difficult to say what is the alternative value exactly. It can fall into “the value not money is everything.”

Dr. V. Shiva, Indian activist, says Earth Democracy and makes about ten proclamations. I don’ t remember exactly, but they might be women participation in development processes and such as citizen participation in decision making processes. I felt her proclamations express well the alternative values which NGOs tend to accept.

We made “Youth Vision 2015,” which is proclamation shows required points to be achieved till 2015. Well, in reality, it might looks like stale, when writing concretely.

“Q6: Does your organization have satisfaction on knowledge activities performing?”

A6: Not at all. What we are doing is not enough at all. We might score 2 points in 10. There are too many things to know. The social conditions bringing about problems are too complicated. Also the ways to express are complicated. We had satisfied by saying “it had been dangerous unless to work on global warming!” and a certain atmosphere had accepted such. But now it cannot be enough. We need to make more specific arguments by following what are happening in global level, for example, what had been argued, what had been made as consensus or as counter measures in Kyoto Conference. These tasks can be applied to fields such as GM foods or organic farming. Very complicated.

However, paradoxically people at large wants simple in complicated social conditions. If a consumer wants to buy something in ecological way, he or she might need to know the background of a product, where it comes from, what kinds of ingredients it uses, and such as what kinds of environmental load it might make. However, in reality, people at large will buy might influenced by simple advertisement such as “cheap and good things.” I feel sometimes that the social conditions goes so far that they cannot be handled. However, that is the reality.

ASJ requires corporations to “make rules,” “to set self-regulatory rules,” and such as “to listen to citizen’ s voices.” We hope these permeate, however, in reality social conditions are too complex to be like that.

“Q7: For the better knowledge activities, what are the challenging tasks?”

A7: We sometimes intended to make policy agenda, however, it was difficult. Staff or members of ASJ are changing. Most of the people leave ASJ in two or three years. Almost no one thinks to stay here for good. Then, we do not think about theoretical armaments or highly expertise equipment. Scholars or professors of university should do such kinds of theoretical studies by receiving money. Two or three years are not enough to cover complicated fields such as trade or finance. To do so is not the role of ASJ. Rather than such things, we have the stance that from citizen’ s stance each individual participates in various matters with interests. Through participation, each individual tries to know and tell a problem and change oneself. These are the data of ASJ’ s knowledge activities.

2-2 ATTAC Japan

URL: <http://www.jca.apc.org/attac-jp/>

(1) Set up Dec. 2001

(2) Core member TANAKA Tetsuji memberships: Tokyo about 200 Japan about 400

(3) Brief Outline of Organization: ATTAC stands for Association for the Taxation of financial Transactions for the Aid of Citizens. It set up originally in 1997 at France as network based social movement consists of associations working on the issues such as jobless, homeless, and illegal migrants. News papers and media institutions helped it. The main purpose is “to recover action space for democracy which has lost because of interests or profits of financial fields” (ATTAC ed., 2001: 24-25). ATTAC Japan is the branch institution of ATTAC in Japan.

(4) Knowledge activities by ATTAC Japan

ATTAC Japan has not published any book, article, and booklet. Some books were translated by those having relations with ATTAC, however, they cannot be books of ATTAC, because the books do not have credit of ATTAC.

The most central knowledge activity for ATTAC Japan has been to making translation version of “Sand in the Wheels,” weekly newsletter of ATTAC International. The translated version has been diffused as “ATTAC Japan newsletter” through home page and e-mail service. The translation is not whole translation; some parts are omitted. This newsletter tells various global information and knowledge to Japanese society in Japanese. Although it takes three weeks behind from English version, it has been constantly released.

Besides newsletter, ATTAC Japan makes some articles public through web page; for example, articles related with World Social Forum and such as Tobin tax or CTT.

The texts, which the issue of this article covers, are listed below. This article focuses on articles of vol. 31 to vol. 33 of Japanese version, which coincide with vol. 140 to vol. 142 in English version³. One can read all of these texts through home page.

ATTAC Japan “The Prospectus: To Seek Possibilities of Another World” (HP)

Vol. 31 (vol. 140) “What about Development?”

Plihon, Dominique ‘Enron, WorldCom, Vivendi-Universal and others - or the crisis of new capitalism’ (circulation-transition (translation)-consideration) (HP)

The Attac work group on international treaties, Marseilles ‘WTO Tidbits’ (circulation-transition (translation)-report) (HP)

³ Although in Japanese version of the master paper the writer uses Japanese sources, in this English version of the master paper the writer uses English sources. In a word, the writer refers to “Sand in the Wheel” English version available at home page of ATTAC International (<http://www.attac.org/indexen/index.html>).

ECHLA ‘The World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg’ (circulation-transition (translation)-report) (HP)

Vol. 32 (vol. 141) “Upside Down Logic”

Zehle, Soenke ‘Beyond Neoliberalism: Civil Society as a Transnational Project’ (circulation-transition (translation)-consideration) (HP)

Morgan, Jamie ‘The upside down world of neo-liberal economics’ (circulation-transition (translation)-consideration) (HP)

50 Years is enough ‘End Corporate Rule! Quarantine the IMF & World Bank’ (circulation-transition (translation)-essay) (HP)

Vol. 33 (vol. 142) “Global Greenwash”

Passet, René ‘The aftermath of September 11’ (circulation-transition (translation)-consideration) (HP)

Komisar, Lucy ‘Global Greenwashers’ (circulation-transition (translation)-essay) (HP)

omc.Marseille ‘WTO Tidbits’ (circulation-transition (translation)-report) (HP)

Luna Rodríguez, Raúl ‘Privatisation Peruvian style?’ (circulation-transition (translation)-consideration) (HP)

Anonymous ‘FTAA means annexation’ (circulation-transition (translation)-report) (HP)

These are texts in newsletters, and texts available on web are listed below.

Anonymous ‘Porto Alegre 2: Appeal from Social Movement Organization To Resist against Neoliberalism, War, and Militarism: For Peace and Social Fairness’ (circulation-transition (translation)-report) (HP)

Anonymous ‘World Social Forum was Held with 80,000 People’ (circulation-transition (translation)-report) (HP)

Shiva, Vandana ‘Bio-Democracy: The Substitution of Bankrupted Globalization’ (circulation-transition (translation)-consideration) (HP)

[Bruno, Jordan](#) ‘CTT and Capital for Development’ (circulation-transition (translation)-consideration) (HP)

Bernd Spahn, Paul ‘Valorization of Exchange Rate through Tobin Tax with “Exchange Change Added Tax” ’ Development’ (circulation-transition (translation)-consideration) (HP)

(5) Objects to be analyzed

These are the texts this article covers. This article chooses ‘The Prospectus’ and five “considerations” from the newsletters: that is, Plihon, Dominique ‘Enron, WorldCom, Vivendi-Universal and others - or the crisis of new capitalism’ ; Zehle, Soenke ‘Beyond Neoliberalism: Civil Society as a Transnational’; Morgan, Jamie ‘The upside down world of neo-liberal economics’ ; Passet, René ‘The aftermath of September 11’ ; Luna Rodríguez, Raúl ‘Privatisation Peruvian style?’ The length of article is rather short, so it chooses five articles.

(6) Text-Based Data

First of all, this article sees the category of interest and cognition through ‘The Prospectus.’

Interest / Cognition

ATTAC Japan represents its interests and cognition in the prospectus as following.

Today, many shout the term globalization in various meanings. What we think problem is global scale market-centrism economy: namely, neoliberal economic globalization. ……

We are facing the crisis of employment. To oppose to making employment part time based and to discrimination and fragmentation based on sex or race and to resolve “competition towards bottom,” we propose solidarity in Asia with labour union movements and anti-public pollution movements, especially under the influences of Japanese MNCs.

Our movement seeks to create network of struggling subjects. Labour movements and citizen movements have been separated each other. However, these movements equally have been attacked by globalization of market fundamentalistic economy; we propose to struggle through solidarity among movements. And we try to create networks.

We intend to create the democratic space in which people, who resist against neoliberal globalization, from all over the world can make solidarity and try to realize welfare, human right, social security, culture, environment, and self-governance. We intend to recover hope and future of many people, seeking to “possibilities of another world.”

(1) Plihon, Dominique ‘Enron, WorldCom, Vivendi-Universal and others - or the crisis of new capitalism’ (circulation-transition (translation)-consideration) (HP)

This article argues bankrupt of Enron, World Com, Vivendi-Universal group, questioning forms and meanings of corporations.

1-1 Understanding (Features of Financial corporations)

A company is seen as a financial object whose stock market value has to be increased at all costs: buying in of shares, mergers, selling off of less profitable sectors, funding... The apogee followed by the bankruptcy of Enron has had nothing to do with its industrial activity - the buying and selling of gas and electricity - it is uniquely a result of its financial activities. Behind the spate of more and more risky loans destined to subsidise profitable mergers and acquisitions, Enron offered no real contribution to the functioning of the energy market, which has been barely affected by its disappearance. Again, Vivendi-Universal has become a financial holding based on the piling up of financial assets that have no industrial coherence, but that are destined to create market value for its shareholders.

1-2 Problematization (The Malfunctions of Regulatory Ability Financial Market Supposed to have)

What is equally questionable is the capacity of the financial markets to regulate the productive sector. In the new shareholding capitalism the stock market is supposed to play

a triple role. Firstly, that of financing enterprises. Now we have noted that this not really the case; over the last few years the net issue of shares by companies (the gross figure minus the buying back in of shares with dividends) has been negative in Europe as it has been in the U.S. This means that companies give out more money to their shareholders than they take from them. The second function of the stock market is to increase company trade value. This function is also to be doubted! The totally unreal levels reached by shares in both new technologies and in the traditional sector (such as those of Enron) show that very often the stock market quotes give no serious indication of a company's real value. Finally, the stock market is supposed to encourage industrial restructuring, with the shares playing the part of exchange currency during a take-over. We have noted that in almost all cases these re-organisations have been chosen purely for their financial interest, and have no industrial coherence at their base.

1-3 Problematization (Contradictions of Stock Market)

We are therefore faced with a fundamental contradiction: on the one side, the stock market dominates new capitalism; on the other side, the stock market has proved itself incapable of guiding companies towards choices that ensure their long-term development. The famous self-regulating market theory does not work! The shareholders, and in particular investment funds, push companies into conforming to short-term financial norms (the practice of 'bench marketing'). This is what led the management of Enron, WorldCom and VU to fiddle their accounts in order to display the expected results. As for the other actors on the financial market who are supposed to exercise control over companies, they do not provide the counter-balance associated with their role in the face of company directors for whom they are often the active or passive accomplices. This has been the case for audit companies (such as Andersen), for regulating authorities (notably stock market commissions), but also for business banks, quoting agencies, financial analysts and stock market journalists. It is noteworthy that the most emblematic economic and social fiasco has taken place in telecommunications, the sector that the free trade supporter wished to hold up as an example of market regulation. In brief, today's episodes confirm what history has already taught us: capitalism is incapable of regulating itself, and left to its own devices it can only lead to major breakdowns which are paid for by employees and, on a wider scale, the general public around the world.

1-4 (Reformation of Stock Market)

As a whole, the principal mechanisms of stock market capitalism are in a state of crisis, and profound reforms are necessary. Their main objective should be to reduce the dramatic hold the financial markets have over companies, and globally, over the economy. Two lines of reform are primordial: the first should be to aim for a different idea of the meaning of commercial companies. This should be defined not as an 'object' owned by shareholders, but as a 'community of interests' for which the final goals are not making profits, but creating jobs and wealth. What must be done away with is the concept of company direction being aimed entirely towards 'the creation of profit for the shareholder'. This implies

the remodelling of current legislation in order to recognise the rights of all partners within the enterprise, the front line being composed of its employees. These employees, whose work skills represent the fundamental source of value in today's economy, should have the right to new laws limiting the power of company capital and reinforcing workers' rights in the face of shareholder strategy. The second series of reforms should be to go back on the excessive opening of trade restrictions and to reinforce the role of the state, in particular that of maintaining a strong public sector. This should include the reinforcing of administrative supervision, including efficient public institutions for financial control on European and international levels.

It is vain to sit and wait for governments and international institutions to spontaneously take account of the current situation and to commit themselves to putting things right by challenging neo-liberal dogma. The reforms we have just described will never come about unless there is a social movement on a national and international level capable of demanding them. Today's international movement against financial globalisation, of which Attac is a part, shows the way forward.

Zehle, Soenke ' Beyond Neoliberalism: Civil Society as a Transnational Project'
(circulation-transition (translation)-consideration) (HP)

This text argues the relations between state and civil society in globalized world.

2-1 Understanding (General Definition of Civil Society)

In its most general sense, the term "civil society" refers to an autonomous, self-organized public and multiple forms of civic initiative. In the context of the civil rights movements of Eastern Europe, the term characterized a movement of dissidents, whose independent media projects supported the general demand for freedom of assembly, opinion, and organization. The phrase "international civil society" is often used to describe the plurality of non-state actors, whose transnational activism has placed questions of environmentalism, human rights, or the structure of international financial institutions on the agenda of world politics.

2-2 (Relations between Civil Society and State in the Report of the Enquete-Commission of the German Bundestag)

Concepts like civil society are most often discussed in a national context. A recent examples is the report of the Enquete-Commission of the German Bundestag on "The Future of Civic Engagement." Here, a "civic" society is defined as a national network of self-organized associations outside of state, economy, and family, committed to a variety of charitable efforts.

The analysis of various forms of "self-organization" ultimately aims at a new division of labor between state, economy, and society. The key concepts of the report suggest what such a new social order might look like: the vision of an "enabling state" reduced to its "primary" responsibilities is central to its argument. Add to this the commitment

of corporations encouraged to assume civic responsibilities as "corporate citizens.".....

Outside of the traditional mechanisms of acculturation and social integration like churches, schools, political parties, or labor unions, alternative forms of mobilization and organization have emerged. The vision of a "civic society" is, therefore, trying to identify new mechanisms that might build a sense of mutuality and solidarity within an increasingly heterogeneous citizenry. In addition to affirming the complementary principles of solidarity and subsidiarity, the report introduces the notion of "social capital" to describe the knowledge of structures of cooperation and accountability, but also experiences of commonality and mutuality. Both result and prerequisite of self-organization, "social capital" becomes the most important resource of a "civic" society that can no longer count on extensive public support.

2-3 Understanding / Problematization (Reconsideration of the Concepts of Citizen and Civil Society)

The vision of a "lean" and "enabling" state along with a self-organizing dynamic of mutual support is part of what has generally been described as "neoliberalism." In analogy to a self-regulating market, a self-organizing civil society emerges that assumes responsibility for the majority of tasks now associated with the welfare state. The elaboration of the concept of a "civic" society is thus also a matter of legitimating the transformation of the welfare state.

..... According to the [sic.] philosopher Antonio Gramsci, civil society as a specifically bourgeois form of self-organization serves to establish cultural hegemony: the concept of a "civic" or civil society itself turns into a terrain of social conflict and counter-hegemonic contestation. The question is whether the concept of a "civic" or civil society can be shifted from its neoliberal connotations toward a more radical reappropriation of the political.

.....

The national vision of the symbiosis between a self-regulating economy and a self-organizing civil society obscures the transnational dynamic of globalization. States have yet to establish effective mechanisms of regulation on the transnational level to offset the destabilizing effects of deregulation on the national level. In the meantime, the regulatory vacuum is being filled by others, primarily corporate institutions like the World Trade Organization or the World Economic Forum initiated and supported by global business elites.

The question of the possible elements of a future international civil society, including mechanisms of corporate accountability and non-military conflict resolution, might be made available to a transnational public, has moved to the center of the controversy around neoliberal globalization. Even within the limited context of the European Union, it remains unclear which forms of federalism and subsidiarity might be most effective in advancing civil and human rights. Movement activists have at least succeeded, however, in making these questions the topic of international debate.

2-4 Understanding / Problematization (Reconsideration of Non-Governmental Sector)

A great number of the non-state actors in the arenas of world politics are non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The somewhat vague term refers to a multiplicity of organizations within international civil society. Even though the most prominent among them – Greenpeace and Amnesty International come to mind – have been hailed as protagonists of a “world conscience,” they cannot actually lay claim to a greater degree of democratic legitimation than the transnational institutions they would like to transform. Observers have lost some of their early enthusiasm over the “NGO Revolution” and come to observe the dynamic of a “privatization of world politics” more critically. Once again, this raises the question whether a “global public” might have to create new mechanisms of accountability and control.

2-5 Problematization (The Future Roles of Citizen and Civil Society)

The question of the role of “citizens” is also a question of the nation which underwrites their legal identity and guarantees basic rights of participation. These development expose the limits of the concept of a – national or international – civil society, but also of traditional notions of citizenship and sovereignty..... Ultimately, they represent an opportunity to take up and radicalize the controversy over how the structures of self-organization might be used, including the possibility to create alternative institutions for the self-organization of a deterritorialized multitude.

(3) Morgan, Jamie ‘The upside down world of neo-liberal economics’ (circulation-transition (translation)-consideration) (HP)

This text indicates the contradictions of neoliberalism and make problematization.

3-1 Understanding (Features of Neoliberalism)

It is often remarked that neo-liberal economists speak their own highly idiosyncratic language. The private language of neo-liberal economics is one of mathematical method. As John Galbraith has noted, the economics profession is organised hierarchically, with heterodox economics at its base, neo-liberal economics at the top and the most mathematical forms of neo-liberal economics at its apex. A survey by the American Commission on Graduate Education in Economics states quite clearly that fluency in this private language is a passport to prestige and advancement. This tendency towards the increasing mathematisation of economics means that if some aspect of behaviour cannot be measured and assigned a numerical value it is irrelevant. Neo-liberalism pre-empted Gordon Gecko – greed is good. As much greed as is possible is satisfied within the constraint of scarce resources. In the competitive nature of the marketplace one wo/man may triumph and accumulate far in excess of the others on the basis of his superior characteristics of greed. This (still with a straight face) is also called optimum social welfare. As a result, neo-liberal economics marginalizes history, geography and institutional rules

or rather turns the world of history, geography and institutions upside down.

3-2 Understanding / Problematization (Neoliberal Exclusion as Problem)

And what of ideas that are not easily reduced to quantification – what about values that emerge from the horror that statistics can show us – of poverty, famine and inequality (that are perfectly compatible with optimum social welfare in neo-liberal models)? What of ideas like global equality, justice, human rights, animal rights, and environmental awareness? These ideas 'distort' the natural order and its balance throwing it out of the equilibrium that simple unimpeded self-interest would ensure. In the logic of neo-liberal economics we are our own worst enemy because it is our good ideas that make reality so much less satisfactory than theory. The neo-liberal solution to this situation is simple. Instead of seeking theory that explains reality, one should make reality conform to theory. This is how neo-liberal economics turns the world upside down.

3-3 Understanding (What Neoliberalism Denies)

When Heikki Patomäki argues that the OECD report with its neo-liberal framework simply isn't geared to deal with crises and instability in FOREX markets, this is what he means. …… They see it in terms of a theory that is like the headmaster who thinks his school would run far more efficiently without any students. …… Ideas like the Tobin Tax are anathema because inaction, non-intervention and withdrawal are neo-liberal watchwords. According to the public vocabulary of the neo-liberal economist, the purpose of the state is to serve precisely the higher purpose of (competitive greed) harmony despite us. Individualism is its collective credo.

3-4 Understanding (The Logic: Neoliberalism is Inevitable)

Neo-liberal economics is the language of power. It is the lingua-franca of the World Bank, IMF, WTO and most advanced capitalist nations. …… Citizens are co-opted by the very language they use. This summer, I marked almost 400 economics of international trade A-level exam scripts. "Correct" answers included such statements as trade unions distort markets and the use of protectionist infant industry arguments by poorer nations undermines global competitive efficiency. The former is code for workers rights are wrong, the latter for least cost is best no matter who bears the cost of least cost. …… In the popular media of the US and UK, for example, anti-capitalist demonstrations are portrayed as a dramatic battle between youthful naivety and hardheaded expertise and experience. The subtext is that it is a generational conflict between those who have accepted the inevitable and those who have not. The inevitable, of course, is the language of the upside down world of neo-liberalism.

(4) Passet, René 'The aftermath of September 11' (circulation-transition (translation)-consideration) (HP)

This text argues the relations between terrorism and globalization.

4-1 Understanding / Problematization

You only really win a war once you manage to get rid of the very factors that led to it. We know for a fact that terrorism finds its seedbed in the poverty and humiliation of the deprived of this world. It is financed by the criminal economy, money-laundering and tax havens that we keep on fighting against. It also feeds on another type of terrorism that does not justify it, but which we must be aware of and which must also be eradicated. This is official terrorism, directly exerted by the system and therefore tolerated as such, honorable since it is the mighty who impose it and the weak who are suffer it.

It is only when we put an end to all this that we will actually defeat terrorism. Are we heading that way?

4-2 Problematization (The Essence of Problems)

The G20 finance ministers, who met on November 16th, adopted a plan aiming to "forbid terrorists and their accomplices the access to or use of our financial systems and put an end to the abusive use of informal bank networks". Banks are told to reveal and freeze suspicious accounts or have their activity on the American markets banned. This is all very well, but the real issue is the very existence of tax havens, off-shore areas and money-laundering mechanisms.

4-3 Vision

We have to attack criminal money at its source. We know what should be done: impose transparency of transactions by withdrawing bank secrecy, ensure international public controls on funds passing in transit through clearing houses.

4-4 Understanding / Vision

The solution can, t be merely military: how many won wars have been followed by lost peaces? It is a clash between the microbe and the elephant. But against the elephant, the microbe has a strategy with two assets that it always keeps in its possession: (A) invisibility: While America, s obsession is to set up a nuclear shield in order to be protected permanently from weapons of mass destruction, a few fanatics are secretly preparing themselves, and armed only with stanley knives, they manage to pass all security checks. (B) the ability to scatter: Bin Laden, Mullah Omar as well as 2000 fighters have apparently vanished into thin air.

.....The destruction of their bases and the freezing of their sources of funding have undoubtedly considerably reduced their ability to do damage at the global level. However, Noam Chomsky evokes the likelihood of a well-known theory called "leaderless resistance", which would consist of small independent groups, where everyone would know each other, and therefore hard to infiltrate. [f] irst of all, the first emergency is to fight global poverty with ways that would have immediate effects. We have to loosen the knot strangling the poorest nations by debt cancellation, the suppression of structural adjustment plans that force countries undergoing them to sacrifice the genuine basis of

their development to mere short-term budget balancing; we have to let them breathe by reinforcing international public aid; decrease competitive pressure by proclaiming peoples, right to fulfill their fundamental needs by themselves; dealing directly with the mechanisms of dirty money laundering and not only with the financing networks of terrorism, of which the development is a result and not a cause. Last but not least, there also need to be long-term institutional reforms that we already mentioned.

(5) Luna Rodríguez, Raúl ‘Privatisation Peruvian style?’ (circulation-transition (translation)-consideration) (HP)

This text argues contradictions and problems of privatization in Peru.

5-1 Cognition (Resistance against Privatization in Peru and Bankrupt of Argentina)

One-third of the Peruvian population has actively expressed their objection against privatisation. The protests and refusals came from the greater southern Region and in recent times also from Junín, Huancavelica, Piura and Talara. In these areas the opposition amounts to 70% of the population. The government officials claim there is little information available about the positive effects of this new process. Nevertheless, what the present government is proposing is nothing new. The proposals are part of the Structural Adjustment Programs imposed by the IMF and the World Bank on Peru and Latin America since Morales Bermúdez. A recent case is the failure of Argentina, which privatised 100%: Argentina the IMF exams with the highest marks and praise, and entered into the crisis of the last months. Today the country is bankrupt.

5-2 Understanding / Problematization

There is certainly much inefficiency in how the water and electricity utilities are presently performing. It is not just a consequence of intrinsically bad management by the state, but rather the state presently trying to sell off its enterprises, which has been corrupted by the private sector. Indeed, the private sector also lobbies for the dismantling of state enterprises whose inefficiency worsens, thus leading to their being sold off for much less than their actual market value. Some Latin American countries play a “dirty” game by subsidising the privatisation process. For instance, they realise huge investments immediately before the sale. They lay off workers to reduce the personal budget for the new owners, reducing efficiency to justify the claim of bad public management. In other cases rumours have been spread to devalue the shares. Other enterprises to be sold have promoted the corruption of state officials.

5-3 Problematization (Manipulation of Price)

The government has announced through COPRI that EGASA and are to be sold for US\$156 million, a price determined by the evaluation method previously used by the Fujimori government. The president of the Congressional Commission on Energy and Mining claims that both companies are worth no less than US\$260 million. In Southern Peru the value is estimated at US\$450 million. This variation in prices cannot be explained

by the rules of supply and demand. The problem is the method used to value public enterprises, which always undervalues them. Who is responsible for this undervaluation? Corruption is ever present.

5-4 Problematization / Vision

A decision to privatise the water and electricity supply can only be made if the population involved is in favour, even more so when the elected government excluded privatisation as a source of income to cover the fiscal deficit. …… The interests of end-users and consumers and the various government proposals must be put on the table for discussion. …… The state in every country is responsible for providing poor people with access to the basic services, and this is not guaranteed by the privatisation of public services.

These are the text-based data of knowledge activities by ATTAC Japan.

(7) Interview Data of ATTAC Japan

2002.12.10 at Office of ATTAC Japan

Mr. TANAKA Tetsuji

“Q1: What kinds of values does ATTAC Japan have as significant?”

A1: We consider the resolution of inequality such as the South North gap and distinction of poverty, though most of the organizations might say like this. Recently, for us to fight against neoliberal globalization of economy is central theme. The ways to work on it is, as ATTAC International says, to study and to go out on the street. It is very important to conduct actual practices, rather than to acquire knowledge as its own sake. Some in Japanese society tend to lean to theoretical field, having bad feeling toward taking action. However, through actual practices and actions, we think society can change. In addition, it is important for various movements to make networks beyond boundaries.

“Q2: What kinds of world outlook or social cognition do support such values? Or what kinds of cognition on contemporary society do bring such values?”

A2: In contemporary society, those have capital can move freely and occupy superior positions. The logic of free competition has been expanded. The free flowing capital movements developed into world wars. Historically, from reflection on it, UN or another international institutions have put regulations on free competition. However, recently deregulation and the free competition and marketization without rules have developed.

The free competition never fails to bring about monopoly and competition between monopolies. And marketization or freeing tends to discard agriculture. These kinds of capital movement also started in Japan from 1980' s. For example, financial big-bang or freeing agriculture can be proofs. Under such circumstances, knowledge has linked with business and boosted free competition based on market principle. These movements have led to various terrible conditions in many places.

Finance has certain influences in globalization. Gigantic amount of capital flows like a

monster in the world market by 15 trillion yen per day. It is so called hot money. It leads to babble economy constantly. Due to dealing of stocks and bonds and rising of IT industry, mini babbles and large babbles have occurred frequently.

For this condition, ATTAC has proposed Tobin tax. It has been argued in France and Germany very actively. Even in Japan arguments started by degrees. We made panel discussion. We think it is necessary in such capital flowing society to resist against WTO which has been making rules for freeing and deregulation.

“Q3: Do you (your organization) think to create knowledge has importance? And Why?”

A3: Yes, we think it is important. Knowledge is power. From a piece of knowledge something happens, see Marx, Ricardo, and A. Smith. What ATTAC Japan thinks is “without knowledge no action, without action no knowledge.” We think knowledge and action should be connected. However, Japanese NGOs tend to have bad feeling towards action. In Japanese society, in which the bureaucracy institutions have so much power and hard structure, even if NGOs make a political advocacy, it does not function at all like something thrown in. It cannot change society, I think. In this sense, I have certain grievance for the conditions of Japanese society.

“Q4: How does ATTAC Japan create knowledge? In what ways?”

A4: We have tried to distribute knowledge on what is going on at latest movements of the world by free of charge in Japanese. We translate the newsletter of ATTAC International into Japanese. Now we have five volunteer translation staffs in Tokyo, Oosaka, Kumamoto, and Hong Kong. Basically we use Internet and e-mail to take mutual communication. Who has social science knowledge and background checks what members translate. It requires Japanese language skill, knowledge on social sciences, and of course English, so these make the processes difficult sometimes. Some publishers asked whether we have some sources to make a book. They think about profit, of course. However, ATTAC Japan did not publish any original book, although Dr. Sugimura, chairman of ATTAC Kansai (Western part of Japan represented by Kyoto and Osaka), made translations of Susan Gorge and J. Vove.

Some might criticize us only seeing what other actor produced. However, we think it is necessary.

“Q5: What kind of motivation does your organization have in making knowledge?”

A5: What we think is to learn from advanced movements. Since the event in 1999 at Seattle counter movements against globalism has expanded world-widely. However, only Japan has fallen into like air pocket. Our society does not have so much rising atmosphere. In making some counter action, we cannot see so many people. However, some movements comes to appear. For example, we invited J. Vove to Japan and asked him to make lecture. And at that time, many people participated including those we have never seen, new faces. About 600 people participated and some saw standing. It might be specific character of ATTAC Japan to include new faces having interest and consciousness.

“Q6: Does your organization have satisfaction on knowledge activities performing?”

A6: We do not have satisfaction. It might be the same as another organizations. Talking like Marx, we can say scholars are always interpreting the world. Knowledge tends to be its own sake, and does not have linkage with action. Knowledge should have connection with various movements such as working on North -South gap.

We have not had almost any response toward what we have done such as making newsletter. We want some responses and criticism like “this point was good” or “this point was bad,” however, in reality we did not have. Therefore, sometimes we doubt whether it has relevance or not to release newsletters.

Towards disasters, which capital brought about, historically World Human Rights Declaration, UN Charter, and also Japanese Constitution had criticized during 1940' s. These are compacted knowledge, however, people start forgetting the values and meanings of them.

Also talking about Japanese society, I think scholars or professors of university have key roles. In reality, most of the scholars even in the field of social sciences tend to involve in business like studies. Those involve in Tobin tax or problems of WTO are very rare. This is very big problem, I think.

Also in Japan there is no critical thinktanks. Almost all of the thinktanks are under the grouping of enterprises. I want to expect NGOs, but in reality, they are so weak. Strong counter thinktanks are very important, because bureaucracy and corporation alley has so much power in Japan.

“Q7: For the better knowledge activities, what are the challenging tasks?”

A7: As mentioned, it has importance to include scholars into movements. Also it has importance to reconsider and learn from history, such as why social movements had failed or what had been problems for them. We need to seriously reconsider these points.

What is most important is expansion of movement. Whatever we want to do, 100 memberships and small budget are certainly not enough. The gigantic financial capital is like big elephant. We are like small ants to resist it. More and more ants need to take actions. To say simply, we want the foundation to make 10,000 people demonstration on a street. If we have such foundation, then we can have more and more ideas. Of course, our intention is not violent demonstration on a street. We basically support non-violence.

However, in reality, most of the university students and other people do not have interests in actions and movements at all. Due to affluence, political thinking and actions have been lack. Many people avoid talking about state affairs or political affairs. These are the data of knowledge activities by ATTAC Japan.

2-3 Gesell Research Society Japan

URL: <http://www.grsj.org/>

(1) Year of Setting: 1992

(2) Core members: MORINO Eiichi; IZUMI Lui; NAKAKUBO Kunio; MIYASAKA Eiichi; OKUSAWA Kuninari; SOGA Jun etc. About 12 members.

(3) Brief Overview of the Organization: Gesell Research Society Japan (GRSJ) says its purpose as: GRSJ wants to contribute to realization of sustainable society through the stance of non-political, non-profit, and non-religion. GRSJ is networks of autonomous researchers, be them a scholar, an economist, or a worker. Its main activity is none other than knowledge creation and distribution.

(4) Knowledge Activity: GRSJ is said as study circle on Silvio Gesell, who is one of the main theorists on community currency. GRSJ not only study his theory and related arguments, but also create knowledge analyzing contemporary Japanese society. Also it has translated various materials and articles of Gesell and other researchers into Japanese. These original researches and translations are presented by its bulletin "Study of Free Economy." This bulletin has been published since 1995.

GRSJ did not publish original book. However, the members of it make some books, although without the name of GRSJ. Through the bulletin many articles have been published. Each time this bulletin is printed around 500 to 600. Also it has published kind of newsletter called "Human Economy," which is printed each time around 250.

The contents of "Study of Free Economy" are following. The lists are related with the issue of this paper.

Vol. 18 "Ekobankuno-Ayumi [History of Ecobank]" (March, 2001)

Kasai, Yoshiharu 'Ekobankuha-Naze-Donoyounishite-Umaretanoka [Why and How was Ecobank Born?]' pp. 1-11 (circulation-transition-report)

Brendgen, Karl Heinz 'Ekobanku-ha-Dareni, Aruiha-Nanini-Joseisurunoka, Mata-Donoyounishite [For Whom, for what, and how does Ecobank Give Supports]' pp. 12-22 (circulation-transition(translation)-report)

Thym, Folf 'Ekoroji-Ginkouka, Shinnyowo-Motomeru [Ecology Banker Seeks Trusts]' pp. 23-27 (circulation-transition(translation)-report)

Vol. 19 "Miraino-Kaheiwo-Saguru [Research on Future Money]" (July, 2001)

Inada, Kayoko 'Denshimaneino-Genjouto-Shomondai (Jou) [Current Situations and Problems of Electronic Money (1)]' pp. 1-36 (production-original-consideration)

Eisenkolb, Johann 'Terra-Toha-Nanika [What is Terra]' pp. 37-56 (circulation-transition(translation)-consideration)

Seccareccia, Mario 'Kahei, Shinnyo, Kinnyu, Rekisitekigaikann [Historical Consideration on

- Currency, Trust, and Finance] ’ pp. 57-63
(circulation-transition(translation)-consideration)
- Okuzawa, Kunishige ‘Kaheinikansuru-Wadaino-1, 2 (Jou) [Topics about Money (1)] ’ pp. 64-67
(production-composition-consideration)
- Vol. 20 “Tiikituuka Sairon [Complementary Currency Experience (4)] ”
- Izumi, Lui ‘Tiikituukaniyoru-Junnkangatashakaikoutikuno-Kanouseinituiteno-Ichikousatsu
[Study on the Possibility of Building a Cyclical Society based on Community Money] ’ pp.
1-22 (production-original-consideration)
- Aldridge, T et al. ‘ESRC Projekuto-Houkoku [ESRC Project Report] ’ pp. 23-32
(circulation-transition(translation)-report)
- Inada, Kayoko ‘Denshimaneino-Genjouto-Shomondai (Ge) [Current Situations and Problems of
Electronic Money (2)] pp. 33-44 (production-original-consideration)
- Morino, Eiichi ‘Prudon no Koukanginkouron (4) [On the Exchange Bank of P. J. Proudon (4)] ’
pp. 45-63 (production-composition-consideration)
- Okuzawa, Kunishige ‘Kaheinikansuru-Wadaino-1, 2 (Ge) [Topics about Money (2)] ’ pp. 65-68
(production-composition-consideration)

On the web site GRSJ make various articles including those related with globalization and alternative possibilities, open through the item: “library.” Many articles seem to be written by Eiichi Morino. Parts of them are shown below.

- Morino, Eiichi ‘Financial Globalization and Alternative Perspective’
(production-original-consideration) (HP)
- Morino, Eiichi ‘Warn and Vital Regional Society based on Solidarity by Community Currency’
(production-original-consideration) (HP) (text of lecture script)
- Morino, Eiichi ‘Deregulation and Feeling of People’ (production-original-consideration) (HP)
- Anonymous ‘Community Currency—Money for Solidarity and Trust—’
(production-original-consideration) (HP)
- Morino, Eiichi ‘Five Misunderstandings on Currency: Where does True Economic Power come’
(production-composition-consideration) (HP)
- Clark, Bill ‘Where does True Economic Power Exist’
(circulation-transition(translation)-consideration) (HP)
- Soga, Jun ‘American Economy Facing with Great Depression and Peak Out of World Economy’
(production-composition-consideration) (HP)
- Soga, Jun ‘Harm from Too Large Speculation’ (production-original-consideration) (HP)
- Soga, Jun ‘Nippon Bank Lost Oneself’ (production-original-consideration) (HP)

In addition, on the web site, one can read uncountable numbers of columns. This paper does not deal with them because of the great deal and because most of them are not “consideration,” but “essay” or “report.”

(5) As to GRSJ this paper chooses Morino, Eiichi ‘Financial Globalization and Alternative Perspective’ (production-original-consideration) (HP); Anonymous ‘Community Currency—Money for Solidarity and Trust—’ (production-original-consideration) (HP); and Izumi, Lui ‘Study on the Possibility of Building a Cyclical Society Based on Community Money’ (production-original-consideration). These texts seem to show the core values of GRSJ and have many categories.

(6) Text-Based Data

(1) Morino, Eiichi ‘Financial Globalization and Alternative Perspective’ (production-original-consideration) (HP)

(<http://www.grsj.org/colum/colum/global.html>) (in Japanese)

This text argues economic globalization mainly in terms of finance. It argues the issue of globalization in details by showing various problems and also alternatives. This text was published on the magazine called “Joukyo (Situation)” March 1999.

1-1 Cognition / Understanding (Globalization of finance and Economic and Social Inequality)

For 20 years it has been obvious from the perspectives of citizens and labor that globalization of finance has increased economic insecure and expanded social inequality. Moreover, in some countries, it has distorted and even humiliated people’s right of choice, democratic institutions, and state sovereignty which has public responsibility. This trend has been insisted as change in accordance with natural law by many commentators; citizens have been deprived power to determine their own destiny. Under such social conditions, it has been rightful processes that the consciousness to break the processes through creating new regulations and governance measures in domestic, regional, and international levels. The reason is that the ideology of freeing or deregulation, which expands world North South gap and domestic gap, has piled social frustration, increased danger of social explosion, led to political despair, and produced threats on social economy.

1-2 Understanding (Failure of IMF and Progress of Inequality)

The interventions by IMF, which intended to save countries in economic crisis, have failed. The demands to shrink national finance and application of high rate of interest of a loan have been criticized. After the Asian financial crisis, some reflections emerged on “fundamental” oriented works of IMF. However, what should be noticed is IMF has never changed its basic policies. See African countries, and one can comprehend the direction does not change. As before, the attitudes of IMF, World Bank, and international banks are to demand “structural adjustment program” for African poor countries. That is, the program demands to cut spending, to realize downsizing of public affair by using privatization, to restrain salary of labor, to conduct freeing or deregulation, and to promote environmentally sustainable development. These policies, which bring about recession, have been functioning to harm and put damage on poorest people in poorest countries. The processes of these programs are the same meanings with deterioration of

income and increase of inequality in wealth.

1-3 Cognition / Understanding (On Liberalization with Order)

Many people now come to be aware of power of globalization of finance and its impacts; they are interested in how to control it. The direct cause was the fact that Asian financial crisis could not be handled well. It was the most influential threat on stability of the world economy. It seems that the consciousness emerges that globalization processes cannot be controlled for people at large, government bureaucrats, and even marketization supporters.

However, state crafts and investors do not intend to deny all of the free market principles. …… Their interests lie in to reorganize the system in order that the performance of global economy should not be eroded, due to crisis of currency system. They intend to recover their status, which lost in international financial market, by saving of financial crisis and regulating market; in facing with the reality, it is investors who define the values of currencies through foreign stock markets.

1-4 Cognition / Problematization (The Logic of Freeing with Order)

It has been obvious for almost every people that the source of problems lies in hedge funds or Western mega banks, however, governments of each countries have wanted to make these large organization survive. ……

The ideology of “marketization with order” represents well this social condition. …… This ideology, of course, has basic understanding that the processes of deregulation brought about globalization with various negative effects. The slogan of the ideology is “market cannot function under vacuum” as French state craft says. It stands the stance that market functions in certain social and institutional conditions, drawing a clear line with American style excessive liberalism. In this sense it shares the perspectives with the stance of citizens, however, the point is its specific cognition and counter measures.

Its cognition on globalization is following. Deregulation in financial field, electric and communication field, and air plain field had been performed in great deal. Parallel with it, international level regulation on stock market, competitive policies, and activities of banks have been tried, however, they have not been actualized. The regulation on finance in international level is certainly not enough. The crises after Asian financial crisis show this point.

1-5 Cognition / Understanding (Free International Market and its Regulation)

According to them, IMF and funding states made mistake to propose too rapid freeing or untied capital movement. In order to avoid such rashness the arguments on freeing with order emerged, claiming arranging public institutions to check banks. In this framework, it is necessary to work on the problems of the lending side. It means all of the advanced countries’ banks should have duty to clarify their own activities. Due to such clarity, the best knowledge on risk can be realized; hedge funds seeking to high risk and high return

are also required such transparency, they say. However, in talking about who will take in charge of such transparency of currency and financial markets, it is certainly not enough to mere say various institutions should check banks, bond companies, and insurance companies.

Namely, they feel it is obsolete to argue which is appropriate free market or regulated economy. The choices lie in market without regulating system or organized market, they say. However, it is not necessarily clear what organized market means; whether it means fair currency system or not. Most of the people might agree with their perspective that every market has its foundation stems from some institutional conditions, which participants of market have to rely on, be it survey system by participants or intervention system to market in reckless. Also some might share with them the concerns that without international regulation, which guaranteeing good function of market, the crises might occur repetitively and lead to social confusions.

.... In thinking about international frameworks for regulations, they have expectation on IMF. The way should be sought and considered to transform IMF into real institution to enable to put regulation on market. Otherwise, the unordered currency system will continue to threat on global economy, they say.

1-6 Cognition / Understanding / Problematization (Trial in Brazil)

In Brazil some trials have worked on sustain of currency system against speculators. Market keeps eye on what will be taken as counter measures, if IMF is expected as last resort. Therefore, beside historical circumstance allows the arguments on freeing with order to show large vision or imaginary, most of the arguments seem still in the old framework.

For citizens the freeing with order seems not to have enough idea and counter measures against American fundamental liberalism. Then, what can be alternative choices?

1-7 Vision (On Tobin Tax)

Although various arguments are there, the proposal to impose from 0.1% to 2% or more tax on currency dealing and speculation in order to control them has been hot issue for citizens and labours.

....They come to think Tobin tax can be counter measure to decrease uncertainty of harmful financial market, experiencing negative effects of neoliberalism such as financial crises.

According to those support Tobin tax, although the tax itself is negligible, in idea level it can lead to international publicness as concept. Direct effects of taxation on speculation can be expected to decrease the dependent attitudes of each state on financial market and to change the tendency of existing market having seeds of crises. However, Tobin tax does not care about differences among currencies and requires international negotiations. For the sake of regulation process with negotiation might lead to awareness of universal mission to integrate governments of the world. It is different from arguments made by undemocratic and limited actors, be it G7 or G10.

1-8 Understanding (Tobin Tax and IMF)

While, one needs to pay attention in thinking about Tobin tax. That is, in considering the actualization of it, some have argued IMF can have certain roles to take in charge. IMF has tried to justify itself by forestalling the arguments made by Tobin tax proposing movements which have developed how to constitute institutional subject for international management of capital flow through international cooperation.

1-9 Problematization (To Show Doubts)

International financial market is the most advanced field of electronic dealings. In it tremendous virtual wealth bears; complex credit and debt constantly emerge and clear off. Through these processes the correspondent relations of credit and debt have been expand as universe. It is dubious whether it is possible to increase transparency of the electronized financial market and to put tax on electronized dealings; the trials might be mere formal. Most of the arguments seem to have kind of naive features in contrast to the reality of international financial market.

1-10 Understanding / Problematization (On Virtual Wealth)

Currency or money bears from nothing as magic through selling short of banks' stock in markets and disappears or evaporates in a moment. The problem lies in that the artificial level of asset values has been kept by provision of this invisible but actual fluidity of virtual money, not by actual economic dealings.

1-11 Problematization (Virtual Wealth and Socialization of Risk)

The other face of virtual financial asset is financial debt. The wealth accumulated in financial market is at the same time tremendous debt. Various ways put costs on society and economy. For example, stocknization of debt which comes to be common trend in financial freeing processes. It makes obscure the boundary between those have credit and those have debt and changes debt something beyond understanding through sophisticated ways. The essence of stocknization lies in that keeping private possession of profit as it is, it expands inconsistency of risks when dealers maximize profits and, at last, imposes risks on society (socialization of risk).

1-12 Understanding (World Level Deflation and Collapsing Market)

Already almost 40% of the world have been suffered from deflation. Even if IMF comes to function as last resort and to work on financial crises with speculators cooperation, the collapsing conditions of financial system themselves might not be able to be solved. Last year World Bank criticized wrong trial of IMF: protection of currency by raising interest rate which might lead to recession. In spite of that criticism, in pressure of market, the measures to use large amount of preparations of foreign currency which artificially raise currency demands cannot be resolve. Namely, even if international institutions and states promote regulation and management of market, markets have grown

too large and uncontrollable. In a word, it has been almost bankrupting.

1-13 Interest / Vision (Alternative Movements)

Seeing carefully two decades: 1980' s to 1990' s, when financial globalization had developed, one can find various alternative movements and financial projects in grassroots and people level, which problematized investment from ethical perspectives and which tried to create employment autonomously for those banks did not take care. In other words, through that time various movements emerged to take initiative in the field of finance in all over the world. The features of them are totally different from and even contradictory with those of players for financial globalization. Those financial projects have tried to seek the ways to contribute to regional economy which greedy financial companies do not care and have developed in diverse ways. They have been penetrated by will to seek sociality of finance. They put question that whether it is acceptable that those labours in advanced countries having savings do not care about nothing but return from savings. Also alternative financial projects have reconsidered ethics and effects on environmental sustainability of investments, resisting against the ideology of freeing finance.

These movements have developed in not only North, but also South. In developing countries, practices of "Micro Credit" have provided important opportunities for the poor to overcome difficulties. In advanced countries, at citizen level, various practices and trials for reformation of finance have emerged. One of the famous examples is LETS (Local Exchange Trading System) represented by Green Dollar. Many trials on social banking exist. Also some trials of "neutral currency network" exist, organizing dealings by making original currency compete with existing currency. Interactions among trials have been made in global level.

This text cannot deal with these diverse trials in details, however one of the main common features of them is the will to create and diffuse alternatives towards dictatorship of currency by neoliberalism. Democracy has lost many things, because of financial freeing. To recover what have lost means to reconstruct sovereignty of each people with resistance against the rights of investors, speculators, and capitalists. Of course it means to create democracy in global level. Now citizens are aware of the world confused due to financial globalization and start seeking to alternative globalization which has orientation toward global level of co-existence in the "level of depth not of width" based on region and labour. We should keep in mind this trend.

(2) Anonymous 'Community Currency—Money for Solidarity and Trust—'
(production-original-consideration) (HP)

(<http://www.grsj.org/colum/colum/rentai.html>)

This text argues community currency taking the style of almost essay. Although no identification is made for this text, it seems Morino' s work. By explaining system of money and interest, it argues community currency as alternative. This text shows core values,

including community currency, of GRSJ

2-1 Understanding / Cognition (To Borrow Money Means to Participate in “Death Gamble”)

Let’ s think about producer who borrow money and perform production. When one borrows money, he or she mortgages something. The term “mortgage” consists of “mort” meaning “death” and “gage” meaning “gamble.” Namely, to borrow money with mortgaging something means to participate in death gamble. On the one hand, bank provides money newly through financing. On the other hand, producer is enforced to perform death gamble by borrowing the principle to cover the cost of production. The reason is that producer has to collect the total amount of the principle (P) and the interest (I). Therefore, the price of product will be the sum of P and I, however, originally in the world only P existed. The amount of money people can use as consumers is only P, so it is impossible to sell all products. Some products must be remain, then some producer must bankrupt and face crisis of distraint. Under the system of money with interest some have to bankrupt. Therefore, the mortgage is none other than death gamble. …… The possibility to survive depends on rate of the interest as price of money.

2-2 Understanding / Cognition / Problematization (On Interest)

Money does not decrease as long as you have. …… This point has created the inequality between those have money and those do not have. It does not require cost to have money as long as in any time span. On the contrary, for example, farmer cannot postpone to sow. Consequently, they are urged to borrow money to sow seeds. The statuses are totally different. One can wait as long as he or she likes. The other is urged to hurry up. A moneylender demand interest in lending money to a farmer. A farmer cannot deny it. He or she needs the capital now. Then, the farmer needs to add the cost of interest to the price of grain. When the farmer sells grain to a bakery, then the bakery needs to add the cost of interest to the price of bread. In short, society has to pay for the profit of moneylender. Without working the profit of moneylender will get increase. …… This system of interest supports the centralization of wealth and power, because just some parts of people can acquire many parts of profits.

2-3 Understanding / Problematization (On Interest)

In general, people take it for granted to take interest on a loan. One of the arguments on its reason is that moneylender deserve receiving return from borrower because he or she cuts down what he or she can do by using money.

But, please see the reality. The year before last the number of suicide was 31,734: the worst. Each reason must be different. However, the reasons must have similarity. Almost all the reasons must have relationship with money. Also the number of self bankrupt amounts to 103,803 cases, increasing more than 30 thousands compared with last year. Seeing globally, the accumulated debt of developing countries amounts to 20 billion dollars. As to Mexico, for example, 30% of its annual GDP goes to payment of interest of debt. Such kind of money system does not guarantee happiness of people. What this system can offer

might be money centered world.

2-4 Cognition / Understanding / Vision (On Community Currency)

In such social conditions the alternative money system differing from national currency system start functioning, which does not lead to conflict or doubt among people, but can connect people with trust. This trial can start from autonomous initiative of people. It is called community currency.

[Referring to the trial of “Hour” of Ithaca, New York] Human being is consumer and at the same time producer. We can behave as a consumer or a buyer and also a producer. Those did not think one’s own skills and talents can be business start getting income through their own skills and talents. Then the total income of region increases. Through “Hour” the relations of give and take can be realized, which cannot be through dollar.

2-5 Cognition / Vision (Hour and Community)

In using dollar people think about pay via dollar. And in relating with profit people are urged to perform business. However, through such way skills and talents of regional people cannot emerge. But by being the currency to connect trusts, Hour created reciprocal relations: mutually giving relations. Through it some demands emerge, and responding them various supply also emerge. Through such activities, regional economy is to create economic foundation based on diversity. And what is significant is that the demands inside the community of Hour do not go out the community. Being as regional currency, the profits will be spent in the community. It means the wealth of Ithaca remains in Ithaca.

2-6 Understanding / Cognition

in order to vitalize the regional economy [Ithaca Hour administration] Committee donates Ithaca Hour for non-profit organizations whose purpose is social welfare. That money increase the income of business and shops by circulating city; it contributes to the region. It is said that the money is donated for homeless support groups and support organization of organic farmers.

In addition, the system of health insurance is behind in the U.S., so the Committee manages Ithaca insurance. If one participates in this insurance, he or she can take medical care with 10% off cost at contracted medical institutions and also can pay by Hour.

The committee finances without interest for producer, also. And through donating to farmers’ cooperatives and render them to preempt agricultural products at the most needing period: at the time of planting, it helps to manage support system for organic vegetables farmers. These projects protect land of Ithaca, nature and people from pesticide and chemical pollution.

2-7 Cognition / Understanding / Vision

Why did Ithaca Hour make success? The reason might be that it creates and deepens human relations. National currency tends to make people conflict and oppose each other; in this

framework, some one's profit is some one's lost. Such currency does not work to create human relations. Community currency circulates without interest on a loan; through using it actively, people can create solidarity. Whoever accepts Hour goes into warmness of community, then he or she can taste the warmness. It has such pleasure.

(3) Izumi, Lui 'Study on the Possibility of Building a Cyclical Society Based on Community Money' (production-original-consideration) in "Study of Free Economy" vol. 20

This text argues the functions of community currency in the framework of ideal society: cyclical society. It develops conceptual considerations and case considerations.

3-1 Interest / Cognition

For those living in region and promoting commerce at region do not necessarily reach to the idea that does not take into consideration circulating human relations. Under the contemporary conditions, in which the mobility of capital and labor rises and framework of region comes to disappear, such self-centered idea realizes. (1-2)

3-2 Cognition / Understanding (Concept of Cyclical Society)

[It argues the concept of cyclical society referring to the framework of H. Henderson: "production structure of industrial society"] Henderson shows "production structure of industrial society" by columnar figure as three-layer cake with icing, which consists of upper and lower production parts. The lower part shows non-currency production part, and on it currency production part stands. Each part has two layers. As foundation non-currency part has "natural layer" and, above it "social cooperative economy" exists. On the other hand, currency part has GNP "public" sector (state owned sector) as lower layer and GNP "private" sector (business sector) as icing. (3)

What needs to be focused on in this framework is that the foundation layer: "production, diffusion (reciprocity; exchange; and distribution), and consumption of goods and services in non market economy" support the realm of currency: "production, diffusion, and consumption in market economy." The lower layers is the realm in which goods and services are produced, diffused, consumed, and discarded through trust based relations in face to face family or regional relations. These relations contradict with and also interdependent with market parts.

.....

In other words, in terms of the differences of circulation system of goods one can classify whole economy into informal economy in which relative principle of individuals or gratis principle works and formal economy in which market principle works. Basically informal economy always constitutes core parts for human livings and formal economy development. Whatever society cannot exist without voluntary economy, or production structure based on autonomy of family and human relations, one can say.

By seeing this framework, it requires two perspectives to argue cyclical society: that is, how to circulate yen currency, what we use now, in market parts and how to revive or

reconstruct community by urging reciprocal dealings in non-market parts. Of course, these two are not separable to argue. Namely, self-standing of regional economy based on connection of localized market economy parts and non-market economy parts should be thought about as foundation for cyclical economy. (4)

3-3 Cognition / Understanding / Problematization (Historical Comprehension of Community Currency)

[To think about the linkage between community currency and local cyclical society the background of community currency is developed] Since early 1980' s community currency has diffused through Europe and the U.S. And today it is said there are more than three thousands systems in the world. [Some causes of this phenomena consist in globalization and correspondent localization related with capitalism, he said. And the problems emerged in such context are following.]

The expansion of North South gap and deterioration of global environment,
Decline of the region which investors do not see profit raising opportunities,
Collapse of traditional local community in accordance with urbanization,
Lost of local economy' s rights for self-determination, because of progress of international financial market and its uncertainty,

The backgrounds of birth of community currency at all over the world lay in that through actions from region to create regional autonomy and diversity and to create new community based on trust and mutual dependence in contrast to market globalization with prevention of deterioration of those problems. (6) ……

The community currency has five main features as below.

Currency or exchange system posing limitation on circulation range, period, and such as aim,

To move always with trades of goods and services,

To circulate under reciprocal relations of people,

Focusing on the function of exchange of values; basically zero interest,

Basically a sector constituted of citizens or regional community, not state as public sector, issues for the sake of regional problem solving and such as amendment of environment

(6-7)

[National currency, yen, has anonymity.] While, community currency is non-anonymous currency used in limited area with membership system or writing names on bills. …… By reviving the world “with name and face” in region, community currency has roles to strengthen solidarity of regional society and to make visible individual faces, fame, and such as talent in regional society. (7)

3-4 Understanding

[By using both national and community currency, it can be possible to make circulation of national currency stay inside a region. (7)] Due to community currency, goods and services which market could not appropriately distribute or even could not supply come

to circulate; and, through using it the flow out of capital can be prevented by confining buying power to a region.

Namely, by performing dealings and trades through dual currency system using national and regional together, the system, in which not only community currency but also national currency circulate, can be constructed. This system means to transform flow of capital and make various resources circulate inside a membership system and a region. Such circulation cannot be realized through national currency only. (8)

3-5 Understanding (Functions and Roles of Community Currency)

[To ask the roles of community currency for cyclical society:] To construct networks of trust is the most needed and the most functioning role. …… Community currency mainly constructs and creates basic relations with trust and vitalizes non-market part. And also it influences on market part through making use of national currency. (8)

……

Namely, community currency is one of the arrangements for regional development oriented towards cyclical society by intending to create face to face human relations or community, to recover direct and equal human relations between consumer and producer in the realm of production and to create regional residents' supports for regional economy consist of agriculture and such as merchandise. (9)

3-6 Understanding (Case of Ithaca Hours of New York)

[Showing the cases Ithaca Hours and Peanut at Chiba Japan as trials of community currency connecting with cyclical society] Ithaca Hours is community currency used in limited area of 30 miles square around Ithaca city, about 30000 population since 1991. It was invented as measure to preserve talent or ability and resources of the regional community as far as possible and to utilize them for residents' lives. (9)

…… [After explaining basic systems and management ways of Hours (9-10)]

Ithaca Hours started setting the purpose “to employ him or herself by oneself” in order to get rid of the system in which large corporations draw up regional abilities and capitals with regional merchandises and industries sacrificed; therefore, it has included positively many small scale farmers and coops. (10)

…… [After explaining the actual trend and ways of Hours' use (10-12)]

At first, Hours was made fun of as “toy money,” could collect mere 100 participants, and was very limited inner circle money. However, through expansion of participants including farmers, shopping streets, and such as community banks with agreements with the idea of Hours, it comes to be accepted as what it is now. To sum briefly, Ithaca Hours, used to be inner circle money, developed to create network of trusts through the piles of dealings among individuals, at coops, farmers' market, and shopping streets, accompanying communications. In addition, through community banks' financing, it grew enough to aim to promote inner circulation of dollar earnestly. (13)

3-7 Understanding (The Case of Peanut at Chiba)

Peanut started when NPO Chiba Machizukuri (Community Building) Support Center was set up in February 1999. (13) …… [After explaining its forms, system of diffusion, and the situation of actual use (13-18)]

At first, Peanut was mere communication tool inside the NPO. It intended to go into regional shopping streets, but was denied; this is the turning point of Peanut. It began from participation by barber who is the representative of the shopping street feeling some possibilities of it and then went on with participation by regional welfare institutions and autonomous participation by shops of Yurinoki Shopping Street and farmers. These relationships and following factors have constructed networks of trusts: through free markets which lead to face to face relationships between farmers and consumers and through Peanut catalogue by which the individuals' life needs can be exchanged. Seen like this, Peanut is now at the stage to by degrees construct networks of dealings with and exchanging various goods and services including those without marketability. (18)

3-8 Cognition / Understanding / Vision (As Summery: The relations of Community Currency and Cyclical Society)

[Although its aims, systems, and such as scale have diversity, community currency has following steps to construct cyclical society]

*To take communication among comrades or inside narrow limited region

*To construct trust based network between individuals

(1) To construct networks to deal with goods and services (mainly needs supporting among individuals)

(2) To construct networks to deal with goods and services (between traders themselves or traders and consumers)

*To get start of regionalization of capital circulation (partly internalization of national currency by introducing community currency) (19)

……

As community currency in general Ithaca Hours and Peanut have constructed trust based relations following reasons: to bring various information and message with non-anonymous feature, to realize trade between members directly, to realize the sharing and the giving of information naturally. Therefore, traders can decrease dealing and information cost; also, local traders and individuals can be conscious of the contribution of the currency to local society, because they can be aware of the roles in regional society and can be receive positive evaluations.

Namely, community currency is the system to create trust based networks, to transmit parts of private profits into public, to allow citizens to contribute positively to regional society or local economy. Although through various evolving steps, we can intend to achieve following points through introducing community currency: to vitalize non-market realm as foundation society and economy and to construct non-centralized market realm through internalization of national currency via dual currency system. (20)

These above are text-based data of knowledge activities by GRSJ.

(7) Interview Data of GRSJ

2002・12・3 at Cafe

Mr. MORINO Eiichi

“Q1: What kinds of values does GRSJ have as significant?”

A1: GRSJ has the slogan: “Japan based on regions having highly autonomous local economy.” Also we have the value that “all of the human beings should be happy.” What is important in society is neither money nor authority, but humanity. This value requires more equal and democratic social systems. It is the foundation for something new will emerge through the relations among autonomous individuals with respects for diversity and difference.

“Q2: What kinds of world outlook or social cognition do support such values? Or what kinds of cognition on contemporary society do bring such values?”

A2: What the slogan means it is important that each region or local area has autonomous economy. In contemporary society, the trend of economic globalization has been very strong. In such condition, on the one hand, various things come to be open, such as downing national borders or boundaries and expansion of interactions in global level. For example, we can buy something from the other side of the earth more easily than before. These can be thought as positive dimension of globalization. However, on the other side, globalization has increased and expanded the gap of income as negative dimension.

As to globalization, problems lie in mainly two dimensions: globalization of finance and of production. The idea: “money has absolute power,” has supported this trend and has functioned to create international and domestic inequality. Moreover, world economy has been falling in the crisis of deflation. On the one hand, due to cheap labor power, the accumulation of productive capacity has increased, as a result many cheap products come to be available. On the other hand, the largest market consuming these products was U.S. market, however, it cannot absorb them so much. In general, the world consuming market cannot buy them all. The conditions, in which products cannot be sold, and the capacity to buy decrease, has been leading to deflation. It has something to do with the mechanism to create so called one dollar poor who can live off by less than one dollar a day.

Those who are in such circumstances need to have the regionally closed foundation in which resources circulate inside it. Through it we can take distance from globalization power bearing the gap. It does not mean to close the region completely as regional isolation with exclusive features. Receiving influences from globalization power, we need to keep the regional foundation for self-reliance and autonomy.

For the sake of achieving this regional foundation, the social constitution is required which differs from the old principles of authority or of money. Neither capitalism nor socialism is the social constitution. We have insisted the emancipation of market economy from capitalism. Originally, market economy was the system to allow free participation based on non- centralized and diverse style. However, recently, it has been bend by the capitalism depending on the illusory idea: “money is everything.” Since 1980’ s world economy has put excessive power

on money. Various distortions have emerged in society.

“Q3: Do you (your organization) think to create knowledge has importance? And Why?”

A3: Yes, indeed. Knowledge is power. Through knowledge one can acquire various power, use information, and create ideas. A scholar says “reality is stubborn.” It means we have certain difficulties to comprehend and deal with reality, therefore, we need to be intellectual always. It also means raison detre “to live,” I think.

Also we cannot create research results, articles, and such as books from nothing, or zero. We necessarily use intellectual heritage or cultural heritage of human beings. In the world, there is the gigantic invisible warehouse. We perform intellectual production activities by using resources and knowledge of it. Put in differently, we have debt from the start point of knowledge activity. Debt should be paid back. Therefore, it is very significant to give back products of intellectual production activity for the warehouse or society. I think it is essential point of knowledge production activity. In this sense, not money but evaluation can be reward. The significant point lies in evaluation, critics, and such as respect for products.

In contemporary society, state and corporations have most of the knowledge and information. They, possessed by state, are not necessarily open for public. State controls them very sophisticated ways. I have experience of work at such sector, so know well about it. State does not allow people at large to know or to be informed. We have certain feeling, in such conditions, to want to comprehend realities and facts, to analyze data, and to provide data, information, and knowledge for society and people. We promote such things basically free of charge. We need to think about distribution, diffusion, acceptance of information and knowledge.

In Japan if one wants to research something, it is very useful to access to the databases or documents of UN, American thinktanks, or such as information institutions. However, it is indeed strange. To research Japanese issues, we need to access to foreign sources. In such situations, we have tried to provide data, information, and knowledge through analyses of Japanese realities.

Also we have tried to make policy agenda as concrete measure for problem solving. It means to provide concrete ways to work on the concerned issue for those who need. It depends on receivers how to evaluate our products. We do not take the stance “you should do that in order to solve your problem.” We provide a counter measure as possibility.

“Q4: How does GRSJ create knowledge? In what ways?”

A4: Basically, we have promoted research through individual base and then have published through “Study of Free Economy,” our bulletin, and also web site. Unfortunately, we cannot hold study meetings recently. Sometimes we get together suddenly when someone says so, because we have made constant communication through E-mail and phone. We are networks having plural center, rather than solid organization. Recently, we provide videotapes of lectures by the cost price for the sake of better diffusion.

Many members of GRSJ are economists working actively engaged in a governmental institution,

a corporation, and such as a university. It is necessary for us to relativize the perspective of the place to belong to by having internal and external perspectives. GRSJ is the space to acquire and use the external perspectives.

The way of working on knowledge has similarity with that of GNU free software movements. So far, government offices and corporations have monopolized information and knowledge, however, recently this monopolization has declined due to development of Internet and so and so. Through developments of information communication technologies, the opportunities for free provision and free use of various information and knowledge have expanded. Our knowledge production based on individuals has been making knowledge open without requiring monetary rewards for copyright. We insist “copy left,” which requires concerns and respects on citation. As long as one keeps citation rules, we want them to use freely our produced knowledge as intellectual heritage. However, in Japan, some use products by their own name: plagiarism.

GRSJ does not decide theme or topics of researches. Autonomous individuals perform research and exchange ideas and critics in the network. So basically each research result does not represent official opinion or comment of GRSJ. It is kind of self-responsibility of autonomous individuals. In this sense, it is difficult to show the values for GRSJ. However, similar comments or ideas tend to emerge by chance.

Talking about alternative knowledge production, the significant point lies in respects for diversity and autonomy, cognition for differences leading to something new, and plural center network. Through interactions of these elements and ICTs I think invisible or virtual universities start rising on virtual space. Existing universities have been falling low. Through Internet and networks knowledge production can be performed more and more freely.

For research results evaluations are paid as rewards. We put opinion and criticized on produced knowledge. And through such interactions new information and knowledge will emerge. We do not settle the minimum condition or criterion for publishing. The point lies in evaluations and comments from comrades of the network.

Also we have the stance of non-profit, non-political, and non-religion. It does not matter for each member to have those stance, however, GRSJ itself does not have those, because through such stances distortion of analysis or interpretation might happen.

Of course, to raise money and to eat, we sometimes provide research result for demands. However, we do not confine our activities to profit oriented, but have non-profit activities also. To take and keep balance between profit to keep body and non-profit to keep heart might be ideal.

To join GRSJ has very severe. We demand members to write or produce knowledge on Japanese society as far as possible. We put one of the core values in to produce knowledge, because the produced knowledge will be accumulated as intellectual or cultural heritage and enrich it. Also it means to give the debt back.

“Q5: What kind of motivation does your organization have in making knowledge?”

A5: As mentioned, knowledge is power, and for stubborn reality we need it. GRSJ keep in mind to provide alternative choices, because people can enjoy their own lives or well-beings through accumulated diverse intellectual products. Knowledge used to take the form “whether this or

that,” seeking truth. However, we should change the logic into “both this and that.” To create various opinions, ideas, and such as knowledge society might develop into more decent and meaningful by gradual degrees.

Knowledge must be connected with the question “how to make society better?” with struggling. So, the ways of knowledge production and ourselves need to change in accordance with transformation of society. If reality changed, individuals involving there would change also. However, to make knowledge settled and solid with hard and stubborn ideal historically led to wars or disasters. I have certain feelings wanting to stop such stupid matters. I want to create knowledge helps people to take one step forward.

Society transforms by degrees, I think. Social movements used to and even still say “we should do that for society!” or “we ought to change this problem of society!” Beyond such stance, I think what is important is to change oneself autonomously, because it might lead to social transformation. In this sense, society and we, ourselves, need to transform, rather than to be changed. I feel human history has been reaching such point. Namely, not to depend on wise persons, but autonomous plural individuals change themselves involving in what each of them defines as problem. Through these processes new knowledge appear, and reality transforms, I think.

“Q6: Does your organization have satisfaction on knowledge activities performing?”

A6: No, definitely not. Although we need to perform works to eat, if possible I want to promote research and analyses 24 hours. But it’ s impossible. Analyses of reality need to be more and more thick and dense. Anyway, what we have been performing are far from enough and none other than trifles. However, if this kind of movements emerges more and more, then society and we, ourselves, can change, I think.

“Q7: For the better knowledge activities, what are the challenging tasks?”

A7: One is to make more useful knowledge public domain, which people can use freely. GRSJ has thought to make open old sources and references through Internet making digital data. In the U.S. system to make open massive amounts of data, information, and knowledge has been realized. One of the reasons is the culture of donation or foundation, however, Japan does not have much possibility to do the same thing.

Also though now our network consists of 12 to 13 individuals, the expansion of network might make thick knowledge production possible. However, we do not conduct intentional expansion campaign or such. As far as we constantly produce sophisticated knowledge, then the memberships will be enriched.

Networks in international level emerged. Those thinking and doing similar things get together. What is important is how far those in network can share the features of the era. Based on shared feelings, actors set and share problems, and then produce knowledge through making efforts. In addition, for the products other members give comments or critics. These subsequent processes are significant for networks, and such network are multi layers. A member of GRSJ belongs to another networks. Then the total amount of power can be great. Those put themselves in isolated conditions before come to be connected through networks with multiple

centers. Not the expansion from center to periphery, but the networking of each autonomous and self standing individual has certain importance.

The crucial point lies in that through enrichment of knowledge accumulation, or the warehouse, society change into better conditions. Then what is required is place in which diverse people interact or cross, I think. We think such place has basically its root in local. In order to think about globalization, what is needed is the local place to exchange and interact knowledge, wisdom, and human beings. Not systematic organization as a university, but networks as GRSJ can provide and be such place. Through come and go of people with knowledge or knowledge itself will function to create new knowledge.

These are the data on knowledge activities by GRSJ.

2-4 The Sloth Club

URL: <http://www.sloth.gr.jp/J-index.htm>

[Omission]

2-5 Pacific Asia Resource Center (PARC)

URL: <http://www.parc-jp.org/>

(1) Set up in 1973

(2) Core members (representatives): NAKAMURA Hisashi; MURAI Yoshinori, INOUE Reiko. Memberships about 700.

(3) Brief Outline of the Organization: PARC is international NGO whose four main activities are following. "Research and study" from the perspective of citizens; "international cooperation project" such as support project for self-reliance of East Timor and research project of the Mae Klong river of Thailand; "policy agenda and advocacy activities" towards international organization such as UN, World Bank, and IMF, and towards Japanese government; and "information provision" through monthly newsletter, booklet, video, lectures, study meeting, and such as Internet.

(4) Brief Outline of Knowledge Activities of PARC

The knowledge activities performed by PARC have diversity. After 1998, within the range of consideration of this paper, PARC does not publish original book⁴. It publishes monthly newsletter "Oruta (alternatives)." It published many booklets⁵, although not periodical. Also it produces video programs on various issues and organizes "PARC Jiyuu Gakkou (Freedom School)" to make various lectures. In addition, through Internet utilizing links it promotes knowledge activities.

The lists of booklets are following:

"IMF ga Yattekita (IMF Came)" (1998)

Kitazawa, Yoko 'Ajiano Tsuuka·Kinyu-kiki (Asian Currency and Financial Crises)' pp. 2-21

⁴ As knowledge production of research and study by PARC in 1982 Y. Tsurumi published "Banana to Nihonjin (Banana and Japanese)" (Tokyo: Iwanami) and in 1988 Y. Murai published "Ebi to Nihonjin (Shrimp and Japanese)" (Tokyo: Iwanami). These works can be thought as products of knowledge activities by NGO. The style of knowledge activity lay in research and study by a team. It has sense of SCKP. Tsurumi (1995) shows the processes of researches.

⁵ PARC published some booklets except what we make lists for example, Y. Kitazawa (1998) "Development by People's Hand"; T. Azuma (1999) "Kuzuya Goes"; K. Hanasaki and D. Ramis (1999) "Tsurumi Yorhiyuki The Ways to Go Beyond the Borders"; and T. Itagaki and K. Mushanokouji (2001) "Is It Really New War?" (All of them were published by PARC). These do not have strong relations with the issue of globalization. Then, these are not appropriate for consideration and analysis in main part of this paper.

(production-composition-consideration)

Paku, Kunho ‘Kankoku Keizaikikino Haikei (The Background of Korean Economy Crisis)’ pp. 22-31
(production-composition-report)

Murai, Yoshinori ‘Dokoheiku Indonesia (Where does Indonesia Go)’ pp. 32-46
(circulation-processing-consideration)

Inoue, Reiko ‘Takamaru IMF Hihan Taino Keizaikiki (IMF Critics Rising Thai’s Economy Crisis)’ pp. 47-60 (production-composition-consideration-essay)

Bello, Walden ‘Haneini Yoishireta 10 nen Asia keizaikikino Haikei (Addicted to Capital: The Ten-year High and Present-day Mithdrawal Trauma of Southeast Asia’s Economy)’ pp. 61-85
(circulation-transition(translation)-consideration)

“NIKE Just DON’ T do It Mienaitaikokushugi (Invisible Imperialism)” (1998)

Paku, Kunho ‘Naikito Asia “Sakushuno Geijutu (Nike and Asia: Art of Exploitation)’ pp. 2-29
(production-composition-consideration)

Yu-suzumi, Ryota ‘Naikino Burandosenyaku (Nike’s Bland Strategy)’ pp. 30-40
(production-essay)

Kitazawa, Ken ‘Akairono Suwosshuha Niwatorino Tosaka Betonamu Naiki Koujou (The Red Swash is Chiken’s cockscomb: Vietnam Nike Factory)’ pp. 41-52 (production-composition-report)

Saeki, Natsuko ‘Anatano Kustuto Watashitatino Namida Indonesia no Naiki Roudousha (Your Shoes and Our Tear: Nike’s Labour in Indonesia)’ (production-original-report)

Ooi, Tomohiro ‘NIKE ha naze Suportsushuzuwo Taide Tsukuranakunattaka (Why did Nike Come not to Make Sport Shoes in Thailand)’ pp. 61-68 (production-composition-consideration)

Asia Monitor Resource Center and Hong Kong Christian Industry Committee ‘Yakunitatanai Kigyokoudoukihan! (Working Conditions in Sports Shoe Factory in China)’ pp. 69-79
(circulation-transition(translation)-consideration)

Kaneko, Humio ‘Kyuseichousuru Naiki: Kessanhokokusho kara Mietekurumono (Steep Development of NIKE: What can be Seen from Report on Settlement of Accounts)’ pp. 80-85
(production-original-consideration)

“Shokuryouto Josei: Feminizumuno Sitenkara

(Food and Women: From Feminism Perspective)” (1998)

George, Susan ‘Bouekinojiyu-ka to Shokuryouanzen-hoshouha Ryouritusurunoka (Can Freeing Trade be compatible with Food Security?)’ pp. 2-21 (circulation-transition(translation)-consideration)

Mies, Maria ‘Subetenhitoni Shokuryouwo Shokuryouanzenhoshou to Eco-Feminism (Food for All of the People: Food Security and Eco-Feminism)’ pp.22-43 (circulation-transition(translation)-consideration)

Shiva, Vandana ‘Keizaino Gurobarukato Joseino Kurashi (Economic Globalization and Life of Women)’ pp. 44-78 (circulation-transition(translation)-consideration)

Karl, Marilee ‘Joseinakusite Shokuryouannzennhoshou Nashi (Without Women No Food Security)’ pp. 79-103 (circulation-transition(translation)-consideration)

“IMF Sekaiginkouto Nicaragua Saimumondaiwo Shirutameni
(IMF・World Bank and Nicaragua: To Know Debt Problems)” (1999)

- ‘Hajimeni (Introduction)’ pp. 2-7 (production-composition-report)
‘Nicaragua toiu Kuni (Country Called Nicaragua)’ pp. 8-18 (production-composition-report)
‘Nicaragua to IMF ・ Sekaiginkou (Nicaragua and IMF ・ World Bank)’ pp. 18-23
(production-composition-report)
‘Saimumonndai wo Shirutameni (To Know Debt Problem)’ pp. 23-43
(production-composition-report)
‘Korekarano Nicaragua (Future of Nicaragua) pp. 44-47 (production-composition-report)

The contents of three volumes of “Oruta,” monthly newsletter, May, June, and July 2002, are following.

May 2002 “Mizuha Darenomonoka (Water is Whose Belonging)⁶”

Motohashi, Seiichi ‘Wasuresarareta Inochiwo Tunagu Mizu (Water Connecting the Forgotten People)’ pp. 5-7 (production-request-report)

Barlow, Maude ‘Mizuha Subetenohitono Kihonteki Jinkendearu (Water is Basic Human Right of All the People)’ pp. 8-11 (production-request (translation)-consideration)

Solon, Pablo ‘Bolivia Mizu wo Meguru Tatakai (Bolivia: Struggles over Water)’ pp. 12-14 (production-request (translation)-consideration)

[Montry, Jantawon](#) ‘Thai Nouminwo Kurushimeru “Hinkon Sakugen Program” (Thai: “Program for Poverty Solution” Suffering Farmers)’ pp. 15-17 (production-request (translation)-consideration)

Kadokawa, Sumio ‘Nippon Min-eika ni Mukau Nippon-no Suidou (Japan: Japanese Water Service Towards Privatization)’ pp. 18-19 (production-request-report)

[Grusky, Sara](#) ‘Ghana Min-eika toiu Taihaga Juusaimuhinnkonkokuwo Osou (Ghana: The Tidal Wave of Privatization Attack Heavy Debt Poor Countries)’ (circulation-transition (translation)-report)

June 2002 “9・11 go no Asia Susumu Gunjino Gurobaruka (Asia after 9・11: Progress of Globalization of Military)⁷”

Mushanokouji, Kinhide ‘Grobaru Hanterodoumeini Taikousuru Seigino Undouwo (We Need Justice Movements against the Global Alliance of Anti-Terror)’ pp. 9-11 (production-request-consideration)

July 2002 “Rio Summit kara Ju-nen Kankyoha Yokunattanoka? (Ten Years since Rio Summit: Does Environment Get Better?)”

⁶ This volume consists of mainly summary of the symposium: “Mizuto Hitohitono kurasi (Water and People’s Life)” held in 2002・3・20 organized by PARC.

⁷ Except the listed text, other texts do not have relations with globalization, so they are out of consideration.

Kitazawa, Yoko 'Imakoso, Jikkousuru Isiga Towareteiru (Just Now the Question is the Will to Promote)' pp. 5-10 (production-composition-consideration)
Koh, Martin 'Grobarizationga Rio Seishinwo Dainasinishitesimatta (Globalization Destroyed the Spirit of Rio)' pp. 12-14 (circulation-transition (translation)-report)

In addition, on the Internet web site several articles, which are the scripts of lectures which are published in "Alternatives" May 2002, taking subtle different form, can be read⁸.

Barrow, Mode 'Mizuha Darenomomoka (Water is Whose Possession)' (production-request (translation)-consideration) (HP)
Solon, Pablo 'Bolivia Mizu wo Meguru Tatakai (Bolivia: Struggles over Water)' (production-request (translation)-consideration) (HP)
Montry, Jantawon 'Thai Nouminwo Kurushimeru "Hinkon Sakugen Program" (Thai: "Program for Poverty Solution" Suffering Farmers)' (production-request (translation)-consideration) (HP)

PARC also positively promotes symposiums and lectures. These can be oral ways of knowledge activities.

(5) Texts to be Analyzed

As to PARC, this paper chooses following texts and organizes text data: M. Barlow 'Water is Basic Human Right of All the People' ; Y. Kitazawa 'Just Now the Question is the Will to Promote' from "Alternatives" ; and K. Paku 'Nike and Asia: Art of Exploitation' from booklet.

(6) Text-based Data

First of all parts of self definition made through Internet is shown as interest and cognition.

Interest / Cognition

NPO Asia Pacific Resource Center (PARC) has an eye on to create an alternative society in which people of South and North can live an equal and level life.

PARC has promoted various citizen activities to collect and distribute information from the world; to research; to educate through Freedom School, to make lectures and symposium; and such as to make policy agendas towards government and international institutions.

We think through changing oneself, Japanese society changes, and then the society will be constituted in which North and South people can live together.

We try to be a media for encounter of various people beyond national boundaries, for mutual empowerment to enlarge thought and perspectives, and for enlarge network. (from HP in Japanese)

⁸ The ways of expression and using words are different, but the contents are the same as what can be read through "Alternatives."

(1) M. Barlow 'Water is Basic Human Right of All the People' (production-request (translation)-consideration) "Alternatives" May 2002

This text is manuscript prepared for the symposium: "Water and People's life" held on March 2002 by PARC. It considers water problems and globalization which PARC has concerned.

1-1 Understanding (on Water)

The amount of fresh water we can use is mere 0.5% of total amount of water in the world. Rest is sea water, unusable piled snow, ground water and such as water in soil. And the amount of fresh water we can supply is limited.

Water is special and important. Nothing can substitute water; water is essential for all of the creatures. (8)

1-2 Understanding / Cognition (Main Causes of the Crisis of Water Supply)

First stems from explosion of population.Till year 2025, 2.6 billion will increase, compared with today. And all of the people will have to share the same total amount of fresh water.

Second stems from the increase amount of the world water consumption. Though the consumption amount of water per a person has increased twice as much in each 20 year, it twice as much speed than rate of population growth.

Third stems from problem of agriculture. It is obvious that for industrialized agriculture water is used and consumed excessively.

Forth stems from mass scale pollution. The most severe threat on fresh water is the pollution stems from too many factories, industrialized agriculture, and urbanization.

Fifth, global warming, tree and forest felling, and such as lost of damp ground.

Sixth stems from dams and improvements of rivers. For this 100 years more than 40,000 large scale dams were built and improved rivers for smooth transportation were more than 500,000 cases.

Seventh stems from problems of urbanization. Due to unordered urbanization, the amount of usable fresh water has decreased. (8)

1-3 Understanding / Problematization (Water Problems)

According to UN, today, 31 countries face with critical water problems, more than 1 billion people cannot use clean drinking water. Half of the humanity is lack of basic sanitary arrangements. And 25 million people died in each year from pathogenic bacteria by drinking unsanitary water. One child per 8 seconds dies from drinking dirty water. Moreover, the drying up of ground water and running out of water supply might lead to wars among states. Unless we change the ways fundamentally, till year 2025 two third of world population will have to live under the severe water shortage conditions. (9)

1-4 Understanding / Problematization (On Washington Consensus)

“Washington Consensus” was the agreement that all of the states would promote privatization through deregulation of every field. Even health and medical care will be privatized. Moreover, air and such as water will be commodified. In a word, it is economic centered agreement. It is the economic model based on the idea that free market economy should be appropriated as only one choice in all over the world.

.....

Another feature of “Washington Consensus” lies in that large global corporations can control the economy by superseding states and escaping domestic laws. Based on this principle, for large corporations water means “blue gold.” In 21c water will take the roles which gold had taken in 20c. It is also said that water will be precious commodity to define richness of a country.

.....

IMF and World Bank (WB) have put pressure on developing countries to abolish public water service and to make contract with large corporations and have supported the water dealing large corporations. To do so is the condition for cutting debt. (9)

1-5 Understanding / Problematization (Water Industry and Multi National Corporations)

.....The annual profit of water related industry is 1 trillion dollars. It amounts to 40% of oil industry and superior to medical drug industry. The total amount of water which private corporations take control is mere 5% of the world water amount. Then, in accordance with water crisis, the possibilities of large profit emerge. In reality, it is said that water related corporations have grown more than 10%, and large corporations list on stock exchange market one after another.

In fact, 10 large corporations promote to supply water for private aim now. The most largest 2 corporations are French MNC: Vivindi corporation and Sezu corporation. Only these two corporations cover the privatized water supply and sewage of 200 million people over 150 countries.

Where these corporations have performed water services, various problems have occurred: such as rise of water service price, stop supply for those cannot pay the cost, opacity dealings, deterioration of quality of water, and such as corruption and bribe. (10)

1-6 Understanding / Problematization (International Treaty to Commodify Water)

These corporations have used international trade conventions for opening up water market. NAFTA and WTO already defined water as “commodity” to be dealt with. Once a stopcock of water supply for commercial dealing is opened, to close it will be the violation of the rights of corporation guaranteed by conventions. WTO has provisions to ban regulations from any reasons. Article 11 of NAFTA guarantees for corporations the right to claim reparation to recover the lost future dealing profits, when state government put a regulation on the corporation. (10)

1-7 Understanding (Counter Arguments for Supportive Arguments on Privatization of Water)

Those for the privatization often claim “choices of consumer.” However, water is not commodity to be chose, not the measure to accumulate wealth, and not the subordinate material to market principle. The basic cost for foundational water supply for all of the societies and people should be paid socially.

Also, corporations promoting privatization have claimed “the local authority and government do not have enough funds and capacity, and they are lack of water policies and cannot make infrastructure. Therefore, people suffer from water shortage.” Of course, I do not intend to protect what parts of government have done; to treat with water resource with irresponsible ways; to lead to waste and to pollution; and such as to use water for political aims. However, the counter measure towards inappropriate management of water by government is not to rely on irresponsible MNC for management, but appropriate management.

.....

Once privatization is conducted, then the water resource management will be performed under the principle of scarcity and maximization of profit rather than long period sustainability. Corporations will invest not security of water but chemical medicine, technology to make fresh water, marketing, and such as trade of water for the sake of make profit. The distribution of water will be conducted not the perspectives of environment or social justice, but perspective of merchandise. (10-11)

1-8 Vision / Problematization (Water is One of the Basic Human Rights)

Today all of the people getting together should preserve waster resources all over the world which have been drying up. To so do requires common cognition that “water is common good for all of the people at anytime.” In other words, water belongs to the earth and all of the creatures; and to get clean water every day by free of charge is necessary basic human right. No one has right to possess water for the sake of profit. Corporations and government who will pollute water should be controlled through regional convention, domestic laws, and international laws. And to destroy water should be regarded as international crime. Also we should deny completely freeing and favorable measures for large corporations such as tax free steps based on neoliberal economy. (11)

(2) Y. Kitazawa ‘Just Now the Question is the Will to Promote’
(production-composition-consideration) “Alternatives” July 2002

This text considers the point what has been done and have not since Rio Summit, relating with Johannesburg Summit (WSSD).

2-1 Cognition / Understanding (Deterioration of World Situations)

It has passed 10 years since Rio Summit, but, in a word, not only the aims of Rio have not been achieved, but also all of the dimensions have been getting worse. (5)

.....

The priority problem at Johannes Summit is poverty. In 1992, the year of Rio Summit,

the problem of poverty reached the cautious level. At that time those in absolute poverty conditions were said as 1.2 billion, but the report of World Bank May 2000 told the number increased into 1.5 billion. ……

Moreover, the factors to generate poverty have increased. In spite of poverty, money surplus has occurred, and the scale of real economy has shrunk. 2 trillion speculated dollars a day flows in a flash all over the world. Such flows led to Asian currency crises, destruction of economy in Russia and Brazil, and made Turkish and Argentine economy completely bankrupted conditions recently. (6)

2-2 Understanding / Cognition (On UN and UN Related Institutions)

After the WTO cabinet minister conference in 2001 at Doha, …… as the trend three international organization: IMF·World Bank (WB)·WTO, have superseded the roles of UN. [The roles of UN do not function well due to scarce of capital] ……

Although IMF·WB·WTO are in broad sense UN related institutions, in reality their features are totally different. The most different point lies in the point that G5: U.S., Japan, Germany, U.K., and France, have the right of decision makings, rather than one state one vote based on international democracy. Also they collect money from market, for example through WB bond; a lot of money flow into them.

Also International Development Association (IDA), called as “second window” of WB, lend money, collected from advanced countries, to developing countries by low interest rate. As to usual banks it is impossible to control a financed organization, however, WB can completely control the policies of developing countries.

Problem lies in that the way of collecting money is limited to such way. Even if one tries to protect environment, the large WB team comes and makes large scale finance, as a result environment tends to be destroyed. And as to the problem of spreading AIDS, it is a matter of humanity; therefore, money for the solution should be donation as UN does. However, WB sticks to financing. It can be said as very destructive way of working on. (7)

2-3 Understanding / Problematization (on the UN Development Funds International Conference at Monterrey, Mexico on March 2002)

At Monterey Conference, the point of funds for poverty vanish was argued, however, as the way “trade and investment” was said shamelessly. Namely, it means that “through trade and investment poverty can be vanished. Therefore, more and more trades are needed.” It is obviously strange that trade and investment vanish poverty and lead to sustainable development. Basically the actors who expand trade is not governments but corporations, and corporations perform for the sake of profit; these perspectives are completely lack in such argument. There is no corporation performs for the sake of developing countries. It means the total “privatization of UN.” (7)

2-4 Understanding / Problematization (Prospects on WSSD)

I do not have positive prospects on WSSD. One of the large reasons is the attitude of

the U.S. Recently, U.S. performs destructive actions such as withdrawal from Durban Conference and does not promote much things in domestic. Especially, after G.W. Bush took the post of president, the attitude came to be strong. At the Monterrey Conference, the U.S. threatened by saying "we will not attend" ; then, many points and conditions are compensated because to hold conference itself came to be the aim. And when conference started, the U.S. arrogantly came and said "we will offer 5 billion dollars for the fund." At a glance, it seems large amount of money, in fact compared with the GNP of U.S., the amount is not so much large.

..... These made me feel the stand play or unilateralism of U.S. has gone too much. In addition, we can raise many examples of subsequent terrible behaviour of it, such as break of Kyoto Protocol and such as withdrawal from IBM treaty.

There remain concerns that just the same kind of behaviour might happen in WSSD. It means that U.S. might say "we will not attend the conferences" and might make various conditions without substances. (9-10)

2-5 Vision

Of course, large NGOs and people of U.S. have performed policy agendas and have had demonstration very actively. However, especially after 9·11, the atmosphere to fear saying no to national flag has had strong influence. Moreover, many regard Bush as national flag. We have a lot of things should be done. And if we have the political will to do them, they can be done. (10)

(3) K. Paku 'Nike and Asia: Art of Exploitation' (production-composition-consideration) "NIKE: Just DON' T do it"

This text argues the structures of exploitation in Asian countries by NIKE, famous sport shoes brand. Although it does not use the exact term "globalization," the contents of the text is none other than globalization and its negative effects.

3-1 Understanding (NIKE in Japanese Market)

Asics and Mizuno have been occupying 60% of profits in sports shoes market in Japan. However, in recent several years, with the influence of good trend in the U.S. on Japan, NIKE got ahead of Asics through boom of "Air Max" in 1996 and has been occupying 30% market share of Japanese market. It runs top. (3)

3-2 Understanding (Share of NIKE)

30 years ago NIKE' s annual income was mere 300,000 dollars. But due to image strategies to use super stars such as M. Jordan of NBA or T. Woods of golf, sales of shoes have explosively increased in not only the U.S. but also foreign countries like Japan. Then, in 1997 compared with the last year, NIKE increased its sales 42%; and its sales amounted to 9.2 billion dollars. And in 1997 the net profit was 44% more than last year and amounted to 796 million dollars, which was the highest ever since. NIKE became world largest sports

brand and apparel corporation in mere 30 years. (4)

3-3 Understanding (Asian Factories and NIKE)

Now products of NIKE have been produced in Indonesia (36%), China (32%), Korea (13%), Thailand (10%), and Vietnam (2%). …… NIKE calls a production consignment contracted factory as a “production partner.” However, in spite of the name: production partner, NIKE does not have any responsibility in management, because Korean corporations involve in possession, management, and governance of factories. However, NIKE dispatches its workers to contract factories and make them check the production process in details. (10-11)

3-4 Understanding / Cognition

In recent years, in accordance with embarkation of Korean corporations into Asian countries, industrial disputes have occurred frequently in China and such as Indonesia. …… (11)

Why have Korean corporations [in many cases subcontractors of NIKE] been hated? According to the report of 1996 on industrial disputes and conflicts of Korean foreign investment corporations, the causes of conflicts are following; 31% of them is physical punishment, violent language and actual violence as the most, 21% of them is problem of unpaid salary. Also in sequence, the causes are reported as demand higher wages, resistance against fire, demand for set up of union, and amelioration of labor conditions. …… (14)

3-5 Understanding / Problematization (What Waits Behind Sweatshops)

What waits behind sweatshops, or exploitative factories, is original sport advertisement strategy of NIKE: “sport marketing via image creation of products through using world wide famous athletes with contract.” To keep this strategy requires tremendous amounts of costs. Due to advertisement strategy using famous athletes, advertisement cost negatively influences on profit; then, the reduction of cost depends on low wages and long working time. (17)

3-6 Understanding / Problematization (Advertisement Competition between NIKE and Reebok)

Both corporations made contracts with world top athletes and put much energy on advertisement; as a result, the cost of advertisement got higher and put influences negatively on profits. The cost for selling promotion and management increased from 20% (1990) to 26% (1994). In order to continue image creation strategy NIKE requires steep reduction of production cost for Korean contract factories. However, for Korean corporations to reduce production cost, there is no way but to move production foundation into South East Asia. (21)

3-7 Understanding / Problematization (On Future Order System)

Future order system means to receive order half year before for the sake of planning

production without performing additional production and without allowing any returned goods. …… (23)

…… Due to settled forwarding, NIKE can promote less waste production. However, this way not only puts heavy pressure on retail trades, but also enforces excessive labours in Asian factories. To raise productivity factories come to enforce on workers excessive labor, or workload, work quota, and such as violent punishments. (24) ……

In order to sustain “future order system” and keep schedule of delivery of goods, to fulfill the work quota comes to be the highest order. To sustain “future order system” requires severe regulation of union movements; then, suppression of labor will get worse.

Without making their hands dirty NIKE exploits workers, sells products with high price, and makes huge profits. The reason why profit of NIKE increased is not because success of the “AIR” technology, but because the exploitations from contract factories under the name of outsourcing strategy. (25)

3-8 Understanding (Constitution of Shoes’ Price)

16 dollars and 50 cents are paid for a contract factory per shoes. 17% of them goes to labor costs; 55% of them goes to material costs such as synthetic leathers; and 15% of them goes to periodical repayment or management costs of a factory. Rest 10%: that is, 1 dollar 75 cents goes to profit of a factory. NIKE sells one pair of shoes to a retail trade by 35 dollars and 50 cents. Costs for custom procedures and landing require 3 dollars 50 cents; costs for management and promotion of selling take 9 dollars; and costs for technology development take 25 cents. Then, profit will be 6 dollars 25 cents. Costs for technology development take mere 1% of total costs, but, in contrast, profit occupies 33%. (26-27)

These are text-based data on knowledge activities by PARC.

(7) Interview Data of PARC

2002·12·10 at Sophia University

MR. MURAI Yoshinori

“Q1: What kinds of values does PARC have as significant?”

A1: We have fundamental value: “to create the society in which we can co-exist with people of Asian pacific and third world countries.” Although there are inequalities and unfairness among so called developed countries and developing countries, we try to solve the gap and create the society to co-exist.

“Q2: What kinds of world outlook or social cognition do support such values? Or what kinds of cognition on contemporary society do bring such values?”

A2: When Vietnam War was on, PARC was set up. In that war, U.S. one-sidedly attacked at Vietnam and destroyed emancipation of Vietnam. Under such social conditions, information was very biased. Europe and U.S. distributed one-sided information. Japanese information was oriented towards developed countries. No media told Japanese conditions towards third world countries.

For telling Japanese reality to third world countries and for telling the conditions of third world to Japan, the magazine “AMPO” was published in 1972.

As historical feature at that time the subordinate relations between Japan and Asian countries existed, so did between North and South. Even today we can see such relations.

As one of the recent features, American uni-polar domination has been getting stronger. In economic and military dimensions America has dominant power. In Japan such circumstances are not that much cognized, I feel.

Moreover, as a contemporary feature, economic globalization can be pointed out. This has been developing since the end of the Cold War. It has had large influences on Asia Pacific region. Just parts of people have enjoyed its fruits, while many people have been suffered by gap. However, in Japanese society, a few studies and comprehensive researches on such conditions are available.

“Q3: Do you (your organization) think to create knowledge has importance? And Why?”

A3: Although we do not use the term knowledge production or knowledge creation, it has certain importance to systematize information and knowledge through analyzing and processing them. PARC has performed such activities since its set up. In this sense, such activities are our raison detre.

Knowledge can be the foundation for change or transformation. Systematized knowledge can be basis for transformation by being shared by many people. Without such systematized knowledge, many claims or opinions end up with explosion of emotion. I do not mean that’ s wrong, however, when we need to persuade many people and to understand complex society, then what we have to have is knowledge. Moreover, knowledge will lead to sensitivity and a movement. However, as reality, I do not have so much confidence on knowledge by PARC in terms of influence and productivity.

“Q4: How does PARC create knowledge? In what ways?”

A4: We do not have any manualized methods to create knowledge. However, we have research and study as foundation. We sometimes make a small team and perform research and study. Also we organize a symposium, and results of it sometimes spread to various knowledge productions. In 1970’ s PARC researched Japanese MNCs in concrete levels. In such realm, some actors produce a big theory or principle oriented arguments, but they are lack of concrete level of arguments.

At the international meeting camp in 1983 at Saitama, “aids” for Asian countries which were one-sidedly conducted, were reconsidered. In the meeting, it was clearly represented that “Asian people said they do not want one-sided aids from Japan.”

After that through interactions and exchanges with Asian people, they put the question “although you criticized Japanese government negatively, how did you want to change your belonging society: Japan?” Influenced by such question, we started questioning “Japanese society” through interactions with farmer groups and through research on Japanese ODA. From that point we have focused on to represent alternatives related with transformation of Japan.

In such trend, in 1989 international conference called “People’ s Plan 21 (PP21)” was held. About 400 people got together from Asia Pacific and argued various topics: ODA analysis, critics

on tight education, issues of indigenous people, and such as comparison of labour conditions between Japan and Asia. At the last part of the conference, we made “Minamata Declaration.” I think the essence of this trial has still influence on current movements. For example, “World Social Forum” held at [Porto Alegre](#) of Brazil might inherit the ideas and essences of the conference.

However, after the PP21 the capacity of research and study has declined due to sense of burned out or fatigue of the organization. The fund basis has faced with severe conditions.

And we made mainly advocacy activities or policy agenda settings as knowledge production. However, we reconsidered the style of such activities as whether such activities were enough. We had not had specific projects, but thought we can do something at the local society for local resident, and then the projects of East Timor and Thailand launched. Under such conditions, we came not to be able to spend much time and capacity for promoting research and study.

Till early 1990’ s PARC took stance between old Marxism left wing and citizen movement like Vietnam Peace Associations (*Behei-ren*). However, by degrees, some people felt certain hesitation towards old style movement, then we shifted more citizen side oriented and defined ourselves as such. In short, we moved our stance towards citizens’ side and made ourselves more open for them. I can raise following keywords: “human rights,” “democracy,” and “civil society.” Of course, although Y. Tsurumi, one of the founders of PARC, had had such stance from the beginning, PARC itself shifted towards such stance. As to social vision, this stance means not the old type of socialism putting emphasis on state, rather civil society putting emphasis on citizens’ initiatives.

Although PARC has these changes, the foundation of knowledge production processes lies in research and study, which have not change basically.

“Q5: What kind of motivation does your organization have in making knowledge?”

A5: As already mentioned, I think as “knowledge can be the foundation to transform society.”

“Q6: Does your organization have satisfaction on knowledge activities performing?”

A6: No, we do not have much satisfaction. We have many insufficient points. We have many things have to do, however, our capacity is not enough. The recruitment of human resources does not function well. The researches on globalization and 100 yen shop (1 dollar shop) might produce some results, taking another several years.

However, I think the following kinds of interrogations should be researched and analyzed: “what is the anti-terror war led by the U.S.” “what does drive the U.S. like that?” , however, in Japanese society these have not emerge. Also “what is Islamic fundamentalism?” “what does Koizumi reformation mean?” or “what does freeing finance mean and how will it effect on our life?” I want to analyze and to comprehend these questions, however, to do so has certain difficulties in Japanese conditions. It requires preparation, time, and also money to organize research team, and these are obstacles for realization. At the end, most of the researches come to depend on individual efforts.

These social conditions have something to do with conditions of Japanese universities. In terms of knowledge production universities should be main institutions, however, they do not

function well to produce knowledge and analyses, do they? It does not mean universities should undertake all of the roles related with knowledge. I think we need to think about more cooperative relations between universities and citizens. Citizen will conduct research and study with certain consciousness, and universities support such activities. In Japan, tens thousands of economists exist, but I am really dubious how many of them have relationships with citizens and society and tell their knowledge to them sincerely.

Japanese NGOs in general cannot promote research and study or analysis, because of lack of talented persons or too much daily chores for organizational management. In contrast to this, in Indonesia, Thailand, and the Philippine there are many superior NGOs having sophisticated analyzing capacity. At those places in stead of entering a university, one can raise more money by entering a NGO. Then, NGOs can keep many superior persons. Moreover, NGOs have so much information related with actual cases that they can produce sophisticated analyses, compared with scholars who only reading books in his or her room.

“Q7: For the better knowledge activities, what are the challenging tasks?”

A7: It is very important to keep sound fund basis. As reality, our fund basis is too weak, although it is not so simple because too large fund might lead to corruption. However, subsidy and such support systems do not function well for what PARC has done, so we need autonomous sound fund. It is very sorry that our staffs cannot perform research activities because of too much workload and busyness in daily chores.

As already mentioned, it has certain importance how to use university. Most of the scholars in universities have relatively much time to spare, however, few of them perform research and study based on the citizen side. Some of the reasons are that university requires many administration works and chores and that academism still has bias towards citizens' side. Some still think citizens are very ignorant and are doing low quality movements, I feel such attitude has still power. It is surprising some people still believe in the ivory tower system as university' s role.

I think the “world watch” led by L. Brown can be raised as the ideal model. That institution has produced very sophisticated analyses based on high quality researches. It covers what universities cannot conduct. Also international NGOs such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have certain power. Their information processing and accumulating capacities are very substantial. Some scholars write paper by using their resources.

As goal we think about such fulfilled NGO, however, in reality we have certain difficulties in human resources, funds, and capacity.

These are the data on knowledge activities by PARC.