

Planting Ceremony 2000



Revive Time • Kaki Tree Project









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Tsukioka Elementary School



Japan



Sanjo-shi, Niigata



5 Feb 2000



This is the first tree planting in Niigata Prefecture. Mr. Norio Horikawa, a contemporary artist and principal of the principal's school, requested the tree planting as an opportunity to learn about peace

in response to Sanjo City's declaration of a nuclear-free city for peace.

The tree planting was mainly carried out by the 6th graders. On the day of the tree planting, we were blessed with relatively mild weather in Niigata, where there was a lot of snow. Ms. Junko Ebinuma from Nagasaki came to the event and had a question and answer session with the children. At the art event, we sang "Memorial Tree" together. In spite of the cold weather, the children planted a Second-generation Bombed Kaki Tree in good spirits. Later, the organizing committee members received letters from the children describing their thoughts on war and peace and their kaki trees.

On July 13, 2004, four years after the tree was planted, the torrential rains that hit Niigata caused the banks of the Igarashi River, which runs nearby, to break, and Tsukioka Elementary School was severely

damaged. The principal reported to us that all the children were safe and that the persimmon tree was not damaged and was growing nicely.

On October 27, 2010, the 10th anniversary of tree planting was held on the founding day of the elementary school. The artist Norio Horikawa, who was also the principal of the school at the time, along with Ebinuma from Nagasaki and Tatsuo Miyajima participated in the workshop "Making Origami Crane" held by Norio Horikawa. After that, exchange activities with the 6th graders were conducted. At the end, we sang songs around the lanterns made by the 6th graders next to the two persimmon trees that grew up. The lanterns were lit until night, creating a fantastic atmosphere.



Kobe Municipal School for Blind



Japan



Kobe-shi, Hyogo



14 Feb 2000



2003 Sports Day



5 Year Anniversary

Kobe City School for the Blind is a school with a wide range of age groups from kindergarten to advanced course. Ms. Momoko Masuda, who was a teacher and interested in the kaki tree project, applied for the project. The tree planting ceremony was held as the main event of the high school's "send-off party for graduates". The participants gathered in the classroom and the tree planting event began. After an introduction of the committee members, Ms. Junko Ebinuma explained about the kaki tree and read out a message from the tree doctor Ebinuma. Then all the participants moved to the school grounds to touch and check the kaki trees before planting them. One representative from each class used a large shovel to pour dirt on the saplings. At the end of the event, all participants sang a wonderful song in front of the kaki tree. A book was presented by Ms. Junko Ebinuma as a token of her appreciation. At the end, both hands, palms facing the kaki tree, said "May the kaki tree grow strong and healthy! and everyone gave a "KI (spirit) " to each other.

After the tree planting, a floor volleyball tournament was held in the gymnasium, where the ball was rolled around. The game between current students and alumni was very heated. The kaki tree is treasured by the high school student council.

On February 14, 2005, exactly five years after the tree was planted, the students who participated in the 2000 tree planting ceremony were invited to a Kaki Tree Reunion. At the Kaki Tree Reunion, percussionist Tomonori Oishi presented a workshop using drums. The participants banged the drums to the accompaniment of Mr. Oishi's drumming, making for a powerful concert.

Emukai Park

🇯🇵 Japan

📍 Motomiya-shi, Fukushima

🌱 14 Feb 2000



The town of Motomiya (now the city of Motomiya), located in the western part of Fukushima Prefecture. After hearing about the Kaki Tree Project from a member of the Berlitz Shibuya Language Center, where the exhibition was held in 1999, Mr. Munehiko Takada who is Motomiya Town Board of Education Chairman applied for the Kaki Tree Project.

The second-generation Bombed Kaki Tree was planted in the newly completed Emukai Park. The people of Motomiya Town had a desire to plant many trees in this park to make it into a forest, and they have promoted tree planting activities with the whole town. The tree-planting ceremony was held in the gymnasium of the Motomiya 2nd Junior High School. A huge beam of a kaki tree, made especially for this occasion, was displayed in the gymnasium of Motomiya 2nd Junior High School. The student council took the lead in the preparation of the ceremony and this beam drawing was made by the art club. All



the students sent messages under the theme of "War", "Peace" and "Life". Kaki trees are planted in Emukai Park near the school, and the whole school takes care of them and observes and records their growth.

Currently Motomiya City, the area was severely damaged by the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. Temporary housing was built in Emukai Park for many people affected by the disaster. The area around the kaki tree was paved and became a parking lot for temporary housing. Despite this situation, the kaki trees here continue to grow vigorously and bear a lot of fruits.



Scarpa-volo, Mazzorbo Island



Italy



Burano, VE



17 Mar 2000

In March 2000, Kaki tree was planted in "B.Galuppi" di Burano, a public farm in the island Scarpa-volo Mazzorbo, which is located in Adrian Sea, 30min ship distance from Venice.

The planting site was in the grape field in the farm. It was a big planting ceremony with 450 students from 9 elementary schools around Venice. It was realized with a few teaches from Venice who visited Japan pavilion in the biennale. Ms.Laura Biondi was one of them and took an initiative. Mr. Giggio Mastinu organized a kite-flying, Ms. Biondi and Ms. Ritsue Mishima learnt children Origami and coloriage. In a large farm, many workshop programs were organized such as an exchange with an elementary school in Manchester, a collage on Kaki tree with poem written papers, Drawing on folding screen by Mr. Matteo Bertelli and Mr. Carlo Memo,



a concert of Conga by Mr.Fabio. Mr.Junichi Shioda, commissioner for the year's Japan pavilion of Venice biennale, and Ms. Atsuko Sato from Japan Foundation also participated in the planting ceremony.

Sadly, according to the staff who visited Burano in June 2003, Kaki tree disappeared. The mayer of the city confirmed that they removed the tree as it was dead because of the alkaline soil.



F.P.Cordenons Middle School



Italy



St.Maria di Sala, VE



18 Mar 2000

Children at F.P.Cordenons Middle High School participated in a workshop by Michele Drascek and became fun of Kaki tree. As a result, with a strong



recommendation by the children and Ms. Montella Marina, teacher at the school who wanted children to think about the importance of the world's peace by taking Kaki tree as a symbol, Santa Maria di Sala city applied for Kaki tree planting.

They planted two Kaki trees in the yard of F.P.Cordenons Middle High School. If both trees grow well, one of two will be planted in Rodari City Park. Rodari Park is very familiar to the junior and senior citizens. A lot of people including the mayor of the city and

people concerned from the city. At the gym of the city, there was a concert by city's brass band. Participants listened to the music by gathering around the band. Students from the school made a huge drawing of Kaki tree, which represents a wish for the peace. Planting was done under the saxophone music played by two junior high school players.

Students from IST Mozzoni Art School and its professor Mr. Alberto Favaretto applied for Kaki tree project however they were not selected. However, they participated in planting ceremonies in Burano and in Santa Maria di Sala in order to make photography book and posters.



Old Church of San Giovanni



Italy



Casciago, VA



18 Mar 2000



Vicentin, an exhibition at the Chiesa Vecchia organized local people, both adults and children with local artists, poetry readings and craft workshops.

The site of Chiesa Vecchia di San Giovanni (Ex San Giovanni church), which was a church of the middle age, is located in a small village on a hill with a view of small lakes in Varese area.

Ms. Anniva Anzi, president of Parents Teacher Association at the Manzoni Elementary School, encountered children of the atomic bombed Kaki tree at the Japan pavilion in Venice Biennale and was so impressed that she took children to the pavilion for a school's excursion, and started an activity to invite local elderly people to talk about the war for the children. The planting ceremony was accompanied with several workshops, such as an installation work "On-Off" by Mr. Georgio

Every spring, they have a planting anniversary festival, which is an introduction to a harvest festival scheduled in 2010. On the day of the festival, the village is filled with Kaki tree events. Not only children but also their parents participate in workshops and enjoy themselves. As these continuous activities such as creating Kaki calendars or organizing exhibitions are highly appreciated in the region, they received "Premio per la pace della Regione Lombardia" (Prize for the peace in Lombardia region) in 2008. The 10th anniversary festival of Kaki planting is scheduled in March 2010.



In 2012, there was an incident where a kaki tree was broken. However, the kaki tree has been successfully revived and has continued to grow energetically since then. In March 2020, there was a plan for the 20th anniversary of the tree planting, and the members of the Kaki Tree Project Executive Committee from Japan was also planning to participate. However, the event was postponed due to the spread of the coronavirus in the world.

St.Giulia Museum



Italy



Brescia, BS



21 Mar 2000

Mr. Dulio Zogno, artist from Brescia, have longed for planting of Kaki tree, since he encountered a child of atomic bombed kaki tree at Japan pavilion in Venice biennale in 1999. He was so enthusiastic that he asked several time to the Istituto Giapponese di Cultura in Roma how to realize.

He proposed to the city of Brescia, an art studio, photographer Flavio Bonetti, artists' group "Grafo", architects Paola Visano and Bernard Vecchi, as well as to the youth section of the city's education board to have a local executive committee to realize the planting. They planted the tree at St Gulia Museum, which had once been used as a monastery for more than 1000 years.

It is located in the center of the city, close to Cidneo hill, and experienced a long history of the town.



The planting ceremony took place in the yard of the museum with a lot of participants. Poetry reading and chorus by junior high



school students, they planted Kaki tree according to "Sakura Sakura" song in Japanese by children. After poetry reading by elementary students, all participants sang "we are the world" together. Lastly, Dulio Zogno, who made this project possible, presented a speech about his strong passion for Kaki Tree. Kaki tree was planted in the center of the courtyard and became familiar to the local citizens by Brescia. An anniversary event took place on the 25th April in 2007.



Debeli Rtic, Red Cross Slovenia

 *Slovenia*

 *Ankaran*

 *23 Mar 2000*

Debeli Rtic, Redcross is located on a hill facing the Adriatic Sea.

Ms. Nada Kim Spolar, organizer of the workshops for refugees from Kosovo and children at the SEZAM association for parents and children, cooperated with Red cross to realize Kaki planting.

Mr. Jakov Brdar, sculptor, Mr.Tomo Vran, painter and musicians participated in the ceremony. Elementary school students from Anton Ukmar Elementary School presented an installation titled "scarecrow exorcising an evil", performance or radio broadcasting, On the beach, children made a drawing of a peaceful city with colored stones. They also sent a painting work "A Prayer for Life" as a gift to the executive committee in Japan.

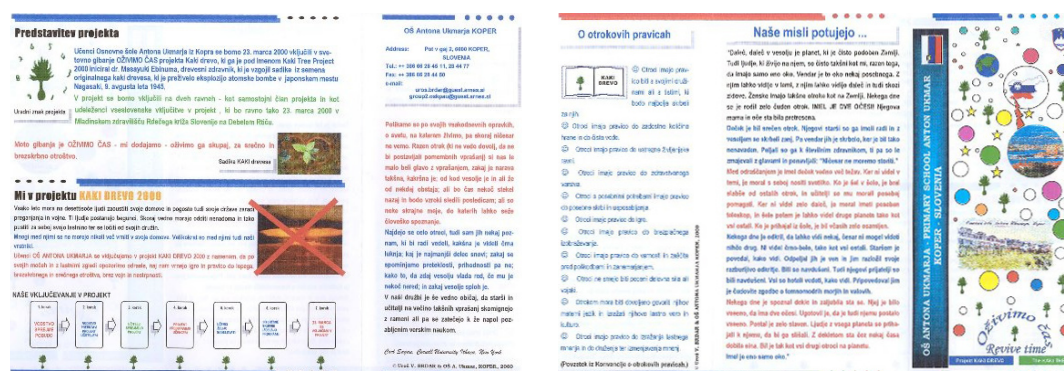


Anton Ukmar Elementary School

 Slovenia
 Koper
 23 Mar 2000

Ms.Nada Kim Spolar, organizer of the SEZAM association for Parents and Children realized Kaki Planting at Anton Ukmar Elementary school, which is close to the Debeli Rtič, Red Cross. Workshops were organized in corporation with Debeli Rtič.

After the description of the project, there was a violin play and some children represented to plant the Kaki tree. Accompanied by a guitar play, children walked around with singing, hands in hands. They made stone objects and sent to the Kaki tree executive committee as gift. This object is one of the twin and the other one stays in Slovenia. Participants received each painted stone from the basket at the site. Teachers and students from the Anton Ukmar Elementary school made two types of brochure presenting Kaki tree project and delivered to the people at the planting ceremony. Ms.Nada Kirn Spolar also realized a planting at the city art museum of Ljubljana in 2003.



Sagra Garden



Italy



Carpi, MO



25 Mar 2000

The project was made possible by the Rotary Club of Carpi and the City of Carpi at the request of the then president of the Rotary Club of Carpi, Mr. Titiano Cadioli.

Carpi city is one of few cities where there were prison camps during the World War II. There is still the site of the camp in the suburb and still a revival plan of the site is undergoing. In the center of the town, close to the planting site, there is a museum, which shows the history of Nazism and memories of the victims of Fascism.

Citizens in Carpi are highly conscious for the peace, therefore more than 400 people such as 200 students from the Istituto Musicale a Tonelli (Tonelli Music Institute) and 200 citizens participated in the planting ceremony. Two weeks prior to the ceremony, they started workshops by artists and students from four classes at Scuola Elementari M. Fanti (Fanti Elementary school). At the workshops, illustrated books of Kaki Tree Project were created. On the day of the

ceremony, performance, Japanese songs singing or Dance were presented.

Kaki tree was decorated with colored wooden pieces around, the ceremony ended with a big success.



The Rotary Club Capri kindly introduced the Kaki Tree Project to the Rotary Club Monfalcone. As a result, planting Kaki tree was realized on the 27th March 2009 in Scuola Elementare Dante Alighieri (Dante Alighieri Elementary School).

The 10th Anniversary Festival was held on May 8, 2010. At this time, a catalog of children's works was also produced.



The Courthouse Arts Centre



Ireland



Tinahely



25 Mar 2000

Ireland is the country where there is a conflict between Catholic and Protestant. However as the first time, three schools from two different religions participated in the planting ceremony. Ms. Sharon Corcoran, who took an initiative to realize the planting, was touched by this fact.

Educational programs at Tinahely Courthouse centre are complete so that the theatre group who played for the planting ceremony are quite professional. They even tour actively in several cities.

Ms. Magie Gallogher wrote an original script on Kaki tree. They played a story of the second generation of atomic bombed Kaki tree by including "Noh" movements. In the end of the play, actors sang an impressive original song on anti atomic bomb.

50 students from three different school around Tinahely and their parents participated in the ceremony. Six representatives from three schools organized "Kaki tree care committee" and take care of the tree. Each year, younger students take over the committee and continue to take care of the Kaki tree.



Levante Park



Italy



Cesenatico, FO



26 Mar 2000



Cesenatico is located by the Adriatic Sea in Emilia-Romagna, Italy. ADDA, an organization formed by foreign women who acts for cultural exchange in Cesenatico, proposed for planting kaki trees. The project started with searching participants or place to plant. It finally formed the Executive Committee which consisted of teachers or artists.

A lot of citizens, including the city mayor attended the ceremony at the park because of member's effort. Children read poems from different languages by the overture by Ms. Olga Nawacow. And flew the orange balloons. Following the planting trees, a sculpture of Bombed Kaki Tree Jr. by Mr. Giovanni Pintole was revealed. In addition, the works by Ms. Isabel Samanez and children were exhibited. Dances, music and songs from Japan, Korea, or Senegal were performed. Those things made the event more international and fun.

Trevignano Middle School



Italy



Trevignano Romano, RM



28 Mar 2000

In the city, Trevignano Romano, there are many foreigners from different countries. Since they are curious about each other's culture, the city government established national days for international exchanges.

Mr. Giuliano Nencini, who was in charge for culture in the city office, applied for planting kaki trees. And Ms. Shihomi Kishida, a Japanese woman who lives in Trevignano Romano and her family organized ceremony,

The day of planting ceremony was regarded as Japan day. About 300 people including students and their parents planted trees at the front yard of junior high school in the city centre. Although it had been raining so hard, the sun came up just before the ceremony. The big drawing of kaki trees and a sculpture that represent hope for peace by

students were shown at the ceremony. In addition to a sculpture, some photographs of sculptures given from around the world from Peace Memorial Park in Nagasaki. Moreover, booklets about Japan were given out, and the works by students were exhibited at the theater which organized by Professor, Maria Grazia Carcani.

The Japanese Embassy sent a message and pencils as gifts for children for the ceremony. While Ms. Sara Kishida was playing the violin, the girl with wearing a crown made by flowers read the planting.

However a tree grew one fruit in 2002, both trees died down in 2004. But someone planted another kaki tree (not bombed tree) and people are taking care of it, as it is "Kaki Tree from Nagasaki."



Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Garden



USA



Columbus, Ohio



28 Mar 2000



A member of Columbus Arts Council saw the exhibition at Venice Biennale and applied for planting. The Columbus Arts Council has been developing the program, "Children of the Future", which is for children who are not given enough education. The members decided to let them participate planting as a part of the program.



This town became the first town that plants kaki trees in U.S. There are many Japanese people living in this town. They created Ikebana and origami with showing how to create it, and held Japanese style dinner with sushi. In addition to that, Some Americans played Japanese drums.

In 28th March 2001, The Birthday Party for Kaki Trees was held according to will to keep holding some workshops for the project even after planting from those who participated the planting ceremony.

And in 2008, we received beautiful photographs of fruits of kaki and its leaves.

“G.Mazzini” Primary School



Italy



Terni, TR



31 Mar 2000



Terni is the central city of Terni prefecture in Umbria state where has beautiful scenery of greens at Middle of Italy. “Gli altri siamo Noi” is the organization which intends children for educational activities about peace, charity and human rights, formed in 1998 by young people. One of the organizations saw the exhibition at Venice Biennale and applied for planting. According to that, Ms.Valeria Della Croce, a member of “Gli altri siamo Noi” encouraged the city government to support the project. As the result, it was decided to plant kaki trees at public elementary school.

Until the ceremony, students created many drawings and sculptures about kaki trees, peace, and the war with collaborating artists. They also performed in chorus and playing music of messages for peace at the

ceremony. Moreover, Theatrical Company Pino read a story, a group of Japanese students who study at G.Briccialdi performed playing piano and sang a song. The next day, April 1st, a parade for wishing for peace started from plaza of city. During the parade, the performance by street performers from Artioscene, playing ethnic music by some group, and appeal for peace by “Gli altri siamo Noi” were shown. A lot of citizens participated the parade. In 24th May, about two month later, the event “KAKI Festival” was held and many works were created for that as well.



Youth Center



Italy



Poggibonsi, SI



1 Apr 2000



idea of “feeding” the tree. The performance was intended to raise the children’s awareness of their participation in the event and of their affection for the kaki tree and also to

Ms. Donatella Bagnoli, a city official of Poggibonsi in Italy, visited the Japan pavilion at the Biennale three times and conceived the idea of a kaki planting in Poggibonsi’s youth center.

Like Nagasaki, the city of Poggibonsi experienced air-raids during WWII, and to unite the two cities’ wish for peace, a series of workshops were held. In them an artwork was presented, where colorful kaki “leaves” with messages of peace hang all over the room. Moreover, a booklet was produced, which described the Nagasaki bombing, the air-raids against Poggibonsi, and the Kaki Project as well as the course of the events which led to the planting in Poggibonsi and the details of the workshops.

The planting was a great success and attended by local school children, their parents and interested citizens, about 300 people in total. The planting was done in a very original manner: each of the participant children sprinkled a spoonful of soil over the seedling, which is based upon Ms. Bagnoli’s

enable them to connect the growth of the seedling and that of their own. The children participated, with their heads, arms, and waists decorated with cloths with their names on them, and above them hang a lot of the “leaves” which bore such words and phrases as “tree,” “kaki,” “the Kaki Tree Project 2000,” “friendship,” and “children” in Japanese. The seedling was planted with lots of love and nutrition from the children, and the children and the seedling were united in a most natural way. Just as the organizers hoped, the children’s memories were, are, and will be nurtured through the growth of the seedling.



San Donato Milanese Town Hall



Italy



San Donato Milanese, MI



1 Apr 2000

Ms. Giuditta Gelati, a young official at the city's peace committee, played a central role in the San Donato Milanese planting. She promotes exchange programs in peace education and organized the planting as an official event of the city. She also invited representatives from other places in Milan whose applications, unfortunately, had been unsuccessful to joining the local executive committee.

In the planting site, a large kaki-tree figure was exhibited as its symbol. As volunteers from the local artist society prepared for the planting, children started to turn up at the site one after another. The participants had been given a kaki-colored rope beforehand and decorated themselves in their own manners. Ms. Gelati came up with this wonderful idea when she attended a workshop in Burano, which employed the same idea and impressed her tremendously. In one corner of the planting site, members from the local artist society held an exhibit titled "memory" on the theme of the kaki project. There was also an exhibit in the lobby area which presented the artworks that were produced by school children and students when they participated in the workshop held on an earlier occasion.

Prior to the planting, children painted pictures of the kaki tree and of peace in watercolor and cut them out in the shape of a kaki leaf. In the meantime, children in the lobby area did origami, making animals and

flowers with their teachers' help. In the subsequent MURALES workshop, local artists put these origami animals and flowers on to the pictures of "leaf-less" kaki trees. As more

people participated, the four kaki "trees" grew with more "leaves" and bear "fruit."

Many citizens, including the mayor, gathered at the ceremony, which was carried out while school children from M.L. King elementary school were singing songs of peace. Walking among the children with a microphone in hand was Mr. Andrea Checchi, who was a keen supporter of the project and also one of the participants in the Burano planting. Upon the successful completion of the planting, the musical performance by "ESPRESSIONE CORPOREA " began with the beat of the percussion. During the performance they vehemently called for a participation in the Kaki Project and the music climaxed when the students invited the children into the centre and the crowd started to dance in circle. At the end of the event, a documentary video produced by the teachers was shown, which contained, among other things, the scene of performance rehearsal and interviews of the participants.



“G.Ungaretti” Middle School



Italy



Pordenone, PN



1 Apr 2000

The application was made by a teacher at Scuola Media Statale “G.Ungaretti,” Ms. Luigina Moro, who was impressed with the exhibit at the 1999 Biennale. Prior to the planting, students wrote poems and painted pictures on the theme of kaki tree in class. The collection of their poems was later made into a leaflet and was distributed to the participants at the planting. Some of the teachers have since actively participated in the planting events held in other places in

Italy and are hoping that their participation will help the students in these places communicate with each other.

On the day of the planting, students gave a performance in the school gym, and the kaki seedling was planted in the schoolyard. About 80 students, who wore a card depicting “people, kaki and peace” around their necks on a string, took part in the event and celebrated the occasion.



Lama Monachile Bridge



Italy



Polignano a Mare, BA



2 Apr 2000

The application was made through Associazione italiana donatori and the art project organization, RICICLARTE. Prior to the planting, a seminar was held under the title “Revive time—Atomic bombs and the Holocaust: Are their memory still alive in our thought and in public opinion today?” Many young students, as well as interested citizens, attended the seminar and had lively discussions not only about nuclear bombs and the holocaust but about various problems plaguing southern Italy such as unemployment, poverty, violence and so on.

The planting ceremony was preceded by a lively performance and parade by the brass band consisting of 40 military personnel. Many town people came out as the parade approached the center of the town. The ceremony started with the speech delivered by the bishop, and the attendants remembered their ancestors and others in their prayers. It was followed by the guests’ speeches, the presentation of the artworks created by local artists and children, interviews, and a poetry reading. The attendants then walked on the esplanade to the planting site, where flew the beautiful Kaki (persimmon)-colored flag which was handmade by the students. The planting was done by two children with a help from local farmers. The site is located in a valley facing the beautiful inlet called LAMA. There still stands an old Roman bridge, under which a river used to flow from the hill into the sea. Along the esplanade many artworks were exhibited, and near the bridge flew in the wind a number of calligraphy pieces created by Gio and others, each of which was a 4-meter-long sash-like flag. “Art is in me,” the participants repeatedly remarked during the event, and it marked the great success of the project in southernmost place in Italy.



Jungoe Park



Korea



Gwangju



4 Apr 2000



The first planting in Asia was carried out in Gwangju. Before the event, there was some concern about anti-Japanese feelings in South Korea, but the event went smoothly without any problems.

The idea of the Gwangju planting was conceived when Mr. Ha Jung-Woong, one of the exhibition organizers of the 3rd Gwangju Biennale and a Zai-nichi (a Korean living in Japan), saw and was impressed by the Kaki Tree Project exhibit at Mito Art Gallery. Mr. Ha then contacted Ms. Sunhee Kim of Gwangju City Art Gallery, who had seen the exhibit at the Biennale in Venice, and she became a supporter of the project. Just two weeks before the expected planting, after Mr. Ha's meeting with the Gwangju Biennale executive committee, Mr. Kim Sang-yoon, it was decided that the Biennale would be in charge of the planting project in Gwangju. Having received an approval from the mayor as well as from principal human rights organizations in Gwangju, the planting was carried out. Unfortunately, no children participated in the event, but it was significant indeed that a second-generation seedling of Hibaku-kaki was planted for the first time in Asia.

The attendants at the ceremony include, in addition to the numerous press people, Mayor



of Gwangju Metropolitan City, Director of Gwangju Museum of Art, CEO of The May 18 Memorial

Foundation, Council representative civic and also 80 people who live in the city. It was agreed there that art galleries and museums would help to hold workshops for children in the future. (Incidentally, Mr. Ha is a well-known collector of artworks of Zai-nichi artists. He has donated to Gwangju Art Gallery 683 pieces in total from his collection which he has accumulated in the last 35 years. At the Gwangju Biennale, an exhibition was held under the title "the Human Rights of Zai-nichi" on the basis of his collection.

Subsequently, there occurred an incident in which the planted seedling was pulled out because of the raising nationalistic, anti-Japanese feelings. In 2001 another seedling was planted but was soon destroyed again. In 2003 a third seedling was planted, fenced with barbed wire. "In the knowledge of the historical facts, we must build a new relationship. How could we teach children about the importance of life and peace if we cannot take care of one single seedling of kaki?" Mr. Ha's passionate words appears to have been heard finally: the seedling is just doing fine!

In 2015, the forum "Revive Time Kaki Tree Project, History and Meaning of Gwangju" was held at the Gwangju City Museum of Art, with a report by the tree doctor Masayuki Ebinuma and a keynote speech by Tatsuo Miyajima. Furthermore, as a panelist, Mr. Tsukasa Mori from Tokyo Arts Council talked about "the position of the Kaki tree as an art of peace", which was a great opportunity to think about the meaning of the kaki tree in Korea.

Napoleonic Garden



Italy



Castello, VE



7 Apr 2000

Mr. Swole applied for the Kaki Tree Project for young people in Carpi and the tree planting at Giardini Napoleonici became a reality.

The tree planting ceremony was planned and carried out by students of D and G classes in the first year of P.F. Carpi Middle School under the direction of teacher Flavio Franceschetto. The ceremony took place with cooperation of Castello Association and the tree was planted by the students from Carpi in Giardini Napoleonici. Children from Carpi Middle School and children of six classes from nearby Scuola Elementare Diaz and Scuola Elementare Gozzi, as well as small children from Elena Nursery School, Chairman of the Associazione di Zanetti and residents of Carpi also took part in the ceremony so it was a big event. Net fences and a plate were installed around the tree and it will be protected by young people in Carpi.



Leiden Botanical Garden, University of Leiden

 *The Netherlands*

 *Leiden*

 *6 Jun 2000*



Leiden is a city located in the southwestern part of the Netherlands and is known as the city associated with Siebold. The Siebold House, which contains his ethnographic items from Japan collected during his life and is open to the public, has been turned into a museum of Japanese art and introduces a wide range of Japanese culture from the Edo period to contemporary art.

The contemporary art exhibition “Voices from JAPAN” was held in the Netherlands to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Japan-Dutch relations. The Kaki Tree Project was invited to the exhibition and introduced the project’s activities in the Hortus Botanicus of the Universiteit Leiden. Ms. Nicole Roepers and Ms. Carla Teune of the Hortus Botanicus took the lead in preparing the display and local artists including Ms. Simone de Yong made their works based on the materials sent by the project’s secretariat. Four dutch

artists conducted two workshops at a nearby elementary school before the exhibition and the artworks made by children during the workshops were also on display. At the opening of the ceremony, children from neighboring elementary and middle schools marched while playing drums. The seedling was displayed in the center of the exhibition site and leaf-shaped message cards were hung around the tree. Some cooking recipes using persimmon were also introduced.

The seedling that displayed at the exhibition was planted in the Hortus Botanicus on 16th October. Since that time of the year was not suitable for planting, it was temporarily planted in a big pot and planted safely on the ground in May in the following year. Many people gathered at the tree planting ceremony, during which poetry reading and a musical performance by artists were held.

The Hockaday School



USA



Dallas, TX



25 Oct 2000

The Hockaday School is a private, all-girls school where students from around the world gather and learn. Ms. Dee Mayes, artist and visual arts teacher at the lower school, saw the “seedlings from the bomb survived persimmon tree” at the Venice Biennale in 1999 and proposed planting of the tree to the school. Although some raised voices against taking part in the project that is involved in the atomic bomb, she appealed that by growing the “seedling from the bomb survived persimmon tree,” children will feel in their daily lives the importance of peace and will also help understand different cultures, and she finally won the support from the school.

The tree planting ceremony took place in the lobby of the school. Ms. Dee made preparations for the ceremony with a number of prior workshops on the persimmon tree. On the day of the ceremony, children from the first to fourth grades gathered around the tree and sang a song of peace in English and Japanese. After speeches made by Mr. Ebinuma and an executive committee member, there was a workshop to make origami persimmons. Children already made many origami cranes beforehand and gave them to children in Japan. The rest of the origami cranes were delivered to Hiroshima Peace Memorial.

In the letter that Ms. Dee sent us later, one of the students after taking part in the project wrote as follows: “The making of peace begins deep in your heart. When you open your heart to others, peace makes its way through everyone.” Very impressive. Then, an article on the Kaki Tree Project by Ms. Dee Mayes that appeared in the education magazine “Teaching Tolerance” produced a lot of reaction, which resulted in many applications for the tree planting from educators in the USA.

