



ここスーダンでは一般的に絵具は輸入品で高価なものが多いため、多くの子どもたちが絵具で絵を描く機会がなかなかありません。小学校では美術の授業がなく、お絵描きは色鉛筆を用いて自宅でする程度です。

一方で聴覚障害児学校の女の子たちは、中学から美術や手工芸を学んでいます。そして中には大学に進学し、続けて美術を学ぶ学生もいます。このように、スーダンでは聴覚に障害を持つような子どもたちの力が発揮できるよう、ちゃんと彼女達が尊重される社会の仕組みを垣間見ることができます。



今回、第 18 回 カナガワビエンナーレ国際児童画展への出展に向け 3 ヶ所の聴覚障害児学校と障害児センターに協力を依頼し、絵画ワークショップという形で、子どもたちに絵を描いてもらいました。途中、停電に見舞われ扇風機が止まった時にも、暑い部屋の中でみんな真剣に絵を描き続けてくれました。絵と一緒に自分も日本に行きたいと語る子もいました。



ワークショップ中は、近所の子たちが興味深々に集まってきて、部屋の外から眺めていました。彼らにも画材を渡し、一緒に楽しい時間を過ごすことができました。

みんなで絵を描く楽しい時間とおして、ちょっとだけ、世界や日本に想いを馳せることができました。

(青年海外協力隊 スーダン 平成 24 年度 4 次隊 理学療法士 百瀬友美)

Due to the high price of paints, it is very rare for children in Sudan to have an opportunity to paint.

Children in Sudan does not have fine arts classes in elementary school, so their only chance to draw is at home, using color.

However, in the schools for hearing impaired children, girls in Junior High School have the opportunity to take fine arts and crafts classes, and some even go to University to continue their studies in arts. It could be said that this shows how disabled children are respected in the society, and given a chance to fulfill his/her potential.

In the past months, I have cooperated with three schools for hearing impaired children and one handicapped children's center, to let the children paint and draw pictures to be sent to Japan for the 18th Kanagawa Biennial World Children's Art Exhibition. Although sometimes the classroom's temperature seem too high, the children continued enjoying drawing pictures earnestly. Some children expressed that they would like to fly to Japan together with their paintings. There were even children in the neighborhoods, gathering and watching the children inside the center do paintings, and because they seem so interested, I had a chance to give them the materials too for them to paint their own pictures. It was a very enjoyable time for me, and also so for the children.

I hope by having the opportunity to paint together, the children were able to feel the World and Japan a little closer.

A Letter from Ms. Tomomi Momose, Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers in Sudan