

Subscriptions can be ordered through our website:

<http://www.jef.or.jp/journal/index.html>

You can order annual subscriptions and purchase back issues from our website. We will give you a password that will enable you to access back numbers dating back to 1995. You can order from anywhere in the world and we accept payment by all major credit cards.

Subscription:

One Year (6 issues) **¥ 6,000**
Single Copy **¥ 1,200**

(postage included)

*Consumption tax is also included when ordered from Japan

Residents of Japan can also order by FAX or E-mail.

Payment is only available by bank transfer, and we will bill you later.

(Please let us know your name, address, the starting issue number & the subscription period and the number of copies you wish to purchase)

Japan Economic Foundation
 Editorial Section

Japan SPOTLIGHT

11th fl. Jiji Press Bldg.

5-15-8 Ginza, Chuo-ku Tokyo 104-0061 JAPAN

Fax: 03-5565-4828

E-mail: subscribe@jef.or.jp

JAPAN SPOTLIGHT SALES AGENT: Maruzen Co., Ltd.

Overseas Subscription:

One Year (6 issues) **US \$ 65**
Single Copy **US \$ 11**

(postage included)

Maruzen Co., Ltd.

International Division

P.O. Box 5050

Tokyo International 100-3191 Japan

Tel: 81-3-3273-3234

Fax: 81-3-3273-1044

E-mail: export@maruzen.co.jp

Domestic Subscription:

One Year (6 issues) **¥ 6,000**
Single Copy **¥ 1,200**

(postage and tax included)

Available at Maruzen Internet Shopping:

<http://www.maruzen.co.jp>

Or contact Maruzen Co., Ltd.

Booknet Service Center Washobu Group

Tel: 03 - 3273 - 1042 Fax: 03 - 3273 - 1043

E-mail: wazasshi@maruzen.co.jp

Editor's postscript

The world as one village

- Thoughts on seeing the Refugee Film Festival

Three years ago, the UNHCR's representative office in Japan and the Japan Association for UNHCR jointly started the Refugee Film Festival in Tokyo, screening movies on the theme of refugees. The festival has received high acclaim both in Japan and overseas every year. This year, films were shown for free at five locations in Tokyo, running from June 20 on World Refugee Day to June 27.

The theme of the festival is "Refugees - The Human Side." According to Kirill Konin, the festival's artistic director who conceived the event, the aim is not just to tell audiences about the terrible circumstances the refugees are in. The hope is that by seeing their lives and sharing their day-to-day emotions through the movies, audiences will feel closer to them, as if they were neighbors or friends.

The opening film of this year's festival, "War Dance," has been nominated for this year's Academy Award. It is a tale about elementary school children in a Ugandan refugee camp who overcome various difficulties and enter a nationwide dance contest. The children depicted in the film have undergone experiences that are normally unimaginable - being forced to become child soldiers, and having their parents and siblings killed in front of their very eyes. They have reached the refugee camp with their bare lives. Yet the children do not let their tragic past overshadow them, but put their hearts into dance, celebrating the joy of life. The movie made me ask myself whether I am being truly grateful for being able to live in a prosperous and peaceful country, and whether I am being duly considerate toward my parents, my siblings and the people around me, or just taking everything for granted.

As we can see from this issue's focus on the White Paper on International Economy and Trade, the exchange of people, goods and culture around the world is becoming increasingly active, and there is a growing sense that with our economy and environment so interlinked, we share a common destiny. On the Internet alone it is possible for people from across the globe to communicate with one another. At the United Nations, a tool called the "Cyberschoolbus" has been created to allow children worldwide to exchange views via the Internet. I hope that such tools will be more widely used. If I were not a member of Japan's so-called lost generation, I would probably have

been a schoolteacher. So I cannot help thinking that it would be wonderful if children from all countries could exchange information in this way. It

would be ideal if global collaboration could be made to offer lessons for children that would nurture the viewpoint that the world is one, and if taking such lessons once a week were made compulsory at all schools around the world.

N. Toyoda

