

# Message

Where they try to govern by the coercive use of political or military power, there will always be engendered resisting struggles and conflicts against such tyranny. When we look around, we will find bloody and murderous behavior rampant in many parts of the world, led by those fanatics who presume themselves to be the supreme beings, under the flag of Right, with deep belief in the Absolute; as if they won't allow the existence of the others.

Six years have passed since the advent of the Twenty-First Century, when the wisdom of the mankind had been expected to prevail, and yet in reality the currents of violence, such as bloody murders, assassinations, and terroristic acts, have not been stopped. Human beings, being born in 'innocence' and yet since having tasted the forbidden fruits through being instigated by superficial 'smattering knowledge', have been contaminated and polluted by 'experiences' and 'secularities', can the humans regain the Paradise?

The answer seems to be 'Never, oh never more'. But we have observed in our former children's festivals that, in spite of differences, the children from many parts of the world can understand and be good friends with each other when they meet together and share the experiences in one place and for one week, the period of festival. Our dream and hope for Paradise could be found only there.

Our Festivals were so far only for 'Theatre'. Toyama had been the very place where the children of the world met for dramatic performances. Now we are going to organize our Festival for Performing Arts, not just for Theatre: the reason is that those young people who have trained themselves not only through theatre but also through music, dance and other kinds of performing arts may have a chance to get in touch and make friends with each other, and may find new cultural values and be stimulated to the totally original creation.

In the field of Art and Science, he who has made progress smoothly, may sometimes fall bogged, and in such a case, his struggle to get through within the frame of his own genre, will be of little use, however hard he may try. But while he tries his best to solve the problems, he may get an inspiration from a totally different angle from that of his own. We can find such cases in our past experiences.

If those children who are learning and studying various kinds of performing arts may meet in Toyama and enjoy days of communal life, it will make them aware of the value of different cultures and establish friendly relationship with each other. Such co-existence is what we hope for. That is why we are organizing the World Festival of Children's Performing Arts in Toyama, 2008 in our native land Toyama, in which seven International Amateur Theatre Festivals have been organized and executed with great success, and to which the attention and concern of the world have been attracted with much expectation.

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President

The Executive Committee of the World Festival of  
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