

Essay Contribution on the Earthquake Experience

The Design and Creative Center Kobe is accepting entries for the "30th Anniversary Memoirs" concerning the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake.

Some may feel that many years have passed since then, some may feel that it happened in the blink of an eye, and some people may not have even been born.

There are people who have various attitudes toward talking about the disaster.

Some have talked about the disaster for a long time; some have talked about it before but don't anymore; some have just started talking about it; some are thinking about talking about it someday if they have the chance, and others are not sure if they should talk about it. Additionally, there are those who think there is nothing worth talking about.

Since 1995, we have experienced many disasters including earthquakes, windstorms, floods, and the COVID pandemic.

In a world where everyone could be a victim of a disaster, let's think about the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake again.

We would like to invite people to send us their stories. Even if you feel that your account is too small or too trivial, it may actually be of help for someone else to live through tomorrow. We are looking forward to receiving your submission.

=====

Application Guidelines

We are looking for stories related to the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. Essays to be submitted are not limited to the time of the earthquake. Please write about what you would like to share with others, such as what happened and how you have felt during the 30 years since the earthquake.

Application period:

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 to Tuesday, December 17, 2024

*Some of the accounts submitted during the application period will be made public after the first deadline: August 9 (Fri.) and the second deadline of October 11 (Fri.).

Application requirements:

Anyone can apply. Only original, unpublished works will be accepted.

Number of characters:

Please write within 600 words.

How to apply:

Please send us your entry form on the KIITO website or by mail with the following information: memoir title, writer's name or pen name (in furigana), the reason for writing the memoir (300 characters or less, to be published along with the memoir), contact information (address, e-mail address, telephone number), residence in 1995 and age.

Mail address: Design and Creative Center Kobe, 1-4 Onohama-cho, Chuo-ku, Kobe, Hyogo 651-0082, Japan

* Personal information obtained through the application process will not be used for any purpose other than this project. We may inquire about the content and publication of the manuscript.

Information on publication

Submitted manuscripts will be published in the following ways:

1. Publication at the Design and Creative Center Kobe (KIITO) and other cooperating sites
2. On the website of the "The Group for Continuous Documentation of the Great Hanshin Earthquake" (scheduled for September 2024 or later)
3. Introduction in programs and other media by partner media organizations (e.g. *Kobe Shimbun*, NHK Kobe)

We will contact you individually when we introduce your work to the media.

(In addition, we may disclose and utilize your work (readings etc.) within the context of the Disaster Studies Project, or record it in a record book or other media.)

Application Notes (please read carefully)

- Manuscripts will not be returned.

- The memoirs collected for the "30th Memoirs" will be donated to the Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution (DRI) as an archive to convey the memories of the earthquake and tsunami.
- The website of the " The Group for Continuous Documentation of the Great Hanshin Earthquake " where the memoirs will be available to the public is part of the collection of the National Diet Library's Internet Archive (WARP). The published information will be archived on the WARP website.
- Please note that we may correct typos, line breaks, and other errors in the manuscript before publishing it.
- If the content of the manuscript contains personal information about anyone other than the writer, or if the content is offensive to public order and morals or does not conform to the purpose of this project, we will refrain from publishing the manuscript.
- The secretariat will decide whether or not to publish the content. Please note that we cannot accept inquiries about the reason for our decision.