



*Chairman Uesugi calls for vigilance against reactionary policies of Nakasone government*

## **Buraku Liberation League Holds 38th General Meeting in Fukuoka**

A three-day general meeting was held in Fukuoka City, with nearly 1,300 people attending. Its calls to action included the slogans: Combat the reactionary line of administrative reform and the reactionary trend towards militarization, and, Let the 35th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights serve as the year of further progress of the Buraku liberation movement!

Mr. Saichiro Uesugi, Chairman of the Buraku Liberation League, gave the opening address, in which he said, "I would like to mention the purpose of this meeting and several items which must by all means achieve success in this meeting. Because of the reactionary line of administrative reform together with the reactionary trend towards assuming the posture of a great military nation – the policies of the Nakasone administration – not only the Burakumin but also many ordinary people

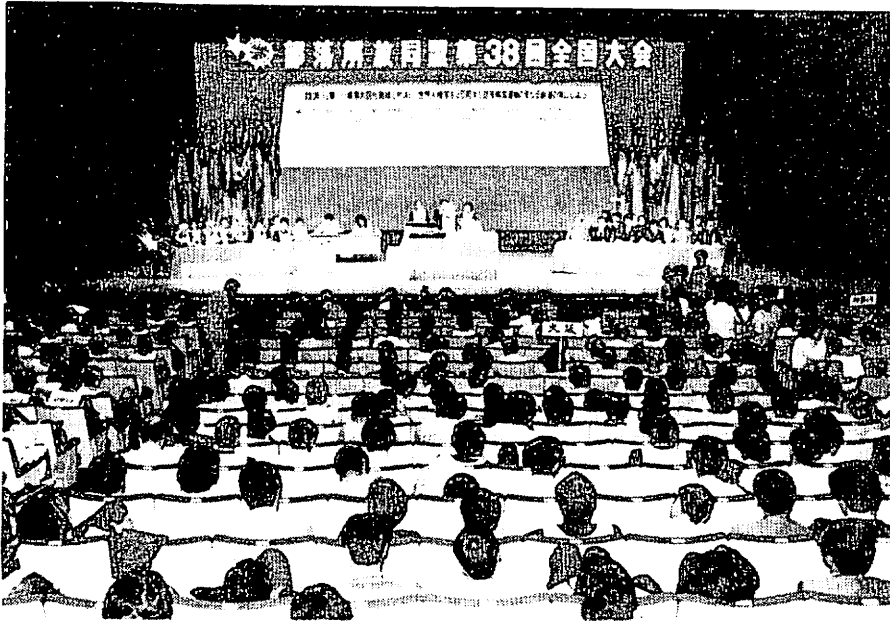
among the citizenry are to be the objects of repression. From bitter experience in the past, we all know that such repressive policies on the part of the administration will lead to division within the nation, leading to further discrimination against the Burakumin." He called on the participants to thoroughly discuss, both in theoretical and practical terms, the relationship between the administration's reactionary administrative reform line, discriminatory repression, national divisiveness and intensification of anti-Burakumin discrimination.

"Secondly," Uesugi continued, "this general meeting can be said to be an epoch-making gathering, in that it is the culmination of the 60 years of struggle of our predecessors, while we look to the direction that our Buraku liberation movement will take over the next half-century." He called on everyone to give ample attention to the question of how the movement was to be

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Saichiro Uesugi, Chairman of the BLL, called on the delegates, in his opening address, to watch and examine their future movement and social trend over the next half-century, very carefully.

carried forward hereafter.

“Thirdly, we must never lose sight of the importance of unity and solidarity of the BLL to our own liberation. This is why we suggest a three-year plan in which we will found an organization, where we and citizens of the general public can unite in our struggle, and which creates a strong liberation movement that will stand firm,

unshaken by any counterattack whatever — such as the abolition of the new Law on Special Measures for Area Improvement Projects, which threatens to be scrapped four years from now. Let us unite with strength in this meeting, and move on to the decisive political battles of 1983, and win the retrial of the Sayama Case!”

## *After 20 years of unjust imprisonment of Kazuo Ishikawa* **Tokyo Assembly Denounces Supreme Court's Failure to Retry Sayama Case**

“The Supreme Court must immediately investigate the true facts of the Sayama Case by collecting additional evidence, including Onagi's testimony! Start a retrial of the case!” Such were the calles that rang out throughout Tokyo.

On May 23 was held the Central General Assembly for Denunciation of 20 Years of Unfair Imprisonment of Ishikawa Kazuo, Call for Retrial of the Case and Victory in the Political Battles of 1983. Participating

in the assembly were members of the BLL, workers, citizens and students.

Those assembled pledged their all-out support in the fight for a retrial of the Sayama Case as well as victories in the upcoming general election for seats in the upper and lower houses of the National Diet. Speaking up loudly for support of Ishikawa Kazuo were his brother, Kiyoshi, and his father, Tomizo.



## Informal Talks Held with Two Major Buddhist Sects

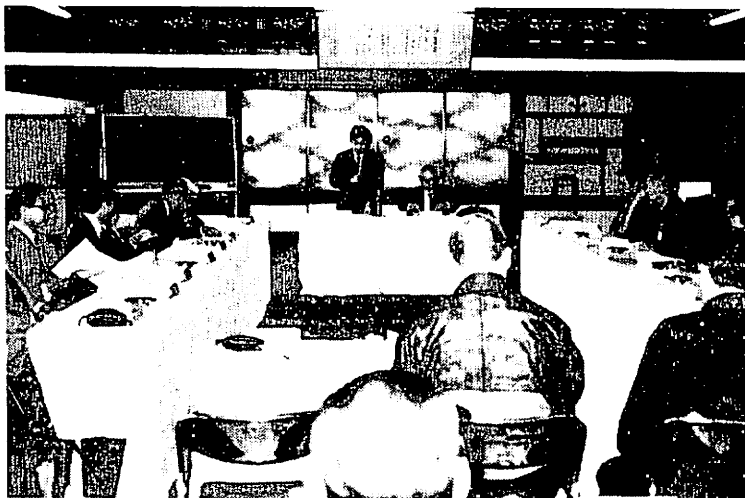
On June 2nd, representatives of the BLL headquarters met for informal talks with the head priests of two major Buddhist sects, the Jōdo Shinshū Honganji Sect and the Shinshū Otani Sect, each separately. Appearing on behalf of the Honganji Sect was Reverend Kōshin Otani, while Rev. Jitsusei Gotsuji represented the Otani Sect. Mr. Uesugi, chairman, and Mr. Komori, chief secretary, appeared on behalf of the Buraku Liberation League.

At the talks, the BLL pointed out that cases of anti-Burakumin discrimination have been coming to light one after the other in recent years, and strongly urged

the improvement in character of the religious circles so that such discrimination against Burakumin would be completely eliminated. The BLL also proposed action by religious organizations aimed at winning a retrial of the Sayama case, the elimination of all cases of discrimination, and reconsideration of the Buddhist idea of *karma*.

The talks with the religious leaders, the first such meeting since the founding of the National Suiheisha, proceeded in an amicable atmosphere and obtained excellent results.

Representatives of the BLL headquarters led by Chairman Saichiro Uesugi meet with Reverend Kōshin Otani of the Jōdo Shinshū Honganji Sect on June 2nd.



BLL leaders also meet on June 2nd with Reverend Jitsusei Gotsuji and other leaders of the Shinshū Otani Sect.



*Movement leader since National Suiheisha founding*

**Former BLL Head Zennosuke Asada Dies at Age of 80**

Leader of the Buraku liberation movement since establishment of the National Suiheisha and former chairperson of the Buraku Liberation League, Zennosuke Asada died at the age of 80 on April 29. An impressive funeral, attended by some 3000 people from all over Japan, was held on June 6 in Kyoto.

A prominent leftist in the National

Suiheisha, before the Second World War, Asada turned people's attention to the question of how the class system in society at large impacted on Buraku liberation; after the War one of his best-known contributions was his stressing of the importance of confrontation with the government through the denunciation of a discriminatory novel, in the magazine *All Romance*.

*Results of a fact-finding investigation of anti-Buraku discrimination in Osaka, part II*

**The Reality of Discrimination Against Burakus in Osaka (2)**

**Standard of Living**

*(1) Income Sources*

No less than 8,330 families living in Burakus in Osaka have been receiving livelihood protection payments. Thanks to the hard-won gains of the Buraku liberation movement, as many as 6,000 families have been recipients of scholarships or special allowances (see Table 1).

*(2) Annual Income*

In terms of take-home pay, the average annual income per family living in the Buraku is 2,673,000 yen, which works out to an average annual income per person of about 834,000 yen. This contrasts with an average annual income per family of 3,800,000 yen, and 1,030,000 yen per person, for Osaka Prefecture as a whole, from which figures it can be concluded that the income of a Buraku family is only 70 percent of that of the non-Buraku family. It should also be noted that the totals for Buraku individuals include the special allowances received under the Special

**Table 1: Income Sources of Ordinary and Buraku Families**

Income Sources	Osaka Pref*	Buraku
1. Occupational	88.4%	78.2%
2. Allowance	2.6	1.1
3. Annuity, pension	5.0	6.6
4. Livelihood protection	1.1	13.1
5. Other	2.9	1.0
Total	100	100

\* Source: 1980 National Census

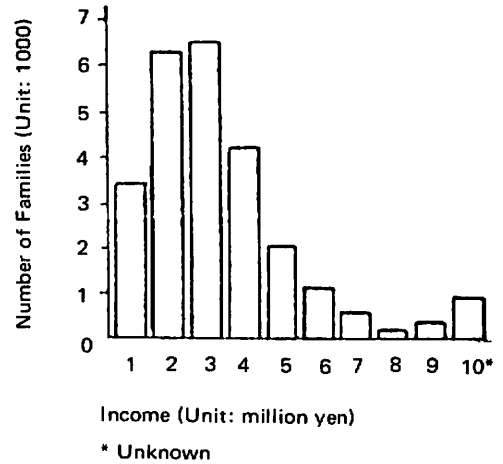


Measures for Dōwa Projects. Table 2 demonstrates that there is a large number of families with an annual income of under 1,000,000 yen.

*(3) Cost of Living*

For the Buraku family as a whole, the average monthly cost of living is 164,000 yen, while that for the individual is 51,000 yen (see Table 3). This contrasts with the respective figures for the ordinary family (individual) of 247,000 (67,000) yen, according to figures of the Household Economy Investigation in Osaka Prefecture. More than showing that living expenses of Burakumin are well below those of citizens of Osaka Prefecture as a whole, this demonstrates that Burakumin are forced to reduce their living expenses as a result of social and economic discrimination practiced against them. Again, it must be remarked that the figures for Burakumin include the special school and housing assistance that they are able to receive under the provisions of the Special Measures for Dōwa Projects.

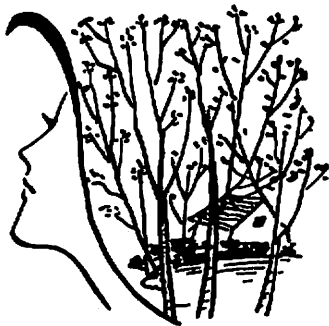
**Table 2: Annual Income Distribution**



**Table 3: Distribution of Monthly Cost of Living**

Monthly income	Percentage	Number of households
1. 29,999 yen or less	0.4%	91%
2. 30,000-39,999 yen	0.8	216
3. 40,000-49,999 yen	1.5	395
4. 50,000-59,999 yen	3.3	857
5. 60,000-69,999 yen	3.0	788
6. 70,000-79,999 yen	3.1	803
7. 80,000-89,999 yen	3.9	1,021
8. 90,000-99,999 yen	2.5	660
9. 100,000-119,999 yen	10.4	2,682
10. 120,000-139,999 yen	8.9	2,317
11. 140,000-159,999 yen	12.9	3,344
12. 160,000-179,999 yen	7.9	2,035
13. 180,000-199,999 yen	6.4	1,652
14. 200,000-219,999 yen	14.7	3,795
15. 220,000-239,999 yen	4.3	3,795
16. 240,000-259,999 yen	5.1	1,121
17. 260,000-279,999 yen	1.6	412
18. 280,000-299,999 yen	1.5	399
19. 300,000 yen or more	5.6	1,439
20. Unknown	2.1	556
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>25,900</b>

Average per family: 164,000 yen  
 Average per person: 51,000 yen



*Plans taking practical shape*

## Osaka Executive Committee Meets to Plan Celebration of 35th Anniversary of UDHR Passage

On June 7 the Executive Committee for the Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights met to fix the details for a gathering to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the passage of the UDHR. Sitting on the committee are representatives of some thirty organizations and citizens' groups, including the BLL, BLRI, women's organizations, labor unions, local administrative bodies, private corporations and schools. Plans call for the following three activities: (1) designing two posters, (2) designing of a tie-pin and a pendant, and (3) inviting someone from the UN to visit on 10 December, Race Day, on which occasion there will be a commemorative assembly held to discuss the problems of the Burakumin, of foreign residents in Japan, and of disabled people.

In addition, the representatives of each of the groups informed the meeting participants of the plans of their groups for the occasion — the making of posters and pamphlets, the organizing of assemblies, and so on. The meeting was also informed that Mr. James O. C. Jonah, Assistant Secretary-General of the UN, visited Japan on May 7, and provided members with further information on the second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, to be held this coming August. A pamphlet entitled "Let's propagate and strengthen the commemorative activities for the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights!" has been published (A5 size, 70 pages). 15,000 copies were printed and are to be provided to the public, so activities centering on the anniversary will be carried out not only in Osaka but also Nagano and Fukuoka prefectures.



The commemorative poster, representing "the 35th Anniversary of the UDHR" in Japanese letters, designed by the Osaka Executive Committee.





## BLRI Publishes Translation of UN Human Rights Publication

To commemorate the 35th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Buraku Liberation Research Institute has published a translation of the United Nations document, "The United Nations and Human Rights." The original UN publication appeared in 1978 on the occasion of the UDHR's 30th anniversary. The translation was the work of Dr. Kim

Ton Fun, Professor of International Law at Ryukoku University.

The translation is aimed at making the UN movement for the protection of human rights throughout the world more familiar to people in Japan, thereby promoting the understanding of Japanese for human rights and liberation activities.



Special issue: The World Liberation Movement (1)  
— West Germany —

### *Central Council of German Sinti and Roma (Zentralrat Deutscher Sinti und Roma) demonstrate in Wiesbaden*

## **No More Name Lists! No More Discrimination! Sinti and Roma Struggle Against Discrimination in West Germany**

In West Germany the federal police department (Bundeskriminalamt—BKA) is applying rigid controls and even expulsions of Sinti and Roma living in the country by use of name lists in which all Sinti and Roma are registered. This practice continues even today.

In 1967 the BKA also published a book to be used as a special manual by the police. It contains a description of various features of Sinti and Roma, and offers West German police offices advice as to how to deal with them. It characterizes them as a closed, group-oriented race inclined to nomadic

moves from one place to another from time to time. It says that they are lazy, reluctant to work, likely to engage in criminal activities, etc. All this is evident of that sort of arbitrary prejudice reminiscent of the worst racism of the Nazis. And little wonder, since the publication actually has its origins in a standard dictionary of criminology compiled by the Nazis in 1936.

Taking strong action against these discriminatory moves against the "gypsies" and the resurgence of Nazism, the Central Council of German Sinti and Roma (Zentralrat Deutscher Sinti und Roma) decided



Members and supporters of the Zentralrat Deutscher Sinti und Roma (Central Council of German Sinti and Roma) gather to demonstrate against discriminatory police practices in Wiesbaden, on 28 January.

to hold a protest demonstration, marching in front of the BKA headquarters building in Wiesbaden on 28 January 1983. (The 30th of January was the 50th anniversary of Adolf Hitler's rise to power in 1933.)

In the demonstration the Council protested both the use of the name lists in present-day Germany, and their publication by the police. It demanded their immediate abolition and called on all federal police departments and schools to thenceforth cease such practices. The BKA has yet to make any decision on the issue. The Council's demands for meetings to negotiate with the Secretary of the Interior has

also met with rough going. Not only has there been no positive response on the government side, it even has its eyes set on the entering of all data on Sinti and Roma into its computer data banks from this June.

This is in obvious violation of both the spirit and the letter of the International Covenant on Human Rights as well as the Helsinki Accords. Standing for the protection of all human rights everywhere, we would like to here strongly state our call for the immediate end to these evil practices and the careful and considerate resolution of this problem.

### INFORMATION

BURAKU LIBERATION NEWS is published every two months by the Buraku Liberation Research Institute. The editorial staff will be very happy to receive any information concerning human rights, discrimination problems, liberation movement etc. If you have any, could you kindly send it to the following address?

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