

Report on the 10th Anniversary Memorial Ceremony for the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake

The WFB Japan Regional Center

On March 11, 2021, the 10th Anniversary Memorial Ceremony for the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake was held by Sendai Buddhist Association and Tohoku Fukushi University. The event was also supported by Japan Buddhist Federation and Tokyo Buddhist Association. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, only a limited number of people were able to attend the ceremony in person. However, thanks to widespread advertisement on the Internet, many people were able to participate online.

Immediately after the Earthquake struck in March of 2011, the World Fellowship of Buddhists donated generously to disaster relief. In his speech at the ceremony, Rev. Yoshiharu Tomatsu, Chairperson of JBF, expressed deep gratitude to the WFB and its regional centers for their support 10 years ago. The immediate donation from the WFB gave courage and strength to the Japan regional center and the people of the devastated areas to carry on in that time of unprecedented challenges. We would like to convey our sincere gratitude once again to the WFB for the powerful support bestowed upon us 10 years ago.

10 years have passed but sorrow and pain still remain in the heart of every victim. The immense grief of someone who lost family members, friends, loved ones, or their home to the tsunami, will never cease. Approximately 2,500 people are still missing, and many people in Fukushima are still unable to return to their homes due to the nuclear plant meltdown and the effects of the spreading radiation. We must not forget that this is the very unfortunate reality of the disaster area today.

We sincerely thank the WFB and its regional centers for your thoughts and prayers.

【The Memorial Ceremony Photos】



The ceremony was held in the prayer hall at Tohoku Fukushi University in Sendai, Miyagi prefecture (The ceremony performed by local Soto Zen priests)



Left: The ceremony was also available online

Right: Rev. Koji Chiba, President of Tohoku Fukushi University, gave a lecture after the ceremony



Memorial tablet for the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake enshrined in the prayer hall



Rev. Tomatsu chairperson of JBF addressed deep gratitude to support just after the earthquake by WFB Headquarters