

Hibiki-no-mura the Anthroposophical Community and its Missions

Rudolf Steiner revealed a great amount of ancient wisdoms which had long been buried under the course of modern science and religions, and he redefined the wisdoms in his own terms to provide us unique understandings and new approaches for world-conception. Village of Hibiki is a community of people who respect his ideas and learn his views.

Village of Hibiki has been an active participant of society based on Steiner's basic ideals of: "Liberty in Cultural Life", "Equality in a Political Life", and "Fraternity in Economic Life".

Each village members share growth in the community, ponders attentively on question "what really is true freedom/love?" as Steiner called them, to explore the meaning of "I" and the "World" and unfold awake-consciousness of the "I AM". With strong bonds among village members, and with a sense of grounding, each develops one's soul to open its window toward the greater world.

They learn to see not only from the world seen but also from the world unseen. Henceforth, they feel sincere appreciation and reverence to the spiritual truth; that "I" and the "World" are intimately one. Sometimes it may well lead one to encounter, so called, miracles of life.

A community life can become a wonderful opportunity to learn the connection in "I" and the "World" and to expand its awareness.

Village of Hibiki is situated in the midst of wild nature abound in beautiful sceneries -- having seen a natural volcano inlet bellow, Mt. Showa and Mt. Usu above yonder, and so forth -- villagers can fully appreciate the blessings of life.

Moreover, agricultural experiences with constant exposures to seasonal changes may be transformed into a portal to see multitudes of connections in Nature and the Universe. For such experiences let men grasp real senses in the world than to merely read books by themselves, and provide variety of learning; the brightness of life, food chains, ecological awareness, etc.

The community finds special significance in collaborative works to produce community festivals. For it enhances acute senses of villagers to perceive finer changes in seasons, and also to see hidden connections among other living creatures as well as to the whole Universe. Village members share ideas, prepare and produce seasonal events, shine forth the talents unique to each, and enjoy working toward the same goals together. Series of these events strengthen connections of member's "I" to the community. For it develops within each soul feelings of respect toward invisible beings in nature.

Anthroposophy which was founded by Rudolf Steiner is full of men's wisdom and it holds tremendous possibilities for modern world, which may well said to be in its decline, to change its ways. Steiner had covered fields in manifold such as in education, economics, performing arts, agriculture, medicine, and social welfare.

Village of Hibiki has two major facilities currently running, namely, Michael College, a school for adults, and Windy Hills Farm where biodynamic agriculture is in practice. Also, two other minor facilities are running as well; Raphael School for children with disabilities, and Forest Bay Nursery School for children under three-year-old.

Village of Hibiki sets its goals to produce sound and sustainable 21st century society, aiming to offer a balance in learning between daily lives and its actual practices. With hope and certainty, the village explores bright future for who impelled to their ideas.

Missions in Michael College - Steiner Education for Adults

- * Work collaboratively to become one who can feel in accord with one's own *heart*, can think in one's own *head*, and can act using one's own *hands/legs*.
- * Elaborate to find one's true "I" and find very roles unique to each.
- * Accept differences to see what helps to form the community.

Students take hold of the above aims, and study through a variety of learning experiences: courses in Anthroposophy, in natural science/workshop, in arts, in daily livings, in agriculture, and so forth.

Academic courses offered at Michael College:

- NAA (Nature, Art, and Anthroposophy) Basic Course
(available beginning 2011 !!!)

Covers basic understandings through field observations/workshops, arts, and Anthroposophic studies. Is a basic course for students who are willing to proceed to TT (Teachers' Training) course which is offered in his/her 2nd year.

- TT (Teachers' Training for Early Childhood Waldorf Education)
(available beginning 2012 !!!)

Is a one-year-course for future teachers of Steiner's Early Childhood Education. Taking R. Steiner's word "accept children with feelings of reverence, educate them with grave and profound love, and let them free" as its primary message of the course, it offers learning in Early Childhood Education to understand world/human-conception of Rudolf Steiner.