

On April 30th The Emili Sagol CATRC hosted two guest lecturers from Japan; following are their short biographies and lectures summaries:

- **Takehiko Ito**, Ph.D., is Professor of Psychology at Wako University in Tokyo. He received his doctoral degree from Tohoku University in Sendai. He is interested in positive psychology, critical psychology, and peace psychology.

Posttraumatic growth of adults and children affected by the March 11 Earthquake Disaster in Japan

Narrative approach in the framework of the individual and community building is an important topic for disaster victims when recovering from stressful experiences and acquiring posttraumatic growth (PTG). I will discuss the posttraumatic growth seen in Voices of Tohoku, adult narratives in interviews, and essays of Tohoku children after the disaster, on the basis of the results of text mining analysis.

- **Takayo Inoue**, Ph.D. is Emeritus Professor at the Department of Psychology, Meiji Gakuin University. Prof. Inoue received her doctoral degree from Kyushu University. She is the Senior researcher for Japan IsraAID Support Program.

Expressive arts group therapy approach to cope with trauma/PTSD and develop posttraumatic growth (PTG) from the experience of the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Since March 2011, IsraAID and Japan IsraAID Support Program (JISP) have trained over 2,000 Japanese survivors, disaster workers and professionals in Psycho-Social techniques in Tohoku by using a variety of expressive therapies in order to cope with trauma, prevent PTSD and increase posttraumatic growth (PTG). The effects of IsraAID/ JISP programs have been evidence-based. JISP is going to scale its work towards long term capacity building by creating JISP International Center for Trauma-care and Emergency Relief (JICTER). JICTER will provide educational programs aimed at enhancing professional skills in the field of mental-health. JICTER is an ambitious and ongoing new approach to train helpers in and after disasters with characteristics of: (1) international cooperation based, (2) group approach training, (3) expressive therapy provided, and (4) on the job training (in the future).



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