

High School Cultural Festival in Fukushima: A Message from Fukushima



One scene in “A Message from Fukushima”

At a grand opening ceremony of the 35th All Japan High School Cultural Festival (Fukushima Sobun) held at the Aizu Fugado hall in Aizu-Wakamatsu City, Fukushima Prefecture, on August 4, 2011, high school students in Fukushima performed a “component drama” titled “A Message from Fukushima” as a curtain raiser presented by the host prefecture. The drama drew loud applause as it depicted “Fukushima now” by capturing changes of heart and images of growth among high school students who experienced an unprecedented disaster. Another reason for the enthusiastic response was the display of their youthful energy and the spirit of Fukushima and their resolve for reconstruction to overcome difficulties and open the way for the future to domestic and international audience. A line in the drama was quoted by Prime Minister Yoshihiko

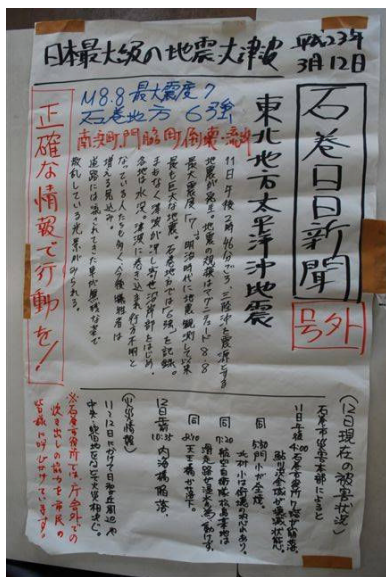
Noda in his policy speech at the 178th Diet session in September 2011. The line went: “To be born in Fukushima, grow up in Fukushima, and work in Fukushima. To get married in Fukushima, have children in Fukushima and bring up those children in Fukushima. To see our grandchildren in Fukushima, to see our great-grandchildren in Fukushima and to end our days in Fukushima. That is our dream.” Most of the lines in the drama reflected the thoughts of about 100 high school students in Fukushima, including members of the students’ festival executive committee, based on their experiences since the disaster. You can view the drama with English subtitles on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SpQkIhaTNXw>

ふくしま総文「ふくしまからのメッセージ」

2011年8月4日に會津風雅堂において開催された第35回全国高等学校総合文化祭（ふくしま総文）総合開会式に開催県発表として福島県の高校生達が上演した構成劇『ふくしまからのメッセージ』は、未曾有の震災を経験した高校生たちの心の変化や成長の姿を捉え、「福島は今」を描くとともに、困難な状況乗り越えて未来を切り開く若いエネルギーと福島の元気と復興への決意を内外に向けてアピールする内容であり、大きな反響を呼んだ。この劇中でのせりふ、「福島に生まれて、福島で育って、福島で働いて、福島で結婚して、福島で子どもを産んで、福島で子どもを育てて、福島で孫を見て、福島でひ孫を見て、福島で最期を過ごす。それが私の夢なのです。」は、昨年9月、第178回国会における野田総理の所信表明演説でも引用された。劇のせりふの大半は、生徒実行委員をはじめとする、福島県内の約100人の高校生が震災以降の体験を踏まえ、思いを託したもの。以下のYouTubeサイトより、英語字幕つきでの視聴が可能。

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SpQkIhaTNXw>)

Handwritten Newspapers published by Ishinomaki Hibi Shimbun



The handwritten newspaper of 12th, March 2011

Ishinomaki Hibi Shimbun is a local evening newspaper which was first published in 1912 in an area of Miyagi Prefecture covering Ishinomaki City, Higashi-Matsushima City and Onagawa-cho (in Oshika County). When the Great East Japan Earthquake hit the company, the ensuing tsunami left the first floor of its office building flooded and two printing presses on the second floor partially flooded. However, miraculously, the building itself remained undamaged. However, with electric power and other infrastructure destroyed, they could not operate the printing presses. The staff of the company were unable to return home, could not have enough food and were not even sure about the safety of their families. Feeling their “mission to report”, by using roll paper for newspaper and felt-tipped pens, they wrote articles on the situation of disaster damage, restoration of life lines, and relief activities, while staying inside the company or their cars. And, they posted hand-written newspapers on the walls of evacuation centers for six days, from March 12 to 17. On March 18, the Ishinomaki Hibi Shimbun was published in A4 size by using copying machines and, on March 19, the printing presses were back to work, consequently keeping the daily published without a single day of suspension after the earthquake. Information thus delivered to disaster-stricken areas, where information was confusing, gave hope to local citizens who needed accurate information.

In September, the International Press Institute (IPI), at its annual meeting, gave a special award to the newspaper company, for its contribution. Also, Newseum, a news museum in Washington D.C., United States, displays some of the wall papers, donated by the Ishinomaki Hibi Shimbun at the museum's request, as the historic newspaper which was published overcoming the difficulty.

Although the newspaper employees still suffer hardships, some living in damaged

houses, they keep publishing the newspaper, convinced that continuing to publish the Ishinomaki Hibi Shimbun will lead to sustaining local communities.

石巻日日新聞の手書きの壁新聞

1912年創刊で石巻市，東松島市，牡鹿郡女川町をエリアとして発行している地域紙(夕刊紙)，石巻日日新聞社は，東日本大震災時社屋の1階が津波で浸水，建屋内にある2機の印刷設備が一部浸水を受けたが，社屋は奇跡的に損壊を免れた。しかし電気をはじめとするインフラが破壊され，新聞を印刷する輪転機も動かすことができない状態となった。自宅にも帰れず，食事も十分に取れず，自らの家族の安否も分からない中，被災した地域住民に対する「伝える使命」を感じた同社社員達は，社内や車中に寝泊まりしながら新聞用ロール紙及びフェルトペンで被災状況，ライフライン復旧，支援状況等を記事とし，3月12日から3月17日までの6日間，手書きの壁新聞を避難所に貼りだした。3月18日にはA4判のコピー新聞が発行され，19日には輪転機が再稼働し，石巻日日新聞は震災後1日も休刊せずに地域住民へ情報を届け続けた。こうして届けられた情報は，情報が錯綜した被災地で，正確な情報を求めている市民にとっての希望となった。

同社の貢献に対し，9月には国際新聞編集者協会(IPI)は年次総会で特別賞を授与した。また，米ワシントンDCにあるニュースの総合博物館ニュージアムは困難を乗り越えて発行された歴史的な紙面として同壁新聞を展示している(石巻日日新聞が求めに応じ寄贈したもの)。

社員達は，現在も被災した自宅で生活するなど，困難な状況の中にあっても，石巻日日新聞の発行を続けることが地域の存続につながっていくと信じ，新聞発行を続けている。

MONKEY MAJIK – a disaster-affected band demonstrating “Vibrant Japan” –



MONKEY MAJIK



Charity Concert held by MONKEY MAJIK on 3rd July, 2011

MONKEY MAJIK is a hybrid band of two Canadian brothers (vocal/guitar), Maynard and Blaise, and the Japanese rhythm team tax (drums) and DICK (bass). It was formed in 2000 and has based its activities in Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture, in northeastern Japan. Although they were also affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake, each member energetically engaged in volunteer activities, living in tents at various places in the Tohoku region, including the Ishinomaki Senshu University campus. They believe that they can do a great deal by putting forces together, even though what one individual can do is limited.

They asked themselves what music could do and launched a “SEND Ai” (Send love) (“Sendai” is the name of the city, and “Ai” is love in Japanese.) project to encourage many people with their activities and music, aiming to act on a continuing basis. On July 3, they held an enormously successful charity event at the open-air music hall of Osaka Castle (which attracted 3,000 visitors and the proceeds from tickets sales, 12.9 million yen, were donated to the government of Miyagi Prefecture. The proceeds from the sale of event goods and donations received on the day of the concert, about 1.94 million yen, were donated to the Tohoku Office of the Ashinaga scholarship society, that helps pupils and students who have lost their parents).

Since then, MONKEY MAJIK has held charity auctions as “SEND Ai” activities, with proceeds all donated to Ashinaga to help build Tohoku Rainbow House where students receiving the scholarship can live together. It also held a charity live concert in Sendai last year. In 2012, MONKEY MAJIK was appointed as a KIZUNA ambassador (ambassador of RESILIENCE) by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On 19th and 21st February, it held an admission-free concert in Toronto and Ottawa in Canada to express Japan’s gratitude for the support it had received from all over the world after the earthquake and demonstrate “vibrant Japan” working toward its rebirth and reconstruction.

MONKEY MAJIK

MONKEY MAJIKは、カナダ人兄弟 Maynard, Blaise と日本人のリズム隊 tax, DICK からなるハイブリッドバンド。2000年に結成し、仙台を拠点に活動している。東日本大震災で自らも被災したメンバーは、一人一人の力は大きくないが合わせれば大きなものとなる、と信じ、東北各地及び石巻専修大学でテント生活を行いながらボランティアを行うなど、それぞれのメンバーが精力的にボランティア活動を行った。また、音楽で出来ることは何なのか？を問い、自分たちの行動、また音楽の力で沢山の人達を勇気づけ、復興に向け継続的に活動しようと“SEND 愛”プロジェクトを立ち上げ、7月3日には大阪城野外音楽堂でチャリティーイベントを実施し大成功を収めた（来場者 3,000名、チケット売り上げ金全額約 1,290万円を宮城県に、イベントグッズ収益金・ライブ当日の募金金額全額の約 194万円をあしなが育英会東北事務所に寄付した）。その後も、“SEND 愛”の活動として、チャリティー・オークションを開催し、売上金は全て東北レインボーハウス建設費として、あしなが育英会へ寄付を行った他、2011年には仙台でチャリティー・ライブを行い、活動を継続している。2012年には外務省から復興発信使に任命され、2月19日、21日には震災に際し世界から寄せられた支援に対する謝意を伝え、再生・復興に向かう「元気な日本」をアピールするため、カナダのトロント、オタワにおいて無料コンサートを実施した。

“Thank you from Japan” (Special TV program about this story was broadcast by NHK World on 3rd and 4th February 2012)



Some of the pictures drawn by the children of Onagawa town

After the disaster, Japan received a lot of assistance and words of encouragement one after another from all over the world. Such support greatly contributed to and encouraged reconstruction from the disaster, and prayers offered courage to people.

Children in the town of Onagawa drew pictures to express their gratitude for the support. These pictures were exhibited at various festivals in 2011, such as Global Festa in Tokyo, the World Collaboration Festa in Nagoya and International Festival Okinawa, together with messages of support received from across the world. Japanese embassies and consulates in various parts of the world are planning to organize events in March 2012 to show these pictures.

A song titled “Heroes 2011, Japan” was also produced to express appreciation for the global support. It was composed by Mariko Hata, with lyrics written by Patrick Harlan. The lyrics are in English. Students at Sendai Hachiman Elementary School are practicing the song by singing in English on a daily basis to directly express their gratitude for the support messages received from all over the world.

「Thank you from Japan」(2012年2月3日及び4日にNHK Worldで放送された特別番組)

震災後、多くの援助や励ましが世界中から続々と届き、こうした援助は被災地の復興に多大に貢献し、励まし、祈りは人々に勇気を与えた。

女川町の子ども達は、こうした支援に対し、感謝を表現するため絵を描き、これらの絵は世界から届いた支援の言葉とともに2011年のグローバル・フェスタ(東京)、ワールド・コラボ・フェスタ(名古屋)、国際協力・交流フェスティバル(沖縄)で展示された。2012年3月には、各国にある日本大使館・総領事館において、これらの絵が展示される催しも予定されている。

また、こうした世界からの支援に対する感謝の気持ちを込めて、パトリック・ハーランさん作詞、秦万里子さん作曲で「Heroes 2011, Japan」が制作された。歌詞は英語である。仙台市立八幡小学校の生徒達は、世界から届いた支援のメッセージなどへの感謝の気持ちを直接表すため、この「Heroes 2011, Japan」を英語で日々練習している。

Disaster Management Education in Kamaishi



The people evacuating from tsunami on 11th March, 2011



Evacuation training by students as a part of disaster management education

In Kamaishi City, Iwate Prefecture, where more than 1,000 people died or were left missing due to the tsunami caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake, 2,911 elementary and junior high school students escaped the tsunami. The tidal waves claimed the lives of five children out of those who were absent from school on that day or who had already gone home, but nearly all of the schoolchildren in the city escaped the disaster by evacuating from their schools.

Since 2004, the Board of Education of Kamaishi City has tried to instill disaster

awareness among teachers and schoolchildren under the advice of Professor Toshitaka Katada of Gunma University. However, as the evacuation rate of schoolchildren was less than 10% at the time of the 2006 earthquake off the Kuril Islands, each elementary and junior high school reviewed its plan to evacuate children while they are on their way to or from school, and decided to allocate about 10 hours a year for disaster management education, including lessons to learn of the danger of tsunami. In March 2010, a manual for tsunami disaster prevention, written by teachers, was completed and incorporated into disaster management education at all 14 of the city's elementary and junior high schools. In disaster management education, Professor Katada strongly emphasized three principles of tsunami evacuation: "Don't believe in preconceived ideas," "Do everything you can" and "Take the leadership in evacuation."

These lessons bore fruit. After the earthquake, the students of Kamaishi Higashi Junior High School ran to an evacuation site, shouting "a tsunami is coming!" At the neighboring Unosumai Elementary School, pupils gathered on the third floor as the school building itself was unharmed and the area was outside a presumed flooding zone. However, after seeing junior high school students fleeing, teachers decided to evacuate the children from the school. In all, approximately 600 students fled to a group home for the elderly which was about 700 meters away, and had been designated as an evacuation center. After receiving advice from a local resident who saw the cliff behind the group home collapsing, the students, sensing the danger, ran up to a nursing care facility on higher ground about 500 meters from the group home while junior high school students held hands with elementary school students. Seeing the force of the tsunami, the children fled further uphill. The junior high school students also helped kindergarten children and elderly people at the nursing care facility to escape. The tsunami reached the ground right in front of the facility.

All children were safe at Kamaishi Elementary School, situated in the city, where more than 90% of the pupils had gone home. A child who was at home with his grandmother helped her escape, while children who were in the park designated as an evacuation destination fled to higher ground after seeing the force of tsunami. Thus, Professor Katada's three principles were practiced by the children.

Kamaishi City has been receiving inquiries from many municipalities across Japan, which hope to take advantage of the city's experience in their disaster management education.

「釜石の防災教育」

東日本大震災の津波による死者・行方不明者が 1,000 人を超す釜石市で、小中学生は 2,911 人が津波から逃れた。下校後や欠席などで学校にいなかった生徒のうち 5 人は犠牲となったが、ほとんどの生徒が避難し助かった。

釜石市教育委員会は、2004 年から、群馬大学の片田敏孝教授の指導を受け、教師や児童生徒の意識改革に努めてきた。しかし、2006 年の千島列島沖地震の際の避難率が 10%未満だったことから、各学校では、子ども達の登下校時の避難計画を見直し、また津波の脅威を学ぶための授業を含め、年間 10 時間程度を防災教育に充てることとした。2010 年 3 月には、教師が手がけた「津波防災教育のための手引き」が完成し、14 の小中学校全てで防災教育に取り入れた。片田教授は、こうした防災教育の中で、津波避難の 3 原則「想定にとらわれるな」、「最善を尽くせ」、「率先避難者たれ」、を強く訴えてきた。

こうした教えが生かされ、釜石東中の生徒達は、地震後、「津波が来るぞ」と叫びながら避難場所へ走った。隣接する鵜住居小では、地震では建物自体は被害がなく、浸水想定区域外だったため、児童は校舎の 3 階に集まっていた。しかし、避難する釜石東中の生徒を見た教師たちの判断で学校から避難した。こうして約 600 人の生徒は、700 メートル先にある予め決めていた避難場所であるグループホームまで避難したが、ここで裏の崖が崩れているのを目撃した地元の方のアドバイスもあり、危険を感じてさらに約 500 メートル先の高台にある介護福祉施設を目指し、中学生は小学生と手をつないで逃げた。津波の勢いを見た生徒は、介護福祉施設からさらに高台へと避難した。中学生は園児や、介護施設のお年寄りにも手を貸した。津波は介護福祉施設の直前まで迫った。

市内では、既に 9 割以上の児童が下校していた釜石小学校も、児童全員が無事だった。祖母と自宅にいた児童は、祖母を介助しながら避難し、指定避難所の公園にいた児童は津波の勢いの強さを見てさらに高台に避難するなど、「避難 3 原則」が生かされていた。

釜石の事例を今後の防災教育に生かそうと、釜石市には日本各地から問い合わせがなされている。

Iwaki Spa Resort Hawaiians – Hula Girls from Fukushima cheering up Japan –



Hula Girls of Iwaki Spa Resort Hawaiians



Hula Girls National Kizuna Caravan



A pool of Iwaki Spa Resort Hawaiians

Spa Resort Hawaiians, a resort complex in Iwaki City, Fukushima Prefecture, managed by Joban Kosan Co., started in 1966 as the Joban Hawaiian Center, which is a hot-spring resort, when once booming coal mines were declining there. The main

attraction of the resort was the Hawaiian dance team "Hula Girls", consisting of local residents, who went on a performance tour around the country in 1965 when the team was formed and 1966 to overcome a crisis that gripped the resort in its inaugural days.

The resort was hit hard by the Great East Japan Earthquake and had to be closed for a time. However, it resumed a part of its operations in October 2011 and, on February 8, 2012, the whole resort was back in business with a new facility added.

The Hula Girls are mostly from Iwaki City. While the resort was shut down following the earthquake, the Hula Girls went on a nationwide performance tour for the first time in 46 years. Called "Hula Girls National Kizuna Caravan," the girls began their tour with a comforting performance at an Iwaki City evacuation shelter on May 3, 2011, hoping to spread smiles and good spirits across the country. The Hula Girls held 247 performances in 124 places in 26 prefectures, including disaster-stricken areas in Fukushima Prefecture and other prefectures in north-eastern Japan as well as parts of Nagano Prefecture struck by a separate major earthquake. Among other performance places were shelters in and around Fukushima Prefecture and in the Tokyo metropolitan region, cities having parent-and-child and sister city relations with Iwaki, coal mine-related localities in Kyushu and Shikoku, and Kobe and Hiroshima, cities that have successfully recovered from disasters.

A documentary film, "Cheer up! Hula Girls – Living in Fukushima, their present situation –", directed by Masaki Kobayashi, was released last year. It depicts the Hula Girls and people working at the spa resort who, despite their own suffering from the disaster, always wore a smile on the stage, trying to encourage disaster victims in the wake of the caravan, and also depicts affected people making untiring efforts to live.

いわきスパリゾートハワイアンズ

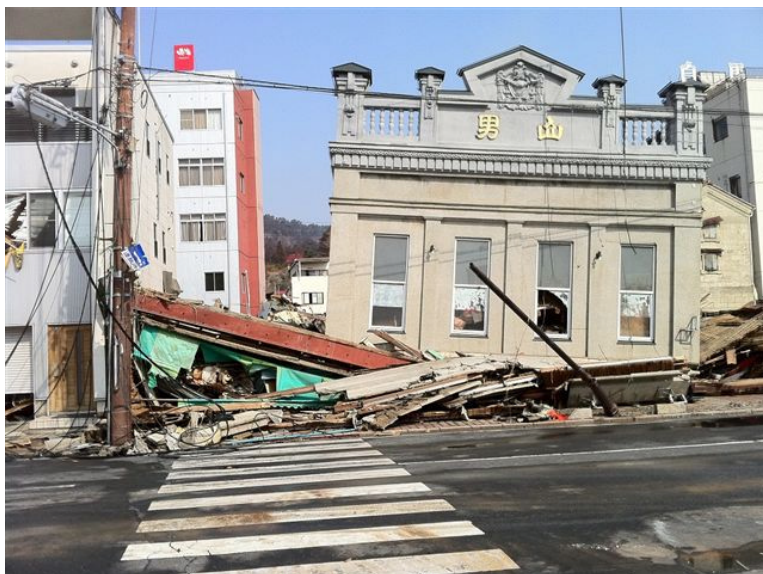
常磐興産が運営する総合リゾート施設、スパリゾートハワイアンズ（福島県いわき市）はかつて町を支えた石炭の低迷とともに豊富な温泉水を利用したリゾート施設「常磐ハワイアンセンター」として昭和41年に開業。目玉とされたのが、地元出身者でつくるダンスチーム「フラガール」で、結成した40年から翌年にかけて全国巡業を行ってPRをし、創設時の危機的状況を乗り越えた。

同リゾート施設は東日本大震災により大きな被害を受け、休業を余儀なくされたが、2011年10月には部分営業を開始、今年2月8日には施設の全館と新施設を開業した。

フラガールの多くは地元いわきの出身。震災後、リゾートが休業する中、46年ぶりに全国キャラバンを行った。この「フラガール全国きずなキャラバン」は、笑顔と元気の輪を全国に広げていくことを目的として昨年5月3日にいわき市内避難所への慰問公演を皮切りにスタート。福島県内や東北各県の被災地、長野県北部大地震の被災地、県内外や首都圏の避難所、いわき市の親子都市や兄弟都市、九州や中国地方の炭鉱ゆかりの地、復興を遂げた神戸市や広島市など、全国各所で巡回公演を行い、訪問先は26都道府県124か所で公演回数は247回に上った。

なお、このキャラバンをきっかけに、自らが被災しながらも、ステージでは決して笑顔を絶やすことなく、被災者を勇気づけたフラガールやハワイアンズの人々、被災者のひたむきに生きる姿を描いたドキュメンタリー映画「がんばっぺ フラガール! ~フクシマに生きる。彼女たちのいま~」（小林正樹監督）が昨年公開された。

Sake brewery “Otokoyama Honten” in Kesenuma City, Miyagi – Symbol of Reconstruction –



The main office building after the earthquake and tsunami



Sake brewery of Otokoyama Honten

Otokoyama Honten, a sake brewery in Kesenuma City, Miyagi Prefecture, was founded in 1912. Its three-story main office building, constructed around 1931, was designated as an cultural property by the government in 2003 for having kept the cityscape of the early years of the Showa period (1926-1989). On the day of the Great East Japan Earthquake, the building was destroyed by a vessel which was washed up by the tsunami. The brewery’s warehouse, where raw materials were stored, was washed away. However, the tsunami stopped a few meters short of the entrance to its brewing house, which was on higher ground. Thus, brewing equipment and tanks (in which sake

was brewed and stored) escaped damage. Today, Otokoyama Honten produces and ships sake brewed with the equipment that escaped damage.

At the time of the earthquake, fermenting mash for the “Sotenden” sake brand was contained in two tanks inside the brewery’s warehouse. To protect the unrefined mash, the brewery’s president, Akihiko Sugawara, went to the brewing house the next morning of the earthquake with two of his employees. As there was no electric power, water or gas supply, Mr. Sugawara continued the work to control the fermentation of the mash by using ice found in the brewing house and a battery-operated thermometer because control of temperature is important during fermentation.

Ten days after the earthquake, the unrefined mash was ready for the press, though a little ahead of the original plan. There was still no electricity or water, although, to press the unrefined mash, electricity for operating the machine and water for cleaning are necessary. If fermentation further continued, the mash would not make good sake. As ice ran out, as well as electricity and water were not available, Mr. Sugawara was at a loss. When walking in town one day, he found a large generator with the help of some local residents. They also helped him find a truck to carry the generator, fuel to operate it, wiring for electricity, and water. He managed to install the generator with the help of friends. He then was able to press the fermented mash for the first bottle of sake on March 21 and for the second bottle on March 24.

Mr. Sugawara says that at that time he had strong qualms about using a lot of electricity and water to press the mash when the entire city had been stricken by the disaster, with many people having lost everything and there was no electricity or water supply in town. However, every person who had helped him urged him to continue, saying, “the tsunami has destroyed many industries and almost all of our local products are gone. Fortunately, your brewing house still remains. We want you to keep on at any cost.” These words prompted Mr. Sugawara to press the mash to make sake.

After the earthquake, this story of Otokoyama Honten was widely covered by the Japanese press, and orders poured in from across the country from people who wished to help the brewery. Mr. Sugawara tells his employees that they are making this sake not for the company but for the people of Kesenuma City. He also tells them that it is the mission of a surviving producing facility to stabilize production, employ more local residents and continue to promote Kesenuma. Mr. Sugawara hopes to cultivate new marketing channels in the future rather than depending on his supporters, and keep the company going.

男山本店

1912年に創業し、昭和6年頃の建設で昭和初期の景観を現代まで伝えてきた宮城県気仙沼市の男山本店の本社3階建ての建物は、平成15年に国の有形文化財に登録されていたが、津波により乗り上げた船と衝突し、倒壊した。材料を保管していた倉庫も流されたが、酒造所の酒蔵は高い場所にあったため、津波は酒蔵の入り口から数メートルのところで止まり、酒蔵の設備と酒を製造・貯蔵するタンクは被災を免れた。ここにあって被害を受けなかった生産設備により、現在生産、出荷を行っている。

地震当時、酒蔵には発酵中の日本酒「蒼天伝」のもろみがタンク二つ分あった。

発酵中のもろみ二つを守るために、菅原社長は2人の従業員を連れて震災の翌朝から酒蔵へ行き、電気、水道、ガスの供給が停止した中で残っていた氷や電池式の温度計を使い作業を続けた。発酵中は温度管理が重要だからだ。

震災後10日が過ぎ予定より早くもろみを搾るタイミングがきた。もろみを搾るためには機械を動かすための電気と洗浄などに使う水が必要だったが、電気も水道もまだ回復していない状況だった。これ以上発酵させるとまともな酒は造れない、氷も尽き、電気も水もこない中、どうしようかと思いを巡らせながら町中を歩いているときに、地元の人々の協力もあり、菅原社長は大型発電機を見つけた。さらに発電機を運ぶトラック、動かすための燃料や電気の配線、さらには水など。知り合いが協力してくれ、なんとか発電機を設置して22日に1本目、24日に2本目の酒を搾ることができた。

当初、菅原氏は、街全体が被災し、多くの人が全てを失った中、まだ町には電気も水も通っていない中で、ジャンジャン発電機と水を使って酒を搾ることにすごく抵抗があったという。しかし協力してくれた人すべてが「今回の津波で多くの産業が破壊され、地元の産品はほとんど失ってしまった。酒蔵が幸い残ったのだから、必ず続けて欲しい」という言葉をかけてくれて、その言葉に後押しされて搾ることを決断したという。

震災後、男山本店のニュースは多くの日本のメディアに取り上げられ、同酒造所を支援しようと遠隔地からも注文が相次いだ。菅原氏は従業員に対し、この酒は、会社のために造っているのではなく、気仙沼市の人達のために造っているのだと話している。そして、生産を安定させより多くの地元住民を雇用し、気仙沼を発信し続けることが生き残った生産設備の使命だとも話している。菅原氏は今後、支援者に頼るのではなく、新しい販路も開拓しつつ、会社を維持し続けたいと考えている。