

That “Child marriage The report from UNU open class (Big Idea) one June 17,2024

***Title:** Addressing the Challenges and Opportunities for Children in the Middle East and North Africa
UNICEF’s Commitment in SDG (中近東・北アフリカ地域における子供たちへの、ユニセフの対応)

***Speaker:** Adele Khodr, UNICEF Regional Director (地域の責任者) with Dr. Sawako Shirahase



Ms Adele Khodr

*** Key message:** While keep increasing the number of conflict (Ukrainian, Gaza, Sudan) in the world now, what makes the job of UNICEF is difficult is that cash shortage which comes from decreasing the donation caused by the support fatigue. (世界の紛争の増加と資金疲れが、問題をむつかしくしている。)

*** Several impressive facts:** a) Even before corona and Ukraine, poverty issue in Middle East and Northern Africa was so serious. (Especially in Syria and Lebanon, 75% of children are poverty line.)

(コロナ以前、ウクライナ戦争が起こる以前から、75%の子供たちが、深刻な貧困状態でくらしている。)

b) “Child marriage” is still a big problem problem in those areas. That brings all basic human right problems like education, healthcare and so on. (全ての貧困問題の根源である児童結婚の存在)

***What I learned:** a) Even though her low voice, gentle, high speed speech, I learned strong sense of “Pragmatism”. Like “Tragedy to them becomes daily life.” And “ In your daily life ,please think about how it connected those tragedy.

b) #Countries where “The number of Child Marriage is very high; Somalia, Pakistan, Syria, Lebanon, North Africa.

“ ” Child labour is Syria, Palestine and Yemen.

Countries which offer good government support; Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

中近東と北アフリカの地域については、国の名前は、知っていてもそれぞれの国の内情については、main mediaからは、伝わって来ないので、初めて、それぞれの国の事情がこんなにも異なるものだという現実感が強烈にわいてきたことは、とても意義のあることだとおもいました。

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Kyoko Kumada