



JAPANESE ODA SEEN FROM EUROPE

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OUTLINE

- › Different European perspectives
- › The temporal dimension
- › Comparisons
- › Global Networks
- › JICA and (HIDA)AOTS overseas training programs and their alumni network
- › Conclusions

MAIN POINT

- › European perspectives are manifold and reflect the time and the place of observation. Generally,
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- European institutions hesitate to appreciate Japanese differences as strengths, however, one area where my own research shows a distinct and overall impressive feature of Japanese ODA is the alumni networks for JICA fellows, Monbushō scholarship holders, and (HIDA)AOTS trainees.

TEMPORAL DIMENSIONS

- › As a historian my interpretations are sensitive to time
- › Multiateral and bilateral ODA: a divide since 1961
- › The multilateral legacy and continued co-existence
- › 1970 poverty reduction focus
- › 1980 structural adjustment
- › 1990 new allegiances after the end of the Cold War
- › The new millennium and capacity development

THE MULTILATERAL LEGACY AND CONTINUED CO-EXISTENCE

- › The Colombo Plan
- › United Nations and the UN systems' course programs
- › Mr. Niwa's comparison of multilateral and bilateral preferences
- › DAC
- › EU

DIFFERENT EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVES

- › Former Colonial Empires
- › Germany
- › The Nordic Countries
 - › Denmark
- › EU

CONSISTENT VIEWS

- › The Role of DAC
 - › Loans and Grants
 - › Tying Status
 - › Regionalism
 - › Human Resource Development

- › Distribution of ODA through different Ministries
 - › Foreign Ministry
 - › MITI/MeTI
 - › Education Ministry

CHANGING VIEWS

- › EU perspective
- › Africa Strategies
 - › TICAD 1993-
 - › Europe in the new Millennium
- › Other Asian donors in Africa
 - › Competition with European countries
 - › Comparisons to defend a European way

COMPARISONS

- › Bobrow and Mayer (1996)
- › Kenneth King (2004)
- › Carol Lancaster (2006)
- › Jerve, Shimomura, and Hansen: *Aid Relationships in Asia* (2008)

THE NEW MILLENNIUM AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

- › UNDP and reports from bilateral donor/partner countries
- › ODA budget reductions
 - › Japan also HIDA/AOTS
- › Danish Development Minister announced in September 2012 that Danish ODA will pay for 60 fellows to take part of their degree at Danish Universities

THE CASE OF HUMAN RESSOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

- › Technical Assistance
- › Course content
- › Connections and good will
- › Soft power
- › Global networks

THE HISTORY OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- › The League of Nations
- › The Beginning of the Cold War
- › The End of World War II
- › The United Nations
- › UNEPTA 1949
- › The right to self-determination and the European colonial powers
- › The Danish special agreement

THE HISTORY OF JAPANESE ODA

- 1945 Defeat
- 1949 Reparations
- 1952 Different ministries
- 1954 The Colombo Plan
- 1956 United Nations
- 1959 Association of Overseas Technical Scholarships(AOTS)
- 1961 DAC
- 1962 Overseas Technical Cooperation Agency (OTCA)
- 1966 UNDP and ADB
- 1974 Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- 1992 ODA Charter
- 2003 Revised ODA Charter

THE ALUMNI NETWORKS OF JICA AND AOTS TRAINING COURSES IN JAPAN

› Newsletters

- › AOTS: 1960- (*Kenshū* May 2011: *New Global Cooperation*)
- › JICA: 1966-

› Alumni Societies

- › AOTS 1965- Singapore (Today 71 in 43 countries)
- › JICA 1966- Malaysia (Today 105)

› World Network of Friends

- › 1992 Decision, 1997 Beginning

› AOTS Facebook 2009 launch

THE ALUMNI SOCIETIES AS GLOBAL NETWORKS

- › The span of the networks
- › The formal support of the networks
 - › Template
 - › Funding
- › The uses of the networks
 - › Alumni uses
 - › Japan uses
- › The case of The Triple Catastrophe, March 11, 2011 ¹⁵

JICA

› The Japan International Cooperation Agency would like to express its sincere gratitude for the thousands of messages received worldwide in the wake of the March 11 earthquake and tsunami. This widespread support will only encourage us to continue our work with a renewed sense of mission and shared responsibility with all of our global partners and friends. (JICA homepage May 31, 2011)

Kazuo KANEKO, AOTS President – May 24, 2011

Since the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011, AOTS has received many donations from its alumni societies, ex-trainees and related organizations from around the world. We have also received countless words of encouragement for the victims of this disaster. I would like to appreciate for the kind assistance provided by those who have previously received training in Japan. All donations received by AOTS will be made available for the relief efforts through the Japan Red Cross Society. From March 16 to today, AOTS has received 17 million yen in donations. All of us at AOTS are indeed proud to be supported by each and every one of you. [...] We will continue to accept donations until June 30, 2011. This money will be donated to the relief efforts of the Japan Red Cross Society. [...] AOTS will implement its training courses this year nearly according to schedule. We stand committed to contributing to the development of human resources around the world.



HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF CASE: FACEBOOK CHANGE AND CONTINUITY OVER TIME

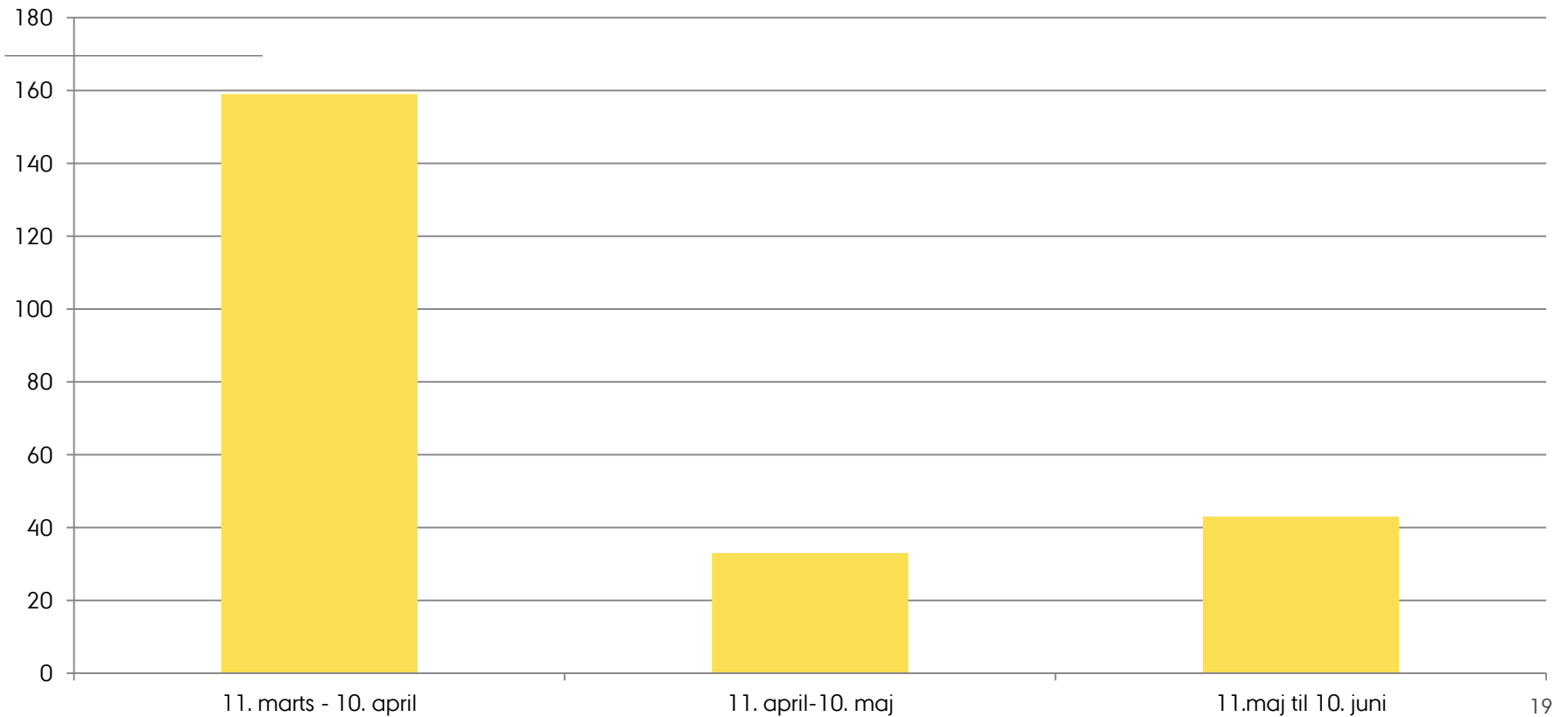
> Time

- > March 11-April 10, April 11-May 10, May 11-June 10
- > 153, 35, 41 entries

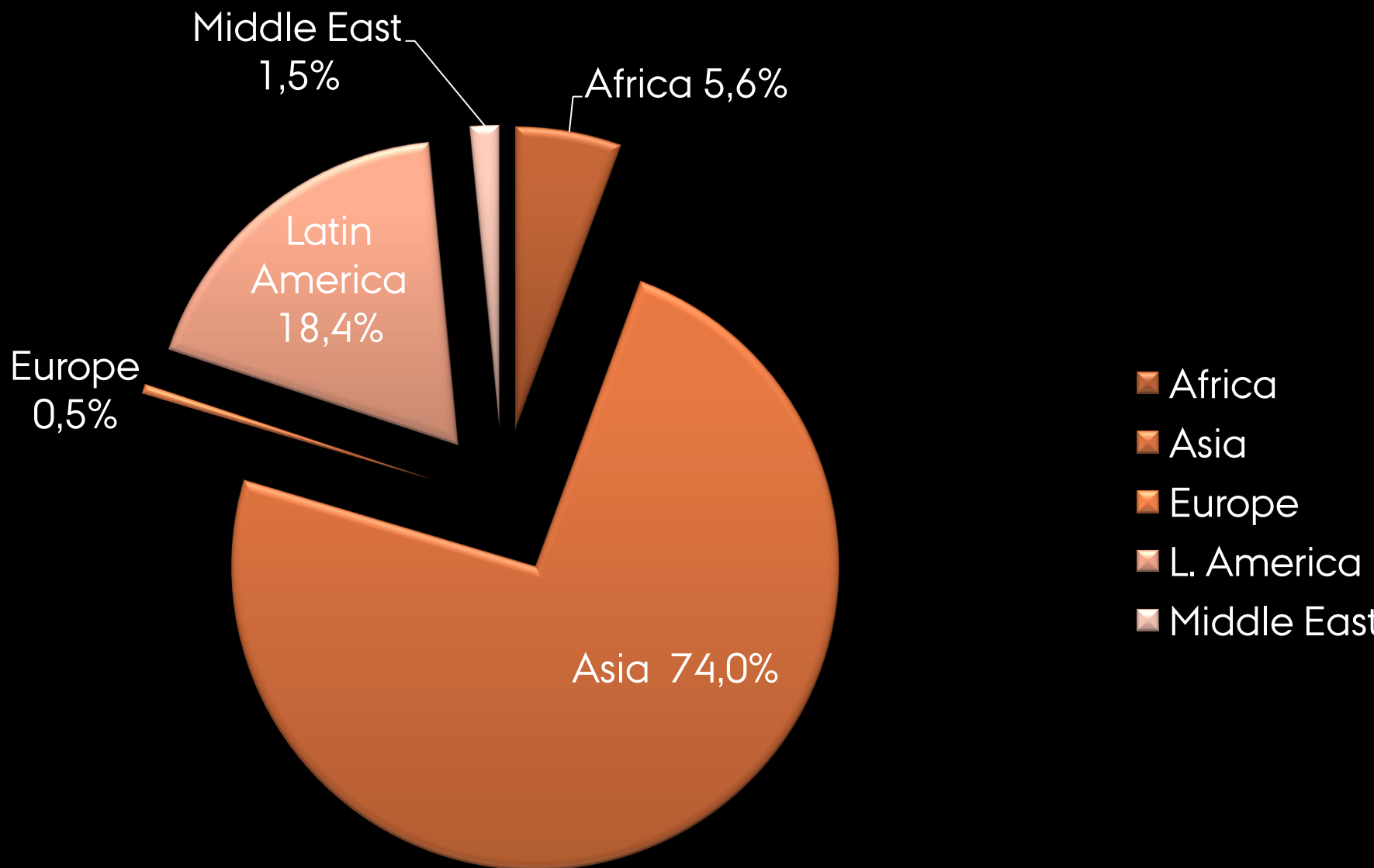
> Postings

- > Geographical distribution
- > Responses to the triple catastrophe
 - > Shock, Offers to help: prayers and financial support, No panic
- > Non-catastrophe-related entries

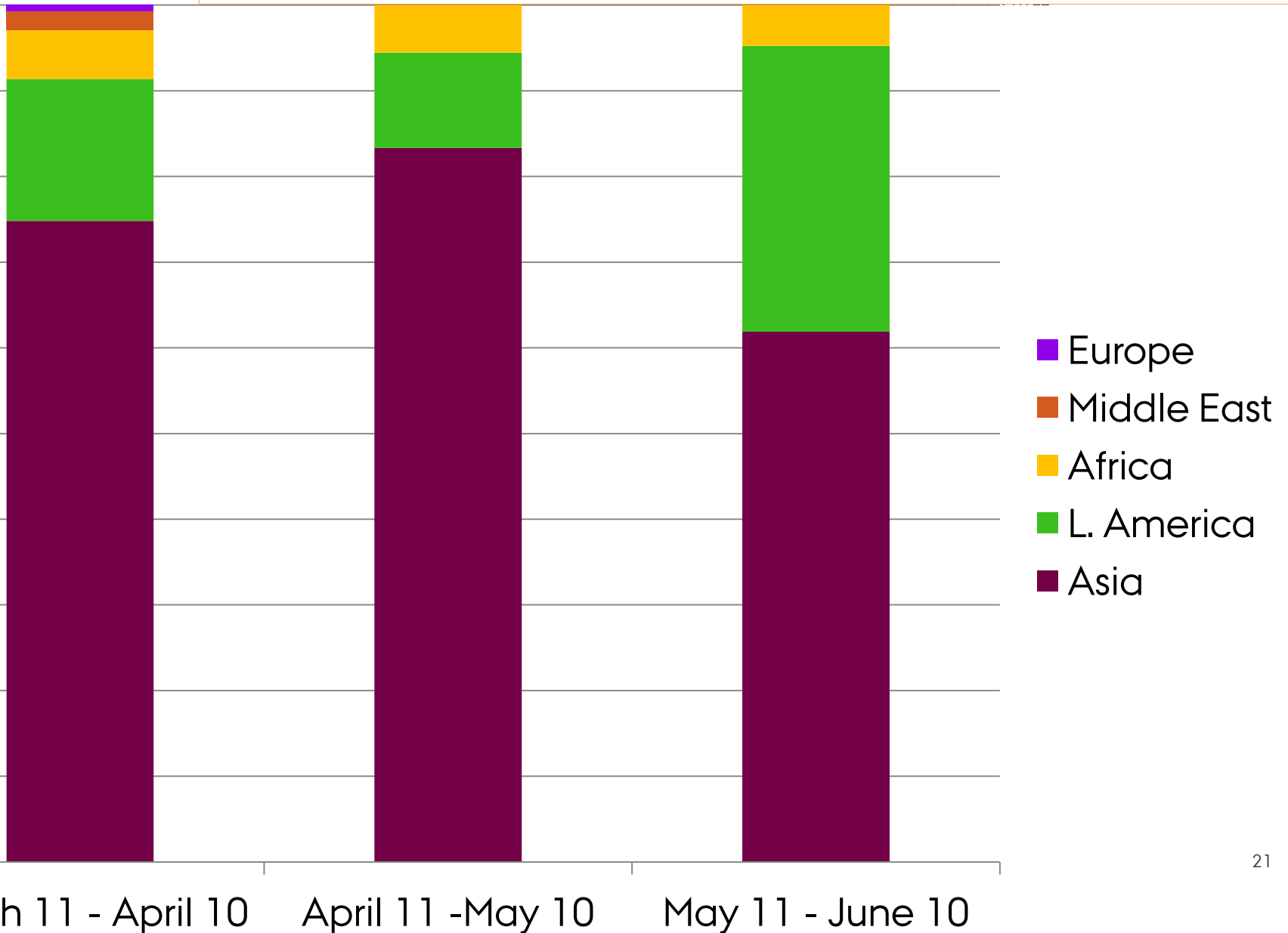
TOTAL NUMBER OF MESSAGES SENT



Distribution of messages from different continents over the three month period



Proportion of messages by continent and month



QUOTES ON HISTORY



- › **May God's peace mercy and grace be with you all Japanese people. You have survived tragedies more than these and have prooved yourself that your discipline courage and solidarity made you triumphant. And since you been a part of my life, I feel the grief seeing you suffer. God bless you people!!!**
- › [March 12 at 3:18pm](#) via [iPhone](#) · Like ·

QUOTES ON FINANCIAL SUPPORT

[May 8 at 11:13am](#)

AOTS (March 13)

We appreciate so much for your all concerned messages!!!
fortunately, AOTS itself was not damaged and all trainees and staffs in our centers are all fine.

however, after 2 days passed, the situation is getting clearer and the damages in Northern Japan is found to be very severe than ever. we would like to consider an action to support for them. please keep watching the news from us!

- > [March 13 at 8:16am](#) · Like ·
- > [Like this item](#) **73 people** like this.

AOTS (March 16) – Accept donations to JRCS



On 4 May 2011, the representatives of Bangladesh AOTS Alumni Society (BAAS) handed over a donation cheque of Tk 20,00,000/- (Taka Twenty Lacs Only) to H. E. Mr. Tamotsu Shinotsuka, Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh, for the victims of the recent terrib...See More



GLOBAL REACH QUOTES

- › (Bangladesh: March 13) It is very nice to know that AOTS is unharmed so far it should be because, we are with you from every corner of the world.
However, we do express our sympathy to other Japanese friends and pray to our sustainer Allah, for better recovery, as early as possible.
- › AOTS (March 19) We are extremely grateful for the gracious compassion, thoughtfulness and encouragement that our countless global friends expressed in the AOTS facebook community. I am convinced that Japan will come back better than ever in the future.
- › (March 20) “The whole world is praying for you”

CONCLUSIONS ON CASE



- › Changes over time
 - › Number of messages
 - › Proportion of messages related to the triple catastrophe
 - › Japan as recipient of financial support

- › Continuities over time
 - › Predominance of messages of Asian origin
 - › Facebook as a space for reaching out from and to Japan
 - › Constituting an example of sustained focus on AOTS activities
 - › Japan shall continue its history of survival and AOTS its activities



SOME POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

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- › The transparency of having different ministries administer part of the ODA budget.
 - › Private and public sector

 - › Conditionality
 - › Japanese ODA charters

 - › China
 - › Competitor? Or fellow Asian? Or?