

Newspaper (*Kyotoshinbun*: 29th, January, 2017)

Bhutan and Keiji : What is status quo?

Miyazu : Discussion about common issues like depopulation in rural area

An international workshop on common issues in rural area of Bhutan known by GNH (Gross National Happiness) and *Keiji* (Kyoto and Shiga Prefecture) was held at Miyazu health center on 28th, January, 2019. Bhutanese researchers who are participating in training in Japan presented about common issues like depopulation and damage by animals.

Four researchers of Sherubtse College, Royal University of Bhutan are visiting in Seya area, Miyazu and other rural areas in *Keiji* to research as part of 'one town-one campus program' by Kyoto prefecture, Miyazu city and Kyoto university.

They explained about the reality of their country like population outflow from rural to urban area and animal damages on cultivated land by elephants etc. They indicated that the Bhutan government takes initiative in rural villages and the governmental strong support should be needed to motivate the villagers also in Japan. Moreover, Kazuo Ando, associate professor of the center for southeast Asian studies, Kyoto university, explained about problems of both country.



A Bhutanese lecture presented about common issues in Bhutan.

(Courtesy of *Kyotoshinbun*)