

The Situation of Sign Language Interpretation in JAPAN(2014)

日本語の文法と手話の文法
手話言語法の実現を! =



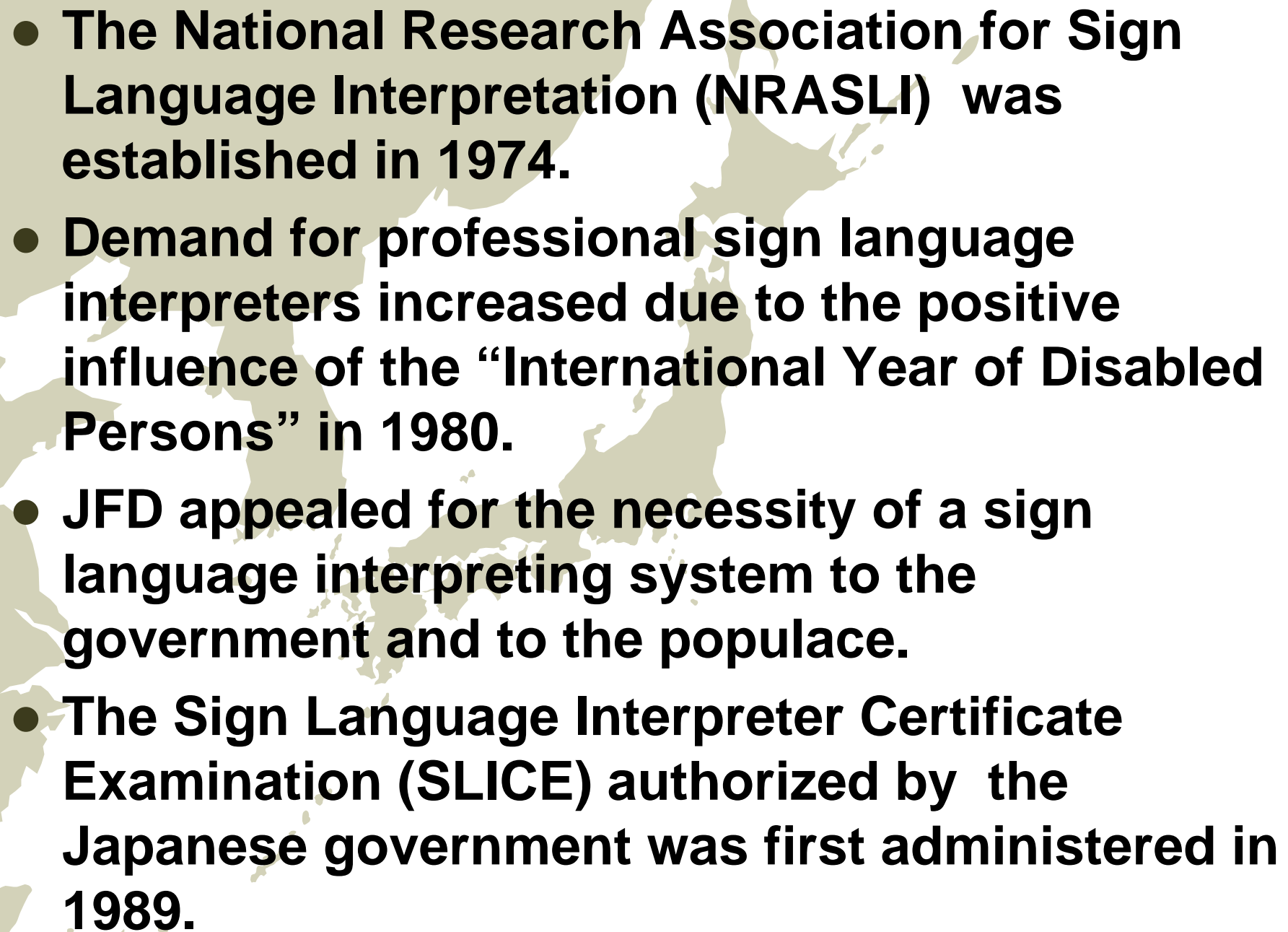
President of NRASLI
Yoshiro ISHIKAWA

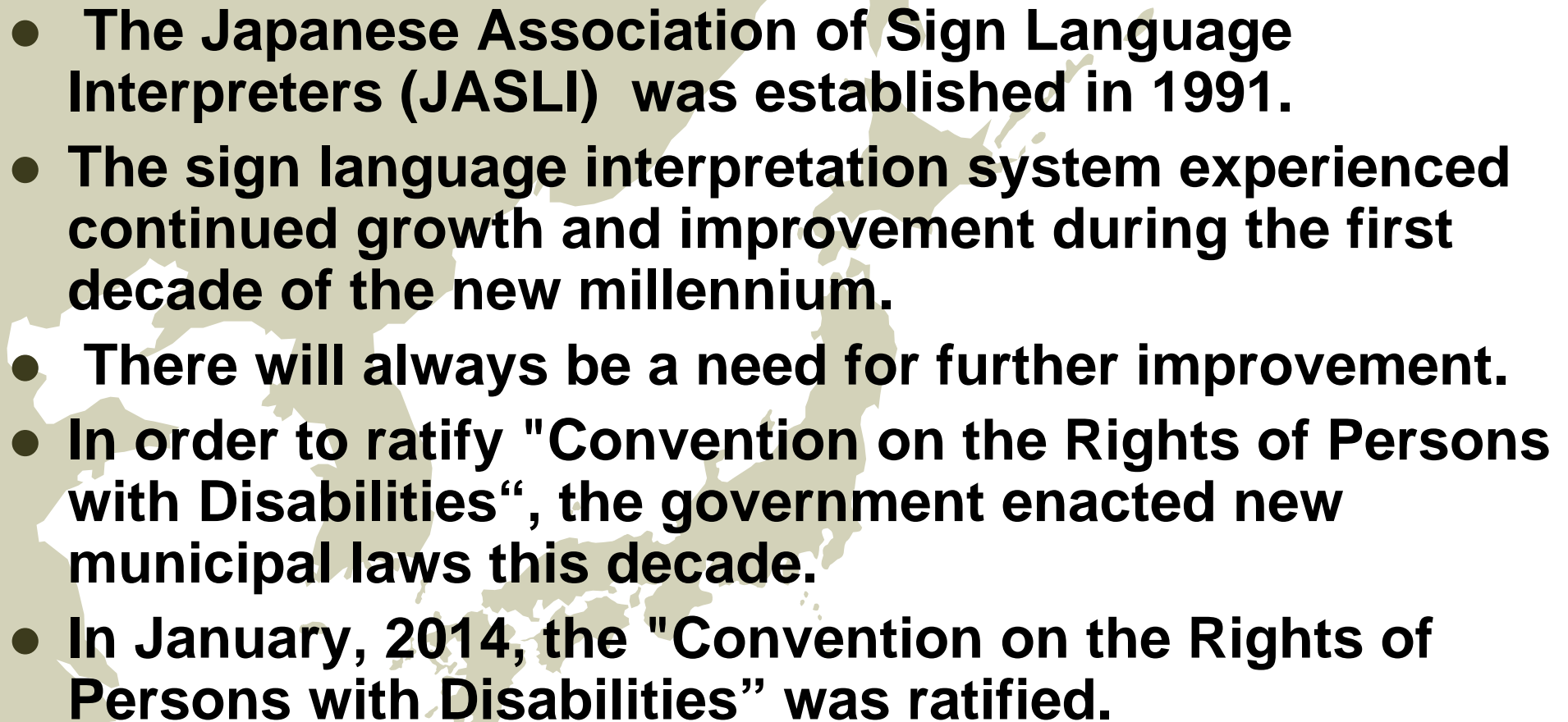


President of JASLI
Eiko OGURA

A Brief History of Sign Language Interpretation

- **Teachers of schools for the Deaf, individuals in families with Deaf members, and those proficient in sign language took on the task of sign language interpretation before the 1960's.**
- **A sign language study group was formed in Kyoto in 1963. After that, the movement spread all over the country and the number of sign language study groups increased.**
- **The first sign language interpreters' meeting was held in Fukushima Prefecture in 1968.**
- **In 1970, the Japanese government began the financial support and promotion of sign language services.**

- 
- **The National Research Association for Sign Language Interpretation (NRASLI) was established in 1974.**
 - **Demand for professional sign language interpreters increased due to the positive influence of the “International Year of Disabled Persons” in 1980.**
 - **JFD appealed for the necessity of a sign language interpreting system to the government and to the populace.**
 - **The Sign Language Interpreter Certificate Examination (SLICE) authorized by the Japanese government was first administered in 1989.**

- 
- The Japanese Association of Sign Language Interpreters (JASLI) was established in 1991.
 - The sign language interpretation system experienced continued growth and improvement during the first decade of the new millennium.
 - There will always be a need for further improvement.
 - In order to ratify "Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities", the government enacted new municipal laws this decade.
 - In January, 2014, the "Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" was ratified.

In the spirit of these historical landmarks , the continuing development of the sign language interpretation system is Keenly anticipated.

Japan has two sign language interpreters' organizations.

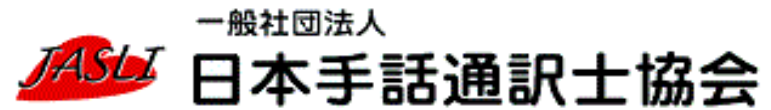
- **Both are WASLI members**
 - **NRASLI — The National Research Association for Sign Language Interpretation**
 - **JASLI — The Japanese Association of Sign Language Interpreters**
- **Not only sign language interpreters but also sign language learners, researchers and other colleagues who dedicate themselves to JSL are the members of NRASLI.**
- **Only those who passed the certificate exam SLICE are eligible to become members of JASLI.**

The two organizations cooperate with the Japanese Federation of the Deaf

- Annual membership fee:
 - NRASLI – about US\$100
 - JASLI – about US\$88
- Number of members:
 - NRASLI – 11,000
 - JASLI – 2,500
- *Most of JASLI members belong to NRASLI.



The logo of NRASLI



The logo of JASLI





The number of sign language interpreters in JAPAN

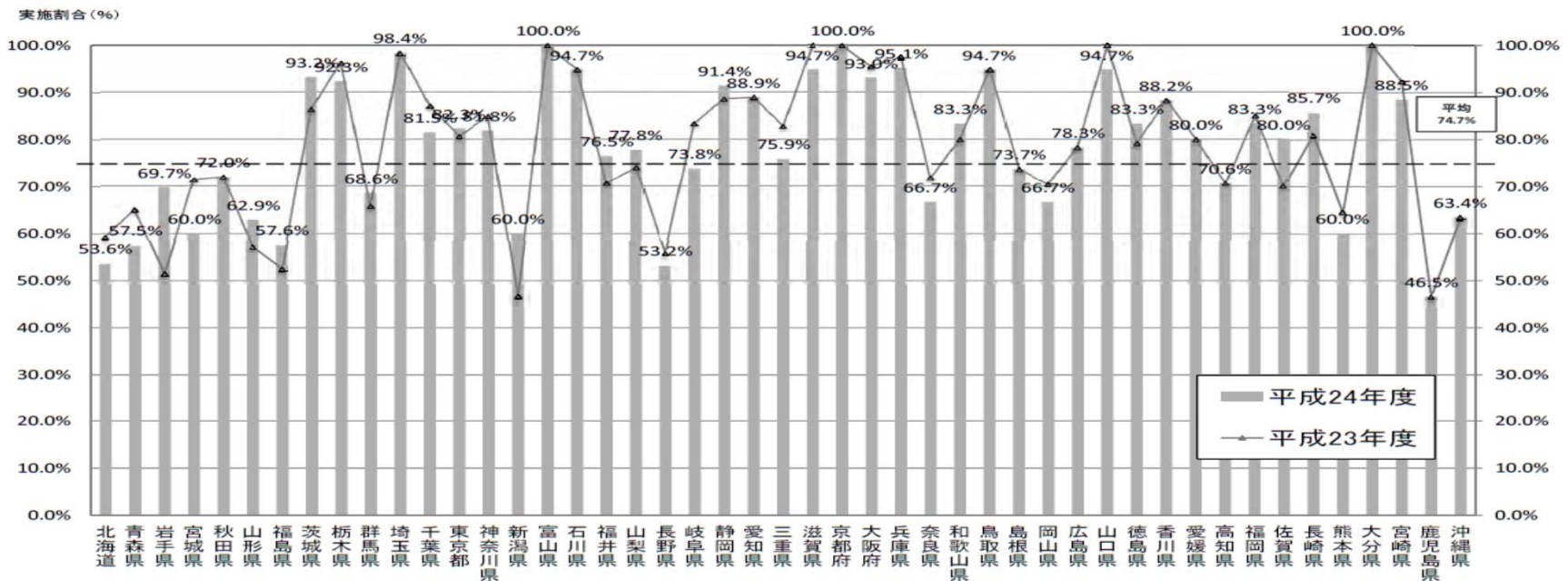
- Nationally certified : about 3,300
- Prefectural District certified : about 4,000- 5,000
- Employed SL interpreters : about 1,500

We think that 4000 professional employed sign language interpreters are required to meet the desired levels of nation-wide service.

The cities, towns and villages which are undertaking the sign-language interpreting business account for 74.4%.

(内訳1) 手話通訳者派遣事業の実施状況【都道府県別】

- 各都道府県内の全市町村に対する事業を実施している市町村の割合である。
- 全体では1,302市町村／1,742市町村 (H25.3.31現在) で実施割合は74.7%である。



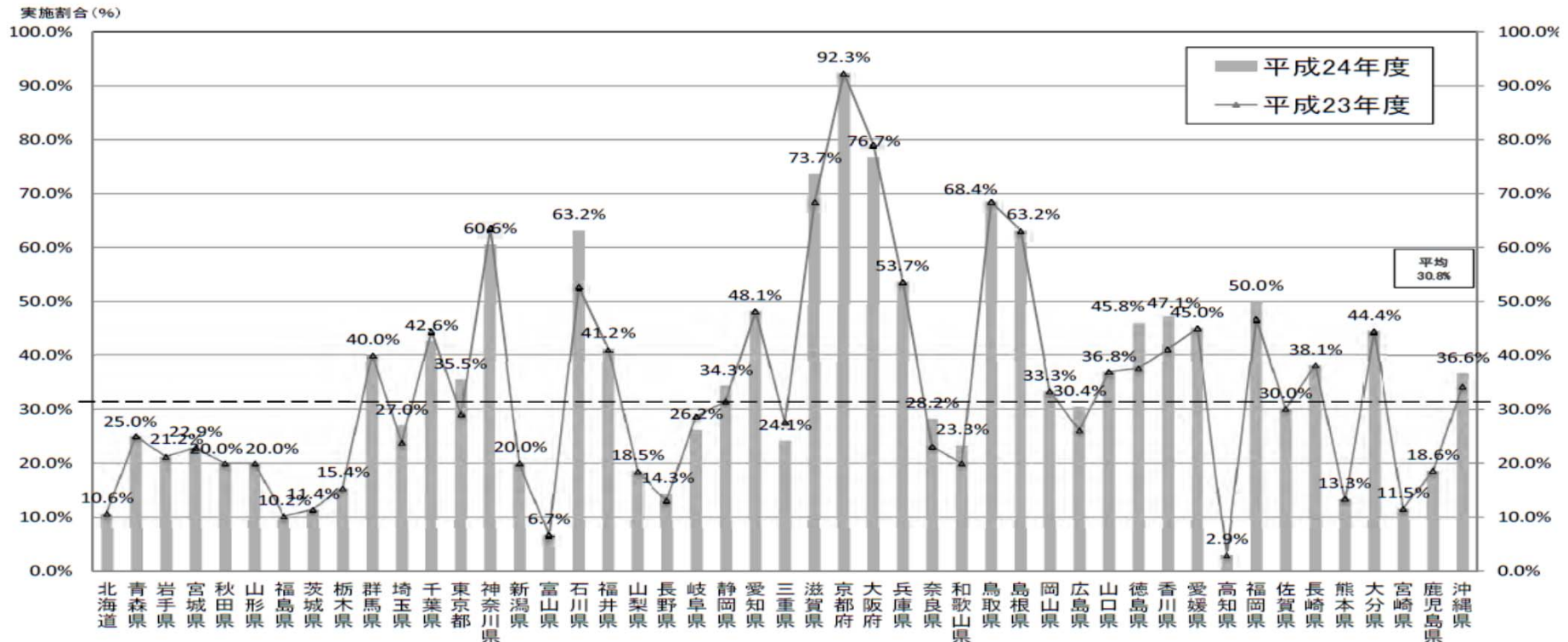
Japanese government announcement

※数値は平成24年度値。
※各自治体からの報告に基づき自立支援振興室において集計したもの。

The cities, towns and villages which employ the sign language interpreters are 30.8% in average.

(内訳2) 手話通訳者設置事業の実施状況【都道府県別】

- 各都道府県内の全市町村に対する事業を実施している市町村の割合である。
- 全体では537市町村／1,742市町村(H25.3.31現在)で実施割合は30.8%である。



※数値は平成24年度値。
 ※各自治体からの報告に基づき自立支援振興室において集計したものです。

Japanese government announcement

The sign language interpreters needed in Japan

- All the cities, towns and villages (total number 1800), and prefectures(47) install professional sign language interpreters.

Now : 1500 persons



Future : 4000 persons

- The sign language interpreters need to be well educated and have special skills as professionals.

Three organizations are working together to...

Realize the fundamental principles of the 'Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities'

In order to protect the rights of the Deaf, it is crucial to spread the awareness of the importance of sign language services for the Deaf, and to increase the number of sign language learners, sign language interpreting learners, and professional sign language interpreters .



President of JDF

Fujisaburo ISHINO

**Toward
the achievement of
" Sign Language
Law" !**



Sirakawago GIFU



Mt.Fuji SHIZUOKA



Miyajima HIROSHIMA

Heartily thanks

World «Cultural, Natural» Heritage in Japan