

令和7年度 個別学力検査等（後期日程）

人文社会学部 国際文化学科・小論文試験

注意事項

- 1 試験開始の合図があるまで、この問題冊子を開いてはいけません。
- 2 問題冊子は1冊で、3ページです。
- 3 試験開始後、すべての解答用紙に氏名（カタカナ）及び受験番号を記入しなさい。受験番号が正しく記入されていない場合は、採点できないことがあります。また、氏名（カタカナ）及び受験番号以外の文字、数字などは、絶対に記入してはいけません。
- 4 解答はすべて解答用紙の指定したところに日本語で記入しなさい。解答用紙は2枚です。
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令和7年度個別学力検査

人文社会学部 国際文化学科 後期日程

小論文問題

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することを禁じます。

次の英文を読んで、以下の設問に答えなさい。

As the number of foreigners living in Japan rapidly increases, they are becoming vital pillars supporting various sectors of society. This surge poses a significant question: How should Japan address this? By the end of last year, the resident foreign population had reached approximately 3.41 million, accounting for 2.7% of the total population. That was an increase of over 300,000 people from 2022, including those fleeing conflicts and persecution.

While scenes of foreigners living in local communities have become commonplace, deep-rooted prejudices persist within Japanese society. Hate speech directed at Kurdish individuals exemplifies this trend, which is concerning from a human rights protection perspective. Kurds, often referred to as people of the "largest stateless nation," hail from mountainous regions spanning Turkey, Syria, Iraq and beyond. Many have faced persecution and been embroiled in repeated conflicts. There are believed to be over 2,000 Kurdish residents of Japan, concentrated in cities like Kawaguchi and Warabi in Saitama Prefecture, where they have settled with the help of their relatives.

Attacks on Kurds rose prominently in spring 2023, with the spread of social media posts demanding they "get out" and calling them "fake refugees." This coincided with discussions in the Diet on amendments to Japan's immigration law aimed at thoroughly enforcing the deportation of undocumented foreigners. Meanwhile, many Kurds who had not won recognition as refugees were being given temporary release from immigration detention centers. Spurred by disputes among Kurds, the bashing intensified, and soon members of the Kurdish community were being bombarded with abusive phone calls and facing xenophobia-fueled demonstrations. However, discrimination remains unjustifiable, regardless of the pretext.

The crucial question arises: How can Japan foster a society where differences are acknowledged and people respect each other, while division between Japanese and foreigners is avoided?

Municipalities with significant foreign populations are actively tackling these questions, including the auto manufacturing center of Oizumi, Gunma Prefecture, where foreign-born residents make up some 20%

of the population of a little over 40,000. A 1990 revision to Japan's immigration law eased entry for people of Japanese descent to work in the country, and many Brazilians began moving in.

The Oizumi town government has put real effort into smoothing the way for foreigners in the community, such as hiring multilingual staff, publishing newsletters in Portuguese and other languages, providing Japanese language classes in all public primary and junior high schools, and supporting local private Japanese language schools. Moreover, the town has set up "cultural interpretation" programs aiming to introduce Japanese culture and manners, and encouraging participants to pass on the lessons to their family and friends.

All this is meant to enhance foreign nationals' awareness as residents in the community, and encourage them to act as a bridge between the community and local administration. Some foreigners are participating in community activities as volunteers, while many Brazilians are settling down, starting families, and building homes.

However, challenges persist as local demographics diversify further, with an increased influx of people from countries like Vietnam and Nepal in recent years. Toshihiro Menju, managing director and chief program officer at the Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE), says, "We need to actively create points of contact for exchange." He points out that it is also important to cultivate experts who are familiar with the issues and to ensure that local governments have an accurate understanding of the situation in their areas.

But municipalities alone cannot address these issues as they are not unique to certain areas; a comprehensive national approach is imperative. This is all the more so because, as Japan's population decline gathers pace, the national government is moving ahead with vastly expanding the number of foreigners it aims to bring into the country.

Recognizing the urgent need to address the looming labor shortage, the government has expanded the scope of the category 1 "specified skilled worker" visa and significantly boosted the intake limit for the industry-ready workforce. The total quota for the five years ending in fiscal 2023 was "340,000-plus." The target for the next five fiscal years is 820,000 people. Added to this, the number of professions covered by the category 2 skilled worker status, which has no limits on length

of residency and allows for bringing in family members, has also been expanded. And legal amendments to the foreign technical intern trainee program, criticized for human rights violations, are also under Diet review, shifting the focus toward securing talent. These steps come amid concerns over serious workforce shortages, but the government has also stated that it "will not implement any policy of maintaining the nation through allowing foreigners to settle in Japan with their families permanently."

However, this rigid focus on accepting foreigners as a mere labor resource adjusting valve risks compromising human rights. Moreover, half-hearted integration policies and Japanese language education may exacerbate societal divisions. The JCIE's Menju says, "Japan is no longer in any position to treat immigration as taboo. The government must make its basic stance on this clear."

Japan is becoming an immigrant society that simply will not work without its foreign members. The country's politics must look at this fact in the face. (出典: Editorial, Mainichi Japan, May 7, 2024)

Vocabulary:

surge 高まり; persecution 迫害; commonplace ごく普通のこと; Kurdish クルド人の; embroil 巻き込む; deportation 国外追放; intensify 激しくなる; bombard 攻め立てる; abusive 罵倒の; xenophobia 外国人嫌い; pretext 弁解; crucial 決定的な; municipality 地方自治体; revision (法の) 改正; multilingual 多言語使用の; enhance 高める; demographics 人口構成; diversify 多様化する; influx 流入; Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE) 日本国際交流センター; imperative 避けられない; loom (大きく不気味に) 現れる; category 1 "specified skilled worker" 特定技能1号; boost 押し上げる; intake limit 受け入れ限度; quota 割当て; fiscal 2023 2023年度; category 2 skilled worker 特定技能2号; foreign technical intern trainee program 外国人技能実習制度; amid ~の中で; adjusting valve 調整弁; half-hearted 気乗りのしない; integration 統合; exacerbate 悪化させる

問一: この英文の主張を要約しなさい。(400字以内)

問二: この英文の内容に関して、あなたの考えを述べなさい。(600字以内)