

**CENTER FOR GLOBAL STUDIES - UNIVERSITY OF SHIZUOKA (UOS)**

*In partnership with*

**SHIZUOKA MUSLIM ASSOCIATION (SMA)**

**BETTER ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA**

*Present*

**A Virtual Seminar-Forum on  
Understanding Muslim Communities, Multiculturalism, and Integration in Japan**

Venue: Online (Via Zoom) / Date: 20 April 2024, 1:00-3:00PM (13:00-15:00)

**Rationale & Objectives:**

みんな静岡人!!! (We are All Shizuoka Jin) was the banner for the recently concluded Wai-Wai World Fair in November 2023 organized by the Shizuoka City Association for Multicultural Exchange (S.A.M.E.). This is by far the manifestation of the recently enacted Shizuoka Municipal Ordinance for the promotion of intercultural cohesion. This ordinance aims to build a city in which all can “live happily” and that no one will be left behind regardless of their status and cultural background. Yet multiculturalism can take many forms. Government programs and policymakers often negotiate complex bureaucratic systems which shape how they act. And while we are all residing within this community, not all experience the same challenges or have the same needs. As a growing portion of Japanese society, Muslim migrants often experience considerable challenges as an ethnic and religious minority. Thus, this seminar-forum hopes to shed light on the social realities of Japan’s growing Muslim population, and how these diverse migrants are understood by and contribute to the Japanese community.

**Target Audience**

The event will be conducted fully on-line with the speakers, participants and guests joining via zoom including those from abroad and the rest of Japan. English translation may be limited for Japanese online and/or non-English speaking participants (via zoom). Confirmed participants may contact the organizers earlier for assistance.

## Program

I. Opening Program (3-5 minutes per guest/speaker):

13:00-13:05 Opening Prayer: Mun Bani Alhusein (Imam, Masjid Shizuoka)

13:05-13:10 (Opening Remarks): Dr. Anderson Villa (UoS Visiting Researcher)

13:10-13:15 (Welcome Message): Dr. Takahito Sawada (UoS Professor/Dean)

13:15-13:20 (Inspirational Message): Mr. Yassine Essaadi (Shizuoka Muslim Association/Masjid Shizuoka)

13:20-13:30 – Message of Support (Guests of Honor):

Mr. NAKAJIMA Kazuhiko (Former Exec. Director/Secretary General,  
Shizuoka City Association for Multicultural Exchange/S.A.M.E.)

Ms. HAYASHI Mariko, BEBESEA Co-Founder/SEEAC Exec. Director

II. 13:30-14:15 – Forum Proper (Panel of Speakers/15 minutes each speaker)

Abdullah-Al-Mamun, PhD (JF Fellow/Associate Professor, University of Dhaka)

Anderson V. Villa, PhD (JF Fellow/Professor, MSU-General Santos, Philippines)

John Ostermiller, ABD & MA (UoS-CEGLOS Visiting Researcher/UNR-USA)

III. 14:15-14:45 – Panel Discussants (10 minutes per discussant):

SHIOZAKI Yuki, PhD (Associate Professor, UoS-CEGLOS)

TOMIZAWA Hisao, PhD (UoS Specially Appointed Professor)

MOHAMED Oumrati, PhD Cand. (JF Fellow/Visiting Researcher  
Waseda University/Inalco)

IV. 14:45-14:55 – Open Forum (Q&A Portion - approximately 10 minutes)

Facilitator: Dr. TAKAHATA Sachi (UoS-CEGLOS Professor/Vice-Dean)

V. 14:55-15:00 – Closing Program (5 minutes)

Awarding of Certificates & Commendation

Closing Remarks: Dr. ISHII Yuka, UoS-CEGLOS Director/Professor

### **Registration**

Please register at the link below. Zoom link information will be sent to you at least two days prior to the seminar.

<https://forms.gle/DD4xR9HKz8DvGtK4A>

### **Contact**

Prof. Sachi Takahata [takahata@u-shizuoka-ken.ac.jp](mailto:takahata@u-shizuoka-ken.ac.jp)