

## Emergency Announcement about the Tragic East Japan Earthquake

2011.5.2

Teruyoshi Yanagita, PhD

Director of Saga University International Student Center

To: International Students, Researchers and people wishing to enter Saga University.

A 9.0-magnitude earthquake struck the east coast of Japan on March 11, 2011, which was the biggest earthquake ever to hit Japan. The earthquake triggered a destructive tsunami that struck Fukushima Prefecture, Miyagi Prefecture and Iwate Prefecture in the Tohoku area, and Ibaraki Prefecture in Kanto area. As a result, numerous people were killed and injured, and many more are still missing. In addition, many houses were destroyed.

We would like to offer our deepest sympathy to all the victims of the earthquake and tsunami and pray for a speedy recovery of all injured people and hope that all those who have been displaced will soon be able to begin rebuilding their lives.

The lack of detailed information on the disasters may have made you feel anxious about how much the Saga area has been affected by the earthquake, tsunami, and the accidents at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plants.

To respond to your anxiety, we would like to give specific information regarding the influence of the earthquake and possible radioactivity in the Saga area so that you can react in a sensible and calm way.

### I Current status of the radiation in Saga City

1 As of April 30, 2011, no radioiodine (I-131) and radioactive isotope of cesium (Cs-137) which indicate the environment radiation in the tap water of Saga City, has been found.

2 The level of radiation in Saga City was recorded at 0.040 microsievert per hour as of April 30, 2011, 05:00 GMT. *This level of radiation remains almost the same as before the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant accidents.*

This data can be obtained from Saga pref. website:

[http://www.pref.saga.lg.jp/web/var/rev0/0074/6728/Saga\\_City.pdf](http://www.pref.saga.lg.jp/web/var/rev0/0074/6728/Saga_City.pdf)

### II Current influence of the earthquake and tsunami on Saga City

Saga City has no damage nor has it been influenced of by the tragic East Japan earthquake and tsunami.

As stated above, the Saga area is located more than 1000 kilometers away from the

Tohoku- Kanto area and it is completely safe. Our international students living here are studying and conducting research as normal, and their daily lives have not been disrupted in any way.