

# Mass Media Mind Manipulation



I found some great quotes exposing how the media is covertly molding the opinions of those who have not yet been enlightened to the tactics of the ruling Elite of this world. This is taken from an article by Randy Lavello, June 2, 2003, called "Mass Media Mind Manipulation and the World of Illusion." Unfortunately, the website has gone offline.

The main concept of mind control, in the book *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (by George Orwell), was to cause a person to 'doublethink.' Orwell explains 'doublethink' as a willingness "to forget any fact that has become inconvenient, and then, when it becomes necessary again, to draw it back from oblivion for just so long as it is needed." For example, the U.S. places Saddam Hussein in power, arms him to the teeth, then declares him a menace to the world and attacks him. We are supposed to forget that Donald Rumsfeld handed Saddam a briefcase – the Weapons of Mass Destruction kit! If I hand a person a gun, then shoot him, does that make me a hero? We are supposed to 'doublethink' and not care how many times the Federal Government lies to us, yet still believe every word they say at present. When our nation blows something up it is called an 'operation.' When anyone else blows something up it is called 'terrorism.' By this interpretation, terrorism is defined as using a bomb without dropping it from a plane or delivering it by a missile! Because they don't spend the money on high-tech gear, they're terrorists!

There was a War on Illiteracy – more people are illiterate. There was a War on Drugs – more drugs hit the street. Now there's a War on Terror – a war on a concept, which will, of course, bring us more terrorism. We see the results of these so-called 'wars,' yet we 'doublethink' and ignore the facts.

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# Fun translating text from Japanese to English

One of my jobs is doing text translations on PC from Japanese to English. I use Google translate in the process, but only as a double check to make sure I didn't miss any phrases or words. I found Google does a fairly decent job translating Indo-European languages. I studied Russian and discovered that Google is OK to translate texts such as emails in Russian. An example from Bible text of Matthew 5:9

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

The Russian Bible says:

Блаженны миротворцы, ибо они будут наречены сынами Божиими.

Put that in Google translate and you get:

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Not bad at all!

The Japanese Bible says:

平和な人々を築き、幸いにも、彼らは神の子と呼ばれることになる。

Put that in Google translate and you get:

Build a peaceful people, and fortunately, they shall be called sons of God.

Not nearly as good as the Google translation from Russian.

Here's an example of a Japanese Paragraph I worked on today. It's the first paragraph of a friend who is sharing a strange dream she had one night:

~~~~~  
~~~~~  
~~~~~  
~~~~~

Google translation says:

My father was a person who walks of life extraordinary. He has a great impact on her daughter, I grew up with him continues to be enlightened. The person died of liver cancer. The ultimate in epic also a way to die. He seemed to deliberately refuse to endure the pain by his morphine. Many years ago, lost in sorrow and pain of cancer too late to all the world seems to love him forever. My father seemed to share the pain in her right mind to endure the pain until the end of times suffer severe pain from cancer is diagnosed.

My translation:

My father lived an extraordinary life. He had a great influence on me. I grew up enlightened with his wisdom. He died of liver cancer. His death was as extraordinary as his life was. He deliberated refused to take morphine and choose to endure pain instead. Many years ago he also lost his one and true love who died of cancer discovered too late. It seems the sadness and pain of her passing never faded from his heart. Ever since my father was diagnosed to have cancer, he seemed to share my mother's pain and endured severe pain until the very end clinging barely on to his sanity.

Reasons why a machine translator like Google has great difficulty with Japanese sentences:

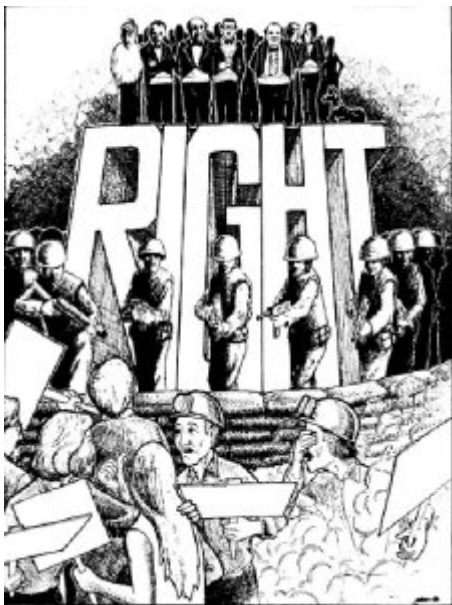
- Japanese has no verb conjugation and therefore the person speaking cannot be determined by the grammar. It can only be determined by human logic based on the content.
- Japanese is a language of metaphors. Ideas are expressed differently using different words than would be used in most European languages.
- The subject of a Japanese sentence is often dropped because it is supposed to be already understood by the listener.
- Nouns have no gender and the only two pronouns with gender, kare, kanojo (he, she) are often dropped from the sentence when supposed to be understood. And these two pronouns can even be interpreted by the listener as one's boyfriend or girlfriend according to the context it is used!
- The predicate and main verb of the sentence comes at the very end of the sentence, not immediately after the subject as in English. There may be several clauses in between. A machine translation of a long sentence is often nonsensical.

Back in the mid '90s I once read an article that predicted by the year 2000, voice machine translators would be so good that a voice of a person in Tokyo speaking in Japanese on the phone would come out in English to the other party in America! I cannot foresee that ever happening when even text only translations are still very poorly done.

I often have to add words not present in the original to my translation because I know that is probably what the person meant to say. In other words, a percentage of the translation is really interpreting what the writer means. It's only because I know the author personally that I can interpret the author's text with a good degree of accuracy, something that no machine or software no matter how sophisticated could ever do. Are my translations OK? The author seems to think so. ☐

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## [New law passed by U.S. Senate: The military to detain anti-government protesters in American cities](#)



Young people demonstrating against Wall Street

On December 4, 2011, a friend sent me a shocking article:

[http://www.naturalnews.com/034291\\_SB\\_1867\\_war\\_on\\_terror.html](http://www.naturalnews.com/034291_SB_1867_war_on_terror.html)

“That U.S. Senators would knowingly and willfully attempt to pass a bill that legalizes the indefinite detainment, torture and killing of American citizens **with no due process whatsoever** – and on American soil! – is nothing less than a traitorous betrayal of the once-free American people. These are, our founding fathers would have said, acts of war against the People. They reveal the insidious plan to put in place **a legal framework to end the Bill of Rights**, murder protesters, and overrun America with total police state brutality.” (Quote from the web link above.)

I believe this is in further fulfilment of [Pastor David Berg's prediction](#) in 1972!

The artwork from a publication by David Berg drawn in early 1974 depicts exactly what is happening *today*! The people on the top represent Wall Street, big business, and the government that supports the rich. Notice the young people are being confronted not by police, but by *soldiers*, the U.S. Military!!

Former President George W. Bush once said,

“Stop throwing the Constitution in my face,” Bush screamed back.

“It’s just a goddamned piece of paper!” Ref:

<http://www.rense.com/general69/paper.htm>

Apparently the U.S. Senate agrees with him. And what exactly does the U.S. Constitution say about American citizens under arrest after being accused of a crime?

“In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.”—Six Amendment to the Constitution.

New Senate bill 1867 seems to be diametrically against the 6th Amendment.

What do you folks think?

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**[The real reason for the Japanese seclusion policy: Fear of colonization by Rome](#)**

## THE JESUITS RULE



The Japanese government was afraid of the Jesuits and the foreign overthrow of Japan which is why they didn't allow any visitors to their country for 200 yearss.

## Using mencoder to convert a .VOB file to a .flv file

I've been working for a Japanese NPO, Leap High 28. Today I was asked by the NPO Chairperson, Yoko Ishikawa to upload a DVD file to Help Japan 2011, a website we made together to raise support for the March 11, 2011 earthquake and tsunami victims. This is the code I used to convert the file to .flv on a laptop with the Ubuntu 11.10 Linux. Note the you need to have mencoder installed.

```
mencoder VTS_03_1.VOB -of lavf -ovc lavc -lavcopts
vcodec=flv:vbitrate=150 -ofps 25 -oac mp3lame -lameopts abr:br=32 -
srates 22050 -vf scale=720 -o unitedearth.flv
```

After creating the flv file, I uploaded it to the server using FTP. I also created a starting .jpg image of the same name as the .flv from one of the frames of the video, and uploaded it in the same folder.

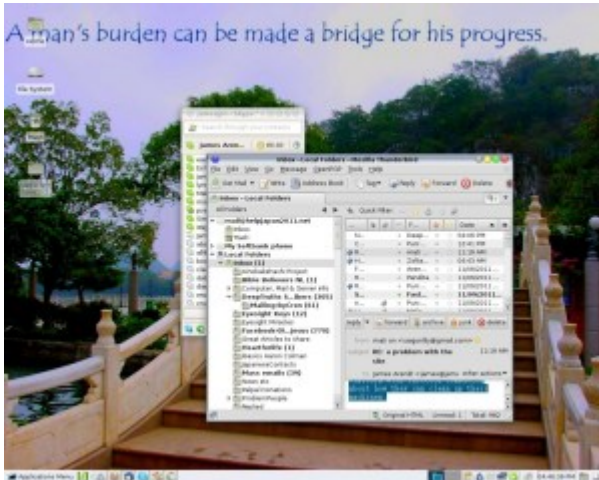
I also installed a handy WordPress plugin, FLV Embed to display the video.

On the page to post the video, in the HTML editor I added the following:

```
[flv:/wp-content/uploads/unitedearth.flv 480 368]
```

Click this link to see the result! Audio in Japanese only.

# Fedora 16 review



**November 9:** After getting sick of Gnome 3 on Fedora 15, I tried Linux Mint Debian for a while because it has the Gnome 2 desktop environment, my favourite to date. Linux Mint Debian ran very well but because there were certain tweaks to the system I wanted to implement but could not (but can in Fedora), I decided to go back to Fedora 14, the last Fedora with Gnome 2. The creator of Linux, Linus Torvalds, preferred Gnome 2 over 3 as well. He also uses Fedora as his Linux distribution of choice. Since the advent of Gnome 3 in Fedora 15, Linus ditched it for the Xfce environment instead. I figure if Xfce is good enough for Linus, it's good enough for me. So when Fedora 16 went gold yesterday, I immediately downloaded it, installed it, and installed the Xfce desktop environment.



James Japan's Xfce desktop with Fedora 16

Fedora 16 with the Xfce desktop environment is like driving a new car with a more powerful engine but with different dashboard. I'm getting used to it. Xfce does seem to be more tweak-able than Gnome 2 was. I can see certain features that Gnome 2 didn't have. But I still miss the cool Gnome 2 applets. Won't somebody please bring them back?

**March 14, 2012 update:** I tried to install Compiz in LXDE but couldn't make it work. All icons on panels would disappear every time I ran fusion-icon. I wondered how it would work on KDE Plasma Desktop Environment. Compiz works great! Here's what my desktop looks like now:



Kde Plasma James Japan Desktop

KDE Plasma has 4 different appearances

1. Desktop Icons (Plain desktop with icons on it)
2. Photos Activity (Shows random photos in the Picture folder)
3. Desktop (Makes the Desktop folder a window with the option of wallpaper)
4. Search and Launch (Shows all the installed applications)

Besides this it has a pop-up application menu that is overall better than either LXDE or XFCE, and way better than Gnome 3! All in all KDE Plasma seems to be for me the most user friendly, intuitive, easy to use and tweak-able Linux desktop environment.

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## Why Gaddafi was demonized by the West



I believe Gaddafi was demonized by the West only after he became a hindrance to New World Order plans. Libya was one of the most prosperous countries in the middle east before the NATO (read USA, England and France) attacks! Unlike the Egyptians under Mubarak, the average Libyan enjoyed a high standard of living.

Under the revolutionary leadership of Col. Mu`ammar Qadhafi, Libya has attained the highest standard of living in all of Africa. This is all the more remarkable when we consider that in 1951 Libya was officially the poorest country in the world. According to the World Bank, the per capita income was less than \$50 a year – even lower than India. Today all Libyans own their own homes and cars. In the words of two Fleet Street journalists, David Blundy and Andrew Lycett, who are by no means supporters of the Libyan Arab revolution, “The young people are well dressed, well fed and well educated. Libyans now earn more per capita than the British. – Taken from <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/8744/libfacts.htm>



Obviously written before the NATO attack against Libya.

Now what will happen to them? The same fate of civil strife in Yugoslavia after Tito's death, and civil strife in Iraq after Saddam Hussein! Their economy is going to crash and they will lose the good standard of living they enjoyed under Gaddafi. The [wicked Witch of the West Hillary](#) is laughing now at Gaddafi's demise, but someday the poor and meek of this world will rejoice at her demise as they did Jezebel's! See 2 Kings chapter 9 for details. If there ever was a modern day parallel of King Ahab and Queen Jezebel of the Bible, it is doubtless [Bill and Hillary](#).

Why would the [USA, England and France](#) (read continuation of the Roman Empire) want Gaddafi dead? Three reasons, and all about *money* and power!

Also see The Legend of Sirte for more information about the true political realities of Libya.

Recently I've been studying the history of Japan during the the 17th and 18th century. It seems to me that the major difference between then and now, is electrical power and environment it created.

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## [Traumatic trip to Aomori city](#)



**Went the wrong way!** The blue line from Nikaho City to Akita City was my intended route. The orange line going to Daizen city is the detour route the truck driver took me, 38 kilometers out of my way costing nearly an hour extra time! The end of the orange line points to Route 13 where the driver intended to drop me off. The dark

green line is the Akita expressway which took me from Daizen City to Hachiryu Station. It made up for the lost time of the detour.

**September 19:** Today was warm, bright and sunny, a very good day to travel by hitchhiking. I was on my way to Aomori city, about 480 kilometers from my home in Niigata city. It was imperative that I reach Aomori by evening because I had to travel further the next day to Misawa city, 70 kilometers from Aomori, and be there by 10PAM to do a job assignment.

My motivation to hitchhike is not just to save money, but to make new friends. The very first driver who picked me up was a talkative lady, Miss Tsuneko, who took me to Tainai city on Route 7, about 60 kilometers from home, a very good distance for the first ride. Tsuneko is not a Christian but she is interested in helping her Christian friend find a Christian husband.

From Route 7 I walked 4 kilometers to get to the Arakawa-Tainai interchange of the Nihonkai-Tohoku Expressway. I hoped catching a ride on the expressway would speed my journey by getting a vehicle going at least as far as somewhere in Yamagata Prefecture and thereby bypassing Murakami City entirely. Expressway drivers tend to go longer distances. Moreover, traffic on Route 7 past Murakami is minimal. In times past I had to wait more than an hour in Murakami to catch a ride going any significant distance.

The 40 minute hike to the expressway bore fruit – I got an immediate ride to Atsumi Onsen in Yamagata! From Atsumi Onsen I caught 3 more cars and got as far as Nikaho City in Akita Prefecture. It was about 3PM. I hoped to catch a ride from Nikaho to Akita city. There was just enough time for me to catch the 4:30 train from Akita station which would arrive in Aomori at 8PM.

After just a few minutes wait in Nikaho, a truck stopped and the driver said he would take me to Route 13 in Akita. I assumed he meant the intersection of Route 13 and Route 7 in Akita City, but I was terribly wrong! The driver was a foreigner, a man from Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam. He's lived in Japan for 18 years and spoke good Japanese, the only common language between us. The driver got off Route 7 to take a free expressway heading toward Akita City, but partway he got off the expressway at Ohuchi and took Route 105 toward Daizen city. I didn't know it at the time, but Daizen city is the new name for Omagari city. Had he said he was going to Omagari, I would have immediately asked him to let me off at Ohuchi for I knew that Omagari was way out of my way! But the name "Daizen" confused me. The driver was so positive and tried to be encouraging. "Don't worry! This road runs through the rice fields with very few stop lights and little traffic! I'll take you to Route 13 and from there you can catch a ride to Akita city which is next to Daizen! But looking at the map, I realized I made an awful mistake!

Why did I heed the driver's advice and go with him further? It could be because he is Vietnamese, and I don't ever remember meeting anyone from Vietnam before. It's always interesting to meet people from difference countries and cultures. On September 9th two young men from Nepal took me to

Akita city. They corrected me when I said the founder of Buddhism was from India. "You're twice our age and know many things, and yet you didn't know that Buddha was born in our country, in Nepal!" ☐

There was now no way I could arrive Akita city in time to catch the 4:35PM train. After that there was only one more train left, the one leaving Akita station at 6:46PM which would get me to Aomori city at 10:40PM. If I missed that one too, I would be in bad trouble indeed. It would mean hitchhiking in the dark. I have hitchhiked after sunset occasionally, but it's not nearly as easy as hitchhiking during daylight hours. It's harder for drivers to see me and more dangerous at night.

I began to realize I had to stop listening to the driver and start to follow what I knew from experience to be best. Letting him take me to Route 13 was no guarantee I would make the 6:46PM train. From the map I saw the Omagari Interchange of the Akita expressway a few kilometers before Route 13. It was right on Route 105. I asked the driver to let me off at the expressway entrance, and he did so but expressed doubts I would catch a car going on it. I didn't listen to him this time, I knew catching a ride on the expressway had the potential to make up for the time I lost on the detour.

The decision to take the Akita Expressway paid off! After only a couple minutes wait, a driver stopped and took me to the Nishisenboku Service Area. I got off there because the driver was going to Akita Airport. From Nishisenboku an elderly couple took me to the train station at Hachuryu, about 30 kilometers past Akita city. Because of the speed of the expressway, I actually caught up with and past the 4:35PM train from Akita city and caught it at Hachiryu with 5 minutes to spare! It was a happy ending to an otherwise traumatic trip. God is good. ☐

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## [WordPress – How to assign categories and tags to pages](#)



**December 11, 2011 update:** Before you read this article, you should know I now

consider it unnecessary. Because of new feature of custom menus from WordPress version 3, a post can be assigned to a menu item among page menu items. Therefore there is no reason to do what I outlined before. ☐

From quite a while ago I've been wondering if there was a way to assign a category and tags to WordPress pages. There is no apparent option to do this in WordPress. Posts have the capability to be assigned categories and tags, but pages have no such option. Besides this, I wanted to have long articles added as pages to both appear in the top page menu and yet also have them appear as titles of new posts in the sidebar menu widget.

One of my projects is <http://starsandpearls.com/> The short articles were add as posts, but some of the long articles, the "E-zines", are laid out in a magazine format with its own internal menu. If you go to the site and put your mouse over the "Stars and Pearl E-zine" menu item, you will see the menu drop down with menu items that all point to pages. And yet you will find 6 of the same menu titles also in the Recent Posts side bar menu! How did I do it?

First of all, you need to install the "Page Links to" plugin from <http://txfx.net/wordpress-plugins/page-links-to/> or by entering the words

page links to

in the Install Plugins search option.

After you install the plugin, go to Posts – Add New, and you will see toward the bottom of each edit post dialog area the following:



First you make your page and publish it. Then you copy the full URL from the location bar into the clipboard. Then you make a post by the same name, assign a category and tags to it, and then paste the URL of the page you created into the "Point to this URL:" of the Page Links To section of the edit post area. You also might want to copy the first couple paragraphs of the page into the post with a Continue Reading code at the end. Either clicking on the title in the posts section or clicking on the continue reading hyperlink will take you to the full page.

I'm posting this because after Googling for the answer to this question, I haven't found any solution as simple to implement as the one I'm giving you now. ☐

The two column dropdown menu was made with the aid of ["Uber Menu"](#), a very useful WordPress plugin to make mega menus.

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# [The Truth about Libya](#)

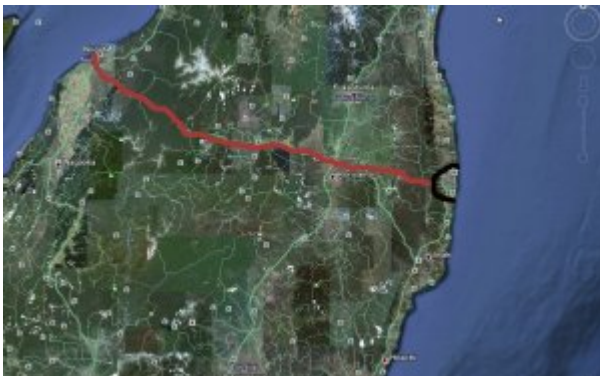
NATO and international bankers destroyed Libya and took away its prosperity using the excuse of ridding the country of a "dictator." Soon a Libyan central bank will be set up and it will rob the people just as the American Federal Reserve and other central banks do in their perspective countries. The Libyan revolt was undoubtedly caused by outside forces for the purpose of controlling Libya's economy. The ignorant Libyans who supported the revolt are soon to regret it.

For more comments about Libya, please see:

<http://sherriequestioningall.blogspot.com/2011/08/truth-about-libya-watch-this-video-and.html>

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## [Attempt to hitchhike to the Fukushima Pacific coastline](#)



An attempt to visit the damaged nuclear power plants in Fukushima, Japan.

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## [July 31 hitchhike adventure from Aomori city](#)



Women's Table Tennis  
Coach Ohka Iwao

**July 31:** I was on my way back home from Aomori city to Niigata. I decided to take the Tohoku Expressway which passes through Sendai and Fukushima and the Banetsu Expressway from Fukushima to Niigata rather than the much slower Route 7 that runs along the Sea of Japan. Though the Tohoku / Banetsu route is 125 kilometers longer, it's faster because it's expressway and because most drivers are going longer distances.

I didn't have to walk to Aomori Chuo Expressway Interchange today like I did on July 18th. An off duty taxi cab driver saw me and offered me a ride which saved me an hour. But unlike July 18th, I had to wait over twice the time I waited before, 2.5 hours, to catch the next ride.

It was sunny but not too hot. After over an hour of rejections, I decided to stand at another traffic light. Most of the cars turning right at that traffic light were going on the expressway. This way I could walk past each of the drivers hoping for positive eye contact. Most of them ignored me. Some waved their hands in the Japanese manner that means, "NO!"

Two drivers offered me rides but both were going only as far as Hirosaki, only about 8% of the distance back home. I actually got into one of the cars but after thinking about it for a few seconds I decided I needed to look for "bigger fish." I consider hitchhiking to be akin of fishing. You don't have to take the small fish even if you catch one, you can return them back. Usually it takes longer to find a big fish, but when you do catch one, it's worth the wait. This is especially true when looking for cars going an expressway. My first ride on the Tohoku expressway needed to take me at least 200 kilometers or 1/3 of the way toward home if I was to get home that day without having to resort to take a long train ride. When hitchhiking on a regular road, I'm happy for little fish that comes along no matter how short a distance the driver is going. But today via the expressway, I had to catch a fairly "big fish."

It was indeed worth the 2.5 hour wait for I finally caught one! At 11:30 a

man who was going all the way to Sendai offered me a ride. His name is Mr. Ohka Iwao and he is a head coach of women's junior table tennis and one of the representatives of all of Japan in international tournaments! Mr. Ohka took me to Chojahara Service area, the largest one before Sendai, a distance of 304 kilometers and **over half of the way home!** I now knew for sure I would make it home by evening.

It's always great to ride with educated and influential people for the conversation is usually deep and interesting. In 1973, one year after China and Japan established diplomatic relations, Mr. Ohka took his team to China to compete with Chinese teams. He said his team never won even once though he made many subsequent trips. According to Mr. Ohka, the main reason the Chinese are so strong in table tennis is because good players can gain quite a bit of wealth. There's no money in table tennis in Japan, he says. During his first visit to China, Mr. Ohka met the Chinese premier Chou En-lai and was photographed with him.

Mr. Ohka's home is in the Shichigahama area of Sendai and close to the ocean. He was in Aomori city at the time of the earthquake and tsunami of March 11th. His wife witnessed the tsunami from the window of their home! Their house is on a hill and therefore was not hit by the tsunami, but she saw all the houses below swept away. For the next 3 weeks there was no electricity in Sendai. Mr. Ohka was unsure of road conditions, so rather than return home by car he took trains and buses in a circular route to get home carrying as much food with him that he could hold.



Sachi, Masako and Nozomi at Chojahara SA.

I told Mr. Ohka that I would be fine at Chojahara Service Area. It was 3PM when we arrived and I've never experienced long waits for the next ride there. Three smiling young ladies, Sachi, Masako and Nozomi approached me and asked where I was heading. They all spoke some English (probably why they were interested in me) and said they would ask the driver of their van if he would take me. They all wanted to talk to me to practice their English. Unfortunately for both them and me, the driver said the van was too packed with luggage and there was no room for me to sit.

Almost immediately after the 3 girls left, a passing driver made eye contact with me and then stopped a few meters up the road. I walked cautiously to the vehicle not knowing for sure if the driver meant to pick me up or not. I've been wrong before. Sometimes drivers stop not far from me but with other intents in mind such as making a phone call. But this driver indicated he was stopping for me.

It was yet another sports coach, this time High School Soccer, Mr Shun. He took me as far as Kunimi SA in Fukushima Prefecture.

It was raining in Kunimi and so I decided to wait a bit hoping the rain would



stop. After about 15 minutes and rain subsided and I walked out again to the parking area. After a few minutes, an older couple picked me up and took me to Adatara Service Area. Their daughter is married to a man from the UK where she is now. I've often been picked up by parents whose son or daughter is married to a foreigner.

The Adatara Service Area is always challenging for me. It's the closest point just before the Banetsu junction heading to Niigata, but the preponderance of the traffic is going a different direction toward the Kanto area, Tokyo and vicinity. This time in an effort to work around the problem, I held out an Aizu sign instead of the Niigata sign. The city of Aizuwakamatsu in the Aizu area is about 1/3 of the distance home from that point. I knew there were probably more cars going to Aizuwakamatsu than there would be to Niigata. This bore fruit. Within a relatively short time an older man picked me up. He took me to the Bandaisan Service Area which is just before the Aizuwakamatsu exit.

Now I was in an excellent situation indeed! The sky was clearer with no more threat of rain. A far higher percentage of cars were heading to Niigata from that point. After only a few minutes waiting, and just before sunset, a young married couple who were headed to Joetsu picked me up and took me to an expressway bus stop on the Banetsu expressway which is relatively close to home. From there it was a short 10 minute walk to the train station, and only 180 yen train ride 2 stations the rest of the way. I arrived home 8:50PM. □

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## Forced to hitchhike due to heavy rain



Miss Maiko who went  
out of her way to  
take me to Higashi  
Noshiro station.



**July 29:** I needed to go this day to Aomori city, 470 kilometers from my home in Niigata. It was raining hard. I attempted to take the very first train out at 6:16AM but after arriving at the station was told that all trains were stopped on that particular train line. When a rainfall reaches a certain level, the railroad company cancels all trains to make time to check the tracks. Landslides due to heavy rain are not uncommon in Japan.

To make any progress at all, I need to take a different line using going a slightly different direction but which would take to me the main station of Niigata city where another train line going to Murakami city would take me further. But due to heavy rains, that train had to stop at Nakajo, about 2/3s of the way to Murakami.

I'm now in a do or die situation. It was imperative that I be in Aomori city that evening. My only recourse was to hitchhike. It continued to rain hard for the first 30 minutes after arriving to Nakajo, but then the rain subsided to the point I could walk outside with an umbrella.



Terata Kouki who took  
me to Iwawa Sakura  
Station in Akita  
Prefecture

The day turned out to be another miracle day of hitchhiking! Six drivers took me as far as Noshiro city in Akita Prefecture. It was 5:30PM by the time I got to Noshiro, just in time to take a train the rest of the way arriving in Aomori at 8PM. Five of the six drivers went out of their way for me! One man went as far as 1 hour or about 60 kilometers to take me to Yamagata Prefecture. The last two drivers, a young man and young lady want to see me again, and they will therefore be meeting each other for the first time when they do when I pass through Akita city again next month.

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**Mr. and Mrs. Kudo take me to Aomori city**



Hiromi, baby Hayato and Taiki

**July 17** It was another day after rainy season. I walked a little over a kilometer to route 7 in Hirosaki hoping to hitchhike to my friend's home in Aomori city, a distance of only about 44 kilometers. But most of vehicles consisted of city traffic and I waited what I considered to be longer than usual, about 30 minutes.

A young man, Taiki Kudo with his one year old son Hiyato strapped to a child-seat in the back, pulled up and offered me a ride. Taiki said that he saw me standing with my Aomori sign and circled back toward me hoping I would still be there waiting. He said that he was just about to go to Aomori city with his family and needed to pick them up first. I replied I wasn't in a hurry. So Taiki took me to his apartment building where we waited for his wife Hiromi to come and join us. I had a great time talking with them and they took me all the way to my friend's house in Aomori city saving me 810 yen train fare.

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**Picked up by young mother with two little boys**



Mrs. Takahashi with 5 year old son Raima and 3 year old son Shuga who took me 478 kilometers toward my destination.

**Monday, July 18:** From Aomori city in northern Tohoku I needed to go in one day to Noda city, Chiba Prefecture, a distance of around 700 kilometers. It took me one hour to walk from my friend's house in Aomori to Aomori Chuo Interchange, the beginning of the Tohoku expressway, and it took yet another hour of waiting to catch the first ride. It was worth all the effort considering the very first car took me 70% of the 677 kilometer length of the Tohoku expressway! The driver was a mother, 30 some years old, Mrs. Takahashi with her two sons, Raima (5) and Shuga (3).

When I first saw Mrs. Takahashi waiting for the traffic signal just before the expressway entrance to turn green, I thought, "No chance with her! She has two little kids in the back seat!" And so I was therefore surprised when she turned into the gas station by the expressway entrance where I was standing and waved to me to come.

The front passenger seat was filled with belongings. Mrs. Takahashi had to arrange things a bit to make room for me and my suitcase. I greeted the boys and they were both very friendly. The older of the two, Raima, was quite talkative throughout much of the trip.

Mrs. Tahahashi said, "Let's have a good trip!" I was so happy to know she was going all the way to Nasu City in Tochigi Prefecture. This would take me past the big city of Sendai which is sometimes hard to cross.

It was the second time Mrs. Takahashi picked up a hitchhiker. The first time was with her husband. She took a young Japanese man toward his destination. I was glad too to be of some service to her in helping her keep her two boys from fussing with each other too much and making too much of a racket. Every time I turned around to talk to them, they would calm down.

Mrs. Takahashi seemed to be in a hurry to go home and often approached a

speed of 140 kilometers per hour! “Don’t worry,” she said. “The car won’t go any faster than this!”

I had a receptive audience of 4 hours to share with what the Holy Scriptures have to say about God, creation of the universe, the history of Adam and Eve in the Garden, why people became what they have become, why evil exists, why we are all criminals in the sight of our Creator, and why we need to be saved. Mrs. Takahashi was impressed to know that Adam put the blame on his wife for eating the “apple.” Most people in the West have heard all these things in church much of their lives, and they have either accepted them as fact, or rejected it all to the point they don’t care to listen anymore. It was the very **first time** for Mrs. Takahashi to hear it, and because she seemed interested I was glad to keep sharing more. I’ve *hardly ever* been turned down by a Japanese person an offer to share with them stories from the Bible. I can only think of a handful of times out of 10s of thousands of people I’ve talked to in the 34 years I’ve lived in Japan.

We stopped for a restroom break and Raima held out his hand toward mine for me to hold hands with him to walk with him and his mother toward the parking area facilities. He then followed his mother into the restroom.

The next day at the Miyoshi Service area on the Kanetsu Expressway heading home, I met another young mother with her son. They were from the USA and are now living near Yokota AFB. There were many American service personnel with their dependents around who were on their way back to the Air Force base after a field trip. I told the lady I’m about to hitchhike to Niigata. She didn’t believe me at first. I showed her the picture of Mrs. Takahashi and sons that I took with my cell phone. “It wouldn’t happen in America” the lady replied. I tend to think that Japan is now, “the land of the free and the home of the brave”, more than the USA is, don’t you? America *used to be* so back in the 19th century.

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## [Picked up by two members of the Akita Prefecture Parliament](#)





Akita Parliament member  
Jun with me in the  
background. Jun is holding  
my cell phone trying to  
include Teru Kun in the  
photo, but missed him  
because he couldn't see  
the camera viewer from his  
position.

**July 15:** Today I hitchhiked in 11 vehicles from Niigata city to Hirosaki city in Aomori Prefecture, a distance of about 430 kilometers. The highlight of this trip was car #9 with two lawmakers of the Akita Prefecture Parliament, driver Obara Masateru and front seat passenger Numaya Jun who took me from Akita City to Odate City, a good distance of around 100 kilometers. They told me to call them Teru Kun and Jun.

It's an absolute first for me to get picked up by active politicians! Once I was picked up by the former mayor of a city of 50,000 people, Mr. Kobayashi of Niitsu city, but he was retired then and not serving in any public position.

Well, you can imagine the fun I had talking to these guys and telling them all the things I heard about crooked American politics! **Two Illinois governors in a row**, George Ryan and Rod Blagojevich were arrested and convicted on corruption charges. George Ryan is sitting in prison and will be there till July 4, 2013, and Rod Blagojevich was recently convicted and about to go to prison.

Teru Kun and Jun became Akita Parliament members just last March. They said they're good guys who will not be corrupted by money. They promised never to take a bribe. I tend to think they are sincere because they had nothing to gain by picking me up, and they gave me presents when parting, an expensive looking bottle of grape juice, Japanese daikon and cucumbers. And they seemed to know nothing about the Secret Societies in America that formulate policy behind the scenes.



3 presents from Teru  
and Jun

Japanese public servants receive quite good salaries, perhaps double of many other countries. Teru Kun and Jun acknowledged that they are well paid, but said that the budget of a politician is quite high and they have to struggle to make ends meet. The meeting in Odate they were required to attend would cost them 10,000 yen each. They referred to themselves as "poor politicians." Indeed their car was nothing fancy, just a regular type of vehicle that most salary men drive.

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## Removing the WWW sub-domain for search engine optimization



One of my websites, [Deep Truths](http://deeptruths.com) would show in a browser using either the WWW subdomain prefix, `www.deeptruths.com` or without the WWW, e.g. `deeptruths.com`. From search engines' point of view, this meant that there were two websites of the exact same content and one of the sites would be penalized and not listed in search results. Deep Truths was hosted on a Microsoft IIS server. Because of this the WWW subdomain name could not be removed without the help of the MS IIS server administrator. He is a friendly guy I've had much communication with, but when I wrote him about the problem, he either didn't understand it well or thought it was not really a problem.

The solution was to move Deep Truths to a Linux Apache server so I could use commands in the `.htaccess` file to rewrite `www.deeptruths.com` to simply `deeptruths.com`. MS IIS servers also use `.htaccess` but the commands to rewrite the URL only work in Linux.

Specifically I added to `.htaccess` the following lines:

```
Options +FollowSymlinks
RewriteEngine on
rewritecond %{http_host} ^www.deeptruths.com [nc]
rewriterule ^(.*)$ http://deeptruths.com/$1 [r=301,nc]
```

I got this idea from <http://www.scribd.com/doc/2300173/Joomla-How-to-Remove-www-from-domain-and-why-it-matters> But the example on that page does just the opposite of what it says it is supposed to do, it adds the WWW instead. I'm sure that was a mere typo. I just modified the code moving the `www` on the other line and it worked. □

All WordPress sites seem to have this feature enabled by default! WordPress seems to be quite good with SEO even though the webmaster doesn't know much about SEO.



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## Hitchhike adventures since the March 11th earthquake



Mrs. Ayami who took me from Hirosaki to Namioka city in Aomori Prefecture on July 9th.

I haven't felt it appropriate to write about my adventures meeting people hitchhiking in Japan since the catastrophe of March 11th. People are still suffering and I want to do what I can to help those who are going directly to the disaster areas to treat people with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

This is just to say I'm still hitchhiking, people still pick me up, and I still need to travel this way to do my job and save money at the same time. Since March 11th I hitchhiked 22 days in 75 vehicles and traveled 6400 kilometers. Some of the people I've met have been directly involved in the relief efforts. One man came from as far as Sasebo city in Kyushu to Soma city in Fukushima.

On July 11th I passed through Fukushima city on the Tohoku Expressway. Radiation levels in Fukushima city are higher than other places in Fukushima Prefecture where people are still allowed to live, even higher than in Soma city which is 20 kilometers closer to the damaged nuclear power-plants. This is because the wind happened to be blowing toward Fukushima city when one of the plants had a chemical explosion. The no-go zone is a 20 kilometer radius around the powerplants. The inhabitants of that area have not only lost their homes and land, but any livestock and crops they happened to have.

Merely passing through Fukushima city presents no danger from radiation. The Fukushima city people have not been reporting any radiation sickness. So far not a single person has died from radiation, not even the ones who worked

close to the plant to cool down the reactors. For this reason IMHO I consider comments from so called “experts” that Fukushima is far worse than Chernobyl to be nothing but hype and fear mongering! According to [world-nuclear.org](http://world-nuclear.org) 30 operators and firemen died within three months since the Chernobyl accident. It’s now been four months since the Fukushima powerplant meltdown, and **not one power plant worker has died** or is even ill from radiation!

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## Back to Linux Mint Debian

I had been using Fedora 15 for about 5 weeks since it came out at the beginning of June, but now again I switched back to Linux Mint Debian. Gnome 3 IMHO was too radical a departure from how I was used to operating. KDE4 was slow at times. Neither LXDE or XFCE seemed to support a Favorite Applications menu. Only Gnome 2 could make me happy again using my PC, and I figured Linux Mint Debian with its speed and power was my best bet. I knew it would continue to have Gnome 2 as its default desktop environment.

### **Linux Mint Debian improvements over Fedora 15**

- Gnome 2 is the default desktop environment!!! (You long time Gnome users know how I feel. :-))
- Much faster boot up.
- System feels more responsive and quicker.
- All the apps I need without having to install more repositories. Skype, Google Earth, and Virtual Box installed from the command line using default repositories!
- All needed multimedia codecs were installed by default
- Flashplayer and its plug in for Mozilla Firefox was installed by default.
- Because Linux Mint Debian is a rolling distribution, I should never have to do another clean Linux installation on this PC as long as I stick with this distro!

The only major quirks I’ve come across so far is that I can’t get LibreOffice to do a spell check. The language modules don’t load. Neither does Mozilla Firefox do a spell check either! I’m using Google Chrome to make this post because the spell checker works. I’m sure I’ll either figure out the spell checker problem sooner or later, or soon an update will fix it.

**July 22 update:** After much searching I found a fix for the LibreOffice spell checker problem by using Synaptic to download and install myspell-en-us This added the Hunspell SpellChecker module to LibreOffice. I also fixed the Firefox spell checker problem by right clicking on an open space in a form in Firefox, and clicking on Add Dictionaries.



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## Government and banking institutions' mistrust of aid collectors since the East Japan Earthquake



A couple days after the massive magnitude 9 earthquake in the Pacific 70 kilometres (43 mi) east of the Oshika Peninsula of Northeast Japan which caused a massive tsunami destroying the northeast coast of the Tohoku region, I was asked to make a website <http://helpjapan2011.net> for the purpose of raising aid to buy goods and materials for volunteers to take to the survivors of the disaster.

At the time, NPO Leap High 28's Paypal account was under investigation by Paypal administrator's to verify its NPO status. Because of this, account was unable to accept donations. To work around the problem, I used instead my own Paypal account as a temporary substitute.

Within the first week a number of friends sent close to \$500 US to my Paypal account. Shortly afterward, Paypal sent me a message saying that I was using my Paypal account for business purposes and asked me to answer a set of questions. I believed I answered all the questions honestly and explained that none of my web sites with a Paypal donation button are offering anything for sale. I was merely asking donations for my missionary work, and since the March 11th earthquake, specifically for suppose of aid toward the earthquake and tsunami victims.

This seemed to satisfy Paypal and the matter appeared to be settled, but after a week suddenly and **without warning, Paypal froze my account!** This meant I could not use it to receive further donations or pay out from it. Thankfully by that time I withdrew all of the donations received for the earthquake victims and sent them on to the NPO. Only \$100 of the money I previously had in the account is now frozen.

I personally used 10,000 yen (now \$80 US) from donations I received since the earthquake to buy vegetables and natto for a large and needy family in Sendai. That together with other donations from friends taken to the family in Sendai was nearly double than the \$500 US I received in my Paypal account.

Other Paypal users in Japan – people I know – who are working to raise aid for the tsunami victims have reported similar problems with Paypal. It makes me think that Paypal may be ultimately controlled by [the Establishment](#).

Banks have also asked prying questions about transfers of funds from overseas. One of my friends who has been doing an great work in bringing supplies to needy families in Minami Senriku received a large donation of 3.2 million yen (\$40,000 US) from a company based in the USA. The bank dragged its feet in transferring these funds to his account. He was asked by bank officials the purpose of the money. What business is it of theirs, anyway?! He said that if he told them he was selling *pornography*, they probably would have understood and accepted it better rather than saying he was using the funds to buy equipment, food and supplies for the disaster victims! It dawned on him, *"The Establishment doesn't want me to have money! Common folks aren't supposed to have money because that means freedom of movement from Establishment control!"*

Mr. Ikeda, the man who took me home on July 11th. from the Adatara Service area on the Tohoku Expressway in Fukushima Prefecture reported similar problems with banking institutions and government agencies. His house in Soma City Fukushima Prefecture was somewhat damaged by the earthquake but is still in a livable condition. City Hall in general has had nothing but doubts about his motivations to help raise aid for the disaster victims. He's had to fight every step of the way to do anything toward the cause of bringing aid.

Apparently a few unscrupulous persons have been using the March 11th. disaster as a means to fill their own pockets. As a result, all the good people trying to help have suffered. At the same time, big name charities such as the Red Cross are collecting millions of \$ without having to account for what all the money is being spent on! Talk about a mixed up world that cannot discern anymore the difference between the good guys and the bad ones.

□