Symposium on Prevention of Volcanic Disasters in South Kyushu area: importance of customer survey

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Symposium on Prevention of Volcanic Disasters in South Kyushu area has been held at Miyazaki City from 6th to 7th November,2004 with 2 hundreds of participants.

There are many active volcanoes in South Kyushu area, which include Sakurajima and Kirishima. Eruptions of these volcanoes were sometimes small and sometimes large. And, catastrophic pyroclastic eruption which is described in the novel Shinto-Nihon rarely occurred.

Volcano is sometimes dangerous and sometimes merciful. We must realize the grace of the volcano such as beautiful scenery, plentiful spring water and hot springs. The life of inhabitants around volcano is based on the grace of the volcano. The main subject of the symposium is how to live together safely with volcano.

The symposium is composed of three parts: lecture session and panel discussion in first day and field trip on second day. Opinions from the represents of inhabitants were quite interesting and will be presented in the presentation.

Examples of opinions are as follows:

Volcano is important in environmental study

There are many tourist attractions in south Kyushu area. Safety from the volcanic disaster must be a part of the customer service.

Volcanic disaster mitigation is too serious for me. Is it possible to make a delightful and joyful hazard map? Education? Enlightenment? These words bores me very much. Is there any dramatic procedure for mitigation? Customer survey will be very important for making hazard maps of volcanic eruption.