

**Summarized  
Version**

# Toyonaka City Multicultural Symbiosis Plan

Toyonaka City

## Purpose of Planning

The national government formulated the “International Exchange Guidelines for Local Governments” in 1987 and the “Multicultural Symbiotic Community Promotion Plan” in 2006. Toyonaka City also worked out the “Toyonaka City Internationalization Basic Policy” (hereafter the Basic Policy) in May 2000, and has been implementing its globalization and multicultural measures.

Taking into account the social and economic changes after the Basic Policy and the proposals delivered by the national government, we have drawn up the Toyonaka City Multicultural Symbiosis Plan (hereafter the Plan) in line with the Basic Policy in order to respond to new challenges and needs and to push forward the creation of a multicultural symbiotic society.

## Positioning of the Plan

The Plan is a sectional scheme in the “Toyonaka City Third Comprehensive Plan,” which holds the basic philosophy: “Development of a society to connect people and local communities to the world and the future” and sets the basic goals and direction of policy to comprehensively develop a multicultural symbiotic community in the light of the achievement and the challenges in the Basic Policy.

### What is Multicultural Symbiosis?

The Study Group for the Promotion of Multicultural Symbiosis set up by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications in June 2005 defines it as “people of different nationalities and races who live together as members of communities with respect for cultural differences and who make efforts to establish fair relationships,” in their report issued in March 2006.

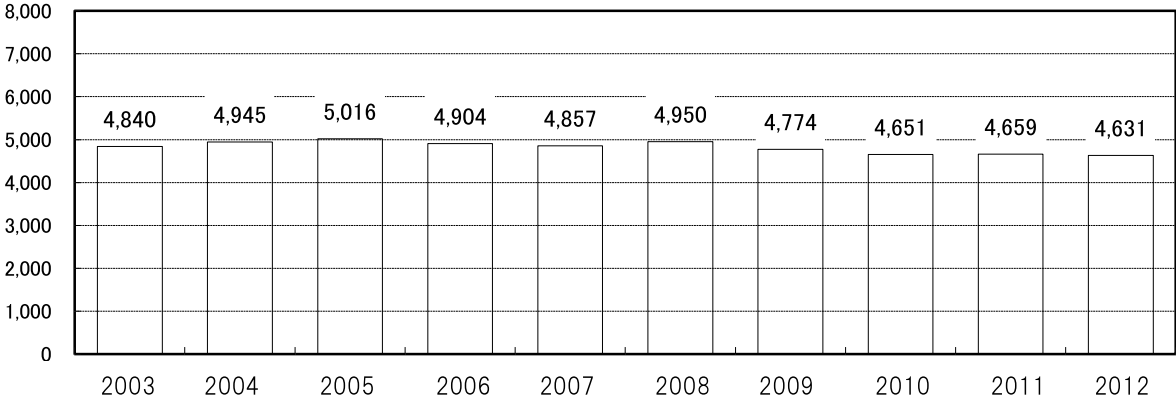
# Present Situation of Foreign Residents

The foreign population in Toyonaka City gradually decreased these years to about 4,600 as of the end of December 2012. If we break it down by nations/regions, Koreans make up about 48% and Chinese about 26%. The number of Korean nationals is on a downward trend.

Their aging rate is rising, though it is 10 points lower than that of the total number of citizens. That of Korean nationals in particular is increasing.

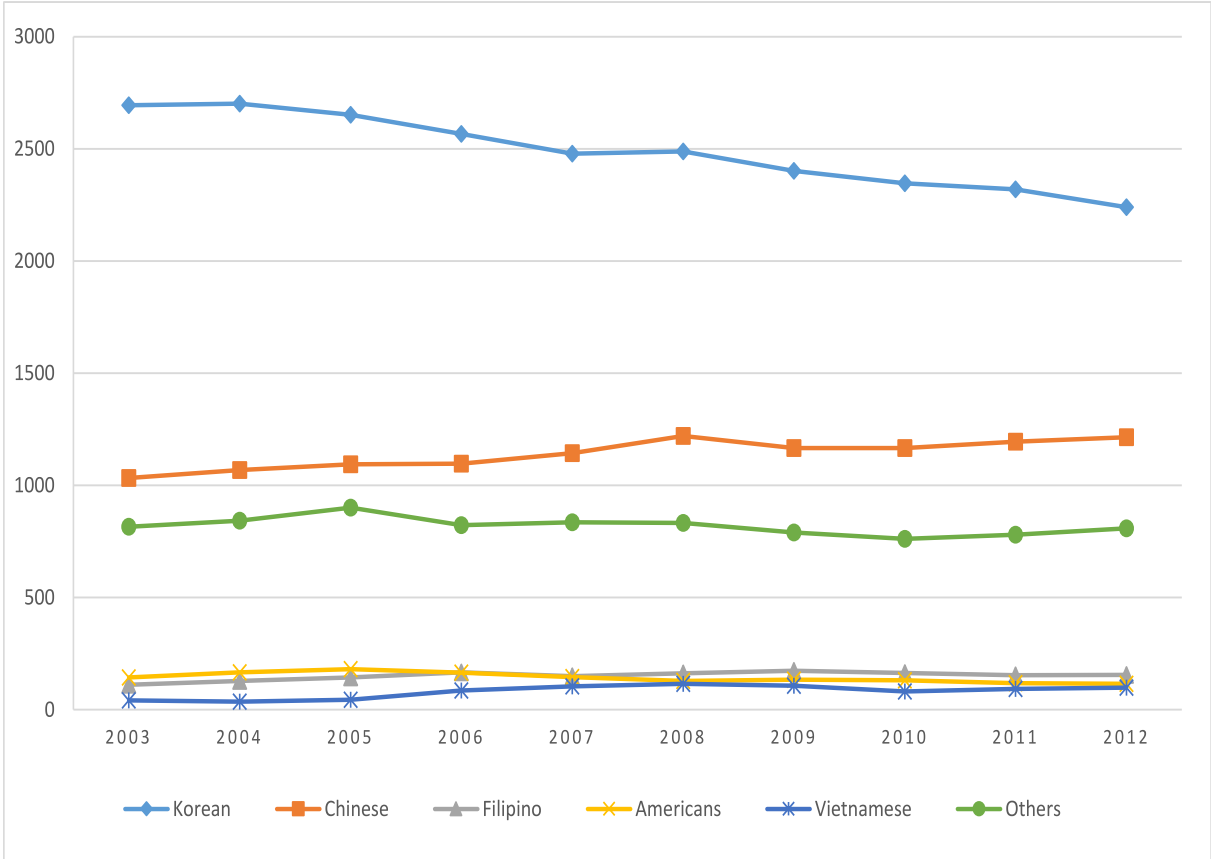
**Trend of Foreign Population 《Toyonaka City》**

(Population as of Dec, 31 of each year in Non-Japanese registration until 2011, and in the Basic Resident Register in 2012)



**Trend of population by nationality/region**

(Population as of Dec, 31 of each year in Non-Japanese registration until 2011, and in the Basic Resident Register in 2012)



# Basic Ideas

## 1. Basic Philosophy

**Development of a city where people with diverse cultural backgrounds live together as members of local communities, understanding each other and building a fair relationship, with the philosophy of valuing human rights**

## 2. Basic Goals

1

A city with a culture of human rights

Aiming to create a culture to appreciate human rights in which everyone is free from discrimination and violation of human rights, we will implement the measures including education and enlightenment to spread the viewpoint that foreigners are also equal members of the community and to make sure that the human rights of all citizens are respected.

2

A city where foreign citizens feel comfortable to live

For the purpose of building a community where people of all nationalities and roots can live comfortably, we will provide multilingual information, enrich Japanese language classes, and enhance consultation services in order that they will receive accurate and necessary administrative information.

3

A city where everybody works together to promote multicultural symbiosis

In order to promote multicultural symbiosis with the cooperation of many citizens, we will cultivate human resources including volunteers, foster, support, and network citizens' groups, and develop the environment for foreign citizens to participate in various fields of community building.

4

A city with rich global awareness

In view to providing citizens with opportunities to address the problems in their local communities through international exchange and cooperation, we will collaborate with and support citizens' groups which are engaged in international activities, encourage citizens' proactive involvement in friendship programs with our sister city and other cities, and vitalize the activities of global cooperation and support to foreign students.

# Policy Direction

## 1. A City with a Culture of Human Rights

### (1) Raising citizens' awareness of respect for human rights and multicultural symbiosis

- ① We will provide enlightenment and education to foster human rights awareness.
- ② We will widely spread the philosophy of multicultural symbiosis and deepen the citizens' understanding of it.

### (2) Enhancing international understanding and promoting global education

- ① We will provide citizens with opportunities to appreciate different cultures and promote international education at municipal schools.
- ② We will strengthen exchange programs in which foreigners and Japanese get together and deepen mutual understanding of different cultures.

### (3) Respect for roots

In order that the people with roots in foreign countries enrich their consciousness of their own backgrounds, we will support their learning of their own cultures and languages, and promote enlightenment and education regarding the importance of these efforts.



## 2. A City where Foreign Residents Feel Comfortable to Live

### **(1) Developing services to disseminate information, to display guide signs and to provide consultations and support**

- ① In order for foreign residents to receive and choose necessary information for their daily life by themselves, we will release more information in different languages or easy-to-understand expressions and collect more multilingual materials for their use.
- ② We will enhance our consultation services for foreign residents, improve the conditions for interpretation services in different languages and widely publicize the activities of volunteer interpreters' groups.

### **(2) Providing support to foreign residents in learning Japanese language and social systems**

- ① We will improve support for foreign residents who wish to learn the Japanese language and provide them with opportunities to learn to meet their needs.
- ② We will provide information regarding Japanese society, systems, culture, and way of life in order for foreign residents to live in Japan without worries and problems.

### **(3) Ensuring foreign children's school attendance and promoting their learning support**

- ① We will enlighten the parents about the child's right to education.
- ② We will support pupils/students in learning Japanese, if necessary.
- ③ We will support foreign parents by writing kana alongside Chinese characters on the letters from school, and giving consideration to their different cultures and life styles at school events or in school life.
- ④ We will provide youths with support in their learning and offer information on their future course.
- ⑤ We will enhance consultation services on educational affairs.

### **(4) Improving life supporting services**

We will enhance administrative measures, systems and services which affect foreign residents' living including the following:

- ① Healthcare/Medical Treatment/Social Welfare
- ② Childcare/Child-rearing
- ③ Employment/Labor Issues
- ④ Life
- ⑤ Housing
- ⑥ Disaster/Emergency

### 3. A City where Everybody Works together to Promote Multicultural Symbiosis

#### (1) Cultivating human resources to promote multiculturalism and building their network

- ① We will develop the Toyonaka International Center to function as a platform where people meet and socialize
- ② We will nurture “key persons” who play an active role to assist foreign residents in order to build up a system to support foreign residents within each community
- ③ We will help the groups working to promote multicultural symbiosis, Self Help Groups and volunteers with their networking.
- ④ We will support citizens/citizens’ groups who are working on multicultural symbiosis by publicizing their activities through different media.

#### (2) Encouraging foreign residents’ participation in the activities of municipal government and communities

- ① We will increase opportunities to reflect foreign residents’ voices in municipal policy.
- ② We will encourage foreign residents’ social participation and mutual understanding through sports and cultural activities.
- ③ We will create more opportunities for local residents to think about multiculturalism together.
- ④ We will build a system for foreign residents to make the most of their capabilities and personalities, for example, as language teachers.
- ⑤ We will cooperate with citizens, citizens’ groups and volunteers to create a system which encourages foreign residents to participate in community events and other activities.

### 4. A City with Rich Multicultural Awareness

#### (1) Enhancing sister city exchanges

We will continue the friendship programs among citizens with our sister city and promote educational exchanges for children who will lead future generations.

#### (2) Promoting international cooperation

We will collaborate with organizations of international cooperation in both fields of human resources and technology. We will also promote exchange programs for foreign students to enrich their life in Toyonaka City.

#### (3) Rediscovering “Attractive Toyonaka”

We will widely publicize the appealing points of Toyonaka City incorporating foreign residents’ point of view.

# Towards the Promotion of the Plan

Aiming to realize a multicultural symbiotic society, we will promote multicultural policy in an integrated way, communicating and cooperating with citizens, companies, related organizations and other groups.

## **1. The City's system**

We will comprehensively promote the development of a city of multicultural symbiosis by holding “the Conference for Promotion of Internationalization Measures” and its subsidiary section, “the Liaison Conference of Internationalization Measures”.

In order to implement the Plan steadily, we will supervise the progress including evaluating the process of each project.

## **2. Toyonaka International Center**

Toyonaka International Center supports citizens' groups working on international exchange and promotion of multiculturalism, holds lectures and raises awareness of multicultural symbiosis, collects and offers multilingual information, and provides consultation and other support to foreign residents.

We will enrich its activities as the basis to promote the multicultural symbiosis policy.

## **3. Cooperation with citizens, citizens' groups, companies, and related organizations**

The City administration will not be able to promote multicultural symbiosis and solve problems in the policy for foreign residents without the proactive initiative of individuals and citizens' groups working on international exchanges and supports for foreign residents, as well as cooperation by companies and related organizations. We will reinforce the collaboration among a wide range of bodies to enable us all to work together recognizing the characteristics and role of each.

## **4. Cooperation with the national government, Osaka Prefecture and other municipalities**

In the promotion of the multicultural symbiosis plan, we will share the task and responsibility with the national government and Osaka Prefecture. Because residents' daily life and activities are not limited within the city, we will communicate and cooperate with other municipalities.

Toyonaka City Multicultural Symbiosis Plan (Summarized Version)  
February 2014

Edited / Issued by Human Rights Policy Office, Department of Human Rights and Culture, Toyonaka City

3-1-1, Naka-sakurazuka, Toyonaka City, Osaka 〒561-8501

Tel. 06-6858-2525 FAX 06-6846-6003

E-mail [jkokusai@city.toyonaka.osaka.jp](mailto:jkokusai@city.toyonaka.osaka.jp)