

5th UNHCR Refugee Film Festival 2010

Following the success of the past years, the UNHCR Representation in Japan and Japan Association for UNHCR will host its 5th edition of the UNHCR Refugee Film Festival in October 2010. The UNHCR Refugee Film Festival raises awareness of the world's 43 million refugees and internally displaced persons who are forced to flee due to persecution and conflict. In our 5th edition of the festival we are planning to present about 20 films from all over the world, with numerous filmmakers and special guests in attendance.

2010 marks the start of the resettlement pilot project of the Myanmarese refugees to Japan. One of the centerpieces of the festival *Moving to Mars* (Japan premiere), a film by Mat Whitecross (*Road to Guantanamo*), is a documentary that follows two refugee families from Myanmar resettling to the British city of Sheffield. Through highlighting the theme <Resettlement and Integration>, the Refugee Film Festival will create an opportunity to reflect on what living in Japan means for refugees and for Japanese society.

This year, for the first time since its' first edition in 2006, the UNHCR Refugee Film Festival will be held not only in Tokyo, but also in some cities from Hokkaido to Kyushu, in order to reach out to the wider Japanese public.

THE PROGRAM (Key Films)



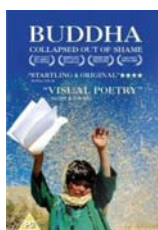
MOVING TO MARS (Japan Premiere)

UK / 2009 / English, Burmese / 90 min / Documentary

Director: [Mat Whitecross](#)

- Official Selection, One World Documentary Film Festival
- Official Selection, IDFA Documentary Film Festival

Moving to Mars follows two refugee families from Burma (Myanmar), over the course of a year that will change their lives completely. Forced from their homeland, they have lived in a Thai refugee camp, some for nearly twenty years. A resettlement scheme offers them the chance of a new life; but their new home, in the British city of Sheffield, will be different to everything they've ever known.



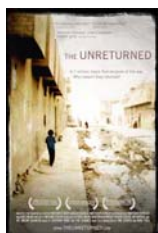
BUDDHA COLLAPSED OUT OF SHAME (Opening film at Yokohama)

Iran / 2007 / Persian / 84 min / Fiction

Director: Hana Makhmalbaf

- The Special Jury Prize, the 55th San Sebastian International Film Festival 2007
- Crystal Bear, Berlin Film Festival 2008

Baktay, a 6-year-old Afghan girl, is obstinately trying to go to a recently opened girls' school across the river. In the process, she has to overcome her own family's poverty, her mother's indifference, and finally face ruthless boys who take her as a victim when playing games that mimic the terrible violence they have witnessed, that has always surrounded them.



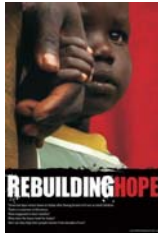
THE UNRETURNED (Japan Premiere)

USA, Canada / 2010 / Arabic, English / 75 min / Documentary

Director: Nathan Fisher

- Official Selection, 2010 HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH International Film Festival

The Unreturned follows five Iraqis and their families who are among the 40 percent of the country's middle class who have fled the country since 2003. Without them, Iraq still lacks reliable electricity, clean water, sanitation, and health-care services. This is an unmitigated disaster for Iraq, a shattered nation that desperately needs its native professional class to return and help itself rebuild.



REBUILDING HOPE (Japan Premiere)

USA / 2009 / English / 78 min / Documentary

Director: Jen Marlowe

■ Silver Palm Award, 2010 Mexico International Film Festival

■ Official Selection, Paris International Human Rights Film Festival 2010

Rebuilding hope follows three young men, who fled their villages in South Sudan due to civil war when they were small children. They embark on a journey back to Sudan to discover whether their homes and families have survived, what the current situation is in South Sudan, and how they can help their communities rebuild after devastating civil war.

<Metropolitan Area: Tokyo, Yokohama, Saitama>

- Date: **October 1 (Fri) – 10 (Sun)**
- Place: Istituto Italiano Di Cultura Di Tokyo, Instituto Cervantes de Tokio, Warner Mycal Cinemas Urawa Misono (Saitama), Warner Mycal Cinemas Minatomirai (Kanagawa), Aeon Cinema Koshigaya Laketown (Saitama)
- Organizers: UNHCR Representation in Japan / Japan Association for UNHCR
- Main Sponsor: Aeon 1% Club, Canon
- Sponsors: Linklaters Tokyo, Sony Corporation, Toyota Motor Corporation
- Cooperation by: Aeon Cinemas Co., Ltd., Japan Visualmedia Translation Academy, Warner Mycal Corporation

<Other Area: Hokkaido, Gunma, Saitama, Fukuoka, Hyogo, Yokohama>

- Date: **October 15 (Fri), 16 (Sat), 22 (Fri), 23 (Sat), 29 (Fri), 30 (Sat)**
- Place: Warner Mycal Cinemas Ebetsu (Hokkaido), Aeon Cinema Takasaki (Gunma), Aeon Cinema Koshigaya Laketown (Saitama), Warner Mycal Cinemas Fukuoka Lukul (Fukuoka), Warner Mycal Cinemas Sanda Woody Town (Hyogo), Warner Mycal Cinemas Kohoku New Town (Kanagawa)
- Organizers: UNHCR Representation in Japan / Japan Association for UNHCR
- Main Sponsor: Aeon 1% Club
- Cooperation by: Aeon Cinemas Co., Ltd., Warner Mycal Corporation

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- * Film screenings will be followed by Q and A, guest appearances and other events.
 - * Detailed program will be updated through our website

<http://unhcr.refugeefilm.org>

- * Donations are welcome at the entrance of each venue.

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