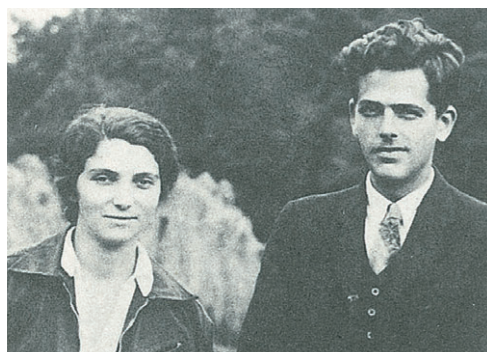




昭和10年(1935年), アメリカからエンブリ夫妻が, 日本の農村の暮らしを研究するために, 球磨郡須恵村(現在のあさぎり町須恵)にやってきました。最初, 村人たちの視線は冷たいものでした。しかし, エンブリ夫妻は, 須恵村の人たちにとけ込んでお互いに理解し合っ  
ていこうとしました。



▲エンブリ夫妻

Mr. and Mrs. Embree were the first Americans to visit Sue Village. They felt very sad and lonely at first. Almost all the people there ran away from them when they came up to

talk to them. They couldn't communicate with the people in the village at all.

But they didn't worry about the people's attitude toward them and never gave up trying to talk with people there. They tried everything they could do.

For example, they dressed in Japanese clothes and walked around in *geta*. They often went to the meetings of the village and talked with many people in the local dialect. Sometimes they enjoyed parties and danced with people. It didn't take much time for the people there to understand and accept Mr. and Mrs. Embree.

At that time there was a plan to build a bridge between Taragi and Sue. But the budget was too small to build it. The people in Sue began to collect money,

・Sue Village 須恵村

・communicate with ~  
~と気持ちを伝え合う

・attitude 態度, 姿勢

・the local dialect  
地元の方言  
(ここでは球磨地方の方言)

・accept ~を受け入れる

・bridge 橋

・Taragi 多良木  
(現在の多良木町)  
・budget 予算

but they couldn't get enough. They went to Mr. and Mrs. Embree and said, "Could you help us?" Mr. Embree answered, "Please use this money to build the bridge. We'll be very happy if we can help you."

The people in Sue were very happy to hear this, and they got to know the Embrees much better than before.

After staying in Sue for a year, Mr. and Mrs. Embree had to say "Good-bye" to the people. They went back to America and Mr. Embree wrote a book - *Sue Mura: A Japanese Village*.

About 50 years passed after they left Sue Village. People in Sue learned that Mr. Embree died in a traffic accident in 1950. They really wanted to see Mrs. Embree again, so they invited her back to Sue Village.

In 1985, Mrs. Embree came back to Sue. While she was there, she was welcomed and talked with many people. Before leaving, she said to the people of Sue, "I'll never forget your warm hearts and kindness. I



realize that we are all one big family even if we live in different countries."

・got to ~  
~するようになった

・traffic accident  
交通事故

・be welcomed  
歓迎される

・kindness 親切

・realize 分かる

### After Reading

- あなたは、外国の人と接するときどんなことが大切だと思いますか。