

## **Social Recognition of Kobe Baha'i Community**

### **Kazuko Suda**

*Kobe, situated in the heart of coastal Kansai industrial region, is an internationally open community. Many foreign residents have lived there since Meiji Era. Beginning with the contact with Lobe International Exchange Association in 1991, Kobe Baha'i Community started to be known among the international community there. This initial contact was followed by visits to the Prefectural Office and City Hall in 1992. Later in the same year, Prince Alfred of Richtenstein gave a talk on futurology sponsored by the Baha'i Community. Kobe Baha'i Community also made a tremendous contribution to alleviate the pain and suffering from the Great Earthquake in 1995. The tireless efforts of Kobe Baha'i Community are being continued, aiming to reach out to the receptive souls ready hear the Baha'i Message in Kobe and in the entire Hyogo Prefecture.*