

Higashiosaka City

1-1-1 Aramoto kita
Higashiosaka, Osaka

July 25, 2013

The honorable Mayor of the City of Glendale
Mr. Dave Weaver

Dear Mayor,

Subject: Request for correction of the description on the Glendale's website

It is my great pleasure that we have been maintaining our friendly relationship for a long time including youth exchange programs started in 1979 since the sister city agreement between Glendale and former Hiraoka City in 1960.

A description that Higashiosaka City is not in agreement was found in an article posted on July 9, 2013 on your city's website. Within the article describing the installation of a so-called "Comfort Woman" monument in the area adjacent to the Adult Recreation Center at Central Park, there is a statement that "Each of our six sister cities has expressed an interest in developing a monument or memorial within the sister city park space in the near future." Higashiosaka City Government has never expressed such idea to the city of Glendale.

Also concerning the statement that "A maintenance fund will be established to....." and "This fund will ensure that all maintenance costs related to sister cities monuments/memorials are covered by our sister city partners," I have never been informed of any establishment of such fund, as a consequence, Higashiosaka City has not given any consent to share the expenses on establishment of the fund as a sister city.

Therefore, I here strongly protest against the description of the issues that Higashiosaka City Government never revealed and request for correction of the said statements.

With respect to the so-called comfort woman issues, I recognize that there exist national level concerns. I would like you to confirm that Higashiosaka City has never expressed any thoughts regarding this matter. While incorrect and untrue information are found, I find it an extremely deplorable situation and the people of Higashiosaka are hurt at a decision made by your city to install a comfort woman monument.

I hereby request for your correct understandings about Higashiosaka based on our friendly relationship and provision of information also based on true facts.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Yoshikazu Noda". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Yoshikazu Noda
Mayor of Higashiosaka City
Osaka, Japan