



Issue IV, April 2014

Salutare Moldova



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Easter in Moldova

This year people in Moldova will celebrate the Easter Holiday on April the 20th. The Easter Holiday is very important to all orthodoxies in the world. In Moldova we have two important dates: Easter Holiday and Parents' Day, also named „Paștele blajinilor”, „Paștele celor adormiti”. In Moldova we use term of



„Paște” for the Easter Holiday, the Hebrew Easter was called “Pesach”, in Germany is named „Ostern”, „Pasen” in Netherlands, etc. One or two days before Easter, housewives spend plenty of time in the kitchen cooking the most tasty meals for the Easter table. In most Moldavian houses, on the Easter table you will find “Pasca”, a special Easter cake and painted eggs in red colours or decorated eggs. The decoration motif on eggs is: the cross, the fire, oak leaf, etc. Housewives often cook such cakes called “cozonaci” which has a round or rectangular long shape. „Cozonacii” are done often with nuts and halvah inside, they symbolize Jesus' grave. Also, on the table will be such meals like "sarmale" (cabbage balls inside with rise), roasted lamb, different salads, and fish. In the night to the Easter day, the householder goes to the church having with him a basket with Easter cakes, eggs, salt, and something to drink, but people now take more food. When the householder returns from church with blessed food, the table is covered and all members are eating first blessed food and are knocking the eggs.

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People believe that after death, those who knock their eggs will meet each other on in the other world. One week after Easter, on Parents' Day (Paștele blajinilor) which is the next Sunday/Monday depended on the region; all families go to the cemetery to commemorate the death of family's members (grandparents, etc.).



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Medical project

Medical project in Moldova

By Noriko Kimura from Japan.

モルドバは人口350万人程度の小さな国家だ。私が今まで訪れた国々とは全く違う、独特の雰囲気を持つ。ほんの1か月前まで、私はモルドバという国があることすら知らなかった。ちゃんとしたガイドブックを手に入れることも難しい。自分がこの地にいること自体、今でも不思議に思うくらいだ。キシナウの空港に降り立つまで、私は緊張と不安な気持ちでいっぱいであったが、親切なスタッフと、あたたかくホスピタリティーに溢れたホストファミリーが、私の緊張をすぐに拭い去ってくれた。そして、スタッフの配慮により翌平日から早速活動を開始することができた。

私の活動先の病院は、キシナウで最も規模の大きい産科病院 *Institutul Mamei și Copilului* である。日本とは異なり、設備の整った三次施設（いわゆる周産期センター）はここしかない。ヨーロッパ最貧国といわれるモルドバであるが、医療に関しては想像していたよりも発展していた。呼吸器や保育器など医療設備は整っており、それらのほとんどが他のヨーロッパ諸国から提供されるそうだ。ME(臨床工学技士)さんの中には、日本で3か月ほどトレーニングを受けた方もいて、まさに今発展途上にあるといった印象だ。医師の数も多く、特に私の訪問した産科部門や新生児部門、小児科部門では、女性医師が多い印象をうけた。反対に、看護師の数は圧倒的に少なく感じた。また、スタッフだけでなく、患者さんとのやりとりの中で、さまざまな観点からモルドバと日本の医療を比較してみると、いろんなことに気づかされる。そして、今まで自分がいかに狭い世界にいたかということを感じた。

私にとって、日本以外の国の医療を実際に知ること自体、今回が初めてであるが、モルドバでのこの経験が、自分の国を知るよい機会となることは間違いないであろう。2週間というとても短い期間であるが、素敵なスタッフやホストファミリー、そして美味しいワインに囲まれたここモルドバでの生活を十分楽しみたいと思う。



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Photos Page

Volunteer's Happy Moments



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Thank you all for your collaboration!
Thank you for being with us!
If you have anything you'd like to contribute,
suggest, or comment on, please contact
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