

Dear Matsu Saeki-san

Thank you for your email about resilience - I easily recognize your descriptions both of the common perceptions about the Japanese people by non-Japanese as well as your descriptions about the Japanese from a Japanese point of view - I find myself in agreement about both. Especially important is the distinction you make about the difference between what non-Japanese perceive as being non-decisive behaviors as actually being the natural consequence of the highly developed 2nd positioning by the Japanese with respect to one another and the careful taking into account of the other feelings when arriving at a decision or plan of action. All this is clear to me, even though my direct knowledge of your rich culture is highly limited and am only now reaching the first level of Japanese conversational fluency. It is clear to me that the westerners who make such comments are looking at Japanese behaviors through the filters of western European culture.

I am honored that you have asked me about resilience as personally I regard the Japanese people as the models of excellence in their remarkable ability to recover from enormous challenges and their ability to land balanced on their feet after such catastrophic events. Carmen and I have made a proposal to Matsushima-san to train up a group of students like yourself to go to the most devastated areas of eastern and northeastern Japan, newly tainted in a special set of patterns that we have designed to clear away any residual internal obstacles to acting effectively in putting themselves into the recovery and rebuilding efforts. As soon as we received the answer from Matsushima-san and the Japanese government about our proposal, we will contact you and describe what we are planning so you can decide whether it is a project that you would like to participate in.

So, the most direct answer to your question about resilience is our design of the patterning that we have created for this project - I realize that you were seeking a verbal response, however, as I am not presently able to describe it verbally, the best I can offer are my remarks above and the set of patterns that Carmen and I have designed - we hope that this project will happen and that you will be able to join us in offering these services to the Japanese people who suffered from these events

Sincere thanks for your email,
John and Carmen