

Nobel winner Malala opens school for Syrian refugees

- 1) Malala Yousafzai, the youngest winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, celebrated her 18th birthday in Lebanon on Sunday by opening a school for Syrian refugee girls and called on world leaders to invest in "books not bullets".
 - 2) Malala became a symbol of defiance after she was shot on a school bus in Pakistan 2012 by the Taliban for advocating girls' rights to education. She continued campaigning and won the Nobel in 2014.
 - 3) "I decided to be in Lebanon because I believe that the voices of the Syrian refugees need to be heard and they have been ignored for so long," Malala told Reuters in a schoolroom decorated with drawings of butterflies.
 - 4) The Malala Fund, a non-profit organization that supports local education projects, provided most of the funding for the school, set up by Lebanon's Kayany Foundation in the Bekaa Valley, close to the Syrian border.
 - 5) The Kayany Foundation, established by Syrian Nora Joumblatt in response to Syria's refugee crisis, has already completed three other new schools to give free education to Syrian children in Lebanon. The Malala school can welcome up to 200 girls aged 14 to 18.
 - 6) "Today on my first day as an adult, on behalf of the world's children, I demand of leaders we must invest in books instead of bullets," Malala said in a speech.
 - 7) Lebanon is home to at least 1.2 million of the 4 million refugees that have fled Syria's war to neighboring countries. There are about 500,000 Syrian school-age children in Lebanon, but only a fifth are in formal education.
 - 8) "We are in danger of losing generations of young Syrian girls due to the lack of education," Joumblatt said in a speech at the opening of the school.
 - 9) "Desperate and displaced Syrians are increasingly seeing early marriage as a way to secure the social and financial future of their daughters. We need to provide an alternative: Keep young girls in school instead of being pressured into wedlock."
 - 10) Lebanon, which allows informal settlements on land rented by refugees, says it can no longer cope with the influx from Syria's four-year conflict. More than one in four people living in Lebanon is a refugee.
 - 11) The U.N. says the number of Syrian refugees in neighboring countries is expected to reach 4.27 million by the end of the year.
 - 12) "In Lebanon as well as in Jordan, an increasing number of refugees are being turned back at the border," Malala said. "This is inhuman and this is shameful."
 - 13) Her father Ziauddin said he was proud she was carrying on her activism into adulthood. "This is the mission we have taken for the last 8-9 years. A small moment for the education of girls in Swat Valley: it is spreading now all over the world," he said.
 - 14) Malala was feted with songs and a birthday cake. Moved to tears by the girls, she was modest when asked for advice. "They are amazing, I don't think they need any message, I don't think they need any other advice because they know that education is very important for them." 【Jul 13, 2015 / Reuters】
- defiance:(権力などに対する)公然たる反抗、挑戦 advocate:擁護する on behalf of:-~を代表して flee:逃げる desperate:必死の displaced:追放された wedlock:婚姻 alternative:代案 inhuman:冷酷な modest:謙遜の be feted:歓迎される

★Ice breaker for active discussion★

- 1) What do you know about Malala Yousafzai?
- 2) Why is education so important for young children?
- 3) In some countries, young people are deprived of their right to education. What do you think about it?
- 3) How can the world/we support her activities?
- 4) Recently, refugee problem is one of the biggest problems in the world. How could Japan cope with the situation?
- 5) Make sentences using the following words: defiance, advocate, flee, desperate and alternative.

女性の教育の必要性を訴えるマララ・ユスフザイさんは、15歳の時にパキスタン・タリバン武装集団に銃撃され一命をとりとめた。2014年には最年少の17歳でノーベル平和賞を受賞。内戦が続くシリアでは400万人の難民がおり、120万人は隣国レバノンにいとされ、学齢期の子供50万人のほとんどは学校教育を受けられていない。