

Memories of 3.11 & 3.12

2011
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When the big earthquake occurred on March 11th 2011, I was in a meeting room at the second floor of the building near Tokyo Station. I felt the earthquake lasted longer than usual but I didn't imagine that it could make such a big disaster. The meeting was cancelled and I tried to go back to my office at Saitama prefecture, but I couldn't, because all trains had stopped.

Trains didn't move, and many people couldn't get back to home. While I was walking underground-street near Tokyo station, I heard an announcement saying "Please get out from underground. Big Tsunami may come and it is dangerous to stay at underground". Nobody didn't believe it and continued walking underground-street as usual. I stayed one night at underground shopping center at Tokyo station. Next time if the same thing happens, I will get out of the underground immediately.

Next day 5:00am, I could get on subway and moved from Tokyo station to Ueno station. I saw huge amount of people waiting to get on JR line at Ueno station. I also waited till around 3:00pm. I heard the announcement "There are 3 thousand passengers inside the station and there are 7 thousand passengers outside the station. Numbers of moving trains are less than usual. Coming trains are already full of passengers. You can't get on a train soon." Then I abandoned to get on a train at Ueno station.

I moved back to Tokyo station by subway. I tried to get on super-express and fortunately I could get on a first train which restarted moving. The train was incredibly crowded. When I get back to home, it was around 5:00pm. It had passed more than one day since the earthquake happened. But I could get back to my home and could meet with my family. I appreciate for it.

