

月
TODAY
ARINE DAY

ASIA-PACIFIC

1 for moving out

New British immigration
ws unleash a stampede to
ed and a frenzy of English
ssons for Pakistanis desper-
e to migrate as new restric-
ons come into effect.

Page 3

WORLD



Online challenge

GOP challenger Mitt Rom-
ney steps up his digital cam-
paign, hoping to catch up with
President Barack Obama in an
arena he dominated in 2008.

Page 4

Terrorist heaven

Vast areas of Egypt's Sinai
Peninsula have descended into
lawlessness, providing fertile
ground for extremist militants.

Page 5

A step behind

Scientists are in a high-stakes
race to develop a test that will
unmask anyone altering their
genes in a desperate quest for
Olympic gold.

Page 6

BUSINESS
INSIGHTS

Turning Japanese?

New York is asking devel-
pers to build tiny apartment
units so cash-strapped house-
holds can afford to live in the
Big Apple.

Page 7

OPINION

Brain drain

Japan faces a brain drain
of highly experienced nuclear
plant engineers as other coun-
tries offer bigger paychecks.

Page 10

Dementia dire among elderly in quake zone

Collapse of communities accelerating mental malaise

Sendai
JIJI

Dementia has become a serious
problem among the elderly in
the three prefectures ravaged by
the March 2011 earthquake and
tsunami as the radical change in
their living environments contin-
ues to take a toll.

In Iwate, Miyagi and Fuku-
shima prefectures, the severity of
the disorder is rising in a number
of elderly, and several others are
showing symptoms.

Experts attribute the problem
mainly to a less friendly residen-
tial environment and the collapse
of local communities following
the disasters. Adequate support
is not readily available and some
now live alone, away from fami-
lies and friends.

According to a survey in May
by a council of doctors in the
heavily damaged coastal city of
Ishinomaki in Miyagi, 45 people
aged 65 or older said they leave
their belongings in unknown
places or have trouble finding ob-
jects at least three to four times a
week, or sometimes every day, a
sign of early-stage dementia.

The dementia of an 85-year-
old woman living in Ishinomaki
worsened markedly after the
tsunami devastated the city. The
dressmaking school she used to
run was closed by damage. Since
her flooded house was renovated,
she has been living alone since
her husband died in February.

Her eldest son, 65, is struggling
to deal with his mother's illness.
"She even cannot recognize
that her husband died," he said.

Following the advice of the
doctors' council, he applied to
have his mother certified as a per-

son in need of nursing care.

In devastated Minamisanriku,
a local government official in
charge of resident support said
the situation started deteriorat-
ing after a year.

"The number of dementia
cases started increasing after a
year had passed since the catas-
trophe," he said.

This is mainly because resi-
dents in each community were
forced to live apart and in dif-
ferent temporary housing areas,
making it difficult to support each
other, the official said.

A survey by Tohoku University
said the disasters accelerated the
deterioration of people's demen-
tia by three or four years within a
matter of just three months. One
patient couldn't even tell what
season it was.

"This is an unusual phenom-
enon," said associate professor
Katsutoshi Furukawa, 51.

The problem is just as serious
in Iwate Prefecture. Yasuo Teraya-
ma, 58, a professor at Iwate Medi-
cal University, said the symptoms
are expanding.

"A growing number of patients
are suffering from insomnia and
becoming violent at temporary
housing," he said.

The number of consultations
at the prefecture's medical center
for dementia has soared about
2.5-fold since the disasters.

The patients are likely being
affected by the stress felt by their
family members, experts said.

Naoto Kobayashi, 38, a doctor
specializing in dementia in the
city of Fukushima, said support
was crumbling.

"As younger people have left
Fukushima due to the nuclear ac-
cident, the support system for the
elderly has become fragile," he said.

Hiroshi Matsuda, 63, head of a
hospital in Kashiwazaki, Niigata
Prefecture, said paying attention
to those with dementia is critical.

"Dementia patients are vul-
nerable to stress and it is impor-
tant to be close to them and lis-
ten to what they have to say," he
warned.

SHOULDERING A HEA



Men carrying a float run through
Festival in the city of Fukuoka
seven groups of men from the
high 1-ton floats. The fastest te

Japanese, Russian and
Hoshide

Baikonur Kazakhstan
KYODO, JIJI

A Russian Soyuz spacecraft carry-
ing Japanese astronaut Akihiko
Hoshide and two associates lift-
ed off Sunday from Kazakhstan
on a flight to the International
Space Station.

Hoshide, 43, Yuri Malenchen-
ko of Russia, and Sunita Wil-
liams of the United States will
stay on the ISS for about four
months.

For Hoshide, this is his second
space flight since riding space
shuttle Discovery to the ISS in
June 2008.

He stayed for around two
weeks to install the Kibo re-
search laboratory.

Following Koichi Wakata, Soi-
chi Noguchi and Satoshi Furu-
kawa, Hoshide will be the fourth
Japanese to experience an ex-
tended stay on the ISS.

Italy's Berlusconi maneuvers for a c

Rome
AP

and spreading reports that busi-
ness leaders are pushing him to

has given Italy an air of respect-
ability in European and interna-