

[INTERVIEW] Go Zeela (BiS1st Captain) “I want to be overwhelming”



September 2016 saw the restart of BiS. Members came and went, and BiS now performs as two groups - BiS1st and BiS2nd. When the July 4, 2018 single “Don’t miss it!!” was released, BiS had 10 members in total. Fans voted to decide on the lineup for BiS1st and BiS2nd, the system is aptly named “BiS.LEAGUE”. Everything depended on fan votes - those who came 1st to 4th place are to go into BiS1st. 5th to 10th place go into BiS2nd. Activities begin like this from September 2, at Okayama Hall.

The new BiS1st: Go Zeela, Aya Eightprince, Pan Luna Leafy, Torisez Hana.

From here, the first Captain system was announced. BiS1st’s appointed Captain is Go Zeela, who won first place in BiS.LEAGUE. The captains have a say in the group’s direction and other decision makings. Go Zeela is in BiS1st, but what does she think about BiS as a whole, and how is she going to serve as Captain?

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IT WAS JUST AN INCREASE IN TOPICS, I FELT LUCKY

- Congratulations on being inaugurated as the Captain of BiS1st! Did you hear about becoming the Captain on the news?

Go Zeela: Yes. I learnt about it on Twitter (Laughs)

- When you learnt that you were to be the Captain, how did you feel?

Go Zeela: I just thought “Why???” But it seems interesting, especially at the rate the system and rules are increasing. I feel the same as usual. (Laughs)



- Any happy feelings?

Go Zeela: Happy....? I wasn't really happy because I hadn't heard what I was supposed to do as a Captain. It was just an increase in topics, so I felt lucky.

- Go Zeela, you came first place in BiS.LEAGUE but how did feel about the result itself?

Go Zeela: I was honestly happy. I'm sure those who voted for me are happy too. Because everyone was pleased, I was pleased as well.

- Did you have confidence that you could take first place?

Go Zeela: I didn't. Honestly, I don't see any point in trying to rank high in BiS.LEAGUE. I felt like staying in BiS1st, but there was nothing beyond that feeling. Many customers were worried about the BiS.LEAGUE, so I was only really thinking "How can we make it interesting?" So, I didn't really ever think about the rankings.

- During all the speeches at the free live event at Yoyogi, you were the only person who took a different tone. Your speech left a strong impact, especially this part. "Honestly, I want to do a live these 10 members, or even with the previous 5 members, if we're together I'm happy. So now I'm thinking that it doesn't really matter. It doesn't matter who leaves or who joins, BiS will be BiS. And I will be myself."

Go Zeela: I'm sure it did, I heard my scary voice. (Laughs) I was talking like I was completely detached from everything, I was told there was no feeling in my voice. But, since that is me, I thought it was okay.

- I think it must be mentally tough to deal with numbers and rankings though, were you not bothered by it?

Go Zeela: Every time the preliminary results come out, other kids would worry like, "What should I do? What should I do?" From watching them I was able to realise "Ah, it must be they're feeling this way", but I don't think that really influenced me all that much. Of course there are times where mentally, I am depressed, but the League itself isn't a negative thing for BiS. The system called BiS.LEAGUE isn't what made me depressed. If you're depressed, there's not much you can do about it. So I thought, 'why not just try my best?'

I THOUGHT IT WAS MY JOB TO PUSH THINGS FROM BEHIND THE SCENES



- While watching you perform live, I could feel you leading everyone and I got a sense of everyone being together. How is it around here?

Go Zeela: I thought I had to be firm, because everyone else was being firm too. However, I thought that I really had to do the office work properly. (Laughs)

- Office work?

Go Zeela: You have to reserve a studio, manage the schedule, and also show people how to use the dressing rooms. As the person who's been here the longest, I thought that I should take the initiative with respect and etiquette. But, there wasn't much thought into being the leader during live performances.

- When the revived BiS begin, I remember you struggled to communicate with the other members and often spent most of your time alone. It must be a strong feeling to now be leading the way?

Go Zeela: Certainly. (Laughs) Compared to that time, I've really started to talk more now. At that time, because it was those members, I was forgiven. If I was to do that now with the current

members, I'd just look stupid because it'd be an act. Well, I think I mainly started speaking other people's words. (Laughs)

- Initially, you also said how you didn't have any friends.

Go Zeela: Yes. I didn't have any friends.

- Since you took the role of Captain, have you asked what kind of role you have to fulfill?

Go Zeela: No. But it was written on Twitter that "I have the right to decide" and that's all I know. Roles like 'Captain' or 'Ace' all have different meanings so I had to consider the differences. With a Captain, it's more about leading and understanding everyone, I thought it was to play a role with almost brute force. That may have been too extreme, but I will use all my power to rectify any mistakes I make. As for BiS1st, the role of Ace is already taken by Pan, so I suppose that's okay.

- You say there's differences between a Captain and an Ace, what direction are you going in, Go Zeela?

Go Zeela: I wonder. Through primary school, middle school and high school, people like captains, generals, commander-in-chief's stood up for a lot of things. Once I noticed that, I realised there are a lot of rules to be made. (Laughs) Even so, I thought it was my job to push things from behind the scenes. For example, even if a team's not playing at a baseball tournament like Koshien, there will still be a person there who's the captain of the team, right? On the other hand, if the fourth batter hits a home run, the pitcher will recognize them as the ace. I think that I have to become a Captain like that, who can go ahead and do all the essential work. That's what I want to be able to do.



- Certainly, if the Captain is there then everything is okay, they have that presence.

Go Zeela: Exactly. I've been studying it that way, so I wonder if that's true.

- Even in my own life, I've often played such a role.

Go Zeela: I was always just vaguely standing around, doing the role of an office worker, even though I've been doing desk work this whole time. (Laughs)

- So you became a candidate while still performing this role?

Go Zeela: The role of Captain was chosen through voting. It actually reminded me of something from before, where a captain saw a pamphlet with their name on and was like, "I'm doing it!?" (Laughs) I remember the student council president already had something to do so called me saying "you do this." I refused but then they called me everyday saying "do it" so I eventually just gave up.

PAN IS OUR ACE, SO I WILL BE THE ROLE OF CAPTAIN IF I CAN

- Because you're qualified, I can see why they would want you to. By the way, Go Zeela, why do you yourself think you were elected to do that task?

Go Zeela: I think it's because I find it easy to do any work handed to me. I seem to find it impossible to say *NO*. I suppose it could be said that it may as well happen twice. (Laughs)

- Ahahaha. At least the Captain of BiS1st wouldn't have been chosen through pressure and force, I think. Why do you think you were chosen for the role?

Go Zeela: I wonder. Hm.. I never thought about that. I heard that Muro was selected as Captain because of her speech during the voting results. Everyone else was talking about themselves, but she was the only one to talk about BiS. I haven't heard about me though. (Laughs) I may of heard the reason, actually, about how I move. Thinking as myself, I'm happy to be chosen and will do my best.



- When the reformation of BiS began, Pour Lui was there, and I think that gave you the position to be free and do as you pleased. In that sense, maybe Pour Lui leaving had a significant impact on your standings and behaviour.

Go Zeela: That is the biggest one. Until now, Puu leaving was the biggest change. Puu said to me, "Go Zeela, it's interesting to occasionally talk with you. It's okay to keep silent until I talk to you." I, myself, was saved by what she said and it made me so happy. When Puu wasn't around, no one would talk to me. In fact, besides Puu, there was no one I could do talk events

with. So, I realised that I have no choice but to speak. To be honest, even now I'm not good at speaking. Puu herself is BiS! My feelings were strong with Puu. At every live performance, she spoke as BiS. With her gone, it became a situation where someone has to do it. I figured that I should be the one to do it properly.

- In other words, Pour Lui played the role as Captain?

Go Zeela: In a sense, I suppose Puu was doing both the role of Captain and Ace by herself. When Saki was with us, she was surely the Captain and Puu felt like the Ace to me. When it was just Puu, she had our backs. I wonder if she was embracing it when alone. I have a memory from when we were in a car alone at night, it made me wonder if an incident had happened before. When alone, you can't see what's in front or behind, I regret not doing something more serious. Things became stable once Saki joined and that was good.

- In that sense, Go Zeela is the Captain and Pan is the Ace.

Go Zeela: Pan is our ace, so I will be the role of Captain, if I can.

I WOULD LIKE TO DECIDE THE DIRECTION OF THE GROUP WITH THE 4 OF US

- Earlier it was said that the Captain gets to decide the direction of the group, what kind of group do you want BiS1st to be?

Go Zeela: Hm. It's difficult to put it into words, but I want it to become overwhelming. I want to make a group that brings people from all around together, where we leave an impact on those who see us and they buy tickets to see us again soon. However, the 4 of us will decide how to proceed as BiS1st in the future. It's not something to be decided alone, I thought about it myself but it didn't become anything. I think I will be the moderator to ensure the group is properly formed. I think it will be sort of like, "which do you prefer?" (Laughs) Giving out lots of choices and seeing how each member feels about it and whether it's suitable or not. I hope this way of proposing works out well. I would like to decide the direction of the group with the 4 of us.



- During the 47 prefectures tour, you had a long time together with the members, going to various places. I imagine that was a opportunity to get to know all the member's real intentions. What do you think in terms of BiS as a whole?

Go Zeela: So far I've only been planning on how to improve BiS1st, that's what I thought about today. However, just thinking about it won't make BiS become greater. I mean as in so far I've only been thinking about 4 people, I never thought about BiS2nd. From now on, I know I need to think more about the 6 members of BiS2nd. After I was able to improve 1st, I realised BiS doesn't get better. I don't really want to meddle, but now I realise that it's BiS2nd also needs to gain viewers too, so I'm now thinking of countermeasures.

- BiS1st and BiS2nd are rivals, but they are also part of the same BiS. It's said that there will a be a bridge there, it'll be nice to have both groups interact with each other.

Go Zeela: For that exact reason I thought that it would be best for the Captains of 1st and 2nd to cooperate with each other about the direction of both groups. But Muro is still a new member, so I thought it'd be best to coordinate with the original, reformed members. That's roughly what I'm thinking about now.

- Starting September 2nd, the new BiS system will begin. Go Zeela, what kind of feelings are you going forward with?

Go Zeela: BiS1st is currently still made up of 2 newcomers and 2 original members. For now, I want to make the newcomers stand out, so everyone can see them. I have kind of been ignoring anything after September. The 4 of us wanted to be able to fight individually, but we're united and will fight together. While doing that, I want to make BiS2nd better too. I want to become someone who is able to do that.