

PEACE CULTURE



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The 2020 Vision Campaign Update



by Steven Leeper
Chairman of this Foundation

I write with a heavy heart. The Tohoku disaster is still beyond our comprehension. The victims are still in shock. Help is pouring in from around Japan and around the world, but hundreds of thousands remain homeless, hungry, cold and grieving.

Meanwhile, as of March 30, the accident at the Fukushima power plant is still getting worse. The headline in the Japan Times today (March 30) is: "Radioactive water keeps workers out." My understanding is that if the workers really cannot get in there to pour water on the rods, we could see full meltdowns and even explosions. I am praying that by the time you are reading this, the reactors will be under control, but whatever happens, we arrogant human beings have been reminded once more that the power of nature is no joke. Its laws must be obeyed. Now, back to nuclear weapons, another manifestation of human arrogance that must be corrected.

"Whatever happened to the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol?" This question still follows me wherever I go. So let me tell once again the story of the Protocol and bring you up to date on the campaign that has replaced it.

First, please remember that the Protocol was launched in April 2008, during the Bush administration. Do you remember US Ambassador John Bolton and the Bush administration? Does anyone think there was a chance that they would have allowed adoption of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol? The Protocol was not created to be adopted. It was created to intensify and strengthen the 2020 Vision Campaign by spelling out clearly what can and should be done to achieve our Vision. In this effort, the Protocol was a great success.

Please remember as well that Barack Obama changed everything by becoming president of the US and making a certain speech in Prague. During the NPT PrepCom in May 2009, one country after the next rose to quote some part of that Prague speech and declare its own commitment to a nuclear-weapon-free world. At that point, many diplomats and many in the NGO community felt that, rather than pushing for a Protocol to the NPT, we should start pushing directly for a nuclear weapons convention (NWC), that is, an outright ban on nuclear weapons.



U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (third from left) toured Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum with Hiroshima Mayor Tadatoshi Akiba (left) and the Chairman of this Foundation, Steven Leeper (second from right). (Aug. 6, 2010)

Mayors for Peace rejoiced in the new positive disarmament climate, but we still felt the Protocol had work to do. It was an excellent tool for obtaining grassroots attention and, therefore, applying pressure on governments. Thanks to the Protocol, the Yes! Campaign and Peace Caravan helped enormously to bring the issue of nuclear weapons to a sleeping public. In the end, the Protocol was not adopted, but the campaign did generate considerable pressure. Over 60% of all Japanese municipalities formally signed their support of the Protocol. Nearly 20,000 books about the Protocol were sold, and the Japanese government mentioned the Protocol on the floor during the May 2010 Review Conference.

Well over 2000 Japanese went to New York for that Review Conference, helping to stimulate and fund an important NGO conference, rally and march. The RevCon itself witnessed an intense struggle between the nuclear-weapon-reliant states and the rest of the world. Against significant odds, a Final Document was

adopted, and it is widely viewed as progress toward abolition. The overall result of the Conference is seen as positive. Here in Hiroshima, we believe that Mayors for Peace and the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol played important roles in that success.

On the other hand, the Review Conference revealed the true intent of the nuclear-weapon-reliant states. Despite renewed promises to seek a nuclear-weapon-free world, they were obviously determined to continue with business as usual. They rejected every effort to stipulate when or how or where disarmament negotiations should begin. After promising to negotiate for a nuclear-weapon-free world for the past 42 years, they showed that they still have no intention of actually sitting down to talk. At a time when bold, positive steps toward abolition were required, the nuclear-weapon states said, "No, we like the world the way it is."

Fortunately, this infuriating performance by the nuclear-weapon states has inspired a new movement. This movement first appeared in Hiroshima in July. Senator Douglas Roche, in his keynote address to the Hiroshima Conference for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons by 2020, started off by saying, "The time has come." That is, the time has come for a NWC. The time has come to ban nuclear weapons.

Senator Roche's speech marked a significant shift in strategy for the disarmament community. Until 2010, most countries and even NGOs opposed the idea of a NWC. They saw no meaning in a convention the nuclear-weapon states refused to sign. Now, however, we are all completely united in calling for the start of negotiations toward a treaty that will specifically and overtly outlaw nuclear weapons.

A NWC even without the nuclear-weapon states will be useful in several ways. First, it will establish a global norm. The world will declare its belief that nuclear weapons are bad. From that point on, nations that have them will be rogues, outside the international consensus.

Second, it will become crystal clear who is working toward a nuclear-weapon-free world and who is not. This clarity will make it easier to apply political, social and even economic pressure on the rogues.

Third, by taking a strong step toward a nuclear-weapon-free world, the international community will create a political climate that make all nuclear-weapons activity more difficult. Once the treaty is in place, we hope the new norm and new control systems will make it significantly more difficult to acquire, develop, deploy or use nuclear weapons.

Fourth, a high-profile global campaign to ban nuclear weapons will grab the attention of the general public. Because large majorities in all countries would prefer to live in a nuclear-weapon-free world, we believe that just getting the nuclear threat into the news night after night for two or three years will generate pressure on politicians in those countries to support the ban.

So the disarmament community has decided to pursue a NWC that will clearly outlaw the possession and use of nuclear weapons. However, Mayors for Peace cannot make this happen. It will have to be done by countries. Fortunately, a number of countries are stepping forward to begin the process. Norway, for example, has provided funds for offices of ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) in Geneva and Oslo. Canada, too, has expressed a willingness to begin hosting

meetings. However, the strongest movement thus far is being led by Uruguay.

Uruguay has held two meetings in New York, with a third scheduled for next month. The purpose of these meetings is to plan a special ministerial-level disarmament conference that most of the countries involved are hoping will grow into a treaty process. The first meeting held January 18 drew 13 countries. The second meeting on March 24 drew 22 countries.

These meetings and the other efforts by Norway and Canada are all part of behind-the-scenes preparations for a strong, unified, global campaign. I am confident that you will see the emergence of this campaign sometime in 2011. When it does emerge, I hope you will give it your attention, your support, your time and your money. All of us will have to do whatever we can to make this campaign go global and viral. To succeed, it will have to be huge. To be huge, it will have to have support from world leaders, national and international officials, local government officials, celebrities, businessmen and women, professionals and workers in all walks of life, students, and children everywhere. To obtain this level of support, it will have to involve art, film, music, comedy, peace walks, education and unusual feats of strength (like pogo sticking up Mt. Fuji). Therefore, I ask you here and now. Please organize art shows, film showings, concerts, comedy nights, lectures, symposia, attempts to enter the Guinness Book of World Records, and anything else you can think of to bring the issue of nuclear weapons to public awareness. Of course, my preference is that all of these events should financially benefit the 2020 Vision Campaign, but the important thing is to make a joyful noise. The choice is ours. Do we want a nuclear-weapon-free world or do we want to be blown off this planet? I very much hope that the upcoming campaign will convince our leaders that the people of this planet intend to liberate ourselves from the nuclear threat. I also hope it will prove to one and all that a nuclear-weapon-free world will be more fun.



With the principal (left) and students of Kanon junior high school

Profile

Steven Leeper

Born in the U.S. in 1947; obtained a Master's Degree in clinical psychology from West Georgia University in the U.S. Worked as English instructor at Hiroshima YMCA. Co-President of Transnet Ltd., a consulting, translation and interpretation business, Overseas Liaison Advisor for Moltem Corporation, U.S. Representative for Mayors for Peace, and Expert Advisor or this Foundation. Took Office as chairman of this Foundation on April 23, 2007.

2010 World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates



Hiroshima Mayor Akiba making a welcome speech at the opening session



Participants in a discussion session

First Time Summit Held Outside of Europe

The 2010 World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates was held from November 12 to 14 last year in Hiroshima City, which was marking the 65th year since the atomic bombing. The World Summit brings Nobel peace laureates together and organizes discussions on peace. The theme of this summit was, 'The Legacy of Hiroshima: A World without Nuclear Weapons', and this was the first World Summit held outside of Europe.

To support the success of the Summit and develop a welcoming feeling in the local community, Hiroshima City worked with Hiroshima Prefecture, the Hiroshima Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the UNITAR (United Nations Institute for Training and Research) Hiroshima Office, to establish a Supporting Council for the 2010 World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates. The Council maintained close contact with the Permanent Secretariat for the World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates, which organizes the event, and set up the venue as well as providing the simultaneous interpreting required for the event.



Nobel laureates visiting the Cenotaph for the A-Bomb Victims

In attendance at the summit were six Nobel peace laureates, including Frederik De Klerk, former President of the Republic of South Africa, and His Holiness the Dalai Lama, as well as representatives of 13 laureate organizations including the United Nations (UN) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). November 12 to 13 offered on six separate

sessions, and on November 14 the Peace Appeal was presented in Peace Memorial Park.

During the Peace Appeal on the last day, the Peace Summit Award was presented to the Italian soccer player Roberto Baggio, who has been promoting actions towards world peace with great enthusiasm. Alongside Mr. Baggio, the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations, representing atomic bomb survivors who have devoted their lives to communicating the terror of atomic weapons to all humanity, was presented with the Peace Summit Special Award, a tribute to their dedication and courage.

As a summary of the summit, the Hiroshima Declaration on the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons was announced, incorporating six specific recommendations, including steps leading to a universal treaty to abolish nuclear weapons. It was decided to establish a Nobel Peace Laureates Action Committee, to lead a concrete actions to abolish nuclear weapons. At the end of the Peace Appeal, Co-President Veltroni used Japanese to close the World Summit with the two words "*Arigato Hiroshima*", ending it on a very successful note.

Participation by Citizens and Young People

The World Summit drew approximately 2,550 people to the sessions, and approximately 7,000 people to the Peace Appeal, bringing the total number of citizens in attendance to around 10,000 people. Through the discussions at the sessions, the participants were provided with the wonderful opportunity of direct contact with the wisdom of the Nobel Peace laureates.

Dynamic actions by the young people who will bear responsibility for the future were also prominent at the summit. Over 200 student volunteers participated in the operation of the summit, helping with reception, interpreting and many events. There were also around 400 students from all over Japan who participated in the sessions, listening to discussions among people who represent the wisdom of the world and actively asking questions on peace issues.

The opening session on November 12 featured a chorus and welcome greeting by around 130 children from Hiroshima Municipal Noborichou Elementary School. Students from Hiroshima Municipal Technical High School presented gold paper cranes to the Nobel peace laureates. On November 14,

the Peace Appeal was held in Peace Memorial Park. The students of Hiroshima Municipal Funairi High School gave a wind instrument performance when the Nobel laureates entered and left the venue. In this way, young people created a warm atmosphere.



Presentation of the Peace Summit Special Award to Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organization

Message to the World

The World Summit brought Nobel peace laureates to Hiroshima, the site of the atomic bombing, to discuss actions to achieve the abolition of nuclear weapons. The summit became a high-profile event covered by 304 journalists from 56 foreign media organizations. It was reported in many newspapers during the event, and Japanese television stations devoted a total of over 3 hours 20 minutes to coverage of the event. NHK and TV Tokyo aired special programs on the summit. The event was also reported throughout the world by global media such as the BBC in the UK, CNN in the US, German national television and AFP in France, making this year's summit a great opportunity to communicate information from Hiroshima to the world.

The Hiroshima Declaration on the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons announced at the summit was similar in content and direction to the Hiroshima Appeal adopted at the Hiroshima Conference for the Total Abolition of nuclear Weapons by 2020 held in July last year. The actions of the Nobel laureates will generate great synergies with the initiatives of Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Mayors for Peace, and are expected to further build international momentum for the abolition of nuclear weapons.



Presentation of the Peace Summit Award to Roberto Baggio

(Peace Promotion Division, the City of Hiroshima)

Conveying the "Spirit of Hiroshima" to Junior Diplomats from Around the World

A group of participants from 25 national governments in the UN Programme of Fellowship on Disarmament visited Hiroshima City from September 25 (Sat) to September 26 (Sun) last year. The programme aims to train Disarmament Specialists and the participants learned about the reality of the atomic bombing and the "Spirit of Hiroshima" through observation tours and seminars. The Programme is a training project that has been implemented by the United Nations since 1979. Visits to Hiroshima have been made every year since 1983, and this year marks the 28th visit, with over 700 participants visiting Hiroshima to date.

On the afternoon of September 25th, the group arrived in Hiroshima and first visited Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, where they listened to an explanation by Ms. Mayumi Yamane, Deputy Director of Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum (Outreach Division), and took a tour of the Museum.



The Fellows, as they listen to the a-bomb testimony

Participants listened to the atomic bomb testimony of Mr. Akihiro Takahashi, the former Director of Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, who has been designated by the Foreign Ministry as a Special Communicator for a World without Nuclear Weapons. This position was proposed by Prime Minister Naoto Kan at the Peace Ceremony on August 6, 2010, for the purpose of passing on to the international community as well as future generations the experience of *Hibakusha* concerning the real consequence of the use of nuclear weapons. Mr. Takahashi is the first person to receive this designation.

On the following day, the group toured the epicenter, A-Bomb Dome, Children's Peace Monument, and Hiroshima National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims. They offered flowers at the Cenotaph for the A-Bomb Victims, listened to an explanation of Mayors for Peace by Mr. Manabu Iwasaki, the Director responsible for Mayors for Peace, and viewed the film "HIROSHIMA: A Mother's Prayer". It was a very full training program in Hiroshima.

The participants commented, "Through my visit to Hiroshima I learned about the damage from nuclear weapons. I want to communicate the messages from the atomic bomb victims", and, "Mayors for Peace is a great initiative, and should be spread throughout the world".

(Peace and International Solidarity Promotion Division)

Visiting the Argentine Republic

From October 10 (Sun) to 20 (Wed) last year, Hiroshima City Mayor Tadatoshi Akiba visited Buenos Aires and Mar del Plata in Argentina. During his visit, he attended events related to the Latin American Municipalism Week, as well as the AFS World Peace Forum held by AFS, a non-governmental and non-profit organization of international education and exchange.

October 12 (Tues)

Mayor Akiba attended the opening ceremony of the Government and Public Services 2010 Exhibition of Latin American Municipalism Week and in his keynote speech, stated that now was the time to achieve the abolition of nuclear weapons.

October 13 (Wed)

Mayor Akiba visited the presidential palace, where he met with Mr. Anibal Domingo Fernandez, Chief of Cabinet, Mr. Hector Timerman, Minister of Foreign Relations, and Dr. Oscar Parrilli, Secretary General of the Presidential Office of Argentina. Mayor Akiba made a request for support to increase the number of Mayors for Peace membership cities and to achieve the abolition of nuclear weapons.



A signing ceremony

During this visit, Mayor Akiba, as president of Mayors for Peace, signed documents confirming the cooperative relationship with the Federation of Latin American Cities and the Municipalities and Association of Local Governments and Federation of Municipalities of Argentina.

October 14 (Thu)

Mayor Akiba met with Buenos Aires Mayor Mauricio Macri, and asked for support for the activities of Mayors for Peace.

The Mayor then met with Mr. Pedro Morobiui, Director General of Culture, the Honorable Senate of the Argentine Nation, and Senator Daniele Filmus, former Minister for National Education, and asked for their cooperation for the special conference on nuclear disarmament, to be held next year.

October 15 (Fri)

After discussion with junior and senior high school students at a school of modern languages in Buenos Aires, the Mayor visited a poster exhibition related to Sadako Sasaki, the model of the Children's Peace Monument, held at Fundacion Sadako, an organization established by Ms. Tomoko Aikawa (a Hiroshima native), who has lived in Argentina for nineteen years.

October 16 (Sat)

The Mayor attended the Forum of Latin American Local Governments, held in Mar del Plata, and gave a speech in which he requested that the whole world works together to abolish nuclear weapons.

October 18 (Mon)

Mayor Akiba attended the AFS World Peace Forum, held in Buenos Aires. He asked for understanding and support for

Mayors for Peace activities, and also encouraged the leadership of the nations of Latin America, to implement a nuclear weapons convention in 2015 and the abolition of nuclear weapons by 2020.

(Peace and International Solidarity Promotion Division)

Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course at DePaul University - 3rd Study Tour

Hiroshima City and Nagasaki City have systematically organized popular academic study of peace, especially the message of *Hibakusha*: "No one else should ever suffer what we did". To pass on this message to younger generations as a field of academic study, both cities have been jointly working to establish the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course in universities throughout the world.

From December 6 (Mon) to December 11 (Sat) last year, a group of 22 students from DePaul University in the United States took the third study tour to Hiroshima. This followed similar tours in 2005 and 2007. The course is part of the Short-Term Study Abroad Program in the university. Through the visit to the A-bombed city Hiroshima, students experience both old and new Japanese culture and learn about peace issues.

During their time in Hiroshima, the students took tours of the Peace Memorial Museum and Hiroshima National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims, listened to a recitation of poetry about the bombing, and heard the testimonies of A-bomb survivors, Ms. Shigeeko Sasamori and Mr. Shuntaro Hida. They also held a discussion with researchers from the Hiroshima Peace Institute and did some fieldwork in Peace Memorial Park. Through these peace studies, they deepened their understanding of the reality of the atomic bombing.

On December 7 (Tues), the group visited Mayor Akiba. The Mayor encouraged them, saying, "Students like yourselves studying here in Hiroshima is a task of great importance for creating a peaceful world, and in particular for achieving the abolition of nuclear weapons. I am sure that you will make use of what you have learned during your visit and make important contributions for the 21st century". The students asked the Mayor why he decided to tackle peace issues and the abolition of nuclear weapons. They also asked about the activities and achievements of Mayors for Peace. They listened intently to the Mayor's explanations.



Tour of Peace Memorial Park

(Peace and International Solidarity Promotion Division)

25th Children's Peace Drawings Competition: Many Wonderful Entries Submitted

On December 18 (Sat), 2010, the awards ceremony for the Children's Peace Drawing Competition was held in Memorial Hall at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. This competition started in 1986, with the aim of raising children's awareness of peace, and last marked the 25th time it has been held. A total of 5,936 drawings were sent in: 4,349 works from 132 elementary and junior high schools in the Hiroshima City area, and 1,587 works from eight other countries (Canada, China, Korea, Russia, America, Australia, France and India).



Excellence Award (Elementary Schools division): Chiemi Higuchi, 4th year, Hiroshima Municipal Bairin Elementary School



Excellence Award (Junior High Schools division): Chihiro Fukunaga, 2nd year, Hiroshima Municipal Tomo Junior High School

that won the Excellence Award, 39 drawings that won the Distinction Award, and 120 drawings that won the Award of Merit, making a total of 162 works on display.

Chiemi Higuchi, a fourth-year student at Hiroshima Municipal Bairin Elementary School, who won the Excellence Award in the Elementary School division for her drawing of children with folded paper cranes, said, "I'm very happy that I won the Excellence Award. I drew the picture because I hope that we can build a peaceful world by showing to the people of the world paper cranes with our smiling faces". In the Junior High School division, Chihiro Fukunaga, a second-year student at Hiroshima Municipal Tomo Junior High School, won the Excellence Award in the Junior High Schools division for her drawing of rusting nuclear weapons in a forest. She said "I drew this with the hope that one day nuclear weapons



Excellence Award (Overseas division): Kim Yeonwoo, Daegu Siji Elementary School (Korea)

will be abolished, and their very existence will be forgotten. Next year will be the last chance to participate in this competition. I want to try hard so that I can come here again".

The names and the drawings of those who won the Excellence and Distinction Awards, and the names of those who won the Award of Merit, can be viewed in the 'Kid's Peace Station' section of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum web site:

<http://www.pcf.city.hiroshima.jp/>

(Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum Outreach Division)

"Sister and Friendship City Days" Commemorative Events for Citizens to Deepen Experience Other Cultures

Hiroshima City has signed sister and friendship city agreements with six overseas cities. In 2001, the city established a "Sister and Friendship City Day" for each of these cities, with commemorative events to develop a greater affinity with these cities among Hiroshima citizens and also to further their understanding. From 2003, this project was given to this Foundation by Hiroshima City. Each of the events has been emceed by "Hiroshima Messengers".

Daegu Day

The commemorative event was held from May 3 (Mon, public holiday), 2010, to May 5 (Wed, public holiday), 2010, at the Hiroshima Flower Festival venue. Organizer: 2010 Daegu Day Executive Committee.



Commemorative photo wearing Korean clothes

On May 3, the opening ceremony was held, and this was followed by a *taiko* drum performance and a traditional Korean dance performance by HATA, an arts group from Daegu Metropolitan City. There was also a drum performance by Taiko-Honpo KABURAYA, a *wadaiko* drum group from Hiroshima City, and a joint performance by the two groups, which greatly excited the audience.

Over the three days, "Daegu Korea *Madan* (Square)" was set up, to promote goods and tourism for Daegu Metropolitan City. Participants could take commemorative photographs wearing Korean clothes, information was provided on the Korean Proficiency Test, and home-style cooking from Korea, which is popular every year, was on sale. Exchange students from Korea and Hiroshima citizens had fun interacting with each other. There was also a performance of the large drum given to Hiroshima City by Daegu Metropolitan City. With a total of 8,130 visitors, the event was a great success.

Hanover Day

The commemorative event was held on May 23 (Sun), 2010, at Hiroshima City International House. Organizer: 2010 Hanover Day Executive Committee.

The event included the Ueda Soko-style Japanese tea ceremony experience, *baumkuchen* cake making in the original German way, a demonstration of sausage-making and taste-testing, as well as *Luettje Lagen* (different liquor is served in two glasses, which are then drunk in one gulp). At the German music concert, professional musicians gave a wonderful performance, which was followed by the audience singing (in German) the song *Heidenroslein*: Rose on the Heath. The event also included a display introducing Hanover and Germany, paper crafting of Hanover trains, and a display and reading of German picture books, which was very popular with the children.

Through the varied program, visitors gained a deeper understanding, in a fun way, of Hanover and Germany.

Montreal Day

The commemorative event was held on July 25 (Sun), 2010, at Hiroshima City International House. Organizer: 2010 Montreal Day Executive Committee.

The event started with taste-testing of Canadian beef, Boston lettuce and *poutine* (a traditional dish from Quebec), which visitors could enjoy together with maple coffee. Next were presentations by exchange students from Montreal City, followed by an introductory film of ZED, a work of Cirque du Soleil. The event ended with a concert by Midi-Elephant, a Celt folk music band of Canadians living in Japan.

The event also included a display of goods from Canada and items commemorating the 10th anniversary of the sister city relationship with Montreal, as well as distribution of the special Montreal Day issue of the information magazine, CocoMontreal.

Visitors enjoyed themselves at the event and gained a greater understanding of Montreal and Canada.

Volgograd Day

On September 12 (Sun), 2010, this commemorative event was held at Hiroshima City International House. Organizer: 2010 Volgograd Day Executive Committee.



Chorus of Russian folk song Troika (Volgograd Day commemorative event)

The visitors first viewed photos in the display corner, of exchange activities with the citizens of Volgograd and of the city itself, after which they enjoyed taste-testing of *piroshki* and *borscht*, as well as Georgian wine and Russian tea. Following on from the ceremony were a quiz and games with exchange students from Russia and presentations by children who had participated in home stays.

A concert featured a piano performance and chorus, an ensemble of various instruments, and a marimba percussion ensemble group. The three groups performed mainly Russian music. This was followed by a chorus of the Russian folk song *Troika* (triple) bringing audience and performers together as one.

The event included a Russian cooking class the day before,

and approximately 300 people attended the event, gaining a greater understanding of Russia and Volgograd.

Chongqing Day

This commemorative event was held at Hiroshima City International House on October 17 (Sun), 2010. Organizer: 2010 Chongqing Day Executive Committee



Concert by Mr. Zhao Rongchun (Chongqing Day commemorative event)

First, participants tasted two varieties of Chinese tea. They then enjoyed the delicious flavors of two types of dim sum, which use tea leaves: tea eggs and tea cake, as well as tasting Sichuan-style roast pork. This was followed by an easy-to-understand introduction by the Coordinator for International Relations from Chongqing City, describing the lifestyle of the people of Chongqing, including the city landscape and typical food eaten.

The memorial concert started with a *koto* performance by Ms. Shi Shan, a native of Chongqing and an exchange student at Hiroshima Bunka Gakuen University. There was then a demonstration of the Chinese martial arts *tai chi chuan* and *32 shi tai ji jian* by the members of the Hiroshima Branch of Japan-China Friendship Association. Visitors were all able to try *tai chi chuan*. A concert was given by Mr. Zhao Rongchun, a Chinese two-string fiddle (*erhu*) performer who lives in Hiroshima. The concert ended with everyone singing in Japanese and Chinese *Furusato* (hometown), accompanied by Mr. Zhao. There was also a display of goods and books from Chongqing. Approximately 300 visitors enjoyed themselves while gaining a greater understanding of Chongqing City and China.

Honolulu Day

On November 6 (Sat), 2010, the Honolulu Hula Party was held at the underground event space at the South Exit of Hiroshima Station, as a commemorative event for Honolulu Day. Organizer: 2010 Honolulu Day Executive Committee.



Performance by Hawaiian band and hula group (Honolulu Day commemorative event)

The event began with a performance of *kahiko*, a classic hula dance, and the opening ceremony. This was followed by an explanation of Honolulu's history, food culture, tourist spots and more by four people: Hiroshima Messengers, the American Coordinator for International Relations, and former language instruction assistants. Next was a full-scale stage performance by three Hawaiian bands and a hula team, and the venue was filled with an exotic Hawaiian atmosphere. Between songs, a quiz, with Hawaiian goods as prizes, really excited the audience. In the end, the audience danced together with the performers, ending the event with a chorus of "Hawaii Aloha".

The venue displayed and sold Hawaiian goods and helped visitors to make their own ribbon leis. Approximately 500 citizens deepened their understandings of America and Honolulu City.

You Act. The World Changes: Day of International Cooperation and Exchange 2010

Twenty-seven events were held at International Conference Center Hiroshima, the East Building of Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and other venues on November 14 (Sun) 2010.

This year marked the 11th Day of International Cooperation and Exchange. A total of 6,800 people learned more about international exchange and cooperation.

☆"Chikyu no Stage"- Special Version-



Chikyu no Stage - Special Version

Mr. Norihiko Kuwayama, a psychiatrist based in Yamagata who is involved in providing international medical aid abroad, played the role of guide. He used live performance and enlarged images to describe various incidents happening around the world. The audience was deeply moved in a way that they would not experience at a regular lecture.

In the "Musical Part" of the program, which was performed for the first time in Hiroshima, Mr. Kuwayama appeared on stage and conducted while conversing with people overseas shown on a screen. The audience could experience the tense situations at the overseas locations.

In the "Hiroshima Part" of the program, the audience was made to think about the importance of peace education. This was achieved by showing atomic bomb witnesses speaking about their experiences, and the activities of junior high school students learning about peace in order to eradicate bullying, "learn from past wars and rebuild our school".

In the "Palestine Part" of the program, the audience was moved by an episode in the Gaza Strip in June of last year. Palestinian children were emotionally scarred by repeated air attacks made by the Israel military. They interacted with Mr. Kuwayama, who is involved in activities to heal their emotional wounds.

The event ended with an active discussion involving many participants, demonstrating the high level of interest in international exchange and cooperation.

☆World Kitchen and International Craft Art Bazaar

Different foods from various countries around the world were on sale at stalls in the Green Space on Peace Boulevard, located on the south side of International Conference Center Hiroshima.

There were also many visitors and a lively atmosphere at the Craft Art Bazaar, which had a very strong international flavor. The proceeds went towards international cooperation activities of various organizations.

☆Introduction of Activities

Civic organizations, universities, companies and other organizations set up booths and introduced their respective international exchange and cooperation activities. An adjoining consultation corner was also set up for consultations on establishing NPOs and NGO activities.

☆Introduction of Traditional Japanese Culture

Workshops were held to experience traditional Japanese culture, such as dressing in *kimono*, tea ceremony, *ikebana* flower arrangement, and hand-drawn *yuzen* dyeing. Non-Japanese visitors had the opportunity to experience Japanese culture, and Japanese visitors could reacquaint themselves with their own traditional culture.

☆Family Fun

A quiz rally was held, where participants could win presents by going around the event venue and answering questions. There was a section where participants could learn about other cultures by playing with clay, and also an introduction of games from around the world. The event was for families to enjoy themselves.

☆Thinking about the Environment

Visitors learned about the global environment by listening to a lecture on environmental issues relating to the Galapagos Islands, a World Heritage Site. They could also conduct field work in Peace Memorial Park. As an environmental protection measure, reusable containers were used at the food stalls.

☆Toward Multi-Cultural Co-existence

This event was held with the aim of achieving a harmonious relationship of co-existence with non-Japanese residents. It included a discussion of various issues faced by non-Japanese residents of Japan, with a lecture on the theme of multi-cultural co-existence. Free consultations for non-Japanese participants were offered.

In addition to the above activities, various other events were held, including an English debate, a discussion between young people from Hiroshima and



Games from around the world

overseas, and an event to support the children of the world by donating used keyboard-harmonicas or coins from around the world.

(International Relations & Cooperation Division)

Hiroshima City International House Festival 2010: Broadening International Exchange, Expressing Our Gratitude with "Arigato"



Having fun at the food stalls

On November 7 (Sun), 2010, the Hiroshima City International House Festival 2010 was held at Hiroshima City International House. The aim of this event is to promote further interaction between international students, and other foreigners living in Hiroshima, and Hiroshima citizens, and at the same time provide the students with an opportunity for social participation. This is one of International House's biggest events.

Following on from last year, the festival this year was again held at the same time as the Kojin *Ebisu* festival and the Thanksgiving festival of the vocational aid center, Hiroshima Minami Jyusanjo. The event, with its strong international flavor, attracted around 2,600 visitors (approximately 250 international students, 150 foreigners, and 2,200 Hiroshima citizens). With its lively atmosphere, the event was a very enjoyable day for all participants. Organizers: Hiroshima City International House, Hiroshima Region International Student Organization Support and Exchange Council, Kojin District Council of Social Welfare.

This year marks the tenth time that the festival has been held, and the international students and International House decided to make the theme of the festival, "Arigato - Our Gratitude", to communicate through the festival their feelings of gratitude to all who have supported them to date. Following on from last year, a planning committee made up of international students staying at International House was established to ensure that their intentions were incorporated into the festival. They held many meetings to prepare the event, discussing programs, participation, publicity, and preparation work. As a result, there was a more balanced allocation of time for each of the different events than last year, and a fuller festival program.

At 10am, the opening ceremony was held at the Exchange Lounge on the first floor. After a speech by Ms. Yoko Nishimura, Director of International House, students from various countries took turns communicating the word "Thank you", which was the theme of the festival, in their own language, and finally the citizens participating in the ceremony said the Japanese word for thank you, "Arigato". This was followed by a performance by Buccina, a citizens' fanfare group, for a rousing start to the 2010 Hiroshima City International House Festival.

In the area outside International House was the annual "National Specialty Cuisine World Food Stalls Event". Fourteen organizations from ten countries set up stalls, and served up a

variety of cuisines from their home countries (*pho* from Vietnam, *kebabs* from Iran, pork buns and *gyoza* rice balls from China, and *puri*, fried bread, from Nepal, etc). This year, in addition to the south bicycle parking area, food tents were also set up on the north side facing Ozu Dori road, providing a lively atmosphere for the citizens and others on the street.

This year once again we switched from plastic containers to paper containers as an environmental measure, and also made efforts to reduce the amount of waste.

In the morning, the Japanese Speech Competition was held in the hall on the second floor. There were six participants, including students who regularly take Japanese classes at International House, international students living in International House and other foreign residents. The participants gave speeches on the topic of "Gratitude", the theme of this year's festival, and spoke about their feelings of gratitude and the people for whom they feel thankful.

In the first half of the afternoon, in the seminar room on the second floor, international students gave presentations about their home countries in an event entitled "WORLD EXPLORER". This was an opportunity for citizens to talk directly with international students and Coordinators for International Relations about countries that they are interested in, and all the sections set up for the nineteen countries and one region were bustling with people. At the end of the "WORLD EXPLORER" event, the international students in each of the sections dressed up in the distinctive national dress of their respective countries, and gathered on the stage to hold a national costume fashion show, which was hugely popular with the audience.

Later in the afternoon, a mini-event presented by nine groups of international students from five countries included a demonstration of the Chinese acrobatics known as *Diabolo*, and a dance from Iran. There was also an instrumental performance by the international students at Elizabeth University of Music Graduate School. There was also a wheelchair dance performance by the Wheelchair Dance Club in Hiroshima.

In the Exchange Lounge on the first floor, there was a display of *origami* by the student from Bulgaria who is the Chairperson of the Hiroshima City International House Festival Planning Committee. There was also a "eco-dinosaur" display, which was held as part of the environmental activities run by Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, with the support of Ms. Yumiko Kamei, the representative of Santara, the modeling group that has created dinosaur objects that can be used as garbage containers. This was an opportunity not only for the international students but also for citizens to learn about the importance of REFUSE, REDUCE, REUSE, REPAIR and RECYCLE, and gain an understanding of our Foundation's stance on environmental issues.

At the closing ceremony, the students gathered in the hall on the second floor to sing "If You're Happy and You Know It Clap Your Hands", and citizens also joined in for the finale.



International students talking at the closing ceremony

(Hiroshima City International House)

Japanese Language Consultant Course

From 2010, Hiroshima City International House established a system called Japanese Language Consultants for International Students, to support the residents of International House. Many of the residents struggle to learn Japanese required in various situations, from daily conversation to writing academic papers. We have received urgent requests for people willing to offer consultation regarding Japanese.

This is the first time such an initiative has been taken. We collected many applications from residents asking us to introduce language consultants, and from many people interested in international exchange and support for international students.

The first Japanese Language Support Course was held on October 2 (Sat), 2010, from 1:00 - 3:00pm, and eighteen people participated in order of application. The lecturer was Mr. Kazunari Iwata from Hiroshima City University, and it culminated in a fun and meaningful two-hour course which included workshops and discussions.

The first part of the course was self-introductions by the participants. Most of the participants had never had any interaction with international students, and they revealed their concerns about how to teach Japanese, and at the same time their eagerness to interact with the international students.

This was followed by instruction by Mr. Iwata on "How you can support the international students", "Principles of volunteering", and "Useful books for Japanese instruction". Participants read and corrected papers that had actually been written by international students, and discussed and made presentations on various matters from daily life that seem trivial but are actually useful for the international students. The course was entertaining with some surprises as well.

For around a week after the course, the person responsible from International House matched up course participants with international students. Each of the pairs had their exciting first meeting in the Lounge at International House, and supporter activities commenced. The consultants focused on such key points as, "not taking excessive responsibility,



Japanese Language Supporter Course

doing what one can, not spending a large amount of energy and time, and enjoying yourself", and "placing more importance on exchange than teaching Japanese grammar", and deepened their interaction with the international students.

On December 19 (Sun), a follow-up consultation session was held, giving consultants with doubts or questions about their activities the opportunity to ask Mr. Iwata.

There were positive comments from consultants such as "This is also teaching me new things about Japanese language and culture", and also emotional comments such as "Each time we meet, the student comes with questions he has written down, and he listens intently to my answers, so it really makes me feel that I am doing something useful. It really makes me happy. I look forward to meeting every time".

The international students also made comments such as, "She is a kind teacher, and easy to understand", and "I was struggling to write my paper, but now it is going well". We would like to expand this Japanese Language Consultants for International Students system in the future, as support for the studies and daily life of the international students, and also as a bridge between the students and citizens who hope to have further interaction with international students.

(Hiroshima City International House)

Public Exhibition of A-Bomb Memoirs Translated into Different Languages

In order to communicate the reality of the A-bomb experience to a larger number of foreign visitors to the museum, Hiroshima National Peace Memorial Hall for the A-Bomb Victims translated six A-bomb memoirs into English, Chinese and Korean, and put them on public display. Last year, these memoirs had been translated into a total of ten languages - French, Spanish, Russian, German, Portuguese, Italian and Thai, in addition to the three original languages, English, Chinese and Korean - with the aim of having even more foreigners understand the experience and the feelings of the A-bomb survivors. These are on display in the Library B1.

The memoirs translated this time were written by six persons who experienced the bombing. Their ages at the time of the bombing range from 8 to 31. They write about their life before the bombing, the situation at the time of the bombing, and their wishes for peace. In the memoirs written by a woman who lost her two young daughters in the bombing, she writes "Forgive me, forgive me, forgive your mother", expressing the unbearable grief she felt for her daughters. Visitors who read the memoirs commented that by reading the memoirs in their own language, they can understand at a deeper level the feelings of the survivors.

(Hiroshima National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims)



By Setsuko Morita,
Atomic Bomb Witness for This
Foundation

It was four months before the end of the war that I was able to start at the girl's school that I had always wanted to go to. Because of wartime shortages, I could not get all of my uniform. So I just had black dress material with two white stripes, a white tie and a school badge in the shape of a plum blossom. There were only two classes in my school year. The school was Daini-kenjo: Second Prefectural Girl's High School, which was near my home. At my school, I sewed a blouse for the first time. Since white sailor-type uniforms were forbidden at that time, that blouse was for my summer uniform and was not pure white. All female students had to wear "mompe" (*1) during the mobilization(*2).

On August 6, the location of labor service was assigned for



East Drill Ground ("A-bomb Drawings by Survivors", Mrs. Setsuko Morita)

each school, and we were divided into two groups: the building demolition(*3) group and the agricultural work group. The West class of second-year students headed to the place known at the time as Zakoba-machi (close to Hiroshima City Hall),

and the remaining three classes of first- and second-year students made their way to the field at the East Drill Ground near the north exit of Hiroshima Station.

I was completely exhausted from the daily heavy physical work, but I started weeding about 8am. It was ten minutes later that it happened. There was a sudden sharp flash. I was overcome by the blast and my body was thrown into the air.

It seems that I passed out for a few minutes. The next thing I knew, the area around me was dark, and I was surprised by figures looking like ghosts that stood up one after another in the midst of the smoke. Everyone had burnt hair and their clothes were hanging down in rags. They were shaking and could not say a word. It was like a nightmare, and I started to wonder what I looked like.

Both my arms were burned. The skin of the inner side of my left arm was hanging down to my fingertips, and the skin of my elbow on the outer side of my right arm was torn. From the wrist and beyond were all blisters. The back of my right leg was all burned. I supposed I had my back turned when the bomb dropped.

Our young school mistress was also seriously injured. Nevertheless, a few of us gathered together at a time and evacuated to Hiroshima Tosyogu, a shrine nearby. We splashed water from our drink bottles on each other to relieve the pain while we waited for aid, but no one came. The city was engulfed

in black smoke and flames. A bunch of people looking unearthly distressed were coming my way, crying out strangely.

Those of us who were able to walk were divided into several groups, and headed for our school, which was located in Ujina at the time. We could not enter the city center, so we headed south, walking along the military railway tracks from Hiroshima station. On the way, when we crossed the bridge over Enko-gawa River, it looked like someone tripped and fell into the river. Looking down, I saw many corpses floating down the river from upstream.

The school was still standing, but the building was damaged and we could not go inside, so we went to ask for help at the girls' vocational school that was just next door. The classrooms, corridors and *Mushiros*(*4) spread out in the exercise yard were full of seriously injured people. On the afternoon of the following day, a relief car came to help.

My home near the school was half-destroyed but still standing, and my father and mother were alive with light injuries. They desperately tended my wounds that smelled like something rotting, and I made a fair recovery in about three months.

Of the West class of second-year students who were involved in building demolition work at Zakoba-machi, 38 students died. They say that the only one to survive, Ms. Setsuko Sakamoto, is the model for the film "Children of Hiroshima" (directed by Kaneto Shindo, released in 1952).

First-year students who survived with keloid scars on their faces apparently hid themselves from view during their puberty and youth. I felt lonesome through the first half of my life with no children, but now I am encouraged by meeting children through my A-bomb testimony activities.



Ms. Morita (second from left) involved in testimony activities at the A-Bomb Exhibition at United Nations Headquarters in May last year.

(*1)Loose-fitting work trousers for women that are tapered at the ankle.

(*2)Students were forcefully mobilized to work at factories and the like to make up for labor shortages.

(*3)To prevent fires caused by air-raids from spreading to surrounding areas, buildings were torn down in advance, to create a fireproof area.

(*4) Mats made of straw or other grass material.

Profile

Setsuko Morita

Born November 22, 1932. Experienced the atomic bombing at East Drill Ground, approximately two kilometers from the hypocenter, at the age of twelve as a first-year student at Second Prefectural Girl's High School. From the age of 56, started activities as an atomic bomb witness, at a group to pass on stories of the A-bombing, an association of A-Bomb sufferers in Hiroshima Prefecture, and others. Registered last year as an Atomic Bomb Witness for This Foundation. Also participates in peace activities overseas, and gave an atomic bomb testimony in New York in May of last year and in Paris in February this year.

Hiroshima and Peace



by Peter Goldsbury,
Professor Emeritus at Hiroshima
University

I have been living in Hiroshima for over thirty years and for much of this time have been involved with the Peace Culture Foundation and its predecessor. When friends from overseas come to visit, their stay always includes a visit to the Peace Memorial Museum and the reaction is always the same: profound shock at what happened to Hiroshima and its population on August 6, 1945. This shock is inevitably followed by deep reflection on what is often called *Hiroshima no Kokoro*, the Spirit of Hiroshima: the earnest desire on the part of the people of Hiroshima for lasting world peace, free of nuclear weapons. I would like to reflect on what this means.

The big Oxford English Dictionary gives several definitions of the word "peace", but two stand out:

1. *Freedom from, or cessation of, war or hostilities: that condition of a nation or community in which it is not at war with another.*

This definition is in some sense a "negative" definition, since peace is defined as the absence of something else, in this case, war or hostilities, and the definition is applied to a large organism like a nation. However, nothing is stated positively about the actual situation of being free from war or hostilities.

2. *Freedom from quarrels or dissension between individuals: a state of friendliness; concord, amity.*

The second definition is narrower in focus, since it applied to individuals and is more positive, mentioning a state of friendship, concord or amity. I believe we need to understand the term "Peace", as exemplified in *Hiroshima no Kokoro*, or Hiroshima's other title, *City of International Peace and Culture*, in both of the senses suggested by these definitions, not just the first one.

The first definition concerns nations and communities and this can be understood as applying to Hiroshima City as a large community, led by Mayor Akiba. The Peace Ceremony, held on August 6 each year, is a major event of great international importance and there are very few places in the world where there is no coverage of this commemoration of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, and of Nagasaki on August 9. Along with the City of Nagasaki, Hiroshima has been very active in bringing to the attention of the whole world the major issues of world peace and the abolition of nuclear weapons. Initiatives such as Mayors for Peace and the many international exchanges dedicated to educating the world about the realities of the bombing are an essential part of this mission. In this respect, Hiroshima City-the Mayor, the city government, including the Peace Culture foundation-is carrying out this mission superlatively and, of course, it hardly needs stating that it is absolutely imperative that this mission continues, until the overall goal has been achieved and the stockpiles of nuclear weapons held by all the nuclear powers have been destroyed. However, even when this mission is finally accomplished, it would be naive to think that all wars and conflicts will be eliminated thereby. The abolition of nuclear weapons will still leave open the possibility of acts of terrorism, piracy, and political change involving violent conflict.

Nevertheless, the second definition is highly relevant to these wider and more intractable issues, since it concerns the state of friendship, concord and amity among individuals. A state of peace unconditionally entails the maintenance and flourishing of this state of friendship among individuals-in this case, the population of Hiroshima, understood in a wide sense: Japanese residents,

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HIROSHIMA PEACE CULTURE FOUNDATION

PEACE CULTURE

Japanese residents, long-term and short-term visitors. Hiroshima should shine out as an *International City of Peace and Culture* in this sense, also.

Hiroshima is home to many people like myself and it is always very pleasant to return after a trip abroad. In my case this is usually by bullet train, which passes through the final tunnel, begins to slow down, and glides over city along the long elevated track towards Hiroshima Station. There is this wonderful view of the city, looking to the south and for visitors this is a splendid way to see Hiroshima for the first time. And for me? Well, there is the English proverb, "*Absence makes the heart grow fonder*," ...

Nevertheless, I have a sort of gut feeling that Hiroshima-the people of Hiroshima have an obligation-a challenge, if you like, to make *International City of Peace and Culture* mean more than just a name. A name can be a slogan; it can also be a definite description, which depicts what is named with complete accuracy, but there is still some way to go before this complete match is achieved. My long association with the Peace Culture Foundation has convinced me that there is a huge reservoir of good will in Hiroshima, perhaps largely still untapped, which has resulted in a vast range of initiatives and projects at local level. People really do want to help, to make Hiroshima stand out as a real beacon of peace, if given the opportunity.

On the other hand, my long experience of living here has also convinced me of the other side of the picture: Hiroshima is an average sort of city: it is large, but compact in the center; it is bustling, but also quiet, with a village atmosphere in some areas. This is why it is so pleasant to live here. However, it is still average, with the same multifarious problems of living as occur in other Japanese cities of similar size.

A few evenings ago I was having dinner with a good friend, who has also lived in Hiroshima for many years. He told me he was making a list of peace activities and projects that people could engage in: anything that was doable. We both agreed that there was a need for more grass roots activity and other friends I have met since then agree. International City of Peace and Culture is a splendid name, but there is still a gap between the name and the reality and we need to work harder to close the gap. Earlier, I gave two definitions of peace and applied these to Hiroshima. I believe that the second definition of peace is just as important as the first one, but is much harder to exemplify. The challenges are enormous, but this is what makes a challenge worth overcoming.

(Contributed in March 2011)

Profile

Peter Goldsbury

Attended Sussex University (UK), Harvard University (US), Ph.D from University College London (UK) Emeritus professor of Hiroshima University, Graduate School of Social Sciences, Department of Management.General specialization: comparative culture, cross-cultural negotiation, philosophy of languageCivin Activities: Member of the Board of Trustees, Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation / Chair of Hiroshima City Council for Foreign Residents / Formerly Director-General, Hiroshima International School / Formerly Member of Police Committee, Hiroshima Prefectural Police, Higashi-Hiroshima Police StationOther Activities: Aikido 6th dan / Chairman International Aikido Federation / Member of Board of Directors, Japan-British Society of Hiroshima

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