

2018 Mayors for Peace Youth Exchange for Peace: Support Program for
"HIROSHIMA and PEACE"

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In the world where violence is increasing and innocent people are being killed just for delivering the message of power of countries for intended purposes, talking about peace is difficult. Humans have reached the stage that the achievements of the past are in danger and values are decreasing day by day. In this situation, we are responsible to humans who were victim of hatred and war. Hiroshima and Peace course taught me little steps can be valuable, we should be sensitive to others and also with all differences we have the same value: Peace.

Participating in Hiroshima and Peace course was a turning point and a rich experience for me.

Learning to communicate peacefully

Hiroshima City University is one of the effective place in my life. Without any exaggeration, I grew up there and I learned how to communicate and cooperate with variety of people and not to judge them according to their backgrounds. It was challenging to convey my opinion about special subject and have the ability to stand the opposite one. Now I have friends from different countries, with different knowledge, perspectives, cultures but only one purpose.

Learning facts about Hiroshima tragedy from different sides

According to lectures that we had during the course, they explained the tragedy historically, scientifically and politically and then started to talk about what should we do for peacebuilding. The drawn process was very informative, instructive and executable. Although the lecturers came from different countries but all of them talked about this tragic story without prejudice.

Differences in narrating a story

Listening to the story from Hibakusha's side was a wonderful experience. One of the important point that I noticed in the Hibakusha's story was the way that they narrate a story. They didn't miss even small detail of tragedy and this was the reason that make it more impressive. I found a lot of differences between Iranian war survivors narrating and Hibakushas and the way that they choose for showing the consequences of what happened to them.

Conducting a group project

After the second session of Hiroshima and Peace support program that was held by Mayors for Peace staff, we as participants decided to have group projects. In near future, we want to have online joint workshops, make a network of NGOs and universities and small societies that we are parts of them for peacebuilding. Also we thought that making a video will be a good idea to introduce the plan to our countries.

Inspirational journey

This journey was so inspiring for me, because after I came back to Iran and arranged a meeting with Tehran Peace Museum's members and sharing the experiences, I had lots of ideas to do for improving the knowledge of nuclear science and the different aspects of having nuclear energy and also nuclear weapons for a country in my university and in small societies that I'm participating in. first I want to write a scientific essay about the alternative ways of producing energy that will have less effects on environment. Second step can be holding a workshop in my universities that mainly works on nuclear science and also I want to activate a new department in TPM for informing the visitors about the consequences of nuclear weapons.

At the end, Words aren't enough to express my gratitude to Mayors for Peace and its compassionate staff and Hiroshima City University that made this opportunity for me. I hope we do something for the abolishing nuclear weapons of the world.