

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

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When I attended HIROSHIMA AND PEACE and Mayors for Peace program, I thought "to know and to understand" is one of the most important things to make peace. Through this program, I learned many things that I did not know about peace. In addition, understanding the facts and spreading this to the people in this world relates to peace.

So I propose the plan focusing on "to know and to understand".

Firstly, my own plan is holding a meeting about experiences of Hiroshima. This is already included the program, Hiroshima and Peace, but I think it is better to hold it not only in my city but also in the university which I attend. The reason is there are many people outside of Hiroshima who do not know what actually happened on 6th August. I had been also one of these people before I came to study in Hiroshima.

As a specific content, I tell the audience what I learned through this program, my experiences of attending the Peace memorial ceremony and what I thought and felt when I listened to the testimony of Hibakusha.

I would like many people to know and understand my experiences of Hiroshima.

Secondly, I propose that cities hold a class about Hiroshima in elementary and junior high schools as a activity of Mayors for Peace to abolish nuclear weapons.

As I wrote before, we, the people outside of Hiroshima, do not have much knowledge about Atomic bomb than the people in Hiroshima. From this reason, it is good way to spread to elementary and junior high school students what happened on 6th August.

For instance, the average of age of Hibakusha has been increasing, so now young people pass down testimonies. We can invite them to hold a class not only in schools but also in public halls.

I think the most important thing is telling the truth.

Through the HIROSHIMA AND PEACE project, I realized that I had not learned the truth which we have to know as a Japanese. For example, existence of Korean Hibakusha. All of the Japanese participants in Hiroshima including me had not learned this from school. However, 73 years ago, they were exposed to A-bomb and have suffered from this the same as Japanese people. I thought this is the fact that we should know.

I would love to spread the importance of knowing and understanding from this summer program. In addition, I thought "to know and to understand" relates to understanding intercultural communication. Nowadays, when you see the world, there are wars because of misunderstanding with each other. When we make a peaceful world, we should know the background of own country such as war and history. Moreover, I felt sharing and understanding each other's culture and history can help to make world peace from this program.