

The 8th General Conference of Mayors for Peace

Dialogue Session with Citizens and Atomic Bomb Survivors Groups

What Should We Do to Abolish Nuclear Weapons

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Coordinator: Kazumi Mizumoto

Vice President, Hiroshima Peace Institute, Hiroshima City University

Presentation of Peacemaking Efforts:

Sunao Tsuboi

Co-chairperson, Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers
Organizations

Kazuo Ookoshi

Secretary General, Hiroshima Prefectural Conference of A-bomb
Sufferers Organizations

Nobuhide Okamura

President, Hiroshima Consumers' Co-operative Union

Yui Tamitani, Emi Inazumi, Noriko Murakam

Hiroshima Jogakuin Senior High School

Presentation of Views:

Richard Mirocco

Co-producer, "That Day" Film

MC

Thank you for waiting. Now we would like to begin the Dialogue Session with Citizens and A-bomb Survivors. The coordinator of this dialogue Session is Professor Mr. Mizumoto Kazumi, the vice president of Hiroshima Peace Institute, Hiroshima City University. Professor Mizumoto's after serving as branch manager of Asahi Shimbun, in 1998 he started to work with the peace institute of Hiroshima City University and he was appointed to be a vice president in 2010. Professor Mizumoto, please.

Coordinator: Mr. Kazumi Mizumoto, Vice President, Hiroshima Peace Institute, Hiroshima City University

Thank you very much for your kind introduction. I am a coordinator of this dialogue session. My name is Mizumoto from the Hiroshima Peace Institute, Hiroshima City University. The theme of this session is "what should we do to abolish nuclear weapons". Because this is a dialogue session, we invited three major organizations. The first group is the representative of the A-bomb survivors, *hibakusha*.

Now I would like to introduce to you on behalf of the *hibakusha*, Mr. Sunao Tsuboi, the Co-chairperson of the Japan Confederation of Atomic and Hydrogen Bomb Sufferers Organizations. Next, he is also a representative of *hibakusha*, Mr. Kazuo Ookoshi, Secretary General of the Hiroshima Prefectural Confederation of A- Bomb Sufferers Organizations. The third group is – there are many citizens living in the city. They are thinking of the safety in their life as well as good. In daily life, ordinary people are looking for safety and on behalf of the ordinary citizens, we invited Mr. Nobuhide Okamura, President of the Hiroshima Consumers' Co-operative Union. The second group is representative of the youth in Hiroshima. The third year of Ms. Yui Tamitani, Ms. Emi Inazumi, and Ms. Noriko Murakami from the Hiroshima Jogakuin Senior High School.

We invited three groups. First I would like to invite Mr. Tsuboi on behalf of the A-bomb survivors. He used to be a teacher and he is very active on behalf of the A-bomb survivors and he is still a teacher to the Hiroshima community. He is a teacher to me too. He is a kind of spiritual leader of the A-bomb survivors so I would like to ask Mr. Tsuboi to make a speech first.

Mr. Sunao Tsuboi, Co-chairperson, Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations

My name is Sunao Tsuboi and I am 88 years old. I am *hibakusha*, an atomic bomb survivor. I narrowly escaped death at that time although I have gone through a very turbulent life so far. I started with my brief introduction so let me start with my experience as an atomic bomb survivor, but before that I would like to inform you of the current situation, meaning what has happened since the atomic bomb was dropped. Let me start with this topic. I have two hopes and wishes. I have attained this wish and another one. I have been suffering from two types of cancers and I have been receiving treatment for this disease. I have been suffering from heart disease and have been treated with medicine prescribed by the doctor and I am still suffering from these diseases. I also place that medicine beside my pillow when I go to bed. Doctors prohibit me to drink the medicine with water. I have to put it on my tongue and when my heart is about to stop, I always turn to this medicine in my office always and also at home. When I go abroad to the United States or on my way to the United States or to Europe on my plane, I always carry that medicine. I take that medicine for my heart disease.

The third disease is I have very bad anemia meaning that I have not been able to make blood well in my body and that function was destroyed by the atomic bombing. I have not been able to digest all that I have for my energy and power to live. You can digest 100% of what you eat but only 70% for me so no matter how many times I go through the medical checkup, I have never been able to have my disease cured because my blood-making function has been destroyed. That is the third disease I have.

I have been certified as having been suffering from the atomic bomb diseases. Sorry for my long introduction but I have been suffering from these diseases. I have been taking three kinds of medicine for my blood and also for my heart disease. Morning, noon, and evening, I take the medicine three times a day. And also I receive an intravenous drip regularly, otherwise I cannot survive. That is what many other atomic survivors are like. I am also a *hibakusha*.

About 68 years ago, I was 20 years old when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima so 68 years have passed since then so I am 88 years old. I was attacked by the atomic bomb at the age of 20 at 1km from the hypocenter. In the place where I was hit by the atomic bomb, 60% of the people there were killed by the bomb. I was going to a university at that time when the bomb was dropped and I lost my consciousness. When I came to, I couldn't even see 100m away, and at that time I found my body was totally burned from head to toe, and all my clothes were burned away. All two parts of my trousers were burned away.

I was blown away 10m from where I had been when I was covered with blood. I was burned – I was charred. That is what I was like at that time. I was almost naked because my back was burning and I was wearing shorts and I was looking for a place that was not burning as I fled to safer places. Back then, classmates and my juniors were also working and studying with me. Back then I was very lucky to have survived that situation while other people didn't. That was the wartime condition and our lives were severely affected by those harsh conditions. In the meantime, first aid stations were established here and there in the city, temporary medical centers, and even though I visited those places, they said, "No, there is no chance for you to cure your disease." In the meantime on August 15, the war was brought to an end, but we didn't know that at that time.

For one week after the bombing, I was living on the road and for the coming 40 days, I don't remember what I ate during that period. I have no memory about the food I ate. I was hovering. I was on the verge of death. But today, I am here to talk to you because many people helped me survive so I really hope that I will be able to return the favor to all of those people. That is the idea I always have when I work for peace. I am 88 years old and I go to my office to work and I also travel to Europe, India, Pakistan, and many other countries, Vietnam, China, South Korea, North Korea, and I have been to the United States eight times. Those are my activities.

But while I am engaged in my activities, I am strongly resolved that nuclear weapons should be abolished because nuclear weapons are different from other conventional bombs because our suffering lasts for lifelong. That is the horror of radiation. Nuclear weapons or atomic bombs should never be condoned for any reason. They shouldn't exist on Earth. That is an absolute evil. That is why we should abolish those weapons. That is what I talk to and appeal to many people around the country.

Lastly, I have been able to survive, I was helped by one word uttered from my mother when I was unconscious at that time, she called my name very loudly and that awakened me. That brought me back to consciousness. Without that voice from her, I would not have been able to talk to you like this. Well, I want to say that life is precious, whether it is terrorist attacks. I am strongly against such attacks. Of course individual murder is intolerable. War should never be condoned because people kill other people. We need wisdom. We need human wisdom to overcome all these problems. Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Mr. Mizumoto

Thank you very much Mr. Tsuboi. I would like to mention two points. Mr. Tsuboi has shared with us his tragedy. The radiation causes various symptoms. That is because the radiation hurt the genes so the symptoms may be different but because radiation hurts the genes so all the organs can be affected so I would like you to understand this. Mr. Tsuboi, as mentioned in his testimony, there are many, many A-bomb survivors who have not talked about their experience yet because their wounds are so deep so I would like to remember this too. Next, I would like to invite on behalf of *hibakusha* A-bomb survivors, I will invite Mr. Kazuo Ookoshi, Secretary General of Hiroshima Prefectural Confederation of A-bomb Sufferers Organizations.

Mr. Kazuo Ookoshi, Secretary General, Hiroshima Prefectural Confederation of A-bomb Sufferers Organizations

My name is Ookoshi. I was A-bombed at the age of five years and I am going to talk about what my organization is working on. There are three major efforts. One is the better understanding of the reality and passing on the experience of atomic bombing. Second, activities of abolishment of nuclear weapons. And third is *hibakusha* secrecy and estimated radiation damage.

First I would like to talk about the better understanding of the reality and the passing of the experience of the atomic bomb. The world is now paying more attention to humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons. At the international conference in Oslo this year, there was a statement “It is surprising that the issue of nuclear weapons have been discussed only in the context of politics.” We must now focus on its inhumane aspects. At the NPT Review PrepCom Meeting in April, the joint statement on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons was announced and 80 countries endorsed it.

It is *hibakusha* who actually experienced the inhumanity of nuclear weapons. Our mission to convey our experience has become even more significant now. Due to age there are fewer survivors who can tell their experience. *Hibakusha* are talking to the second and third generation who sympathize and pass on our experience and activities and to the visitors to Hiroshima City. *Hibakusha* are talking at various places in Japan as well as abroad and emphasizing the use of nuclear weapons is a cruel and inhumane act. At the same time, we are talking about the war that caused the atomic bombing and are calling for a world free of nuclear weapons and wars.

People who listened to us vary in ages and it is not easy to convey the facts and our true feelings in a short time. Our organizations give regular training, discussions can help us make more efforts for better understanding of the truth. We are talking to about 40 thousand people every year. We are proud that we are playing our role in passing on our experience to the next generation. We will continue to work on these activities.

The second activities of abolishment of nuclear weapons, under the oath of No More *Hibakusha*, we have continued our efforts toward a world without nuclear weapons. Global voices and movements towards elimination of nuclear weapons greatly contributed to the prevention of several crises of the use of nuclear weapons. Fortunately, owing to those movements, nuclear weapons have never been dropped on humans after Nagasaki. However, there are still a great number of nuclear weapons existing on Earth. Global voices led by *hibakusha* calling for the abolition of all nuclear weapons are now reaching the nuclear weapon states that were admitted to possess nuclear weapons.

At the 2010 NPT Review Meeting, the realization of a peaceful and safe world without nuclear weapons was agreed and a call for the conclusion of Nuclear Weapon Convention, a proposal by the Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, has collected nearly 3 million signatures. The Mayors for Peace has been collecting signatures to call for the same goal as the Nuclear Weapon Convention. The largest obstacle to the abolition of nuclear weapons is a nuclear deterrence that justified defense and security by the possession of nuclear weapons. This must be overcome and brought down. The adjoined statement and humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons submitted to the NPT Review PrepCom Meeting stated that it is in the interest of the very survival of humanity that nuclear weapons are never used again under any circumstances.

The Japanese government refused to endorse this statement because of the disagreement with the phrase “under any circumstances.” The Chugoku newspaper in its editorial strongly criticized the government, stating Japan shouldn’t call itself “the A-bombed nation.” It became clear that Japan realized and the US nuclear umbrella for its national security and policy is contradictory to its appeal for NPT. It is important to convince the nuclear weapon states leaning on nuclear deterrence and the states under the nuclear umbrella about the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons.

To eliminate nuclear weapons, the UN secretary general appealed to the world from Hiroshima on August 6, 2010, that we will abolish nuclear weapons in the lifetime of

the survivors. He also referred to the significant role that has been played the citizens' movements. We have been encouraged by the words of the secretary general and we will continue to work for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Finally, I would like to talk about the support to the *hibakusha*. The United States banned publication of damages by the atomic bomb during the 7 year occupation. During that period, *hibakusha* suffered from discrimination and stigmatization. *Hibakusha* encouraged by the movement and the louder public voices against atomic and hydrogen bombs formed an organization for their movement. 12 years after the A-bombing, the early version of the Atomic Bomb Survivors' Assistance Law was introduced. Under this law, the Japanese government was refusing the compensation for other war damages, decided to give assistance to radiation damages and special damages, different from the other war damages. This law defines the radiation damages as the damage from initial radiation exposure and ignored the effects of residual radiation and radioactive fallout; that continued secrecy and underestimating of the actual effects. This mistake was corrected by lawsuits, calling for the recognition of radiation diseases. The ruling adopted the evidence given by scholars and researchers and criticized the mistake in the government's measures.

The effects of residual radiation and radioactive fallout were recognized and the mechanism and effects of internal exposure were clarified. The Japanese government was pressed for correction and reviewed the criteria. The government successively lost lawsuits and in 2009 concluded the confirmation letter with a representative of *hibakusha*. The chief cabinet secretary then expressed an apology for the suffering of the *hibakusha* over a long time. However, the four years have passed but the Japanese government has not fulfilled the promise yet. For that reason, about 100 *hibakusha* cannot help but sue the government for their recognition. This is the current situation.

In two areas, the ruling was in favor of *hibakusha*. Hiroshima requested for the expansion of black rain areas. The review committee concluded that in the black rain areas, there was no radioactive fallout to the effects that were caused only by worries and anxiety about radiation exposure and the testimonies about black rain were not trustworthy and thus rejected the request. The committee also announced the designation of the heavy rain area as an area affected by radiation was even wrong.

The secrecy and underestimating of radiation effects are the same attitude as seen in the nuclear power plant accident were announced as no immediate impact on health. In

Fukushima's nuclear power plant accident, 168-fold more of cesium than that of Hiroshima was released and dispersed. Some children in Fukushima are suffering from diarrhea by unknown cause. Even now, 150 thousand people are forced to live in evacuation. They do not know when they can go home. Their worries and suffering on life and health in the future continue. It is important not to allow any secrecy and underestimate radiation effects that we saw in the atomic bombing. That will lead to support and compensation of the sufferers of the nuclear plant accident.

Most importantly, accurate information about radiation exposure must be disseminated to all Japanese people and we shall not repeat history. To do so, it is essential for *hibakusha* to form solidarity. These are the three items that my organization is working on. Thank you.

Mr. Mizumoto

Thank you very much. This has been a goal expressed by Mr. Ookoshi and we should work hard for the abolition of nuclear weapons and also stress upon the stressing need for that. Over the past years, scientists have made new discoveries about the danger of radiation so we need to have a good understanding of this danger he stressed, especially the designated areas of black rain will reveal new facts as scientific research goes on, I hope. Next, these two people have been invited here as representatives of the atomic bomb survivors so next I would like to invite Mr. Nobuhide Okamura, President of Hiroshima Consumers' Co-operative Union as one of the ordinary citizens.

Mr. Nobuhide Okamura, President, Hiroshima Consumers' Co-operative Union

Thank you very much for your kind introduction. I am Okamura, President of Hiroshima Consumers' Co-operative Union. First of all, I would like to give you a brief outline of our organization and after that I would like to move to my PowerPoint. The Hiroshima Union currently focuses on the areas of purchase, healthcare, and mutual aid and is composed of 14 co-ops with a membership of about 950 thousand, some of whom also belong to several co-ops. Therefore, nearly one-third of the prefectural households are our members I should say.

So our superior body, the Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union was established in March 1951. WWII had taught us bitter lessons which formed the basis of the peace declaration our union issued. Since then, we have been aiming for a society based on mutual cooperation and support. Ever since, "For peace and a better life" has been our slogan. Peace is the first priority because back then for some time after the war people

were arguing about which comes first, peace or a better life. But without peace, there is no better life so they decided to put peace ahead of a better life.

In Hiroshima Prefecture, peace activities stand on the perspective of Hiroshima as the atomic bomb city. We have working to pass on the consequence of the atomic bombing to posterity, carrying out signature collecting campaigns and peace marches for example. Networking with other civic organizations is also an important part of our activities. Above all, peace marches started in 1979 as an annual event and this is the 34rd year of that event. We have been joined by the atomic bomb survivors, women's groups, youth groups, YMCA, and co-ops. All these organizations which are the people on the street for the importance of peace. Nuclear weapons with its inhumane nature cannot coexist with humankind. It is an absolute evil. Nonetheless, on the planet there still exists about 19 thousand nuclear warheads. This absolute evil should not be entrusted with our future. No wars, no nuclear weapons should exist in a peaceful world we aim to realize and hand down to the next generation. That should be our responsibility and mission.

The atomic bomb survivors are still suffering from radiation diseases, living laden with anxiety. They always tell me, nonetheless, "Our excruciating pain should never be inflicted upon other people again." Their fortitude and their compassion always come as a great inspiration to us all. Now, Mayors for Peace will at this general conference adopt a new Japanese name for it to better reflect the reality and closer to the English term Mayors which will be welcomed by co-ops around the country. Also, we support your 2020 Vision and people are now calling on their local governments, which are not members yet, to join you. Furthermore, for the conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention, we are currently conducting signature collecting drive nationwide around the country with the help of Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation. More and more workshops are being held on relevant issues today. I am so pleased to see many people could stand in this project present here.

For the future, members of Mayors for Peace should work with citizens in unison for a world free of wars and nuclear weapons, thus further augmenting the energy of civil societies. These efforts were initiated by our Hiroshima organizations – actually for three years and our move has been spreading all over the country. In May this year, we issued an appeal and the copies of the appeal are ready at the entrance of this room. I hope you will take one home.

Now let me turn to my PowerPoint for further explanation. Over the past years, we have stressed upon the creation and also the passing on of the atomic bombing experience to other posterity. We firmly believe that no nuclear weapons should be used again.

For that purpose, we are organizing various workshops for that purpose. As for children, this is our first attempt over the past year – actually we have many monuments here and there in Hiroshima City but over the past years it was grown-ups who have been working as guides of those monuments. We thought that it would be important for children to do the job. Already, they started working today. At 5:00 in the evening today, children are already working as tour guides of those monuments. This year, the third graders and also the first year students of junior high school students have studied very hard to be volunteer guides.

Next we are asking for the early conclusion of a nuclear weapons treaty and have been conducting signature campaigns for that here and there in the country. Mayors for Peace has been advocating for the early conclusion of this treaty and we wholeheartedly endorse your move. And many co-ops around the country are working on this.

In 2011, we were able to collect 140 thousand signatures and those signatures were handed down to Mr. Matsui, Mayor of Hiroshima who is present today. As I said earlier, we strongly believe that our organization should work in close unison with Mayors for Peace and in 2010 we appealed to people around the country about this importance. Mr. Kunimoto, on the picture, was invited on that occasion. And another person was invited to the rally and those two people gave lectures. Another one of our activities is peace action in Hiroshima. In this project, all the co-ops come to Hiroshima from around the country and we will hold various activities today and tomorrow in the gymnasium in our city and we see the face of Mr. Tsuboi on the screen. Another activity is the peace action Hiroshima project, we hold a rainbow festival and on the screen there are various photos that show the activities of that event. A total of 17 programs are offered on that occasion.

We also do field work. Last year, that picture on the left shows we have made a river course to learn about the consequences about the atomic bombing. We made a river course like that. Another picture shows the guided tours of monuments in Peace Park but the river crew was our first attempt in our history.

I forgot the networking activities. Aside from co-ops, we are working with various organizations. Peace March was organized by six different groups and we have been

doing this for the past 30 years with those six organizations as the picture shows. And the next one is the citizens' rally for a peaceful world without war and nuclear weapons. I have been repeating this but we find it necessary to work with other organizations. Actually, we are cooperating with YMCA, women's groups, and atomic survivors' organization, and that rally was held for the first time in 2011. The second round of this rally was attended by the representatives of the prefectural government, including Mr. Yuzaki, governor of Hiroshima. And he gave us encouraging message about our activities and also we received the message from Mr. Leeper, the former chairperson of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, and also from Mr. Hashimoto, the director of the Regional Policy Bureau of the Hiroshima Prefectural Government, and we have been appealing for the participation of the leaders of co-ops around other countries. And this year, 70 such people participated in this rally and listened to the survivors' stories and took part in various other activities, as the pictures show.

These are our own activities. For the past six years, we have been organizing the night games of peace as the picture at the bottom shows. The Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, Hiroshima Electric Railway Company, Hiroshima Toyo Carp, and also Chugoku Newspaper have been supporting our activities. This year, in two days' time on August six, we will have a matchup between the Hanshin Tigers and Hiroshima Toyo Carp here. Actually, this year, all the central league teams will hold night games for peace. These are all official games so I think this is an unprecedented event. In Hiroshima, Mr. Koji Kikkawa, a famous actor and singer from Hiroshima, will sing a song "Imagine" at the bottom of the fifth inning this year.

These are the networking activities with overseas organizations. Actually, we are the members of the ICA, with agricultural cooperatives, and the ICA has a membership of 1 billion people so I think that is the same size as the membership of Mayors for Peace. And from November 15-20, Geneva in Switzerland hosted the general assembly of this organization. Every year, peace resolution has been made so far, but none of that has ever adopted the code for the abolition of nuclear weapons. Since I am from Hiroshima, I also took a rostrum and mentioned the 2020 Vision on that occasion and appealed for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Also in 2010, the NPT Review Conference was held. And on that occasion, six representatives from Hiroshima Cooperative took part in that conference. The picture shows the parade conducted by those people in New York. Last but not least, our efforts might be small but one drop of water will gather to form a big river so just a small effort

will be able to form huge energy. Well over the past year, I feel that energy has to gather momentum little by little, but it starts with a small base.

Over the past year, that energy has just exploded over the past year, not only in Japan but in overseas as well. That is my feeling and impression of the past year. The energy of civil societies will be momentum to move the international community and that will eventually lead to a world without nuclear weapons and wars. I am firmly resolved about that and these are the activities of our organizations. We will work very hard, step-by-step, working with other people and other organizations around the country and the world. Thank you very much.

Mr. Mizumoto

Thank you very much Mr. Okamura. He presented to us perspective of the ordinary citizens. Which should come first, life or peace? Actually I would like to invite the three students from Hiroshima Jogakuin Senior High. I would like to talk about peace activities, the United Nations, emphasizing the importance of nuclear disarmament and nuclear nonproliferation, especially the education of that. These students from Jogakuin Senior High, in February this year, the disarmament conference held in Shizuoka and some of the students visited there.

They were sitting in front and asked questions. One of the questions was how can Hiroshima appeal to the world? That we will talk about the atrocities imposed on Hiroshima but at the same time we have to consider the atrocities, we, Japan caused in other countries, neighboring countries. And a former diplomat came up to me later the following day and he said he was impressed by the statement made by the student from Jogakuin Senior High. Now I would like to invite Ms. Tamitani, Inazumi, and Murakami for their presentation.

Ms. Yui Tamitani, third-year student, Hiroshima Jogakuin Senior High School

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, I am Yui Tamitani, a third-year of Hiroshima Jogakuin Senior High. And I participated in the Critical Issues Forum held by the Monterey Institute of International Studies in California. I held a discussion about nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation along with Russian and American students about a world without nuclear weapons. I made a presentation of peace education. I would like to show to you the presentation I made at that time. I had another presenter, Ms. Makori, second-year, but she is now in the United States so on behalf of her, Ms.

Inazumi, second-year, is joining me. And second-year Murakami is going to operate the IT. I am going to begin now.

Hello everyone. While preparing for this forum, we studied about disarmament and nonproliferation issues widely and deeply like all of you here. And we came up with some ideas that encourage us. This is the outline. First, we would like to introduce Hiroshima Jogakuin. Then the objectives and suggestions for peace education. Then we would like to talk about the outcome of peace education. Lastly, we will briefly introduce the role of civil society and the government.

Our school in Hiroshima Jogakuin is an all-girls Methodist junior and senior high school. It is 126 years old. The first principal was an American missionary woman. This is the picture of our school in 1945. On August 6, 1945, at 8:15am, the first atomic bomb used in the war was dropped over Hiroshima. Located less than a mile from the hypocenter, Jogakuin was completely destroyed. This is a picture of Jogakuin right after the bombing. At our school, we have a unique peace education curriculum. However, we must explain our sad history behind that. When the A-bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, our school lost 352 students and teachers on that day. Some students fortunately survived and some felt guilty about it because many of their friends and family were killed. Also, many of the *hibakusha*, or surviving victims of the A-bombing, were also victims of severe discrimination due to the fact that people at the time were ignorant about the consequences of radiation sickness. As years passed, the number of *hibakusha* has decreased. As this problem gets serious, our school began a peace education curriculum so that the memory of the A-bombing will be passed down and future generations can learn about peace.

Ms. Emi Inazumi, second-year student, Hiroshima Jogakuin Senior High School

Next, we would like to introduce our peace education. In the 7th grade, we learn about Jogakuin during WWII. In the 8th grade, we learn about the effects of the A-bomb in Hiroshima. The 9th graders learn about Nagasaki, another A-bomb city. In the 10th grade about Japan as an aggressor, and in the 11th grade, the grand battle in Okinawa. Finally, in the 12th grade, about peace in the present day. Throughout this program, we learn the history of the war from many viewpoints and learn about today's problems and more than anything, to realize the true terror of war.

What is peace education? We think that peace education must start with learning the history of wars. Learning about factual information, and sharing the feelings of war

victims give us the picture of the reality and the terror of war. We think this phase is necessary to realize how important peace is, and at the same time, the tragedy war victims experienced should never be repeated. Thus, we can learn how to unwise it is to solve problems with violence such as war.

The second phase of peace education is to pass the A-bomb survivors' experience down generations. Now the number of *hibakusha* is coming down. Their average is over 78. We need to remember that we are the last generation who can directly listen to their experience. Learning about the inhuman consequence of Hiroshima and Nagasaki means that we are also learning about what would happen if nuclear bombs were to be used again. To overcome these problems, we came up with two items we should aim for. That is, we should have empathy with war victims and feel the terror of war. The other one is that we should be more active to prevent nuclear wars.

Ms. Tamitani

We believe those two will solve the problems we have now. Please let us explain what the problems are. First of all, many people still do not know the real terror of nuclear weapons. For example, Atomic Fire Ball candy. In the lecture by Mr. Arthur Binard, an American poet and peace activist, learned the word "atomic" is used as the word "amazing." I was really shocked and disappointed because I have been learning the terror of A-bombs and trying to imagine the *hibakusha's* feelings. I can't stand such a joke. Besides, the candy itself tasted awful. If people have empathy for *hibakusha*, they can't use such words. Next, the factual knowledge about nuclear weapons is lacking. There was a very regretful research held in Japan that proves this. According to the survey held in 2010, only 33% of 4-6th grade elementary school students in Hiroshima were able to answer the correct date and time of the A-bombing. If this situation goes on, the history of A-bomb victims will be forgotten and the world will repeat the tragedy. As the proverb goes, history repeats itself.

In order for all of this not to happen, we think peace education should be taught at school. First, peace education can be incorporated into existing education, such as social studies, science, language, art, computer classes, ideally 3 hours per subject per year. In fact, peace can be learned in all subjects. In a science class, you can learn the A-bomb's effect on the environment and human body. Through a social studies class, you can learn about the history of wars and treaties that are used to make the world more peaceful. In a language or literature class, we can learn the testimonies of *hibakusha*. The book "Summer Cloud" and "My Hiroshima" are the stories of survivors. The

former was written by our English teachers and the latter by another who experienced the A-bomb. We read them in our English classes.

This is another example of peace education. This work of art was made of paper cranes by junior high school students in Shizuoka, Japan where the United Nations conference was held in early February this year. They thought about the image of peace and expressed it like this. It was really beautiful and we saw many people stop to see it. This is a good example of how peace education can be incorporated into art class. Besides peace education in existing education, we suggest that schools have peace week. It could be around the time of international peace day on September 21. During this week, students are expected to have discussions and give presentations not only on what they learned but also on what they want to do to make peace. Many students can be encouraged to do something further or they can do extra-curricular activities.

In fact, at our school, a lot of students are involved in peace activities. Let me show you some examples. First, some students, including me, have been taking part in the production of the Hiroshima archive. It is an interactive Google Map, showing the testimonies and pictures of survivors. If you click on a place or person on the map, you can see what happened on August 6, 1945. We interviewed survivors of the A-bomb for the archives in cooperation with a professor from Tokyo. Not only that, you can compare what Hiroshima was like before the bombing and what it is like now. There are other archives such as Nagasaki and Okinawa. Of course, if there are testimonies you want to pass to the next generation, you can make a similar website yourself. Please check out this website.

Ms. Inazumi

The next activity is a tour of Peace Park in Hiroshima, Volunteers from our school, including us, guide visitors from other prefectures and countries around Peace Park and explain the meaning of the monuments and cenotaphs there. These pictures of the park we did on April 13. We guided American high school students from Rhode Island. Next, the petition to abolish nuclear weapons is a grassroots signature campaign designed by Jogakuin students and teachers together with all of you, the Mayors for Peace. Students stand on the street, talking to passersby, and asking for their signatures. The signatures we collect are usually sent to the United Nations and are displayed at the headquarters in New York, but the ones collected this past year were brought by the mayor of Hiroshima, Mr. Matsui, to the Second Preparatory Committee for the 2015 NPT Review Conference in April in Geneva.

Finally, we would like to talk about Jogakuin International Cooperation Society, or JICS. This club not only does international exchanges but also focuses on peace activities. Its motto is to research problems from many viewpoints and think of how to solve them. Then they make presentations to their fellow members and finally take action. For example, they are collecting used musical instruments such as recorders and keyboard harmonicas from students and are going to send them to the children in Cambodia where they don't have enough of them. Besides what we have been doing, we have more ideas. For example, we could visit preschools or elementary schools and spend time with small children and think about peace together. For instance, asking them what color peace might be and actually drawing pictures of peace with them. Some may draw faces of smiles, and others may draw nature. It will be a good opportunity to think of what peace is like for small children.

Ms. Tamitani

More ideas? Yes. We can use pop culture or fads. For example, Michael Jackson. In his music "Man in the Mirror," he encourages listeners to start taking action by themselves. We can organize flash mobs to express peace. We can use Facebook or Twitter and share our feelings and thoughts about peace. It is not only pop culture. Mamoru Samuragochi, a completely deaf music composer from Hiroshima expresses the A-bombing in his symphony named Symphony No.1 "Hiroshima." All these activities are popular among us and are expected to increase the number of peacemakers on a grassroots level. When people who receive peace education in various ways grow up, some may join an NGO and as an NGO may have a chance to move the government and guide world change. Or some may work for the government, local or national. Some can become scientists or teachers and educate children about the danger of nuclear weapons. However, all of us do not have to work like professionals. What matters is, people's awareness about disarmament is expected to be raised through peace education, and eventually, people will be less indifferent to this matter. Indeed, peace education has such a great potential that the circle of peacemakers will spread much wider.

Before concluding our presentation, we will look at some governments and the civil society. Last March, the Oslo Conference was held by the Norwegian government. This was a remarkable conference in that the inhumane aspect of nuclear weapons was wholly and widely discussed. In holding this conference, an NGO called ICAN, International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, took an essential role. They urged many countries to attend this conference, and also ask them to make remarks. As a result, 127 countries took part in this conference, from which we are able to see this

powerful role of the civil society. The former United States Defense Secretary, William Perry, said the Oslo Conference was not something digressive to step-by-step approach that the five nuclear weapon states are taking. Rather it had a very important role to let the participating countries and the civil society recognize the inhumane aspect of nuclear weapons.

Ms. Inazumi

Lastly, let us introduce what some non-nuclear weapon states are doing. It is widely known that Japan, Germany, and some other nations are under nuclear umrom spreading. In fact, however, they have been doing something good. I will show you an example of the NPDI, the nonproliferation and disarmament initiative, it is a coalition of states within the framework of nuclear nonproliferation treaty formed in 2010 composed of 10 non-nuclear weapon states such as Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, and some others. They had the Sixth Ministerial Conference in April in Hague, Netherlands. There, they recognized the role of civil society as follows, “We recognize the significant role that civil society can play in the field of nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation. The NPDI is ready to intensify its engagement with civil society organizations in order to attain our common objectives.”

At the same time, the conference welcomed Japan’s announcement of launching the youth communicator for a world without nuclear weapons. This program will be a great opportunity for us young people to let the government know that we really want the world free of nuclear weapons and that peace education should be introduced in every school immediately.

Peace education can raise awareness of children and young people. If it becomes pervasive, people will think of the world free of nuclear weapons more often, and understand and hopefully support various activities to abolish nuclear weapons. In other words, peace education will change indifferent people into peacemakers. And those peacemakers are the members of civil society. As we can see, the role of the civil society is getting more critical in politics and diplomacy. We believe the possibilities for the civil society are infinite, which will make abolition of nuclear weapons happen in the immediate future.

Ms. Tamitani

Ladies and gentlemen, please remember that the civil society should be composed of us – peacemakers – through peace education. Without peace education, it is impossible to

raise people's awareness and foster future generations. No peace education, no future. Peace is not just there, it is something we make. Why don't you start or continue peace education when you get back to your hometown? Three hours of peace education per subject can change the world. Thank you for listening.

Mr. Mizumoto

Thank you very much. Thank you Yui, Emi, and Noriko. Thank you very much. As a university teacher, I have nothing to add to the well-prepared presentation. I want to add just two things. One is that they represent the female youth in Hiroshima and our future must be very bright. I am convinced. But there is one problem, what are the male youth doing in Hiroshima? We should send a wakeup call to boys in Hiroshima. In my university there are so many energetic female students like them. We should encourage male students to become more active.

Another thing, I would like to expose one secret thing. They represent a good female community in Hiroshima, based on the network of Hiroshima Jogakuin High School and we have Foreign Minister Kishida from Hiroshima and I heard that Foreign Minister Kishida's wife also graduated from Hiroshima Jogakuin so we can influence the Foreign Minister by the network of Hiroshima Jogakuin to give some message to his wife to change the world through disarmament. Thank you very much for an excellent presentation.

Now we have finished four presentations from the Hiroshima community. Because this is a dialogue session of representatives from cities and also the Hiroshima community so I would like to invite one presentation from the group representing the "That Day" film. Rebecca Irby and Richard Mirocco, please come to the podium to give presentations.

Richard Mirocco, Co-producer, "That Day" Film

Mr. Matsui, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Coordinator, and mayors, delegates, participants, volunteers, and most of all the survivors, as well as you students right here, I am honored to be on the stage with you people. It was a wonderful presentation. My name is Rich Mirocco and I am the co-producer along with Rebecca Irby of a film entitled "That Day."

"That Day" is a documentary that follows the lives of two members of the Mito family who narrowly survived the devastating atomic attack on Hiroshima of August 6, 1945.

Through the story of these two individuals, the documentary will show the horror and unbelievable destructive force that these weapons can unleash onto humanity as well as the compassionate and powerful healing force of the human spirit. The documentary also educates the public on the past events and the current situation involving the world's nuclear nations and the absurdity that follows the nuclear arming of politically aggressive nations, most recently Iran and North Korea.

This documentary will show that all the arming of one nation does is promote the nuclear arming of another nation, creating a spiral effect that was already clearly demonstrated for all of us to see during the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union. We are all here because we share the same vision of a nuclear free tomorrow. And in so much, the delegation has grown much over the last few years. But it saddens me to think that also what has grown is the technology that is used in delivering these weapons and guiding these weapons to our cities so it is with a heavy heart that I do believe we may be in more danger now than ever before.

We believe this film and its message is a powerful and effective way to help inform large groups of people about what really happened that day and how it can happen again today, and give them a plan of action to help abolish nuclear weapons.

My friends, Rebecca and I would like to work with you to create events in your cities or with your organization. We will help you reach a larger audience by involving local people, multimedia, and our film to continue promoting widespread change. It is our vision to create events which attract people from all ages and walks of life, but most importantly our young decision makers – tomorrow's decision makers.

As you can see, the film is a long-term project that does not stop with the documentary. So please, stop by our booth today or tomorrow, feel free to watch the film, it is in English with Japanese subtitles, and discuss with us the possibilities of how we can send our message together and how you can sign the petition to help abolish nuclear weapons. Because as long as nations of the world continue to seek out and stockpile nuclear weapons and nuclear weapons technology, and also deny the devastating aftereffects that nuclear technology can cause, there will always be a need to remember "That Day." Thank you.

Mr. Mizumoto

Thank you very much Richard Morocco. Now our scheduled time is already over but if there is one comment or question from the floor, I would like to invite if it is urgent. Is there anyone who wants to make a comment or question? There is a unanimous agreement that there will be no more comments or questions. I would like to finish the session by making a brief comment in Japanese.

We have heard various comments from many people and in 2015 the NPT Review Committee will be held. Next year in 2014, the Foreign Ministerial Meeting will be held and Hiroshima citizens, as well as administration, will work hard to make it successful. The presentations we heard today show the activities of various organizations who are working for tomorrow's Hiroshima. That concludes the Dialogue Session. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Thank you very much. This concludes today's program.