

Hiroshima and Peace 2016 Report

Akita University
Buyankhishig Bayasgalan
(Akita City, JAPAN)

【What you learned through this program?】

In the first workshop of this Hiroshima and Peace program, we were asked, “what does peace mean to you?”

It was first step on the learning journey through Hiroshima, culture, politics, history, sociology, nuclear issues, personal accounts, and legal and environmental issues. While all the perspectives I have been hearing about show the complexities of peace, they also inform and educate us beyond our initial understandings. Hopefully, this wider perspective can position us as member of the global society who can understand one another’s perspectives and motivations.

In my final presentation, we work together to create presentation that illustrates my team’s new perspectives on peace.

After all of those lectures we felt strongly that human life is the most precious thing. Whatever the reason behind the truth of Japan or America’s story about the atomic bombings, the only thing we understand is we must not do horrific, harmful, dangerous things which can hurt human beings.

Because, the memory which remains in our minds is always connected with others. Not buildings not the place, not how great/terrible the atomic bomb was. We have to understand that mistakes shall not be repeated. It is okay to make a mistake, but it’s more important not to repeat past mistakes. Because no one else should suffer as *hibakusha* did. Every living person has a right to live a life worth living as a human being.

During our Hiroshima program we went to Atomic bomb dome and Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. Atomic bomb dome and Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum symbolize the pledge to convey the horror of the atomic bombing and call for the abolition of nuclear weapons and eternal world peace. The museum exhibits the history of Hiroshima before and after the atomic bombing and portrays the facts and reality of the destruction caused by the atomic bomb. Collection of the photos of a bomb victims that contains a bomb memoirs conveys the experience of the atomic bombing to future generations.

【Concrete proposals for Mayors for Peace nuclear weapon abolition activities】

To make Special Hiroshima Day

- Holding atomic bomb poster exhibition in university
- Watching a movie or anime about Hiroshima atomic bombing or war
- Make a chance to read a book about atomic bombing, nuclear weapon and Fukushima
- Watch an English movie about Hiroshima atomic bombing during English class in junior high school and high school
- To open an essay or speech contest about Hiroshima and peace in Akita city
- To give a chance to watch a movie or read a book without money to students

【My own plans for promotion of peace activities】

- To expand a Asari Kazuyo san's performance about peace
I can cooperate with Asari Kazuyo san who is doing performance of storytelling for children. We can maybe expand it to junior high school and high school. Not only reading performance but also watching a movie (anime) about a Hiroshima atomic bombing in English and Japanese. Also I can give a presentation to junior high school students or high school students in English, introducing a variation of new books which is about Hiroshima's atomic bombing, nuclear weapons, Fukushima, and hibakusha to students.
They can feel the horrific, harmful feelings through the movie or anime. Also they can earn lot of knowledge of nuclear weapon through the book.

- Exhibiting atomic bomb exhibition of Hiroshima and Tsuchizaki in university hall
Even though Akita city is trying to promote international peace, there may be still some university students who don't know what Akita city is doing to promote peace activity. Because I haven't known what Akita city is doing for promotion of peace until I participate Hiroshima and Peace program and was told by Akita city to go to participate reading performance and go to see exhibition of atomic bomb and also listen to the speech of *hibakusha*.
Therefore I think pictures of atomic bombing which exhibited in Akita city hall should be exhibited in Akita University among students. I think Akita city hall is too far away from the university. It maybe one of the reasons students don't go to see the exhibition. Thus doing exhibition in the university will be a good chance to know about Hiroshima and Tsuchizaki atomic bombing. Akita University's staffs, teachers, all faculty students can easily see and understand about Hiroshima atomic bombing.