

## 2019 Mayors for Peace Youth Exchange for Peace: Support Program for "HIROSHIMA and PEACE"

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### Hiroshima City University

Hiroshima City University is one of the greatest place to learn brotherhood and peaceful communicating for me. I learned how to communicate and be friends regardless of nationality or race. It was a great experience to hear my friends and their experiences of war and peace. At this university, I learned the meaning of peace from my friends and my teachers. I have found friends from all over the world from whom I learn friendship, love, and peace, now I know the world is smaller than I imagined.

Through attending classes and meeting people from all over the world, and especially meeting Japanese people and students, I was able to find the meaning of peace. I found it in the kindness of the Japanese people after the atomic bombing to find peace and make a better world.

### Definition of a War

One of the biggest experiences I learned during attending classes and meeting with the Hibakushas was their definition of a war for children, and the other was how to record events for future generations of Japanese. They have turned war into art. This is a meaningful way to narrate the events that happened in Hiroshima. I found a lot of differences between Iranian war survivors' narrating and Hibakushas.

### Meeting the Hibakushas

Meeting the Hibakushas was one of the greatest experiences during this period. Listening to the story from Hibakushas was a wonderful experience. They taught me patience and the way that they narrate a story was one of the important points. There was differences between Iranian war survivors narrating and Hibakushas and the way to show the consequences of what happened for them.

### Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum

Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum is one of the significant places in my life. There was no exaggeration there on the real story of August 6th and I realized what had happened in Hiroshima. I think I grew up. During the few hours I was at the museum I learned that every single person in the community should work for peace and a non-violent society. At the end of the museum, I was fascinated by Hiroshima's efforts to bring peace to the city and rebuild the buildings and views of Hiroshima and Japan in terms of war and peace.

### Inspirational Journey

This journey was so inspiring for me, I was able to learn the meaning of peace from other nationalities around the world, and I learned that friendship and kindness should be promoted without judging people's backgrounds. I arranged a meeting with Tehran Peace Museum's members and Mayors for Peace member to share the experiences what I learned I came back to Iran. I want to organize workshops to find a way to promote the culture of peace between children involved in war and violence in war-torn countries, especially in the Middle East. We also want to invite Iranian artists to Tehran Peace Museum to photograph the stories of survivors and victims of war in Iran. I am trying to organize workshops in my university to learn more about nuclear weapons and nuclear energy. Eventually, I plan to travel to Sardasht, the first civilian city that bombarded by chemical weapons around the world, and hold a

workshop or exhibition with municipal officials of Sardasht to tell what happened in Sardasht.

#### Concrete Suggestions to Mayors for Peace

In my opinion, we must educate ourselves in the proper use of atomic energy to improve human life and future generations. In addition, one of the detrimental effects of the use of nuclear weapons and atomic energy is its environmental impacts, recent cyber activities to protect the environment can show the destructive effects of nuclear weapons on the environment; since the environmental movement has begun, and through these movements, people are learning a lot about global warming and environmental damage, besides using the nuclear weapons is not only a major threat to the inhabitants of earth but also it is one of the most significant threats to the environment. In my opinion we can launch a movement similar to environmental conservation movements to inform various communities about the dangers of nuclear weapons by increasing public awareness of this topic. Furthermore, it is possible to teach the proper culture of this energy in schools.

At the end I cannot say how much I am grateful from Mayors for Peace members in Hiroshima and Hiroshima City University for this chance. It was incredible time in Japan. I hope we can promote peace all around the world and destroy nuclear weapons around the world.