

Raise Second-Generation Hibaku Trees in Your City

Grow descendants of atomic bomb survivor trees
and share their message of peace!



Hibaku ginkgo tree
in Hiroshima



Mayors for Peace



From atomic bombed cities to the world

At 8:15 a.m. on August 6, 1945, Hiroshima was reduced to ashes by a single atomic bomb. Three days later, at 11:02 a.m. on August 9, another atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, causing massive destruction to the city. About 214,000 people from the two cities lost their precious lives by the end of 1945.

Hibaku trees, are trees that, having faced the horror of the atomic bombings, sprouted buds again, giving citizens hope and the courage to live. They symbolically call for the abolition of nuclear weapons and the realization of eternal world peace.

Mayors for Peace distributes seeds from *hibaku* trees to all member cities wishing to receive them. It is hoped that taking care of these trees, which serve as symbols of peace, will help raise citizens' peace consciousness.

Through nurturing the descendants of *hibaku* trees, we want people around the world to learn about the realities of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki as well as share in the earnest wish of *hibakusha* (atomic bomb survivors) for nuclear abolition.

Why not try raising a second-generation *hibaku* tree in your city?



How to apply

- STEP 1** Contact the Mayors for Peace Secretariat in Hiroshima.
- STEP 2** The Secretariat will consult with an arborist and propose a species of *hibaku* tree appropriate for your city's climate.
- STEP 3** Fill out a questionnaire with information, such as the tree species your city would like to receive and intended care facility, and return the questionnaire to the Secretariat.
- STEP 4** Contact a domestic quarantine office in your country for their advice on import procedures, and share this information with the Secretariat.
- STEP 5** The Secretariat will send seeds to your city. After receiving the seeds, please provide the Secretariat with updates on the development of the trees at least once a year.

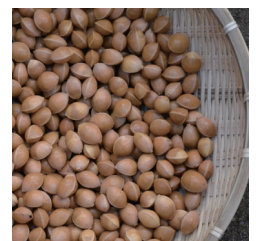
Notes The work of sprouting seeds and nurturing seedlings should be supervised by an expert or a specialized facility until they become tall and sturdy enough to be planted.

When seedlings become ready to be planted in the ground, the Secretariat can provide an explanatory plaque (one explanatory plaque for each species per city).

The Secretariat will cover the cost of shipping the seeds, and of producing and shipping the explanatory plaque.



Persimmon seeds



Ginkgo seeds



Hibaku trees in Hiroshima with descendants to member cities

Seeds and seedlings from trees of eight different species at the following nine locations in Hiroshima have been distributed to Mayors for Peace members around the world.



1 Chinese parasol tree (Peace Memorial Park)

Exposed 1,300m from the hypocenter

These trees used to be in the courtyard of the Hiroshima Post and Telecommunication Bureau. The atomic bomb severely burned the sides of the trunks facing the hypocenter and the trees appeared to be dead, but new buds sprouted again in 1946. The trees were transplanted to their current location in 1973.



2 Ginkgo (Shukkeien Garden)

Exposed 1,370m from the hypocenter

This tree is said to be over 200 years old. Its trunk became slanted due to the atomic bombing, but the tree survived the fires after the atomic bombing and spreads out its large branches even today.



3 Camphor (Hiroshima Castle, north side of moat)

Exposed 1,120m from the hypocenter

Just after the bombing, a fire from the adjacent Army Junior High School spread to this tree, and there is a burn scar remaining on the side of its trunk facing away from the hypocenter.





4 Kurogane holly (Hiroshima Castle)

Exposed 910m from the hypocenter

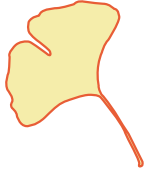
These trees were growing in the garden in front of the former Imperial General Headquarters, which was temporarily moved to the grounds of Hiroshima Castle after the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War in 1894. Three trees managed to survive the bombing and are still living today.



5 Ginkgo (Hosenbo Temple)

Exposed 1,120m from the hypocenter

The trunk of this tree split due to the impact of the atomic blast, but the tree continues to thrive even today. It is said that the tree prevented the collapsed temple from burning down entirely.



6 Japanese hackberry (Peace Boulevard near Shirakami Shrine)

Exposed 530m from the hypocenter

Due to the bombing, these two Japanese hackberry trees withered and were cut down. However, new sprouts emerged from the stumps, and they are now healthy and tall.



7 Muku (Peace Boulevard near Shirakami Shrine)

Exposed 530m from the hypocenter

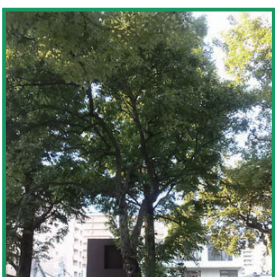
Due to the bombing, three muku trees lost their trunks above the ground. From the burned remains, new sprouts emerged and grew. This is why there are no big scars on their trunks.



8 Persimmon (Peace Boulevard near Shirakami Shrine)

Exposed 530m from the hypocenter

This is the only persimmon tree recognized as a *hibaku* tree. The tree bears many fruits in autumn every year.



9 Jujube (Peace Boulevard)

Exposed 1,430m from the hypocenter

The tree was exposed to the atomic bomb but survived and was transplanted after the war to its current location during the construction of Peace Boulevard. Despite a scar from the bombing on its trunk, every year the tree sprouts new shoots in summer and its branches are laden with many red fruits in autumn.





Hibaku trees in Hiroshima

The atomic bomb toppled and incinerated many trees in Hiroshima. However, the City of Hiroshima has registered around 160 trees that survived exposure to the atomic bomb within approximately 2 kilometers of the hypocenter as *hibaku* trees (as of March 2022).

In addition to the eight species described on pages 2 and 3, other species that serve as living witnesses to the tragedies of the bombing include weeping willow, Yoshino cherry, eucalyptus, Japanese sago palm, suffruticosa peony, crape myrtle, and Japanese apricot trees.



The numbers on the map correspond to the tree numbers on pages 2 and 3.

 Hibaku tree



Hibaku trees in Nagasaki

with descendants in Japanese member cities



1 Camphor (Sanno Shrine)

Exposed 800m from the hypocenter

All the leaves and branches of two huge camphor trees were blown away by the blast of the bombing and their trunks were torn and burned. They were in danger of dying, but two months later, new buds sprouted again, inspiring hope in the people of Nagasaki with their strength to survive.

The trees were designated as natural treasures by the City of Nagasaki in 1969. They continue to grow thick leaves in the compound of Sanno Shrine, which is also home to one of the nationally designated Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Historic Ruins, the Second Torii Gate.



The Second Torii Gate of Sanno Shrine

Preserving the *hibaku* trees

The City of Hiroshima registers trees that survived exposure to the atomic bombing within approximately 2 kilometers of the hypocenter as *hibaku* trees. The City of Nagasaki registers those within 4 kilometers. The two cities actively preserve these trees so that we may pass down their legacies to future generations.

Both cities commission arborists to regularly conduct health checks of the *hibaku* trees. If the trees need care due to any changes in the trees' vigor or their surroundings, the arborists take necessary measures including improving the soil and their surroundings.

The arborists make a care chart for each tree to continue with follow-up observations.

Through these efforts, the Cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki aim to preserve the *hibaku* trees, silent witnesses that survived the tragedies of the bombings and that serve as precious symbols of vitality, so we may pass them down to following generations in good condition.



Hibaku trees in Nagasaki

Many of the trees located within a radius of 4 kilometers from the hypocenter were knocked down by the powerful blast and burned by the heat of the bomb. There are 30 trees that survived the bombing and are preserved and utilized (as of March 2022). Among them are the camphor trees in Sanno Shrine, as well as persimmon, azalea, and pomegranate.



The number **1** on the map shows the location of the camphor trees in Sanno Shrine.

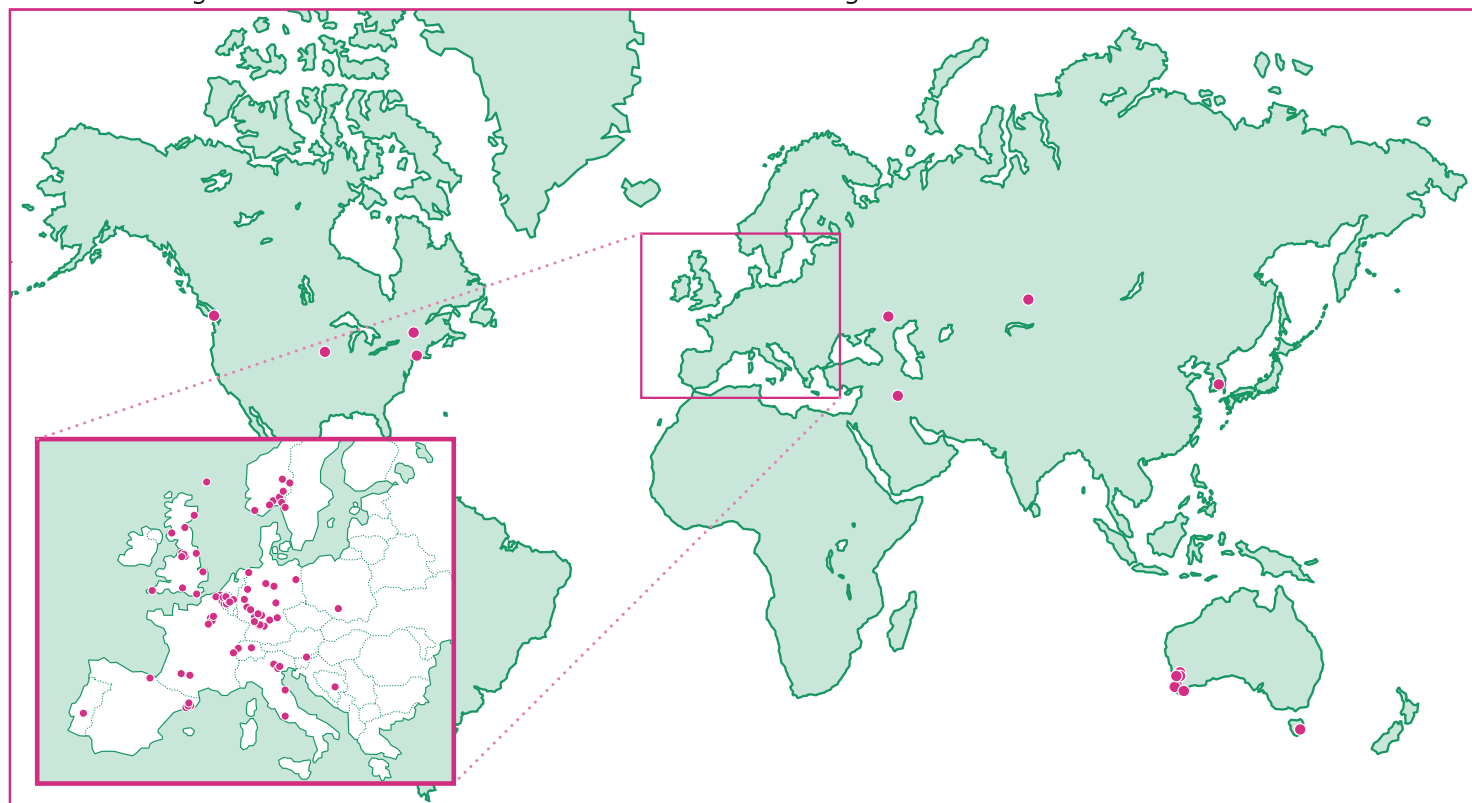
 Hibaku tree



Descendants of *hibaku* trees growing around the world

For member cities outside of Japan, Mayors for Peace selects species appropriate for each city' s climate through consultations with arborists. So far we have sent seeds or seedlings to 88 cities and 4 organizations in 19 countries (as of March 2022).

- Cities and organizations that have received the seeds or seedlings of *hibaku* trees



Distribution List

As of March 2022

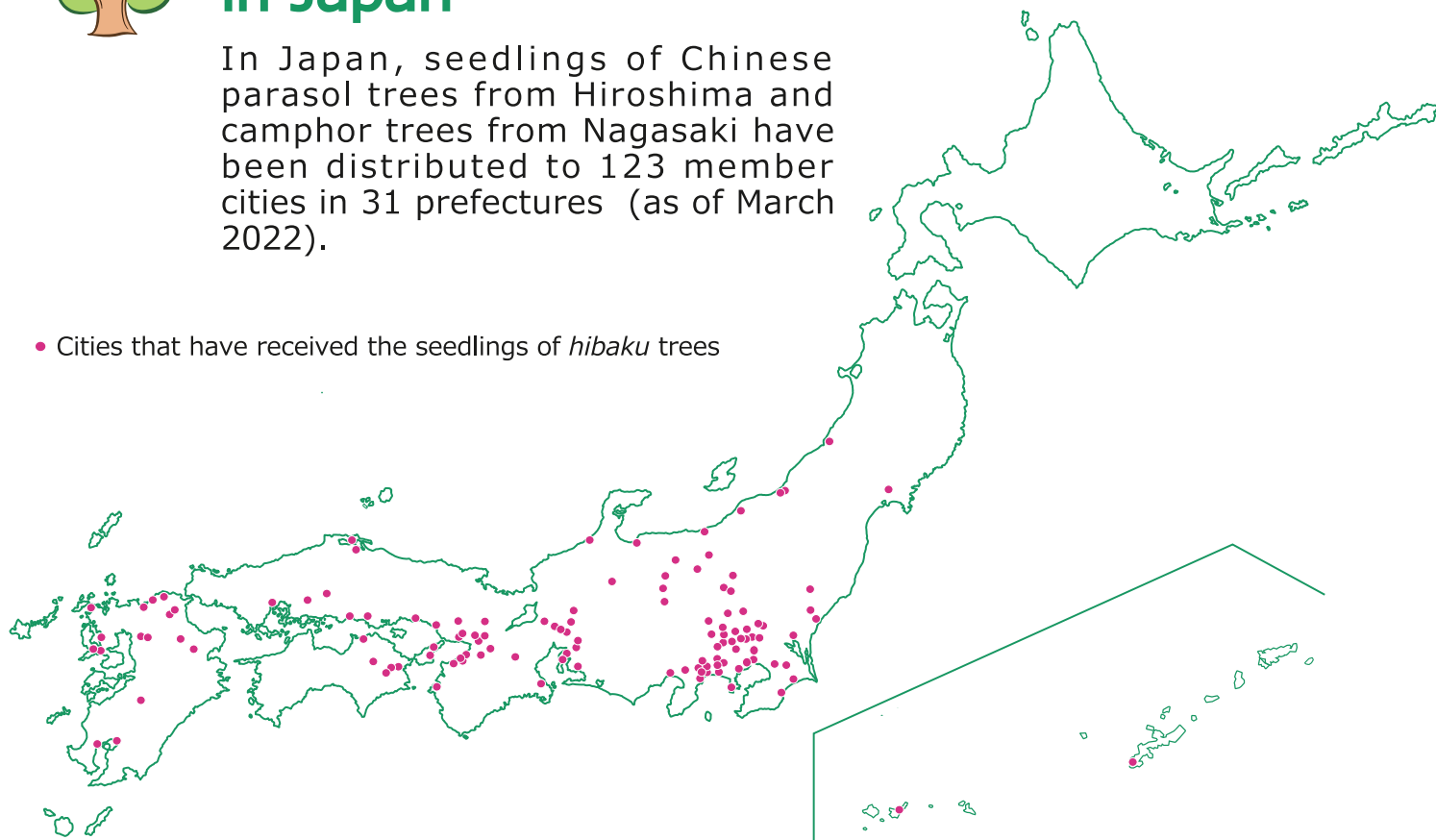
	Country	Member City/Organization
1	Australia	Albany, Busselton, Cockburn, Fremantle, Hobart, Rockingham, Subiaco
2	Belgium	Brussels, Deinze, Erpe-Mere, Ghent, Holsbeek, Ichtegem, Ieper, Lichtervelde, Moorslede, Oudenburg, Tessenderlo, Veurne, Wortegem-Petegem
3	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Sarajevo
4	Canada	Montreal, Oak Bay
5	France	Grigny, Lasseran, Malakoff, Occitanie/Pyrénées-Méditerranée (Région), Paris, Saran
6	Germany	Aalen, Bad Kreuznach, Bernau bei Berlin, Bonn, Braunschweig, Bretten, Coesfeld, Emden, Erfurt, Gau-Algesheim, Hannover, Herzogenaurach, Krefeld, Langen, Rothenburg ob der Tauber, Ruesselsheim am Main, Schwäbisch Gmünd, Stuttgart, Tübingen
7	Iraq	Halabja
8	Italy	Cervia, Mirano, Spinea, Thiene, The Italian Parliament
9	Kazakhstan	Semey
10	Norway	Fredrikstad, Frogn, Halden, Kvinesdal, Larvik, Ringsaker, Sande, Skedsmo, Våler
11	Poland	Oswiecim (Auschwitz)
12	Portugal	Evora
13	Russia	Volgograd
14	Slovenia	Radlje ob Dravi
15	South Korea	The No Gun Ri International Peace Foundation
16	Spain	Canovelles, Gava, Gernika-Lumo, Granollers, Sant Feliu de Llobregat
17	Switzerland	Luzern, Renens, The United Nations Office at Geneva
18	UK	Aberdeen, Cornwall, Edinburgh, Hastings, Hebden Royd, Kingston upon Hull, Manchester, Norwich, Oldham, Rochdale, Shetland Islands, South Ayrshire, Winchester
19	US	Des Moines, Disruptor Foundation



Descendants of *hibaku* trees growing in Japan

In Japan, seedlings of Chinese parasol trees from Hiroshima and camphor trees from Nagasaki have been distributed to 123 member cities in 31 prefectures (as of March 2022).

- Cities that have received the seedlings of *hibaku* trees



Distribution List

As of March 2022

	Prefecture	Number of Cities	Member City
1	Miyagi	1	Misato
2	Yamagata	1	Sakata
3	Ibaraki	4	Ishioka, Hitachinaka, Naka, Daigo
4	Gunma	3	Numata, Fujioka, Annaka
5	Saitama	10	Kawaguchi, Honjo, Soka, Warabi, Wako, Okegawa, Kuki, Niiza, Sakado, Sugito
6	Chiba	4	Narita, Yachiyo, Sosa, Ichinomiya
7	Tokyo	11	Minato, Koto, Suginami, Arakawa, Mitaka, Ome, Fuchu, Koganei, Kodaira, Kunitachi, Tama
8	Kanagawa	12	Kawasaki, Sagami, Hiratsuka, Fujisawa, Odawara, Miura, Hadano, Atsugi, Yamato, Zama, Samukawa, Kiyokawa
9	Niigata	4	Shibata, Tsubame, Joetsu, Tainai
10	Toyama	1	Uozu
11	Ishikawa	1	Nonoichi
12	Nagano	6	Matsumoto, Azumino, Ikeda, Otari, Yamanouchi, Nozawa-onsen
13	Gifu	5	Takayama, Mino, Hashima, Mizuho, Sekigahara
14	Shizuoka	2	Fuji, Nagaizumi
15	Aichi	8	Ichinomiya, Handa, Obu, Iwakura, Nisshin, Nagakute, Fuso, Kota
16	Mie	2	Ise, Iga
17	Kyoto	1	Kameoka
18	Osaka	8	Kishiwada, Takatsuki, Izumisano, Minoh, Habikino, Settsu, Sennan, Kumatori
19	Hyogo	7	Sumoto, Ashiya, Ako, Takarazuka, Sanda, Awaji, Inami
20	Nara	1	Ikoma
21	Wakayama	1	Hirogawa
22	Shimane	2	Matsue, Yasugi
23	Okayama	2	Kurashiki, Kasaoka
24	Hiroshima	3	Higashihiroshima, Hatsukaichi, Sera
25	Tokushima	4	Ishii, Kitajima, Aizumi, Tsurugi
26	Kagawa	1	Marugame
27	Fukuoka	7	Fukuoka, Yame, Chikugo, Koga, Okagaki, Kawara, Kawasaki
28	Nagasaki	5	Isahaya, Omura, Hirado, Minamishimabara, Nagayo
29	Oita	2	Hita, Kusu
30	Kagoshima	2	Kagoshima, Kirishima
31	Okinawa	2	Ishigaki, Tomigusuku



Examples of peace initiatives centered around the *hibaku* trees worldwide

Manchester, UK



Exhibition at Manchester Museum
(August 2015)

In 2015, the Manchester City Council launched Project G, seeking to have children think about the disasters in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the important role of trees provided when the cities were rebuilt. As part of this project, six primary schools in Manchester participated in an arts and poetry competition, and some of the submissions were exhibited at Manchester Museum.

A number of other events were also held including a reception with the Mayor of Hiroshima, a meeting with two *hibakusha* survivors from Hiroshima, and the creation of school peace plans.

The six Project G schools received seedlings of a *hibaku* ginkgo tree from Hiroshima. It is hoped that the children will have a chance to learn about the atomic bombings through taking care of the trees as a symbol of peace.

Cervia, Italy



"Pacifico" and the children
(September 2019)

In 2015, with the help of its twin city, Aalen, Germany, the City of Cervia received a seedling descended from a *hibaku* ginkgo tree in Hiroshima. Cervia then planted it in a local park next to the primary school M. Buonarroti – Montaletto di Cervia. The tree was named "Pacifico", which means "peace" in Italian, and is taken care of by the school's pupils.

Since receiving it, the primary school has been involved in a number of peace projects including Skyping several times with *hibakusha* to hear their testimonies, and even inviting a *hibakusha* to visit Cervia in June 2017.

Each of these was an opportunity for the students to think about what happened in Hiroshima and Nagasaki as well as the importance of peace and to share their thoughts with the *hibakusha* through paintings and poems.



Examples of peace initiatives centered around the *hibaku* trees in Japan

Takayama, Gifu Prefecture



Planting ceremony in Takayama
(June 2016)

In 2015, at the Takayama Peace Summit, the City of Takayama received a seedling from a Chinese parasol tree that had survived the atomic bomb in Hiroshima. The Mayor of Takayama, a local junior high school student, and others planted it in a park as a symbol of the city's wish for no repeats of the tragedy of the atomic bombing and for lasting world peace.

Later, local junior high students delivered a message of peace based on their peace studies and trip to Hiroshima. "On this special day when the seedling starts to take root in our city, we recommit ourselves to ensuring that, likewise, our prayers for peace firmly take root and spread."

The City hopes that the *hibaku* tree will grow strong and remind people of the atomic bombings and the preciousness of peace.

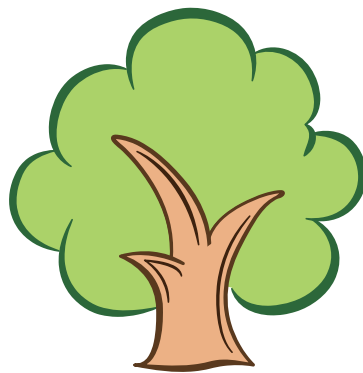
Koga, Fukuoka Prefecture



Peace studies and planting ceremony
in Koga (June and July 2017)

In 2016, the City of Koga launched a three-year peace education project to plant seedlings of *hibaku* camphor trees from Nagasaki at all elementary and junior high schools in the city.

Students held planting ceremonies after listening to the testimony of a *hibakusha*, and promised to learn more about the bombings and peace. Elementary students also undertook peace studies before they visited Nagasaki on their school trip. There, at Sanno Shrine, they visited the mother trees of the seedlings their school received. This way they could witness "living memorials" of the atomic bombing that continue to grow even today.



Mayors for Peace

This project is available for member cities of Mayors for Peace.
If your city is interested in receiving seeds of *hibaku* trees,
please contact:

Mayors for Peace Secretariat
c/o Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation
1-5 Nakajima-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima 730-0811 JAPAN
Email: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp