

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.

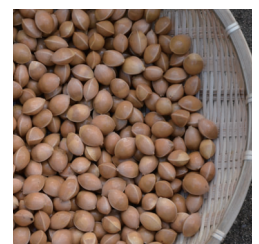
Notes The work of sprouting seeds and nurturing seedlings should be supervised by an expert or a specialized facility until they become tall and sturdy enough to be planted.

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

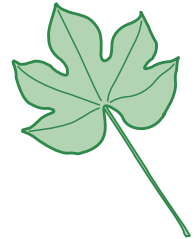
Seeds and seedlings from trees of nine different species at the following ten locations in Hiroshima have been distributed to Mayors for Peace members around the world.



1 Chinese parasol tree (Peace Memorial Park)

Exposed 1,300m from the hypocenter

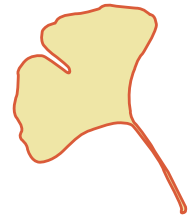
These trees used to be in the courtyard of the Hiroshima Post and Telecommunication Bureau. The atomic bomb severely burned the sides of the trunks facing the hypocenter and the trees appeared to be dead, but new buds sprouted again in 1946. The trees were transplanted to their current location in 1973.



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

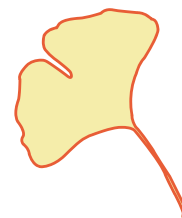
These trees were growing in the garden in front of the former Imperial General Headquarters, which was temporarily moved to the grounds of Hiroshima Castle after the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War in 1894. Three trees managed to survive the bombing and are still living today.





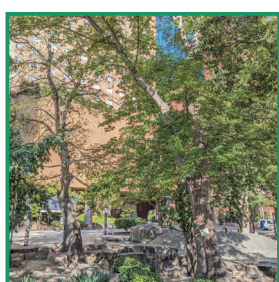
5 Ginkgo (Hosenbo Temple)
Exposed 1,120m from the hypocenter

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.



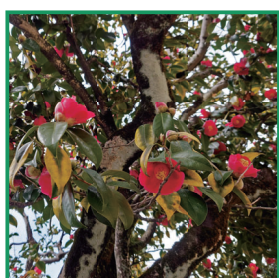
8 Persimmon (Peace Boulevard near Shirakami Shrine)
Exposed 530m from the hypocenter

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.



10 Camellia (Yoshijima Inari Shrine)
Exposed 2,160m from the hypocenter

At Yoshijima Inari Shrine, five trees survived the atomic bombing. These trees, along with others in the shrine precincts, prevented the shrine office from collapsing. The office was used for treating survivors who had been burned out of their homes.





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 April 2024).

In addition to the nine 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 50 trees that survived the bombing and are preserved and utilized (as of April 2024). 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.

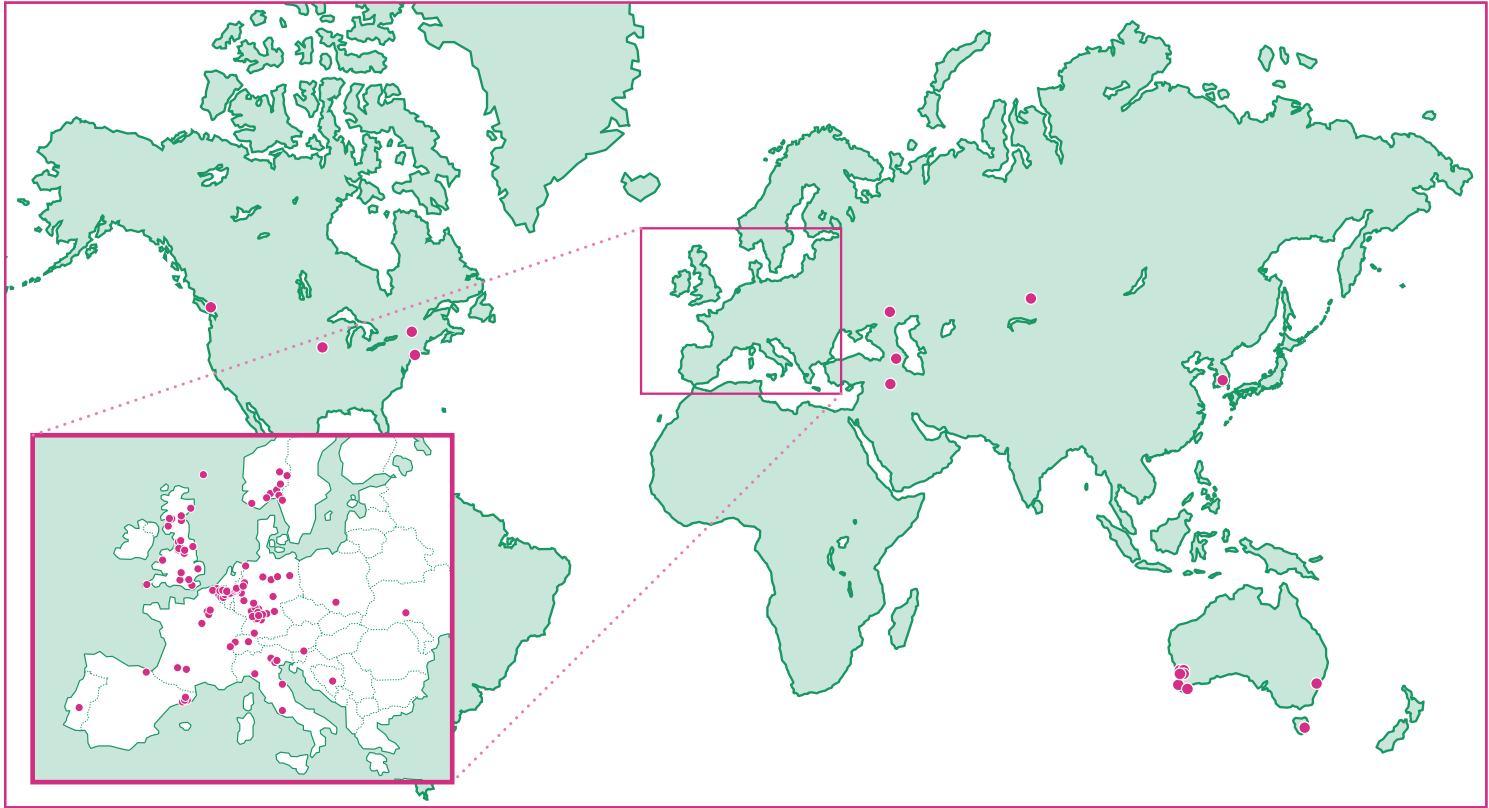
 Hibaku tree



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 113 cities and 4 organizations in 21 countries (as of April 2024).

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



Distribution List

As of April 2024

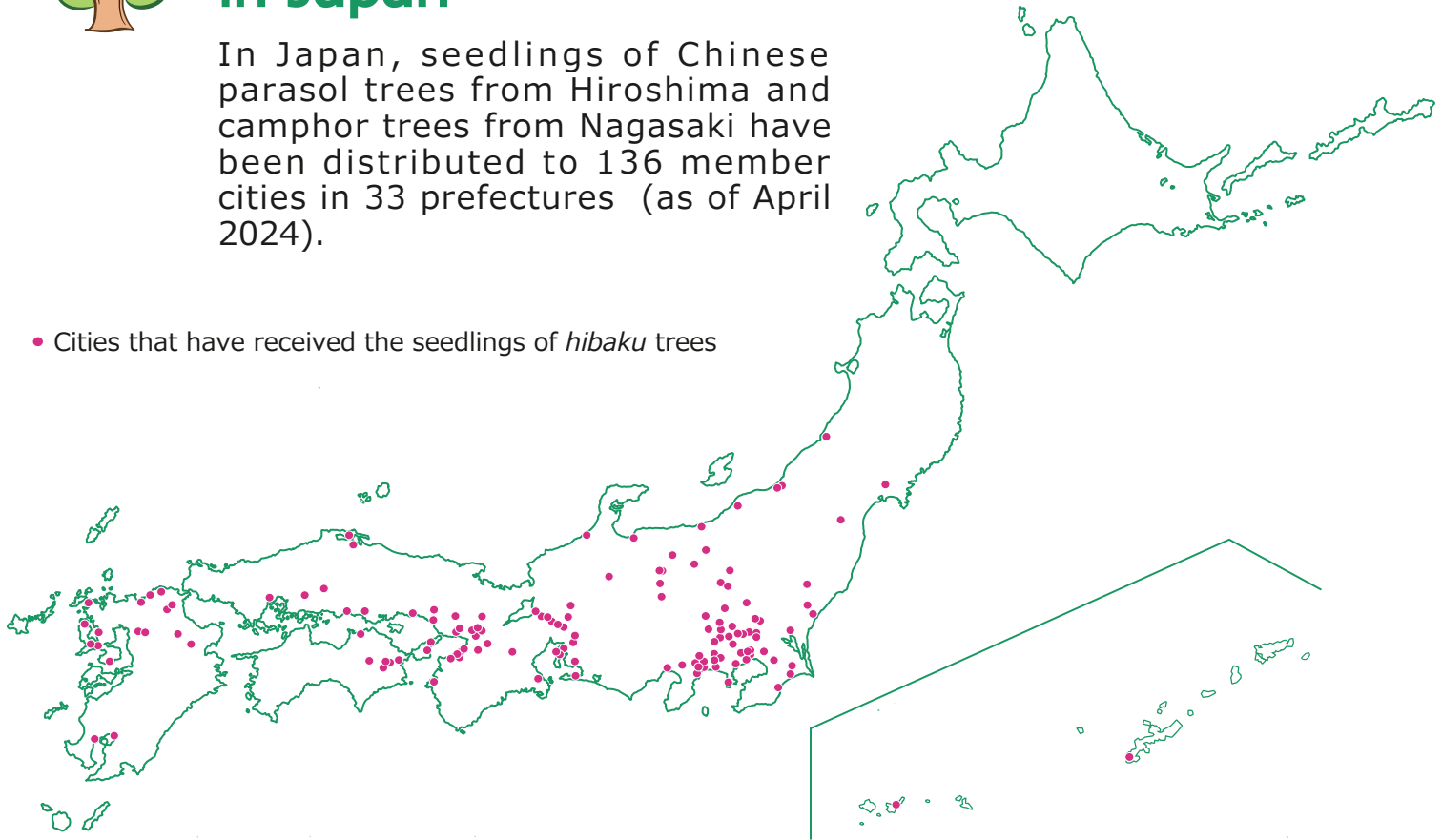
	Country	Member City / Organization
1	Australia	Albany, Busselton, Cockburn, Fremantle, Hobart, Rockingham, Subiaco, Sydney
2	Azerbaijan	Agdam
3	Belgium	Brussels, Deinze, Erpe-Mere, Ghent, Holsbeek, Ichtegem, Ieper, Lichtervelde, Moorslede, Oudenburg, Tessenderlo, Veurne, Wortegem-Petegem
4	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Sarajevo
5	Canada	Montreal, Oak Bay
6	France	Grigny, Lasseran, Malakoff, Occitanie/Pyrénées-Méditerranée (Région), Paris, Saran
7	Germany	Aalen, Bad Kreuznach, Bernau bei Berlin, Bonn, Braunschweig, Bretten, Brüggen, Coesfeld, Darmstadt, Dortmund, Emden, Erfurt, Gau-Algesheim, Hannover, Herzogenaurach, Immenstaad am Bodensee, Krefeld, Künzelsau, Langen, Magdeburg, Nettetal, Niederkrüchten, Rothenburg ob der Tauber, Rüsselsheim am Main, Schwäbisch Gmünd, Schwäbisch Hall, Schwalmtal, Stuttgart, Tübingen
8	Iraq	Halabja
9	Italy	Berceto, Cervia, Mirano, Spinea, Thiene, Italian Parliament
10	Kazakhstan	Semey
11	Norway	Fredrikstad, Frogn, Halden, Kvinesdal, Larvik, Ringsaker, Sande, Skedsmo, Våler
12	Poland	Oswiecim
13	Portugal	Evora
14	Russia	Volgograd
15	Slovenia	Radlje ob Dravi
16	South Korea	No Gun Ri International Peace Foundation
17	Spain	Canovelles, Gava, Gernika-Lumo, Granollers, Sant Feliu de Llobregat
18	Switzerland	Luzern, Renens, United Nations Office at Geneva
19	Ukraine	Nova Ushytsia
20	United Kingdom	Aberdeen, Aberystwyth, Cornwall, Edinburgh, Fife, Glasgow, Hastings, Hebden Royd, Kingston upon Hull, Lancaster, Lewisham, Manchester, Norwich, Oldham, Oxford, Renfrewshire, Rochdale, Rotherham, Sheffield, Shetland Islands, Skipton, South Ayrshire, Stockport, Winchester
21	United States	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 136 member cities in 33 prefectures (as of April 2024).

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



Distribution List

As of April 2024

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



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

Manchester, UK



Planting ceremony
(July 2019)

Since 2014, Manchester, UK, a Vice President City of Mayors for Peace, has been implementing a peace-learning initiative known as "Project G," centered around *hibaku* trees. This project makes a significant contribution to peace education in local schools. Through arts and poetry competitions focused on the theme of *hibaku* trees, Project G offers students opportunities to learn about the realities of the atomic bombings and reflect on the pursuit of peace.

Gavà, Spain



Event commemorating the International Day of Peace next to a sapling of a *hibaku* Ginkgo tree
(September 2018)

On September 21, in commemoration of the International Day of Peace, the City of Gavà organized a full day of activities at a local library. Planted in the library's garden is a seedling of a Ginkgo tree, descendant of a mother tree that was exposed to the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. More than 60 students participated in the event, which featured storytelling, workshops, and haiku presentations. The planting of the second-generation atomic bomb survivor Ginkgo tree, alongside other activities, underscores the firm commitment of the City Council of Gavà to raise awareness about the inhumane cruelty of nuclear weapons and to continue to work for their urgent abolition.



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

Kunitachi, Tokyo Metropolis



Website of Kunitachi City
“Growth Records of a Second-generation
Hibaku Chinese Parasol Tree”

The official website of Kunitachi City features the growth records of a seedling of a *hibaku* Chinese parasol tree from Hiroshima. This initiative aims to acquaint Kunitachi citizens with the peace initiatives undertaken by their city, as well as those of the atomic-bombed cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This seedling was planted in 2017, marking the 50th anniversary of the implementation of the municipal system in Kunitachi.

Takaishi, Osaka Prefecture



Second-generation *hibaku* Chinese parasol tree
presentation ceremony
(March 2023)

Takaishi City actively promotes awareness-raising activities and peace education programs aimed at realizing a nuclear-free, peaceful, and safe world, with the goal of passing on to future generations the horrors of war, the significance of peace, and the importance of life. As part of these efforts, Takaishi City presented a seedling of a *hibaku* Chinese parasol tree from Hiroshima to each of the 17 schools and nursery schools within the city. During the presentation ceremony, the Mayor personally handed over the seedlings to school representatives, emphasizing, “Please take care of these seedlings, help them grow big, and pass on the significance of peace to future generations.”



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

Mayors for Peace Website



✕ (Twitter)

