



## Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World Peace Boat Hibakusha Project

**PEACE  
BOAT**

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March 12, 2014

# The 7th Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World Peace Boat Hibakusha Project

—Across Generations: Building a Nuclear-Free Future Together—

## Project Overview

### ● Overview

Tokyo-based international NGO Peace Boat has been conducting “Global Voyages for a Nuclear-Free World” since 2008. To date, 150 Hibakusha (atomic-bomb survivors) have traveled around the world to appeal for a nuclear-free world. The seventh voyage will take place from March 13 (Thu) to June 24 (Tue) 2014, departing from the port of Yokohama.

Eight Hibakusha (six from Hiroshima and two from Nagasaki) are participating in this voyage. The Hibakusha will travel by ship to 20 ports in 18 countries, giving their testimony and calling for nuclear abolition. Two young activists will travel with the Hibakusha to appeal to the world about the reality of the catastrophic devastation caused by nuclear weapons and take action for a nuclear-free world. The Hibakusha and youth will be respectively appointed as “Special Communicators for a World without Nuclear Weapons” and “Youth Communicators for a World without Nuclear Weapons” by the Japanese Government.

The theme of this voyage is “Across Generations: Building a Nuclear-Free Future Together”. From elderly Hibakusha with vivid memories to younger Hibakusha without memories of the bombings, and from Hibakusha to succeeding generations who have not directly experienced war, this project will work to “pass on” testimonies across generations. Peace Boat will also cooperate with Mayors for Peace and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) in ports of call towards the promotion and realization of a global treaty banning nuclear weapons.

### ● Objectives

Nearly 69 years have passed since the atomic bombings of the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The average age of Hibakusha is now over 78 years old. As the number of Hibakusha with clear memories of the bombings grows smaller, the time left to hear the first-hand testimony of first-generation Hibakusha is limited.

While people in Japan worry that memories of the war and of the atomic bombings are fading, there is a growing interest in the “humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons” at a global level and the movement towards banning nuclear weapons is gaining strength. The Fukushima nuclear disaster in 2011 only highlighted further the persisting threat of nuclear technology.

As the country that has experienced the devastation of atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, it is Japan's particular role to take leadership on a global level. Hibakusha are no longer the only ones playing this role. The time has come for younger generations to realize that nuclear issues have a direct impact on their own future; it is crucial that they listen to the testimony of the Hibakusha, learn from them, find a way to put their message into their own words and take action.

### ● Date

March 13, 2014 (Thu) – June 24, 2014 (Tue)  
Departing from and returning to Yokohama, Japan, 104 days  
(Onboard Peace Boat's 83rd Global Voyage for Peace)



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● Organizer NGO Peace Boat

● Participating Hibakusha

8 Hibakusha (6 from Hiroshima, 2 from Nagasaki / 4 men, 4 women)

Ms. HATTORI Michiko (Hiroshima), Mr. LEE Jongkeun (Hiroshima), Mr. SAKATA Takanari (Hiroshima), Mr. MISE Seiichiro (Nagasaki), Mr. HAKARIYA Michio (Nagasaki), Ms. SAKASHITA Noriko (Hiroshima), Ms. SUGINO Nobuko (Hiroshima), Ms. NAKAMURA Motoko (Hiroshima)

● Participating Youth Communicators for a Nuclear-Free World

2 Youth Communicators

Ms. HAMADA Ayumi (from Kochi), Ms. FUKUOKA Nao (from Hiroshima),

● Highlights Related to Ports of Call

1. Visit to Auschwitz (April 12, Saturday – April 18, Monday)

Participants will visit the site of the former Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration Camp in Poland, meet with Holocaust survivors, and exchange opinions with local students. Through these activities participants will compare history education in Japan and Europe, and learn about ways to look at and to pass on the experiences of war to future generations.

2. Papeete, Tahiti (June 2, Monday)

Through an exchange, participants will share their awareness about the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons with survivors of French nuclear testing. They will also exchange opinions with local youth, to support the movement toward nuclear abolition.

3. In addition to the above activities, participants will learn alternative and multiple perspectives about war in Singapore and Hawai'i, and will exchange opinions with local people in Sri Lanka and Montenegro, countries which still bear the scars of civil wars. In Sri Lanka, the Hibakusha will give their testimony alongside a survivor of the Fukushima Nuclear Accident. We will also make an appeal for nuclear abolition in cooperation with the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) in ports of call.

● Onboard Activities

Hibakusha will give their testimonies onboard, while the youth communicators will lead workshops to think about and take action to pass on testimonies. The youth communicators will also lead study groups to explore the links between atomic bombs and other global issues. Other programs include interaction with students from different countries (Peace Boat "International Students" Programme participants). While sailing through Asia, Hibakusha and Youth Communicators will also work with school students from Minamisoma City, Fukushima Prefecture.

● Supported by:

The Cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki / Mayors for Peace  
Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo)  
Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation / Nagasaki Foundation for the Promotion of Peace

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