

ヒバクシャ地球一周 証言の航海 Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World Peace Boat Hibakusha Project

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The 10th "Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World: Peace Boat Hibakusha Project"
Profiles of Participants

■ Hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors)

Mr MISE Seiichiro

Nagasaki survivor (exposed to a-bomb at age 10), born on Feb 26, 1935 Nagasaki City, Nagasaki Prefecture

Mr Mise was exposed to the atomic bombing at his house 3.6 km from the hypocenter, when he was playing the organ. He instinctively covered his eyes and ears and lay down on the floor before he was hit by the bomb blast. Luckily, all his family members survived the bombing. Mr Mise has given testimony many times, particularly for students on school trips, appealing of the importance of peace. He speaks not only about his own experience of the atomic bomb, but also of the situation in Japan during the war, and the lives of Hibakusha in the years since. Mr Mise is affiliated with the Nagasaki Foundation for the Promotion of Peace, and is now active in recording his experiences in writing and newsletters.



Ms TANAKA Toshiko

Hiroshima survivor (exposed to a-bomb at age 6), born on Oct 18, 1938 Hiroshima City, Hiroshima Prefecture

Ms Tanaka was exposed to the atomic bomb while on her way to school, 2.3km from the hypocenter. She covered her face with her right arm at the time without thinking, and therefore suffered burns to her head, right arm and the back left side of her neck. She had a high fever from that night and lost consciousness, but was somehow able to survive. She has travelled to the United States ten times in the past seven years, including on invitation of the "Hibakusha Stories" project in New York, and has given testimony to many people in the US. She is now active doing all she can to ensure that a treaty to ban nuclear weapons will be concluded while the Hibakusha are still alive.



Ms TSUCHIDA Kazumi

Hiroshima survivor (exposed to a-bomb at age 4), born on Aug 9, 1940 Soka City, Saitama Prefecture

Experienced the atomic bomb 3km from the hypocentre, when on her way home from picking up milk for her younger sister with a friend. She was blown away by the blast and unable to speak through shock, however had no visible injuries. She appealed for nuclear abolition and peace while visiting Israel amidst high tensions in the Middle East in September 2012 as part of a Peace Boat delegation, appointed by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a "Special Communicator for a World without Nuclear Weapons." She is active in giving testimony for people from a broad range of backgrounds, including in Washington DC upon the request of the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo). Ms Tsuchida is an active member of "Peace Net Soka."

■ 2nd Generation Survivors / Legacy Messengers



Ms YAMAMURA Norie

2nd Generation Hiroshima Survivor, born on Aug 30, 1950 Akitaka City, Hiroshima Prefecture

Ms Yamamura's father was exposed to radiation after entering the city of Hiroshima six hours after the bombing, on the orders of his employer, the national railway. He was 30 years old at the time. Her mother was 12 years old at the time, and was exposed to radiation while caring for Hibakusha at a local elementary school. Ms Yamamura participated in the City of Hiroshima's first ever training to nurture legacy messengers, known in Japanese as "keishosha." She is recently concerned about memories of Hiroshima and Nagasaki fading, and strongly feels a calling to pass on the history herself, so that it will not be forgotten.



Ms SUNAHARA Yukiko

2nd Generation Hiroshima survivor, born on Nov 15, 1956 Hiroshima City, Hiroshima Prefecture

Ms Sunahara's mother, 15 years old at the time, was mobilised as a student to work at the Ujina Post Office, and experienced the atomic bombing there, 2km from the hypocenter. Her father was a student of a university in Kyoto, and 16 years at the time. He had been mobilised to work at a military uniform factory, however heard of the atomic bombing and was exposed to radiation while heading to his family home near Hiroshima Station. Ms Sunahara is currently a participant in the City of Hiroshima's third annual training to nurture legacy messengers, known in Japanese as "keishosha." She is particularly active in considering how to encourage more young people to be engaged in efforts to ban nuclear weapons.

■Youth



Ms SUZUKI Keina

Yokohama City, Kanagawa Prefecture 23 years old (Peace Boat Intern)

Keina participated in the previous 8th Peace Boat Hibakusha Project in 2015 as a youth representative. Following this experience she lived in Nagasaki for nine months, supporting various activities and talks by Hibakusha and of the organization N-DOVE. She is now on leave for her studies and interning at Peace Boat, while living in Yokohama. In December 2016, she reported about achievements to date at the Forum of Youth Communicator for a World without Nuclear Weapons held by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nagasaki. As momentum is now growing towards the conclusion of a treaty banning nuclear weapons, she hopes to continue to contribute to delivering the voices of Hiroshima and Nagasaki through joining this project.



Ms ENDO Ayumi

Yokohama City, Kanagawa Prefecture 22 years old

Ayumi is part of the students' group "Peace Ring" at her university, learning about nuclear, atomic bomb and peace related issues. She has joined study tours to Hiroshima and Nagasaki each summer. Ayumi now hopes to build upon what she has felt during these programmes to create speace for output within her university, and convey this to others every day. She feels concerned about trends of towards becoming inward-looking rather than seeking international cooperation, and people of generations who have not experienced war becoming more positive towards war and obtaining nuclear weapons. She therefore hopes to work with the Hibakusha to convey the horrors of war and nuclear weapons.

^{*} Ages listed are as at time of departure of voyage (April 12, 2017)