

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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April 4, 2018

2018 Peace Boat Hibakusha Project Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World

 \sim From Banning to Abolishing Nuclear Weapons With the Power of Civil Society \sim Project Outline

Overview:

The Japan-based international NGO Peace Boat has coordinated "Global Voyages for a Nuclear Free World: Peace Boat Hibakusha Project" since 2008. To date, over 170 *Hibakusha* (survivors of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki) have participated in this project, travelling around the world to call for a nuclear-free future. The upcoming Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World (8 May 2018-21 August 2018) will set sail from Yokohama this spring. It will be the first such voyage since the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

On this voyage, two Hibakusha (one from Hiroshima and another from Nagasaki) and one 2nd Generation Hibakusha will visit 25 ports in 22 countries, where they will share their testimony as a means to call for nuclear abolition.

In addition, the Nobel Peace Prize medal and diploma awarded to ICAN will also travel onboard the ship, and be shared with local participants in testimony sessions and events held around the world. The Hibakusha joining this voyage will act as "Special Communicators for a World without Nuclear Weapons" as accredited by the Japanese Government.

Objectives:

The theme of this voyage will be "From Banning to Abolishing Nuclear Weapons with the Power of Civil Society". Last year saw a historical step forward towards a world free of nuclear weapons. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was passed at the UN last July, and in December ICAN was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of its efforts that contributed to the advent of this treaty. Nuclear weapons have now been declared illegal thanks to the efforts of civil society.

However, the nuclear weapons states are not willing to face up to this reality. There are also many nations who, while they do not have nuclear weapons of their own, rely heavily upon them.

This makes it even more important to ensure the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons comes into legal force, and the full abolition of these weapons. It is vital that we spread the word about the devastating impacts of these weapons on humans and society. This is the global responsibility of Japan as a nation that has experienced the use of nuclear weapons. We must never repeat the mistakes of the past.

• Duration:

Tuesday May 8, 2018 - Tuesday August 21, 2018 (106 days).

Departs from and returns to Yokohama (part of Peace Boat's 98th Global Voyage)

Organizer: Peace BoatParticipating Hibakusha:

Two Hibakusha: Mr UEDA Koji (Hiroshima) and Ms KURAMORI Terumi (Nagasaki)

● Participating 2nd Generation Hibakusha/Legacy Messenger:

Ms SHINAGAWA Kaori (2nd generation Hibakusha from Hiroshima)

•Supported by:

Hiroshima City, Nagasaki City, 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.

•Contact: Peace Boat / Email: pbglobal@peaceboat.gr.jp / Web: http://bit.ly/pbhibakusha



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2018 Global Voyage for a Nuclear Free World: Peace Boat Hibakusha Project Participant Profiles

Hibakusha



Mr UEDA Koji

Hiroshima survivor (exposed to the atomic bomb at age 3), born 15 February 1942. Lives in Hachioji City, Tokyo Prefecture.

Mr Ueda was exposed to radiation after he entered Hiroshima City with his mother to check upon the damage to their home, which had stood just 400m from the hypocenter. He was the Deputy Secretary General of the Tokyo A-Bomb Survivor Association and former Secretary General of the Hachioji A-Bomb Survivor Association. He visited Washington DC in 2003, and attended the NPT Review Conference in 2005. The same year he visited Los Alamos to view the factory which manufactured atomic bombs. He communicated the reality of atomic weapons to civil society at the 2010 NPT Review conference. In Japan he speaks about his experience of the bombing to many groups, including exchange students and school groups from elementary age to university level.



Ms KURAMORI Terumi

Nagasaki survivor (exposed to the atomic bomb at age 1), born 8 January 1944. Lives in Nagasaki City, Nagasaki Prefecture.

Ms Kuramori was 5.8km from the hypocenter at the time of the explosion, but she, her mother and young siblings survived as they were in a bomb shelter at the time. As she was so young, she has no memory of that day, but she has devoted herself to ensuring that Nagasaki is the last place nuclear weapons are ever used. In March 2017 she attended an event with students from the "High School Student Campaign for 10,000 Signatures" and A-Bomb survivors living in Korea, at which she gave her testimony and participated in an exchange and opinion sharing session.

■ 2nd Generation Hibakusha/Legacy Messenger



Mr SHINAGAWA Kaoru

2nd generation Hiroshima survivor. Born 10 June 1950. Lives in Hiroshima City, Hiroshima Prefecture. Hiroshima City Volunteer Guide.

Mr Shinagawa's mother, then 25, was working at a tobacco processing plant 2km from the hypocenter when she experienced the atomic bombing. He never had a chance to hear about this story from her mother, but works tirelessly to teach about peace and the horrors of atomic weapons as a volunteer guide in Hiroshima. He regularly escorts school groups and visitors from around the world.