



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

PEACE
BOAT

〒169-0075
東京都新宿区高田馬場
3-13-1-B1
TEL: 03-3363-7561
FAX: 03-3363-7562
<http://www.peaceboat.org>

August 2018

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

-From Banning to Abolishing Nuclear Weapons With the Power of Civil Society-

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 Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World will set sail on September 1, 2018, and return to Japan on December 17, 2018.

On this voyage, two Hibakusha (both from Hiroshima) and a youth communicator will visit 24 ports in 21 countries, together with the Nobel Peace Prize medal and diploma awarded to ICAN. These will 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 adopted at the UN in July 2017, and in December of the same year 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:

September 1, 2018 (Saturday) – December 17, 2018 (Monday) (108 days).

Departs from and returns to Yokohama (part of Peace Boat's 99th Global Voyage)

●Organizer: Peace Boat

●Participating Hibakusha:

Two Hibakusha: Ms TSUKAMOTO Michiko (Hiroshima) and Ms SORA Tamiko (Hiroshima)

●Participating Youth Communicator:

Ms ANDO Mako

●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.



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Participants' Profiles

■ Hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors)



Ms TSUKAMOTO Michiko

Hibakusha of Hiroshima. Born on September 16, 1934, Ms Tsukamoto experienced the atomic bombing at the age of 10, and currently lives in Suginami, Tokyo.

Ms Tsukamoto suffered radiation exposure when she was carrying out rescue work while staying overnight at a hospital where her mother, who was exposed to the bombing, was hospitalized. Her father also suffered exposure to the bombing inside the electric tram right above the Aioi Bridge on his way to work. He passed away on August 11, six days after the atomic bombing. Ms Tsukamoto started testimony activities in the 1980s, in order to convey the experience of being witness to the horrors of atomic bombs. Since then, she has continued to appeal for nuclear weapons to never be used again. She has been actively giving testimony overseas as well. She participated in the Peace Boat Hibakusha Project in 2010, and was also a delegate to the Review Conference of Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT RevCon) held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York the same year.



Ms SORA Tamiko

Hibakusha of Hiroshima. Born on January 24, 1942, Ms Sora was three years old at the time of the bombing, and still lives in Hiroshima.

Ms Sora was exposed to the atomic bomb in her home, which was 1.4 kilometers from the hypocenter. She was with her mother, who was doing the laundry, and the two of them immediately took refuge in the air-raid shelter in their yard. This saved their life. Ms Sora currently participates in peace-related activities, giving testimony to students who come to Hiroshima on school excursions, and taking part in Hiroshima University projects on atomic bombs and their legacy. She also participates in a wide range of other activities, including volunteering at day care service home and appearing in choirs and musicals. This will be her first time participating in Peace Boat.

■ Youth Communicator



Ms ANDO Mako

Born in Hiroshima, Mako currently lives in Takarazuka, Hyogo Prefecture and is currently 23 years old.

During high school, Mako was involved in a signature-collecting campaign to abolish nuclear weapons, as well as collecting testimonies of Hibakusha. She also actively participated in peace-promoting activities through serving as UNESCO Youth Peace Ambassador and Chairperson of the "20th International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) Youth Summit". She also participated in Peace Boat as a Youth Communicator in January 2018, and so this will be her second time aboard the ship. Currently, she studies at Kobe University Graduate School.