



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

PEACE
BOAT

3-13-1-B1 Takadanobaba,
Shinjuku, Tokyo 169-0075, JAPAN
TEL: 81-3-3363-8047
FAX: 81-3-3363-7562
<http://www.peaceboat.org>

Feb 16, 2015

The 8th “Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World: Peace Boat Hibakusha Project”
Profiles of Participating Hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors)



Mr MIYAKE Nobuo

Hiroshima Survivor (exposed to a-bomb at age 16), born on Feb 16, 1929
Shiki City, Saitama Prefecture

Mr Miyake was exposed to the atomic bombing while riding a streetcar that was heading towards the hypocenter; he was 1.8 km away. He luckily survived after an instantaneous decision to jump out from the streetcar at the time of the explosion; those who stayed on board were killed or injured. Since the late 1980s he has been active in giving testimony in Japan as well as internationally, including in the United States, the Netherlands, Canada, Israel and Saudi Arabia. He also regularly participates in exchange with Zainichi Korean Hibakusha (Korean residents in Japan). From 2007 to 2009, he was Secretary-General of the Tokyo Federation of A-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Toyukai).



Mr MORITA Hiromitsu

Nagasaki Survivor (exposed to a-bomb at age 10), born on Sept 24, 1934
Nagasaki City, Nagasaki Prefecture

Mr Morita was exposed to the atomic bombing by the entrance of his house, 1.8 km from the hypocenter. He saw a blue-white flash upon stepping into his house, and was blown 5-6 meters by the blast. He experienced only minor injuries, but his elder brother (15 years old) was heavily burnt and died several years later. After the war, Mr Morita did not share his testimony in fear of discrimination, yet gradually over time, he started to share when people around him asked him about his experiences. He currently protects the 600 year old a-bomb surviving tree located in the Sanno Shrine, and passes down his miraculous story of surviving the bomb, sharing the preciousness of human life.



Ms KOTANI Takako

Hiroshima Survivor (exposed to a-bomb at age 6), born on Jan 4, 1939
Yachiyo City, Chiba Prefecture

Ms Kotani was exposed to the atomic bombing at her house, 2.5 km from the hypocenter. Although she was trapped under her house, she survived with only a minor injury. Of four sisters and brothers, her younger brother died from heavy burns all over his body, and her elder sister and brother both experienced major injuries but survived. Since her mother passed away from leukemia when she was in elementary school, Ms Kotani did not make public the fact that she was a Hibakusha, until she was encouraged by an acquaintance in 2005 to share her testimony. She now belongs to Yachiyo City Hibakusha association. Using her ventriloquism skills gained during her years as a kindergarten teacher, she places strong emphasis on speaking about the preciousness of life to youth.



Mr HIRONAKA Masaki

Hiroshima Survivor (exposed to a-bomb at age 5), born on Oct 16,1939
Fukuyama City, Hiroshima Prefecture

Mr Hironaka was exposed to the atomic bombing while playing at a stream 3.5 km from the hypocenter, and saw the black rain from an air-raid shelter. He cannot forget the heavily burned back of his father who was killed by the bombing, and after retirement published a booklet describing what happened to him. In 2006 he began to give his own testimony and show drawings. In 2010, he was selected as a HIDANKYO (Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations) delegate to the NPT Review Conference in New York, where he gave testimony and shared his appeal for nuclear abolition at the United Nations and at local elementary and junior high schools.



Mr HORIE Soh

Hiroshima Survivor (exposed to a-bomb at age 4), born on Oct 17,1940
Hiroshima City, Hiroshima Prefecture

Mr Horie was exposed to the atomic bombing while on a street 3 km from the hypocenter. After a bright flash, the blast blew him away; he was unharmed due to his elder sister protecting him with her own body. He still vividly remembers the heavily burned children who came to his house seeking shelter. Since 2004 Mr Horie belongs to the World Friendship Center, which conducts international exchange through sharing Hibakusha testimonies. With a sense of urgency due to the decreasing numbers of Hibakusha able to give testimony, since 2012 he has shared his experiences in English with international visitors to Hiroshima.



Mr ITO Masao

Hiroshima Survivor (exposed to a-bomb at age 4), born on Jan 31,1941
Hiroshima City, Hiroshima Prefecture

Mr Ito was exposed to atomic bombing while riding a tricycle in front of his house, 3.5 km from the hypocenter. He was blown away by the blast, but fortunately had only minor injuries. He escaped to an air raid shelter, where he saw the black rain. He cannot forget the sight of countless corpses being cremated at the park near his house, which continued for several days after the bombing. He is active as a Hiroshima Peace Volunteer since 2010, and since 2012 participates in Hiroshima City's activities to build capacity of Hibakusha to pass on their experiences to the next generation.



Ms MITAMURA Shizuko

Nagasaki Survivor (exposed to a-bomb at age 3), born on Dec 20,1941
Nagasaki City, Nagasaki Prefecture

Ms Mitamura was exposed to the atomic bombing during a meal at home, 4 km from the hypocenter. Immediately after the strong flash, her family evacuated to an air raid shelter and survived. She worked as a nurse after the war and had little interest in the atomic bomb, however her two sisters with whom she was on the day, and her daughter and niece – themselves second generation Hibakusha – all passed away due to cancer. Ms Mitamura herself was diagnosed with colorectal and endometrial cancer, making her realize the terrible nature of radiation, and she began to be interested in anti-nuclear peace activities. She currently volunteers as a guide to tell her experience as a Hibakusha through telling stories with illustrated picture cards.



Ms KAMADA Hiroe

Hiroshima Survivor (exposed to a-bomb at age 3), born on Feb 9, 1942
Hiroshima City, Hiroshima Prefecture

Ms Kamada was exposed to the atomic bombing at home, 2.3 km from the hypocenter. Fortunately everyone in her family survived. While she has no clear memory of the bombing, she has suffered from fear of death for many years since. From when she was small she tires easily, and was diagnosed with hypothyroidism in her 40s. Ms Kamada does not have great experience in sharing her testimony publicly, she has spoken of the story of her family and herself to her children, grandchildren, and international exchange students. She hopes to appeal for nuclear abolition in connection with suffering caused by the atomic bombing and its radiation effects, domestic and international wars, refugee issues and more.



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

**PEACE
BOAT**

3-13-1-B1 Takadanobaba,
Shinjuku, Tokyo 169-0075, JAPAN

TEL: 81-3-3363-8047

FAX: 81-3-3363-7562

<http://www.peaceboat.org>

The 8th “Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World” Profiles of Participating Youth Communicators for a World without Nuclear Weapons

Mr HASHIMOTO Akihiro



Age: 29 (Hitachinaka City, Ibaraki Prefecture, living in Tokyo)

Akihiro coordinates the theatre production unit, “Moratorium Pants,” and produces, directs and performs in all its works. At the age of 12, he performed in the play “*Wakakusa no Uta*”, which portrayed war orphans and Hibakusha; through this experience he read the diaries and documents of people who experienced the war, virtually experiencing what they went through. Following this he has continued to be involved in many theatre productions on themes including the Battle of Okinawa, war orphans, the atomic bomb and so on. In summer 2013, the play “mobile2” which he created together with a Singaporean theatre troupe on the theme of Japan and Asia during World War II was selected as one of the top ten plays in Singapore that year. He is also involved in expression education through workshops in schools using theatrical methods. During this voyage, he will work to pass on the stories of Hibakusha through theatre.

Ms SUZUKI Keina



Age: 21 (Yokohama City, Kanagawa Prefecture)

Keina is majoring in International Studies at Meiji Gakuin University. She is a member of a students' group working on nuclear issues, which actively cooperates with experts and other organizations to hold symposiums and events to pass on the testimony of Hibakusha. They also organize trips to Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August to visit the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and other buildings related to the bombing, as well as recording Hibakusha testimony. She also participates in the project “WHAT'S YOUR PEACE,” planning a photo exhibition to encourage young people in Japan to feel closer to issues related to peace. She decided to join the voyage to build a movement of youth interested in nuclear issues both within Japan and as a network that goes beyond international borders, due to concern through her daily activities of how to pass on experiences to the future.

Ms IWAMOTO Manami



Age: 21 (Sakai City, Osaka Prefecture; living in Kyoto)

Manami has been interested in issues relating to war since she was small, and actively learned about the global situation and conflicts through books, photographs and so on. In 2010 she received first prize at the Osaka High School Arts and Crafts Exhibition for a portrait of her grandmother telling of her experiences during World War II. Since then she has continued to create artworks portraying the faces of children suffering from war, or people affected by war-related PTSD. In 2014 she produced an film project involving around 100 young people in their 20s, based on the theme of 'passing on knowledge to future generations.' As well as participating youth themselves telling of the horrific experiences of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, she also used music and animation to express the feelings of the Hibakusha. During this voyage she hopes to use art as a tool to encourage people of all generations to think more deeply about nuclear and war related issues.