

Commitment to Peace

We have learned many things about peace.

With one atomic bomb, the sky over Hiroshima was instantaneously changed to a sky from hell. The ground below filled with blackened corpses, and the air with screams of anguish. Even now, many people still suffer.

Fifty-two years since that day.... The Hiroshima we live in now is beautiful, a city rich in greenery. We have also learned that Hiroshima was revived through the hard work of our grandfathers and grandmothers and many other people.

However, we hear that even now many nuclear weapons remain in our world. Many people are still losing their precious lives to war. Many are suffering from poverty and environmental destruction.

The more we learn, the more we realize that the Earth we live on is still not really a world at peace.

What must we do now to build a peaceful world for the future?

We have to get along well with our friends. We have to build a warm society in which we share each other's sorrow. We have to value our own lives, support each other, and live with hope and courage. Though alone we are weak, if we combine our strengths, we will become a mighty force for building a community of peace.

Today, as we greet the 52nd Peace Memorial Day, having learned the significance of the Atomic Bomb Dome, which is now a World Heritage site, we commit ourselves to conveying the horror of nuclear weapons. As children of Hiroshima, we pledge to go on learning, and, together with our friends around the world, to do everything we can to make peace.

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