

Commitment to Peace

Fifty-one years ago, long before we were born, an atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. The Peace Memorial Museum tells us in detail what happened.

Burned and tattered clothing. A tricycle melted by the heat. A watch stopped at 8:15. When we see how a single bomb turned the whole city of Hiroshima into a scorched plain, we understand what a horrifying weapon the atomic bomb is.

Why did human beings make such a terrible thing? We absolutely cannot tolerate the atomic bomb that instantly took away everything and we cannot tolerate war.

Peace means being able to live without fear. It means enjoying being alive.

Yet, thousands of nuclear weapons remain on our planet. Nuclear testing continues. And people are injured and killed by war.

We have learned much about the importance of peace and what we must do to build a world of peace.

That is, we have each learned the sanctity of life, and will continuously abide by our promise to the world to treat all living creatures with loving care.

When we differ with our friends, we will consider their point of view and treat them with respect and empathy.

Today, as we mark the 51st anniversary of that tragic day, we pledge to convey the suffering and sorrow brought to so many by the atomic bomb, to study continually, and to live with courage, strength, and kindness in the service of world peace.

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