



CITY OF NAGASAKI

Mayoral Message

On behalf of the citizens of Nagasaki, I would like to extend this message to the “2018 Earth Caravan.”

At 11:02 a.m., August 9th, 1945, Nagasaki instantly took devastating amounts of damage from a single atomic bomb. 74,000 precious lives were lost, and a further 75,000 were injured. Even today, 73 years after the bombing, many *hibakusha*, atomic bomb victims, still suffer from exposure to the radiation.

The *hibakusha*, who carry deep mental and physical wounds that will never heal, have continued to retell their painful experience, appealing for the abolition of nuclear weapons. They are driven by their firm resolve, believing that no one in this world should ever again suffer as they have.

The adoption of the “Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons” at the United Nation in July 2017 has fulfilled the long awaited wishes of the *hibakusha* and the civil society which has been longing for a peaceful world. Through this news, I sensed a big shift towards a world free of nuclear weapons. To those of us who have continued to appeal for nuclear abolition, this gave us the conviction that we are working towards the right path and the courage to continue delivering our message. For this treaty’s early entry into force and its establishment as an international norm, it is necessary for members of civil society to continue raising their voices.

Together with everyone who wishes for a world free of nuclear weapons, we the citizens of Nagasaki City will continue to work toward nuclear abolition and the realization of everlasting peace.

Through the “2018 Earth Caravan.” I hope that you will share our wish for peace and spread the voice calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

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Tomihisa Taue

Mayor of Nagasaki

July 2018