

HIROSHIMA



**Hiroshima-Nagasaki
Atomic Bomb Exhibition**



NAGASAKI

Message from the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

In August 1945, atomic bombs instantaneously reduced our cities to utter ruin and took over 200,000 precious lives by the end of that year. Those who managed to survive have since suffered the devastating aftereffects of radiation, the peculiar horror of a nuclear weapon. Even today, the full scope of radiation effects has yet to be elucidated, and survivors still live in dread.

Based on our atomic bomb experiences 70 years ago, Hiroshima and Nagasaki have consistently followed the lead of our survivors, who arose from the depths of despair to entreat the world to abolish nuclear weapons. Through the efforts of many, we have thus far prevented a third use of nuclear weapons, but sadly, our cherished hope of eliminating nuclear weapons in the 20th century was unfulfilled.

Through this atomic bomb exhibition, we hope you will encounter the reality of the terrible damage wrought by nuclear weapons, and that this encounter will deepen your understanding that nuclear weapons are an absolute evil leading the human race toward extinction. We hope you will then be inspired to take new steps to ensure that the 21st is a century of peace. We firmly believe that each individual step taken increases momentum and strengthens international public demand for a peaceful world and the abolition of nuclear weapons.

In closing, we express our profound admiration and gratitude to those whose selfless devotion made this exhibition possible.



Kazumi Matsui
Mayor of Hiroshima



Tomihisa Taue
Mayor of Nagasaki

Immediately after the Bombing (Hiroshima)



▲ **A-bomb survivors suffering from burns and other injuries**
Approx. 1.4 miles from the hypocenter
(Around 11 a.m., August 6, 1945 – Photo: Yoshito Matsushige, Courtesy: Chugoku Newspaper Company)



▲ **Temporary relief station in a tent**
0.7 miles from the hypocenter
Lacking medical supplies, applying oil and a layer of gauze to burned faces was the best they could do.
(August 9, 1945 – Photo: Yotsugi Kawahara)



▲ **Police officer ignoring his own injuries to issue disaster certificates entitling victims to government assistance**
1.6 miles from the hypocenter
(Around 5 p.m., August 6, 1945 – Photo: Yoshito Matsushige, Courtesy: Chugoku Newspaper Company)

Damage due to Heat Rays

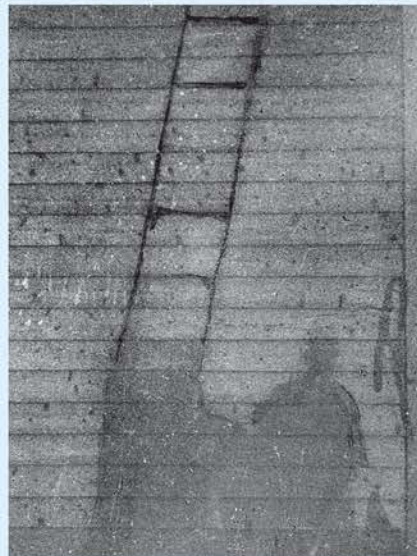
When the atomic bomb exploded, the temperature at the epicenter soared to over one million degrees Celsius. In one second, the fireball expanded to 0.17 miles in diameter. The heat rays emitted in all directions by the fireball brought temperatures on the ground near the hypocenter to 5,432 to 7,232 °F. [Iron melts at 2,732 °F.]



▲ **Kimono pattern burned into skin (Hiroshima)**
The heat rays burned the dark parts of the kimono pattern into her skin.
(Around August 15, 1945 – Photo: Gonichi Kimura)



▲ **Human shadow etched in stone (Hiroshima)**
0.16 miles from the hypocenter
The surface of the surrounding stone steps was turned whitish by the intense heat rays.
The place where the person was sitting became dark like a shadow.
(Late 1946 – Photo: Yoshito Matsushige, Courtesy: Chugoku Newspaper Company)



▲ **Shadow of a man and a ladder on a wooden wall (Nagasaki)**
2.7 miles from the hypocenter
(Photo: Eichi Matsumoto, Courtesy: Asahi Newspaper Company)

Memories from Hiroshima

– Children's Belonging –

Shin-chan's Tricycle

Shin'ichi Tetsutani (then, three years and 11 months old) experienced the bombing as he rode his tricycle in front of his house and died later that evening. His father felt it would be sad to bury his three-year-old child alone, so he buried Shin'ichi's dead body along with this tricycle in the back yard of the house. In the summer of 1985, 40 years later, Shin'ichi's father unearthed his remains from the yard and interred them in a proper grave. He donated this tricycle to the Peace Memorial Museum.



0.9 miles from the hypocenter
(Donated by Nobuo Tetsutani)



Shigeru-kun's Lunch Box

Shigeru Orimen (then, 13), a first-year student at Hiroshima Prefecture Second Junior High School, left his house for work carrying the lunch his mother made for him. He experienced the atomic bombing at his building demolition site. Shigeru's mother walked the city looking for him. Early in the morning of August 9th, she found him dead on the ground, clutching this lunch box under his stomach. The uneaten lunch was burned black.

0.37 miles from the hypocenter
(Donated by Shigeo Orimen)

Sadako Sasaki and the Origami Cranes

Sadako Sasaki was two years old when she experienced the atomic bombing at her home 1 mile from the hypocenter. Miraculously, she was uninjured and grew into an energetic, rambunctious little girl. However, when she was in the sixth grade of elementary school, she fell ill, and in February of the following year, 1955, she was admitted to hospital with leukemia.

Sadako had heard that folding 1,000 origami cranes would cure illness, so she began to fold cranes from the wrappers of her medications and any other paper she could find. Unfortunately, her wish did not come true. On October 25th of the same year, her short life ended after eight months fighting this terrible disease.

Classmates who heard the tragic news played a major role in the campaign for a statue to call for peace and mourn Sadako and other children who died from the A-bomb. Thanks to donations from around Japan, the Children's Peace Monument was completed on May 5, 1958.



▲ Children's Peace Monument



▶ Origami cranes folded by Sadako
(Donated by Shigeo and Masahiro Sasaki)

Prayer for Peace

The Cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki dedicate registers of those known to have died of exposure to the A-bombing in the Cenotaph for the A-bomb Victims (Official name: Memorial Monument for Hiroshima, City of Peace) and the Vault Enshrining the Names of Deceased Atomic Bomb Victims, respectively. To console the souls of those whose lives were lost to the bombs, we will keep these records forever and pray before them for eternal peace for humankind. As of August 2014, in Hiroshima the names of 292,325 people and in Nagasaki the names of 165,409 people are registered in these books. This year, we mark the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings. Many hibakusha are aging and still suffering the aftereffects. The number of hibakusha living in Japan fell below 200,000 in 2013.



▲ Peace Memorial Ceremony in Hiroshima
(Held annually on August 6 – Photo: The City of Hiroshima)



▲ Peace Memorial Ceremony in Nagasaki
(Held annually on August 9 – Photo: The City of Nagasaki)



▲ Mass at Urakami Cathedral (Nagasaki)
(Photo: The City of Nagasaki)

Floating paper lanterns (Hiroshima)
To pray for the peaceful repose of the dead, lanterns with the names of victims are offered to the river.
(Held annually on August 6 – Photo: The City of Hiroshima)

