

Our Declaration for Lasting Peace in 2016

August 6, 2016, Hiroshima

On this day, seventy-one years ago, on a bright, cloudless morning, a nuclear warhead dropped by a US-bomber plunged Hiroshima city and its innocent people into destruction. All of the city, along with far over one hundred thousand human lives, were destroyed in a split second. After only 3-days, Nagasaki city also fell to same hair-raising fate. Even the people, who fortunately survived this great catastrophe, were forever scarred physically and mentally by the burning flash of light and the engulfing flames, which proceeded them. “America can not deny that their usage of the atomic bombs and their great many murders of innocent Japanese are war crimes, much more brutal than poisonous gas attacks or an attack on a hospital ship, because they assert that “ ... Justice is their Power.” said Mr. Ichiro Hatoyama to the Japanese press just after the Great East War on 15 September 1945. He became the prime minister of Japan several years after the end of the war. The U.S. occupation forces answered by the press ban to suppress any criticisms of the U.S.

This year on 27 March, as many as 71 years later, U.S. President Mr. Obama said, “Why do we come this place, to Hiroshima? We come to ponder a terrible forces unleashed in a not so distant past.” However you, Mr. Obama, need not ponder anything. The fact is one. Just after a terrible force was unleashed, our predecessors saved themselves and others in cooperation and mourned and prayed for the victims in spite of injuries of themselves. Today, Hiroshima city has been rebuilt completely by extraordinary efforts of them. We are now here to offer our deepest gratitude to them. We are also now here to mourn for all the indiscriminate bombing victims. Now, we do not care whether Mr. Obama does or does not apologize for the casualties. Mr. President, we just hope that you understand and remember the vast war crimes that two former US-presidents have done in not so distant past. This is our answer. Not a press ban!

Mobilized students worked without rest and sleep, and moved the tramcars only three days after bombing. It is impossible to say how much the bewildering people in the horror were encouraged by seeing the moving tramcars. Insurance payments started just after the bombing of the wholly destroyed city. The casualties and their families were able to receive these benefits freely by only their claims and fingerprints without any identification or death

certification. These first steps taken by our predecessors undoubtedly gave the people hope and a staff of life for the future. You, our parents, sibling and relatives, who were the most modest, honest and high-minded took actions to save them and collaborated in spite of your deep damage of mind, and completely rebuilt our city with a beautiful harmony of the green mountains, clear rivers and elegant buildings. Your heart to act and all of your creations are the paramount presents for us, to be etched in our mind. We are obliged to gratitude for you and protect your gifts forever.

In Nagasaki, there was a young man known as “a boy standing at the crematory”. They said that the boy, with a dead little brother on his back, stood at attention with bear feet, closing tightly his lips, as if facing up to the hard facts. After the cremation, he bowed once and disappeared. An American cameraman who took the boy’s picture held the photo exhibition later in his home country. Everyone could not avoid tears looking at the boy’s photograph. The people who received treatments by the rescue team were laid and many of them died one after another. However, the nuclear weapon could not burn down the spirits of people who could bear lying along with dead people.

Nowadays, Japan is surrounded by countries who possess more powerful nuclear weapons. Both their numbers and powers are increasing. The advancing destructive ability of warship, air fighters and so on are far more powerful than before. A speaker of the atomic bombing experience talks to junior-high school students about so-called “atrocities” by the former Japan Forces. However, the speaker could never experience them, because he was only 9 years old at the end of the war. Some second-generation the atomic bomb victims are succeeding such a role to tell the same non-experienced story to younger generations. Why on earth could these people not open their eyes to the real world that Japan is oppressed firmly by total military powers? Do they believe that Japan should be free from the international struggles while they fall asleep using article 9 of the Constitution as a sound pillow and using “NO NUKES” as a lullaby? Worldwide real perils are just now creeping upon us.

Russia, one of the countries permitted to possess nuclear weapons, robbed Ukraine of the Krym peninsula two years ago and recently executed an air-attack over the sphere of Syrian democratic people’s area. North-Korea, considered to have some nuclear weapons having their economy collapsed, succeeded in 3 types of ballistic missile shots recently. As a result, even the U.S. have become within the effective range of their missiles. China-Beijing, another

country permitted to possess nuclear weapons, has taken the offensive targeting to the fighter planes of our Japan Self Defense Forces (J.S.D.F). They continue to violate the territorial waters of Japan almost every day. Today, at last, their warships are cruising unlawfully inside of our territorial waters. They have been stealing foreign territorial sea zones. They have reclaimed islands from the sunken reef and made “the fake islands” into unsinkable aircraft carriers, in violation of international treaties. Today, seven of these “fake islands” have already been made over the South China Sea.

Can we overcome these troubles by negotiation only? China-Beijing announced one-sidedly in September 2010 that Senkaku islands, which obviously belong to Japan, are included in their own territory. In September 2012, they announced a high-handed assertion that “If Japanese official ships or J.S.D.F enter the sea area around Chogyo (Japanese; Uoturi) island, these acts constitutes the invasion.”, and “In case the foreign military ships enter the sea area around Chogyo island, they must accept China Governmental permission.” “There has been no room for discussion about the border in the East China Sea between China and Japan.” The Chinese government disputed the recent judgements by the International Arbitration Court about the procession in the South China Sea as wastepaper. Moreover, they declared that they do not cease to reclaim islands from sunken reef. To all followers of “the article 9”! Your thoughtless remarks had led to failure more than 6 years ago.

Mr. Obama’s Hiroshima speech strung together all sorts of flowery words from the viewpoint of high human morality. However, we also find the humanity’s real truth in his speech: “Violent conflict appeared with the very first man.” “Used these tools not just for hunting, but against their own kind.” “Science allows us to ----- . But those same discoveries can be turned into ever-more efficient killing machines.” “We may not be able to eliminate man’s capability to do evil, so nations --- and the alliances that we’ve formed --- must possess the means to defend ourselves.” “But among those nations like my own that hold nuclear stockpiles, we must have the courage to escape the logic of fear, and pursue a world without them. We may not realize this goal in my life.” He never lost a realistic human truth. However, the president just before retiring can not promise anything. A serious paragraph in Czech-Prague speech have vanished in Hiroshima speech: “Make no mistakes: As long as these weapons exist, we will maintain a safe, secure and effective arsenal to deter any adversaries, and guarantee that defense to our allies.” Four “Hibakusha” greeting Mr. Obama were tenderly embraced by him and dropped tears from their eyes. Although the scene might bring sympathy to not a few

people. These emotions have been the cause of failure by “No Nuke or Peace”. All people must not forget the fact that the button launching nuclear missiles remained in Mr. Obama’s hands even when he was hugging the four persons.

We do react to humanity’s real truth in his speech. He referred to “the wars that would follow” as well as “that terrible war, and the wars that came before”. Considering these truths, we must possess the means to defend ourselves and must take the necessary actions to do so. These are our primary obligations to the Japanese. For our parents, sibling and relatives who have reconstructed Japan with all their might; for our posterity to whom we entrust the future of Japan, we must ever prevent such an illegal atrocious error!

“The society structured by survivors of the atomic bombs and their relatives to seek peace and security”

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