

The Online Version in English

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# **Toward A Nuclear-Free Future!**

**Global Hibakusha Report  
from Hiroshima to the World**



**The World Nuclear Victims Forum**

**Nov.21-23, 2015**

Plus, Addenda 2015-2021:  
Revisiting the Issues in a Time of Global Crisis

The World Nuclear Victims Executive Committee

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**Global Hibakusha Report**  
from Hiroshima to the World!

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Plus, Addenda 2015-2021:  
Revisiting the Issues in a Time of Global Crisis



The World Nuclear Victims Executive Committee

## Foreword for the Online English Version for *Toward a Nuclear-Free Future!*

This is the online English version of *Toward a Nuclear-Free Future!*, the record of the *World Nuclear Victims Forum* held in Hiroshima November 21-23, 2015. *Toward a Nuclear-Free Future!* was published in August 2020.

About 20 foreign guests and more than 1,000 people attended the Forum, including hibakusha, scientists, legal experts, and campaigners. They received up-to-date reports and participated in discussions regarding the grave nuclear damage still being done around the world. (The Forum was possible thanks to generous donations and assistance from many concerned people and groups in Japan and abroad.) On the last day, the Forum adopted the Declaration of the World Nuclear Victims Forum in Hiroshima together with the Draft Elements of a Charter of World Nuclear Victims' Rights.

Nuclear problems remain the most urgent of all. We must tackle them now despite the many other crises surging one after another, from climate disruption to the pandemic and more. We hope the reports and messages uploaded here can be of some help in building further the momentum generated by the coming into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

This online version contains many of the presentations given at the 2015 Forum, but only abstracts or profiles are available for some sessions at present. We will keep working to improve this site and ask you to join us in spreading around the world the messages that came from this Forum.

English Translation Project  
The World Nuclear Victims Executive Committee



# The Online Version in English

## **Toward a Nuclear-Free Future!: The World Nuclear Victims Forum (Nov.21-23, 2015) Global Hibakusha Report from Hiroshima to the World**

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**Plus, Addenda 2015-2021:  
Revisiting the Issues in a Time of Global Crisis**

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### ***Toward A Nuclear-Free Future!: The World Nuclear Victims Forum 2015***

Published in July 2020

Supervising editors: Nanao Kamata & Nobuo Kazashi

Chief-editors: Haruko Moritaki & Takekatsu Tamuro

Layout: Shift Project, Hiroshima

Compiled and Published by The World Nuclear Victims Forum Executive Committee

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\* The Japanese version,  
『核のない未来を！ 世界核被害者フォーラム報告記録集』 (A4/290 pages; 42 pages in color)  
is available at 2,000 yen per copy (+ 500 yen for shipping).

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## The World Nuclear Victims Forum, Hiroshima, 2015

# Day 1: November 21 (Saturday)

## International Conference Center, "Himawari=Sunflower" Hall


8:30 Visit to Hiroshima Peace Museum and Peace Memorial Park  
(Guide: **Michiko Yamane**, World Friendship Center)...

9:20 Offering flowers at the Cenotaph

10:00-11:45

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	Keynote Lecture I Introduction: <b>Nobuo Kazashi</b> (Joint Representative, WNVF)
	Keynote Lecture I : <b>Tilman Ruff</b> Title: <b>We can: a healthy sustainable future can only be nuclear-free</b> (Co-President , IPPNW / Founding Chair, ICAN / Associate Professor, University of Melbourne)
	Solidarity Message (Video): <b>Alex Rosen</b> (Ph.D, Assistant Director of IPPNW Germany)
	Special Report: <b>Toshiko Naito</b> (Hiroshima Hibakusha, Chair of the "No More Hibakusha" Class Action Lawsuit)

11:45-12:45 Lunch break

	<b>&lt;Session 1&gt; Reports from the Sites of Nuclear Cycle Damage</b> ..... 27
	Uranium mining, nuclear testing, Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombings, nuclear energy accidents, nuclear energy labor, the reality of damage caused by depleted uranium weapons
12:45-13:45	<b>[1] Uranium Mining</b> ..... 28
	Coordinators : ann-elise lewallen (Associate Professor. University of California, Santa Barbara) : Haruko Moritaki (Secretary General, WNVF)
	Presenters: 1) <b>Petuuuche Gilbert</b> (US: Acoma Pueblo, Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environment, Uranium Mining Affected Indigenous community) 2) <b>Ashish Birulee</b> (India: Jadugoda Uranium Mine Anti-Radiation Alliance)
13:50-15:20	<b>[2] Nuclear Tests</b> ..... 32
	Coordinators : <b>Seiichiro Takemine</b> (Associate Professor, Meisei University) <b>Noboru Tazaki</b> (Executive Director, Elimination of Nuclear Weapons Earth Citizens' Assembly Executive Committee Nagasaki)
	Presenters: 1) <b>Karina Lester</b> (Australia: Australian Nuclear Free Alliance, ANFA) 2) <b>Enver Tohti</b> (China: Lop Nur Project) 3) <b>Mary Dickson</b> (U.S.A.: downwinder; writer) 4) <b>Seiichiro Takemine</b> (Japan: researcher)
15:25-16:25	<b>[3] Hiroshima and Nagasaki Atomic Bombings</b> ..... 44
	Coordinators : <b>Katsuaki Aoki</b> (Joint Representative, WNVF) <b>Mitsugi Moriguchi</b> (Executive Director, Nagasaki Testimony Association)
	Presenters: 1) <b>Seiji Takato</b> (Hiroshima Hibakusha, Plaintiff for the Black Rain Class Action Lawsuit) 2) <b>Shohei Tsuiki</b> (Nagasaki Hibakusha,) 3) <b>Sim Jintae</b> Diretor, Hapchon Chapter of Korean - Hibakusha Association

16:25-16:40 Break

16:40-18:20 **[4] Nuclear Power Plant Accidents: Chernobyl and Fukushima** ..... 54

Coordinators : Ichiro Yuasa (Former Representative, Peace Depot)  
Hajime Shiraishi (Executive Producer, Our PlanetTV)

Presenters:

- 1) Alexander Velikin (Russia: Liquidator)
  - 2) Anton Vdovichenko (Russia: Radymich Representative, Chernobyl Nuclear Accident Victim Support NGO)
  - 3) Kenichi Hasegawa (co-representative, Fukushima Nuclear Accident Victims Network)
- Commentator: Katsutaka Idogawa Previous Mayor of Futaba Town, Fukushima

18:25-19:25 **[5] Nuclear Waste Use and Depleted Uranium Shells** ..... 62

Coordinators : Maki Sato (Secretary General, JIM Net=Japan Iraq Medical Network)  
Naomi Toyoda (Photojournalist)

Presenters:

- 1) Hideyuki Ban (Director, Citizens' Nuclear Information Center)
- 2) Jawad Al-Ali (Cancer Advisor, Iraq Ministry of Health)
- 3) Kareem Abdulsada Abd Ahmed (Director, Basra Cancer Prevention Center)

19:30

### Welcome Reception

Moderators

- : Shoji Kihara (Director, We Don't Want Nuclear Power Plants Hiroshima Citizens' Group)
  - : Michiko Yamane (Director, WFC=World Friendship Center)
  - : Meri Joyce (International Coordinator, Peace Boat)
- Greeting: Tadatoshi Akiba ( Previous Mayor of Hiroshima)
- Music: Shinobue (a kind of bamboo flute) by Koto

## Day 2: November 22 (Sunday)

### International Conference Center, "Himawari" Hall

9:00-11:00



**<Session 2> The Science of "Hibaku" (Radiation Exposure)** ..... 66

Coordinators : Nanao Kamada (Professor Emeritus, Hiroshima University,  
Director of Hiroshima Hibakusha Relief Foundation)  
Katsumi Furitsu (Asst. Professor, Hyogo College of Medicine, ICBUW,  
Chernobyl Hibakusha Relief Kansai)

Presenters:

- 1) Masao Tomonaga (Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Hospital Director Emeritus)
- 2) Anatolii Chumak (Ukraine: Vice Director of the Institute of Clinical Radiology of National Research Center for Radiation Medicine)
- 3) Shinji Tokonami (Professor, Hirosaki University; Tokonami Research Lab, Hirosaki University Radiation Medical Research Institute)
- 4) Masaharu Hoshi (Professor Emeritus at Hiroshima University)

Commentator: Eisuke Matsui (Director, Gifu Environmental Medicine Research Institute)

11:00-11:10 Break

11:10-12:20



**<Special Session> ..... 72**

Coordinator and Lecture Introduction: **Tadashi Sawada** (Assistant Secretary General, WNVF)

Keynote Lecture II: **Dr. Hiroaki Koide** Title: “All Uses of Nuclear Technology Unjust Sacrifice”  
(Former Assistant Professor, Research Reactor Institute, Kyoto University)

Round table with **Dr Koide and International Guests**

**Kumar Sundaram** (India: Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace)

**Anatolii Chumak** (Ukraine: National Research Center for Radiation Medicine)

**Keisaburo Toyonaga** (Hiroshima Hibakusha, Association of Citizens for Supporting South Korean Atomic Bomb Victims)

12:20-13:30 Lunch break

13:30-16:00



**<Session 3> Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons and Depleted Uranium Weapons ... 81**

Coordinators : **Osamu Shinohara** (Professor at Hiroshima Jyogakuin University)

: **Keiko Nakamura** (Assoc. Professor, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons  
Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University)

Presenters:

- 1) **Mary Dickson** (Downwinders, U.S. , Director of Creative Service)
- 2) **Akira Kawasaki** (Executive Committee Member, Peace Boat; ICAN Steering Committee)
- 3) **Tilman Ruff** (Co-President of IPPNW and founding Chair of ICAN )
- 4) **Kenichi Okubo** (International Anti-Nuclear Campaign)
- 5) **Manfred Mohr** (lawyer, IALANA-Germany, ICBUW)

16:00-16:15 Break

16:15-17:45



**<Session 4> Campaign Against Nuclear Material Uses: From Uranium Mining, Nuclear Power, Fuel Cycle ..... 94**

Coordinators: **Shoji Kihara** (We Don't Want Nuclear Power Plants Hiroshima Citizens' Group)

: **Kiyoshi Toda** (Professor, Nagasaki University Environmental Studies)

Presenters:

- 1) **Ruiko Muto** (Representative, Complainants for the Criminal Prosecution of the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster)
- 2) **Kumar Sundaram** (India: Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace)
- 3) **Shriprakash** (India: Documentary Director, “Buddha Weeps in Jadugoda”)

18:00-19:00 International Conference Center, Himawari

**<Film Screening> New film: “Documentary film on uranium mining damage in India and the US”**

Directed by **Shriprakash**

17:50-20:00 **World Charter of Nuclear Radiation Victims' Rights Drafting Committee**

(International Conference Hall: Forum Steering Committee Room)

Coordinators : **Shuichi Adachi**, Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms

: **Nobuo Kazashi**, Joint Representative, WNVF ; Professor Kobe University

- 1) **Kenji Urata** (Professor Emeritus, Waseda University)
- 2) **Manfred Mohr** (Lawyer, IALANA-Germany, ICBUW)
- 3) **Tetsuji Imanaka** (Assistant Professor, Kyoto University Research Reactor Institute)
- 4) **Takeya Sasaki** (Director, Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms)
- 5) **Kenichi Okubo** (Director, Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms)
- 6) **Akira Kawasaki** (Steering Committee of ICAN, Joint Advisor of Japanese NGO Network for Nuclear Weapons Abolition)
- 7) **Katsumi Furitsu** (ICBUW, Chernobyl Hibakusha Relief Kansai)
- 8) **Nobuto Hirano** (Co-Director, Association for giving Support to Hibakusha abroad)

- 9) **Nanao Kamada** (Director of Hiroshima Hibakusha Relief Foundation)
- 10) **Ruiko Muto** (Representative, Complainants for the Criminal Prosecution of the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster)
- 11) **ann-elise lewallen** (Assistant Professor, University of California, Santa Barbara; Research on Indigenous Hibakusha of the Nuclear Cycle)
- 12) **Tilman Ruff** (Joint representative, IPPNW and ICAN)
- 13) **Mary Dickson** (Director of Creative Services)
- 14) **Anatolii Chumak** (Vice Director of the Institute of Clinical Radiology of National Research Center for Radiation Medicine)
- 15) **Maki Sato** (Secretary General, JIM Net=Japan Iraq Medical Network)
- 16) **Executive Committee** (K. Aoki, Y. Funahashi, S. Kihara, T. Sawada, H. Moritaki)
- 17) **Meri Joyce** (Peace Boat, interpreter)

Participation by E-mail

- 1) **Masayoshi Naito** (Director, the Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms)
- 2) **Steven Leeper** (Former Director, Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation)
- 3) **Hiromitsu Toyosaki** (Photojournalist)

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International Conference Center, "Himawari" Hall

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Coordinator team :

**Nobuo Kazashi**, (Joint Representative, WNVF)  
**Shoji Kihara** (Director, We Don't Want Nuclear Power Plants Hiroshima Citizens' Group)  
**Maki Sato** (Secretary General, JIM Net=Japan Iraq Medical Network)  
**Katsumi Furitsu** (ICBUW, Chernobyl Hibakusha Relief Kansai)  
**Haruko Moritaki** (Secretary General, WNVF)

- 9:30-10:30 Reports from each of the 9 sessions  
10:30-12:00 Plenary discussion, Part 1  
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14:30-15:00



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"World Charter of Nuclear Radiation Victims' Rights" Proposal/Adoption  
**Shuichi Adachi**, (Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms, WNVF)  
Special Appeal in Relation to the Fukushima Nuclear Accident Proposal/Adoption  
**Tadashi Sawada**, Assistant Secretary General, WNVF)  
Closing Remarks: Masao Tomonaga (Joint Representative, WNVF)  
\*Concurrently (International Conference Center, Himawari)  
..... : Hibakusha Worldwide Poster Exhibit (produced by IPPNW Germany; with Japanese translation)  
..... : Photo Exhibit of the Damage from Uranium Mining in Jadugoda, India; by Ashish Biluree

- \* Member List of the Executive Committee of the World Nuclear Victims Forum
- \* Declaration of the World Nuclear Victims Forum in Hiroshima  
(Draft Elements of a Charter of World Nuclear Victims' Rights)
- \* Drafting Committee for the World Charter of "Nuclear Radiation Victims' Rights"
- \* Draft Elements of a World Charter of the Rights of Nuclear Victims
- \* World Nuclear Victims Forum Organizing Committee
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- 2) Katsuaki AOKI  
The Hibakusha Lawsuit: History of Unfair Ruling
- 3) Naomi TOYODA  
What Will Children 300 Years from Now Think?  
"Recovery" — Nine Years after the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster
- 4) Katsumi FURITSU  
Connecting Chernobyl and Fukushima: Handing over the Next Generation,  
To protect the Rights of Nuclear Victims and not to Repeat Damage
- 5) Maki SATO  
Iraqi Children Now?: Reflection 18 Years after the Iraq War
- 6) Joseph T. SCARRY  
To Get Back from the Brink of the Nuclear War:  
From America in the Coronavirus Crisis
- 7) Nobuo KAZASHI  
The Messages from the World Hibakusha Forum:  
Reading Anew in the Midst of the Covid-19 Pandemic

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\* Afterword for the Online English Version



# Toward the Eradication of Nuclear Damage

Following the 1987 conference in New York and the 1992 conference in Berlin, the World Nuclear Victims Forum was held in Hiroshima in November 2015, with nuclear victims and experts from 18 countries.









## Participants Engaged in Passionate Discussions for Three Days

Hibakusha, campaigning organizations, scientists and legal experts gathered in Hiroshima to present up-to-date reports regarding the on-going nuclear damage derived from various phases of the nuclear cycle, from uranium mining to nuclear tests, the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, nuclear plant accidents, and depleted uranium weapons.



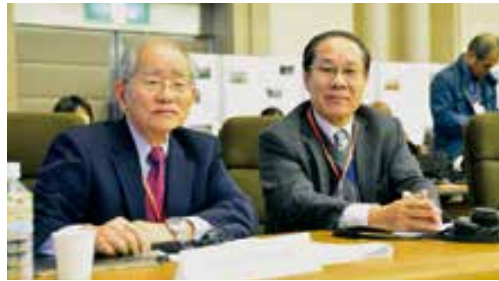
## Poster Exhibition, Hibakusha Worldwide (concurrently held)

Fifty photo posters (A1 size) provided by IPPNW Germany were on exhibit during the Forum. Together with captions translated into Japanese, the photos showed nuclear damage at 50 sites around the world caused by uranium mining, nuclear testing, nuclear war, nuclear plant accidents, depleted uranium weapons, and nuclear waste.

Another photo exhibition was held concurrently to show photos taken by photojournalist Ashish Birulee of the damage caused by the uranium mine in Jadugoda, India.







## Draft Elements of a Charter of World Nuclear Victims' Rights: Proposed and Adopted

In accordance with the idea that "humankind and nuclear technology cannot co-exist indefinitely, the "Declaration of the World Nuclear Victims Forum in Hiroshima" was presented to demand recognition of the human rights of nuclear victims around the world. The first draft was circulated and discussed via email in advance of the Forum. The final declaration was adopted by all participants on the last day of the Forum.





# The World Nuclear Victims Forum

# Opening Session

Moderator: Tomoko Watanabe (Director, ANT Hiroshima)

Opening Remarks: **Katsuaki Aoki** (Joint Representative, WNVF)..... 6

Welcoming Speech: **Takashi Hiraoka** (Former Mayor of Hiroshima, Adviser, WNVF)

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Keynote Speech : **Tilman Ruff** ..... 12

Title: We can: a healthy sustainable future can only be nuclear-free

(Co-President , IPPNW / Founding Chair, ICAN / Associate Professor, University of Melbourne)

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Special Report: **Toshiko Naito** ..... 23

(Hiroshima Hibakusha, Chair of the "No More Hibakusha" Class Action Lawsuit)



Moderator:

**Tomoko WATANABE**

(Director, ANT Hiroshima)

[Profile: Ms Tomoko Watanabe is a second-generation A-bomb survivor. She is working as Executive Director of ANT-Hiroshima founded in 1989, and she also started, together with UNITAR, the Green Legacy Hiroshima (GLH) Initiative in 2011, a global campaign to disseminate and plant worldwide seeds and saplings of trees that survived the atomic bombing. Ms Watanabe has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation since 1998. From October 2004 to October 2012, she served on the Hiroshima Municipal Board of Education.]



Opening Remarks:

Katsuaki Aoki

*Thank you very much  
for joining our forum*

World Nuclear Victims Forum Executive Committee (WNVF)

Co-representatives:

Katsuaki Aoki

Masao Tomonaga

Nobuo Kazashi

Many events are being held throughout this year to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings. In Nagasaki, children made a 70 metre mural praying for peace, as a "Kids' Guernica in Nagasaki." In Hiroshima, a festival called "Tori Gosairei" was held at Tosho Shrine for the first time in 200 years. In this famous Hiroshima festival, people parade while carrying a portable shrine on their shoulders. It was held every fifty years after the death of shogun Ieyasu Tokugawa, but the festival was discontinued because of the Meiji Restoration, World War I, and the atomic bombing. Thanks to the fact that Japan has not engaged in warfare for more than 50 years under the peace constitution, the festival could be revived this year.

Nuclear weapons have not been used in warfare since the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This is largely due to the continued efforts of Hibakusha, atomic bomb survivors, to tell of their experiences, and the fact that people around the world have supported them and come to realize the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. Yet, conflicts continue to unfold all over the world. Nuclear weapons states advocate the perceived effectiveness of the nuclear deterrent, and many non-nuclear states also try to develop the technology to generate nuclear power.

In Japan, Prime Minister Abe has recently passed a set of "security bills," which many of the public refer to as "war bills." These were promised in his speech at the U.S. Congress, and many scholars have stated that they are indeed unconstitutional. Prime Minister Abe's intention seems to be to establish a path for Japan to take part in military actions overseas with the U.S. His government also is restarting nuclear power plants within Japan and making plans to export them to other

countries, despite the fact that the Fukushima nuclear disaster is still ongoing. The government will not improve their support for atomic bomb survivors unless they are unsuccessful in the courts. On November 4, another law suit was launched to enlarge the designated radiation exposed area caused by "black rain." People who were robbed of their hometown and peaceful lives because of the Fukushima disaster are also taking legal action against the government and the nuclear plant operator, TEPCO.

Under these circumstances, we, the citizens of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, have prepared the World Nuclear Victims Forum to take place during the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings.

All stages and situations in the nuclear cycle (uranium mining, nuclear testing, exposure to radiation by atomic bombs, use of depleted uranium weapons, nuclear power plant accidents, disposal of nuclear waste, etc.) have created victims and violated the right to live in peace. While a final document was not adopted at this year's Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), countries supporting efforts for a treaty to ban nuclear weapons increased significantly. We have certainly moved a step forward towards realizing a nuclear-free world.

Gathering in Hiroshima, an atomic bombed city, let's once again learn about the real conditions of nuclear victims, and exchange ideas. Let's appeal to the world to protect the rights of nuclear victims, and for the immediate abolition of nuclear weapons.

We look forward to your active discussion and action. Let's work hard and make a success of this forum.



Keynote Proposal for the World Nuclear Victims Forum

Haruko MORITAKI

## *“Humankind and Nuclear Technology Cannot Coexist Indefinitely”*

Moderator:

Haruko MORITAKI

Co-Representative, Hiroshima Alliance for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (HANWA)  
Secretary-General, the World Hibakusha/Nuclear Victims Forum

[Born and raised in Hiroshima, Ms Moritaki has been involved in many peace activities. When a nuclear war threat was heightened between India and Pakistan in 1998, she visited the two countries and invited youth to Hiroshima for mutual exchange; three years later she visited India again to look into the sufferings related to the uranium mining in Jadugoda. She also visited Iraq before and after the war to investigate into the damages from the use of DU shells, and worked as a board member of ICBUW (International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons). She has spoken at various meetings in Japan and abroad and co-edited (in Japanese) *A World without Uranium Weapons: The ICBUW Challenge* (2008), *Unending Iraq War: Questioning Anew from Fukushima* (2012), and *Toward a Nuclear-Free Future: The World Nuclear Victims Forum* (2015). Recipient of the Tanimoto Kiyoshi Peace Award in 2017.]

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*“Humankind and Nuclear Technology Cannot Coexist Indefinitely”*

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Let's issue a call from Hiroshima  
to put a nuclear weapon ban treaty into effect  
and prohibit nuclear power generation.

***Let's strengthen our solidarity!  
Unite to end the nuclear age!  
No more nuclear disasters!***

The grave, devastating effects of nuclear materials and activity are being felt around the world.

The nuclear age that began when the US bombed Hiroshima gave human beings the power to extinguish human life on this planet. The hibakusha (survivors) who experienced that hellish catastrophe are still suffering its endless harmful aftereffects, and yet, those who wield nuclear power in all its forms have sought to trivialize or conceal those effects. The hibakusha have had to sue the government in court to obtain recognition as sufferers of radiation disease for 70 years and many exposed to the “black rain” still have never received government assistance.

In 1954, a thermonuclear test destroyed the Bikini Atoll, devastated the Marshall Islands and victimized the Japanese people again. On March 11, 2011, the Great East Japan Earthquake caused another terribly destructive nuclear disaster in Fukushima. A great many citizens in the Fukushima area and elsewhere in East Japan lost their right to live ordinary lives in their hometowns, and the prospects of recovery seem distant and difficult.

All stages and situations in the nuclear cycle (uranium mining, refinement and enrichment, production of nuclear weapons or nuclear fuel, nuclear testing, use of nuclear weapons, the operation of nuclear power plants, nuclear power plant accidents, reprocessing of used nuclear fuel, storage and disposal of nuclear waste, use of depleted uranium weapons, etc.) have caused widespread environmental contamination and serious harmful effects on human bodies.

More than 2,000 nuclear tests spread radioactive contamination around the globe, robbing people of their health and even their lives. Most of the victims live near test sites, of course, but radiation can travel and strike anywhere.

At more than 400 nuclear power plants around the world, workers are exposed to radiation even under normal operating conditions. The enormous amounts of radiation released from Chernobyl and Fukushima have taken lives, health, and hometowns from hundreds of thousands of people, contaminating the global environment.



Uranium mining has caused leukemia, other cancers, and a wide variety of disorders in mineworkers. Uranium tailings, wastewater and air releases have exposed communities near mines to radiation that has caused fertility problems, stillbirths and severe congenital disorders.

Depleted uranium is radioactive toxic waste produced during the enrichment of uranium for nuclear weapons and nuclear fuel. Hundreds of tons of bullets and projectiles made of depleted uranium have been used in the Gulf War, the Balkans, Somalia, the Iraq War and other conflicts. The use of this ordnance has spread radioactive pollution over wide areas and caused terrible suffering in those human populations.

The utilization of nuclear energy, whether for military or commercial purposes, involves serious radiation damage and could make the Earth uninhabitable. We have seen this tragic reality emerge again and again, with uranium mining in India, the use of DU ammunition in Iraq, among the down-winders near the Nevada nuclear test site, and among the people of Fukushima. Lives, bodies, and the natural environment are devastated. All of this tragedy is inflicted on the weak and unsuspecting by a small number of extremely powerful elite capitalists who never hesitate to sacrifice ordinary people in their pursuit of profit. This selfish behavior is unacceptable.

Nuclear weapons, depleted uranium ordnance, and nuclear power plants have ruthlessly trampled on the human right to live in peace and security. We still have no idea how to treat or dispose of radioactive waste, especially the highly radioactive waste from reactors and the reprocessing of used fuel. The accumulation of this waste threatens the future of humankind.

In 2015, during the 70th anniversary year of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombings, a broad coalition of anti-nuclear activists will hold a World Nuclear Victims Forum here in Hiroshima, the site of that first inhumane utilization of nuclear energy. “Humankind and nuclear technology cannot coexist.” Ours is an anti-nuclear alliance. That is, our goal is to abolish both nuclear weapons and nuclear energy. Our World Forum will affirm that A-bomb survivors have played a vital role in preventing a third use of nuclear weapons.

Tilman Ruff Bombing of Hiroshima & Nagasaki.

The indiscriminate and mass killing of civilians using nuclear weapons is genocide and the use of nuclear weapons – under any circumstances – is therefore clearly a crime against humanity!

The process of nuclear weapons abolition will depend on establishing a nuclear weapons convention (NWC) that prohibits the development, testing, production, stockpiling, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as their elimination. “Nuclear deterrence” actually means planning, preparing and being willing to commit indiscriminate mass killing.

We demand for all nuclear states and other countries to start negotiation on establishment the NWC.

Military and commercial uses of nuclear energy represent two sides of the same coin. During this forum, we will explore the actual conditions of nuclear damage created by the utilization of nuclear energy. Our participants from home and abroad will propose an international standards and system of compensation to assist the victims.

Nuclear victims everywhere must cooperate to stop nuclear damage and destruction. To this end, we intend to establish a center for nuclear damage information, expanding international networks of nuclear victims to fight the use of nuclear technology.

We will announce in Hiroshima a Charter of Nuclear Victims' Rights and work to obtain support for this charter from the UN Human Rights Commission, the International Red Cross, other international NGOs and other international agencies.

*We hereby call on all nuclear victims to join us.*

*Raise your voices!*

*Let's send our appeal from Hiroshima to the world!*

*Let's work together to stop nuclear destruction  
and end the nuclear age!*



US nuclear weapons test in Nevada in 1953.  
(photo: International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons: CC BY-NC 2.0)



Keynote Speech

***We Can:  
A Healthy Sustainable Future  
Can Only Be Nuclear-Free  
—Abolition of Nuclear Weapons  
as Our Most Urgent Task—***

Tilman Ruff  
Co-founder, ICAN

Dr. Tilman Ruff is an infectious diseases and public health physician. Honorary Principal Fellow in the School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne. Founding chair of (ICAN) the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017. Co-President of IPPNW (International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War) since 2012. He also served as international medical advisor to Australian Red Cross.

I'm deeply honored to be able to speak to you today. At the outset let me declare that I have no conflict of interest in making this presentation. I think all those commenting on any public policy issue, including nuclear and radiation matters, should be required to declare any conflicts of interest they have.

## For the Survivors in Hiroshima and Nagasaki

I want to pay tribute to the extraordinary courage, humanity, humility and inspiration provided by all the survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki nuclear bombings that I have ever met. Never have I sensed any desire for revenge or retribution, which would be perfectly understandable, only a heartfelt yearning that no one anywhere should ever again suffer as they did.

Coming to this city is always very poignant for me, for multiple reasons. It was on arriving here, 26 years ago, that I first developed the bleeding that was the initial symptom of an aggressive cancer. Being exposed as a young boy to the fallout that passed over Adelaide from British nuclear tests is my only identifiable risk factor for that cancer.

I would like to dedicate these remarks to former Prime Minister and ICAN patron Malcolm Fraser, a wonderful mentor and colleague, who died earlier this year.

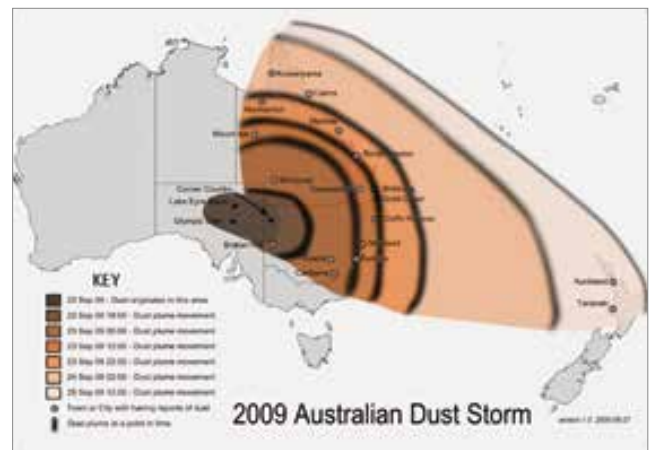


Malcolm Fraser, Former Prime Minister of Australia, at the ICAN Launching Meeting (April 23, 2017, Melbourne)

In thinking about our nuclear predicament, if we are to be responsible custodians, we must be anchored in the physical and biological realities, and understand long-term connections and consequences. Every phase of the nuclear chain from uranium mining to disposal of radioactive waste involves materials hazardous for geological time frames,

with environmental and health risks at every stage.

For example, here you can see that at almost all of the more than 500 abandoned uranium mines on Navajo land, gamma radiation levels are more than double, and in most cases, in red, more than 10 times, background levels. Many radioactive materials do not stay in one place, they move with wind and water and through food chains. Here you can see how a dust storm in 2009 spread dust from areas affected by nuclear testing and uranium mining in Australia over many thousands of kilometres and New Zealand within a few days.



Dust storm in Australia, 2009. Radioactive dust was scattered over wide range of areas from nuclear testing sites and uranium mining sites.

A nuclear power plant, even in routine operations, emits many different radioactive isotopes both in liquid releases, and in airborne discharges. There are only a few ways that the end products of the nuclear chain can end up: as tailings and processing waste; contaminated facilities; fission products contained in waste or dispersed as fallout; or in nuclear weapons.





Coming from Australia, I am very sorry that the fallout extensively contaminating your country, already causing a dramatic upswing in thyroid cancers among children in Fukushima, binds us darkly, like the one Ring in that epic tale “Lord of the Rings”.

It was confirmed in our Parliament that Australian uranium was inside each of the Fukushima Daiichi reactors. This uranium is mined against the deep and abiding opposition of the traditional custodians of the land from which is mined.

## **Abolition of Nuclear Weapons is Our Most Urgent Task**

I must also express my profound dismay that Australia, like your government, is for now more part of the problem of nuclear dangers, rather than of the solution. Because being serious about eradicating nuclear weapons is not possible while claiming protection from them, saying they are essential to Australia's security and being complicit in their threat and possible use. Australia hosts a number of US facilities central to nuclear weapons targeting and use. Despite the unchallenged fact that it is only these facilities that make Australia a priority nuclear target for any adversary of the US.

Many people do not yet grasp that nuclear weapons pose the greatest risk of acute disruption of our climate. The risk of a nuclear war, whether by accident or design, stalks us every day. We know of at least five instances since 1979, including since the end of the Cold War, when humanity was within a hair's breadth of global nuclear war. Recent studies describing a much larger number of nuclear weapons accidents than officially admitted underscore the reality that unless eliminated, nuclear weapons will inevitably one day be used again.

## **Various Risks: Military Attacks and Accidents**

The growing danger of cyber warfare, access to fissile materials, and escalation of armed conflict associated with the accelerating impacts of climate disruption and related water and food shortages, mean the risk of nuclear war is growing. The Bulletin of the Atomic

Scientists this year (2015) moved the hands of the Doomsday clock forward from 5 to 3 minutes to midnight, in response to the global failure of leadership on both nuclear and climate threats. The confrontation between Russia and NATO over the situation in Ukraine and Crimea demonstrates that the nuclear architecture of the Cold War has not been dismantled and the risks of nuclear war can quickly escalate. The situation in Syria poses similarly unstable dangers.

A nuclear weapon exploded on a nuclear reactor would dramatically increase the radioactivity released. Military attacks on nuclear reactors under construction have already occurred in Iraq, and in Syria. Spent nuclear fuel ponds contain vast amounts of radioactivity in simple vulnerable buildings.

What happened in Fukushima because of earthquake and tsunami could equally happen deliberately, particularly with insider assistance.

Most people are aware of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster and Fukushima disaster. What is less well known is that there have been 15 reactors where fuel damage or partial core meltdown has occurred, in one of them twice. They have involved civilian and military reactors of different designs in different countries. The historic risk of core melt accidents is one in 1300 reactor years, and twice that for the type of reactor in Fukushima. Unfortunately, these are far from rare or unexpected events.

## **Environmental Harm: All of us carry radioactive fallout in every cell of our body**

Nuclear weapons production has caused the most extensive environmental harm of any industrial activity, involving the largest cleanup costs, over \$130 billion estimated for the US alone, and the situation in Russia is far worse. The severe contamination at Hanford, site of production of the plutonium for the Nagasaki bomb, is one of the best known.

I was involved in a study published 20 years ago which used very conservative assumptions to estimate that 2.4 million people around the world would die of cancer caused by atmospheric nuclear test explosion fallout. This number may well be much larger. They



can't be named, but that makes the harm no less real. All of us carry radioactive fallout in every cell of our body.

As we will no doubt hear in more detail later in this conference, nuclear weapons testing has particularly affected minority and indigenous people who have been considered as having lesser rights. Examples of radioactive racism abound in the conduct of most nuclear test programs, of hazards dismissed as applying only to primitive peoples, and segments of humanity considered expendable.

## Political Distortion of Science

After the Chernobyl disaster, physicians in the former Soviet Union were instructed to avoid making any radiation-related diagnosis.

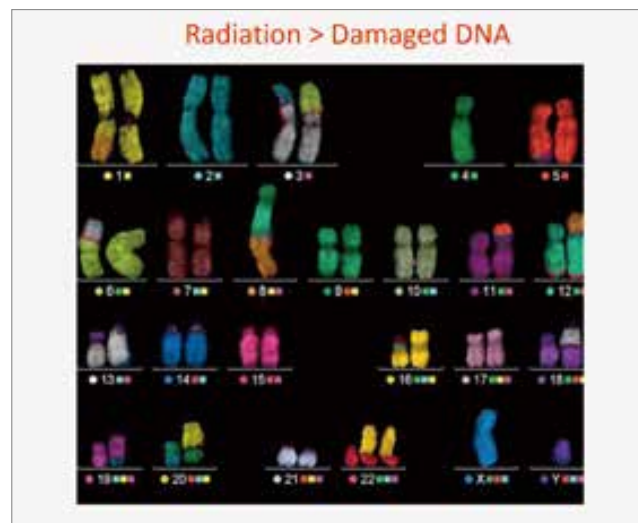
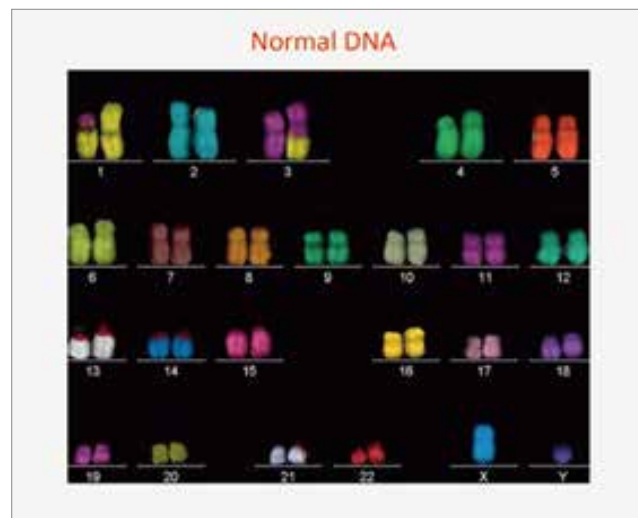
In Japan the continued official promotion of the utter lie that there is no clear evidence that radiation doses less than 100 milliSievert cause health harm is indefensible and reprehensible. It signifies a willingness to expose many people to avoidable harm to reduce costs and protect vested interests.

The superb report of the Fukushima Nuclear Accident Independent Investigation Commission detailed disturbing corruption and attempts by vested interests to manipulate radiation health policy and practice. ICRP members who should be scrupulously independent had costs paid by electric power companies, a clear conflict of interest. Power companies also sought to influence the direction of scientific research. Commission chair Kurokawa lamented 3 years after the disaster that little had changed in the "nuclear village." A disturbing example of the Japanese government attempting to downplay Fukushima health risks was the reported high-level pressure on WHO to reduce its thyroid radiation dose estimates.

## Ionising Radiation Damages DNA, Our Most Precious Legacy for Our Children

Ionising radiation is so highly biologically injurious because the energy it carries is very much greater than that of other types of radiation. An acutely lethal dose of ionising radiation can contain no more energy than the heat in a small sip of hot tea or coffee. Ionising

radiation can damage the large complex molecular chains that make us who we are, especially our DNA, our most precious inheritance and legacy for our children.



This is a set of chromosomes, DNA bundles, from the blood cells of a New Zealand soldier. Even 50 years after his exposure to British nuclear tests in the Pacific, the chromosomes of this New Zealand soldier show more frequent swapping and shifting of chromosomal fragments.

The more we know about the health effects of radiation, the greater are the effects. Recommended radiation dose limits have always been lowered over time, never raised. Radiation risks differ. Young children are approximately 4 times more sensitive to the cancer inducing effects of any given dose of radiation than are adults. Women and girls are overall about 40% more sensitive than males.

## Limitations of the Studies on Hiroshima & Nagasaki Survivors

In the Hiroshima and Nagasaki survivors, there is a clear increase in cancer risk with increasing radiation dose without any evident threshold below which there is no effect. And the evidence does not suggest that the risk per unit dose is reduced at low doses.

Important as the experience of Japanese hibakusha is to our understanding of radiation and health, the Life Span Study underestimates the health harm from radiation that hibakusha have suffered.

Large recent studies of children's cancer risk associated with CT scans, a sophisticated kind of x-ray, and of cancer deaths in nuclear industry workers in several countries, provide stronger evidence on the effects of low radiation doses. Evidence from a number of countries of an increased risk of childhood leukemia for children living in areas with higher background radiation, even of the order of only an additional 1 mSv per year, add to this evidence.

## Greater Risk from Low-Dose Radiation Shown by Recent Studies

A recent Australian study followed more than 680,000 children and adolescents who had undergone at least one CT scan, in comparison with more than 10 million children who did not. Each CT scan delivered an average radiation dose of 4.5 mSv.

This study found that over the first 10 years following a scan, the risk of cancer was increased 24%, and 16% for each additional scan. Cancers occurred as early as two years after exposure. New cancers will continue to occur through the life of exposed individuals. This study involved four times the total radiation dose and 10 times the number of people exposed to low-dose radiation compared with the Japanese hibakusha. While the risk for leukemia related to CT radiation was similar, the risk of solid cancer was 3.5 to 9 times higher in the more powerful CT study.

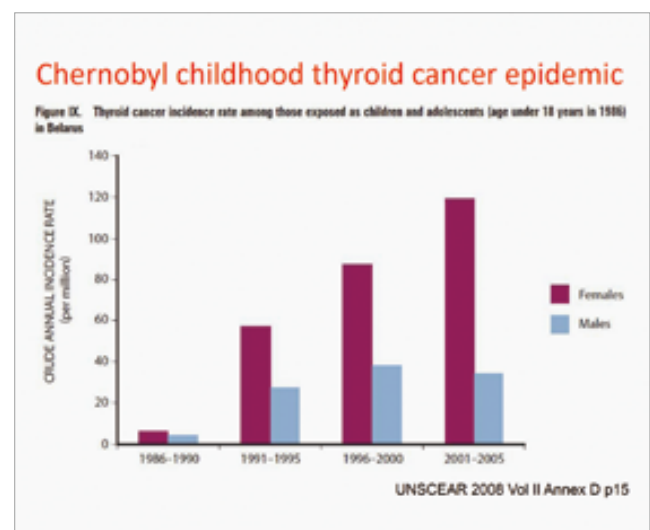
Another unexpected but unequivocal finding is the more than doubling of leukaemia risk for children under five living near nuclear power plants in Germany

(and elsewhere). The increased risk extends beyond 50 km away.

New studies published this year of large numbers of nuclear industry workers demonstrate greater than previously estimated risks for leukaemia and cancer. These large and powerful studies show a risk even at quite low dose rates and doses well within recommended occupational limits. They do not show a halving of risk at low dose rates compared with high dose rates, as assumed by a number of radiation protection bodies such as ICRP.

In almost every nuclear accident, official pronouncements have indicated that no discernible health consequences would be observed. However, in almost every situation in which adequate studies have been performed, health harm has been demonstrated. Independent studies found a clear correlation between radiation contamination levels and cancer rates in areas around the Three Mile Island plant.

Even after the world's worst nuclear reactor disaster in Chernobyl, official pronouncements by agencies with conflicted interests were bland and reassuring. The epidemic of childhood thyroid cancer gave the lie to these unfounded reassurances. It is a matter of profound concern that the lessons of Chernobyl have not been learnt and another preventable thyroid cancer epidemic in children appears to have begun in Fukushima.



There is recent evidence of leukaemia excess in the hundreds of thousands of Chernobyl cleanup workers. And clear evidence of increased rates of neural tube defects like spina bifida, small heads and eyes in babies in highly contaminated Rivne province in Ukraine.

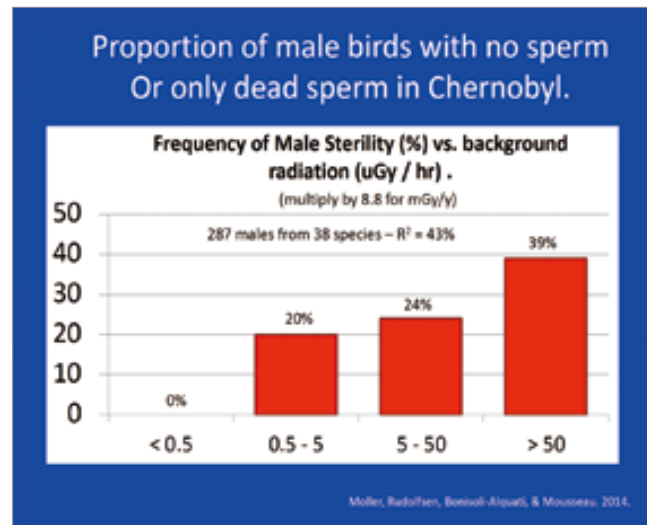
In recent years, the risk associated with exposure to radon gas has been set at twice the previous level. The relationship between radon exposure and lung cancer shows that a small dose received by a large number of people can result in a substantial health impact. Over 80% of radon-related lung cancers in the UK for example, occur in people living in homes where the radon levels are lower than the regulatory limit. The same applies to other types of radiation exposure.

Among hibakusha it has been shown that non-cancer chronic diseases, particularly cardiovascular disease, are also increased. In recent years, occupational studies have suggested that an increase in chronic disease also occurs at low radiation doses. This effect would appear to double the excess mortality risk from that cause by cancer alone. (This has been confirmed by more recent studies of nuclear industry workers.)

## Radiation Harms All Organisms

We often tend to forget that we share the planet with and are completely dependent on a wide variety of other creatures. A large number of remarkable studies by Prof. Tim Mousseau and his colleagues in Chernobyl and Fukushima, available on Tim's website, have shown dramatic adverse effects of living in contaminated areas on a large variety of plants, animals and microorganisms. In fact in every biological system they have studied, a radiation dose-related impact without any threshold is evident.

They have used state-of-the-art tests to show genetic damage in many species, here grasshoppers in Chernobyl. Some examples include abnormal sperm in birds; 40% of male birds in the most contaminated areas of Chernobyl have no sperm. A wide variety of tumours and developmental abnormalities are seen in birds at frequencies not found anywhere else.



This is a photo of mutated firebugs. Cataracts found in the eyes of voles and birds. Also small brains and reduced intelligence and lifespans in voles, mice and birds. All more frequent in more radioactively contaminated areas.

Trees are influenced, too. Deformed and dead trees, which do not decompose normally and are vulnerable to fires which then re-disperse the radioactive materials they contain, an increasing occurrence as global heating makes forest fires more frequent and severe.

Furthermore, bird populations are depleted, and there are fewer bird species. Similarly in Fukushima, birds are fewer in more contaminated areas.

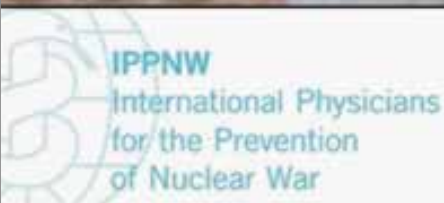
## There is No Planet B

There is hundreds of times more accessible solar energy than all human commercial energy consumption.

Renewable energy systems have minimal potential to fuel conflict and essentially no potential for serious accidents. During the 2011 earthquake in Japan, wind turbines caused no injuries and kept generating power. It is pleasing to see “access to sustainable, renewable energy” included in the Sustainable Development Goals adopted in September.

As far as we know, our small planet is the only place in the universe which is home to the wonder of complex life. There is no planet B.





*A Solidarity Message:*

*No More Hibakusha!*



Dr. Alex Rosen

Vice-President, IPPNW Germany

Dr. Alex Rosen is a pediatrician from Germany. Vice-President of IPPNW Germany. Dr. Rosen has been actively involved in the ICAN since its inception in 2005. He has organized Nuclear Abolition Bike Tours through the UK, Russia, Germany, France and Japan and founded the international public awareness campaign "Target X". He has worked extensively on the topic of the Nuclear Chain, investigating the impacts of uranium mining, civil and military use of nuclear power and nuclear catastrophes on public health and the environment and created a poster exhibition entitled "Hibakusha Worldwide." In late February 2016, IPPNW Germany organized an international conference in Berlin entitled "30 Years of Living with Chernobyl, 5 Years of Living with Fukushima".

Konichiwa,

It is a great honor for me to be invited to address you at this World Nuclear Victims Forum here in the city of Hiroshima. Regretfully, I cannot be with you in person and I thank the organizers for allowing me to deliver my speech through this video message instead. I work as a pediatrician in Berlin and am a member of IPPNW – the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW). As doctors, we are concerned with the health of our patients.

And we know that the gravest threat to health in the world today still comes from nuclear weapons - weapons of mass destruction that could annihilate every major city on this planet, ending 200,000 years of human civilization in a heartbeat. For us, this is not just an abstract idea from some science fiction movie - we know that this threat exists and it is very real and it directly concerns us directly – as doctors and scientists, but also as human beings and as citizens of this planet.

## The Last Chance to Abolish Nuclear Weapons

For more than 35 years, IPPNW has been engaged in the struggle to abolish nuclear weapons. We have lobbied governments, held discussions with high-ranking militaries, organized large public demonstrations, published scientific articles and educated the public about the humanitarian effects of nuclear weapons. For reaching out across the Iron Curtain during the Cold War and for convincing Gorbachev and Reagan to sit down and negotiate nuclear arms reduction treaties, IPPNW was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1985 - an honor that accompanies us until today as a moral obligation and compels us to continue our important work – abolishing these horrible nuclear weapons, these weapons of mass destruction.



This is why we founded ICAN, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, which Tilman Ruff has introduced to you and which might just pose the best chance for serious progress in nuclear abolition that we've had for the past 25 years. Perhaps the last good chance we have: You are all aware of the escalation in the South Chinese sea, the military stand-off between India and Pakistan in Kashmir and the renewed confrontation between NATO and Russian forces here in Europe over the issue of Ukraine, and the volatile situation in the Middle East, where five nuclear weapon states - Russia, Israel, the US, the UK and France - are now directly involved in the bloody civil war in Syria. The call for nuclear abolition has never been more urgent.







**There are no adequate or acceptable solutions for managing the enormous quantities of radioactive waste, which need to be safely deposited and guarded for hundreds of thousands of years not in Japan, not in Germany, nowhere on this planet.**

In most nuclear weapon states, the institutions behind the civil and the military nuclear industry are virtually identical. The reason is simple: the creation and the development of military nuclear programs required nuclear reactors, where uranium could be processed to plutonium. The fact that this process releases a lot of energy led to the perfidious idea of promoting nuclear energy production around the world under the slogan of „Atoms for Peace“ a public relations masterpiece by the US nuclear lobby.

Even here in Hiroshima, the campaign “Atoms for Peace” was presented in order to start a Japanese nuclear industry as early as the 1950's. The message to the Japanese public back then: The technology that had brought so much pain and suffering to the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and that had the potential to destroy the planet was now supposed to contribute to world peace by producing massive amounts of energy.

What people were not told, however, was the fact that a civil nuclear industry and with it an infrastructure for uranium mining, transport and refinement of fissile material could at the same time serve military purposes. Every single state that has produced nuclear weapons first had to build up a civil nuclear industry. The simple truth is: without nuclear power plants, there would be no nuclear weapons - and without nuclear weapons there would be no nuclear power plants.

As peace activists, we look at the nuclear industry and see how it contributes to nuclear proliferation and endangers world peace. As doctors, we look at it from a public health point of view as well. And we see that every part of the so-called nuclear chain causes detrimental harm to our Planet and to our health.

## **Hibakusha around the World**

We see it as our responsibility as doctors to educate people about the connections between the civil and the military nuclear industry and about the health effects of ionizing radiation in general. We therefore thought about creating

an exhibition that would show the various ways in which the nuclear industry negatively affects health and the environment.

**Initially, we were not sure how best to approach this subject until we realized that as doctors, the great strength we have is our close connection to the affected populations. And thus, the idea was born, to focus on „Hibakusha.“ Around the world, the survivors of the nuclear attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki are known by the Japanese term „Hibakusha.”**

Many of these Hibakusha have been courageously working for a world free of a nuclear threat. They do not want to see future generations having to endure the same experiences they did. Because of this, they have dedicated their lives to the struggle for a better world, a world free of the nuclear threat, and have begun to tell their stories to younger generations.

Over the years, the term “Hibakusha” has been globalized. People in Kazakhstan, on islands in the Pacific, in the Australian Outback, around the Arctic Sea everywhere where nuclear weapons were detonated and where people have been affected by radioactive fallout and the contamination of their homes, people have been calling themselves “Hibakusha.” Hibakusha from Japan have been active in reaching out to these people, inviting them to their conferences and including them in their call “No more Hibakusha!”

They, too, want to tell their stories and prevent future generations from having to endure their fate. And there are also other groups, which have had to suffer under the nuclear industry: the inhabitants of uranium mining regions, such as the Australian aborigines, the people of Jadugoda in India or Native Americans in Canada and the US. The mining of uranium for nuclear weapons and nuclear power plants has turned once flourishing countrysides into nuclear wastelands.

Where uranium was discovered, mines were opened and soon enough, radioactive waste rock, mine tailings and processing refuse were dumped in rivers, lakes and forests. In every place on earth, where uranium is mined, miners and the surrounding population suffer from the effects of radioactive contamination.

Even here in Germany, in the Erzgebirge, we see until



today, the harmful effects of decades of uranium mining on people's health and the environment. People's homes were radioactively contaminated and their health compromised all for the insanity of the nuclear arms race and the profit of the nuclear industry. They, too, are Hibakusha. Their stories must be heard as well.

**When the Fukushima catastrophe began in March 2011, and I say “began”, because it continues until today, the term “hibakusha ” took on a new meaning in Japan.**



Many of the people affected by the nuclear meltdowns and radioactive fallout also began calling themselves “Hibakusha and it dawned on many that nuclear energy and nuclear weapons are really only two sides of the same coin: Both require uranium; both require uranium enrichment; both pose a substantial proliferation risk; both can severely harm the environment and people’s health, and both are inhumane because they do not allow for mistakes; and making mistakes is perhaps the most human trait of all.

## Let’s Listen to the Voices of Hibakusha

We know today that civil nuclear energy is not as safe as the nuclear lobby has always claimed. In fact, even here in Germany, where we have not had major nuclear accidents, the rate of childhood cancers around nuclear power plants is increased significantly. Mankind has had to learn the hard way that the promises of the nuclear industry are not worth the paper they were written on.

Three Mile Island in 1979, Chernobyl in 1986 and Fukushima in 2011 - three major nuclear catastrophes in 32 years, countless smaller spills, leaks, accidents, nuclear incidents and millions of people who were affected by increased levels of radiation and who now have higher risks

of developing cancer and other radiation-associated diseases - because there simply is no safe dose of radiation no matter how small.

As doctors we know: Every person on this planet has a right to health and to life in a healthy environment. This universal right should apply also to the people affected by nuclear fallout and by radioactive contamination. They, too, are Hibakusha and their stories deserve to be told as well.

So it was soon clear that this exhibition, which you can visit here during this conference, could only have one name: “Hibakusha Worldwide”. The exhibition consists of 50 case studies of places around the world, where the nuclear industry harmed the environment and public health. It is important to realize that this exhibition is not meant to be comprehensive. Beside these 50 cases, there are many more all over the world, which would just as well deserve to be included in this exhibition.

These posters are illustrations of the problem. They are meant to raise questions, to demonstrate connections and to show the extent to which we, as a human race have caused harm to our planet, our environment and to our health.

**The exhibition is dedicated to the millions of people whose lives have been affected by the nuclear industry: indigenous people whose homes were turned into nuclear wastelands by uranium mining, the Downwinders of more than 2,000 nuclear weapons tests, the survivors of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the people affected by radioactive fallout from civil and military nuclear incidents.**

All of them would have had better lives, if the uranium had been left where it belongs: in the ground. I thank you for this opportunity to address you today and hope that our exhibition can contribute to this very important conference.

*Arigato gozaimasu* to all of you for taking time out of your busy schedules to be in Hiroshima today and to fight for the rights of Hibakusha around the World. I see no better way to close this speech than with the powerful call of the Hibakusha themselves:

**No more Hiroshimas!**

**No more Nagasakis!**

**No more Fukushimas!**

**No more Hibakusha!**

*Arigato gozaimashita*

# *Toward a World that will Create No More Victims of Nuclear Bombs and Radiation*

## Special Report

### 1. My A-bomb Experience

My name is Yoshiko Naito. Thank you for having me today.

In August 1945, I was 11 months old. I have no memory of what happened, but each year when August 6th came, my mother would talk about that time to me and my sisters. She always said, “This can never happen again!” She couldn’t bear the thought of such suffering, such a catastrophe visiting this Earth again. The stories she and my sisters told me through the years live on—through me, as my bomb experience.

My parents had one son and eight daughters, of whom I’m the youngest. Mother and all eight of us girls directly experienced the bomb. Two of my sisters were killed; one’s remains were never found. When the bomb dropped, my soldier brother was on active duty elsewhere, and my father was in Ihara, Okayama Prefecture. When they returned to Hiroshima and were exposed to the residual radiation, they became “entry survivors.”



Toshiko NAITO

Plaintiff representative for the No More Hibakusha lawsuit in Hiroshima

Ms. Toshiko Naito was exposed to the A-Bomb at the age of 11 months when she was being carried on her mother’s back, on the platform of Koi train station, roughly 2.4 km from the hypocenter. She was soaked with the black rain while her mother fled to escape. All of her eleven family members were exposed. Two of her older sisters were killed by the A-bomb, and one was never found. In 2008 she made an application to be recognized as an “A-bomb cataract” patient, but her application was rejected. Filing a lawsuit at the Hiroshima district court In January 2011, she has been taking part in the No More Hibakusha lawsuit as its representative.



The Children's Peace Monument, designed by Kazuo KIKUCHI, in Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park was modeled on Sadako SASAKI, who died of atomic-bomb induced leukemia. (Photo: cic33/CC BY-NC-SA 2.0)

**At 8:15 on August 6, with me on her back, my mother was bound for the home of my aunt (my father's sister) in Itsukaichi. She was standing on the platform at Koi Station, 2.4 kilometers from the hypocenter. The flash. Then the blast. In that instant, she pulled me off her back and jumped off the platform, covering me with her body. When she got up, she fled toward Koi Mountain. She stopped in an air raid shelter to nurse me, thinking, "At least one of my children is still alive!"**

She set off again for my aunt's house. When she rounded the Ishiuchi Ridge, a heavy, sooty rain



Children going to school wearing masks; May 20, 2011, Fukushima City  
(Photo: Naomi TOYODA)

began to fall. She tried to protect me by placing a thin handkerchief on my head. After great struggle, we made it to our relative's house in Itsukaichi. My uncle went out that day looking for my sisters and came back with Sister No. 6, who was severely burned on her arms, face, and neck. The next day, early in the morning, my aunt, my cousin, and sisters No. 2, 5, and 7 all made it to the house in Itsukaichi. Sister No. 4, however, had been exposed on her way to do some shopping downtown. Her remains were never found. Every year, when the list of newly identified victims is issued, we look for some clues as to what happened to her, but we have never found anything.

**My mother always told us that, when she left with me that morning, Sister No. 4 gazed after us as we walked away. Mother urged, "Come with us!" but Sister said, "I'll wait here." The rest of her life, Mother lamented, 'If only I'd taken her with me!'**

Sister No. 3, a second-year student at Jogakko Girls School, was exposed at Fujimi-cho, where her class was mobilized to demolish buildings. She had burns all over her back. My father later rode to an elementary school in Fuchu-cho where she had been taken in. He hoisted her onto his bicycle. Somehow, they rode this way for 16 kilometers (about ten miles.) On August 16, she said, "Mother, come soon!" Then she took her last breath. Mother never stopped mourning the daughters she lost. "What happened to them—it was too sad!"



## 2. Our health after the bombing

After the bombing, I suffered diarrhea, vomiting and fever. Mother, too, had diarrhea and vomiting for years. I grew up frail. I had little appetite and was prone to fevers that kept me away from school. As an adult I was plagued by headaches, hyperlipemia, abnormal blood pressure, leukocytosis, cerebral aneurysms, and other ailments. I still suffer from poor health.

One day in 1983, when I was at work, I was attacked by such a raging headache that I couldn't even sit still. The doctor who examined me said that the bottom (or diastolic) number in my blood pressure reading was under 40. I'll never forget this shock. Thereafter, from summer's end through fall, I suffered from anemia, diarrhea, vomiting, and headache. No reason for this seasonal change was ever discovered, but it continues. Even now, my health plummets in the fall.

**Such unaccountable symptoms are common among those exposed as young children. The young are highly susceptible to the effects of radiation. I was an infant. I worry about my children as well. That worry hounds me.**

## 3. The struggle for recognition of radiation-induced diseases

Over ten years, the struggles of survivors to have our illnesses recognized as stemming from our exposure made significant gains. Class action plaintiffs won 29 consecutive suits and the criteria were revised twice. In August 2009, a confirmation statement was signed between the Japanese government and plaintiffs.

However, the national government (the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare) have not kept the promise they made in the confirmation statement. They promised to "refrain from fighting in the courts and to resolve conflicts by discussion henceforward." And yet, the government has continued to insist on investigations related to certifying diseases as related to exposure that contradict the decisions handed down in class action lawsuits.

**As a result, rejections of atomic bomb disease certification petitions have risen sharply. In 2019,**



**117 hibakusha who did not accept the government's rejection of their cases initiated No More Hibakusha suits in seven district courts.**

**In March 2008, I petitioned to have my cataracts recognized as caused by my exposure, but my petition was rejected. Therefore, in January 2011, I joined a No More Hibakusha lawsuit.** Hiroshima plaintiffs in that No More Hibakusha lawsuit number 27. For elderly hibakusha, the five years that have lapsed since the first group in October 2010 have been long and grueling, but we were able to continue thanks to support from many quarters.

The deliberations of the A-bomb Disease Certification Investigative Committee that began in December 2010 resulted in a third criteria revision in December 2013; however, rather than "resolving the differences between the judiciary and the administration," the new certification criteria (2013 New Policies) actually worsened the policy.

Then, the government (the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare) issued the 2013 New Policies as new limits on certification; their stance—defining the effects of radiation as narrowly and minimally as possible—is unaltered.

This year on May 20, the court handed down a decision to four plaintiffs that ruled solely on whether their cataracts could be certified as radiation-induced. Two of the cases were dismissed and two won. My case was one of the two that won, but the government appealed the case to a higher court. The stance of the government (the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare) is infuriating. The first oral pleadings will begin in December. I won't let my petition be denied.

The personal examination of the remaining district court plaintiffs is beginning. Their trials will take time, but we are moving steadily forward. We resolve to continue the struggle until all 27 plaintiffs win their cases. We ask from our hearts for your continued support.

**We hear that the government (the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare) fears that decisions concerning bomb exposure certification might affect the prospects (compensation, etc.) for victims of the Fukushima Nuclear Plant disaster.** Though decontamination operations were conducted throughout Fukushima, four and a half years later, uninhabitable areas remain. Reports of radiation leaking from contaminated substances are continuous.

In post-bombing Hiroshima, even though a typhoon and flooding carried off a certain amount of radioactive material, radiation still pervaded the environment that we hibakusha had to live our lives in.

**The government (the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare) continues to insist that, "The doses the plaintiffs received from the atomic bombing were insufficient to harm their health. Their exposure from residual radiation, both internal and external, is also low." We say that is wildly false; it does not reflect the reality of radiation exposure.**

Last month, on October 29, the Tokyo District Court trial ended with an excellent ruling: all 17 plaintiffs won their cases. The verdict dealt a harsh blow to the 2013 New Policy: "The misguided policy does not reflect the realities of A-bomb exposure."

Now we are calling for implementation of the comprehensive demands made by the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo). The demands are: 1. Abandon the current atomic bomb disease certification system; 2. Provide

Survivor Allowance to all atomic bomb survivors; 3. Establish additional allowance classifications according to the level of disorder.

Additional allowances are provided for those diseases for which the effects of radiation exposure are recognized and for which limits imposed by distance from the hypocenter and time lapsed before entry to the city cannot be specified. We call for the A-bomb Victims Relief Law to be revised accordingly.

**The government (the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare) has lost successive No More Hibakusha suits, and the 2013 New Policy has been entirely discredited. Now that the average age of hibakusha is over 80, we're out of time; we can wait no longer. We cannot tolerate the government's policy of waiting for suffering elderly hibakusha to die. We cannot tolerate their narrow, minimizing definitions and outright dismissal of the realities of radiation damage. The government must confront the errors of the certification system and immediately begin comprehensive reform.**

In December, trials concluded in the Fukuoka High Court, the Nagoya District Court, the Tokyo District Court, and the Osaka High Court. Their rulings will be announced this spring. We feel that our arduous climb toward resolution of the problem of recognition of atomic bomb disorders is nearing the summit. We fight this fight to clarify the facts about radiation damage and how it works. We want to bring help and relief as soon as possible to all who suffer ailments brought on by radiation exposure. We ask for your continued support of our efforts.

**Japan has not fought a war since World War II. We should be proud of the beneficial global influence of Japan's constitution. Let us guard its precious Article 9 and work toward a world without nuclear weapons.**

**Holding close my mother's words "This can never happen again!," I will continue to fight. Thank you very much.**

[Please click here to go back to the program](#)

# The World Nuclear Victims Forum

# Session 1

## Reports from the Sites of Nuclear Cycle Damage

Uranium mining, nuclear testing, Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombings, nuclear energy accidents, nuclear energy labor, the reality of damage caused by depleted uranium weapons

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### Welcome Reception

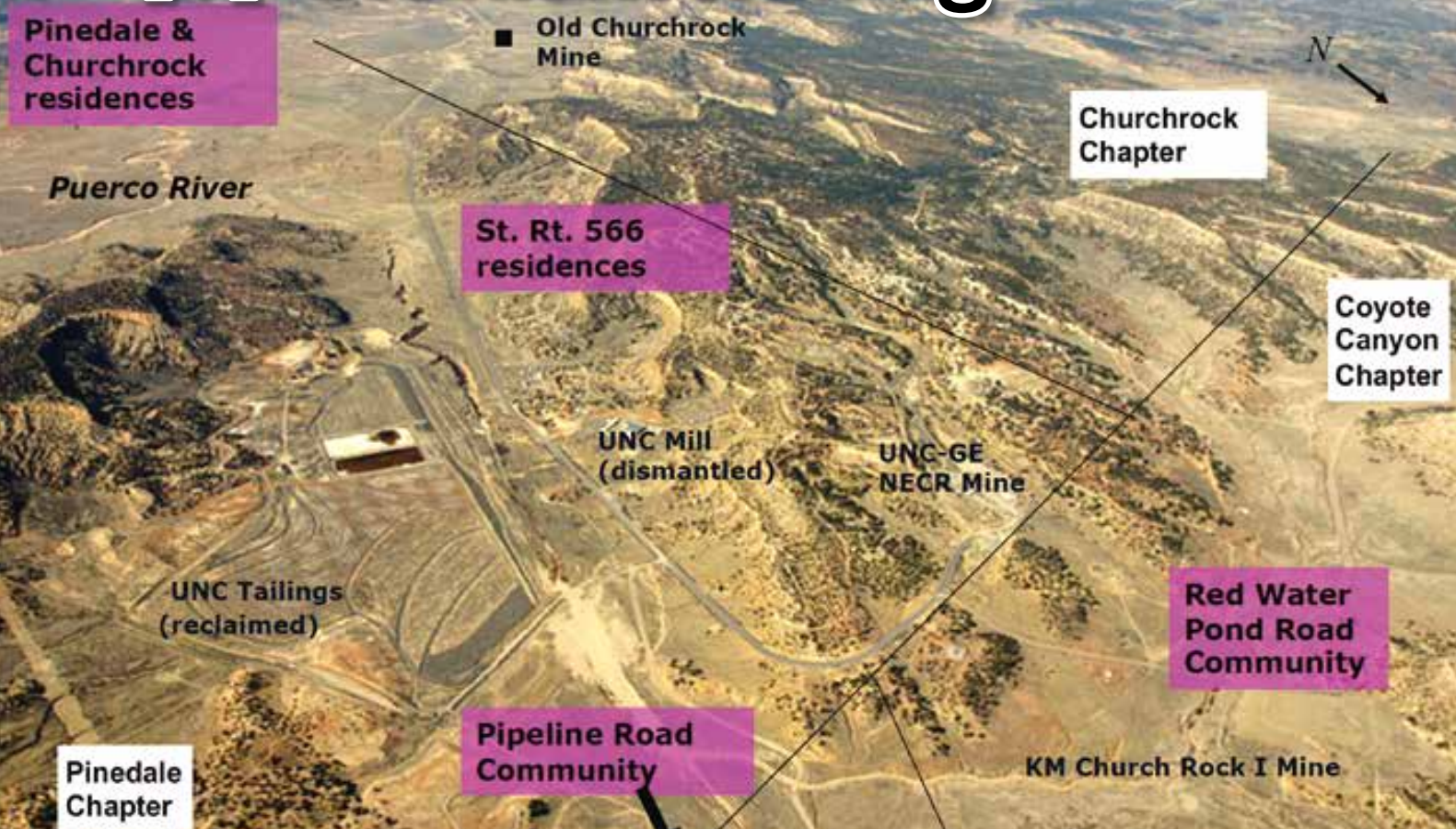
Moderators: Shoji Kihara (Director, We Don't Want Nuclear Power Plants Hiroshima Citizens' Group)  
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: Meri Joyce (International Coordinator, Peace Boat)

Greeting: Tadatoshi Akiba ( Previous Mayor of Hiroshima)

Music: Shinobue (a kind of bamboo flute) by Koto



# [1] Uranium Mining



Coordinators :  
Haruko MORITAKI

ann-elise LEWALLEN

Associate Professor. University of California, Santa Barbara

Profile: Associate Professor of East Asian Languages & Cultural Studies (with specialization in Cultural Anthropology), University of California, Santa Barbara, USA. Involved with Indigenous Ainu cultural revival movements since the 1990s. Since the Fukushima nuclear accident in 2011, Ms Lewallen has been investigating environmental justice issues with a focus on Indigenous peoples in relation to the nuclear cycle, as well as indigenous peoples and research ethics. She aims for research that embodies her commitment toward "research as a tool for host community empowerment." In California, she teaches courses about the anthropology of Japan, multiculturalism and gender, indigenous social movements, environmental justice, and research ethics.



Speaker :

Gilbert PETUUCHE

U.S.A.: Acoma Pueblo, Multicultural Alliance for Safe Environment, Uranium Mining Affected Indigenous community

Profile: Mr. Gilbert Petuuche Gilbert is from an indigenous community called Acoma Pueblo in New Mexico, U.S.A. He has participated in indigenous events at the United Nations since 1986 and he has attended meetings at the Organization of American States to work on the Inter-American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. He is currently president of Indigenous World Association, an UNESCO NGO, vice-president of the Laguna Acoma Coalition for a Safe Environment, and a member of the Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environment in the Grants Uranium District. Retiring from the Pueblo of Acoma tribal government, he remains engaged with the Pueblo of Acoma on community and environmental concerns.



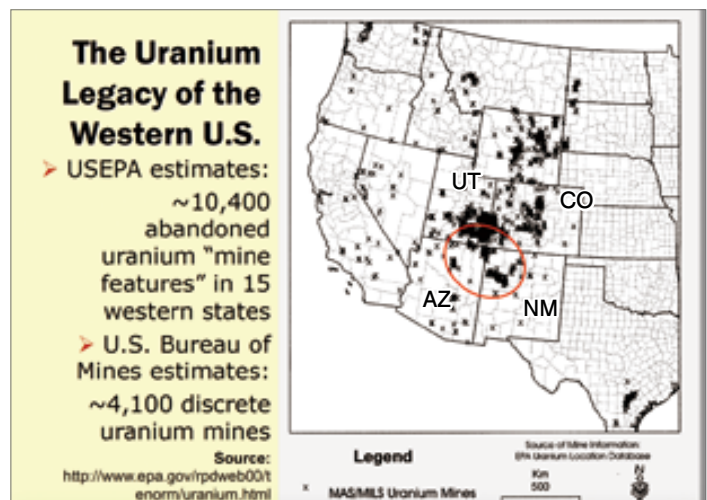
# *NO NUKES!*

## From Four Corners (New Mexico) To Fukushima



### Abstract:

New Mexico is the birthplace of the atomic bomb. It also hosts two national nuclear research laboratories, the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant for nuclear waste, and an uranium enrichment facility. It is also the homeland of the indigenous peoples who have lived there for more than 10,000 years. Many indigenous ruins and sacred sites like Mt. Taylor are located in the region. 50 years of uranium industry has contaminated land, water, air and has affected people's health. The Grants Uranium District located in the state was once the busiest place in the world for uranium mining. Grants called itself the Uranium Capitol of the World. U. S. EPA has identified 97 abandoned mines, called legacy mines, and 5 mills within the mining district. They have also identified 500 abandoned mines adjacent is the Navajo Nation, and the federal, the state, and the tribal governments, are all working on the cleanup of these places. Today the local communities are facing a new proposed mining. Roca Honda Mine, partially owned by Japan's Sumitomo, is making plans to open a new mine. Thus, legacy mines and mills plus new mining will continue contaminating the region's people, land, water and sacred areas.







# Uranium Mining in Jadugoda, India: *The Struggles of the Indigenous People*

## Visiting Hiroshima

In the year 2002 Mr. I participated in the peace program (hosted by Indian & Pakistani Youth Peace Exchange) in Hiroshima along with Sneha Anurag and filmmaker Shriprakash. **It was a life changing participation which showed me the true picture of nuclear madness globally. I realized the situation of Japan and Jadugoda to be similar.**

Returning back from Hiroshima, I gave greater attention to the issue. I got involved into J.O.A.R (Jharkhand's Organization Against Radiation) activities. I began to work as a guide; an interpreter for many journalists who published photo essays on Jadugoda. Seeing the photojournalists trying to bring awareness through the lens inspired me to become one like them. **I started photographing the victims, and I am trying to become a mediator through my photography to the world.**

My photo essay "Jadugoda, Drowning in Nuclear Greed" was exhibited at the 3rd International Uranium Film Festival, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2013 and also in different cities in India like Hyderabad, Mumbai, Bangalore, Ranchi, and Tatanagar.

As I wanted my photos to be used for public awareness, my photos went through online publication in *Galli Magazine*, a homegrown journal in India, as well as in DW, Germany. I have also participated in the World Uranium Symposium in Quebec City, Canada in 2015 and my photo exhibition was also a part of it.



Speaker :

Ashish Birulee

Photojournalist, Jadugoda Uranium Mine  
Anti-Radiation Alliance, India

Mr. Ashish Birulee, aged 26, was born and brought up in Jadugoda. Mr. Birulee works as an independent photojournalist and has been documenting the problems in Jadugoda, which he has been witnessing since childhood; his own grandparents died of lung cancer.

## India's Nuclear Program and its Impacts

According to the nuclear program in India, the DAE (Department of Atomic Energy) is planning to make India reliable on Nuclear energy. The impacts of the greater need for uranium could be witnessed in Jadugoda. Today there are 7 uranium mines in total in the state of Jharkhand: Jadugoda, Bhatin, Narwapahar, Turamdih, Bandhuhurang's open cast mining, Muhuldih and Baghjata.

Jadugoda and Turamdih mines have mills including 3 tailing ponds in Jadugoda and another in Talsa village near Turamdih. All these mines, mills and tailing ponds are constructed on the lands of indigenous people. The people are less educated, and the radiation issue is too scientific for them to understand. It is why neither the MLA (Members of Legislative Assembly) nor the MP (Member of Parliament) have ever raised a question in Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha. JOAR (Jharkhandis Organization Against Radiation) has been fighting against radiation for more than 20 years and will always continue.

## Fight against Uranium Tailing Ponds

UCIL's 3 tailing ponds situated near Chatikocha and Dungridih are fully filled; hence, UCIL needs to construct the fourth tailing pond. For the fourth tailing pond Chatikocha and Tilaitand village were supposed to be acquired and the notification had been issued, but, due to JOAR's agitation, UCIL could not acquire the lands. Today UCIL has no lands to acquire. UCIL now has a new project to extend the 1st tailing pond to 10-15 meters in height. This extension of 1st tailing pond will submerge the Jaherthan (sacred place for worship). JOAR, Jahergarh Suraksha Samiti and Majhi Pargana Mahal, these three organizations together have agitated and stopped the work of extension in the 1st tailing pond since June 22, 2014.

## The madness and greed still continue

In the name of development and nations defense, unaccountable lives have been sacrificed and there is still no regret in the government body. The madness and greed still continue till date. **The incidents of Fukushima and Chernobyl have awoken many people, but not Indian government. It is waiting for much greater disaster.**

JOAR (Jharkhandis Organization Against Radiation) would like to give a message to the people of Hiroshima and all those who are affected by radiation that together we will continue to fight for a safer environment and future generations.

**It would be wrong to say that "we have enough time to fight these issues. None of us have seen the creation of our Mother Earth, but if we don't succeed within time, it is for sure we will witness its End."**

## Message to the Forum

Shriprakash

India: Documentary Director, "Buddha Weeps in Jadugoda"

Jadugoda is a tiny village in the Eastern part of India, located in province of Jharkhand. It is famous for several uranium mines, mills and dams. There are several mines (one open cast), two mills and four tailing dams. This area is home to tribal communities namely Santhal, Ho and others.

Around 1960, exploration for uranium started in the area; local communities were completely unaware of impact of hazard of uranium radiation. Strange illness, unnatural deaths, still births, miscarriage, sterility in couples is the reality. They could not comprehend the reason. It was their own experience of the new problems which became their outcry. For last 20 years, Jharkhandi Organization Against Radiation (JOAR) and many other individuals and organizations have tried to find answer to the new situation facing the tribal communities in Jadugoda. In their quest for the reason, they knocked every possible doors- health study, street protests, going to the judiciary, seeking help of the media to carry reports—and all seems to have miserably failed.

It is sad that while, on the one hand, Indian scientists are trying to explore the solar system, the Moon and Mars as new frontiers, the Communities in Jadugoda are not able to find the reason for their misery. And neither are the scientific communities willing to help them in discovering the correct reason behind their miseries.

The film screening and photo exhibition is showing the current situation of the communities. Support from Japanese antinuclear organization and other part of the world is very crucial for the people of Jadugoda. Hope that this conference will highlight the plight of the communities and that justice may dawn in their lives.

Mr. Shriprakash's new documentary film shown at the Forum is entitled *NABIKEL footprints Southwest: A journey to reveal the legacy of uranium mining in southwest of USA*.

# [2] Nuclear Tests



Coordinators :



## Seichiro TAKEMINE

Associate professor at Meisei University in Tokyo

Profile: Mr. Seichiro Takemine (Japan) was born in 1977. Ph.D. (International Studies: Waseda University). Co-convenor of a research committee on Global Hibakusha and a board member of the Peace Studies Association of Japan. Mr. Takemine has conducted field research concerning nuclear testing issues in the Marshall Islands since 1998. His publication in Japanese includes *Still Living with Nuclear Fallout in the Marshall Islands* (*Owarinaki kaku-higai wo Ikiru*), 2015.



## Noboru TAZAKI

Executive Director, Elimination of Nuclear Weapons Earth Citizens' Assembly Executive Committee Nagasaki

Mr. Noboru Tazaki worked at the Nagasaki City Hall for 33 years. During his time there, he took part in international exchange for 10 years and atomic bomb and peace related governance for 23 years. He coordinated the office for the Peace Declaration Drafting Committee under City Mayors Hitoshi Motoshima and Iccho Ito. After leaving his position at the city hall in 2003, he completed his master's degree at the Nagasaki University Faculty of Education. From 2005 until 2014, he was a part-time lecturer at the Nagasaki University Exchange Student Center. Mr. Tazaki is the secretary-general of the Executive Committee of the Nagasaki Global Citizens' Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons since 2009 and a member of the Nagasaki Atomic Bombing Museum Administration Council since 2013.



Speaker :

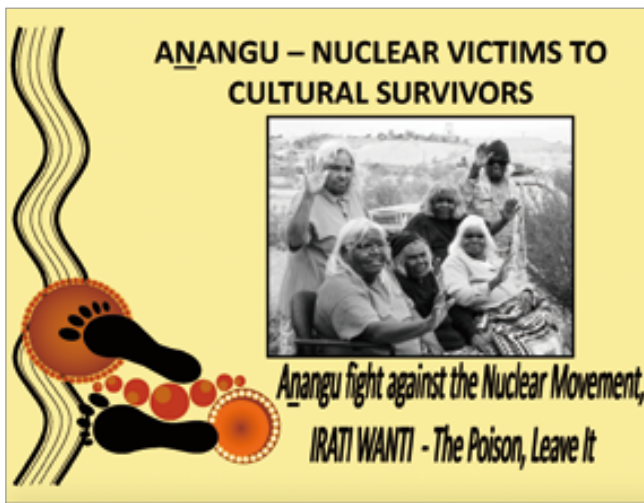
## Kalina Lester

Australian Nuclear Free Alliance (ANFA)

Ms Kalina Lester is very much devoted to the self-determination for her people and the maintenance of the Anangu culture. She continues to play an active role in the South Australian Government's Royal Commission into the Nuclear Fuel Cycle speaking up strongly about the impacts of the Nuclear Tests and reminding Government of the story Anangu (Aboriginal people) have to share. Ms Lester is currently the co-manager and Aboriginal language worker for the Mobile Language Team, University of Adelaide, and is very passionate about the maintenance of her language, Yankunytjatjara. She is also very enthusiastic about the revival of the highly endangered languages of South Australia. She also currently a director with the First Languages Australia with the portfolio of remote delivery, speaking strongly about the importance of maintaining, reviving and reclaiming our Aboriginal languages at the National level.



# Anangu – Nuclear victims Cultural Survivors



## (summary)

It was October 1953 in outback South Australia at a place known as Walatina by the westerners but to Anangu tjuta it was Walyatjata home of the Nyinytjiri tjuta – lizard people, the Yankunytjatjara people. That day started like any other day with us kids playing in the sand dunes, Mum went off to work for the white pastoralist family to scrub the floors, wash the dishes and do the washing by hand. Us kids were running around getting up to no good until we heard a large blast and smaller ones in between before we saw the black mist rolling. Rolling silently towards the main camp. Dad recalls, “the day the ground shook and the black mist rolled.”

**This is the day my Father’s life changed completely. Many of our family became very ill within days because of the fall out with rashes, sore eyes, respiratory problems, vomiting, and even death.** There are stories in our family where family had to bury their loved ones, where the skin was burnt badly that infection set in, and like my Father’s story when he lost his right eye within three weeks and then when he went totally blind by 1957. The only thing they could prove in the Royal Commission (British Nuclear

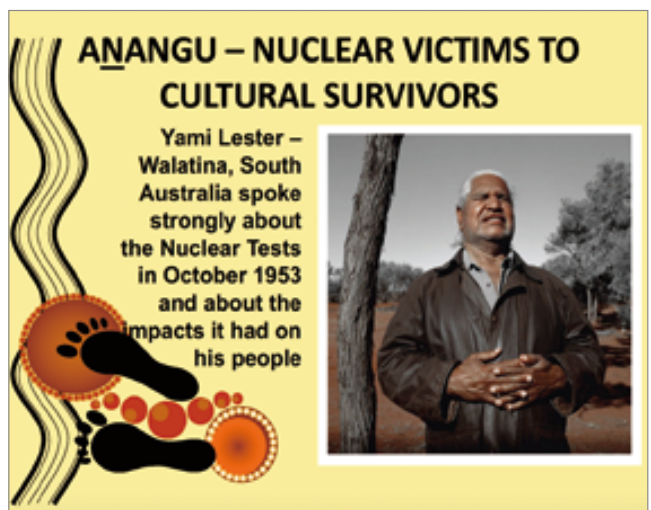
Tests in Australia, 1984) was that there was radiation fall out over Walatina. Anangu suffer to this day not only because of their health but struggle to come to terms of a Government and its actions.

In South Australia there were many tests conducted under the agreement struck between the Australian and British Government, and it wasn’t until the 50th Anniversary that we later learnt many tests were conducted. Between 1952 and 1963 the British Government, with the agreement and support of the Australian Government, carried out nuclear tests at three sites in Australia – the Monte Bello Islands off the Western Australian coast, and at Emu Field and Maralinga in South Australia.

Maralinga was developed, as the permanent proving ground site, following a request of the British in 1954, and, after its completion in 1956, was the location of all trials conducted in Australia. It was developed as a joint facility with a shared funding arrangement. Following the two major trials (*Operation Buffalo* in 1956 and *Operation Antler* in 1957) there were a number of minor trials, assessment tests and experimental programs (dating from 1959) held at the range until 1963. Maralinga was officially closed following a clean-up operation (*Operation Brumby*) in 1967.

**South Australia was again on standby after the Federal Government in February 1998 announced their plans to build a national radioactive waste dump in South Australia.** After shortlisting eight regions across Australia, they identify Billa Kalina. The Federal Government proposed the co-location of two separate facilities within the Billa Kalina region:

One: a shallow burial dump to bury low-level waste; radioactive for up to 300 years.





Two: an above ground facility to store intermediate long-lived waste; serious radiation hazard for up to 10,000 years, requiring isolation for up to 250,000 years.

**In the far north Opal Mining Town of Coober Pedy, Senior Anangu Women held a meeting to discuss “which way we were going to stop the Government and who was going to help us.” These amazing women from Yankunytjatjara, Kokatha, and Antikirinya stood strong and said “No Nuclear Waste Dump in our Ngura” (country). There began the ‘Irati Wanti Campaign’.**

For six long years these amazing women rallied, wrote letters, engaged with Politicians, engaged with the wider community, shared their stories and sang and cried for their Ngura (country). They were winners in 2004 with the then South Australian Premier Mike Rann making a personal visit to meet with the women and congratulate them on their success. During the ordeal, late Mrs. Eileen Kampakuta Brown in January 2003 was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia for her service to the community “through the preservation, revival and teaching of traditional Anangu culture and as an advocate for Indigenous communities in Central Australia.” That same year Mrs Eileen Kampakuta Brown along with the late Eileen Wani Wingfield, were both awarded the prestigious American based Goldman Award for the Environment. This was a huge success and their stories live on in their family and the generations that follow.

In February 2015 the South Australian Government announced a Royal Commission in the Nuclear Fuel Cycle and South Australia’s Role in the Industry. The following Terms of Reference were signed off on the 19th March

2015, by His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le governor of South Australia:

1. Exploration, Extraction and Milling
2. Further Processing and Manufacturing
3. Electricity Generation
4. Management, Storage and Disposal of Waste

The Commissioner Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce will be leading the fact, finding exercise that covers the above Terms of Reference and deliver a report to the Premier of South Australia Jay Weatherill by the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2016. Currently the Royal Commission is at its hearing stage and will then do a consultation on its findings to the wider community in the New Year.

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2015, the Federal Government released its shortlist of six sites for nuclear waste storage of which three of them are in South Australia. The three sites in South Australia are Cortlinye; Pinkawillinie (both in the Kimba Region, in the Federal electorate of Grey) and Barndioota (Flinders Ranges region in the Federal electorate of Grey).

**These regions identified are on Aboriginal Land and land that is culturally significant for the local Aboriginal people. Aboriginal people are again being ignored of their rights as traditional owners of their land and face again another battle of victimization but this time it is the next generation that needs to “Talk Straight Out”.**

THANK YOU





# After 48 Detonations: the Human Cost of the Chinese Test Program



Speaker :

Enver TOHTI

China: doctor, Lop Nur Project

Profile: Dr. Enver Tohti worked as a cancer surgeon at the Railway Central Hospital in Urumchi from September 1985 until July 1997. Between 1994 and 1996, Dr. Tohti secretly and systematically recorded the details of cases of cancer, after he became alarmed at the disproportionately high rates of the disease amongst Uighur patients. In 1997 Dr. Tohti leaked his findings to a team of Western journalists who were making a documentary film entitled 'Death on the Silk Road' about the nuclear tests. This documentary was broadcast in over 80 countries including Japan and the UK (on Channel 4). As a result of this documentary, Dr. Tohti was forced to leave China and in 1999 he was granted refugee status in the UK.





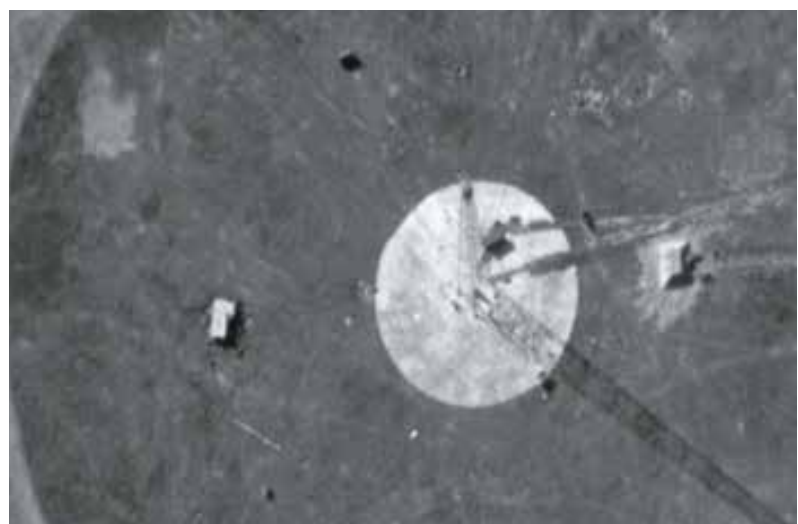


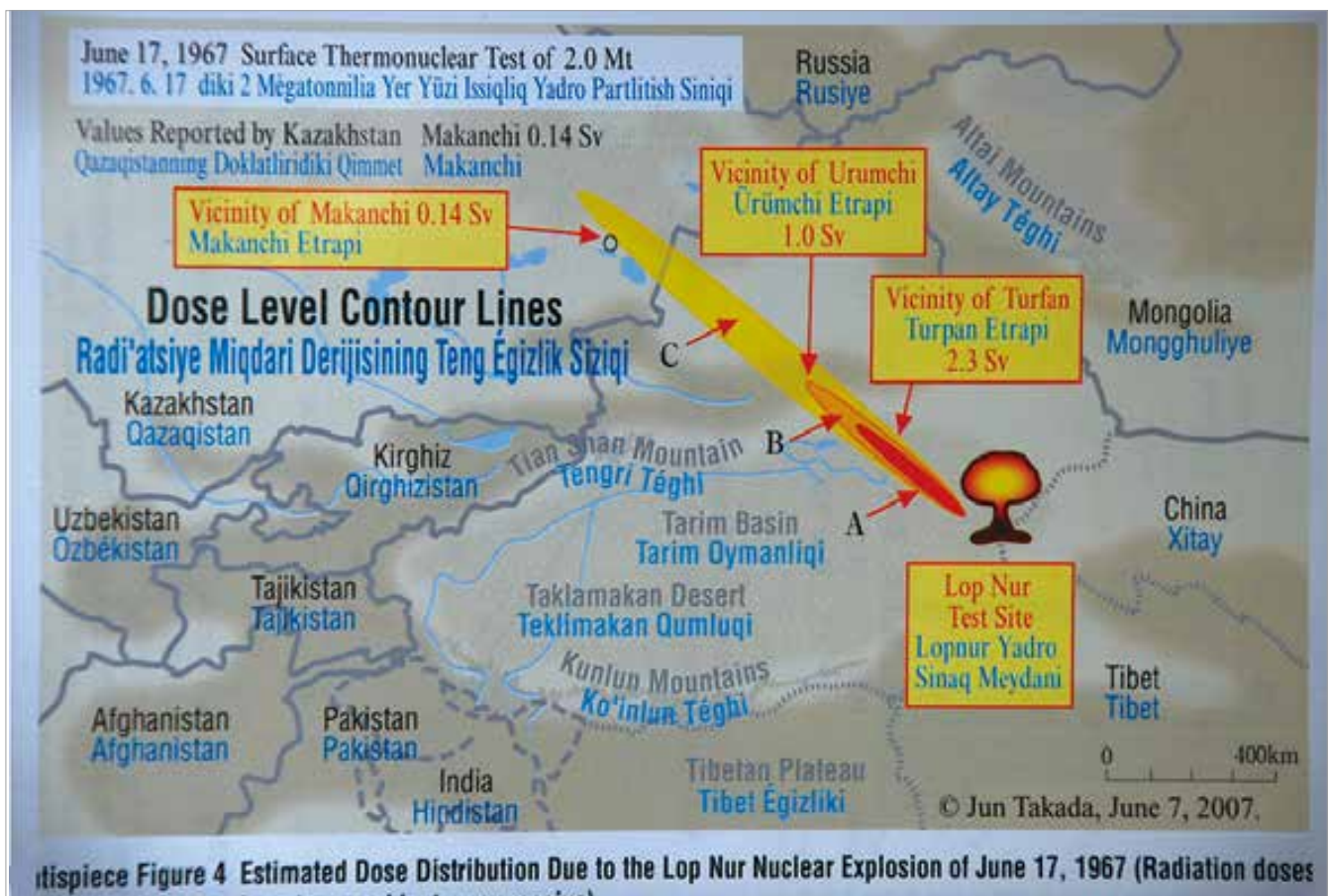
### Abstract:

The focus of the paper is analyzing and exposing the devastating and long run consequences of nuclear bomb test, in the far western part of China, to the living and ecological environment of the region. Various forms of methods were applied during the research; this includes analyzing data from a thematic survey commissioned by the state on the disproportionate spread of malignant incurable diseases in the area. It also brows extensively from the author's personal interviews during his long career as a practicing senior surgeon, and enriched with other sources from publications and researches results with different provenance. The Chinese state always underplayed the effect of the nuclear test on the life of the local people and the surrounding environment, and rigorously denied the connection between the wide spread of cancer in Xinjiang with the constant exposure to the radioactive pollution caused by the test. The reality is that, today, according to the statistics resulted from the official survey in area, the cancer rate in Xinjiang is 35% higher than that in China proper and the trend has not reversed, yet.

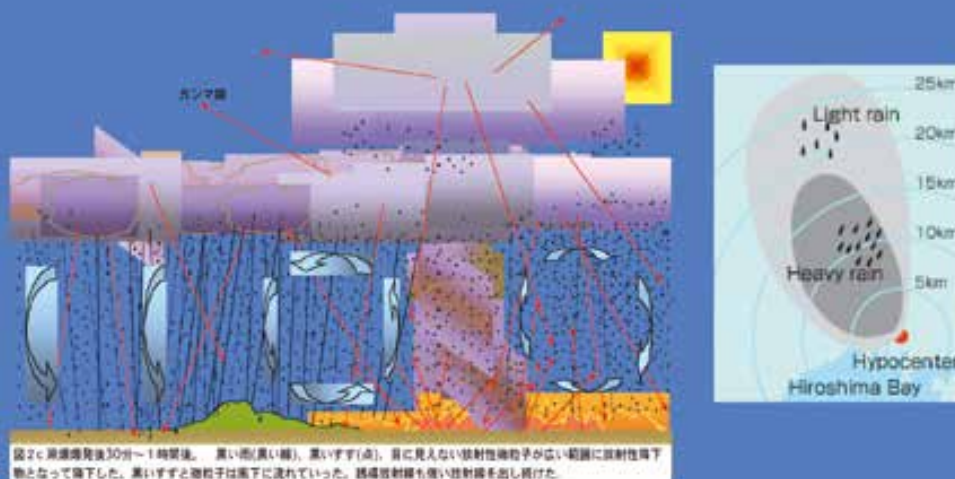
### Conclusions:

The author argues, the prevailing of malignant tumour is caused by radioactive pollution in the region, and the destructive after effect of the test will continue to claim countless innocent lives, unless the state takes a responsible step and prevent from further damaging the already vulnerable land. However, the evidences suggest that, the contamination still continues in the form of dumping the toxic nuclear wastes in the old testing cites.





## Black Rain spreads radioactive fall-out widely (Prof. Shoji Sawada, Hiroshima University)







## Four Decades of Nuclear Testing

### Nevada Test Site

1951-1992

- 935 atomic bombs
- 100 above ground

Tests were also conducted in  
Alaska, New Mexico, Colorado,  
Mississippi, Alaska and off the  
coast of San Diego.



# *American Hibakusha: We Are All Downwinders*



Speaker :

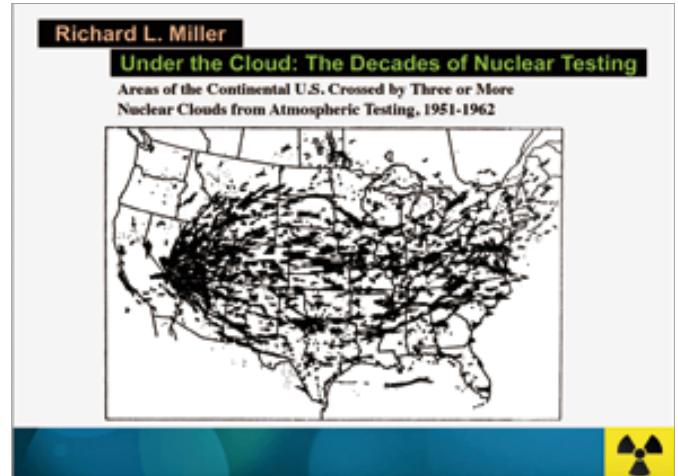
Mary Dickson

Writer

Living in Salt Lake City, U.S., M. Dickson has written about the health consequences of nuclear testing in the U.S. and has worked on the issues of peace and justice for more than 30 years. Her 2007 award-winning play, *Exposed*, was a landmark work that put a human face on a chapter of American history seldom explored in drama or literature. It combines the very personal story of the playwright and her sister, victims of U.S. nuclear weapons testing, with powerful documentation, including declassified portions of Atomic Energy Commission records, interviews, to show the human toll of 40 years of nuclear testing on U.S. soil. She has spoken about the human consequences of nuclear testing at various conferences. In 2013 she was recognized by the Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility in Washington, D.C. for her lifetime work on behalf of downwinders.







In 2008, I spent two weeks in Hiroshima and Nagasaki with the Nuclear Studies Institute from American University. It was an amazing journey that included visits with many Hibakusha, a word used to describe survivors of the bomb. Their powerful stories still haunt me.

When I spoke to students at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, I was surprised when I was introduced as an American Hibakusha. I had never thought of myself that way. But I realized that I am also a Hibakusha. I, too, am a survivor of the bombs exploded on American soil by our own government.

## 935 Tests in 40 years

Between 1951 and 1992, the U.S. government exploded 935 nuclear bombs above ground at the Nevada Test Site not far from Las Vegas, putting unsuspecting American citizens living downwind in harm's way. When atmospheric testing was banned in 1962, testing moved underground until 1992. Many of the underground tests leaked, sometimes spewing visible mushroom clouds into the atmosphere.

Radioactive fallout from four decades of nuclear testing has left a devastating legacy not only in my home state of Utah, which was directly downwind of the Test Site, but across the entire United States. We became victims of the deadly winds of the Cold War.

My name is Mary Dickson and I am what we call a downwinder. Like tens of thousands of other Americans, I grew up under the clouds of fallout from nuclear testing. My life and my work have been shaped by what happened to me and to many people I love at the hands of our own government — all in the name of protecting us from communism during the Cold War.

## Radiation Map

I carry a credit card sized map of the United States in my wallet. It's from Richard Miller's book, *Under the Cloud: the Decades of Nuclear Testing*. It shows where the winds carried radioactive fallout from testing in Nevada. Utah and Nevada are almost completely blacked out, and the black ink spreads as far East as New York and as far North as Canada, with ink blotting hundreds of cities across America, including the region where most of our nation's food is grown.

Radiation did not respect arbitrary lines on a map. It was picked up by the jet stream and carried across the country, where it fell to the ground in rain and snow and worked its way into the food chain. That's how it reached and was measured in Salt Lake City, the Midwest, and 2,300 miles from the test site in upstate New York, and Canada. That's how a 1953 test named Simon collided with the worst thunderstorm in 100 years and doused upstate New York, where researchers at the Rennsler Polytechnic Institute measured radiation in the rain spouts and the water flooding playgrounds. It's how radioactive fallout was carried to Los Angeles in 1958 where it was trapped in an inversion. How many of the cancers in those areas may be linked to fallout?

I've shown this map to people around the U.S. and they're always shocked. They had no idea that the fallout spread so far, crossing over their cities and towns. I carry this map as a way of bearing witness and as a warning to make sure that nuclear testing is never resumed. I don't need reminders of what fallout did to the people living in those areas of black on Miller's map. There is another map I carry, one that is drawn by the scars on my body.

## I Am the Radioactive Material

The Earth shifted for me in the spring before my 30<sup>th</sup> birthday when I was diagnosed with thyroid cancer, a cancer common in those who were exposed to fallout as children. My world lost its predictability with two words: “It’s malignant.” Facing surgery and radiation treatment, I didn’t think it mattered how I got it. The only thing that mattered was to get rid of it. The surgeon cut out my thyroid and the lymph nodes around it. A few days later they gave me radioactive iodine to drink to destroy any remaining cancerous tissue. The nurse wheeled me to my hospital room in a high-backed wheelchair made of lead — to protect her from me. A sign on the door of my room warned: “Caution! Radioactive Material.” Stamped on my hospital bracelet was the radiation symbol. I was the radioactive material.

Everyday, a radiologist opened my door and pointed his Geiger Counter at me to see how “hot” I was. I was isolated in the small hospital room until the reading on the Geiger Counter was low enough that I could be around people again. Before I went home, the doctor cautioned me not to be around babies or pregnant women for a few more days. He told me not to get pregnant for a year. I never did get pregnant. A few years later, endometrial tumors necessitated a hysterectomy that meant I would never have a child.

## Eating Contaminated Food

I had grown up drinking fresh milk from a nearby dairy, eating fresh vegetables from the garden, mixing sugar with snow to pretend it was ice cream, and playing in puddles of rainwater. How were any of us to know that what we were eating and drinking was contaminated with radiation? How were we to know that a silent poison was threading its way through our bodies when our government repeatedly assured us that there was no danger. They gave us booklets telling us that “some of you have been inconvenienced by our test operations,” telling us not to let reports of Geiger counters going crazy bother us.

They encouraged people living near the Test Site to watch the blasts as a family activity. How were any of us to know that the radioactive debris in those awe-inspiring, towering mushroom clouds would devastate families and communities across America? We couldn’t see the radiation that fell on plants, landed in water, and made its way into the food chain and into our bodies.

When the fallout drifted across the skies, no sirens rang out to signal the danger. We blithely went about our lives assuming we were safe. We trusted our government when it assured us we had nothing to fear.



## **Sadly, Our List Continues to Grow**

After I got sick, I began keeping a list of friends and neighbors who had cancer and autoimmune diseases. My list now includes 54 people who lived in a five-block area near my childhood home in Salt Lake City. My childhood friend Tammy is first on the list. She died of a brain tumor when we were 10. Her little brother died three weeks later of testicular cancer. He was only four years old. Their devastated mother asked their pediatrician if it was a coincidence that 10 other people in our neighborhood also had cancer. Over the years, other people from my childhood neighborhood, including my best friend, her sister and her father, have died of cancer, leukemia, lymphoma, and other fallout-related diseases. So many have died that one of my schoolmates years later said he felt lucky to have made it to age 40.

Maintaining the list hasn't been easy. Many of my old neighbors have moved away, taking their illnesses and their medical histories with them. I read the obituary notices looking for more names I might recognize. The obituary of a man who died of bone marrow cancer ended with the simple declaration, "He witnessed atomic testing." I stumbled across the obituary of a beautiful woman who had died after a long battle with a rare blood disease. Only when I saw the names of her survivors did I realize she was the sister of a childhood friend who had lived on my street. Two days later I learned that another friend had died from the brain tumor that plagued her since we were teenagers. Then, in 2001, my sister Ann, who had helped me collect names for the list, died after a long struggle with an autoimmune disease. She was only 46 and her three children would grow up without their mother.

## **"Where is My Leg, Mama?"**

Where I am from, ours are not unusual stories. I know other people who keep lists of the sick and dying. Irma Thomas, who lived in St. George, Utah kept her list on a chart on her living room wall. An X marked each home where cancer had claimed someone. Elmer Pickett carried a tattered piece of paper in his pocket bearing the names of nine family members who had died. A state senator's list included neighbors, both of his parents and his sister. Sadly, our lists continue to grow. My grandfather, cousin, aunt, cousin's husband, coworkers, friends.

As a journalist and activist, I've listened to countless stories of those made sick from radiation exposure – the soldier who marched with troops into ground zero after a

blast at the test site so that the military could see what effect it would have on them. He now has multiple myeloma. The mother who bore a child with all of its organs on the outside of its body. The doctor in the Midwest who found excessively high levels of colon cancer among his patients and later discovered that his county had been one of those hit hard by fallout. The woman whose husband died of cancer and then watched helplessly as her five-year-old son developed bone cancer. After waking up from surgery, he looked up at her and asked, "where is my leg, Mama?"

## **Endless Stories of Suffering**

The more I wrote and spoke out, the more I testified at public hearings, the more people began coming to me with their stories.

The activist who told me about the day she was brushing her hair as a young woman and it fell into the sink with a chunk of her scalp. After years of being dismissed as a hysterical housewife, a specialist finally diagnosed her with spontaneous immune system failure — a disease he told her was likely related to radiation exposure.

I have heard endless tales of sickness and suffering, of children born with birth defects, of too many deaths. The stories are heart-breaking. After one early morning call from a stranger who told me she had lost three babies to leukemia in the 1950s and now has two adult children with cancer, I sat outside on my porch swing crying for all of the people whose stories broke me.

## **Power of Stories**

There is power in these stories. The people who share these stories are not numbers. They are not one of the statistics. They are human beings who have suffered, who have watched their loved ones die, who were innocent victims of Cold War government policies.

Stories are my most powerful tool. In 2007, I wrote a very personal play called "*Exposed*" combining my story with what I had learned. It ended with a somber reading of my list of the dead. After each performance, the cast invited audience members to add names of downwinders on the wall outside the theater. In just a few nights, they had added so many names, we had no room left on the wall.

## **The Atomic Energy Commission Knew What's Going On**

What's hard for many of us to reconcile is that our government knew the facts — about fallout, about





contaminated milk, about the susceptibility of children — and that they lied to the people. People like me, my sister, and my friends.

Declassified minutes of the Atomic Energy Commission confirm that the government misled us, covered up the facts, and endangered us. In the early years of testing when one AEC commissioner expressed concern about reports of livestock and people dying, another commissioner responded, “Nothing is going to get in the way of testing, nothing!” and suggested that what was needed was “judicious handling of public information.”

A 1954 AEC agreement barred the U.S. Public Health Service from releasing any information to the public about the radiation released from tests. The Health Service could be subject to criminal liability if it disclosed such information. That agreement stayed in effect until 1970.

Harold Knapp, a former AEC employee, has admitted that the government definitely knew what was going on. “All evidence suggesting that radiation was having harmful effects, be it on the sheep or on the people, was not only disregarded, but actually suppressed.”

## What were the Ethics of Nuclear Testing?

What are the ethics of nuclear testing? The late 20<sup>th</sup> Century philosopher Mary Midgley wrote an essay called “Trying out One’s Sword.” In it, she told of Tsujigiri, the ancient Samarai practice of trying out a new sword by cleanly slicing an innocent passerby in half. Tsujigiri is a word in classical Japanese that literally means “crossroads cut.” To work properly a Samurai’s sword had to slice through a person with a single blow. The unsuspecting wayfarers on whom the Samurai’s tested their swords became expendable.

Like those innocent wayfarers, citizens living downwind of nuclear testing were also deemed expendable by governments who justified the tests as necessary for national security.

The U.S. wasn’t alone in testing nuclear weapons. I participated in a symposium on the Shared Legacies and Lessons of nuclear testing with representatives from Kazakhstan, who spoke about the devastating effects the Soviet Union’s nuclear tests had on the people of their country.

A downwinder friend of mine, who spent time in Kazakhstan, visited with a Soviet downwinder. When my friend asked him, “What did your government tell you?” the Kazakh replied, “They told us that if we didn’t test, you American capitalists would be here in the morning. What did your government tell you?” My friend responded, “They told us that if we didn’t test, you Russian Commies would be here in the morning.” Both men sadly concluded that their own governments had done to them what the feared enemy could not.

The military justified testing, saying that it saved lives, but we know that the Cold War had casualties — in America and in every country where nuclear weapons were tested. Barbara Rose Johnston, the author of *Half-Lives and Half Truths*, says that contrary to claims of American and Soviet officials, the arms race did not prevent nuclear war; rather it was a nuclear war.”

## Many Unknown Victims

Those of us who have survived that undeclared war are walking witnesses that radiation works in strange ways. It doesn’t kill you out right. It attacks cells that mutate and can take years, even decades to manifest as cancer, leukemia, or immune system diseases. The genetic damage radiation causes can be passed on to future generations, which means that many fallout-related diseases have yet to surface.

Not only does the long lag time between exposure to fallout and illnesses make it hard to prove that they are linked, it also makes it easier for the public and our leaders to ignore us and the fallout that we are convinced made us sick. Had we become ill or died immediately following those explosions in the Nevada desert, our numbers would have been considered a national catastrophe. But since the health effects can take decades to appear, they’re easier to dismiss. Sadly, the vast majority of downwinders will never know that they are casualties of testing.

And sadly, the burden of proof always rests on the victims. Science demands conclusive evidence, but there is also the undeniable evidence of our own experience. This much I know: for most of our lives, we lived downwind. And there is evidence showing the health effects of radioactive fallout.

## We Will Never Know How Many Have Suffered

A 15-year study by the National Cancer Institute released in 1997 showed that radioactive Iodine-131 from atmospheric testing fell on virtually every county in America and predicted that 212,000 lifetime cases of thyroid cancer alone may be linked to fallout. I-131 is just one radioactive isotope in fallout. Others are far more lethal.

And fallout wasn't contained when testing moved underground. One underground test in the summer of 1962 hit my community especially hard. The director of Radiological Health at the University of Utah measured dangerously high radiation levels from that test named Sedan. He found that milk in dairy farms across northern Utah contained 21 times the acceptable levels of I-131. He estimated that 53,000 children could have been affected by drinking radiated milk resulting from that one test.

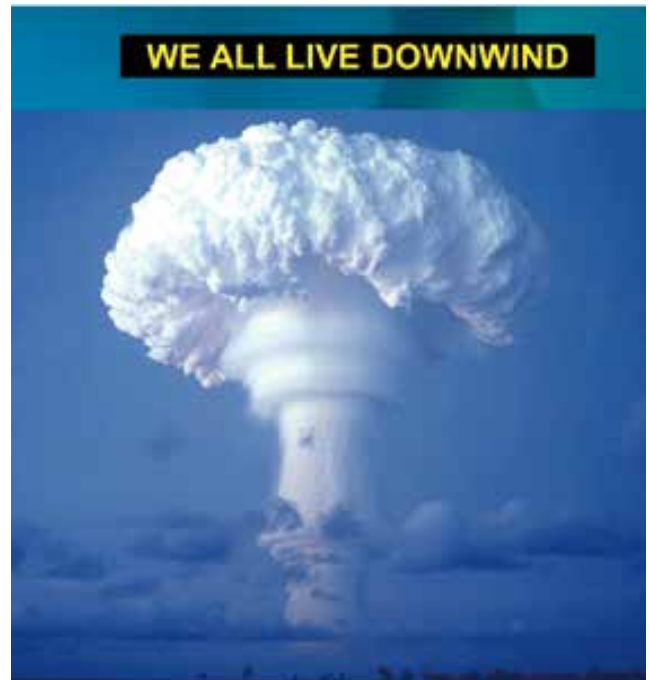
It's impossible to know how many cancers and other illnesses may be linked to fallout. In 1958, when unpredictable winds blew the radioactive cloud of fallout over Los Angeles, six million people were exposed over several days to more than 1,000 times the normal background level of radiation. Dr. John Gofman, a physicist who had worked on the Manhattan project, predicted that 20,000 people would die prematurely due to their exposure.

Some estimates of American fallout range as high as 800,000. Whatever the number, it's fair to say that atomic testing exacted a heavy human toll. When you look at nuclear testing worldwide, the number of people who may have been affected is mind boggling. How many communities, neighborhoods and families around the world have suffered? We'll never know.

## We Must Share Our Stories: We Are ALL Hibakusha

The story of nuclear testing and its consequences is not included in American history books, nor is it generally understood by the public. When I asked students in a class I taught, "Who knows about atomic testing in Nevada?" there was a deafening silence. The sad truth is that most Americans — and that includes elected representatives — don't know the story of testing. After lobbying Congress, it became apparent to me that a new generation of lawmakers knows very little about this chapter of American history.

Too many of us have become ill and too many of us have had to bury the dead. I have been sliced, scooped out



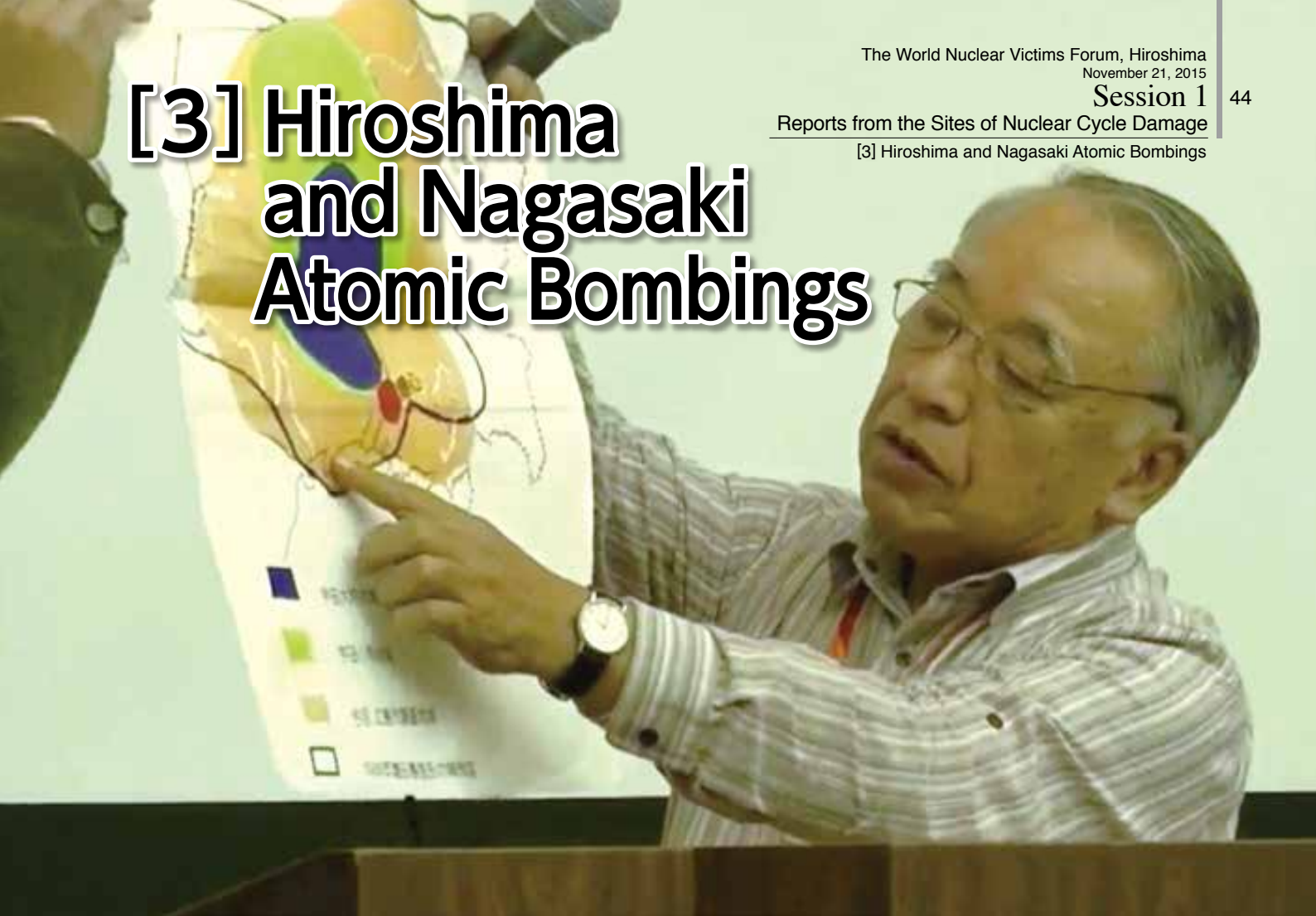
and radiated, and I have watched my sister take her last breath in agony. So many of the downwinders I worked with who dedicated their lives to keeping the story alive are literally dying off. Who will serve as witnesses when they are gone?

My own experience and everything I've learned has made me passionate about ensuring that our stories are not forgotten. We must never forget the legacy of nuclear testing. Those of us who are still living must share our stories, as painful as it is to do so.

May our experiences serve as a warning. May those of us from nations around this globe who know firsthand the tragedy of nuclear testing stand together to demand that the mistakes of the past never be repeated. May we never again be deemed expendable in the name of national security. May we do all we can to ensure that no government ever again sacrifices innocent human beings by testing nuclear weapons.

If we learned anything from being the unwitting subjects of the misbegotten program of atomic testing, it is that we all live downwind. We are all Hibakusha.

# [3] Hiroshima and Nagasaki Atomic Bombings



Coordinators :



**Katsuaki AOKI**

Joint Representative, WNVF

Born in Hiroshima City in 1948. K. Aoki's mother was a hibakusha. Graduate of Yokohama City University Medical Department. Former director of Hiroshima Kyoritsu Hospital. Co-director of Hiroshima Alliance for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (HANWA). Member of Hiroshima Hibakusha Support Network and Physicians Against Nuclear War (PANW). Since moving to Tokyo in 2019, Dr Aoki is an active member of Tokyo Physicians for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.



**Mitsugi MORIGUCHI**

Executive Director, Nagasaki Testimony Association

Mr. Moriguchi was born in 1936 in Mizunoura, Nagasaki. After graduating from the Faculty of Liberal Arts at Nagasaki University, he became an elementary school teacher. After retiring in 1997, Mr. Moriguchi joined "Testimonies of Nagasaki Association." As its secretary-general, Mr. Moriguchi gathered and compiled hibakusha testimonies to get them known more widely.

From July 31 to August 1 in 1945, the Mitsubishi shipyard near his home underwent a three-day air raid. At the command to "evacuate the district," people evacuated to the Urakami district where the air raids were less frequent. Luckily, his older sister (6th grade), younger brother (1st grade), and Mr. Moriguchi (3rd grade) were able to obtain train tickets to move to Kashima, Saga prefecture. When the A-bomb was detonated over Nagasaki on August 9, his father's ironwork was destroyed and his elder sister and brother were injured since they were mobilized as student workers at the factory, but they were able to recover from their injuries.



Speaker :

**Seiji TAKATO**

A plaintiff in the "Black Rain" Class Action Lawsuit

At the age of three, S. Takato was exposed to the black rain at about eight kilometers west of the hypocenter. According to the government's classification, this area is not included in either the "heavy rain area" or the "light rain area." In 2002 he became the founding secretary-general for the "Saeki-Ward Black Rain Group." He also serves as a regular member of the board of directors for the Hiroshima Prefecture A-bomb Victims Liason Council as well as executive director of the Hiroshima Prefectural Confederation of A-Bomb Sufferers Organization.



# Seeking Expansion of the Black Rain Areas Heavy and Light Rain Areas

The atomic explosion created a mushroom cloud. Later, a black rain containing radioactive substances fell over a wide area. The national government drew lines indicating “heavy rain” and “light rain” areas. The heavy rain area was designated a “black rain area,” and a system was created to reimburse medical treatment costs of survivors who were in that area. Even though many victims in the light rain areas and elsewhere were suffering medical problems, they were abandoned. They were offered no assistance whatsoever. The suffering residents of those light rain areas have been fighting for 37 years to expand the areas recognized as “black rain areas.”

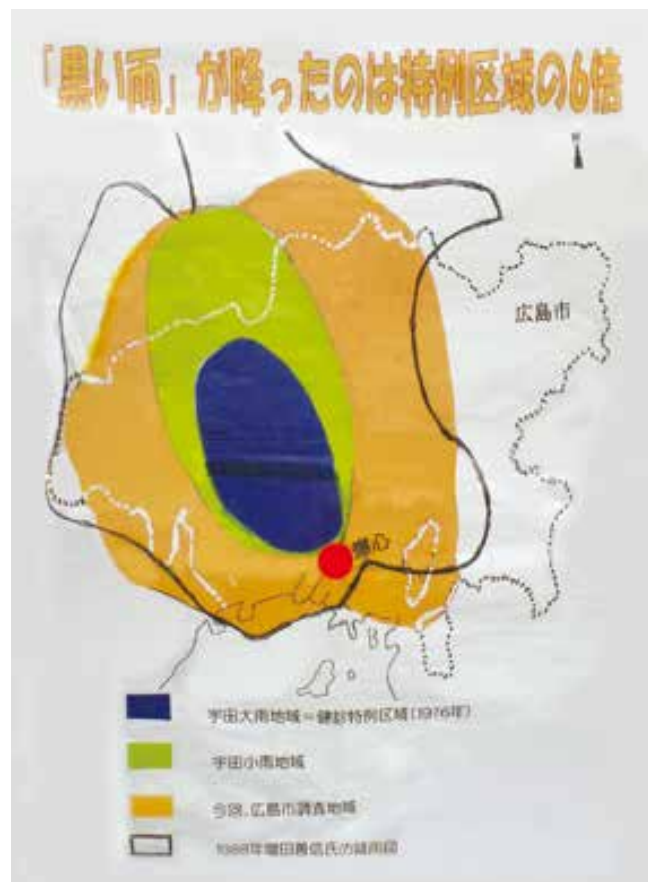
Pressed by that movement, Hiroshima City and Prefecture conducted a survey of 27,000 people, accompanied by 900 extensive interviews. The report issued in 2010 redrew the black rain area six times larger than the original. Based on an A-bomb Experience Health Awareness Survey, they began petitioning the national government for expansion of the black rain areas. The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare established a Black Rain Study Commission that met nine times to study the report by Hiroshima City and Prefecture. In July 2012, they made their conclusions public.

The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare completely refused to recognize the situations of survivors described in detail by Hiroshima City. The Ministry stated that outside the “heavy rain areas,” “radioactive fallout resulting from the Hiroshima bombing has not been confirmed.” They went on to say, “...neither internal nor external exposure can be confirmed” and “...the illnesses of those currently suffering were caused not by exposure but by excessive anxiety about exposure.”

I have visited survivors of the black rain and have turned those interviews into a book entitled *Black Rain and Claims of Internal Exposure*.

## Black Rain Absolutely Did Fall

My house was 14 kilometers west-northwest of the hypocenter. We were at the end of a steep mountain trail above Uokiri Dam. When the bomb exploded, I was three, but I remember it clearly. I saw red light, then blue light. It came at me hard, as if to pierce my skin. I heard an enormous boom and felt a powerful quaking.



The small oval is the Heavy Rain Area; the large oval is the Light Rain Area. The even larger area that includes all of Hiroshima City is the black rain area revealed by the Hiroshima City/Hiroshima Prefecture A-bomb Survivor Health Awareness Survey.



Across the valley, a mushroom cloud appeared. It got bigger and bigger. Dirt and debris and burning paper ash came blowing up the valley. Later, black rain fell. I'm not sure if I got wet, but I know that my sisters, Matsuko, Takeko, and Umeko, came back from school drenched.

The victims arrived later. People with terrible burns. Their skin was red. Their clothes were burned and sticking to their flesh. And they were all so silent. They came and sat on our veranda or on our dirt floor and just rested. My mother and sisters gave them water and tea. They applied Mercurochrome. At noon, they gave them rice balls.

Looking back, the ragged clothes of the victims, their red skin, their singed hair—they were all covered with radiation. I'm sure our floor and front room were soon full of radioactive particles. When my cousin's child Tadayuki Iwaoka (3) got there, we ran and played among the victims.

## A-bomb Weariness

Soon after I married at age 23, I went to the hospital with what I thought was a cold. I was diagnosed with hypothyroidism. Looking back, I think it was probably what was then called "A-bomb fatigue." I'm still taking medicine for that.

At 60 I was diagnosed with diabetes. I can't believe it's due to my diet. At 68, I got a cerebral infarction and have been in rehabilitation ever since, but my paralysis remains severe. Every day is a struggle against disease. At 72 years and 8 months, I was diagnosed with marrow dysplasia syndrome, a form of leukemia or blood cancer. At that point, my future went completely black.

- When my eldest sister, Matsuko, was 51, she had thyroid surgery and commuted to Hiroshima University Hospital for three years. The doctor said, "You were in the bombing, right?" Five years ago, she suddenly collapsed. An ambulance took her to the hospital, where she was admitted to the neurosurgery department. The cause and even the name of her disorder are still unknown.
- The next in line, Takeko, had such poor health that she hardly ever went to school. When she was in her first year of junior high school, liquid was removed from her lungs. She soon died of acute pleurisy.
- The youngest, Umeko, had thyroid surgery at Kyoto University Hospital. At 52, she died of lung cancer and multiple organ failure.
- My cousin's child, Tadayuki Iwaoka, died of lung cancer at 66.

## The Government Says, “Show Proof!”

Now look at the case of the Kawamoto sisters. It is clear that they were in an environment with plenty of radiation. The diseases they got can reasonably be attributed to that exposure. At the city hospital and the university hospital, the doctors asked, “Were you in the bombing?” At their doctors’ recommendation, they applied for A-bomb health books, but were rejected. “You were not in the black rain area.”

The national government keeps saying, “Prove to us there was radiation in your area.” But the Makurazaki Typhoon that came along on September 17 washed much of that radiation into the sea. How can they provide something they don’t have? They shouldn’t have to. The national government should do a serious investigation. After drawing a line to indicate the black rain area, it would seem only natural to investigate the doses of radiation and the health conditions of people living near that line.

The Kawamoto house was in a village called Shirakawa, right where wind blowing up from the Yahata River runs into wind blowing down from Gokurakuji Mountain. These winds had to have carried radiation. There were about 25 households in Shirakawa, and the number of people there who have died of thyroid problems and cancer is extremely high. At this time, only the eldest Kawamoto sister, Matsuko, is still alive. The government has drawn a line to demarcate the black rain areas, but they need to think more carefully about the way the winds blow and the influence of topography.

The Kawamoto family cared for victims who fled the city and rested in their home until they could return to their own homes. They came into the house with radiation all over them. The home of Taeko, the younger of the Kawamoto sisters, was filled with radioactive particles. She applied for recognition as a survivor based on her relief activity, but this, too, was rejected.

## All Radiation Effects Research Foundation data from within 2km

In February 2013, the Black Rain Association met with Chairman Ohkubo of the RERF. He told us, “The enormous amount of data collected by RERF is all from within 2 kilometers. We do not have data on external or internal exposure at greater distances.”

We also learned that RERF ignores the effects of residual radiation; it studies initial radiation only. The RERF index forms the basis for the ICRP (International Commission on Radiation Protection). This data determines official radiation tolerances, so this omission is a disaster.

The Black Rain Study Commission of the Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare has determined what can be ignored or what has no effect. Because those decisions are made despite the lack of data regarding residual radiation, we’re not convinced.

The national government may be covering up problems related to internal exposure or exposure at distance. Many victims have died because of the black rain, and even now, survivors are suffering from aftereffects. And the same thing is happening to those exposed by the Fukushima nuclear disaster. I can’t stand thinking about this.

Our group of 66 plaintiffs are fighting the government in court to prove that we are *hibakusha*. We are demanding expansion of the black rain areas. Asking for your full support and collaboration, I thank you very much.





The bombing of Nagasaki at 11:02am, August 9, 1945. By the end of that year, that one bomb had killed approximately 70,000.  
(Photo: Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum)

# *Exposed at 1.8km; and survived by luck*



Speaker :

**Shohei TSUIKI**

Hibakusha in Nagasaki, Former Junior High School Teacher

Born on March 6, 1927. When exposed to the A-bomb in Nagasaki on August 9, 1945, Mr. Shohei Tsuiki was 18 years old and a student in his second year at Nagasaki Normal School. Working as a mobilized student at an ammunitions factory, Mr. Tsuiki was exposed to the A-bomb at the school dormitory, 1.8 km from the hypocenter.

In 1970 Mr. Tsuiki founded the "Nagasaki Prefecture Hibakusha Teachers Association" and became its first chairperson. He has spoken about his A-bomb experience on more than 1,000 occasions, including over 20 times in six countries other than Japan. On August 9, 2013, Mr. Tsuiki presented a "Hibakusha Pledge" on behalf of all A-bomb survivors at the Peace Memorial Ceremony in Nagasaki.



## I Thought I Had Arrived in Hell

**I was physically exhausted and deep in slumber. An air-raid warning awakened me but cleared immediately. I stayed in bed, curled up in my futon. Despite the heat of summer, I always slept like that “to keep the bombs away.” Suddenly—I learned later it was 11:02—my dreams were interrupted. With a loud boooooom, I was lifted into the air and hurled against something hard.**

I had never heard of anything like an atomic bomb. I had no idea such a thing existed. An atomic bomb had been dropped on Hiroshima three days earlier, but the government was keeping that quiet. All we knew was that some new type of bomb had been used. I wondered briefly what that “new type of bomb” could be, but I soon forgot all about it. I kept going to the factory and coming back to the dorm as usual.

Now, I stood up and looked at myself. I was covered in blood. My first thought was, “A bomb must have hit the next room. Whew, that was lucky.” I got out, headed for the bomb shelter. But outside, I saw my neighbors. They were seriously burned. Then I noticed that I, too, had burns on my left arm and leg where they’d been outside the futon. My burns didn’t hurt, so I focused on the bleeding. It was all so strange. Why were so many people burned? And why so badly?

What I saw is what you see in photos displayed at the A-bomb museum. Their faces looked terrible. I even wondered if they were really human. Had I died and arrived in hell? I felt so sorry for them. The toppled houses began to burn. Many were trapped under the rubble, unable to escape. They burned to death in there. *This is the horror of war*, I thought.

I was 18 and in my second year at Nagasaki Normal School, but toward the end of the war, we had no time to study.

I was working in a military factory. The week of August 9, I was on night duty. That morning, I was sleeping in the school dormitory 1.8 km from the hypocenter, the distance that appears in my A-bomb Survivors Health Book.

**I survived only through several lucky breaks.**

## I was Lucky

I was in one of the two sections that didn’t collapse. I’m surprised myself by how lucky that was. Students who had been in the dorm were dragging themselves around with their skin hanging off their arms. One with an injured back couldn’t walk. He was trying to crawl away.

I may have been one of the students she saw. Actually, 1.8 kilometers was near the border between life and death. Those further out did not die, at least not immediately. Those who were one kilometer or closer were burnt black and dead. At 1.8 kilometers, people were badly burned or injured, but still alive.

I was told to head to the emergency relief station, and I did. I walked and walked. All along, the houses were flattened. Gradually, the damage grew less extensive, but even at 10 km, roof tiles had been blown off. Arriving at the relief station, I received some treatment and spent the night. There, again, I was lucky. My family had fled to the same station earlier. We found each other. They took me to our evacuation home and cared for me there. This stroke of luck, too, was crucial to my survival. I have keloid scars on my left arm and leg, but not on my face.

**Everyone said I was lucky to survive, but for the next three weeks, I was on the verge of death. I lost all my hair. I had a high fever. I couldn’t eat. I had terrible diarrhea. All around the neighborhood, people like me who had fled from closer to the hypocenter were dying.** I would hear, “That one died. The one over there died.” They said that all who got the purple spots would die. I got purple spots, so I was sure I was going to die.

Instead, I somehow survived and was able to return to Nagasaki after three months. I found the city nicely cleaned up. No bodies were lying around, but factories were still piles of twisted metal. Except for reinforced concrete buildings, the city had been reduced to a flat plain. When I saw that, I thought, “If we have a third world war, the whole planet will look like this.”



*I've come to hate everything.  
In the A-bomb plain now stands a giant  
peace statue. A grand thing,  
but what else could have been done with  
that money? I wonder.  
You can't eat a stone statue. Stone does  
nothing for hunger.  
Don't tell me I'm low-minded.  
Mine is the mind of a victim who was barely  
Hanging on for ten years after the bombing.*

(From *Talking to Self* by Sumako FUKUDA)

### Poem by Sumako Fukuda

Some time after the war, I learned about Sumako FUKUDA, who became a famous A-bomb poet. Ms. Fukuda had graduated from a local women's college and was working in the office of Nagasaki Normal School. That was my school, so I want to share what she wrote.

The office was in a ferroconcrete building that did not collapse, but she was in the break room in the wooden building right next to it. When the bomb exploded, it threw her onto her stomach. After a while, she was able to get up and go outside to see what had happened. Forty percent of our school buildings were made of wood and flattened. She saw teachers and students lying in the athletic field, some writhing in pain. Most were probably dead. She looked toward the dormitory, which was collapsed except for two sections that were still standing, though twisted out of shape.

I would like to end my talk by quoting some lines from her poem entitled "Talking to Myself." She is protesting, as a hibakusha, the Peace Statue, which is now a symbol of Nagasaki.





# Hapcheon, Korea's Hiroshima: Postwar Trajectories of Korean Hibakusha

Speaker :

**SIM Jintae**, Korean hibakusha

President of the Hapcheon Chapter,  
Korean A-bomb Sufferers Association

Mr. SIM Jintae is of the first generation hibakusha. In conjunction with the Concerned Association of Second Generation Korean Atomic Bomb Survivors, Mr. Sim is to establish a place of peace called the Peace Museum (House of Peace in Hapcheon) and engage with civil society groups (Joint Meeting for Special Recommendation for the Korean Hibakushas and Sons and Daughters) in the movement for creating a special law. In May 2015, Mr. Sim served as a Korean in the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Conference in New York to spread awareness about the issues faced by Korean hibakushas and lobby for the nuclear weapons abolition and human rights movements as well.

Interpreter :

**Kang Jesuk**

Co-director, The Solidarity Association to Promote a Special Law for the Korean Nuclear Victims and their Children

I am Sim Jintae from Hapcheon, known as Korea's Hiroshima because we have more hibakusha than anywhere else in Korea. I was born in Hiroshima in 1943 and experienced the bombing there.

When the US dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9, 1945, Koreans made up an estimated 100,000 of the total of 740,000 *hibakusha* in the two cities. My father was among the vast number of Koreans

conscripted by Imperial Japan. He was forced to work at a military facility. The Koreans who survived the bomb numbered something over 43,000. After liberation, they returned home, but due to the bomb's aftereffects compounded by poverty, social disdain, and a lack of proper treatment, they died.

**As of 2015, only 2,650 hibakusha were registered with the Korean A-bomb Sufferers Association. The Japanese government ignored Korean hibakusha and discriminated against them, even excluding us from the A-bomb Victims Relief Law. To right this wrong, we have, for decades, brought suit after suit against the Japanese government. Moreover, the suffering extends to the next generation of survivors, who have also been ineligible for assistance. Japan was a war-criminal nation. It should stop denying its history of invasion and colonial rule. It should apologize to and compensate the victims.**

The US, the country that dropped the bomb, should also offer compensation. Absolutely. All countries that possess nuclear weapons should immediately begin dismantling and ridding themselves of those weapons. As long as they cling to nuclear weapons, there can be no world peace. The best possible treasure we could leave to our descendants is a world without war, a world without nuclear weapons, a world of peace and friendship.

To all of you here, to the professors and lawyers who have supported Korean hibakusha, I express my gratitude. Thank you for listening to my testimony.

## Q&A

Sim Jintae, thank you very much. Do we have any question from the floor?

**Ms. Mika NORO:**

I am here from Hokkaido, where I serve as liaison with Chernobyl. We are working to support the children of Chernobyl. Your struggle for recognition as hibakusha has continued for 70 years. I believe you have been to the Peace Memorial Museum. Here, the official line is that there are no genetic effects, but I hear that hibakusha always count the fingers and toes of children who are born in their families. After the Chernobyl disaster, many of the Chernobyl hibakusha have been unable to have children or their children have been harmed by radiation.



Maybe from fear of discrimination, but hibakusha don't seem to talk about this problem much. The governments of Hiroshima and Nagasaki say the effects are not passed on genetically, but I think it more likely that these effects are ignored. What do you three think about the genetic effects of the atomic bomb?

**Seiji TAKATO:**

They say there are no genetic effects, so I don't want to say

anything I'm not sure of, but I speak to a lot of hibakusha who say their children or grandchildren are weak or have ulcers or cancers. I know many are very worried about genetic effects. Without a movement developing, I don't expect much progress on this issue.



**Coordinator Mitsugu MORIGUCHI:**

I've been gathering testimonies in the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Testimony Society for 45 years, since 1969. It's actually quite difficult to take a testimony. When the hibakusha gives his or her testimony, it can cause trouble for the family, the children, and the grandchildren. That's the discrimination you mentioned, right?

Does it have an effect on marriage prospects? It can, but beginning last year, the 70<sup>th</sup>, many more hibakusha are coming forward to testify. Most feel they need to do so while they still can. However, as with Fukushima, I suspect the discrimination effect is still inhibiting or affecting these testimonies.

**Coordinator Katsuaki Aoki**

In Hiroshima, the Radiation Effects Research Foundation is investigating second-generation hibakusha. At this point, they have been unable to detect a genetic effect, but they have not proven that there is no effect, so the research

continues.

More than *hibakusha* in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Koreans seem to be making an issue of second-generation effects. I wonder if we can ask you to say a bit more about the situation in Korea.



Sim Jintae:

WWII ended in 1945, and it was not long before the Korean War broke out. As a result, our government never properly investigated the problems of *hibakusha*. In 2005, the National Human Rights Commission of the Republic of Korea issued a report on the health of first- and second-generation survivors.

In Hapcheon, we have 544 first-generation and 4,400 second-generation survivors, and the report found major effects. The incidence of depression was 93 times higher among them. Of second-generation *hibakusha* who have already died, more than half died before the age of 10. About 60% of those died soon after birth. They were never shown to or diagnosed by a physician, so we don't know the causes of their deaths. Exposure due to a radiation accident is different. I think the whole world is fearful about the effects of Chernobyl and Fukushima.

In Korea, second-generation studies are somewhat advanced



compared to Japan's. I'm in a position to offer assistance, but we need more medical surveys and research. That is something the US should do. The US is the country that developed nuclear weapons, but Japan should do it as well. Japan is the country that started the war that led to those weapons. They should not be demanding that you victims provide your own proof.

Facts need to be recognized as facts, and the governments of Japan and Korea need to do a

thorough study that includes the second and third generations. We have to support the victims. We have to convey the facts to future generations. And we have to work to make sure no more war crimes take place.

Coordinator Katsuaki AOKI:

Thank you very much. With that, I will close this session.

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**Note: Regarding the exposure of people from the Korean Peninsula**

A *Chugoku Shimbun* (Hiroshima's newspaper) article has provided a detailed look at the post-war period in Korea and Hapcheon. The article is entitled *Hiroshima's Empty 75 Years*.

Sim Jintae and other *hibakusha* visited the museum and made it clear that a large number of Korean victims have not been noted in the Register of Atomic Bomb Victims (the volumes of names kept in the symbolic stone coffin in the A-bomb Cenotaph in Peace Park). They conveyed effectively the decades-long ordeal of Koreans not offered eligibility for health benefits and allowances.



# [4] Nuclear Power Plant Accidents: Chernobyl and Fukushima



The monument commemorating the contributions of the “liquidators,” civil and military personnel, who were mobilized to tackle with the consequences of the 1986 accident on the site of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant; their work ranged from emergency measures, removal of contaminated wastes, to construction of the “sarcophagus” to cover the reactor. Many of them were exposed to massive radiation, and not a small number of them died and many are still suffering from aftereffects and difficulties in life. Petr Pavlicek/IAEA/ CC-BY-SA-2.0. Photographed in 1991.

Coordinators :



Ichiro YUASA

Representative, Peace Depot

Profile: Dr Yuasa was born in 1949 in Tokyo. Ph.D. from Tohoku University. Dr Yuasa specializes in physical oceanography and marine environmental studies, and worked as a researcher at the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology Chugoku Center. Publications include: *Radioactive Contamination of the Sea, River and Lake* (2014), *Radioactive Contamination of the Sea* (2012), *To Question Peace City Hiroshima* (1995).



Hajime SHIRAISHI

video journalist, executive producer of Our PlanetTV

Profile: After working at a broadcasting station, Ms Shiraishi founded the independent webcast “OurPlanetTV” in 2001 in order to deliver reports on specific issues ordinarily not covered in mainstream TV programs. After the 3.11 disasters, she reported on the victims of the nuclear accident, and produced the documentaries “49 Critical Hours: TEPCO Television Conference” and “My Record in Iitate Village.” The latter was assembled from video footage shot by Kenichi Hasegawa, a farmer in Iitate Village who recorded the events on his video camera. Publications include *Reportage: Children of Chernobyl after 28 Years: To Learn from Ukraine* (2014).

# *The Legal Struggle for Compensation*



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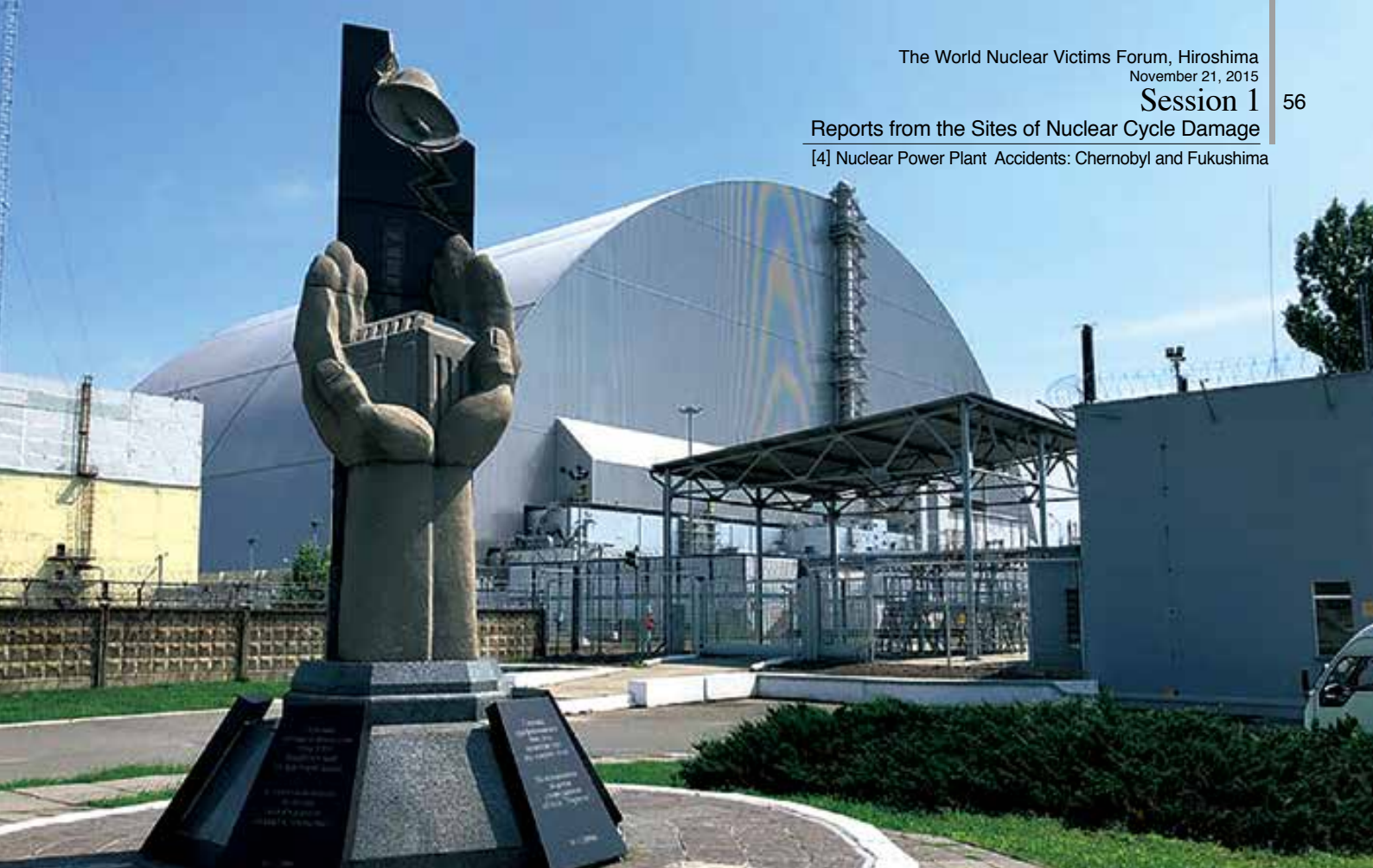


Speaker (1):

Alexander VELIKIN

Russia: Liquidator

Profile: Mr. Velikin was born in 1953, Leningrad, USSR. 2001-2013 - vice-president Union Chernobyl of Russia, now Chief of organization Union Chernobyl Leningrad region.



The “New Safe Containment” structure to prevent the leaking of radioactive materials. The work was completed in November 2016. The statue of the two big hands commemorates the “liquidators” who were mobilized to construct the first “Sarcophagus” now covered and hidden by the new structure. Clay Gilliland / CC-BY-SA-2.0.

# *Supporting Chernobyl Victims*



Speaker (2):

Anton VDOVCHENKO

Russia: Representative of Radimichi, Chernobyl  
Nuclear Accident Victim Support NGO





The workers walking by the Chernobyl Nuclear Plant No.4 covered by the "sarcophagus." (photo by Adam Jones from Kelowna, BC, Canada/ CC BY-SA 2.0; May, 2016)

### Summary: Supporting Activities for the Chernobyl Accident Victims

Almost 29 years passed since the catastrophe at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant. People living in the contaminated area still have a lot of different types of unsolved social problems in addition to health problems. Since the Government could not deal with all the problems faced by the victims, a number of non-government organizations were established after the accident. I'm presenting one of the oldest Chernobyl NGO in Russia; it's named "Radimichi – for Children of Chernobyl" and was established in 1987. "Radimichi" provides a number of social and medical services for the victims living in the contaminated area.

A summer camp for children was established in 1995, and about 600 children visit the camp every summer. A rehabilitation center for handicapped children was established in 1993, and it has about 480 visitors every year. Also there is a youth center where children can engage in different activities. Chernobyl information center and Chernobyl museum are open for meetings and discussions. These and other projects of NGO "Radimichi – for Children of Chernobyl" help to reduce negatives impact of Chernobyl disaster in the Bryansk region and other affected areas of Russia and Belarus. Our team is ready to share our experience with other organizations. "Radimichi – for Children of Chernobyl" is open for cooperation.



# *Our Town Stolen by Nuclear Power*

## **An Accusation from *Iitate* Village**



Speaker:

**Kenichi HASEGAWA**

Dairy farmer in *Iitate* Village, Fukushima

Mr. Hasegawa played key roles in launching "the *Iitate* Village Relief Petition Group: Apologize! Compensate! Return Our Hometown," demanding an alternative dispute resolution. He is also a co-representative of Fukushima Nuclear Accident Victims Network. Mr. Hasegawa has been conveying their plight actively by speaking out at various meetings and publishing his own books (in Japanese) such as *Our Hometown Destroyed by the Nuclear Power Plant – The Outcry of a Dairy Farmer from Iitate Village* (2012) and *Photo Album: Iitate Village* (2013) as well as appearing in the documentary films co-directed by N. Toyoda.

[Mr. Kenichi Hasegawa passed away because of thyroid cancer on October 22, 2021, at the age of 68.]

I am a victim of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Disaster that took place four years and eight months ago. My little village was horribly contaminated so now, all of us villagers are refugees. Before the disaster, I was living in a four-generation family of eight. Now, thanks to the disaster, our family is living in three different places.

**We have been told by the national government that our evacuation order will be lifted by March 2017. But even if we go back, what can we do in a place so deeply contaminated? We are living with tremendous uncertainty and anxiety.**

From the time of that disaster, I have been using still and video cameras to record what's been happening. From that day on, all sorts of incredible things have been happening in Fukushima Prefecture and in Japan. I have been recording these events because I feel a duty to pass them on to posterity.



A distant view of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station : March 2015 (Lucas Wirl / CC BY-NC 2.0)

## Hidden Hot Spots



First, this is Iitate, our village. The Daiichi Power Plant is right here. At the closest point, our village is about 30 kilometers from the plant. My district is in black here. I am the head of this district. My district is 45 kilometers from the plant. That's not considered close enough, so we've never gotten any benefit at all from that plant. All we've gotten from them is the radiation.

On March 14, Reactor No. 3 exploded. At the time, our village was covered in snow. This film is from Speedy, an organization that has been sending us data all along. This data has been hidden by the government. This data was sent to our prefecture, Fukushima, but the prefectural government hid it too. **Look carefully. Daiichi is here. Our village is here. The radiation plume is moving like it's aiming at Iitate Village. They didn't tell us. I'm not exaggerating when I say that we were exposed to unnecessary levels of radiation because we weren't told. I believe that.**

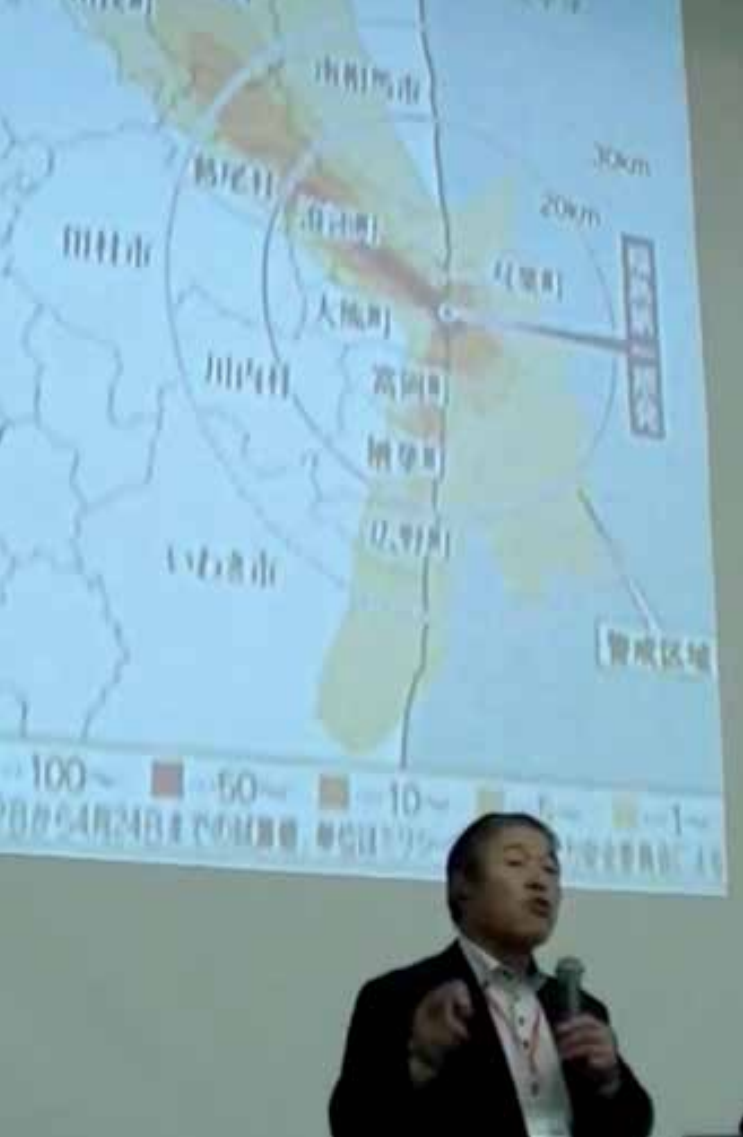
## Evacuation Delayed, Exposure Increased – The Back Story

As the radiation spread, this is what the prefecture advised: "Iitate Village residents who are really concerned about radiation, please evacuate." But just then, famous professors from universities all over Japan came to our village. We were gathered into gymnasiums and community centers and told that we were perfectly safe. "People of Iitate Village, you are not in danger. Please rest easy. Don't worry." Hearing this, very few of us evacuated. In fact, many who had evacuated came back and took up their normal lives.

But then, other professors started coming in to warn us that we were in danger. Some said, "Iitate Village is highly contaminated. You are being exposed. Evacuate immediately." Those professors went to our village mayor and said, "Iitate is too dangerous. The people can't stay here. Please evacuate!" They kept warning us, but they were ignored. "That can't be true. We've got to save our village. We can't let our village lose its value." We were determined and refused to evacuate.

This controversy was still going on when, about a month after the disaster, the national government came and said, "Iitate Village is badly contaminated, so we are implementing a planned evacuation. Please evacuate." Even then, the leadership in our village hesitated. Our hesitation got us into the nationwide news as "the town resisting evacuation."





Although municipalities nationwide had prepared a system for accepting radiation refugees, our leadership refused all offers. They said that we'd only evacuate to a place no further from Iitate than an hour by car. They also said that, as soon as the evacuation order was lifted, we'd all come home and begin the recovery. Health concerns vanished. It was all about return and recovery.

## The National Government's Response Truly Terrifying

**I'm a dairy farmer. I had 50 head of cattle. I was told to kill them, so I took them to the slaughterhouse and had them killed. More death was to come. This is a friend of mine (slide), another dairy farmer. He said, "If it weren't for nuclear power," then killed himself.**

This is the temporary housing where I am living with my wife and parents (slide). We were always told that a nuclear power accident absolutely could never happen in Japan. It was always "absolutely." When Chernobyl happened 29 years ago, we just figured that was someone else's problem. Why would we think about something that "absolutely can't happen here?" So we never studied decontamination or did anything to prepare.

But the unthinkable happened. And no one had any idea how to get rid of the contamination. We became a "model project." The Self Defense Force came in to decontaminate us, but they had no idea how to do it. They were working in the dark. That's when I understood that the national government is a horror show. That's how I feel to this day.

Let me show you what I mean. Here is a monitoring post set up by the Ministry of Education (slide). It was originally here. But the people who were decontaminating came and decontaminated quite thoroughly right around here. Then, they brought in this uncontaminated soil to replace the contaminated soil. This small area was forcibly and thoroughly decontaminated. The radiation level went down, and the monitoring post was moved to the decontaminated area. All this was forced on us. We could only watch.

**In Iitate Village, the Ministry of Education has set up 25 or 26 monitoring posts. Every one of them shows a lower level of radiation than I measure for myself. Isn't that strange?** This slide shows the monitoring post set up by the Ministry of Education indicating 2.531mSv. The dosimeter I'm using, made by Aloka Medical, shows 3.14mSv. Our measurements differ by nearly 50%.

The government just wants to make the radiation look as low as possible. That's what they're up to. However, they do have to decontaminate so they can restart the nuclear power plants—that's their main objective. The nuclear disaster is just an obstacle.

They'll do anything to make a show of decontaminating. Look at this. Here, they're climbing up on the roof to wipe each roof tile down with paper towels. This vinyl greenhouse – paper towels. They're wiping it down. And here, they're sweeping the road with brooms. Then they pack the debris into flexible bulk containers.

This is part of a rice field. Five centimeters of soil has been scraped off and replaced by five centimeters of uncontaminated soil. Then, that part of the field is surveyed and, sure enough, the radiation's low. But they turned my town into mountains of contaminated soil piled up all over the place. What do you think? Isn't this a great village now?

So this is a mountain of contaminated soil. And

these mountains were taken from residential areas only. Decontaminating agricultural land will begin in April this year. So in addition to all this, we'll get more mountains of contaminated soil from agricultural land. Here within this yellow line is the area the government is planning to decontaminate. This white area is residential. It's where the mountain of decontaminated soil you saw before was taken from. To the mountains of soil from here will be added the soil from the fields. But the natural, the real mountains all around us will never be decontaminated. So what do you think? Should we return to a place like this? We're extremely worried about doing so.

### **Apologize, Compensate, Give us back our Village!**

Here's what I most want to get across. This is the Prefectural Health Management Survey Fukushima Prefecture put out. Having surveyed outside radiation levels for four months after the disaster, Fukushima Prefecture reported the radiation as being extremely low. But look at this. The highest levels of radiation are found in Iitate Village. We are far and away the most contaminated.

I guess it was to be expected, but it wasn't until mid-July that most Iitate villagers got evacuated. We'd been living in this radiation for four whole months. "It's OK. It's perfectly safe." We were continually told not to worry.

And then I thought, "OK, in Fukushima Prefecture in those four months, how many people were exposed to more than 5mSv?" I investigated and found that in all of Fukushima Prefecture, a total of about 920 people had received 5mSv or more. Of those, 80% were in Iitate Village. Terrible! Listening to some of the speakers today, a chill ran up my spine. What's going to happen in my town? I'm more worried than ever.

The people of my home prefecture, Fukushima, and the people of my village, Iitate, are being nice and quiet and polite about it. They expect the government to help them in some way. They think Tokyo Electric Power Company will help them in some way. They believe this. I don't! And I cannot keep quiet. The government and TEPCO will crush us, for sure.

**Convinced they won't help us, I decided to present a plea to the Nuclear Power Damage Compensation Conflict Resolution Center. First, I**

**held meeting after meeting to explain the situation to the villagers. Last November 4, we went to Tokyo and, as you can see here (slide on p. 98), we demanded that they "apologize, compensate, and give us back our village."**

In our dialect "maya-eh" is a strong word for "pay me back!" We worked that word into our Iitate Village song and sang it as loudly as we could in front of the Conflict Resolution Center. We also applied formally for assistance in getting compensation. Sadly, no assistance and no compensation are coming our way as yet. But we're not giving up. We're in this for the long haul.

### **Forced Return in a Year and a Half?**

Let me help you understand the contamination in Iitate Village. These are wild mushrooms growing here. We call them *kotake*. They are delicious. In 2013, each kilogram of these was found to carry about 20,000 Becquerels of radiation. By 2014, that figure had risen to 21,000 Becquerels. Over time, the radiation is actually increasing. Why?

Warabidaira is a village 10 or 15 kilometers closer to the power plant than Iitate. In 2014, the *kotake* there were measured at 18,000 Becquerels. What do you think they measured this year? *Kotake* taken from the same spot were found to be 40,000 Becquerels. That's right. Me, too. I have no idea.

It all depends on what you measure. The radiation in some things is decreasing over time, but in some things, it's increasing. Still, what we can definitely say is, our village is contaminated. Yet, we are expected to return there in a year and a half. What can we do? How can we survive? A lot of our villagers are older than me. How are they going to live there? There will be no children or young adults to help them. Anxiety for the future only grows.

**I will end with a story about counting fingers. Since that accident, I have seen two grandchildren born into our family. At each birth, I looked immediately to see if the baby had five fingers. Ah, all five, whew! And it's not just me. More than 100,000 refugees from Fukushima Prefecture have that same worry.**

We can't ever permit another disaster like this. I came to this conference determined to make sure we don't. Thank you very much.

# [5] Nuclear Waste Use and Depleted Uranium Shells



Because DU rounds are far more penetrative than steel rounds, their destructive power is considered "revolutionary."

(photo: Bernard D. Rostker)



Coordinators:

**Maki SATO**

International Adviser, Team Beco

Profile: Mr. Maki Sato graduated from the Department of Science and Engineering at Waseda University, Tokyo. Starting his career in international cooperation in 1994, Mr. Sato has lived in Yemen, Syria and Palestine. Since 2002, Mr. Sato initiated his involvement in supporting pediatric cancer patients in Iraq, and founded in 2004 a network with NGOs and companies, named Japan-Iraq Medical Network (JIM-NET), which has been continuing to provide medical support to Iraqi children. JIM-NET conducts a unique fundraising event every year with chocolates decorated with drawings by those Iraqi children fighting with cancers. Mr. Sato served as JIM-NET's secretary-general till he embarked on new activities as an international adviser in August 2019.



Coordinators:

**Naomi TOYODA**

Photojournalist and documentary film maker

Profile: MR. Naomi Toyoda started his career by covering the Middle East and Iraq. His exhibition, *The Human Cost of Uranium Weapons*, was held around the world. Concentrating on Fukushima after 2011, he has published many photobooks and co-directed two films, *The Will: If Only There Were No Nuclear Power Plant* (2013) and *Samosely: The Will – Chapter 6* (2020), which received the 2021 Green Image Award.



# Inevitable Nuclear Wastes



Speaker:

**Hideyuki BAN**

Director, Citizens' Nuclear Information Center, Tokyo

Profile: Mr. Ban became aware of the nuclear power plant problems after the nuclear power plant accident at the Three Mile Island, U.S.A, in 1979. Since then he has sought to address the problems by participating in a citizens' movement and consulting with union members of the consumer cooperative at his workplace. Mr. Ban became a staff member at the Citizens' Nuclear Information Center in 1990 and has been a co-representative of the center since 1998. Also as a member of the government's deliberative council on nuclear power, Mr. Ban has been advocating for a comprehensive phase-out of nuclear power generation.

Whether it is for the production of nuclear weapons or for the commercial use of nuclear energy, every operation using nuclear power produces radioactive waste as its by-product. To take nuclear power plants for commercial use as an example, each step results in producing radioactive waste: from uranium mining for fuel production, to the use of these fuels at nuclear power plants, and then handling these spent fuels, and beyond in final waste disposal.

Slag is radioactive waste resulting from uranium mining, and waste contaminated by uranium is collected in the fuel manufacturing process. Primarily at power plants, nuclear fission produces as much as 100 million times the radiation generated by uranium. Some isotopes possess an extremely long radiation lifespan (more than 10 million years). At nuclear power plants, part of this radiation is released into the environment. In addition, maintenance work produces radioactive waste. Spent nuclear fuel is also radioactive waste. If spent fuel is reprocessed to utilize as plutonium, this complicates the problem further. Ultimately the entire nuclear complex becomes a mass of radioactive waste.

Thus, undertaking these procedures inevitably leads to radiation exposure among workers and local citizens.



After the Iraq War, lot of scrap metal of the tanks destroyed by DU shells were left abandoned in the Basra city. (photo provided by Kajak Vartanian)

# Depleted Uranium: Military Recycling of Radioactive Waste

Speaker

Jawad Al-ALI

Iraq: consultant physician & oncologist

& Kareem A. A. Ahmed

Director, Basra Cancer Prevention Center



Profile: Dr Jawad Al-ALI was born Basrahin 1944. Graduating from the Medical School at the University of Baghdad in 1967, Dr Ali started his career as an oncology specialist first at Basrah General Hospital, then transferred to a rural health center.

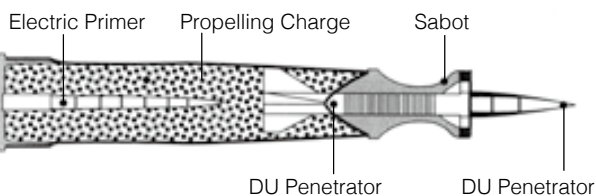
After working in Ajman, UAE, for one year in 1971, Dr Ali came back to Iraq to do many medical works including hospital manager until 1979. Furthermore, after conducting research in U.K., Dr Ali worked as a consultant physician, then as head of the medical department at Basrah Medical College, supervising students engaging in higher studies.

In 1989, Dr Ali established a small cancer clinic, which developed to a center for treatment of cancer in Basrah. In 1990 Dr Ali was nominated as a member of Iraqi cancer Board (ICB). Dr Ali retired in 2007, but returned to the Ministry of Health in 2010 as an expert physician and oncologist. Dr Ali has published many research papers on cancer and the effects of DU in cooperation with other colleagues. As an active member of Basrah Cancer Research Group (BCRG), Dr Ali also engaged very actively in ICBUW's international campaign to ban DU weapons, and has been invited to many conferences in Japan and Europe.



# Continuing Contamination and Damage

## Armor-Piercing Round with DU Penetrator



[From a AEPI technical report in 1995, Health and Environmental Consequences of Depleted Uranium Use in the U.S.]

### Abstract:

DU (depleted uranium) is the waste product of the enriched Uranium 235, which is used as fuel in the nuclear reactors. Its half-life is 4.5 billion years. In addition to its chemical toxicity, it can be harmful to livings because of the 3 types of radioactive particles, alpha, beta and gamma, it gives out after combustion.

DU is used to produce high penetration bombs against armed vehicles. It is used for the first time in the 1991 Gulf War on Iraq, then in the Second Gulf War in 2003, when they were used against military targets within residency areas as well. After these wars, high level of radiation was recorded at in the soil, waters, plants and trees.

As a result of such irresponsible use of radioactive weapons, we have noticed increased rates of malignancies, muscle disease (myopathy), and nervous system disease (neuropathy) in addition to the new strange phenomena such as familial clustering of cancers and double or triple cancer.

Risk effects will last for life and cleanup of contaminated areas is very difficult. We also face difficulties in providing medical services and social support for the diseased persons. Although the Iraqi Ministry of Health is trying tries to provide different kinds of medical equipment, we are still lagging behind the nearby countries in health services.



42 sites found to be severely contaminated by depleted uranium



In May 2009 an International Conference was held in Basra, a central city in southern Iraq; more than 400 people, including doctors, scientists and NGOs, gathered to inquire about the relationship between the increase of cancer and leukemia and the use of DU bombs in the 1991 Gulf War and 2003 Iraq War. (photo by N. Kazashi)

[Please click here to go back to the program](#)



# The World Nuclear Victims Forum

## Session 2

### The Science of “Hibaku” (Radiation Exposure)

Coordinators: **Nanao Kamada** (Professor Emeritus, Hiroshima University,  
Director of Hiroshima Hibakusha Relief Foundation)  
**Katsumi Furitsu** (Asst. Professor, Hyogo College of Medicine, ICBUW,  
Chernobyl Hibakusha Relief Kansai)

Presenters: 1) **Masao Tomonaga** (Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Hospital Director Emeritus) .....67  
2) **Anatolii Chumak** (Ukraine: Vice Director of the Institute of Clinical Radiology of  
National Research Center for Radiation Medicine) .....68  
3) **Shinji Tokonami** (Professor, Hirosaki University; Tokonami Research Lab,  
Hirosaki University Radiation Medical Research Institute) .....69  
4) **Masaharu Hoshi** (Professor Emeritus at Hiroshima University) .....70

(Commentator) 5) **Eisuke Matsui** (Director, Gifu Environmental Medicine Research Institute) .....71

#### Coordinators :



#### Nanao Kamada

Professor Emeritus, Hiroshima University, Director of Hiroshima Hibakusha Relief Foundation

Profile: Nanao Kamada, M.D., D.M.Sc.

Born 1937. Chairman of Board of Directors of Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Survivors Relief Foundation. Honorary member of Japan Radiation Research Association. Director of the Japan chapter of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW). Winner of the Chugoku Cultural Award, Takashi Nagai Peace Award, and the Japan Cancer Society Award. Publications include: *Hiroshima no obaachan* (2005) and its English translation, *One Day in Hiroshima: An Oral History* (2007).



#### Katsumi Furitsu

Asst. Professor, Hyogo College of Medicine, Chernobyl Hibakusha Relief Kansai, ICBUW

Profile: Katsumi Furitsu M.D., Ph.D.

Ms K. Furitsu received a Ph.D. in radiation biology and medical genetics from Osaka University. She is a founding member of “Chernobyl Relief Group of Kansai” based in Osaka area as well as a steering committee member of the “International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons” (ICBUW). Ms Furitsu regularly visits Fukushima to give advices to local people to protect them from radiation and also works in the clinic in Fukushima city. A recipient of the Nuclear-Free Future Award in 2012.

# The Science of "Hibaku" (Radiation Exposure)



Presentations: (1)

## Masao TOMONAGA

Professor Emeritus at Nagasaki University School of Medicine, Director Emeritus at Nagasaki Atomic Bombing Hospital

Profile: Born on June 5, 1943. At the age of 2, Dr. Tomonaga was exposed to radiation 2.7 kilometers away from the hypocenter in Nagasaki. After graduating from the School of Medicine, Dr. Tomonaga began his research on post-radiation leukemia, and spent 45 years observing leukemia among hibakushas. Based on his observation of the hibakushas in Nagasaki almost for half a century, it has become clear that A-bomb survivors are more likely to develop myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS), sometime referred to as a second leukemia, as they age. His results show the life durability of the carcinogenesis due to radiation exposure from the atomic bombing.

## "The Life-Long Health Effects of Atomic Bombs by Immediate DNA Damage"

### Abstract:

Seventy years have passed since the detonation of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Leukemia, which repeatedly occurred among hibakusha in the initial stage, provoked fear among all hibakusha and a converging pattern emerged after 20 years. However, since 1970, solid cancer in every internal organ has gradually increased among hibakusha and continues to this day. Furthermore, one hibakusha exhibiting symptoms of one or more cancers is not rare. Leukemia is a distinct type called MDS, which again increases among hibakushas who age. Young hibakushas carry symptomatic risks of cancer and leukemia for their entire lives. What is the cause? Every internal organ that forms a person's body develops from the cells. Cells contain DNA, which includes genes. Radiation inflicts injury on the genes, thus wounding them, and its connection to the symptoms has become clear. When considering such radiation impacts an important cell called the stem cell in the nucleus of organ must be considered, this explains the durability of cancers in a lifetime. The weapon the atomic bomb was not developed with this aim, but it now appears clear that genes were being targeted. From this, there is a possibility that cancer can develop among the second generation of hibakushas if a similar thing happened to a sperm and an egg. This is henceforth a problem. We doctors recognize that an atomic bomb is the ultimate in inhumane weapons by the fact that, with genes as a target, the effects of such an atomic bomb's radiation on the human body continues to generate cancer and leukemia for life.



The nuclear accident at Cherynobył was classified as the worst "level 7."  
(photo by Anatolii Chumak)



Presentations: (2)

**Anatolii CHUMAK**

Ukraine: Vice Director, the Institute of Clinical Radiology of National Research Center

Profile: Dr. Chumak was born on Feb. 10, 1946. M.D. in 1984. Professor in Immunology and Allergology (1994). Since 2012, director of the Institute of Clinical Radiology of National Research Center, Ukraine National Academy of Medical Sciences. In August-September in 1986, Dr. Chumak worked in the 30 km zone of Chornobyl Nuclear Power Plant as a representative of the Ministry of Public Health of Ukraine responsible for medical control and medical aid to clean-up workers. Scientific Interests: Immunological mechanisms of radiation injury and recovering. Persistent viral infections in the formation of immune deficiency and remote radiation effects realization.

[Abstract unavailable now]

## Health-effects : 29 Years After Chernobyl NPP (Nuclear Power Plant) Accident





Presentations: (3)

### Shinji TOKONAMI

Professor, Tokonami Research Lab, Hirosaki University Radiation Medical Research Institute

Profile: Dr S. Tokonami specializes in radiation measurements and measurement procedures. In 1995 Dr. Tokonami earned his Ph.D. in engineering from Waseda University. He has been involved with radiation research at Waseda University, the National Institute of Radiological Sciences, and Hirosaki University. In addition, he is a member of several International Organizations for Standards' committees regarding radiation measurements.

For dose assessment of evacuees under the initial exposure situation after the Fukushima nuclear accident, Dr. Tokonami and his colleagues conducted I-131 activity measurements in the thyroid of residents in Namie town and evacuees from coastal areas during the period from April 11th to 16th 2011, placing a NaI (TI) scintillation spectrometer at the neck of examinees.

## Radiological Impact on Evacuees under the Initial Exposure Situation Caused by the Fukushima Nuclear Accident

### Abstract:

A primary health concern among residents and evacuees in affected areas immediately after a nuclear accident is the internal exposure of the thyroid to radioiodine, particularly I-131, and subsequent thyroid cancer risk. We conducted I-131 activity measurements in the thyroid of residents in Namie town and evacuees from coastal areas during the period from April 11th to 16th, placing a NaI (TI) scintillation spectrometer at the neck of examinees. We found detectable I-131 activity in 39 of the 45 people evacuated from coastal areas, and in 7 of the 17 residents in Tsushima District, Namie Town. Thyroid equivalent doses by inhalation ranged from none detected (N.D.) to 33 mSv. The median thyroid equivalent dose was estimated to be 4.2 mSv and 3.5 mSv for children and adults, respectively, much smaller than the mean thyroid dose in the Chernobyl accident (490 mSv in evacuees). The subsequent study revealed a general aspect on the thyroid dose of more evacuees in Namie town using I-131/Cs-134 activity ratio. In addition, other scientific activities will be shown as well as our support activity.



The Lucky Dragon No. 5 irradiated by the hydrogen bomb test conducted by the U.S. at the Bikini Atoll. On exhibit at "The Lucky Dragon No. 5" Municipal Exhibition Hall at Yumenoshima, Tokyo. (photo: pixta)



Presentations: (4)

**Masaharu HOSHI**

Professor Emeritus at Hiroshima University

Born in 1948. Emeritus professor of Hiroshima University. From 1980, Dr. Hoshi was employed at the Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Radiation Institute of Medical Science. From his retirement through the present, Prof. Hoshi has engaged in collaborative international research to measure and evaluate the radiation doses of radiation exposed persons. He has continued his research on estimating the atomic bomb's radioactivity in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, radiation dosimetry of exposed communities in Chernobyl, and on the radiation exposures and health impacts of nuclear testing on local residents in the Semipalatinsk region. Recently he has focused his investigations on the hydrogen bomb tests of the Marshall Islands (1954) and has investigated the radiation exposure of tuna fishermen. He has determined that these fishermen were exposed to doses higher than 100mSv.

## Summary of Radiation Dosimetry of Japanese Fishermen on Tuna Ships around the Marshall Islands (Bikini) in 1954

Abstract:

From 1 March to 14 May 1954, hydrogen bomb experiments were performed in the Marshall island area including Bikini island. There were 6 times of explosions of which energy range were from 110 kt to 15 Mt. Near this area a Japanese tuna fishing boat called "Lucky Dragon no. 5 (No 5 Fukuryu maru)" was in operation, of which name is well known. However, recently we found there were about 500 tuna ships there and exposed by the radioactive fallout from these explosions. In each ship, about 20 fishermen were on board, therefore about 10,000 people were exposed. Recently we made dosimetry study using the methods of chromosome aberration and ESR tooth enamel measurements and found that exposed doses for those fishermen were more than 100mSv.



Presentations: (5)

### Eisuke MATSUI

Director, Gifu Environmental Medicine Research Institute.

Born in 1938, Dr. Eisuke Matsui specializes in radiology, study of respiratory disease and lung cancer. He was assistant professor to the class of radiology at the Gifu University School of Medicine. At present he is the Director of the Gifu Research Institute for Environmental Medicine as well as the director of the Zazendo Clinic. Dr. Matsui works for the study, research and recovery of ecological destruction of the natural environment. On July 6, 2003, he gave testimony at the International Criminal Tribunal for Afghanistan (ICTA) about the health effects caused by internal exposure to radiation. During October 16-19 of the same year, he gave a lecture at the World Uranium Weapons Conference in Hamburg. Since the catastrophe of March 11, 2011, Dr. Matsui has worked to advocate for how to avoid exposure to radiation, and to protect lives. He joined the establishment of the "Preserving Deciduous Milk Teeth Network"(PDMN) this fall. Dr. Matsui passed away in August, 2020.



Children going through screening before taking an examination of thyroid radiation exposure: March 2011 in Fukushima (photo by Naomi Toyoda)

# How to Protect Life and Human Rights from Radiation

## Abstract:

Artificial nuclear materials, produced by nuclear fission of  $^{235}\text{U}$  and  $^{239}\text{Pu}$ , affect living things in many ways and disorganize the ecological system. When  $^{235}\text{U}$  and  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  exist in high density (about 100%), the nuclear fission occurs rapidly, as combined to produce a nuclear bomb that emits dense concentrations of  $\gamma$ -rays and neutron lines. On the other hand, under rather low density (about 4%), nuclear fission occurs slowly. This reaction has been used for power generation.

The serious problem of nuclear fission is that whether the speed of fission reaction is fast or slow, it produces various artificial nuclear materials. The nuclear materials will turn into fine particles which will be absorbed into human body by breathing, eating and drinking. Then they will emit  $\alpha$ -rays,  $\beta$ -rays, and  $\gamma$ -rays to the surrounding organs from the point-blank for a long time repeatedly. This is what we call the internal exposure to radiation.

We should not forget the seriousness of internal exposure to radiation caused by the artificial nuclear materials when we think about the nuclear fission of  $^{235}\text{U}$  and  $^{239}\text{Pu}$ . They affect fetuses, newborn infants, and children much more seriously than adults. This is the reason why not only the measurement of air, soil and ecological system but also the precise measurement of internal dose of radioactivity is requested.

*[Please click here to go back to the program](#)*



# The World Nuclear Victims Forum Special Session

Coordinator and Lecture Introduction:

**Tadashi Sawada** (Assistant Secretary General, WNVF)

Keynote Lecture : **Dr. Hiroaki Koide**

Title: "All Uses of Nuclear Technology Mean Unjust Sacrifice" .....73

(Former Assistant Professor, Research Reactor Institute, Kyoto University)

**Round table with Dr Koide and International Guests** .....79

**Kumar Sundaram** (India: Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace)

**Anatolii Chumak** (Ukraine: National Research Center for Radiation Medicine)

**Keisaburo Toyonaga** (Hiroshima Hibakusha, Association of Citizens for Supporting South  
Korean Atomic Bomb Victims)



Keynote Lecuture

# All Uses of Nuclear Technology Mean Unjust Sacrifice



Speaker:

Hiroaki KOIDE

Anti-nuclear physicist

Hiroaki KOIDE is a well-known critic of nuclear power. He was an assistant professor at the Kyoto University Reactor Research Institute (now called the Kyoto University Institute for Integrated Radiation and Nuclear Science Research) till he retired in March 2015. Author of numerous books in Japanese, one of which is available in English translation as *Rethinking Nuclear Energy: Autopsy of an Illusion* (2014). For an interview in English, see "The Fukushima Nuclear Disaster Is a Serious Crime" (2016).

**The unnecessary sacrifices derived from the use of nuclear technology inevitably fall heaviest on the most vulnerable. This is happening now, is set to continue, and this is what I would like to talk about today.**

The atomic bomb that fell here in Hiroshima 70 years ago was equivalent in destructive power to 16 thousand tons of TNT. On March 10, before that bomb was dropped, Tokyo was subjected to an unprecedented air raid. More than three hundred B29 planes flew and dropped countless bombs. The total explosive tonnage was 1,800 tons. The single bomb dropped on Hiroshima carried ten times the destructive power of the entire Tokyo air raid. That was what exploded over this city.

Like other Japanese cities at the time, Hiroshima was built mostly of wooden buildings. Streetcars that ran through its streets, and it was full of people living ordinary lives. The US knew that when they dropped the bomb. In fact, prior to the bombing, they made sure to keep Hiroshima unharmed. They wanted an unmuddied experiment that clearly showed what damage the atomic bomb would do.

**We have only five photographs taken in Hiroshima on the day the bomb was dropped. Why? Because the scenes were so gruesome, even a professional photographer was unable to snap the shutter.** Crowds of horribly injured victims fled the city. Miyuki Bridge was 2.5 to 3 kilometers toward the sea from the hypocenter. The injured to the south of downtown had to cross that bridge to escape the flames. Do you see the young woman in the center of this photo? Her clothes are burned to rags, and she's carrying something black. We

**One of the only five pictures taken on August 6.**



Boy, Please wake up!

have eyewitness testimony informing us that she was a young mother. She was running around hysterically, begging for help, and screaming at her baby, "Wake up. Wake up, please!"

Three days after Hiroshima, another atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki. This bomb was even more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb. It was equivalent to 21 thousand tons of TNT. And of course, people were living in Nagasaki as well. By the end of December, those bombs in those two cities had killed more than 200,000 people.



## **Atmospheric Nuclear Testing: 10,000 times the fallout from Hiroshima**

The atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki detonated in the air. Japan has certainly been exposed to nuclear weapons. But is Japan the only such country? For many years, Japan has routinely made this claim, but is it true?

On February 28, 1954, a hydrogen bomb exploded over the Bikini Atoll. It was the American test codenamed Bravo. This enormous explosion was

**Bravo, 15MT, Bikini, 1954/2/28**





a thousand times more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb, and the fallout exposed Marshall Islanders as well as hundreds of ships, including the Lucky Dragon No. 5, one of many Japanese tuna boats fishing in the area.

Nuclear weapons exploded in the skies over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, but that was far from the end of it. Those were just the beginning of nuclear testing. The US alone conducted over 300 tests in the atmosphere. If we add its underground tests, the US has conducted over 1,000 tests on this planet. If we add tests by Russia, England and France, that figure rises to over 2,000. Hiroshima and Nagasaki were only two of 2,000.

How much nuclear fission byproduct was scattered around by the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki? Using cesium 137 for comparison is relatively easy and accurate, so let's use cesium 137 as our gauge.

**The cesium scattered by the Hiroshima bomb amounted to about 0.089 peta-Becquerels. Atmospheric testing released about 964 peta-Becquerels. That's more than 10,000 times as much cesium 137 as the Hiroshima bomb dispersed, and these fission products have spread all over the globe. Yes, Japan was exposed—along with the whole world. In areas around nuclear test sites, residents have received massive doses.**

In his address to the UN in 1953, US President Eisenhower introduced the idea of "atoms for peace." He told the world that nuclear power could be used for peaceful purposes. Ever since, the world has generally believed in the peaceful use of nuclear power. But what has the "peaceful use" of nuclear power actually meant? Uranium is extracted from mines. It's enriched and processed into fuel that then undergoes fission in nuclear power plants.

After using the uranium in their reactors, the US, Russia, England, France and China have all tried to reprocess that spent fuel to extract the plutonium. Japan has attempted to do so as well. In all cases, at the end of the cycle, we are left with nuclear waste. At every stage of the cycle, even when the power plant is operating normally, workers are exposed to radiation, the environment is contaminated, and the local community is exposed. When an accident happens, the result is catastrophe.

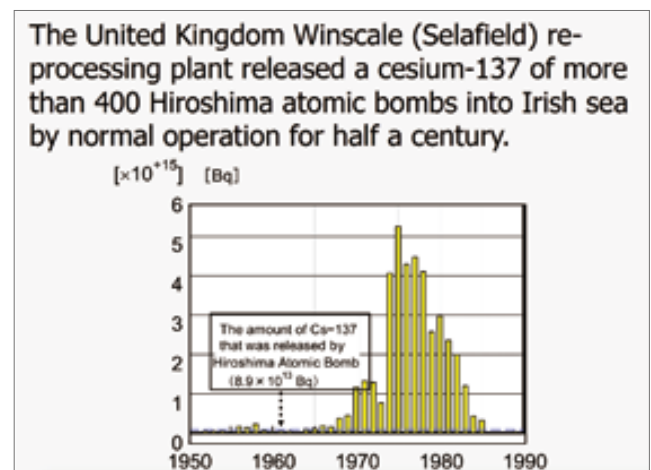
What contaminates the environment most during normal operation? The mining releases a great deal of contamination, but reprocessing plants generate enormous amounts as well.

## England's Waste Dumped in the Irish

**Windscale, England, is now known for its Sellafield Recycling Plant. Do you have any idea how much Cesium 137 this plant has released into the Irish Sea? Please take a look at this data.**

Since beginning operations in the 1950s, the Sellafield plant in Windscale has been releasing Cesium 137 directly into the sea. In time, spent fuel from commercial nuclear power plants around the world began arriving in Windscale for reprocessing. Most of that spent fuel is from Japan. All of this has led to massive amounts of cesium flowing into the Irish Sea.

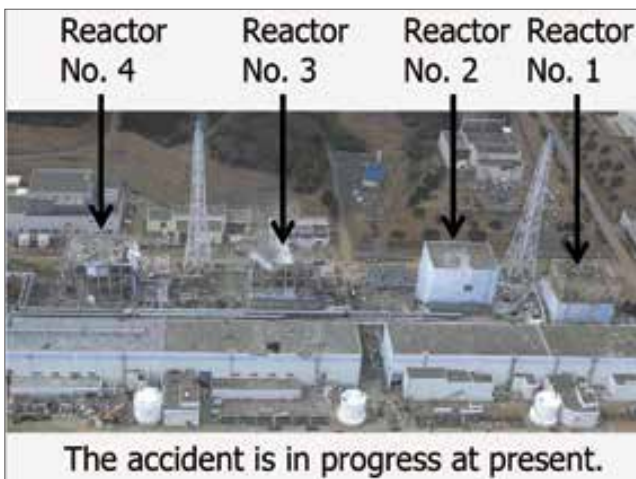
Near the bottom of this graph is a dotted line. This represents the amount of cesium 137 released by the Hiroshima bomb. Every year, dozens of times more cesium is released through what is deemed "normal operations" at this plant built for the "peaceful use" of nuclear power.



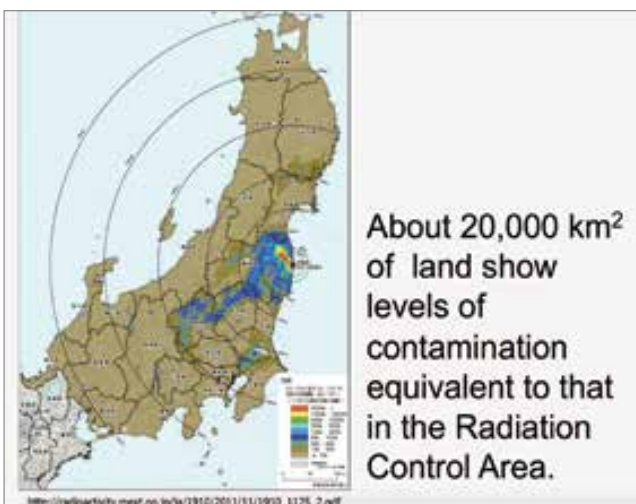
Here we have a list of the most significant contamination incidents that have occurred to date (photo on p. 165). As stated previously, **the Hiroshima bomb released 0.089 peta-Becquerels of cesium 137. Atmospheric testing released about 10,000 times that amount, contaminating the entire globe. The Chernobyl disaster, according to Russia's official estimate, released 89 peta-Becquerels. The Windscale reprocessing plant has released 41 peta-Becquerels during normal operations, and, according to the official figure reported**

by the Japanese government, the Fukushima disaster released 15 peta-Becquerels into the atmosphere.

I have serious doubts that the figure for Fukushima is accurate. Researchers in various countries have come up with figures that are two and three times higher. Moreover, this figure only represents release into the atmosphere. Even today, radiation is continually flowing into the sea.



The photo above was taken at the time of the Fukushima Daiichi Power Plant disaster. In the foreground is the turbine building. Behind that are the reactor buildings. From right to left, they are Reactor 1, Reactor 2, etc. Reactors 1 to 3 were in operation on March 11, 2011. Shaken by the earthquake, flooded by the tsunami, all three of those reactors melted down. Reactor 4 had been shut down for routine maintenance, so it was not operating. No fuel was in the reactor, and yet, for some reason, a large explosion reduced it to ruins. Reactors 1 to 3 melted down and spewed out enormous amounts of radioactive material.



Japan is located in the North Temperate Zone. This zone is characterized by prevailing westerly winds, which sometimes blow extremely hard. So, what happened to the fallout from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant? It was carried off to the east by the westerlies. Contaminating the Pacific Ocean on the way, it eventually contaminated the west coasts of the US and Canada. A nuclear accident takes place in Japan, and areas on the other side of the Pacific are contaminated. That is what “nuclear power disaster” means.

**Not “decontamination” (除染 ; josen), just “moving contamination” (移染 ; eesen)**

The disaster severely contaminated Japan. The Japanese government published a map of contaminated areas. Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant is in Fukushima Prefecture, which is in northeast Japan on the Pacific Coast. When the radioactive substances were released into the air, nearly all blew toward the Pacific, but the rest contaminated a huge part of our main island.

In some areas, contamination was severe. Over 100 thousand people had to flee their irradiated homes, never to return. Contamination is said to be low in western Gunma Prefecture, Aizu in Fukushima Prefecture, northern Miyagi Prefecture, and a part of Iwate Prefecture. But even these areas, if Japanese law were followed to the letter, would be considered contaminated. They should be radiation control areas.

Including these “low-contamination” areas, approximately 14,000 square kilometers should legally be designated radiation control areas. In other words, Japan should have declared these areas unsafe for habitation. However, Japan’s official stance is, “We can’t afford it, so go ahead and have folks live there.” Over a million people have been abandoned to live out their lives in radiation control areas.

People naturally want to keep their homes clean, so these “radiation control areas” are being decontaminated. “Decontamination” in Japanese is 除染 (josen). These characters literally mean “remove contamination.” However, the contamination in this case is radioactive material, and the radiation can’t be “removed.” The fact is, removing this contamination is impossible. All we can actually do is move it to somewhere else. I call that 移 (ee or move)

染 (sen or contamination), so 移染 (eesen) or “move contamination.”

In areas where people are actually living, we take the contaminated material, put it into bags, and pile those bags up somewhere else. At this point, Japan has over 10 million bags filled with contaminated material. These bags are left in piles. Many are torn, allowing the contamination to flow out when it rains. And we have no idea what to do about this.

### **They say radiation cannot be perceived by the five senses.**

According to Japan's report to the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency), the radioactive substances spewed into the atmosphere from the Fukushima Daiichi disaster amounted to  $1.5 \times 10^{16}$  Becquerels. My friend, the late Nobuhiro Suwano, professor at the Women's Junior College of Kanazawa Seiryō University, spent a huge amount of time and effort calculating the amount of cesium 137 that fell on Japanese land. What he found was  $2.4 \times 10^{15}$  Becquerels. If the Japanese government's official figures are accurate, only 16% of the Fukushima Daiichi fallout fell on Japanese land. That means 84% went to the Pacific and beyond.

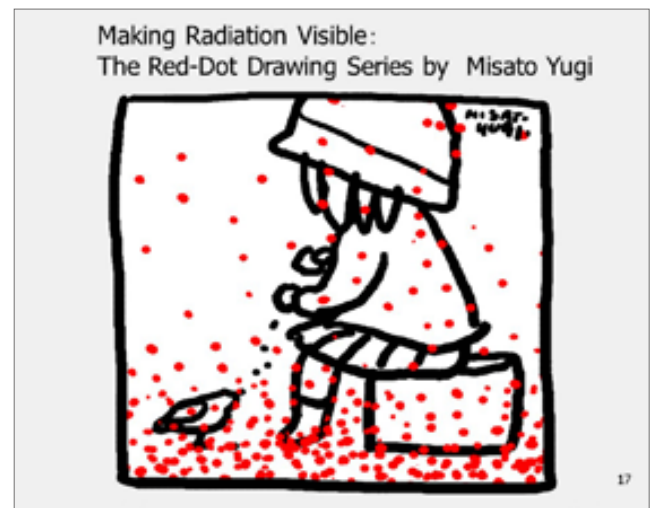
### **A mere 750 grams**

I wonder if you can get any feel at all for what it means to say the radiation was  $1.5 \times 10^{16}$  Becquerels or  $2.4 \times 10^{15}$  Becquerels. I've been studying radiation for decades, but I still have no real comprehension of figures like this. So let's take the Becquerels and convert them to weight.

By weight, the total cesium 137 released by Fukushima Daiichi was 4.7 kilograms. The cesium 137 that turned much of the Tohoku area and some of the Kanto area into radiation control areas was a mere 750 grams. That is the total weight that fell into our land environment, but that was enough to make large areas uninhabitable. We are fighting such opponents.

**They say radiation can't be perceived, but that's because any radiation strong enough to be perceived by any of our five human senses would soon kill the human doing the perceiving. Hence, radiation can't be perceived. The point here is, an unimaginably tiny volume of material has spread around a monstrous danger.**

This graph is by Misato Yuzuki. (upper right) The red particles represent radioactive substances. I go to Fukushima now and then, but unfortunately, I, too, am unable to perceive radiation. And the people of Fukushima are likewise unable to perceive it. Nevertheless, Fukushima is definitely contaminated. The Japanese government map shows areas that are clearly contaminated at or above the level that makes them radiation control areas. And yet, people, including children, are living in those areas, abandoned to continual exposure. That is happening right now. [Making Radiation Visible]



### **Japan still under the “Emergency Declaration.”**

**On March 11, 2011, when the Fukushima Daiichi disaster took place, a nuclear power emergency was declared. Japan is supposed to be a nation of laws, but it claims that, due to the ongoing emergency, it is OK not to observe the law. It declares acceptable the fact that people are living in areas that should, by law, be radiation control areas. And yet, despite continuing to use the emergency as an excuse for making light of the law, by the end of 2011, Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda declared that the accident had settled down (事故収束宣言). In 2013, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe went to Buenos Aires to invite the Olympics to Japan. There, he told the world the big lie, that the nuclear disaster was “under control.”**

The truth is, four and a half years later, the nuclear power emergency continues. Japan remains in a state of emergency. While the Japanese



government claims that the emergency makes obeying the law impossible, the Abe administration, prioritizing the economy and the Olympics, declares it “under control.” Japan has gone insane.

### Three core technologies of nuclear weapons

The world is governed, to some extent, by an organization called the United Nations. The UN was created and is controlled by dozens of countries that fought and defeated Japan in WWII. The permanent members of the UN Security Council are the US, Russia, England, France, and China. Why are those countries permanent members? Because they are the accepted nuclear-weapon states.

Uranium enrichment, controlled nuclear reaction, and reprocessing—all nuclear-armed nations have these three technologies. To prevent other countries from obtaining these technologies, they created the NPT (Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty) and the IAEA. Remaining outside the NPT are India, Pakistan, Israel and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (North Korea). All possess or might possess nuclear weapons, so they have the core technologies. Only one country has all three core technologies while claiming not to possess nuclear weapons. Japan. While talking continually about “peaceful use,” Japan has walked the path toward possession of nuclear weapons. The world clearly recognizes Japan as a latent nuclear-armed state.

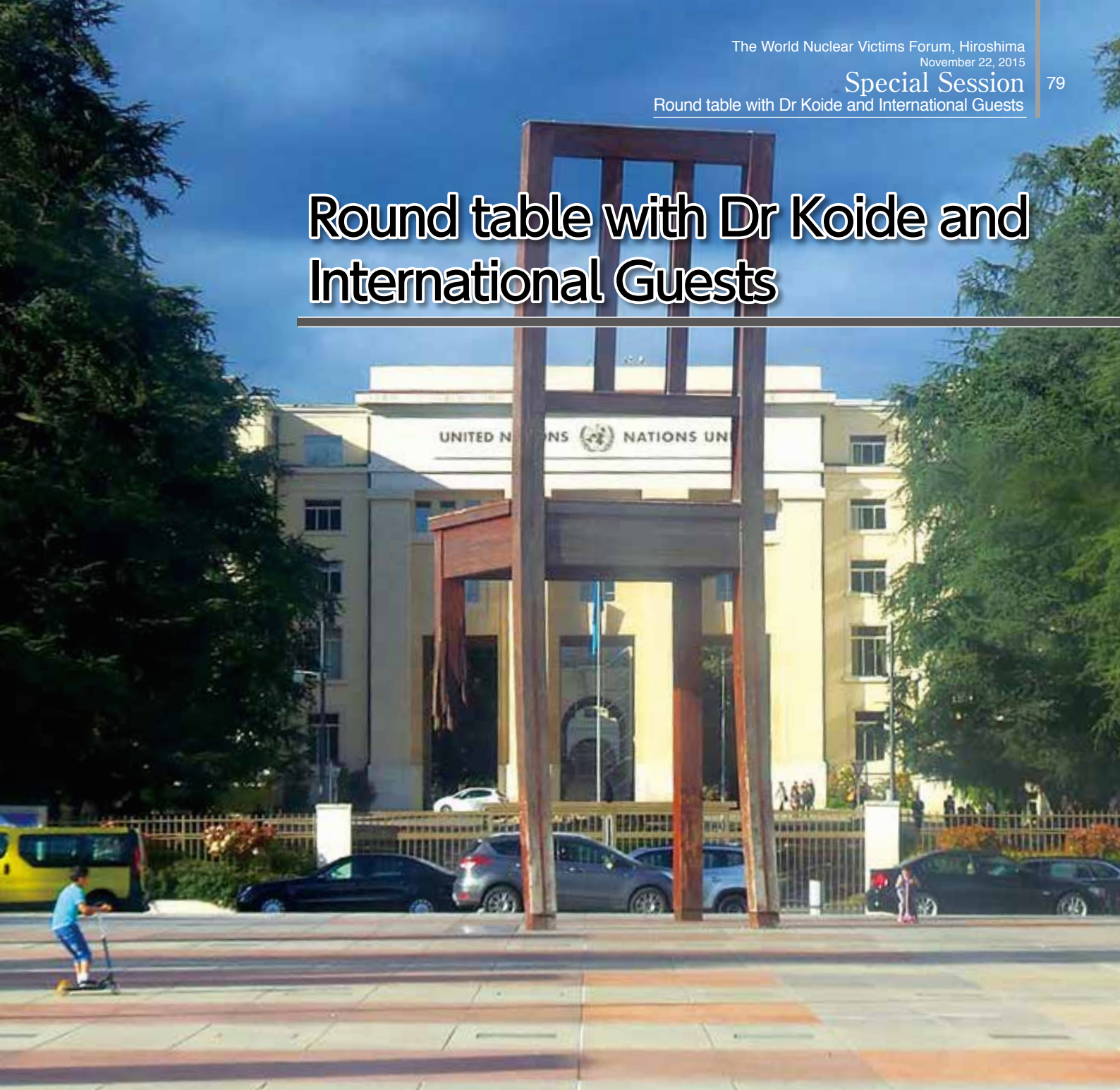
### Technology itself is neither military nor peaceful.

Most Japanese have opposed nuclear weapons and have sought their abolition. And what has their government been saying? The military use of nuclear power is bad, but peaceful use is good. With this belief, Japan has developed nuclear power, and many Japanese have cooperated in doing so. But technology itself is neither military nor nonmilitary. Technology developed for peaceful use can, whenever needed, be used militarily. This reality is inherent in technology, and the Japanese government is well aware of that potential. While telling the people that Japan’s nuclear power is for peaceful use only, the industry has been steadily proceeding toward nuclear weapons possession. The Japanese people have been deceived.

**Nuclear power should never be used at all. The military-versus-peaceful distinction is irrelevant. Nuclear power for peaceful use has caused millions to suffer, and that suffering continues to this day. Military use is obviously unacceptable, so nuclear power must be abolished. Japan should stop thinking of itself as the only nation to suffer from nuclear weapons. We have to recognize that the entire world has been irradiated, and we are all *hibakusha* (exposed). We need to join hands with friends around the world to create a campaign with the declared goal of abolishing both military and peaceful uses of nuclear power.**

Released by the cesium-137 (unit: Peta Bq)	
Hiroshima Bomb (1945/8/6)	0.089
Atmospheric nuclear testing (from 1945 to 1980)	964
Chernobyl NPP Accident (1986)	89
Normal Operation of Winscale Reprocessing plant (from 1952)	41
Fukushima NPP Accident atmosphere (2011/3/11)	15

# Round table with Dr Koide and International Guests



"Broken Chair," a monumental sculpture in wood, installed across the street from the Palace of the Nations in Geneva. It symbolizes opposition to landmines and cluster bombs. The realization of the Anti-Landmines Treaty in 1997 gave strong inspiration to the launching of the ICAN campaign. (photo by Arenamontanus: CC BY-NC 2.0)

Coordinator:

**Tadashi SAWADA**

Vice Secretary-General, The World Nuclear Victims Forum  
Secretary-General, Hiroshima Branch, Japan Congress of  
Journalist



# *Global Solidarity Needed for our Nuclear Abolition Movements*



## Discussants:

### Kumar Sundaram

India: Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace (Researcher and Campaigner)

Profile: Mr. Kumar Sundaram is a researcher and campaigner associated with the Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace (CNDP), a network of more than 200 groups and hundreds of individuals formed after India's nuclear test in 1998. Mr. Sundaram has been active in mobilizing solidarity for grassroots anti-nuclear struggles in India as well as building internationals, especially after Fukushima. He runs a website called DiaNuke.org, which is an online resource page for nuclear-related developments and discussions.

### Anatolii Chumak

Ukraine: Vice Director, the Institute of Clinical Radiology of National Research Center

Profile: Dr. Chumak was born on Feb. 10, 1946. M.D. in 1984. Professor in Immunology and Allergology (1994). Since 2012, director of the Institute of Clinical Radiology of National Research Center, Ukraine National Academy of Medical Sciences. In August-September in 1986, Dr. Chumak worked in the 30 km zone of Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant as a representative of the Ministry of Public Health of Ukraine responsible for medical control and medical aid to clean-up workers. Scientific Interests: Immunological mechanisms of radiation injury and recovering. Persistent viral infections in the formation of immune deficiency and remote radiation effects realization.

### Keisaburo Toyonaga

Hibakusha of Hiroshima, Association of Citizens for Supporting South Korean Atomic Bomb Victims

Profile: Mr. Toyonaga was born in Yokohama City near Tokyo in 1936, and moved to Hiroshima, his parents' birthplace in 1939. On August 7 and 8, 1945, after the bombing, he went into the city of Hiroshima to look for his mother and brother, and became exposed to radiation. After graduating from Hiroshima University in 1961, Mr. Toyonaga began to work as teacher of Japanese (language and literature) at the private Hiroshima Denki High School (currently known as Hiroshima Kokusaigakuin High School). He has been supporting A-bomb victims living outside Japan, mostly in Korea. He is Chief of the Hiroshima branch of "Citizens Supporting A-bomb Victims in Korea." In 1984 he formed "Hiroshima o Kataru-kai [Group: Let's talk about Hiroshima]," to share their A-bomb experiences with the students visiting Hiroshima for school trips and other purposes. This group dissolved in 2001, but he still continues its activities with some of its former members even today.

*Please click here to go back to the program*



## The World Nuclear Victims Forum

# Session 3

### Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons and Depleted Uranium Weapons

Coordinators : Osamu Shinohara (Professor at Hiroshima Jyogakuin University)  
: Keiko Nakamura (Assoc. Professor, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons  
Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University)

Presenters: 1) Mary Dickson (Downwinders, U.S. , Director of Creative Service)  
2) Akira Kawasaki (Executive Committee Member,  
Peace Boat; ICAN Steering Committee) .....82  
3) Tilman Ruff (Co-President of IPPNW and founding Chair of ICAN )  
4) Kenichi Okubo (International Anti-Nuclear Campaign) .....86  
5) Manfred Mohr (lawyer, IALANA-Germany, ICBUW) .....88



Coordinators :

**Osamu SHINOHARA**

Professor, Hiroshima Jogakuin University

Profile: Mr. Shinohara was born in downtown Tokyo in 1953. After obtaining a masters degree from the faculty of commerce at Meiji University, Tokyo, he engaged in various jobs including a secretary at YMCA. Then, Mr. Shinohara joined the staff of Hiroshima Jogakuin University, and was Professor in the Liberal Arts Faculty (international education).

Coordinators :

**Keiko NAKAMURA**

Associate Professor, RECNA, Nagasaki University

Profile: Ms Nakamura is Associate Professor at the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University. She worked as secretary-general of "Peace Depot, a "Yokohama-based NPO, until she moving to Nagasaki to join the foundation of RECNA in 2012. She has been involved very actively in anti-nuclear issues.



# The Japanese Government Opposes the Ban Treaty Questioning the “Mediator” Excuse



## Speaker

**Akira KAWASAKI**

International Steering Group member,  
ICAN

Profile: Co-director of the Tokyo-based NGO Peace Boat. Since 2008 Akira KAWASAKI coordinates “Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World: Peace Boat Hibakusha Project” bringing many hibakusha around the world to raise public awareness of nuclear dangers. After the Fukushima nuclear disaster, he played central roles in organizing two Global Conferences for a Nuclear-Power-Free World in 2012. Having authored many books on the nuclear issues, he frequently contributes to Japanese newspapers and journals on peace and disarmament.



## Hibakusha Testimony Made the Conference

Let me show you some photos. This summer, a group of *hibakusha* and youths traveled the world together to provide eyewitness testimony. In this eighth year of the program, we visited a number of countries through collaboration with Mayors for Peace. I travel with the *hibakusha* myself for this program and always learn a lot. The burden of travel increases with their advancing age, of course, but they are absolutely and wonderfully determined to convey their knowledge to the young.

Giving testimony is never easy for the *hibakusha*. They have to relive the pain and deal with all sorts of internal conflict. In a way, many of them feel forced. That is, they find themselves speaking over their own objections. A part of this equation is their average age, which is now over 80. How long can they continue traveling for these programs? Those of us who are younger and have been touched by them are called to inherit and transmit in concrete form their feelings and experiences of the bombings.

This photo shows Canadian resident and Hiroshima survivor Setsuko Thurlow opening the Mexico conference on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. It also highlights the extent to which *hibakusha* testimony was a crucial factor in helping the international community muster the courage to ban nuclear weapons.

I was at the Mexico conference. The opening ceremony gave over an hour to *hibakusha* testimony or “survivor messages.” I saw for myself the way these messages set the tone for the whole conference. I watched as the diplomats, after listening to the *hibakusha*, made statement after courageous statement supporting the idea that “we must prohibit nuclear weapons.”

In summarizing that session, the Mexican foreign minister said, “Seventy years after the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, it is only right that we begin the process of nuclear weapon abolition.” That was February last year.

## The Japanese Government and the Hibakusha Remain Far Apart

Has the process of banning nuclear weapons begun?

Certainly, we’re approaching the starting point. As we’ve heard here today, nuclear weapons remain the only weapons of mass destruction the international community has not yet banned. But the final document from the third conference on the humanitarian impact, which was held in Vienna, is entitled *Humanitarian Pledge*. This pledge fills a gap in international law. It stigmatizes nuclear weapons with the intent of banning and eliminating them. So far, 121 countries have supported it, but Japan has yet to support or accede to the Humanitarian Pledge.

When the first joint statement on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons was issued in 2012, NGO representatives visited the Japanese government to ask their intent. Their answer was, “Nuclear weapons are certainly inhumane. They contravene humanitarianism, but we cannot say they violate humanitarian law.” In other words, nuclear weapons are inhumane but do not violate humanitarian law.

The reasoning here derives from Japan’s reliance on US nuclear deterrence. The logic is, if the US uses nuclear weapons, the use of nuclear weapons was necessary. Even the admission that such use would have a devastating humanitarian impact does not allow us to say, “Don’t use them.” The government insists that such a message would threaten Japan’s national security. This is nothing new. This has always been Japan’s post-war nuclear policy.

However, this policy is miles away from what Hiroshima and Nagasaki survivors feel, and the people of Japan as well. So much so that Foreign Minister Kishida, a Hiroshima native, decided in 2013 to express support for the series of statements on humanitarian impact. When he finally signed, he asserted that the statement had been amended. How was it amended? His own stance was amended to explain that the humanitarian impact approach to abolishing nuclear weapons was one of many acceptable approaches. The Japanese government’s interpretation was, “We signed the statement to recognize the inhumanity of nuclear weapons, but that does not mean we support a ban treaty.” This stance remains consistent to this day.

The Japanese government does not support the Humanitarian Pledge that emerged from the conference last year in Vienna. Why? Kishida has said that supporting the Pledge would lead directly to supporting the ban treaty, which Japan cannot do.





This photo was taken in October this year at the First Committee Meeting of the UN General Assembly in New York, where critical resolutions were adopted. According to one diplomat, there has never been such a “wild” First Committee Meeting. Many resolutions were proposed, but the resolution regarding the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, which was conceived in line with the series of statements Kishida signed, was set forth this year for the first time. It received 136 votes for, 18 against, with 21 abstentions.

Japan voted in favor. The nuclear weapon states voted against or abstained. Indicated here in green are the nuclear umbrella states like Japan. Some voted against, others abstained. However, Japan did support the general idea that the use of nuclear weapons would lead to a humanitarian catastrophe.

On the other hand, when the Humanitarian Pledge was submitted as a resolution, it received support from 121 countries. When Austria submitted its resolution alone, the response was a bit slow, but when the UN working group first set it forth, the result was 128 in favor, 29 against, with 18 abstentions. Japan abstained; the nuclear weapon states voted against or abstained.

The NATO countries, the European countries under the US nuclear umbrella, were mostly opposed. Norway abstained. The key point here is that Japan neither opposed nor supported the idea of working to prohibit nuclear weapons. Why? Among the various resolutions submitted this year, a new one approached the matter on ethical grounds. South Africa submitted a resolution saying, “Nuclear weapons must be eliminated based on ethical considerations.” The vote was 124 in favor, 35 opposed, with 15 abstaining. Here again, Japan abstained. In general, the outcome was similar to previous humanitarian impact resolutions.

Please take a moment to think about this. This resolution simply raised the ethical grounds for abolishing nuclear weapons and proposed that all nations work toward prohibiting those weapons. It did not call for an immediate start to negotiations. It did not offer any deadline by which a treaty should be set forth. It merely proposed a general direction. Yet, Japan refused to support even this ultimate goal.

## Doubts about Japan’s Mediating Role

Every year since 1994, Japan has submitted a resolution of its own. It’s called Japan’s Resolution. Japan claims that, since its resolution is supported by both nuclear weapon states and non-nuclear weapon states, it represents an effective approach. Japan speaks with pride about its “extremely effective approach.” It is certainly effective in receiving support: 170 countries regularly sign their approval. From my point of view, however, the broad support it receives derives from its lack of meaning. Still, Japan has succeeded in obtaining a certain level of support.

This year, support for Japan’s resolution began to falter. Support fell to 156 countries, with the US, England, and France, who formerly supported it, now abstaining. Not a single nuclear power supported it. This outcome upset Japan.

The nuclear weapon states had long been willing to support the resolution when it said that nuclear weapons are inhumane but cannot immediately be banned. However, given the new dynamics and the prospect of nuclear weapons actually being banned because of their humanitarian impact or on ethical grounds, the nuclear weapon states were quick to reject any mention of humanitarian impact. They refused to support anything that even hinted at a ban. As toothless as Japan’s resolution continued to be, it could not gain the support of the nuclear-weapon-states. Japan was placed in the position of choosing a side. Would they go with the nuclear weapon states? Or would they go with Austria, Mexico and others who were seriously working to ban nuclear weapons? In the end, Japan refused to choose a side and its mediating resolution was not really supported by anyone.

Under this pressure, the Japanese government consistently claims to be “bridging the gap” between the

nuclear and the non-nuclear weapon states. How true is this? We need to be quite skeptical here. Is Japan really a third party standing neutrally between the nuclear and non-nuclear states?

Japan has suffered an attack with nuclear weapons. Opinions differ on its claim to be the only one, but it is certainly the only country that has actually suffered a nuclear bombing in war. For this victim of nuclear weapons to say, “The nuclear weapon states say this, the non-nuclear states say that, and we stand between them,” is ridiculous. When even states that have never suffered a nuclear attack push for genuine progress toward a nuclear-weapon-free world, Japan must take an unequivocal stand.

## Non-nuclear States Creating a Prohibition Norm

The action to watch now is the resolution that, if submitted and approved, would establish a UN working group under the UN General Assembly next year. Japan is abstaining again, but the proposed working group would study concrete legal measures, legal norms and regulations leading to a nuclear free world. The resolution is to be set forth during the General Assembly that will take place for 15 days in Geneva. And the decision will not need to be unanimous.

In the vote on this working group, Japan abstained. The working group will discuss in concrete terms and put into writing some practical, legal measures involved in the prohibition of nuclear weapons. We can say with assurance that the mere establishment of this working group is a giant diplomatic step toward a ban treaty.

Whether Japan will engage with this effort is an extremely important issue. I won't go into the details, but as Dr. Tilman mentioned earlier, this ban treaty could take any of several forms. Among the various steps toward a nuclear-weapon-free world, the process leading to the first step (banning) and the process leading to the last step (elimination) can differ in a number of ways. However, if we are content to create a prohibition norm, the non-nuclear states can do so without the nuclear-weapon states.

In this context, the Japanese government talks about “piling up blocks.” According to their official statement, the final pile of blocks will probably require something



like a treaty banning nuclear weapons. But if this is what they really want, why resist establishing the working group? Why would they not support such discussions and insist on taking part?

The First Committee passed the resolution, and it will move to the General Assembly by the middle of next month. Just as we persuaded Japan to support the series of humanitarian impact statements they initially rejected, we need to demand that the Japanese government participate in discussions for a nuclear weapon ban treaty.

This is the last slide (upper right photo). Dr. Tilman presented earlier a report regarding the financing of corporations involved in producing nuclear weapons. That report lists eight Japanese companies. These figures are in millions of US dollars, and you can see that Mitsubishi UFJ Financial is the number one nuclear investor at \$7.58 billion. This is a private survey, so the actual figure could be much higher. In any case, we need to carefully follow the money as it relates to the Japanese government's support for nuclear weapons, which they know full well are inhumane.

Thank you very much.



The "Operation Crossroads": A pair of nuclear tests conducted by the U. S. at the Bikini Atoll in the Marshal Islands in 1946.  
(photo provided by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. CC BY-NC 2.0)



Speaker

**Kenichi OKUBO**

Lawyer, Secretary-General of JALANA

Profile: Mr. Okubo graduated from the Department of Law at Tohoku University and worked, among others, in the human rights bureau at the Ministry of Justice. Mr. Okubo served as secretary-general of the Japan Association of Lawyers against Nuclear Arms (JALANA) for 20 years till he assumed its presidency in 2020. He served as amicus curiae (legal assistant) at The International Peoples' Tribunal on the Dropping of Atomic Bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki (Hiroshima, 2006-2007). Publication (in Japanese) include: *Nuclear Age and the Article 9 of Japanese Constitution* (2019) and *Constitution Renaissance: Seeking Bread, Liberty and Peace* (1988).



# Nuclear Powers Are Not Making Efforts toward Abolishing Nuclear Weapons:

## The Marshall Islands Filed a Suit at the International Court of Justice



[Editor's note:

Mr. Kenichi Ohkubo emphasized the historic importance of the legal suit initiated at the ICJ (International Court of Justice) by the Republic of the Marshall Islands in 2014. The Marshall Islands claimed that the nuclear weapons states were breaching the obligations, stipulated by Article VI of the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), "to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament."

To our great disappointment, however, the ICJ dismissed eventually dismissed the cases, in October 2016, on the grounds that, legally speaking, "no dispute" existed between the Marshall Islands and the nuclear powers in question, specifically, the United Kingdom, India and Pakistan.

For a critical review of the ICJ's decision, see an online article, "No Luck for Marshall Islands in Nuclear Disarmament Case Against India, Pakistan, and UK: While the ICJ ruled that it didn't have jurisdiction to proceed, the case isn't a complete loss for nuclear disarmament," by Ankit Panda, *The Diplomat*, Oct. 6, 2016; <https://thediplomat.com/2016/10/no-luck-for-marshall-islands-in-nuclear-disarmament-case-against-india-pakistan-and-uk/>

The ICJ's "OVERVIEW OF THE CASE: the Obligations concerning Negotiations relating to Cessation of the Nuclear Arms Race and to Nuclear Disarmament (Marshall Islands v. United Kingdom)" can be found at the following site:

<https://www.icj-cij.org/en/case/160> ]

## Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons and Depleted Uranium Weapons



Various types of DU (depleted uranium) bombs: 120 millimeter shells as tank equipment to 30 millimeter shells to be shot from attack airplanes; it is used also for tank armor. (photo: Bernard Rostker)



Speaker

**Manfred Mohr**

International Lawyer, IALANA Germany

Manfred Mohr is a specialist in international law. Graduating from Humboldt University Berlin, he has been worked as a researcher and lecturer. He joined the German Red Cross specializing in IHL (Int. Humanitarian Law) dissemination work as well as EU social policy. Mr. Mohr is co-founder of IALANA (Int. Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms) and of ICBUW (Int. Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons), for which he serves now as a spokesperson. He is also member of the German Association of International Law and of the German Association of IHL. In 2012, he joined the project and networking on "Toxic Remnants of War" (TRW).

Dear colleagues, dear friends,

May I, first of all, introduce myself a little bit more as I am representing three different organizations – all linked by a common goal: to abolish war and its consequences, in particular what regards most crude and brutal forms.

I am founding and board member of the Int. Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms – IALANA, chairman, or speaker, of the Int. Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons (in Germany), - ICBUW – and, again, founding member of the Toxic Remnants of War Network (TRWN). With all these functions and experience as a background, I would like to present some ideas to you, in relation to overlapping issues in fighting nuclear and uranium (or DU) weapons, seen from the perspective of an international lawyer, but also a campaigner. It all centers around:

# Environmental Destruction Through War—

## The Cases of Nuclear and Uranium Weapons



### (1) Environmental Destruction in Times of War

There is an ongoing debate on the issue, for some years already. What seems to be needed now, is to arrive at some kind of clarifications, concretization and regulation. The discussion takes place within various institutions, or settings, being linked to various activities. Just to name a few: the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), the Red Cross (and the Int. Committee of the Red Cross, ICRC, in particular), the Int. Law Commission (ILC)...

When it comes to this dimension of war or conflict, there is a risk of misunderstanding occurring, just in relation to the peace movement: It is assumed, or presumed, that what we are aiming at, would be just “greening the war” – thus making it acceptable. Of course, the contrary being true: if raising the issue of environmental destruction through war, or military action, one is putting war itself in question as it will always involve damaging the environment. **Or, in other words, placing environmental constraints upon warfare would make waging wars more or less impossible.** This leads us to...

### (2) The Legal Dimension(s)

There, and especially with the experience of dealing with uranium, or DU weaponry, I would be in favor of a multifaceted approach, meaning to take recourse to various branches of law: **Int. Humanitarian Law (IHL), Human Rights Law, Environmental Law.** **Comprehensiveness would also be advisable in relation to scenarios: military activities, or situation before, during and after conflict.** This would be in line with the concept pursued by the ILC Special Rapporteur (on conflict and the environment), Marie Jacobsson (distinguishing between phases I, II and III), and would mean to cover, for instance, firing ranges as well as post-conflict constellations (“*ius post bellum*”).

In the Nuclear Weapons Advisory Opinion the International Court of Justice (ICJ) also examines various law branches to finally focus on IHL, based on the rule of *lex specialis* according to which special law is superseding more general law. I, for my part, and reflecting on the broader environmental topic, would suggest to somewhat ignore, or relativize, this rule and apply various legal fields and rules in parallel. There is another aspect formulated by the ICJ which is of great importance, and which I would call the “functional” argument. To quote the Court: “...the issue is not whether the treaties relating to the protection of the environment are or are not applicable during an armed conflict, but rather whether the obligations stemming from these treaties were intended to be obligations of total restraint during military conflict”.

Proceeding from such an argument of function, or substance, of a rule, it might be possible to override military or defense exemption clauses that can be found in some treaties like, e.g., the Miramata Convention



prohibiting the use of mercury. Finally, what also matters very much, is to deal with matters of (State) responsibility and liability being aware that clear-cut cases might be difficult to be established or executed. This brings us to...

### (3) A Humanitarian Approach

...or that of humanitarian disarmament, which has become decisive for various areas of arms, warfare and disarmament. Just in the cases of environmental destruction by the use of nuclear and uranium weapons, it means to go beyond the legal or dogmatic debate, and the search for perfect, or comprehensive solutions.

As the Vienna Pledge of December 2014 has stressed the complexity of catastrophic humanitarian consequences linked with use of atomic weapons, raising “moral and ethical questions that go beyond debates about the legality of nuclear weapons”. **Already the so-called Martens Clause, which is an inherent component of IHL, is stressing the relevance of “... the principles of international law derived from established custom, from the principles of humanity and from dictates of public conscience” (art.1 para. 2, Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions).**

As these questions and consequences have not, and can not be addressed adequately, the only solution lies with pragmatic, flexible and preventive schemes. If only looking at the devastation caused, say, by the use of uranium weapons in Iraq, it becomes obvious, that a complete cleaning-up or decontamination of soil and water is getting impossible, or simply too expensive...

With an attempt to broaden the perspective from one military toxic like DU into the context of toxic environmental destruction by the military, we have developed...

### (4) The Toxic Remnants of War (TRW) Concept

The idea and the notion have been borrowed from “explosive remnants of war”, for which some international regulation and scenery exists. With the DU background and experience in mind, it seems necessary to deal with environmental harm caused by the military use of various toxic substances (be it intentionally, or unintentionally). This, of course, broadens the topic



The photo exhibition Human Cost of Uranium Weapons by Naomi TOYODA (May 4-16, 2007; EU Headquarters, Brussels)

again as these toxic legacies are ranging from DU and Agent Orange up to the mess left at the NATO firing range in Salto di Quirra (Sardinia, Italy).

**In line with a humanitarian or “civilian” approach, the TRW concept is rooted in a kind of anthropocentric consideration - so not to just tackle with the “natural environment” but more with effects and consequences for human beings. Only recently, a TRW network has been launched, with IALANA being one of the founding members.**

As a kind of predecessor or technical and administrative nucleus, the TRW Project was started already in 2012 doing a lot of analytical and conceptual work. Linked to it I was running some legal project work and created the TRW Informal Legal Working Group for exchange and cooperation with interested (and “motivated”) colleagues.

Now, the TRW Project and Network are conceived to act as a kind of focal point, acting as a catalyst, or mediator. We will continue with monitoring and documenting and also have started with advocacy work. More can be found at [www.trwn.org](http://www.trwn.org).

In accordance with the TRW concept and a humanitarian approach it is of great importance to explore further the...

### (5) Potentials of Human Rights Law

This branch of law, or of legal arguments, seems to be quite appropriate as it is built around the affected individual human being, the victim, the victim’s perspective and position. So, in a way, we are just within the mere topic of this World Forum.

**If taking a closer look at Human Rights Law in**

**relation to toxic devastation of the environment, one may come across various rights like the one to life, to health, to food, to work and to development. There is the right to information, which forms a condition for the enjoyment of other (human) rights.**

There is even a special treaty which can be used as a reference here – the 1990 Aarhus Convention on information in environmental matters. So, people living in areas affected by DU strikes are entitled to be informed about associated risks based on the (human) right to environmental information.

To find out more about these “environmental human rights” it might be useful to turn to and to follow the work of Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council (HRC) like the one on human rights and the environmental (as such), or the right to food, to sanitation, to development. Of particular relevance here, is the activity of the Special Rapporteur “on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes”.

After a one-site visit, this Special Rapporteur, in 2012, presented a report on Marshall Islands Nuclear Legacy. When confronted by US criticism as to violating his competences, the Special Rapporteur reacted by referring to the need “...to cover the gaps in the treatment of hazardous substances left by the Basel [Convention on transboundary movements of hazardous wastes] and the Hague [Convention on the laws of war]...”

As argued earlier – and is widely acknowledged nowadays – Human Rights Law – remains applicable during and in relation to armed conflict (and in parallel to IHL). This holds especially true in conjunction with pre- and post-conflict situations. Thus, and on the basis of substantive human rights rules, a variety of procedural possibilities is opened up, as this branch of law contains multiple implementation schemes. They are encompassing reporting procedures (producing the so-called “general comments” by supervisory bodies on the interpretation of treaty norms) as well as States, individual and collective complaints procedures. I can imagine that individuals being victims of environmental damage by conflict simply turn to HRC Special Rapporteurs using electronic, or internet venues at hand....



May I now turn to an issue, which, of course, just for lawyers (or advocates) is of particular interest. It is the question of...

## **(6) Going to court (?)**

For some years already, inside and outside IALANA a debate took place whether, and how, one could go back to the ICJ – after the milestone Advisory Opinion on Nuclear Weapons in 1996. Especially, the discussion arose about the issue of arriving at a contentious case. Frankly, I for myself remained somewhat skeptical as the overall political situation may now be less favorable compared to the mid 90ies, and there is always the risk of undermining of what has already been achieved on the issue of illegality of nuclear weapons (despite the “escape clause” contained in the Advisory Opinion). Now, there is an answer to this question in terms of the Nuclear Zero Cases triggered off by the Marshall Islands, which form part of the presentations and discussions at this Forum.

**The question of whether or not going to court – the issue on the effectiveness of legal proceedings – also developed in connection with Agent Orange. The results so far are quite disappointing: nothing for (millions of) Vietnamese victims, and some (extra-judicial) compensation arrangements for U.S. veterans. Also, the famous (and involved) U.S.**

attorney Kenneth Feinberg (who has dealt with other compensation cases like on 9/11 as well) seems to be quite sceptical as to the usefulness of U.S. civil law litigation potentials (also in comparison to expenses). Instead, he stresses the role of the “political muscle”, and of compensation (super) funds or insurance solutions.

We, in Germany, as peace or anti-nuclear movement have gained some “court experience”, too, which is not at all only positive. This, in particular, relates to the jurisprudence of the Federal Constitutional Court, which sometimes is producing unfounded or negative judgments setting drawbacks for our endeavors. So, within German IALANA, there is an ongoing discussion about the usefulness of going to this or to other courts.

On the other hand, we and others have tried to do so. The Berlin-based European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR) is doing a great job in legally supporting (court)cases presented by victims of IHL and human rights violations. Among others, there has been support lended in torture, drone and Guantanamo cases as well as to whistle-blower Edward Snowden.

One of the criminal law foundations used by the ECCHR, and others, both in relation to substance and procedure (e.g. the principle of universal jurisdiction) can be linked to the German International Criminal code. This positive and progressive piece of domestic legislation has started to be an efficient tool in preventing the impunity of war and genocide criminals.

When dealing with nuclear and uranium weapons from a legal or lawyer’s angle, one cannot escape from discussing

## (7) The treaty issue

It starts – with the DU experience background – with the blurring notion of to “ban”. So, the Coalition, presenting a Draft Treaty on banning DU weapons, was criticized as acting in a counter-productive manner because DU weaponry was regarded already “banned” under international law. In reality, the draft treaty was meant to reaffirm existing prohibiting, or restraining use rules (being quite important in view of ongoing causialty debates), and, moreover to provide for the

elimination of those weapons (which is impossible to achieve without a treaty).

Meanwhile, the ICBUW movement does not see many realistic opportunities to arrive at a DU ban or abolition treaty, or, only, to officially discuss and negotiate a corresponding draft. Nevertheless, the Draft Convention remains the crucial conceptual legal document.

**With this in mind, we would be in favor of flexibility and combination relating to draft instruments (including a possible Protocol on toxic remnants of war to the Convention on conventional weapons) based on existing (treaty) law.** As demonstrated, there is abundance of Human Rights and Environmental Law treaties one may refer to...

Moreover, customary international law would come into play, particularly in the area of IHL, coupled by (international) legal principles, like the one on proportionality, or the precautionary principle (being part of both IHL and Environmental Law). This, apparently, has also been the working approach of institutions like the ICJ and the ICRC.

Within the TRW Informal Legal Working Group, a TRW Draft Declaration has been fleshed out proving to such a flexible and combining rapprochement. It is modelled along the lines of the Cluster Munitions Convention and the Mine Ban Treaty containing pertinent chapters (like on preventive measures, victim assistance and cooperation).

To come to an end, allow me some brief remarks on

## (8) The Nuclear Angle

..., which constitutes the essential background and link when dealing with the topic(s) of nuclear and DU weapons. It is all around “uranium”: uranium enrichment, the production of depleted uranium, uranium mining (where the environmental catastrophe starts).

Therefore, it seems to be important that the supra-, or meta-subject of uranium is dealt with and discussed somewhere. Activities and processes have started in this regard, if only to mention the Rio-based International Uranium Film Festival (which already four times came to Berlin), or the Conference in Quebec/Canada this spring. Obviously, a global network on the issue has





## Anti-tank DU weaponry

## Nuclear Weapons Test (Bikini Atoll) 1946



started to take shape.

For Germany, it means that the nuclear phase-out (by 2020) remains incomplete without closing down the URENCO enrichment facility at Gronau. Moreover, and this is a constant and urgent demand of German IALANA, NATO “nuclear-sharing” must be stopped, which means, among other things, the deployment of U.S. nuclear bombs on German soil (at Buechel airfield), in violation of the NPT and the Two-Plus-Four treaty.

Finally, on...

### (9) Campaigning and outlook

My presentation has tried to reflect on linked concepts, approaches and experience in the fight against nuclear and uranium weapons. Though concrete accesses and activities are – and remain – different, some (international) coordination and exchange might be useful, and possible – through (as pointed out) using environmental, or TRW schemes.

**Existing and emerging networks should be strengthened and brought together in pursuing these aims. This concerns IALANA, IPPNW, ICBUW, TRWN, a (possible) Uranium Network and others. It relates also to the search for new allies, especially in the human rights and environmental fields.**

More attention should be paid to the role of media and art, just with regard to these complex issues. It might be useful to (also) organize some exchange events, like the example of the Uranium Film Festival. Public and campaign actions can be focused around November, 6 – the UN Day against environmental destruction through war.

And finally, why not establishing the research and university subject-matter of “warfare ecology”. Discussion and exchange on such an idea already has started...

Thank you for your attention. Looking forward to questions and comments.

*[Please click here to go back to the program](#)*

# The World Nuclear Victims Forum

## Session 4

### Campaign against Nuclear Material Uses: From Uranium Mining, Nuclear Power, Fuel Cycle

Coordinators : **Shoji Kihara** (We Don't Want Nuclear Power Plants Hiroshima Citizens' Group)  
: **Kiyoshi Toda** (Professor, Nagasaki University Environmental Studies)

Presenters: 1) **Ruiko Muto** (Representative, Complainants for  
the Criminal Prosecution of the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster) .....95  
2) **Kumar Sundaram** (India: Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace)  
3) **Shriprakash** (India: Documentary Director, "Buddha Weeps in Jadugoda") .....99



Coordinators :

**Shoji KIHARA**

Director, We Don't Want Nuclear Power  
Plants Hiroshima Citizens' Group

Profile: Mr. Kihara was born in Hiroshima in 1949. Mr. Kihara worked at NTT (Nippon Telephone and Telegram Corporation) since 1967, and retired in 2009. In 1978, just before the UN Special Session on Disarmament, he visited the U.S. to meet with members of peace organizations. After this experience, Mr. Kihara started a Hiroshima-citizens' association against nuclear power generation and is still active as its representative today. Publications in Japanese include: *Scandal of Nuclear Power Generation* (2010); *My Hiroshima Notes* (1997); *Travel from Hiroshima to Chernobyl* (1997).

Coordinators :

**Kiyoshi TODA**

Professor, Nagasaki University Environmental  
Studies

Prod. Kiyoshi Toda specializes in environmental sociology and peace studies, and his publications include: *Enquiry concerning Environmental Justice* (in Japanese, 1994; in Korean, 1996); *Environmental Studies and Peace Studies* (in Japanese and Korean, 2003); *Environmental Justice and Peace: Rethinking American Problems* (in Japanese, 2009); *Rethinking Nuclear Power Generation* (2012).



Increasing Piles of Container Bags Resulting from the "Decontamination" Work; Iitate Village in Fukushima, March 2016 (photo: Naomi Toyoda)

# The Fukushima Nuclear Disaster Never Ends

## Never Give Up, Stay Connected, Think for Yourself



### Ruiko MUTO

Representative, Plaintiff Group for Criminal Prosecution of the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster

Born in Fukushima Prefecture. After the Chernobyl nuclear accident in 1986, Ms Ruiko Muto began activities against nuclear power. In 2003 she opened a café "Kirara" in a forest area, proposing a lifestyle in harmony with mother earth, but had to give up the café due to the TEPCO Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant disaster in 2011. In the following year she became representative of the plaintiff group pursuing the criminal responsibility of TEPCO, "Complainants for Criminal Prosecution of the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster." She is also a member of Fukushima Women Against Nukes, and a recipient of the 2013 "Yayoi" Award for Women's Human Rights Activities. Publications (in Japanese) include *To You from Fukushima* (2012; photos by T. Morizumi) and *To You from Fukushima Ten Years After*. (2021).

It has been four years and eight months since the disaster at TEPCO's (Tokyo Electric Power Company) Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant. Yet, far from ending, the disaster reshapes, alters and deepens. Unimaginable problems have emerged for each and every one of us. Problems besetting the victims remain unsolved. TEPCO's No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant doesn't even know where its melted nuclear fuel is. Unknown but vast quantities of contaminated water have flowed into the sea. Even now, more radioactive substances are emitted into air and sea daily. Every day, approximately 7,000 workers are exposed



to radiation. Employed under a system of subcontractors, workers are exploited, endangered and, in some cases, lost to fatal accidents.

The exhaust towers at reactors 1 and 2 are 120 meters tall. The steel framing that supports them is damaged here and there. **This basic exhaust tower piece that was used to vent Reactor 1 is highly radioactive. It has been measured at 25 Sieverts. Anyone in the vicinity of that part of the tower for more than 15 minutes would die. No one can even go close. TEPCO's answer is to observe the towers? The reactors? every day with binoculars.**

Radioactive material accumulated through decontamination efforts has been piled into mountains all over Fukushima Prefecture. It's left out in the open or buried in schoolyards or backyards. People are living with it. Dangerous radioactive waste like this is supposed to be stored in strong steel drums and handled with great care. In our case, the quantities are so great that it is casually collected in plastic bags. To reduce the volume of radioactive material (8000 Becquerels per kilogram or more), nuclear-industry-related companies set up temporary incinerators and make another good profit.

The incinerators are built by the Environment Ministry, but they are "temporary." The plan is to destroy them in two to five years, but they cost five to six hundred million dollars. The decontamination is being done by general contractors, in other words, the construction companies that build nuclear power plants, so they are profiting again. The decontamination is being done by companies that build nuclear power plants. They hire staff who lost their jobs due to the disaster as well as migrant workers.

Fukushima Prefecture and the national government have cleared the evacuation orders for many areas where radiation levels are still high. They have also terminated compensation and, in some cases, abolished the free rent system for victims. They have begun cutting assistance without listening to the victims' concerns. The current policy for those being prepared to return to their homes amounts to "Go back, live your lives, and deal with the radiation."

## The New Myth of Safety

**The deaths in Fukushima Prefecture due to the nuclear disaster far outnumber those who died in the tsunami.**



**Many arrived at the end of their rope, caught between love of hometown and fear of radiation.**

Enormous radiation education facilities have been built. TV celebrities have been hired to appear in manga that explain radiation to children. Children are the target audience. These manga create a new radiation safety myth, sealing off any fear of exposure or health anxieties.

Miharu, my home, is about to receive an Environment Creation Center. That is where our radiation education will take place. All fifth graders in Fukushima Prefecture will come to our center on field trips. The center will be run by Fukushima Prefecture, the Japan Atomic Energy Agency, and the National Institute for Environmental Studies. The IAEA will have an office there as well. In addition, a nonprofit corporation has organized a Volunteer Cleaning Project for Highway 6, which has just recently re-opened. To do that cleaning, they recruited junior high and high school students. That project had about 200 young children out there cleaning Highway 6, which is still quite contaminated. This project is a form of propaganda created by that center.

## Three Issues to Address

Faced with all this major damage, we need to address three broad issues. First, we need to hold the authorities accountable for the accident. Why are the victims not being properly cared for? Why are they trying to restart reactors and export the technology? The accident isn't even over!

One answer to those questions is that we have never adequately pursued accountability for the disaster. When the meltdowns occurred, I assumed they would bring an end to the nuclear industry in Japan. Witnessing



Chairman Katsumata and former Vice Presidents Muto and Takekuro.

During this fight, many concealed facts have been uncovered by journalists and lawyers. For example, the possibility of a monstrous tsunami was widely known in advance. TEPCO calculated what it would take to avoid damage from a 15.7-meter tidal wave and studied possible protective measures. In full awareness of the risks, they decided that the cost of protective measures was too high, so they did nothing. That is why the tsunami did such catastrophic damage.

The criminal trial that is about to begin will bring to light many more facts about the nuclear disaster. This critically important trial has the potential to keep such mistakes from recurring; it could finally shut down the nuclear industry. The Fukushima Nuclear Power Plaintiffs' Team will create a committee to assist the prosecution. We need the Japanese and the world to pay close attention to this trial. Please help us get it the attention it deserves.

We have also brought suit against TEPCO employees directly involved in tsunami countermeasures and officials in the former Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency. The Public Prosecutors Office has, of course, refused to pursue this, but now, the Government Inquest Committee is deliberating this possibility. As Professor Toda said previously, the issue of contaminated water should be brought as charges against TEPCO officers for violating environmental pollution laws. In October of this year, this has finally been taken up and is being investigated by Fukushima District Prosecutors Office.



## Issue 2 – Obtain Assistance for the Victims

The Fukushima Nuclear Disaster Victims Federation (Hidanren) was formed in May this year. The name is something of an imitation of Hidankyo (A-bomb Sufferers Association). Under this name, 21 organizations are suing for victim compensation, demanding ADR (alternative dispute resolution), calling for administrative litigation, and bringing other suits. Transcending significant differences of position and thinking, they have taken pains to understand each other, and are now loosely connected. This is extremely important.

In July this year, despite temperatures of 39 degrees Celsius, Hidanren carried out a demonstration to demand that all orders to return to still-contaminated areas be rescinded, that victims be compensated for emotional suffering, and that recently terminated housing funds be reinstituted. We called for Fukushima Prefecture to take these demands to the national government. Fukushima Prefecture has yet to give us a satisfactory reply, but we will continue to press our demands.

In March next year, we will hold a large gathering in Tokyo. We want more people to know what is going on in Fukushima, and we want to negotiate directly with the national government. In addition to Hidanren, an Evacuees Association of people who now live all around the country is demanding the right to remain evacuees eligible for compensation. There is also a federation of plaintiffs involved in compensation suits. More and more plaintiffs are joining those suits, and they are developing effective solidarity.

### The Third Issue is Harm to Health

The greatest worry is harm to the health of children. A preliminary Prefectural Health Survey done by Fukushima Prefecture surveyed children who were 18 or younger at the time of the disaster. They studied 300,000 of the total 370,000 children affected. Of those, as of August 31 this year, 98 had been diagnosed with thyroid cancer, with 13 more suspected of having cancer.

A second survey, the so-called Main Survey, is underway now. This survey has examined 170,000 children so far and has found an additional 6 cases of thyroid cancer, with another 19 cases of suspected cancer. The new report will come out at the end of November. **The Prefectural Health Survey team has said that it is difficult to see any causal connection between thyroid cancer and the nuclear disaster. But can that be true?** Some epidemiologists are saying these numbers represent an outbreak. Professor Tsuda of Okayama University has written a paper pointing to the causal relations between these thyroid cancers and the nuclear disaster.

When it comes to the health of children, we must abide by the precautionary principle. A detailed health survey is necessary and should be accompanied by treatment and measures to reduce exposure. Moreover, if health problems emerge in the future, we need a system to guarantee appropriate treatment. However, I see no movement in that direction. The low public awareness in Japan of the rights of children is alarming.

Last month, a report designated acute leukemia as an occupational disorder among nuclear workers. We must be concerned about the health of the many workers who have been cleaning up the disaster. Harm to them can only be considered harm caused by the Fukushima nuclear disaster. And yet, the Sendai Nuclear Power Plant in Kagoshima Prefecture has restarted. The Ikata Plant is set to restart. They still have no plans to evacuate residents who need assistance. They just keep saying they have the world's best safety measures. With no earthquake proofing, no vent filters, no core catchers, and no countermeasures in place, they plan to operate right next to a volcano. Still, they are doing their best to restart.

As a result of the Fukushima disaster, a small committee in the Ministry of the Economy is quietly making decisions to limit greatly the compensation that can be received if another disaster takes place. This is not even

going through the Diet. Restarting reactors inevitably carries the risk of another Fukushima-type disaster.

When such a tragedy occurs, we should learn from it and take steps to make sure it doesn't happen again. What the government is doing will not alleviate the anger and grief of the people who have been and are being sacrificed. Its measures will not create a society in which everyone can live in safety and security. What we have lost to the Fukushima nuclear disaster is our dignity and the sanctity of life.

### Three Keys to Eliminating Nuclear Power

So how can we eliminate nuclear power? The first key is, never give up. Pursuing responsibility for the nuclear disaster is a long and hard road, but we can't give up. Those who were harmed are, in part, responsible for ensuring that it never happens again.

**Another key is, stay connected.** We have to get beyond position and ideology to understand each other and work together. The forces in favor of nuclear power will do everything they can to divide us. We must vigilantly guard against that. Let's stay together.

**The third key is "Think for yourself."** This nuclear disaster is a negative legacy we are bequeathing to our youth, our children and to all future generations. We are harming non-human life as well. For a few years of convenient electricity, we have allowed insects, fish, all sorts of other animals, and even plants to be harmed unnecessarily by radiation.

To eliminate nuclear power, we need to value all forms of life. Let's create a world in which each individual is valued. Let's create a world with no nuclear power and no war. We have to keep these goals in our minds and do whatever we can as individuals.

This is our elderly family dog (pointing to slide). At nineteen-years-old, he always reminds me to think for myself. I want to learn from people all around the world who have been harmed by radiation. I want to learn from the abolition movements wherever they are happening. I want to connect with many I have met at this forum, anyone who has been harmed by radiation. **I want to lift my voice with your voices, and the voices of all who are working for a world free from nuclear power, nuclear weapons, and war.**

**Thank you.**





## Shriprakash

India: Documentary Director, "Buddha Weeps in Jadugoda"

profile: An independent documentary filmmaker. Studying science and journalist at Ranchi University, he became interested in using video as an activist medium. To convey the struggles of the indigenous peoples in India, Shriprakash has produced several documentaries including Buddha Weeps in Jadugoda (1999), which presented the devastating effects of the uranium mining in the area and received the grand prix at the EARTH VISION: Global Environmental Film Festival in 2000. Shriprakash uses only his first name as a protest against the Indian caste system, in which family names indicates castes.

# Campaign against Nuclear Material Uses: From Uranium Mining, Nuclear Power, Fuel



## Message:

Jadugoda is a tiny village in the Eastern part of India, located in province of Jharkhand. It is famous for several uranium mines, mills and dams. There are several mines (one open cast), two mills and four tailing dams. This area is home to tribal communities namely Santhal, Ho and others.

Around 1960, exploration for uranium started in the area; local communities were completely unaware of impact of hazard of uranium radiation. Strange illness, unnatural deaths, still births, miscarriage, sterility in couples is the reality. They could not comprehend the reason. It was their own experience of the new problems which became their outcry. For last 20 years, Jharkhandi Organization Against Radiation (JOAR) and many other individuals and organizations have tried to find answer to the new situation facing the tribal communities in Jadugoda. In their quest for the reason, they knocked every possible doors- health study, street protests, going to the judiciary, seeking help of the media to carry reports—and all seems to have miserably failed.

It is sad that while, on the one hand, Indian scientists are trying to explore the solar system, the Moon and Mars as new frontiers, the Communities in Jadugoda are not able to find the reason for their misery. And neither are the scientific communities willing to help them in discovering the correct reason behind their miseries.

The film screening and photo exhibition is showing the current situation of the communities. Support from Japanese antinuclear organization and other part of the world is very crucial for the people of Jadugoda. Hope that this conference will highlight the plight of the communities and that justice may dawn in their lives.

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Mr. Shriprakash's new documentary film, entitled *NABIKI footprints Southwest*:

*A journey to reveal the legacy of uranium mining in southwest of USA., was shown at the Forum.*

# The World Nuclear Victims Forum

## Session 5

### How to Develop a Nuclear Victims' Network Hereafter

Coordinator team : **Nobuo Kazashi**, (Joint Representative, WNVF)

(See *Addenda* for profile)

**Shoji Kihara** (Director, We Don't Want Nuclear Power Plants Hiroshima Citizens' Group)

(Profile: See *Session-4*)

**Maki Sato** (Secretary General, JIM Net=Japan Iraq Medical Network,

International Adviser, Team Beco )

**Katsumi Furitsu** (ICBUW, Chernobyl Hibakusha Relief Kansai

(See *Session-2* for profile)

**Haruko Moritaki** (Secretary General, WNVF)

(See *Opening* for profile)

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Reports from each of the 9 sessions

Plenary discussion, Part 1

Plenary discussion, Part 2



"A Little More Action Please": At the Preparatory Committee for the NPT Review Conference held in Vienna in 2012.

(photo: Youth Network for Nuclear Disarmament / CC BY-NC 2.0)



## List of Supporting Organizations (As of Nov. 4, 2015; in alphabetical order)

Agenda Project (Kyoto)  
All-Japan Prefectural and Municipal Workers Union (Jichiroren)-Hiroshima Prefecture  
Ant-Hiroshima (NPO)  
Barefoot Gen Promotion Association (NPO Hadashino Gen o hiomeru-kai)  
Bouquet of Asia (Ajia-no hanataba)  
Campaign against Radiation Exposure (Osaka)  
Campaign to Abolish Nuclear & Uranium Weapons-Fukuoka  
Catholic Hiroshima Diocese & Hiroshima Catholic Council for Justice and Peace  
Chernobyl Relief Group of Kansai  
Citizens' Nuclear Information Center  
East Japan Railway Workers Union  
Fukuyama Citizen Movement Exchange Center  
Hadano "Peace City Declaration" Association  
Hibakusha Support Network  
Hiroshima Alliance for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (HANWA)  
[\* HANWA functioned as a main base for the Executive Committee of the Forum.]  
Hiroshima Association for Peace-Democracy-Reform (Kakushinkon-Hiroshima)  
Hiroshima Prefecture Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations  
Hiroshima Prefecture Federation of Democratic Medical Institutions  
Hiroshima Prefecture Labor Union Hibakusha Groups Liaison Council  
Hiroshima Medical Health CO-OP  
Hiroshima Medical Personnel-The Article 9 Association  
Hiroshima Medical Practitioners Association  
Hiroshima Network for the Resolution of the Issue of Japanese Military "Comfort Women"  
Hiroshima Prefecture Branch -Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs  
Hiroshima Prefecture Branch-Japan National Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bomb  
Hiroshima Shoko-dantai-rengokai (commercial-industrial association network)  
HPS (Hiroshima Peace Station) International Volunteers (NPO)  
ICBUW (International Campaign to Ban Uranium Weapons) -Japan  
Japan Asia Africa LatinAmerica Solidarity Committee  
Japan Asia Africa LatinAmerica Solidarity Committee-Hiroshima  
Japan Christian Women's Association-Fukuoka  
Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs  
Japanese Medical and Dental Practitioners for the Improvement of Medical Care (Hodanren)  
Japan National Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs  
JIM-NET (Japan Iraq Medical Network)  
Kawasaki Liaison Council against Discrimination of Foreigners  
Miyajima Motorboat Race Labor Union  
Nagasaki Global Citizens' Assembly for Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (Executive Committee)  
National Liaison Council for Anti-Nuclear Plants Campaign  
Network against Military Bases  
New Humanism Forum-Yokohama (NPO)  
NO DU Hiroshima Project  
NO DU-Kobe  
NO MORE DU  
NO Nukes Asia Forum-Japan  
No Nukes Association of Municipal Assembly Members & Citizens  
Peace Boat  
Peace Link/Hiroshima-Kure-Iwakuni  
Physicians against Nuclear War-Ishikawa  
Physicians against Nuclear War-Japan  
Rissho Kosei-kai/ Local Support Project  
Sayonara Nuclear Plants-Hiroshima  
Soka Gakkai, Peace Committee  
Solidarity Nagoya  
Stop! DU Campaign (Tokyo)  
Stop Kaminoseki Nuclear Plant Hiroshima  
The Anglican Episcopal Church in Japan  
The Article 9 Hiroshima  
Wakasa Solidarity Action Network

[Please click here to go back to the program](#)

# Closing Session

Moderator: **Noriko Nakajima (WNVF)**

“World Charter of Nuclear Radiation Victims’ Rights” Proposal/Adoption

**Shuichi Adachi**, (Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms, WNVF)

Special Appeal in Relation to the Fukushima Nuclear Accident Proposal/Adoption

**Tadashi Sawada**, Assistant Secretary General, WNVF)

Closing Remarks: **Masao Tomonaga** (Joint Representative, WNVF)

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\*Concurrently (International Conference Center, Himawari)

: Hibakusha Worldwide Poster Exhibit

(produced by IPPNW Germany; with Japanese translation)

: Photo Exhibit of the Damage from Uranium Mining in Jadugoda, India; by Ashish Biluree

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Moderator:

**Noriko NAKAJIMA**

HANWA

Profile: Ms Noriko Nakajima has been involved in various peace activities including HANWA (Hiroshima Alliance for Nuclear Weapons Abolition), Director of *Mirai* (Future), Hiroshima Women’s NPO Center, and a member of the Executive Committee of WNVF (the World Nuclear Victims Forum).

# Declaration of the World Nuclear Victims Forum in Hiroshima

## (Draft Elements of a Charter of World Nuclear Victims' Rights)

November 23, 2015

1. We, participants in the World Nuclear Victims Forum, gathered in Hiroshima from November 21 to 23 in 2015, 70 years after the atomic bombings by the US government.
2. We define the nuclear victims in the narrow sense of not distinguishing between victims of military and industrial nuclear use, including victims of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and of nuclear testing, as well as victims of exposure to radiation and radioactive contamination created by the entire process including uranium mining and milling, and nuclear development, use and waste. In the broad sense, we confirm that until we end the nuclear age, any person anywhere could at any time become a victim—a potential *Hibakusha*, and that nuclear weapons, nuclear power and humanity cannot coexist.
3. We recall that the radiation, heat and blast of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki sacrificed not only Japanese but also Koreans, Chinese, Taiwanese and people from other countries there as a result of Japan's colonization and invasion, and Allied prisoners of war. Those who survived "tasted the tortures of hell." We pay tribute to the fact that the *Hibakusha* question the responsibility of the Japanese government which conducted a war of aggression; call for recognition of the right to health and a decent livelihood; have achieved some legal redress and continue to call for state redress to be clearly incorporated within the Atom Bomb Victims Relief Law; struggle to guarantee the rights of those who experienced the atomic bombings yet are not recognized as *Hibakusha*; and call not only for nuclear weapons abolition but also oppose nuclear power restarts and exports, and demand adequate assistance for nuclear power plant disaster victims.
4. We noted that through the international conferences on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons held in Oslo in 2013 and in Nayarit and Vienna in 2014, the understanding is widely shared internationally that the detonation of nuclear weapons would cause catastrophic harm to the environment, human health, welfare and society; would jeopardize the survival of the human family; and adequate response is impossible. We warmly welcome the Humanitarian Pledge endorsed by 121 states, pledging to fill the legal gap for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons. We support the adoption in early November 2015 at the UN General Assembly First Committee, by an overwhelming majority of 135 in favor with only 12 opposed, of a resolution convening an open-ended working group "to substantively address concrete effective legal measures... and norms that will need to be concluded to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons."
5. We acknowledge that the mining and refining of uranium, nuclear testing, and the disposal of nuclear waste are being carried out based on ongoing colonization, discriminatory oppression, and infringement of indigenous peoples' rights, including their rights to relationships with their ancestral land. These activities impose involuntary exposure to radiation and contaminate the local environment. Thus, the local populations are continually and increasingly deprived of the basic necessities for human life with ever more of them becoming nuclear victims.
6. We also reconfirmed that every stage of the nuclear fuel chain contaminates the environment and damages the ecosystem, causing a wide array of radiation-related disorders in people and other living beings. Through the experience of the nuclear disasters at Chernobyl and Fukushima, we see that nuclear accidents inevitably expose entire populations living near the power plants and the workers assigned to cope with the accident to harmful levels of radiation, and that adequate response to such a disaster is impossible. We further see that radioactive contamination is inevitably a global phenomenon. We know that "military" and "industrial" nuclear power are intimately connected within a unified nuclear industry, and that every stage of the nuclear fuel chain, including the use of depleted uranium weapons, creates large numbers of new nuclear victims.



7. Complete prevention of disasters related to the nuclear fuel chain is impossible. No safe method exists for disposing of ever-increasing volumes of nuclear waste. Nuclear contamination is forever, making it utterly impossible to return the environment to its original state. Thus, we stress that the human family must abandon its use of nuclear energy.
8. We acknowledge that the Atomic Bomb Trial against the State of Japan (the Shimoda Case; December 1963) found that the US military violated international law in dropping the atomic bombs, and that the advisory opinion issued by the International Court of Justice stated that “there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control” (July 1996). We support the Marshall Islands, whose people have suffered the effects of intensive nuclear testing, in bringing this issue back to the Court in April 2014 through filing cases against nine nuclear armed states.  
Furthermore, we recall the World Conference of Nuclear Victims which pursued criminal liability on the part of the nuclear weapon states and the nuclear industry (New York Resolution, 1987), and that the military industrial complex was found to have the responsibility of providing damages compensation (Berlin Resolution, 1992). In addition, we confirm that the International People’s Tribunal on the Dropping of Atomic Bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki found all 15 defendants guilty, including President Truman (July 2007).
9. We emphasize that all states that promote nuclear energy, the operators that cause radioactive contamination, and the manufacturers of nuclear facilities including nuclear power plants must bear liability for damages done, as do their shareholders and creditors. We are gravely concerned that the export of nuclear power plants is extremely likely to result in severe human rights abuses and environmental damage.
10. We accuse the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) of underestimating the harm done by radiation exposure and hiding the true effects of nuclear power accidents. We demand the abolition of the IAEA’s mandate to “promote the peaceful use of nuclear power”.
11. We have identified that the military-industrial-government-academic complex and states that support it have, through the use of nuclear energy, degraded the foundations of human life, and violated the right to life of all living beings. We assert that the acts of members of this complex violate fundamental principles of international humanitarian, environmental and human rights law.
12. We condemn the Japanese government for failing to learn from the Fukushima disaster, without carrying out adequate investigations into the facts and impacts, hiding and trivializing the damage, and cutting off assistance to the victims, while investing in the restart and export of nuclear power plants. We oppose the building, operating or exporting of nuclear power plants or any industrial nuclear facility in Japan or any other country.
13. We call for the termination of uranium mining, milling, nuclear fuel production, nuclear power generation and reprocessing, and for the abolition of the entire nuclear fuel cycle.
14. We call for the urgent conclusion of a legally binding international instrument which prohibits and provides for the elimination of nuclear weapons.
15. We call for the prohibition of manufacture, possession and use of depleted uranium weapons.
16. With the momentum of this World Nuclear Victims Forum, we confirm our desire to continue to cooperate in solidarity and share information regarding nuclear victims, and disseminate our message through various methods including art and media.
17. Thus, as a result of this World Nuclear Victims Forum and in order to convey to the world the draft elements of a World Charter of the Rights of Nuclear Victims, we adopt this Hiroshima Declaration.

## Draft Elements of a World Charter of the Rights of Nuclear Victims

### [I] The Basis of Rights of Nuclear Victims

1. The natural world is the foundation of all life, and each human being is an integral member of the human family innately endowed with the right to partake in human civilization with equal rights to life, physical and emotional wellbeing, and a decent livelihood.
2. All peoples have the right to be free from fear and want, and to live in an environment of peace, health and security.
3. Each generation has the right to enjoy a sustainable society and the responsibility of effective stewardship for the benefit of the future generations of all living beings.
4. There exists the inherent dignity of the human person and the right of all peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the rights to life, health and survival as stipulated in international positive law including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenants on Human Rights, and the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as exists the principle of international customary law which helps to shape the emerging “law of humanity”.

### [II] Rights

- (1) To alleviate current and prevent future nuclear catastrophes, all persons living in the nuclear age have the right to demand the following:
  1. Not to be exposed to ionizing radiation other than that which occurs in nature or is for medical purposes,
  2. Prohibition of coerced labor involving potential exposure to ionizing radiation, and when labor involving such potential exposure cannot be avoided, for exposure to be minimized,
  3. Minimization of medical exposure to ionizing radiation, and
  4. Full, accurate information regarding the dangers of ionizing radiation exposure through school and community education; this information to include the facts that no level of radiation exposure is without risk and that children, women and girls are especially sensitive to radiation.
- (2) Additionally, nuclear victims have the right to demand the following:
  5. Nuclear victims have rights under domestic law derived from human rights and basic freedoms, including personal rights and the right to health.
  6. To receive free of charge the best possible medical care and regular examinations for effects related to past, present and future exposure; this right to extend to the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and future generations.
  7. An apology and compensation from the offending party for all damage to life, health, finance, suffering, and culture related to the use of nuclear energy.
  8. The remediation of radiation contaminated land and domicile, and the renewal of community and local culture.
  9. Thorough scientific investigation of the Victims exposure by competent scientists independent of the offending party, with all findings and information completely open to the public, and the victims themselves involved in the investigation and control of information.
  10. To not be forced to return to radiation contaminated land, and for the freedom to choose whether to evacuate from or remain in a radiation affected area. And, no matter this choice, to receive support to minimize exposure to radiation, protect health, and maintain and rebuild a way of life.
  11. To refuse to work in an environment where radioactive contamination could constitute a health threat, said refusal having no negative ramifications for the victim.

# World Nuclear Victims Forum Organizing Committee

Name	Role
Takashi Hiraoka	Advisor
Hideo Tsuchiyama	Advisor
Katsuaki Aoki	Joint Representative
Masao Tomonaga	Joint Representative
Nobuo Kazashi	Joint Representative
Haruko Moritaki	Secretary General
Tadashi Sawada	Deputy Secretary General
Noboru Tazaki	Deputy Secretary General Nanao Kamada
Nanao Kamada	Medical Expert / Communication with Nagasaki
Isao Amemiya	Finance coordinator
Shoji Kihara	Domestic guests
Tomoko Watanabe	Publicity and
Sumiko Fujii	Publicity and external relatio
Shuichi Adachi	Legal aspects, including Human Rights Charte
Yuko Shigesue	Translation, interpretation, Guest care
Katsumi Toshimoto	Recording (photo, video, sound, minutes etc)
Takekatsu Tamuro	Recording, (photo. Video, sound, minutes etc)
Takeo Nakaoku	Recording (photo, video, sound, minutes etc)
Yoshie Funahashi	Finances
Yukuko Fujiwara	Homepage and IT related
Etsuko Nakatani	Logistics (accommodation, transport, meals)
Noriko Nakashima	Venue
Akira Kawasaki	External relations
Meri Joyce	External (international)reitions
Steve Leeper	Translation, interpretation Translation
Naoko Koizumi	Translation Translation External relations
Tamayo Okamoto	Translation
Takayuki Nakamura	External relations, venue
Kuniko Watanabe	Facebook
Tetsuo Kaneko	External relations
Fumikazu Yoshida	External relations
Takashi Koezuka	
Kenji Namba	
Shoko Ishida	
Keisaburo Toyonaga	
Akira Kamei	
Atsushi Ichinose	
Yukio Yokohara	
Kazunari Mizota	
Shiro Taki	
Kunihiko Sakuma	
Takashi Sasaki	
Koji Fujimoto	
Junko Ogawa	
Toshiyuki Tanaka	
Naomi Toyota	Offering Photos
Kouhei Ueyama	Offering Recording video, Promoting presentations

## World Nuclear Victims Forum Simultaneous Interpreters

Interpreters Without Borders

Hiroshi Nakashima

Yoriko Konuma

Motome Ueda

Yukako Ninomiya

## Simultaneous Interpreters for the World Charter of the Right of Victims

Meri Joyce (peace bort)

Naomi Yamamoto (peace bort)

Irina (Russian)

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Ann-elise llewallen (US)

Yoko Chase (Hyogo)

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Sumiko Kanetsuna (Hiroshima)

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Naoko Koizumi (Hiroshima)

Takao Koga (Hyogo)

Mariko Komatsu (Hiroshima)

Yuko Shigesue (Hiroshima)

Yasuko Terao (Tokyo)

Kiichiro Nakatani (Hiroshima)

Michiko Hamai (Hiroshima)

Ikuyo Mineyuki (Hiroshima)

Masako Miyake (Hiroshima)

Yoko Morita (Hiroshima)

Kaito Sato (US, 2nd Generation Nikkei)

Hitoshi Mukai (Hiroshima)

Yoko Morita (Hiroshima)

Haruko Moritaki (Hiroshima)



November 22, 2015: 17:50-20:00

(International Conference Hall: Forum Steering Committee Room)

# Drafting Committee for the World Charter of “Nuclear Radiation Victims’ Rights”

Co-ordinators:

Shuichi ADACHI (Lawyer, Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms)

Nobuo KAZASHI (Professor, Kobe University)

Interpreter: Meri Joyce (Peace Boat)



Members:

- 1) Kenji Urata (Professor Emeritus, Waseda University)
- 2) Manfred Mohr (Lawyer, IALANA-Germany, ICBUW)
- 3) Tetsuji Imanaka (Assistant Professor, Kyoto University Research Reactor Institute)
- 4) Takeya Sasaki (Director, Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms)
- 5) Kenichi Okubo (Director, Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms)
- 6) Akira Kawasaki (Steering Committee of ICAN, Peace Boat)
- 7) Katsumi Furitsu (ICBUW, Chernobyl Hibakusha Relief Kansai)
- 8) Nobuto Hirano (Co-Director, Association for giving Support to Hibakusha abroad)
- 9) Nanao Kamada (Director of Hiroshima Hibakusha Relief Foundation)
- 10) Ruiko Muto (Representative, Complainants for the Criminal Prosecution of the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster)
- 11) ann-elise lewallen (Assistant Professor, University of California, Santa Barbara)
- 12) Tilman Ruff (Joint representative, IPPNW and ICAN)
- 13) Mary Dickson (Director of Creative Services)
- 14) Anatolii Chumak (Vice Director, Institute of Clinical Radiology, Ukraine)
- 15) Maki Sato (Secretary General, JIM Net=Japan Iraq Medical Network)
- 18) Steven Leeper (Former Director, Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation)  
& Executive Committee members for the World Nuclear Victims Forum  
(Katsuaki Aoki, Yoshie Funahashi, Shoji Kihara, Tadashi Sawada, Haruko Moritaki)

## Drafting Committee for the World Charter of "Nuclear Radiation Victims' Rights"

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Abolition (HANWA)



Meri Joyce (Interpreter)  
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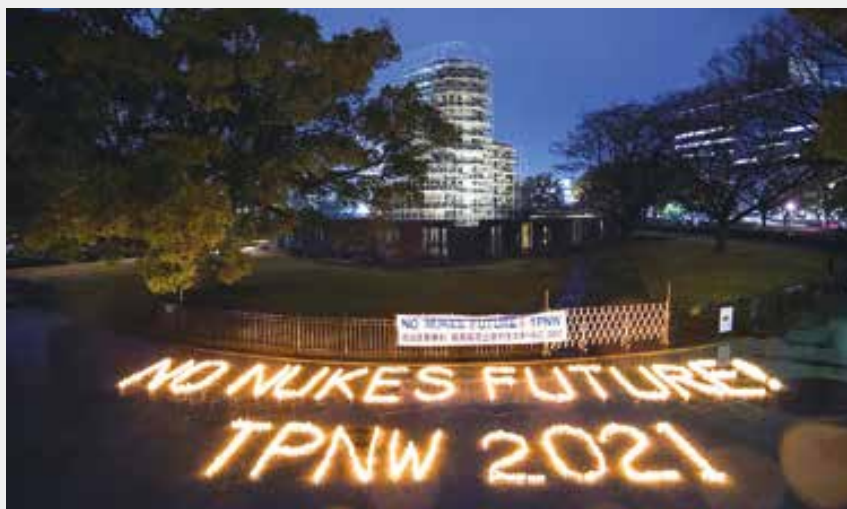
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# Toward a Nuclear-Free Future!

## August 2021, online version

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Addenda: Recent Movements & Reflections [I]

# Enact the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons Now!

## 2021 Examining the Critical Situation after the INF Treaty's Collapse

Following the Oslo (2013) and Narayit (2014) conferences, the third international conference on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons was held in Vienna in December 2014. The global tide toward a legal ban on nuclear weapons was clearly rising. Civil society and supporting governments began a collaboration that followed closely the cluster bomb process, showing a heightening determination to ban nuclear weapons under international law. Participating states issued a joint pledge to lay them to rest.

In Hiroshima, birthplace of the anti-nuclear movement, hibakusha organizations were among 27 groups that came together in 2017 to make the global call, “Ratify the nuclear ban treaty now!” We held candle message gatherings and other rallies in the shadow of the A-bomb Dome. To extend the reach of our appeals, we delivered a joint statement with inspiring photos to groups in Japan and overseas. On July 8, 2017, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted by the United Nations with 122 states voting in favor.



Haruko MORITAKI  
Secretary-General, *World Hibakusha Forum*

The treaty requires the ratification of 50 nations to enter into force. In July 2019, two years after UN adoption, we lined up 1,000 candles whose light formed the words: RATIFY BAN NUKES NOW 2019. We sent photos of the scene to UN-related organizations, NGOs, and other entities to grow international support for hastening the treaty's entry into force.

Opposing the United Nation's adoption of the TPNW, the United States, other nuclear weapon states, and countries like Japan that depend on the US nuclear umbrella moved promptly to crush the treaty. The government of Japan—the atomic bombed country—directly opposed the treaty and praised the Trump administration's Nuclear Posture Review, which kept the use of nuclear weapons as an option. Japan's approval of this stance has damaged its standing in the international community.

But the tidal wave seeking a legal ban on nuclear weapons is unstoppable. By June 8, 2020, 81 states had signed the ban treaty, and 38 of these had ratified it. We have reached this point thanks to ICAN and other organizations, but the struggle to gain the ratification of 12 more states continues. These same organizations have also played a major role in persuading nearly 100 global financial institutions to disinvest from nuclear weapons-related industries since 2017.

Meanwhile, the Trump administration's Nuclear Posture Review of February 2018 called for the development of “low-yield” nuclear weapons that could be used in smaller-scale conflicts. In February 2019, Trump announced that the US would withdraw from the

Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty; the abrogation went into effect in August of that year. This bilateral treaty, concluded in 1987, prohibited the US and the Soviet Union from producing, testing, and possessing land-based nuclear ballistic missiles and cruise missiles with a flight range of 500 to 5,500 kilometers. In abrogating it, the Trump administration inflamed the standoff between the United States and Russia and China. The US also moved to deploy land-based intermediate missiles in Asia and Europe. Then, in May 2020, the Trump administration withdrew the US from the Open Sky Treaty.

Citing the need to fortify the military alliance between the US and Japan, the Abe administration planned to bring to Japan the land-based interception system Aegis Ashore. It was to be deployed in Akita and Yamaguchi prefectures, but technical problems and fierce local opposition thwarted the scheme. Partial installation and related expenses of the Aegis Ashore system that the US is still pressuring Japan to purchase are expected to total 2 trillion yen. Japanese taxpayers have already paid a whopping 140 billion yen for Aegis Ashore. After being forced to abandon this plan, the Abe administration, through the National Security Council, is reevaluating its defense policy: studying missile defense and other systems as well as discussing the possibility of abandoning its defense-only posture to obtain a dangerous enemy-base attack capability. The Act to Establish the Nuclear Safety Commission stemming from the Atomic Energy Basic Law Revision of 2012 contains a statement to the effect that the commission “aims to contribute to the national security of Japan.” It’s hard to miss the veiled hint that nuclear weapons may be in Japan’s future.

The three would-be hegemonies—the United States, China, and Russia—are developing and manufacturing “low-yield” nuclear weapons to load onto ballistic missiles. They are developing hypersonic speed weapons, while racing to militarize space. Meanwhile, the Japanese government is joining the arms race with Operation Space Corps, which Japan’s Air Self Defense Force was forced to set up, and Japan’s Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). The perils are boundless. The abandonment of international agreements for nuclear disarmament to facilitate these developments brings into full view the lawless stance of the nations concerned.

On May 22, it was reported that the Trump administration’s top defense department officials met to discuss resuming live nuclear tests. Subcritical nuclear testing has long continued unabated, but thanks to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), it has been nearly 30 years since the last live nuclear test, which was conducted underground in 1992.

The new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START), the last nuclear arms reduction framework binding the United States and Russia, is up for renewal in February 2021. Russia, which long pushed for the treaty’s extension, is now preparing for a nuclear attack by the US. Russia’s new guidelines, which include the option of preemptive attack, strengthen the position of nuclear weapons in its basic defense strategy. Extension of the treaty is imperiled.

The New Cold War foments crises that ratchet up the risk of nuclear war. The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference scheduled for spring of 2020 was postponed due to the rampaging novel coronavirus; but well before this, the “obligation to work for nuclear arms reduction” mandated by the NPT had lost all meaning.

Disregarding the ravages inflicted by COVID-19 on the weak and concealing the truths of its harm among with those inflicted by abject poverty, radiation exposure, and sickness, politicians continue to plow our taxes into military expansion, further abandoning human need.

Nuclear weapons are inhumane and hostile to all humankind. To make their development, production, testing, transport, and threat illegal; to provide for assistance to victims of nuclear radiation and clean the environment of the damage they cause, it is urgent that we enact this international law—the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons—an indisputably humane concept and a feasible means of laying down nuclear weapons for once and for all.

Given our common understanding based on historical fact that “humans and nuclear power cannot coexist indefinitely,” we have no choice but to cooperate to stand against the mighty power of the nuclear industrial complex.



Hiroshima Prefectural Industrial Promotion Hall Reduced to Rubble (now, A-bomb Dome; photo taken by US Army)

Addenda: Recent Movements & Reflections [II]

# The Hibakusha Lawsuit: History of an Unfair Ruling (Unfair Ruling by the High Court)



Katsuaki AOKI

Co-representative, World Hibakusha (Nuclear Victims) Forum

Born in Hiroshima City in 1948. K. Aoki's mother was a hibakusha. Graduate of Yokohama City University Medical Department. Former director of Hiroshima Kyoritsu Hospital. Co-director of Hiroshima Alliance for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (HANWA). Member of Hiroshima Hibakusha Support Network and Physicians Against Nuclear War (PANW). Since moving to Tokyo in 2019, Dr Aoki is an active member of Tokyo Physicians for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

Winning a class action suit related to A-bomb disease made it easier to get malignancies recognized, but no such recognition was offered to loss of thyroid functioning, myocardial infarction, cataracts, and other disorders. As a result, a No More Hibakusha suit was filed in April 2009 by hibakusha whose claims were rejected under the new system. As of July 2021, the suits of 118 of 120 plaintiffs have ended, with wins in 77% of those cases. For the remaining two cases in high court are nearing the critical endgame.



On February 25, the High Court issued a ruling. The point of contention was whether or not the diagnosis and treatment received by the plaintiffs were clinically necessary. With respect to cataracts, the Hiroshima High Court determined that plaintiffs under observation for the development of cataracts and were, therefore, using eyedrops to prepare for surgery should surgery become necessary. Thus, they were receiving proper and necessary treatment. However, the Fukuoka High Court overturned that decision. The Nagoya High Court ruled in favor of plaintiffs not taking a hormone for chronic thyroiditis but under observation for possible treatment; the national government appealed that decision.

Two hibakusha gave their testimonies for the first time before the High Court. Mr. Takai from Nagoya said, “I suffered the acute effects of radiation after the Nagasaki bombing and have suffered all my life with maladies of undetermined cause. Please rule in a way that will help us hibakusha. To fully compensate us for our suffering, I further ask that you eliminate from this world all of those cruel nuclear weapons.”

Toshiko Naito from Hiroshima, who testified at the World Forum said, “I was exposed on my mother’s back when I was 11 months old. I lost two older sisters to the bomb. I suffered the acute effects of radiation and was always a weak child. Even as an adult, I have suffered from many disorders. I started wearing glasses in elementary school. I began seriously losing my eyesight in my late 40s. I was diagnosed with cataracts. I went to the clinic for examinations every month and got drops in my eyes. I had surgery on my right eye last year. I worry about the effects on my two children. What we experienced should never happen again anywhere on Earth.”

The decision with respect to medical necessity was, “If the treatment was provided because of a high medical probability that the disorder in question will worsen leading to a critical situation,” all three plaintiffs were ineligible. As a general trend, victories in the class action suits have expanded A-bomb disease recognition, but strictly abiding by the requirement to update evaluations every three years causes an increasing number of hibakusha to be downgraded from the “medical special allowance” to the “special allowance.” For newly recognized cancers, the period of medical necessity is 10 years for breast, thyroid,

urinary tract and certain other cancers. For all others, the period was set at five years. This ruling was ratified by the High Court, thus supporting policies that block protections for hibakusha.

The plaintiffs protested saying, “This decision runs directly counter to the positive judicial stance taken previously regarding hibakusha assistance.”

Ms. Naito, one of the plaintiffs, expressed her determination saying, “I want the national government to come over to our side. This decision has broken my heart, but with your support, we will keep trying.”

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#### Note added in August 2021:

Regarding the “black rain” hibakusha lawsuit, on July 29, 2020 the Hiroshima District Court ruled in favor of all 84 plaintiffs. The accused, that is, the national government, appealed, but on July 14 2021 the Hiroshima Supreme Court affirmed the district court ruling. Those who were in black rain areas should be considered hibakusha. Like “rescue-hibakusha,” who were exposed to radiation when they entered Hiroshima for rescue activities, they have heightened health risk due to radioactive fallout. According to Hiroshima Prefecture, this ruling could apply to about 130 thousand people. It is noteworthy that the decision referred to the risk of “internal radiation” from contaminated food or water.

The government’s response to this historic decision drew a great deal of attention, and on July 26, 2021, Prime Minister Suga stated that the government would not appeal the decision. Thus, all 84 plaintiffs were finally recognized as hibakusha and entitled to medial fee exemptions. This historic victory was a major step in hibakusha litigation.

However, it should be noted that the Prime Minister’s statement, issued the day after the ruling was announced, made it clear that “the idea that health effects due to internal radiation from ‘black rain’ or ingestion of food or drink should be recognized regardless of scientific estimates of radiation dose conflicts with the principles underlying the existing hibakusha support system. Thus, the government finds it unacceptable.”



Yuji Ohnuma stands next to the spot where a billboard used to proclaim, "Nuclear power — energy for a bright future." He created this slogan when he was in primary school. (In Futaba-machi on March 11, 2020)]

Addenda: Recent Movements & Reflections [III]

# What Will Children 300 Years from Now Think?

## “Recovery” — Nine Years after the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster



Naomi TOYODA

Photojournalist and documentary film maker

[N. Toyoda started his career by covering the Middle East and Iraq. His exhibition, *The Human Cost of Uranium Weapons*, was held around the world. Concentrating on Fukushima after 2011, he has published many photobooks and co-directed two films, *The Will: If Only There Were No Nuclear Power Plant* (2013) and *Samosely: The Will – Chapter 6* (2020), which received the 2021 Green Image Award.]

Thinking of the word “half-life,” on March 11, nine years after the cruel nuclear accident, I turned my camera toward TEPCO’s Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant. The exhaust towers that had sent radiation from the reactors around the world are shorter than the first time I saw them from the Futaba-machi beach nine years ago. That’s because demolition began last year. However, nine years later, not a single exhaust tower has been taken down fully.

Of the various radionuclides spewed by the exhaust towers or scattered by the hydrogen explosions, radioiodine, whose half-life is eight days, was absorbed into the bodies of many. Even if these radionuclides have



since been expelled, even if the national and prefectural governments have yet to acknowledge the connection with the nuclear power accident, they cannot deny the high incidence of thyroid cancer among the exposed Fukushima children.

Cesium-137, with a half-life of 30 years, traveled across prefectural boundaries to create more “Fukushimas” everywhere; even now the plant spews radiation. The truth is quite the opposite of Prime Minister Abe’s insistence that radiation from the accident is “under control.”

Tetsuji Imanaka, associate professor of Kyoto University’s former Research Reactor Institute appeared in my film *Stolen Villages* — Last words of one who returned to Chernobyl — Chapter 6. In that film, he said, “The problem of what we should do looking ahead 100, 200, 300 years, remains.”

### Inconceivable levels of Invisible contamination

Along with Dr. Jawad Ali-Ali, who came from Iraq to attend The World Nuclear Victims Forum in Hiroshima, and Haruko Moritaki and Nobuo Kazashi, a grassroots study team who went the opposite way, from Hiroshima to Iraq, I traveled to Basra, a city in the south of Iraq. I remember how dumbfounded I was, trying to grasp that uranium-238 has a half-life of 4.5 billion years; we’re talking about everlasting, eternal radioactive contamination.

This essentially “eternal” stuff is now solidly ensconced in Fukushima. Of course, 300 years can’t be

compared to 4.5 billion years. But, considering that the average life span of a Japanese person now is 80 years, I dare to say that from the human perspective, 300 years is everlasting. It is staggering, mind-boggling.

Even so, the government, shrugging off responsibility for the accident, under the name “recovery,” and can’t think of anything to do except put up showy buildings barely connected to people’s lives. Walk around Fukushima, and you’ll see everywhere fancy new facilities built in the name of recovery, some of which are actually using the recovery budget. These imposing buildings are designed to conceal the “difficult-to-return zones” right behind them.

What I learned from my nine-year research in Fukushima was, those who live there, who have no choice but to live there, are unable to deny the fact that there is no recovery. Recovery simply cannot happen. This onerous reality meets their eyes wherever they may look. They tell us, “Those who were chased out of here won’t be coming back. You can’t say that a town that people can’t return to is recovering.”

As a member of Japanese society, which was responsible for that irredeemable tragedy, I ponder what children 300 years from now will think of us. Just in case they might wonder about us, I want to leave at least some hints about who we were. That’s why I keep making these visual records.



Mr. Kenichi Hasegawa, a former dairy farmer, looking at the flowers of the soba [buckwheat] he is raising instead of cattle after the nuclear accident. (Sept. 18, 2017; Iitate-mura)

[Note: On October 22, 2021 Mr. Kenichi Hasegawa passed away because of thyroid cancer at the age of 68.]





„Peace Cranes on the steps of the old GPO (General Post Office) at the „Melbourne Vigil for Japan” held on March 17, 2011.  
(photo: John Englart (Takver) ; CC BY-SA 2.0)

Addenda: Recent Movements & Reflections [IV]

# To Get Back from the Brink of the Nuclear War: From America in the Coronavirus Crisis



Joseph T. Scarry  
Social justice activist, U.S.

J. T. Scarry became a social justice activist after working in international trade, web application development, and intellectual property management. A long-time friend of N. Kazashi and a brother of Prof. Elaine Scarry who gave a pre-event talk, Mr. Scarry attended the 2015 Forum and currently lives on Madeline Island, WI., U.S.A.

## After the Forum

When I attended the World Nuclear Victims Forum in Hiroshima in November, 2015, I was deeply impressed by the number of people in locations throughout the world working to shift the locus of understanding of the nuclear radiation phenomenon to its proper place: the people affected by it, and the ultimate goal of healthiness for people and the environment.

### **“Back from the Brink of the Nuclear War”: A Grassroots Movement around the U.S.**

Of course, it is necessary to address this phenomenon through its source, such as the states that build nuclear weapons and threaten the world with them. My own work in the time since visiting Hiroshima in November, 2015, has been in trying to cause the US to draw "Back From the Brink" of nuclear war -- taking weapons off alert, taking unilateral authority for using weapons away for the president, and other measures.

During the same period, the world has greatly benefited from a legal instrument - a global treaty banning nuclear weapons. Nonetheless, nuclear weapons states continue to push forward with more spending, more development and testing, and fewer treaty restrictions. (In particular, the collapse of INF Treaty in August, 2019, comes to mind.) Now, the lessons of the 2015 Forum should be propagated even more emphatically and widely.

## Climate Crisis and Pandemic

Meanwhile, the climate crisis is also becoming pressing. Compared to five years ago, many more people understand that there is a problem, and that it is immediate and dire, and also that it is not just a change in the physical characteristics of the atmosphere and the weather, but most of all has consequences for the health and well-being of actual people - right now!

As I write, the world is responding to the COVID-19 crisis. We are in the early days, and I fear that the full consequences for human health and well-being have not yet been imagined by most people. Nonetheless, there has already been a change in attitudes that goes beyond the immediate crisis. Many people are realizing that what we are experiencing right now has

implications for other threats, like the climate crisis and the nuclear threat.

**One thing people are realizing is that threats and risks are real.** We are often happy to be lulled to sleep, and to say "it can't happen here." COVID-19 has forced us to see that threats and risks affect us, too, wherever we are. (This is especially true in today's "small" world: we are all connected.)

### **We Can Make Changes: “We Are All Public Health Workers Now”**

**Another thing people are realizing is that we can make changes -- including in ways that we have previously thought impossible -- when our well-being is at stake.** The extreme reduction in carbon emissions during the COVID-19 response has made people realize: we can mitigate the climate crisis if we change our ways of life, though we should not be too optimistic about what happens after the pandemic has subsided.

**Finally, people are also realizing that the language or frame of "public health" is the most critical for working together to make the difficult decisions and bring about the world that we all want.** This has particular importance for our work to stop the nuclear threat. Today, people all over the world are acting on a "precautionary principle" -- they are taking specific steps to prevent harm to human health. Day after day after day, we remind ourselves, "the difficult steps I am taking today are not to cure a sickness that has already happened, but to prevent one." **We are all public health workers now.**

I am grateful for the contribution of the World Nuclear Victims Forum. It has helped me understand how the specific work each of us does to end the nuclear threat is part of a shared public health effort.



the Arctic sea ice continuing to melt away, June 2008 (photo: Gerald Van der Leun /CC BY-NC-ND 2.0)

Addenda: Recent Movements & Reflections [V]

# The Messages from the World Hibakusha Forum: Reading Anew in the Midst of the Covid-19 Pandemic



Nobuo KAZASHI

Co-Director, the World Nuclear Victims Forum

[Professor emeritus of philosophy at Kobe University and visiting professor at Dalian University of Technology from 2019. After receiving a Ph.D. from Yale University, N. Kazashi taught at Hiroshima City University till 2001. He specializes in Japanese thought, comparative philosophy, and peace studies. Based in Hiroshima, he has been engaged in peace activities including ICBUW (International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons).]

It was in the spring of 2020, when the first “Emergency Declaration” due to the Covid-19 pandemic was issued in Japan, that we worked intensively on editing the Japanese version of this document for the Forum. Reading over carefully the records of the Forum amidst the unprecedented pandemic, naturally I began to think about the similarities and differences between the nuclear problem, the infectious disease pandemic, and the climate crisis, etc.

Various global crises are the manifestation of the radical changes occurring in the nature-human relationship due to human activities; in a word, the present crises are consequences of what is now called “Anthropocene.” According to this view, the planetary environment has been transformed greatly because of the influences exerted ever since the Industrial Revolution and we are now witnessing



the ending of the relatively stable geological period which lasted about ten thousand years after the last “Ice Age.”

Some scholars locate the beginning of the Anthropocene as early as in the establishment of agricultural and cattle-breeding society, or some others focus on the nuclear age with the notion of “nuclear anthropocene.” The nuclear problem must be re-grasped as what lies at the core of a series of crises caused by humans ourselves.

The following extracts and memos are only a small part of the messages from the Forum; in a word, it is a very small, partial digest. But I would be delighted if they can be of some use in recalling the messages from the Forum to reconsider the “Age of Crisis,” in the midst of which we find ourselves today.

### **[ I ] The Nuclear Problem amidst the Waves of Crisis**

The nuclear problem must be solved first and foremost so that the international society can tackle in earnest with the problems of utmost gravity in the midst of the crises surging one after another: mega earthquakes with tsunamis, abnormal weather, pandemics, etc. As emphasized by Dr. Tilman Ruff; “Prohibiting and eliminating nuclear weapons is the most urgent existential imperative humankind has ever faced (p.31). This means the urgent need to divest from unnecessary fields and to redistribute and invest finite monetary/human resources into the most critical tasks. (See T. Ruff & A. Kawasaki)

### **[II] Risk and Damage;**

#### **Hard-to-Grasp Whole Pictures**

The whole pictures of various global crises are often hard to grasp perceptually since they often depend on statistical estimates. Once they become real, however, their gravity and scale can be overwhelming and extremely difficult to deal with. In the case of nuclear damage, actual states may often be hard to grasp, not only because radiation is “invisible,” but also because of the political intentions to conceal them.

Tilman Ruff: “What is less well known is that there have been 15 reactors where fuel damage or partial core meltdown has occurred, in one of them twice. They have involved civilian and military reactors of different designs in different countries. The historic risk of core melt

accidents is one in 1300 reactor years, and twice that for the type of reactor in Fukushima. Unfortunately, these are far from rare or unexpected events.”

Mary Dickson: “I carry a credit card sized map of the United States in my wallet. ... It shows where the winds carried radioactive fallout from testing in Nevada. Utah and Nevada are almost completely blacked out, and the black ink spreads as far East as New York and as far North as Canada, ... including the region where most of our nation’s food is grown. Radiation did not respect arbitrary lines on a map. It was picked up by the jet stream and carried across the country.... I’ve shown this map to people around the U.S. and they’re always shocked. They had no idea that the fallout spread so far, crossing over their cities and towns.”

Seiichiro Takemine: “[When the Marshal Islands became independent in 1986,] America admitted that their nuclear tests had exposed the residents to radiation and paid about 150 million dollars as compensation. In exchange for it, however, the nuclear problems were regarded as completely settled, and the damage, which extends over time and space, still remains sealed till today.”

### **[III] “Science of radiation-exposure” and politics**

Thanks to various researches regarding radiation damage, new concrete expertise has been accumulating; especially understanding regarding “risk from low-level radiation” has been renewed greatly. As both Dr. Ruff and Dr. Tomonaga emphasized, it has been confirmed, as a result of the international joint research that analyzed the data about 300,000 workers at nuclear plants over 70 years, that there is health risk even under 100 millisieverts per year. But “recommended radiation dose limits have always been lowered over time, never raised.” (T. Ruff)

Hiroaki Koide: “People say radiation can’t be perceived, but that’s because any radiation strong enough to be perceived by any of our five human senses would soon kill the human doing the perceiving. Hence, radiation can’t be perceived.”

Risk evaluation of “invisible” radiation is susceptible to various influences from interested parties. As highlighted

by Tetsuji Imanaka, a nuclear engineering specialist involved in research on the effects of the Chernobyl and Fukushima accidents, it is important to distinguish three things from each other; that is, first, “what we can say clearly” based on sciences, secondly “what we cannot figure out well,” and thirdly “what we can consider unlikely.” However, they often get mixed up.

This is related to the problem of “language use”; “peaceful use” of nuclear power, “*monju*” and “*fugen*”= the names of the Wisdom Bodhisattvas used for cutting-edge nuclear reactors; “decontamination,” which is actually just moving around contamination (cf. H. Koide), etc., etc. We have to watch out much more seriously for the “fraud by language” which philosopher Shunsuke Tsurumi called “talisman-like use of words.”

#### (IV) WHO: Its Roles and Limitations

Regarding the Covid-19 pandemic as well, the relationship between China and WHO has been called into question. However, it should be noted that, as Dr. Ruff pointed out, Japanese government exerted a similar pressure on WHO immediately after the nuclear accident in Fukushima: “The disturbing example of Japanese government attempting to downplay Fukushima health risks was the reported high-level pressure on WHO to reduce the thyroid radiation dose estimates in their report, which they did.” (Cf. *Asahi Shimbun Globe*, “Fukushima Radiation Dose Report: Pressured to Modify” Dec. 7, 2014)

Of course, organizations like WHO are indispensable for international collaborations. But it is also undeniable that they are under various influences. It is said that WHO is under IAEA’s constraints regarding radiation risk evaluation (cf. Helen Caldicott, 2011).<sup>ii</sup>

Director Shriplakash appealed that IAEA held a conference in Jadugoda but they were not allowed to attend it. In the same vein, Dr. Jawad Al-Ali casted doubt over the results of international studies regarding depleted uranium contamination in Iraq. Referring to the words of Helen Clark, former prime minister of New Zealand & former director of U.N. Development Plan, Dr. Chumak emphasized that information transparency is the basis of every judgment and we cannot make good judgment without solid information.

All the more because of it, however, information



Doomsday Clock (photo: Michael\_Swan / CC BY-ND 2.0)

becomes an object of vehement political intervention. Mr. Kenichi Hasegawa, who used to raise livestock in Fukushima till the nuclear accident occurred, said with strong irony and criticism: “In Iitate Village [in Fukushima Prefecture], the Ministry of Education has set up 25 or 26 monitoring posts. Every one of them shows a lower level of radiation than I measure for myself. Isn’t that strange?... I find the national government’s response truly terrifying.”

#### (V) Power of Law and Treaty: High Walls of Lawsuit

Dr. Ruff and Mr. Kawasaki both highlighted the importance of the “Humanitarian Pledge as the key in the efforts to stigmatize, prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons.” Mr. Kawasaki summarized: “A ban treaty could take any of several forms. Among the various steps toward a nuclear-weapon-free world, the process leading to the first step (banning) and the process leading to the last step (elimination) can differ in a number of ways. However, if we are content to create a prohibition norm, the non-

nuclear states can do so without the nuclear-weapon states.”

In fact, two years after the Forum, TPNW (Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons) was realized. Since then, some nuclear powers such as America and Russia are showing actions going against the rise of such international momentum. But the “humanitarian pledge” and the “norm of prohibition” are becoming more and more important.

Arguing for a “pluralistic approach” regarding the DU weapons problems, too, Manfred Mohr, spokesperson of ICBUW (International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons) and a founding member of IALANA Germany, stated that it is necessary to bring the issue into the various legal fields such as international humanitarian law, human rights law, and environmental law.”

At the Forum, however, many talked about the high walls encountered by those who resorted to lawsuits.

Director Shirplakash lamented over the hard struggles at the uranium mining sites in Jadugoda where it is forbidden even to carry a dosimeter: “The language used at court is different from people’s language. The gap is so huge.... Delhi has power, but it is impossible for the people in Jadugoda to go to Delhi and fight at court over 5 years or 10 years.... If you lose at court, you will lose the moral right to oppose. So, we gave up on lawsuits. This is our reality.... We cannot ask for justice from court.”

As Attorney Ohkubo highlighted its significance, in 2014 the Marshall Islands filed a suit to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the ground that the nuclear powers were failing to carry out the obligation, provided in NPT’s Article Six, “to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at any early date.” Regrettably, however, this suit was turned down in October 2016.

In Japan as well, many of the nuclear victim affirmation lawsuits have been encountering various difficulties for many years; it is only recently that most of the so-called “black rain” victims began to be recognized duly at court.

As for the victims in Fukushima, the situation may be even more complicated; K. Hasegawa lamented: “It is TEPCO (Tokyo Electric Power Company) that afflicted damage and we are the victims, but the relationship is getting reversed; now it feels as if the victims were to blame.”

## (VI) The Power of Arts and Solidarity:

### Why not a Literature Museum in Hiroshima?!”

Although the situations surrounding the nuclear victims are very severe, it was the power of arts and solidarity that people talked about passionately at the Forum. Especially, M. Dickson repeatedly emphasized, as a playwright and as a victim, the power of “individual stories” through the Forum; she started her own speech as follows: “In 2008, I spent two weeks in Hiroshima and Nagasaki with the Nuclear Studies Institute from American University. It was an amazing journey that included visits with many Hibakusha, a word used to describe survivors of the bomb. Their powerful stories still haunt me.”

According a recent communication from Joseph T. Scarry, who has contributed to this *Addenda* his essay, “To Get Back from the Brink of the Nuclear War: From America in the Coronavirus Crisis,” the “BlackLivesMatter” Movement is causing self-critical re-examinations also within the anti-nuclear movements in the U.S. We hope that new light will be shed on the sufferings, hitherto concealed or downplayed, of the indigenous peoples at the uranium mines and nuclear test sites.

Various attempts through art have been carried out for anti-nuclear and peace movements, but I find it very unfortunate that there is no literature museum in Hiroshima until today. In 2001 a group was started under the name of “Citizens’ Association for A Literature Museum in Hiroshima!,” but it had to cease its activities without achieving its objective due to lack of understanding on the City’s side. <sup>iii</sup>

As for literary works on radiation damage or the nuclear age, there are too many to list, including the so-called A-bomb literature, manga *Barefoot Gen*, animation movie *In This Corner of the World*, and plays and essays by Oe Kenzaburo and Inoue Hisashi, etc.

Albert Camus, whose novel, *The Plague* [*La Peste*], has been read widely anew around the world after the start of the present pandemic, denounced at the news of Hiroshima: “The mechanical civilization has just reached its last degree of savagery”; “Undoubtedly no one, except those blinded by unrepentant ideology, can be anything but astonished that science, in a world tearing itself by violence, quite out of control, indifferent to injustice and



the simple human happiness, should have devoted itself to universal murder” (Editorial, *The Combat*, August 8, 1945).

If “Hiroshima Literature Museum” is to be created, will not Hiroshima become an even more powerful and appealing place of “art and solidarity”? It is bizarre that there is no literature museum in Hiroshima while there are many of them around Japan.<sup>iv</sup>

### (VII) For One World, One Health: *Japan's Missions*

At the Forum Ashish Birulee appealed, as a photographer, about the appalling situation at the uranium mining sites in his home village in Jadugoda, India. But it was in 2002 that Mr. Birulee was invited to come to Hiroshima as a student; then a nuclear war threat was being heightened between India and Pakistan. Reflecting on those days, Mr. Birulee said: “I didn’t know much about radiation. I didn’t know well about what’s happening in Jadugoda, either. But, coming here, I learned that this problem is a serious, global problem.”

However, he also added: “Looking at today’s Japan, I see that nuclear plants are starting again to operate.... Witnessing these behaviors, people of India are feeling dilemmas, not knowing whether we should go against nuclear power or support it.”

Akira Kawasaki, a leading member of ICAN and Peace Boat, condemns Japan’s stance in a straightforward way: “Japan has suffered an attack with nuclear weapons. Opinions differ on its claim to be the only one, but it is certainly the only country that has actually suffered a nuclear bombing in war. For this victim of nuclear weapons to say, “The nuclear weapon states say this, the non-nuclear states say that, and we stand between them,” is ridiculous. When even states that have never suffered a nuclear attack push for genuine progress toward a nuclear-weapon-free world, Japan must take an unequivocal stand.”

The ideal of “One World, One Health”<sup>v</sup> proposes, from the viewpoint of infection prevention, to grasp “humans, cattle, wild animals, and the natural environment” as a whole. Naturally it applies also to the nuclear problems, or it should be considered an ideal to be grasped with the nuclear problem as its essential part.

With the pandemic still raging and the abnormal climate aggravating, humankind is facing literally an unprecedentedly critical phase where its existence is at stake, and it would not be possible to get through it without radical transformation of our forms of life. It goes without saying: the nuclear problem is what Japan should contribute to more than anything else.

[Translated by the author]



Sphere Within Sphere. A statue by Italian sculptor, Arnaldo Pomodoro, installed at the U.N. Plaza in New York. (photo: Friar's Balsam/ CC BY 2.0)

- i Kazashi, N. (2021) “Thaumazein at the Nuclear Anthropocene: The Life and Thought of Takagi Jinzaburo as a Citizen Scientist.” In *Philosophy and Global Affairs*, Vol.I-1, March 2021.
- ii Caldicott, Helen. (2011) “How Nuclear Apologists Mislead the World over Radiation,” *The Guardian*, April 11, 2011. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/apr/11/nuclear-apologists-radiation>  
Caldicott states: “After 1959, WHO made no more statements on health and radioactivity. What happened? On 28 May 1959, at the 12th World Health Assembly, WHO drew up an agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); clause 12.40 of this agreement says: “Whenever either organisation [the WHO or the IAEA] proposes to initiate a programme or activity on a subject in which the other organisation has or may have a substantial interest, the first party shall consult the other with a view to adjusting the matter by mutual agreement.” In other words, the WHO grants the right of prior approval over any research it might undertake or report on to the IAEA.”
- iii Now the group continues as “Association for Preservation of Literary Materials in Hiroshima.”
- iv Cf. “LinguaHiroshima,” a multi-lingual site where you can search materials related to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, has been open since 2019. <https://www.linguahiroshima.com/jp/>
- v Wildlife Conservation Society, 2004; <http://www.oneworldonehealth.org>

## Afterword for the Online English Version

November 2021

This is the online English version of the record of the World Nuclear Victims Forum held in Hiroshima November 21-23 2015. The full Japanese version was published under the title of Towards a Nuclear-Free World! in August 2020.

We would like to thank deeply the Nuclear-Free World Foundation for their generous support in translating some of the Japanese presentations into English and for providing the website for this briefer English version.

Also, we would like to express our special gratitude to Mr. Steven L. Leeper (representative, Peace Culture Village), Ms Elizabeth Baldwin, and Ms Miwako Sawada for their collaboration in the English translation; most of the Japanese presentations were translated by them, except where indicated otherwise. Our special gratitude goes also to Mr. Kazuma Suzuki of Shift Project for his wonderful layout as usual.

This online version contains most of the presentations except the discussions and greetings. (Some presentations are not available in English yet for some reasons, but we hope not only to upload more files as they become available, but also to publish a printed brochure version soon. We ask your continued support for our project.

Nobuo Kazashi & Tomoko Watanabe

On behalf of the English Translation Project,  
The World Nuclear Victims Forum Executive Committee

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