



CITY OF NAGASAKI

Message

On the occasion of the Bay Area Japanese Peace Lantern Ceremony 2010, being held in Berkeley, CA, I would like to say a few words on behalf of the people of Nagasaki.

On August 9, 1945, Nagasaki was devastated by a single atomic bomb. 74,000 people were killed in the explosion, and a further 75,000 suffered injuries. Those who narrowly escaped death were still dealt terrible physical and psychological wounds that would not heal. Even today, 65 years after the bombing, there are people suffering from the distinctive illnesses cause by the aftereffects of the bomb.

Nuclear weapons are indiscriminate, killing children, women and the elderly alike. Those who survive a bombing will continue to suffer for a long time. Humanity and nuclear weapons cannot coexist.

Through the Bay Area Japanese Peace Lantern Ceremony 2010, I hope many people can deepen general understanding of the brutality of war and the inhumanity of nuclear weapons, and work to realize a world free of nuclear weapons.

In closing, I would like to extend my best wishes for the success of this event, and for the good health and happiness of all the people who gathered here today.

August 2010

田上 富久

Tomihisa Taue
Mayor of Nagasaki