Commitment to Peace

All people want to live happy lives filled with hopes and dreams. However, 58 years ago today, the single atomic bomb that fell on Hiroshima instantly stole away the hopes and dreams of people who were living eagerly for tomorrow. The city of green vanished, leaving many people with profound grief and pain in their hearts.

Give back my father, give back my mother;
Give grandpa back, grandma back;
Give me my sons and daughters back.
Give me back myself.
Give back the human race.
As long as this life lasts, this life,
Give back peace
That will never end.

This poem by Sankichi Toge speaks of the peaceful world without war that is our unchanging desire.

We still live in a world with huge stockpiles of nuclear weapons. In the name of justice, conflict and war erupt repeatedly, and children like us are hurt. And right around us, we still see bullying and violence.

To rid the world of bullying, violence, fighting and war, all we need is empathy for others. The pathway to peace is the effort to be tolerant of each other, to understand each other, and to recognize each others' good points despite our differences of personality or way of thinking. One thing we can all do for peace is choose dialogue, not violence. We can help with UNICEF fundraising for our friends around the world. We can give up our seats to the elderly. These are just a few of the many things we can do.

When we all have the courage to actually do those things that individuals can do for others, the entire world will be filled with bright smiles.

We hereby pledge to continue telling the people of the world about the horror of nuclear weapons, to convey the legacy of those who rebuilt the city of rubble into a city of water, greenery, and culture, and ensure that the paper cranes of peace fly powerfully from Hiroshima to the world.

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Children's Representatives
Mizuki Kataoka (Sixth grade, Hiroshima City Dambara Elementary School)
Hiroyuki Fujii (Sixth grade, Hiroshima City Minami-kan-on Elementary School)