

Hiroshima-Nagasaki Midpoint Planting Ceremony

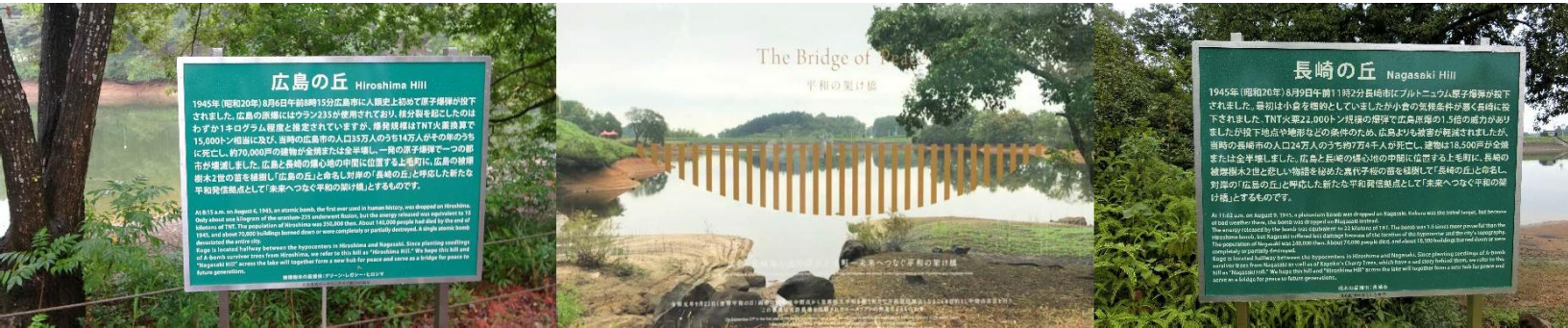


Photo: (from left) Plaque of Hiroshima Hill; the Bridge of Peace Monument connecting the Hiroshima and the Nagasaki Hills; Plaque of Nagasaki Hill
 21 September 2019 Koge, Japan - September 21, 2019 was the International Day of Peace. On this day, at the geographical mid-point between Hiroshima and Nagasaki a special planting ceremony took place under the leadership of Mr. Akio Nishikiori - an A-Bomb survivor, long-time GLH Committee member as well as a dedicated architect for Hiroshima's revival. This project, to plant A-Bomb saplings from both Nagasaki and Hiroshima respectively on the two sides of the lake in Oike Park of Koge Town, Fukuoka Prefecture, was initiated last year. A bridge is also planned to be built across the lake connecting the Nagasaki and Hiroshima sites.



Photo: (from left) GLH coordinator Nassrine planted Gingko at Hiroshima Hill; Mr. Nishikiori shared his A-bomb experiences with the audience including the mayors of Hiroshima City and Nagasaki City. GLH co-founder Tomoko planted Camphor tree at Nagasaki Hill.

Seven members of the GLH Committee and Secretariat team at UNITAR attended the ceremony. They were joined by Dr. Faezeh Mahichi of Ritsumeikan Asia-Pacific University, GLH's only partner in Kyushu Region. The planting ceremony was part of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Midpoint Project in Koge organized by Hiroshima Tonan Rotary Club. In the afternoon, Mr. Nishikiori also shared his A-bomb experiences and his humanistic and compelling vision for a peaceful world at the Memorial Ceremony.

The Tree Planting Ceremony became a reality thanks to the dedication and handwork of Rotary members, Koge town municipality, and also GLH master gardener Chikara Horiguchi—all inspired by the example and vision of Mr. Nishikiori. It carried a special meaning for GLH and for UNITAR - encouraging us further to stay connected with Nagasaki and to remember as Mr. Nishikiori said, the preciousness of peace and nature.



Photo: (from left) GLH family with Mr. Nishikiori (center) and with Mayor Kazumi Matsui of Hiroshima City and Mayor Tomihisa Taue of Nagasaki City

See a short slideshow of all photos: <https://video214.com/vlav/iOaALc35zuln61ZUYnBWVA/s/dark>