

Muse no. 17

Japanese Citizens' Network of Museums for Peace

Newsletter: November, 2007

Editorial Office

The Center of the Tokyo Raids and War Damages

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Notice: We have indicated the name of our network as “Japanese Network of Museums for Peace” in English to a last issue, but we decided to use the expression of “Japanese Citizens’ Network of Museums for Peace” from this issue on to be more faithful to the original Japanese name. In Japan, there is another network named “Association of Japanese Museums for Peace” which is affiliated to date by eight relatively large-scale peace museums, i.e. Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum, Nagasaki A-bomb Museum, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, Osaka International Peace Center (Peace Osaka), Kyoto Museum for World Peace at Ritsumeikan University, Kanagawa Plaza for Global Citizenship, Kawasaki Peace Museum, and Peace Museum of Saitama. In contrast, Japanese Citizens’ Network of Museums for Peace is an individual-based network consisting of citizens who are interested in museums for peace.

The following is news on museums for peace in Japan and other countries.

The 7th National Meeting of the Citizen’s Network of Museums for Peace

On Dec. 1, 2007 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Dec. 2, 2007 from 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., the 7th national exchange meeting of the Japanese Citizens’ Network of Museums for Peace will be held at PEACE AICHI that was established on May 4, 2007. A social gathering is scheduled on Dec.1 evening.

Meeting participants will be welcome to see exhibitions at PEACE AICHI on Dec. 1 from 11:00 a.m. and on Dec. 2 after 3:00 p.m.

Reports are accepted. Please send presentation applications to Mr. Masahiko Yamabe (organizer) by the end of September. Reporting time is up to 30 min. per person. Summaries and references are to be prepared by presenters.

Accounting and business reporting of the Network is scheduled at the social gathering. We will also talk about how to arrange nationwide meetings in 2008 by taking cognizance of the 6th International Conference of Peace Museums that will be held at Ritsumeikan University. Please send comments to the organizer in advance. Accommodation arrangements should be made by individual participants.

Those who attend the meeting without report presentation, please send an application to the organizer as well by the end of September.

PEACE AICHI is 13 min. walk from Subway Higashiyama-Line’s Issha Station. The address is: 2-820 Yomogidai, Meito-ku, Nagoya, Japan.

Phone & Fax number: +81-52-602-4222.

**Wadatsumi-no-koe Memorial Hall
(Memorial Hall for the Students Killed in
the War) Opens**

Hitoshi Nagano, Board Chairman, NPO
Wadatsumi Memorial Hall

Walk from Hongo San-chome intersection and pass by the Red Gate of University of Tokyo a little bit; you will see a Soto Buddhism Temple, Kihukuji, on your left.



erico

There is an apartment building named *Akamon Habitashion*. Wadatsumi-no-koe Memorial Hall was established on the first and the second floors of this building on Dec. 1 last year. Total area of the museum is 30 tsubo (approx. 99 m²) and though it is a small museum, an important initial step has been made.

When the Japanese Memorial Society for the Students Killed in the War (Wadatsumi Society) was founded in April, 1950, construction of Student Peace Hall was set as one of the projects. After a number of efforts failed, we decided to make a serious effort to build Wadatsumi Memorial Hall as a project for the 50th anniversary of student drafts. Due to deteriorating economic conditions, the amount of the donation was not vast, however, we found out in 2004 that if the building was scaled down, it would be possible to construct the memorial hall.

Wadatsumi Society is a voluntary organization and its ownership is equal to the representative person's ownership under current law. Therefore we decided to establish a foundation that owns, manages

and operates the memorial hall. A specified nonprofit organization, Wasatsumi Memorial Hall Foundation, was established in January, 2005 and in August, 2005, the organization was officially registered. This registration allowed the organization to start buying and selling of properties and it also reassured bereaved families who had deposited and donated precious literary remains and mementos.

The foundation clearly declares in its purpose statement that it inherits Wadatsumi Society's principle that was held for many years and it will be run by contribution for ten-odd years. The memorial hall will display literary remains and mementos of Japanese, South and North Korean, and Taiwanese students who died in the war and will collect and display all kinds of records of war victims domestically and internationally. One aspect of the foundation of peace is interaction and mutual understanding between nations and ethnic groups and therefore, it is also noted in the purpose statement that the memorial hall will constantly pay attention to exchange of people, materials, information, and literatures relating to war and victims, and make efforts to enhance peace makers' thought and spirit of fraternity.

The story goes back for six years. In year 2001 and in the following year, a large exhibition of farewell notes and mementos was held. The first year's planning committee consisted of Wadatsumi Society, Kyoto Museum for World Peace at Ritsumeikan University, and Iwate Prefecture Rural Culture Advisory Council and the committee hosted the exhibitions under the auspices of Asahi Shinbun. The first exhibition was held in Osaka at ASACOM Hall (the head quarter of Asahi Shinbun) in November 2001, and in December 2001, the second exhibition was held in Kyoto at Ritsumeikan University's Kyoto Museum for World Peace. In August 2002, Wadatsumi Society independently hosted the exhibition at

Edo-Tokyo Museum. Speaking in relation to the museum, the relationship with bereaved families became closer and memento deposit trend was gradually formed. At every exhibition, materials of Korean student soldiers, citizens and peasant soldiers were also displayed.

Originals have great power. Many visitors lean on showcases and read literary remains thoroughly. Some of them brush the tears away. The conditions of papers, notebooks and handwritings tell the situation, convey the writer's breath and emotional state vividly, and make us feel the dead closer to us.

Wadatsumi-no-koe Memorial Hall
Akamon Habitation 1 fl., 5-29-13 Hongo,
Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo
Tel&Fax: +81-3-3815-8571

URL:

<http://Wadatsumi-no-koe.lookschool.com>

Email: Wadatsumi-no-koe@nifty.com

Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri., 13:30 – 16:00.

Admission free

Wadatsumi-no-koe means “Voices of the Sea Gods” symbolizing anger and sorrow and the regrets of the dead student soldiers in battlefields.

Latest news from Peace Aichi

Daisuke Miyahara, Director, Peace Aichi
It was a couple of days before the opening of the museum that the installation of display and panels was completed after almost two months of preparation. Detailed adjustments continued until the evening before the opening and finally the museum was opened on May 4th.

Unlike the weather on the groundbreaking ceremony, the weather of the day of the opening ceremony was crispy fine. The Guests who attended the ceremony includes: a House of Representatives member from the area, a prefectural assembly member, a municipal assemblyman, and representatives from Kyoto Museum for World Peace at Ritsumeikan University, the Center of the Tokyo Raids and War Damages, Women's

Active Museum on War and Peace, and Yamanashi Peace Museum, which incidentally opened around the same time.

All major mass media including TV and newspapers also came to cover the ceremony and they were having hard time finding a camera placement spot.

The ceremony started with organizer's greeting by Morishima NPO administrative director, followed by complimentary addresses by guests of honor, introduction of congratulatory and encouraging messages from fellow museums, and presentation of certificate of appreciation to Ms Tazu Kato, who tendered the land and funds for the museum.

A poem, 'interknitting hopes', which is displayed in a corner of the first floor as a message that the museum is trying to send out was read by members of the steering committee at the end of ceremony. Also, ribbon-cutting ceremony was conducted by the representatives.

Evening of music, 'Now is the time for message of peace,' was held on May 4th at Meito Cultural Theater. The program consisted of music performances, lectures and reading and the theater was fully occupied.

On May 5th and 6th, an opening event was held at Peace Aichi and story telling, picture story shows, reading, games, music performances and exhibitions of drawings and photographs took place.

Over 1600 people visit the event during the first three days.

As of July 31st, 2007, the museum has been visited by 5591 people. The number of visitors is around 50 during weekdays, and more than a hundred during weekends.

The museum is run by four staff members, 17 steering committees, and 62 volunteers.

One staff member, five volunteers and one or two NPO personnel attend the museum on daily basis.

A website for the museum is under contemplation.

The museum has been often visited by groups. Some of the visitors from those groups expressed their willingness to re-visit the museum so that they can take their time to see the exhibitions.

Some visitors tell their own war stories and some are moved to tears in front of a photograph of a boy carrying his sister who was killed by A-bomb. Many people fold paper cranes wishing for peace.

Events and exhibitions have been hosted not only by the museum but also by outside groups at the museum. An exhibition by high school students, a round-table conference with Charles Overby and an event to relive war-time living were held. Blue-eyed dolls Exhibition (Jul. 21 – Aug. 11), Peace Aichi Summer Series - War Experience Hearings (Aug. 1 – 15), Hanna's Bag Exhibition (Aug. 14 – Sep. 1), Talk by Fumiko Ishioka (Aug. 18), Fusako Kodama Grass Art Exhibition (Oct. 2 – Nov. 3) are scheduled.

Survey by questionnaire has been conducted for further improvements and suggestions have been submitted such as "Source materials on Navy are not enough," "Pamphlets should be distributed at Nagoya station," and "Please place magnifying glasses for the elderly." Though we are not able to accommodate all the requests, we placed magnifying glasses. We hope that Peace Aichi will be supported by like-minded and become a meeting point and a source of peace messages.

Establishment of Peace Aichi was supported by the members of Citizens' Network for the Museums for Peace. We are delighted to invite everyone to the museum. We are looking forward to seeing you all in Nagoya

in this December.

Yamanashi Peace Museum Opens

Tamotsu Asakawa, Director

The planning committee for the establishment of the museum was formed in July 2003 and the official proposal for the construction of the museum was made in summer 2005. The planning committee collected donations, planned anti-war events and published war-experience notes. In July 2006, the location of the museum was decided and the construction started in December 2006. By March 2007, total sum of donation exceeded 23,000,000 yen.

On April 21, 2007, completion ceremony was held and it was widely covered by the media.

The museum was opened on May 26, 2007. Museum exhibition ranges from war and peace to Tanzan Ishibashi, a native of Yamanashi and a peace maker who opposed to militarism. In 1918, he criticized as a journalist the army for dispatching troops to Siberia. After the WW , he became the president of Liberal Democratic Party and later in 1956 the Prime Minister of Japan, but withdrew for cerebral infarction in only 2 months

Yamanashi Peace Museum hopes to have visitors from all over the country.

Tel & Fax: 81-55-253-2735

E-mail: asakawatamotu@infoseek.jp

Women's Active Museum on War and Peace

Shinjuku, Tokyo

While seminar series of an exhibition of survived East Timorese women under Japanese and Indonesian domination that started December 2006 and a campaign to send an exhibition panel of women's history to East Timor are taking place; the museum has been quite busy handling issues on comfort women.

On January 29 2007, Violence Against

Women in War – Network Japan has won the lawsuit against NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) on falsification of comfort women issue in a broadcasting program. The media was hesitant and had little understanding about this lawsuit. For the better understanding of comfort women issue, an exhibition for Junior high school students in Q&A style was planned.

A resolution that requests Japanese government an official apology was submitted to the House in the U.S. and with Chinese and Korean governments' push, Canadian Commons adopted a similar resolution to the U.S. The museum has been busy handling inquiries on this matter. This shows that Japanese need external pressure to take an action. Violence against women in war time still exists. The Japanese has avoided the issue and it is questionable whether or not the situation will change.

Ever since its establishment, WAM has held four exhibitions and the number of supporters are increasing. A peace prize was presented to WAM from Pax Christie International this year. A symposium to celebrate the award is planned.

Tel: 81-3-3203-4633

Fax: 81-3-3202-4634

URL: <http://wam-peace.org>

Daigo Fukuryu Maru Exhibition Hall

Koto-ku, Tokyo

A special exhibition 'Boat-builders' technique and work' was held from April 1 to September 2. H-bombed wooden fishing boat *Daigo Fukuryu Maru* (Lucky Dragon) is 60 years old and the only existing boat from post WW scarcity period.

No more wooden boats will be built any more as boat builders are aging and the building techniques are not passed on to the next generation.

Daigo Fukuryu Maru was repaired twenty years ago. The exhibition showed the boat

building techniques through *Daigo Fukuryu Maru*.

A guide book of the museum is available now. The book provides information of the museum and the damages on *Daigo Fukuryu Maru* and Marshall by the Bikini H-bomb test.

Tel: 81-3-3521-8494

Historical Material Hall for the Wounded and Sick Retired Soldiers (Shokei-kan)

Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

Shokei-kan is a government managed hall that collects stores and displays information on wounded and sick soldiers and their families during and post WW. It was opened on March 21, 2006. A film on the Battle of Okinawa was shown in August 2006 and a DVD 'Pass on the toil of wounded and sick soldiers' is available for lending.

A picture record of permanent exhibition was published in March 2007.

Tel: 81-3-3234-7821

Fax: 81-3-3234-7826

URL: <http://www.shokeikan.go.jp>

Society for the Preservation of the Matsushiro Imperial Headquarters

Nagano

Takako Kitahara

Minakamiyama dugout is one of the Matsushiro Imperial Headquarters dugouts.

Towards the very end of WW, the Japanese government planned relocation of the Imperial Headquarters to Matsushiro to prepare for mainland battle and to defend the national polity.

The society started investigation of the dugout five years ago with help of experts, college students and others. A report of the investigation was completed last year. The findings from the investigation show the chaotic situation of the time to dig cellars at the bottom of volcanoes and provide

foundations for cultural heritage registration application of the site.

Many dugouts are closed for safety reasons, but those valuable remains of war should be preserved. The investigation was an example of what cooperative efforts can do.

A special exhibition that started last year presented legacies from the dugout, photos, figures, dynamite box, etc.

The museum is working to make itself a space to share information of the dugouts and to learn. It also adopted an appeal for the registration of the dugouts as cultural heritage like A-bomb Dome in Hiroshima.

Oka Masaharu Memorial Nagasaki Peace Museum

Yasunori Takazane, Director
On November 21, 2006, Min Kyu Bak, the chair of Nagasaki Korean A-bomb Victims' council, passed away. He was the last Korean survivor and storyteller of A-bomb. He was also an asset to the museum. An exhibition in memory of him was held at the museum three months after his death and many people visited. We plan to publish a memorial miscellany.

The 7th testimony meeting of the Nanjing massacre survivors was held on December 9, 2006. This time, the talk was about a sexual assault of the mother of the speaker. The 84 years old speaker revealed the real name wishing to stop Japanese trend to distort historical facts.

On February 6, 2007, 49 travelers for peace from Korea visited the museum. The group's age ranged from 14 to 78.

The museum aims to pressure the Japanese government to reflect on its attitudes on history.

On March 27, 2007, the first trial on forced labor of Chinese concluded that the statute of limitations is expired. The museum is

in full support of the victims and will continue to assist them for the appeal trial.

Director's statement on the terror attack on Iccho Ito, the mayor of Nagasaki

Ikuro Anzai, Director, Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University

Mayor Ito was shot on April 17, 2007 and died on the following day. I denounce this outrageous terrorist attack on the mayor who devoted himself to peace movement with much anger.

The immediate predecessor of the Mayor, Hitoshi Motoshima, was also assaulted because of his remark on the Emperor Hirohito's war responsibility. It is a regret that two of the mayors of Nagasaki became victims of terrorism. We should not surrender to this kind of cowardly violence but further pursue the ideal of anti-nuclear and peace.

Mayor Ito was committed to the abolition of nuclear arms. His tearful testimony at the International Court of Justice in November 1995 deeply touched people along with the photograph of a charred boy that he presented. The mayor pointed out the victimization of innocent civilians and suggested that the leaders of nuclear powers should take a look at the picture to recognize what nuclear weapon can do. Mayor Ito never altered his opinions and behavior to please the Japanese government that was hesitant to admit illegality of nuclear weapons. The International Court of Justice suggested that intimidation and attack using nuclear weapons are generally illegal and Mayor Ito's contribution to creating the environment to actualize this official suggestion should be acknowledged.

Mayor Ito served as the vice president of Mayors for Peace for 12 years and made an appeal to the world for denuclearization and peace along with the Mayor of Hiroshima, Tadatoshi Akiba. Mayor Akiba touched on Mayor Ito's effort in preaching the

importance of denuclearization to government delegates, which lead nuclear powers to agree on “unequivocal commitment” for complete denuclearization at 2000 NPT meeting in New York, and expressed his own commitment to denuclearization following Mayor Ito’s will. I also declare my commitment to make further efforts to disseminate the value of realizing a nuclear-free and peaceful world.

I worked with Mayor Ito in supervising Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum and lecturing at National Council of Japan Nuclear Free Local Authorities’ workshop. Kyoto Museum for World Peace of Ristumeikan University where I serve as the director also has made efforts to collaborate with Nagasaki’s peace movement through participation in the Association of Japanese Museums of Peace and the International Conference of Museums for Peace and cooperation with Nagasaki City’s youth peace volunteer program. It is poignant regret that Mayor Ito was lost but I promise to take on the mantle of Mayor Ito to achieve a nuclear-free society in peace.

Secretary-general’s inaugural address and report on Hata Seminar in Kochi

Ayumi Hiwatari, Secretary-general,
Grassroots House Peace Museum

I was newly appointed as a secretary-general of the museum and am currently a senior at Kochi University. One of my friends expressed her hesitation about uprising for the national flag rising and national anthem. I decided to accompany her. After four years of spending time at the Grassroots House my concept of values has changed. I recognized that we are in a society where we are naturally monitored, mistakenly consider someone else’s value as one’s own value, majorities pressure minorities neglecting individuality, etc. I feel the gap between my friends and my peace activities but I will fight against ‘the ignorance of not knowing the ignorance.’

There was a meeting with 15 Korean high school students and 5 Korean teachers at Hata Seminar in Shimanto in January. Though I was busy with thesis writing, I decided to participate. We learned about the life of Korean and Japanese workers at Tsuga dam and had a memorial service for the buried Koreans at the site. There was a misguided discrimination against Koreans in previous decades and I was looking at a heap of stones that was made by Koreans in disconsolate mood. Now I can feel the joy of getting together with Koreans by recognizing what happened in the past. It seems that we can overcome the mental barrier just by the one-day meeting because we are the same human beings. If these kinds of meetings are held more and more, the sense of ‘human rights and peace’ may be increased.

As I am about to finish writing, I received an e-mail from Shinsuke Nakai, a documentary movie director, saying that he just had an interview with political analyst Sang-jung Kang. Mr. Nakai is making a film about U.S. military bases and he also made a documentary film on Korean farmers against U.S. military base expansion in Pyongyang. Mr. Nakai told us about 70-year- old Korean man who stayed his home even during relocation by U.S. military when he was 16 years old by living in a dugout. The old man was fighting against U.S. military occupation of his property in Pyongyang, only hoping to live in his home as a farmer. It was right after the new years when the official of relocation of the residents was decided. An instructor of Korean traditional drum whom I met in January was also a participant of the battle against relocation in Pyongyang and told how human rights are disregarded in democracy only by name. When I listen to the Korean traditional drum music, I feel the strength of farmers’ existence and sorrow but gain courage to fight at the same time.

I have been busy for three months since I started working as a secretary-general for

the Grassroots House. I have met many people through the museum such as Korean researchers and local officials who are working on creating a town with habitats for otters, members of NPO that promotes local development in Kansai, etc. Everybody I met treated me with respect, which is naturally expected but important and difficult.

Meeting with different people also provides me with different views and experiences. My daily life is filled with various issues. I feel strong anger against the Japanese government's high-handed foreign and domestic affairs that can be hardly considered as democratic, but I am also disgusted with myself being involuntary. I'd like to reflect on myself in order to enhance my daily life.

Japanese Network News

Pacific War History Museum: Iwate

President Iwabuchi received the 9th cultural award from Iwate Nippo (Daily News) Company for his commitment to homing of fallen soldiers remains in foreign countries and contribution in building the museum at his own expenses for peace. The fact that over one million fallen soldiers remains are still abroad after 60 years of the war is a significant social issue.

Excerpt from War History Museum Newsletter

Tel: 81-197-52-3000

Fax: 81-197-52-4574

Fukushima Municipal Hall

A documentary drama, 'Senpo Sugihara', was played on August 30, 2007. Auschwitz Peace Museum Japan hosted a play by Dora theater company that portraits Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat who saved over 6000 Jewish people by issuing visas disobeying the Japanese government's order. This play has been performed all over the world for over 800 times.

Auschwitz Peace Museum Japan
425 Shirasaka-Miwadai, Shirakawa-city,
Fukushima, Japan

Tel: 81-248-2108

URL: <http://www.am-j.or.jp/index2.htm>

Maebashi City Museum of Literature: Gunma

A special exhibition 'Records of air raids and war damage' was held from July 21 to August 5, 2007. Source materials of air raids and war damages from Maebashi and other cities were displayed.

Tel: 81-27-235-8011

Fax: 81-27-235-8521

Peace Museum of Saitama

The 4th theme exhibition 'Social situation in Magazines and newspaper appendix' was held from February 17 to April 8, 2007.

The 1st theme exhibition 'Japanese contribution to international peace after WW – International activities of Japan Disaster Relief Team and new collection of source materials' was held from April 28 to June 24, 2007.

The 2nd theme exhibition 'Rescue in war time – Trajectory of nurses from Japanese Red Cross' was held from July 21 to September 9, 2007. Picture records are available.

Peace and Culture Exhibition on Arts (exhibition of drawings of elementary and Jr. high school students) was held from December 16, 2006 to January 28, 2007.

The 2nd Peace reading recital 2006 was held on November 25, 2006 and a volunteer group 'Hazuki' from Iruma city participated.

On November 11, 2006, the 2nd meeting with people with war experiences was held and Yoshiko Kogure shared her military nurse experience.

As special movie showing, 'Hotaru' was played on November 18 and 'Kuroi Ame'

(Black rain) was shown on March 17, 2007.

Tel: 81-493-35-4111

Fax: 81-493-35-4112

URL:

<http://homepage3.nifty.com/saotamapeacemuseum/>

Maruki Gallery for the Hiroshima Panels:Higashi-matsuyama, Saitama

The 3rd program exhibition 'Drawing Journey – Paintings of Iri and Toshi Maruki' was held from October 28, 2006 to January 13, 2007. Toshi Maruki spend two years in Russia and visited Micronesia and Iri Maruki traveled around Japan before WW. After the war, they traveled domestically and internationally for the exhibitions of their Hiroshima Panels. They also made trips to the sites such as Minamata, Auschwitz, and Okinawa to conduct research for their paintings. This exhibition focused on the Maruki's trips and shows their paintings that were not displayed that frequently.

Open talk 'Reflecting Circuit Exhibitions of the Hiroshima Panels in the U.S.' was held on November 12.

The 4th program exhibition 'Renaissance of Condemned Properties' was held from January 21 to March 31, 2007, that displayed art works that are made of discarded articles of daily use.

Peace Fundamental Memorial Exhibition was held from April 5 to 18, 2007.

Maruki Gallery 40th Anniversary Exhibition 'Toshi Maruki – from Private Women's School of Fine Arts Time to the Hiroshima Panels' was held from April 24 to June 30, 2007. Toshi Maruki learned oil paintings at Private Women's School of Fine Arts and began her career as a painter. This exhibition traced Toshi's career path with its focus on her overseas experiences and her collaboration with her husband, Iri in production of the Hiroshima Panels.

Exhibition of Suma Maruki for children 'Summer vacation of grandma Suma' was held from July 7 to August 8, 2007.

A special talk 'The Hiroshima Panels – Thinking of future of the 'past'' as 40th anniversary event was held on May 5, 2007. This talk aimed to explore the meaning of the museum that permanently displays the Hiroshima Panels and to project the future of museums by reflecting the Hiroshima Panels.

Narita Yokan (sweet jelly of beans) Museum:Narita, Chiba

The 7th exhibition 'The story of battlefield comfort and military postal service' was held from December 2006 to April 30, 2007. A founder of a sweetshop, Nagazo Morooka, sent comfort articles such as sweet jelly of beans and charms from the Narita-san temple to the soldiers from his hometown. Many thank you letters are stored. The exhibition displays comfort articles, letters, poster of comfort sweet jelly of beans, and thank you notes. Some of the thank you letters captured the actual condition of the front. An explanatory panel about war history in Sakura regiment from National Museum of Japanese History was displayed.

Tel: 81-476-22-2266

[URL://www.nagomi-yoneya.co.jp/shiryo.htm](http://www.nagomi-yoneya.co.jp/shiryo.htm)

The Center of the Tokyo Raids and War Damage: Koutou-ku: Tokyo

The Institute of Politics and Economy and the Center of the Tokyo Raids and War Damages finished to be enlarged on January 15th 2007 and the center was opened after renewing exhibits on March 1st. There are three rooms on the 3rd floor to keep materials and the rooms were enlarged from 80 m² to 125 m². A meeting room and a room for explanation was enlarged from 50 m² to 100 m².

The rooms on the floor include exhibits on the so-called Fifteen Year War from 1931 to 1945 and the emphasis is put on U.S. air

raids of Tokyo. The amount of documents on air raids of Tokyo was increased and documents on experiences of the air raids of Tokyo became available. We made efforts to make materials easier to be seen and read and the explanation of the documents was revised to make them more scientific. A room under blackout was restored though it is small. Not only the victim side of Japanese by U.S. air raids but also the one of Koreans are dealt with.

In a new room the history of the Association of Recording U.S. Air Raids of Tokyo and the history of the movement to demand compensation are introduced as well as materials on messages for peace. In the other new room, a corner for exhibits on war and children was enlarged and education during the war, the evacuation of children and the democratization of education after the war are dealt with.

Painting on U.S. air raids of Tokyo by Giichi Kojima and others was increased on the 2nd floor. A map of devastated area by the air raids was made including the targets of the air raids and information of munitions factories using U.S. report on damages and materials of former Japanese army. Photos on air raids not only in Tokyo but also in other areas are exhibited and a map of U.S. air raids of Japanese cities was made. Sketches of "Peace Statue of Children in the World" in Tokyo, Kyoto and Hiroshima were exhibited until May.

There was a special exhibition on materials on experiences of the air raids written by 320 victims. An invitation letter was sent to the writers, but about 180 letters were returned. There were only 15 families to see the exhibit.

The 5th anniversary of the opening of the center was held at Kamera Hall in front of Kameido Station on March 10th and Hisashi Inoue gave a lecture on U.S. air raids in Japan. A booklet on his lecture and reports was published as a booklet.

A photo exhibition by Kenji Suzuki was held from July 25th to Aug. 20th.

The 6th workshop was held on Dec. 16th 2006 and Masahiko Yamabe gave a report on the latest efforts for study of the 15 year war at peace museums and history museums" this is the result of studying exhibitions on war at museums in 2006 at the Institute of Politics and Economy and it was published as "Museums for Peace Today" in *Rekishii Hyouron* (Criticism in History) in March 2007.

In the 7th workshop held on January 9th Masumi Ueno gave a report on the process of the enactment of Law to Protect War Victims and their Families. In the 8th workshop held on Feb. 9th Tetsuo Aoki gave a report on policies of shelters in Japan. In the 9th workshop held on April 14th Kaoru Matsui, a curator of Edo Tokyo Museum, gave a book review on "Record: mobilizing girls to work" (*Kiroku: Shoujotachi no Kinrou Douin*).

In the 10th workshop held on May 27th Keiichiro Ichinose gave a report on Chinese lawsuit against bombing of Chongqing. Toshiya Ikou gave a report on the summary of the bombing of Chongqing and the related materials. The 11th workshop was held on June 16th and Hiroshi Hoshino and Keizou Harada gave a report on the process of the lawsuit on U.S. air raids of Tokyo and its significance. In the 12th workshop held on July 21st Shinichi Arai gave a report on the International Popular Court: Hiroshima.

Newsletter of the Institute on War Damages was published and the reports at the workshops were published. Tadahito Yamamoto's report on private aids to victims of the U.S. air raids of Tokyo was published in the journal of the Institute of Politics and Economy No. 87 (Nov. 2006).

Tetsuo Aoki's report on policies of shelters in Japan was published in the journal of the

Institute of Politics and Economy No. 88 (May 2007) and also will be published in German in a book on Shelters edited by Inge Marszolek/Marc Buggeln.

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<http://www9.ocn.ne.jp/~sensai/>

Sumida Heritage Museum: Tokyo

An exhibition of “People who drew pictures on U.S. air raids of Tokyo: memory of people who experienced the air raids and their expression” was held from Feb. 10th to April 15th. Not only completed paintings but also their rough drawings and sketches were exhibited because impressions of the air raids are expressed directly in sketches. It is also possible to guess the painters’ track of mind from their memory to expression.

Tel:03-5619-7034 Fax:03-3625-3431

http://www.city.sumida.lg.jp/sisetu_info/siryou/kyoudobunka/info/kuusyuten/index.html

Toshima Historical Museum: Tokyo

An exhibition of “Summer to think of war 2007” was held from July 20th to Oct. 14th. Exhibited were articles on mobilization of people, 150 letters written by children and their families, life during WW and neighboring groups, air raided Toshima-ku and so forth.

A journal of *Life and Culture* No. 16 was published on March 1st 2007. Included are articles such as “The situation of the evacuation after the U.S. indiscriminatory air raids and problems” by Tetsuo Aoki, and “Activities in Neighboring Groups in Toshima-ku seen in the record of Neighboring Groups” by Nobunao Itoh.

Tel:03-3980-2351 Fax:03-3980-5271

<http://www.museum.toshima.tokyo.jp/top.html>

Morikazu Kumagai Art Museum: Toshima-ku, Tokyo

An exhibition of “U.S. Air Raids on Tokyo

on April 13th: Poetry and Paintings” was held from April 6th to 15th. It was planned by Mr. Akira Sirabe, a researcher of Yutaka Maruno, and Ms. Kaya Kumagai, the director of Morikazu Kumagai Art Museum. Exhibited were Yutaka Maruno’s sketch of the ruins of the air raids near Sugamo Junior High School, sketch and oil paintings of the ruins of the air raids near Ikebukuro by Tadashi Yoshii, Kaya Kumagai’s prose poem on the air raids, the result of the investigation of war damages of national school in Toshima-ku and so forth.

Tel:03-3957-3779 Fax:03-3959-9034

<http://www.kumagaimori.jp/>

Parliamentary Museum: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

There was an exhibition on the enforcement of the Japanese Constitution as the 60th anniversary from April 26th to May 20th 2007. Exhibited were the process of the proclamation of the Japanese Constitution, its enforcement, and the process before the opening of the 1st Diet under the new constitution using materials in the memorial, calligraphy, paintings of related figures and photos. Included were a picture of “Father and his daughter” by Akihiko Tsurumaru who painted pictures on U.S. air raids of Tokyo, a picture scroll on the recovery of Ginza by Yutaka Asou, Iwasaburo Takano’s private draft of the outline of the Constitution of the Republic of Japan, *Akahata* No. 1 which started to be published again after the war and has Kyuichi Tokuda’s signature, the declaration of forming Japan Socialist Party that Inejirou Asanuma kept, and books such as *New Constitution: Bright Life Story of the New Constitution*. A leaflet was published.

Tel:03-3581-1651 Fax:03-3581-7962

http://www.shugin.go.jp/itdb_annai.nsf/html/statics/kensei/kensei.htm

National Archives of Japan: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

A special exhibition of “Departure of

Reconstructed Japan: Enforcement of the Japanese Constitution in May 1947” was held from May 3rd to 22nd as the 60th anniversary of the enforcement of the Japanese Constitution. Archives were exhibited including the original of the Japanese Constitution, a proposal of the Constitution revised at the Diet, the process of the enactment of the Japanese Constitution, planning of various policies following the new Constitution and their enforcement and so forth. An illustrated book was published.

Tel:03-3214-0621

<http://www.archives.go.jp>

Chihiro Art Museum: Tokyo

There was an exhibition of “Peace and Happiness to all the children in the world” as the 30th anniversary of the museum from July 4th to Sep. 2nd. Chihiro Iwasaki expressed her wish for peace and happiness in her pictures. Some of her pictures were exhibited from a book of *Children in the Fires of War*(Senkano Nakano Kodomotachi) and *The Japanese Constitution to Children*(Inoue Hisashi no Kodomoni Tsutaeru Nihonkoku Kenpou). Also exhibited were Ben Shahn’s pictures in a picture book of *This is the House: Ben Shahn’s the Fifth Lucky Dragon* (Korega Ieda: Ben Shahn no Daigo Fukuryu-maru) published in 2006. His sculpture of mother and a child was also exhibited. There was also an exhibition for children in Viet Nam: posters and picture books against Viet Nam War. The names of the painters whose pictures were exhibited are Yousuke Inoue, Chihiro Iwasaki, Kouichi Kume, Seizou Tazima, Hiroshi Tada, Osamu Teduka, Shigeo Nishimura, Tomoko Hasegawa, Makoto Wada, etc.

Chihiro Art Museum

4-7-2 Shimoshakuji, Nerima, Tokyo 4-7-2

Tel: 03-3995-0612

Fax: 03-3995-0680

<http://www.chihiro.jp/tokyo/schedule.html>

Library on War Experiences: Nara

Letters written during World War II are kept at Nara Prefecture Library and some letters were exhibited from July 25th to Aug. 6th. It is possible to know what people thought about their family and friends and the importance of life, which is moving. The purpose of the exhibition is to give a chance to visitors to think what war did toward people through letters. Also exhibited were books on letters written during the war including books on letters from Ioujima. Young men had to become soldiers when they became 20 years old. The exhibits include call-up papers, soldiers’ letters to their families, postcards from Sumatra, China, the Philippines and letters written by soldiers’s families, family photos, letters that reported soldiers’ death, etc.

Tel: 0742-34-2111 Fax: 0742-34-2777

<http://www.library.pref.nara.jp/sentai/gallery.html>

Peace/Dragonfly Museum: Toshima-ku, Tokyo

There is Peace/Dragonfly Museum near Ikebukuro Station in Tokyo. Mr. Koujirou Shiraishi opened it 18 years ago. There are about 200 kinds of dragonfly among 210 kinds that could be discovered in Japan. It is open only for two days a month and the admission fee is free. There is a message of “War is the biggest causes of the destruction of nature.” He said, “I hope that visitors feel the importance of nature and life through dragonflies. Peace is indispensable for all creatures. I’d like to tell this to other people” according to Akahata dated Feb. 25th 2007.

Jiyu Minkek Institute of Machida City: Tokyo

There was an exhibition of “Landscape and People in the North-eastern Part of China from a Soldier’s Viewpoint” from July 28th to Sep. 9th. Exhibits were donated in August 1988 by the late Mr. Jinzaburo Ichikawa who lived in Machida City. He worked as a guard of railroads in the

north-eastern part of China during World War II. He brought many photos, postcards and his diary back to Japan. Photos show Japanese soldiers working as guards of railways, towns along the railroads, life in rural areas in Manchuria, and Chinese people who resisted against Japan's invasion. There are two kinds of postcards: ones written by Japanese soldiers showing landscapes and people in China, and the others sent to Japanese soldiers by Japanese living in Japan. Mr. Ichikawa started to work for reconciliation between Japan and China in the 1960s and held an exhibition in the 1980s using his several notebooks in which he wrote his experiences of the war. He reflected on Japan's invasion of China and wanted the next generations to know his wish for peace.

Professor Toshiya Ichinose of National Museum of Japanese History gave a lecture on death in war shown in military mails on August 25th.

Tel:042-734-4508

<http://www.city.machida.tokyo.jp/shisetsu/cul/cul03/syoukai/index.html>

Hachioji City Historical Museum: Tokyo

An exhibition on Hachioji during World War II was held from July 31st to Sep. 9th. There were exhibits on blackouts, training for air defense, shelter against air raids, which show life during the war.

Tel:0426-22-8939

<http://homepage3.nifty.com/hachioji-city-museum/index.html>

Kanazawa Plaza for Global Citizenship: Yokohama City, Kanagawa

An exhibition of pictures by children in the world was held from May 12th to 27th and also June 23rd to July 29th. The purpose is to foster children's dream and creativity and to understand different life and culture in order to realize multi-cultural society. The exhibition is held biyearly since 1980. There were 23889 entries by children aged 4

to 15 from 85 countries this year. 523 pictures including three pictures awarded grands prix were exhibited.

Postcards with paintings by cartoonists and writers on August 15, the day when Japan was defeated, were exhibited from June 23rd to June 29th.

Tel:075-896-2121 Fax:045-896-2299

<http://www.k-i-a.or.jp/plaza/>

Japan Newspaper Museum: Yokohama City, Kanagawa

An exhibition of "Mottainai(what a waste) Campaign: Power of Media" was held from April 29th to June 24th as the 135th anniversary of Mainichi Newspaper. The purpose is to give a chance to visitors to think what they can do in their daily lives to change global warming. There were exhibits on the danger of global warming, reports from the world and Japan, and mottainai campaign for the protection of the environment and peace. There was also a class to learn how to use furoshiki(wrapping cloth) to reduce wastes.

Tel: 045-661-2040 Fax: 045-661-2029

<http://www.pressnet.or.jp/newspark/floor/schedule.html>

Kawasaki Peace Museum: Kanagawa

An exhibition of "Poverty and Medical Issues" was held from Nov. 16th to 26th 2006.

There was an exhibition on confusion after the war from Feb 24th to March 4th. Photos on damages by the U.S. air raids of Kawasaki were exhibited from March 24th to May 6th. Films of "Speaking and Listening to War Experiences" and "Our Marbles" were shown.

Tel: 044-433-0171

<http://www.city.kawasaki.jp/25/25heiwa/home/heiwa.htm>

Azumino Chihiro Art Museum: Matsukawa, Nagano

An exhibition of "Chihiro and Käthe

Kollwitz: two women painters who drew war and peace „ has been held from Sep. 14th and end on Nov. 30th. Chihiro Iwasaki drew pictures wishing for peace while Käthe Kollwitz expressed sorrow caused by war in black-and-white prints. Both women independently expressed war and peace as mother. Chihiro's "Children in the fires of war", Käthe's "Sacrifice" and so forth are introduced.

Tel: 0261-62-0772

Fax: 0261-62-0774

<http://www.chihiro.jp/azumino/schedule.html>

Yanaizu History and Folk Center: Gifu

An exhibition on life during World War II was held from July 3rd to Aug. 26th. There were various restrictions of people's lives since 1931 when Japan started to invade China. Ten houses were grouped as one unit and it was called neighboring groups. The groups deal with training for air defense against U.S. air raids, a ration of food and clothes, collecting metal for munitions. Thus people were forced to support the war. People's life during the war was shown through neighboring groups and their activities.

Tel:058-270-1080

<http://www.city.gifu.lg.jp/c/40120461/40120461.html>

Shizuoka Peace Center: Shizuoka

An exhibition on balloon bombs was held from Oct. 20th 2006 to Feb. 18th 2007. House wives and female students were forced to work to make balloon bombs during the war.

There was an exhibition on the bombing of Mitsubishi factory from March 2nd to Sep. 23rd. There were exhibits on war and troops in Shizuoka, life during the war, U.S. air raids of Shizuoka, U.S. bombing of Mitsubishi factory before the air raids, etc.

A report of "Balloon Bombing and

Shizuoka" was published on Feb 20th. This is based on an investigation of balloon bombing since 1994.

Tel:054-247-9641 Fax:054-247-9641

<http://homepage2.nifty.com/shizuoka-heiwa/>

Sakuragaoka Museum: Toyokawa City, Aichi

An exhibition on Navy Armory in Toyokawa was held from July 21st to Sep. 2nd. The armory in Toyokawa was built in 1939 and it was called "the biggest armory in the East". An exhibition of "Military Service and People" was also exhibited.

Tel:0533-85-3775 Fax:0533-85-3776

<http://www.city.toyokawa.lg.jp/tanto/bunka/museum.html>

Yokkaichi Municipal Museum: Mie

An exhibition of "U.S. Air Raids of Yokkaichi City and Life during World War II" was held from June 16th to Sep. 2nd. The purpose is to promote peace education at school. War-related articles and photos were exhibited.

Tel:0593-55-2700 Fax:0593-55-2704

<http://www.city.yokkaichi.mie.jp/museum/>

World Peace by Children – Exhibition of Dolls for World Peace: Mie

An exhibition of "World Peace by Children – Exhibition of Dolls for World Peace" was held by Association of Making a Museum of Dolls as Ambassadors for World Peace at Paramita Museum from July 28th to Aug. 26th. Japanese children sent beautiful Japanese dolls to children in other countries as ambassadors who wish for peace in 1979, the International Year of Children. 100 dolls were sent to Japan from 56 countries and they were exhibited.

Paramita Museum

Tel: 059-391-1088 Fax: 059-391-1077

<http://www.paramitamuseum.com/>

E-mail: office@paramitamuseum.com

Azai Museum of History and Folklore : Nagahama City, Shiga

There was an exhibition on war from July 25th to Sep. 2nd. Mr. Nihei Nishimura who was a civil servant during the war, kept some documents on draft and mobilization against an order to burn them. These materials were exhibited.

Tel:0749-74-0101

<http://www.city.nagahama.shiga.jp/index/000012/002487.html>

Oumihachiman Municipal Museum: Shiga

The 2nd exhibition of “Prayer for Peace” was held from July 7th to Aug. 19th. Exhibited were articles on the army, youth groups, school education, children’s evacuation, etc.

Tel:0748-32-7048 Fax:0748-32-7051

http://www.city.omihachiman.shiga.jp/contents_detail.php?co=kak&frmId=823

Rittou History Museum: Shiga

There was an exhibition on life during World War II from July 28th to August 19th. Even women and children suffered from hard life during the war. Citizens donated war-related articles to the museum and they were exhibited. An illustrated book will be published in 2007.

People visited war remains at Taisho airport of the army in Yao City, Osaka on August 10th. Mr. Susumu Ohnishi who investigated the war remains was their guide.

Tel: 077-554-2733 Fax: 077-554-2755

<http://www2.city.ritto.shiga.jp/hakubutsukan/>

Kyoto Museum for World Peace: Kyoto

There was an exhibition of photos in journalism from Oct. 1st to Nov. 12th. Lectures were given by Mr. Kouichi Hirokawa, the editor of Days Japan, and Ruhani Kaur, the winner of the first prize in photo journalism of Days Japan.

An exhibition on Japanese in New Caledonia was exhibited from May 10th to June 30th.

There is a room for a mini-exhibition and there were various exhibitions: “Scar of Viet Nam War” from Oct. 11th to 22nd 2006, “What color is peace? Messages for peace by one letter” from Oct. 27th to Nov. 5th, “Human beings and war: the origin of war” from Nov. 22nd to Dec. 15th 2006, “Message from Joumon era: peace in Joumon era from the investigation of remains in Miyazaki by Ritsumeikan University” from Dec. 17th 2006 to Jan 10th 2007, “War in Kyoto which was not known: a Plan of dropping an atomic bomb on Kyoto – Why was it possible to prevent it?” from Jan 13rd to Feb. 12th, “Photos on the earthquake in Pakistan in media” from Feb 15th to March 6th, “Messages from the Itohs: war remains in the 20th century” from March 9th to April 26th, and “What is an atomic bomb?: Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Kyoto” from June 26th to August 31st.

A film of “Etsuko Kamiya’s Youth” was shown on Dec. 7th 2006 and Professor Ikuro Anzai and Ms Masako Kamitani, the representative of Kyoto Cinema, had a talk show at Ritsumeikan University.

A journal of Peace Research of Ritsumeikan University was published on March 13rd. Mr. Ariyuki Fukushima’s article on peace museums is included in it.

Tel: 075-465-8151 Fax: 075-465-7899

<http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp>

Kyoto Seika University: Kyoto

An exhibition on “Requiem, Peace and Human Beings” was held from May 10th to June 17th. Works by Saburo Murakami, Chiharu Shiota, etc. were exhibited.

Tel:075-702-5230 Fax : 075-705-4076

E-Mail : fleur@kyoto-seika.ac.jp

**Kyoto University of Foreign Studies:
Kyoto**

“Imagine Peace: Model United Nations” will be held to think of poverty and peace from Oct. 26th to 28th. A plan to reduce poverty will be made at the conference and the plan will be practiced for one year. Visitors can eat food that is actually eaten by poor people at a “hunger banquet” and discuss issues on poverty. Donation at a charity party will be donated to NPOs(nonprofit organization) that deal with poverty. A representative of NPO that aims at preserving traditional fabric technique in Cambodia will come.

Contact person: Ms Mariko Asano of Imagine Peace at Kyoto University of Foreign Studies

Tel: 075-322-6072 (9-13:00 from Monday to Friday)

Fax : 075-322-6218

E-mail: imaginesupport@gmail.com

http://www.kufs.ac.jp/MUN/index_j.html

Doshisha University: Kyoto

The 31st exhibition of “Doshisha and War 1930-1945) was held from April 2nd to Aug. 31st. Christian universities such as Doshisha was oppressed by the army and students could not study during WW . Articles by students who were sent to battlefields were exhibited so that young people would think what war is.

Tel : 075-251-3042 Fax : 075-251-3055

<http://joseph.doshisha.ac.jp/room/>

Joyo Historical and Folklore Reference Center: Kyoto

An exhibition on war and Joyo was held from July 7th to Sep. 9th. There are people who were killed in action and who lost their family and lovers. It is hoped that visitors could think of war and peace.

Tel:0774-55-7611

<http://www.city.joyo.kyoto.jp/living/education/museum/page8>

Kameoka Municipal Museum of Cultural Property: Kyoto

There was the 43rd exhibition on war for peace from July 28th to Sept. 2nd. Articles used during WW were exhibited such as soldiers’ letters, children’s diaries, etc. There was a mine of tungsten which was used for producing munitions. Paintings by a famous painter, Doumoto Inshou, were also exhibited because he evacuated to Kyoto during the war.

Tel:0771-22-0599 Fax:0771-25-6128

<http://www.city.kameoka.kyoto.jp>

Osaka International Peace Center (Peace Osaka): Osaka

Photos on environmental issues were exhibited from Nov. 21st to Dec. 24th.

There was an exhibition on war experiences from Jan. 13th to April 10th. Paintings on the Pacific War drawn by a former soldier, Kenichi Ohta, paintings on U.S. air raids of Osaka and children’s evacuation during WW and a picture book on the U.S. air raids of Osaka by Jun Hiraoka were exhibited.

There was a special exhibition of “I would like to protect children’s lives: children under conflicts in the world seen by Agunes Chan” from April 20th to June 24th.

There was an exhibition on people who suffered from the lack of freedom of speech and necessities from June 5th to Sep. 16th. Japan invaded China in 1937 and attacked the Malay Peninsula and the Pearl Harbor on Dec. 8th 1941. People suffered from the lack of necessities such as food and clothes because munitions were prioritized during WW . English was prohibited as an “enemy language” and there was no freedom of speech. Rice and clothes were on short rations. About 200 articles which showed people’s suffering were exhibited such as tickets for rice and clothes, shoes made from cloth, a certificate that people lost houses because of the U.S. air raids, etc.

Mr. Takuma Fukuyama, the editor of *Testimony to Grandchildren*, gave a lecture on the way of telling war experiences to their grandchildren on March 10th.

Films were shown to children from Dec. 22nd to 24th 2006 such as "Rain of Fire falls".

Peace and War: Journal of Osaka International Peace Institute Vol. 16 2007 was published on March 31st. Included are Atsuo Yokoyama's article on monuments for soldiers who died because of their loyalty to the emperor, Tetsu Fukubayashi's article on the camp for prisoners of war in Osaka during WW , Professor Hitoshi Koyama's article on U.S. air raids of Akashi, etc.

Tel:06-6947-7208 Fax:06-6943
<http://www.peace-osaka.or.jp/>

Sakai City Peace and Human Rights Museum: Osaka

An exhibition of "We live in Sakai. We live on the earth: all life is born in good environment" was held from Dec. 1st to 10th 2006.

There was an exhibition on Chiune Sugihara who saved 6000 lives during WW from Jan. 6th to March 30th.

An exhibition on Life during World War II drawn in picture-story shows was held from April 1st to June 29th.

Paintings on U.S. air raids drawn by citizens were exhibited from July 1st to Sep. 29th. The purpose is to make a chance for visitors to think of the misery of war and preciousness of peace.

Tel:072-270-8150 Fax:072-270-8159
<http://www.city.sakai.osaka.jp/city/info/jinken/>

Children Center for Peace and Human Rights: Sakai City, Osaka

The Children Center for Peace and Human Rights was changed into General Institute of

Textbooks on April 1st. A citizen donated 93 school textbooks used in Meiji era. The details are available in Newsletter of Grassroots No. 31.

Tel & Fax: 072-229-4736

Open-Air Museum of Japanese Farm Houses : Toyonaka City, Osaka

An exhibition on a powder magazine was held from March 8th to 21st. There was a powder magazine of the Army in Hirakata city during WW . Cannonballs and bricks were excavated and the result of the investigation was displayed.

Tel:06-6862-3137 Fax:06-6862-3147
<http://www.occh.or.jp/minka/index.html>

Henomatsu Museum on History of Human Rights: Sakai City, Osaka

An exhibition on the outcast in Sakai was held from May 1st to Oct. 30th. It is possible for visitors to know their life and work by a painting drawn in 1695, and know discrimination against the outcast in the feudal times. This exhibition leads to understanding discriminatory issues today. Address: c/o Jinken Fureai Center, 2-61 Kyouwa-cho, Sakai-ku, Sakai City, Osaka

Tel:072-245-2536 Fax:072-245-2535

Himeji Historical Peace Center: Hyogo

War-related articles were exhibited from Jan. 16th to March 25th so that visitors could think of people's suffering during WW and the preciousness of peace in modern Japan. There were several themes such as soldiers sent to battlefields, people's life, school life and the U.S. air raids.

An exhibition on children's life during WW was held from April 6th to July 1st. It was based on children's diaries in Tokyo from 1940 to 1944. Photos and articles written in children's diaries were displayed as that visitors can think of the misery of war and preciousness of peace.

Anti-nuclear exhibition for peace was held from July 15th to Aug. 31st, which has been held every year since 1986.

Tel:0792-91-2525 Fax:0792-91-2526

<http://www.city.himeji.hyogo.jp/heiwasiryoy/>

Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum: Hiroshima

A plan for the renewal of the museum was announced because the building of the museum is getting old since it was built in 1955. The purpose of the plan is to make visitors understand the reality of the atomic bombing more easily.

1. The building will be reinforced with a kind of rubber so that it can survive in the case of an earthquake.
2. Exhibits will be reviewed so that the reality of the atomic bombing will be understood better. Space will be made so that visitors can reflect on the atomic bombing and dialogue with other people.
3. An information center and the website will be made more effective.
4. People will be trained so that the experiences of the atomic bombing can be told to visitors according to "Peace Culture" No. 164.

Tel:082-241-4004 Fax:082-542-7941

<http://www.pcf.city.hiroshima.jp/>

Hiroshima National Peace Memorial Hall for Atomic Bomb Victims: Hiroshima

An exhibition called "Memory which should not be forgotten" has been held from April 1st and it will end on March 31st 2008.

Tel:082-543-6271 Fax:082-543-6273

<http://www.hiro-tsuitokenkan.go.jp/>

Mirasaka Art Museum for Peace: Miyoshi City, Hiroshima

Paintings by Shunzo Kakite and a circle of his friends have been exhibited from Sep. 1st and it will end on Dec. 26. They searched for peace through their paintings.

Tel&Fax:0824-44-3214

Human Rights and Peace Museum Fukuyama City: Hiroshima

People living near rivers and their culture of fishing were exhibited from Jan. 17 to March 15th.

Cartoons were exhibited by twelve cartoonists who lived in China when they were small.

Their hard life going back to Japan after Japan's defeat was displayed.

TEL:084-924-6789 Fax:084-924-6850

<http://www.city.fukuyama.hiroshima.jp/jinkenheiwashiryokan/>

Takamatsu Civic Culture Center, Peace Museum: Kagawa

A traveling exhibit on the U.S. Air Raids on Takamatsu City was shown at Lifelong Study Center from Feb. 20th to March 4th. The purpose is to raise awareness of peace among citizens.

Tel:087-833-7728

<http://www.city.takamatsu.kagawa.jp/1794.html>

The Naruto German Museum: Tokushima

There were concerts, a poster exhibition on sightseeing in Germany, a German beer & wine festival, an art festival, and workshop on woodcut in spring and summer.

Christmas market exhibition and concerts will be held in fall and winter.

Newspaper published by German prisoners of war was translated into Japanese, which is introduced in Newsletter called Ruhe published in March.

Tel: 088-689-0099

doitukan@city.naruto.lg.jp

Grassroots House: Kochi

Secretary-General: Ayumi Hiwatashi
Every summer, we hold a peaceful event called "Peace Wave in Kochi." This event is made by many kinds of organizations and

parties of Kochi in July, downtown streets are covered with almost a million paper cranes. It is because Kochi city was air raided by U.S. bombers in World War II on July 4th. A lot of elementary school pupils and senior citizens of nursing homes make them wishing the peaceful world. Thus, many Kochi citizens can take part in this event doing some kind of activities. So Peace Wave in Kochi has a lot of events. There are an exhibition on World War II and wars today, Peace Art Festival, Peace Film Festival, Peace Concert, a party at the forest called "Constitution Forest", Peace March and so on. Next year we will celebrate the 30th anniversary of this event. It is very important that all people can join, feel and think about peace and war in these events. So we'd like to value every one and every life.

We all live in the peaceful planet. We all have responsibility and peaceful sense to live together since we were born here. So I believe that we should do our best to connect with everything feeling love one another. Then we would be able to make the peaceful world someday.

<http://ha1.seikyoku.ne.jp/home/Shigeo.Nishimori/>

Nagasaki A-Bomb Museum

An exhibition on reality of the atomic bombing was held from Oct. 4th 2006 to March 19th 2007. Articles related to the atomic bombing, photographs of deceased people and essays on experiences as atomic bomb survivors were exhibited.

Tel:095-844-1231 Fax:095-846-5170
<http://www1.city.nagasaki.nagasaki.jp/na-bomb/museum/>

Nagasaki Art Museum, Nagasaki City

Life and photos of Robert Capa(1913-1954) were exhibited from July 13th to Sep. 2nd. He became famous for his photos taken at the civil war in Spain. His photos taken when he was young were exhibited as well

as the ones taken in the battlefield in Indochina.

Nagasaki Art Museum
2-1 Dejima, Nagasaki City, Nagasaki
Tel: 095-833-2110 Fax:095-833-2115
E-mail: info@nagasaki-museum.jp
<http://www.nagasaki-museum.jp/>

Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum

An exhibition for children called "Let's think about human rights" was held from Nov. 27th to Dec. 24, 2006. An exhibition on international understanding was held from Jan. 15th to Feb. 25th. A special exhibition on the people who were forced to fight at the battle of Okinawa was held from Jan. 16th to Feb. 25th.

Tel:098-997-3844 Fax:098-997-3947
<http://www.peace-museum.pref.okinawa.jp>

Life is Treasure House (Nuchi du Takara no Ie) : Okinawa

Village of Apology was opened on June 23rd in 1984, 40 years after the end of the battle in Okinawa. The name of the village was named after Mr. Shoukou Awagon's idea that peaceful life can be realized only when there is a spirit for apology.

There are House of Peace and Life is Treasure House (Anti-War Museum for Peace) in the village. People work together helping one another including handicapped people, old people and children at the House of Peace.

Life is Treasure House was opened on Dec. 8th, 1984. War-related articles are exhibited as well as introducing people who fought for peace. There is a memorial for U.S. and Japanese soldiers who were killed in action. Mr. Awagon believed that non-violence is important and such an idea is exhibited as "They that live by the sword shall perish by the sword."(Matt 26:52) and "A nation with military bases shall perish by nuclear weapons."

Iejima Newsletter is published in Japanese.

Tel:0980-49-3047 Fax:0980-49-5834

E-mail wabiai@giga.ocn.ne.jp

<http://www3.ocn.ne.jp/~wabiai/index.html>

Okinawa Museum & Gallery: Okinawa

Museum & Gallery will be opened at Omoro-town, Naha City on Nov. 1st, 2007. The theme of a permanent exhibition at the museum is "Living in the sea and the island searching for richness, beauty and peace. Nature, history and culture of Okinawa will be exhibited as well as its natural history, archaeology, arts and crafts and folklore. In the gallery Okinawan artists' paintings and photos will be exhibited.

Office of Education, Okinawa Prefecture
3-1-1 Omoromachi, Naha City, Okinawa
Administration: Tel : 098-941-8200

Fax : 098-941-3530

Museum: Tel : 098-851-5401 Fax :
098-941-3650

Gallery:Tel : 098-851-5402 Fax :
098-941-3730

E-mail: aa318400@pref.okinawa.jp

<http://www-edu.pref.okinawa.jp/kensetsu/index.html>

International News

Women Peacemakers: England

At the beginning of March, Jody Williams visited the University to participate in the second PeaceJam held in Bradford. She gave a public lecture on 2nd March and during the following two days worked directly with young people from schools in the region on what it means to be a peacemaker. In 1997 she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of her efforts as coordinator of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines.

Coinciding with her visit, and meant as a celebration of women peacemakers, the University's Gallery II showed two

exhibitions which nicely complemented each other. "My Country is the Whole World" - Women Peacemakers' is an exhibition by The Peace Museum in Bradford which tells the inspiring and often moving stories of some of the many women, and women's groups, from around the world who have worked for peace, in the past or today. Taking as its motto a well-known saying by Virginia Woolf, the exhibition shows that as mothers, nurturers and care-givers women have often transcended national boundaries, coming together to oppose war and promote peace in all its various dimensions.

Among the individual women featured are Margaret Fell (17th Century Mother of Quakerism), Priscilla Peckover (remarkable pioneer of the 19th century women's peace movement), and Vera Brittain. Representing the wider world are the German artist Kaethe Kollwitz, the anti-nuclear and pro-green activist Petra Kelly, early critics of chemical warfare Clara Immerwahr and Gertrude Woker, Hiroshima schoolgirl Sadako Sasaki (who gave the world a new peace symbol with the paper cranes she folded during her fatal illness), as well as recent Nobel peace laureates Shirin Ebadi (Iran) and Wangari Maathai (Kenya). The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo (Argentina), Women's Aid for Peace (which provided practical aid to war-torn former Yugoslavia), anti-nuclear weapons campaigners in the UK such as the Greenham Common Women, and Trident Ploughshares, are among the collective peace efforts documented. One of the 28 panels is about United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 – the first such resolution which addresses the impact of war on women, and women's contribution to peaceful conflict resolution.

One panel of 'Women Peacemakers' is devoted to Bertha von Suttner (1843-1914), the Austrian writer and peace activist who was the first woman to be honoured with the Nobel Peace Prize (1905). She was one of the most eloquent voices at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century

warning of the dangers of a war between the European powers. Her novel 'Lay Down Your Arms' (1889) stimulated the development of a peace movement in many countries and led her, unexpectedly, to become the founder and president of the Austrian Peace Society as well as co-founder of the German Peace Society. At a time when women hardly played a role in public life, let alone in the discussion about war and peace (and in an imperial Germany, and Austria-Hungary, with a strong and proud military tradition), she had to confront much hostility and ridicule. But such was her standing in the international peace movement of the time that she was the only woman who was admitted to the public gallery during the opening of the First Hague Peace Conference (1899). Moreover, her private salon was much frequented by the official diplomats and other delegates to this important conference which resulted in the creation of the Permanent Court of Arbitration as a means to avoid war between states. Not the least of her achievements, she successfully persuaded her friend, Alfred Nobel, to do something for peace 'from beyond the grave', as she pleaded with him. The result, as revealed in his testament, was the creation of the Nobel Peace Prize.

These and other details of the biography of a remarkable woman are told and illustrated in 'Bertha von Suttner - A Life for Peace', the other exhibition shown. It was commissioned by the Austrian Foreign Ministry to celebrate in 2005 the 100th anniversary of her Nobel Peace Prize. The main steps of her eventful life are chronologically documented in 16 large and colourful panels with revealing photographs, contemporary cartoons, and striking quotations. Both the Austrian and German postal authorities brought out special commemorative stamps in 2005, and the German Mint issued a special Euro 10 silver coin featuring Bertha von Suttner together with the title of her famous novel. Since the introduction of the Euro, her portrait is on the Austrian Euro 2 coin (Mozart is on the

Austrian Euro 1 coin). In Bradford, the Bertha von Suttner exhibition also featured a case displaying these stamps and coins, as well as other artefacts concerning her, including a publication issued by the European Economic and Social Committee of the EU in connection with the renaming after Bertha von Suttner of an office building in Brussels.

For more information about 'Women Peacemakers' or 'Bertha von Suttner' please contact Peter Nias (peacemuseum@bradford.gov.uk) or Peter van den Dungen (P.Vandendungen@bradford.ac.uk), respectively.

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February 12, 2007
 Press release

Women directly targeted in Burmese regime's terror campaign in Karen State

State of Terror, a report launched today by the Karen Women's Organization, provides graphic evidence of the widespread terror tactics being employed by the military regime's troops against women across Burma's Karen State. As the atrocities continue, the KWO appeals for concerted international pressure on the regime to bring about an immediate nationwide ceasefire and withdrawal of Burmese Army troops from the ethnic states.

"We deeply regret the veto by China and Russia and South Africa's vote against the UN Security Council Resolution on Burma last month," said KWO Secretary Naw Zipporah Sein. "It is equivalent to endorsing

the regime's terror campaign in Karen State. They are giving us a death sentence." The report documents over 4,000 cases of abuse, including rape, murder, torture and forced labour, mainly over the past few years, in over 190 villages by troops from over 40 Burmese Army battalions. Repeated incidents of gang-rape in 2006 reveal that the patterns of systematic sexual violence exposed by the KWO in their 2004 report *Shattering Silences* are still continuing.

Harrowing testimony in the report describes women seeing their children killed before their eyes, women used as human minesweepers, and pregnant women suffering miscarriages while carrying heavy loads for the army. Many of the abuses took place during the ongoing military offensives by the regime in eastern Burma, which have displaced over 25,000 villagers during 2006. Blooming Night Zan, who collected information for the report emphasized that the military offensive was still going on. "It was heart-breaking to hear the personal tragedies from the hundreds of people interviewed. It is unbearable to know this hell still going on right now, even as people are doing their best to survive. The situation is past critical. The international community must act now to stop it." The full text of the report can be viewed at www.karenwomen.org

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Forgotten Friends from Burma
A new Multi-Media exhibition by Ben Manser

(Article by Benny Manser and Ian McClurg-Welland)

Forgotten Friends are the Karen refugees

from Burma (Myanmar), the largest country in mainland South-East Asia. Within the overall population of Burma of some 50 million people, the Karen are 1 of 8 primary ethnic groups. It is estimated that 5 million of Burma's population are Karen and since 1980 over 800,000 Karen have fled into neighbouring Thailand. Victims of a ruthless Burmese military, Forgotten Friends records the plight of the Karen refugees – their fight against oppression and their ongoing daily, often insurmountable, challenges.

The project, undertaken in collaboration with Karen refugee students in the summer of 2006, presents on the one hand amazing innocent children who survive and yet, have no voice to, or window on, the outside world; and on the other the grim reality that is preventing a better tomorrow. The project includes a variety of different multi-media strands including: a traveling photography exhibition, children's book, interactive DVD and workshops run at various locations. The project graphically documents and illustrates beauty and sadness of our forgotten friends in equal measure.

With *Mother and Child*, Manser has portrayed a 30 year old widow with her son; her innocent smile hiding a darker side of why she has fled to the refugee camp. Manser explains, "Naw Shar Mlu and her son have survived against all odds following the abduction of her husband by the Karenni Solidarity Organization militia in November 2005. They fled their home after it was burned to the ground. By Christmas, she received the news that her husband had been murdered. Her struggle for survival goes on." The image displays a fine line that exists between enforced poverty, loss and global accountability.

Another image creates a debate of boundaries and circumstance, that of *Norda hiding in reeds*. Manser achieves inquisitiveness on the part of Norda whilst providing her with a chance to enjoy a joyful

calmness. The boundary is not only created by reeds, but also by distance culturally and democratically. Manser faced however, an additional torment. He sadly advises, “Norda was one of four siblings being looked after by her mother. Norda’s father had remained behind in Burma. I didn’t see Norda again after the photograph had been taken but learned that due to her mother’s inability to look after them, all four siblings had been taken to a dormitory inside the camp.” Manser’s heart-rending account questions the global moral maze.

In *Sun Cream Child* there is a sense of playfulness so correlated to children across the world and innocence abound. Manser informs that, “The Karen would often paint their children’s faces with elaborate patterns using sun cream.” Children love to play, face paint, mimic and perform. There is the universal child appeal in this photograph. The child could be playing hide and seek in a British park, but Manser is asking the viewer to look again in context, and it is this request that remains constant throughout the exhibition.

Manser’s collection is a moving mixture of emotions. It calls on complete arrest for each photograph and although provoking sympathy, it is not downgrading or clouding judgment. As all good exhibitions should, Manser leaves more questions than answers. Whilst there are justified moods of anger and mistrust, there are political overtones prevalent – man makes conflict, man makes greed, man makes refugees, man holds the keys. Manser’s collection evokes a variation on the cliché – in his case, every picture tells more than one story.

“Forgotten Friends from Burma, A Multi-Media Exhibition” by Ben Manser
If you are interested in showing the Forgotten Friends project please contact:
Email: refugeeweek@yahoo.co.uk



Photo by Ben Manser

Impressions of a Visit to Two Albert Schweitzer Museums

By Peter van den Dungen

Among the family of peace museums, one category consists of those which are devoted to, or have been established by, laureates of the Nobel peace prize. For instance, in the USA are peace museums or historic homes associated with Jane Addams and Martin Luther King, as well as Presidents Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, and Jimmy Carter.

In the Alsace region of eastern France, close to Germany, are two small museums devoted to Dr. Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965), one of the most interesting, important, and inspiring of all the Nobel peace laureates. He first made his reputation as a Bach and organ expert and also became a renowned theologian and philosopher, with doctorates in both fields. After qualifying as a medical doctor, he left Europe in 1913 and went to Lambarene, then in French Equatorial Africa, where he established a hospital in a region where there were hundreds of square miles without a single doctor. He used the funds of his 1952 Nobel prize for the completion of a leper village that he likewise created in Lambarene. He has rightly been called the first 'doctor without borders', who devoted most of his long life to providing medical aid to thousands of Africans. That work was largely financed by support groups which collected regular donations from many individuals from around the world; several of these groups survive to the present day.

Fifty years ago (in 1957), his broadcast on Oslo radio on the dangers of the atomic bomb received worldwide attention, and this was followed by a series of three more broadcasts the following year in which he also warned against the dangers of nuclear testing. It seemed inevitable that in the latter part of his adventurous and busy life, Schweitzer would come to address this issue which endangered not only humanity but all life. From an early age, he was convinced of the preciousness of all life, and 'reverence for life' became his famous motto - surely one which must be at the heart of any peace philosophy, and which is also very much in line with today's environmental consciousness.

The house in the picturesque town of Kaysersberg where he was born, as well as the house in the nearby village of Gunsbach that he had built, contain many fascinating artefacts which document a long and varied life. They are places of pilgrimage, especially to an older generation for whom Schweitzer was almost a saintly figure, evoking comparisons with Mother Theresa in his concern for the poor and destitute in a far-away continent. But Albert Schweitzer's noble life, as well as many writings, are also a source of inspiration and encouragement for today's generation and a visit to both museums can be highly recommended. Do not forget to admire the beautiful busts in the charming park next to the museum in Kaysersberg, and on the hill overlooking the house in Gunsbach. The latter bust is part of a 1-km long Albert Schweitzer Footpath through the village and hill, which highlights important stages in his life, with striking quotations. For more details see www.schweizer.org and also www.ville-kaysersberg.fr

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Museum to 'comfort women' opens in Shanghai

By Xiao Zhen and Hui LininShanghai and Qi Wen in Guangzhou
SHANGHAI: The country's first-ever museum dedicated to "comfort women" opened to the public on Friday at Shanghai Normal University. The archive, which tells the stories of the sex slaves kept by Japanese soldiers during World War II, was expected to greet some 300 visitors a day on its opening weekend.

Guests of honor on Friday were three former comfort women from Shanxi and Hainan provinces and the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. They attended the opening ceremony and each delivered a speech recounting their ordeals. Two consuls from the Japanese consulate-general in Shanghai also visited on Friday.

As well as hearing the women's accounts, visitors were able to look at 48 display boards and 80 objects relating to the period. "The wooden sculptures of Mount Fuji taken from the Daiichi Salon in Shanghai, the world's first comfort station set up by the Japanese, is one of the most valuable items on display," Su Zhiliang, director of the Chinese Comfort Women's Research Center at Shanghai Normal University and founder of the museum, said.

Other exhibits include recordings and written accounts by comfort women; the disinfectants Lei Guiying took with her when she fled the brothel in Nanjing where she was forced to work; boxes of condoms; and pictures of Japanese soldiers.

The museum is the third of its kind in the world. The others are in Tokyo and Seoul. According to Su's research, there were about 200,000 comfort women in China, but just 47, who have publicly declared it, are still alive. One of the three comfort women at the opening ceremony, 78-year-old Wan Aihua from Shanxi Province, said: "I have the courage to stand up as the first to confess I was a comfort woman, because I want to ask for compensation on behalf of

myself and all my sisters."

The documentary film Nanking had its premiere in Guangzhou on Thursday. "Its American director Bill Guttentag attended the premiere and we had a full house," Yang Weibing, director of the Guangzhou-based Feiyang Cinema, said. The movie has been on show in cinemas throughout Guangzhou, in most cases being shown five times a day. "The audience at the premiere was full of passion," Wu Jiemin, an office worker who saw the screening, said. She said it was well balanced and that it was good that the world would hear the story of the tragic event. (China Daily 07/07/2007)

Bethlehem Peace Center Mission

The Center shall promote and enhance peace, democracy, religious tolerance and diversity. Palestinian culture shall be demonstrated in the art and decoration of the Bethlehem Peace Center and reflected in the programs and activities.

The Center shall not be affiliated to any religion, faith or belief, nor any political party or faction or ethnic group.

The programs and all activities of the Center shall be professionally conducted and in line with the values and spirit of the Center.

Vision

The Bethlehem Peace Center shall be:
Owned and operated by the Palestinians.
A place where people of Bethlehem meet and learn.
Delivering programs and activities targeting locals as well as tourists visiting Palestine.
Internationally recognized and respected.
Inspiring and assisting other Cultural Centers in Palestine.

The Center

Bethlehem Peace Center is a Cultural Center located in the City of Bethlehem next to Manger Square between the Church of the Nativity and the Mosque of Omar. It is owned and operated by [Bethlehem](#)

[Municipality](#). It has a Board of its own; the Board consists of members from Bethlehem Municipality Council members, a representative from [Bethlehem University](#) and a representative from [The Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#).

The idea of the Bethlehem Peace Center was born in 1996. In November 4th 1997, [the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency \(Sida\)](#) signed an agreement with the Municipality of Bethlehem for the construction of the Bethlehem Peace Center and the renovation of Manger Square. In June 1998, the demolishing of the old Police Station took place and in August 31st, 1999, the construction of the new Bethlehem Peace Center started to be completed in November 28th, 1999. The celebration of the completion ceremony took place in December 9th, 1999. However, the official opening of the Bethlehem Peace Center took place in July 1st, 2000. Bethlehem Peace Center is grateful to acknowledge the continual financial support of Sida till now.

*** Facilities ***

The Lobby

A friendly space where tourists and locals can meet, talk and relax. To facilitate cultural rapprochement and understanding, Bethlehem Peace Center is planning to have various multi-media stations (touch screens and slide show to be installed in this lobby). As you enter the lobby you see the Reception, the Tourist Information Office, the Book Shop and the Restaurant.

The Reception

The receptionist welcomes all the visitors, assist them with the information required and directs them to the proper place or activity.

The Tourist Information Office

The office is run by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities. The tourists visiting the office will get all the information they may need and/or Posters, Brochures...etc about Bethlehem and Palestine.

Restaurant

To be opened in the near future for tourists as well as locals. The restaurant shall serve traditional Palestinian cuisines along with international dishes with special catering for vegetarian food or special requests.

(Presently the restaurant is open occasionally for special events).

Women, Youth & Children Dept

It consists of a large hall with small kitchenette, a spacious room, restrooms and a storage room. This spacious area is designed to accommodate most of Women, Youth and Children activities and workshops. Its location next to a semi large covered balcony with a side entrance gives it a sort of independency.

The Auditorium

A two-hundred seat Auditorium can be used for different activities. Such as concerts, theater performances, movies, debates, meetings, workshops...etc.

Exhibition Halls

One of the most visible features of the Center is the exhibition halls, three halls with different areas and heights. They are inter-connected. These halls are used for all exhibitions, local as well as international. Exhibits can also be displayed in other parts of the center.

The Bookshop

The Bookshop is one of the hidden jewels of Bethlehem, tucked away in a corner of the lobby of the Bethlehem Peace Center. Whether a citizen or tourist, we strongly recommend a peek inside the bookshop for a great variety of books and display of genuine Palestinian art and crafts for sale. The bookshop boasts an exclusive collection of novels and academic tomes in English and Arabic, as well as beautiful coffee table books of Bethlehem, Palestine and the Middle East. It also contains a selection of children's books in English, French and Arabic. You will find rare photographs, maps, posters, as well as gifts, embroidery, souvenirs, magazines and newspapers. It is definitely worth a visit to come and browse.

Library

A start-up library / documentation center that contains books and information material

specifically about Bethlehem.

Rest Area & Restrooms

Public Restrooms are available for tourists as well as for locals. A rest area is available for the visitors. The restrooms and rest area are located in the lower floor, below the lobby. Also public telephones are available in the rest area.

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It contains Mosaic findings in the area. Presently, the area is closed for visitors. An exploration study is under way in coordination with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities to make the area an Archeological Museum.

<http://www.peacenter.org/index.php>

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Art in Palestine- article by English artist Paul Gent

A battered old car drives past on the main road into the centre of Baalbek, Lebanon. The car stops, reverses towards me. The driver calls out of the window, "Hey do you want to drink some coffee and smoke some marijuana?" Hesitantly I climb into the car.

This was the day when I decided I would like to visit Palestine... well not at that moment, all I was thinking, as we headed out of the town to its run-down outskirts, was 'why did I jump into this stranger's car?' I was a little, and probably irrationally, nervous- the town was run by Hezbollah and the militants never smiled at me during my stay. In his house, his wife served me Arabic coffee and I learnt of the man's struggle to earn enough money to supply a good education for their two children, and I also learnt about his views on Palestine. "I don't hate the Jews or the Israeli's; I just don't like what their government are doing to the Palestinians." I would so often hear this sentiment during the following years

working as an artist in Palestine.

Life for the Palestinians has got worse and worse since my first visit six years ago, with the 'security' wall and the continuing settlement expansion, with fortified checkpoints 'cutting the West Bank up like a pizza,' (as one local man pointed out) and I have forced myself to re-evaluate what I am trying to achieve by painting walls in Bethlehem with very noisy and energetic children.

My focus came when I decided to volunteer for a local family run organisation called 'Tent of Nations.' On their small piece of farm land, surrounded by four encroaching Israeli settlements, I was left on my own to help build a wall with nearby rocks. (To prevent the passing goats from eating the young olives trees) As I was stacking the rocks one by one I couldn't avoid noticing that on the opposite hill, the Israeli's were building settlement houses one by one with all the machinery needed and were slowly encroaching on the family's land. My immediate thought would be to give up with the wall, but if I have learnt anything from the Palestinians, it is patience. I soon felt clearly that it is better to do something very small for a good cause than to do a big thing for a bad cause. At least I will sleep better at nights!

Painting a wall will not save the Palestinians from losing their land, of course, but at least it can have a good success rate if the aims are realistic. I now have three aims when I organise a mural for the local children;

The first aim is to have innocent and creative fun; children in Palestine often grow up far too quickly. The boys in Ayda Refugee Camp, for example, like to play 'Army and Arabs' - a portentously dangerous game where they throw stones at the soldiers and the soldiers chase them. The Israeli soldiers (mainly young boys themselves) like this game too. This game has on more than one occasion disrupted the mural painting, as the budding young artists would

be inadvertently tear-gassed, deafened by sound bombs, and sometimes shot with rubber coated bullets.

Secondly, art can be a good indirect way to get inside what the young people are thinking, and to challenge such concepts as victim hood, nationalism, peace and reconciliation, education etc. I have learnt a lot from these informal conversations. Wanting to turn the subject away from the Israeli occupation, I based one mural on Ambrogio Lorenzetti's '[Effects of Good Government on Town and Country](#), and [Allegory of Bad Government and its Effects on Town and Country](#).' We looked at Women's rights, domestic violence, crime, health and environmental issues such as pollution and litter. Daoud Nasser, from 'Tent of Nations,' felt strongly about rebuilding the strength in the Palestinian people through non-violence. "We need to focus on keeping strong by working together and keeping self-respect; it is not hard to throw our rubbish in the bin, in a small way it shows that we haven't given up."

Thirdly, Art can be a celebration of beauty amongst the ugliness of the Israeli occupation. When I worked on a mural with children from the SOS orphanage in Bethlehem, I took them down to the dusty main road where there were heaps of building waste and rubbish. (A familiar sight in Palestine) We were looking for old kitchen tiles for our mosaic, when I heard a cry of excitement. A boy ran up to me to show me his find. It was a small piece of broken tile glazed in the most beautiful blue, a rare find among the dull magnolias, browns and greys.

Creating a community mural is admittedly a small step in creating a better environment for the people suffering in the Middle-East. But at least it usually ends successfully and when you look closely there are hundreds of little projects in Israel and Palestine, run by Palestinians, Israelis and Internationals, that create and preserve peace and reconciliation where the big media blown-up projects often

fail.

To read more about Paul Gent's work in Palestine, and to see photographs and artwork, go to www.linkpalestine.org or contact Paul by email: pablogent@yahoo.com

To read more about Tent of Nations work with peace and reconciliation in Palestine, go to: www.tentofnations.org

Peace museum : Costa Rica

In 2003 the Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress opened the doors of its Museum for Peace in a strategic location in downtown San José. The museum occupies one side of the historic Plaza de la Democracia (Democracy Plaza) and is located between the National Legislative Assembly and the National Museum, a short walk from the Supreme Election Tribunal, the National Park and the Supreme Court of Justice.

The Plaza de la Democracia (Democracy Plaza) was constructed to commemorate both the first successful century of the Costa Rica democratic regime as well as the Hemispheric Summit of Presidents held in 1989 by then Costa Rican president Dr. Oscar Arias Sanchez. The goal of the summit was to encourage the region's peace processes.

The Museum for Peace looks to contribute to a culture of dialogue, consensus and reconciliation and is driven by a concept of peace as not simply the absence of armed conflict or violence but rather as a form of human progress, as much individual as collective, material as spiritual.

The Museum is open to the general public as well as to researchers. In the two-story building visitors can find invaluable documentation about the process of negotiation and peace-brokering at Esquipulas II and its repercussions in the local and international press.

On the first floor one can find exhibits

explaining the institutional trajectory of the Arias Foundation and its principle objectives and achievements. It is here that one can see a replica of the Nobel Peace Prize medal awarded to Dr. Arias Sánchez. In addition to informative films such as "People of Peace", the projection room contains a photographic exhibition of past Nobel Prize Laureates created by renowned photographer Michelle Pelletier.

The second floor features an exhibition designed to reconstruct the historical memory of Central America and the Arias Plan for Peace in a manner that is clear and accessible to the visitor. The display about the evolution of the peace process begins with a brief explanation of the historical development of Central America along geographic, political, social, economic and cultural lines. This explanation ensures a global comprehension of the phenomenon which sparked military insurrection and civil war, from clues about the identity and motives of the belligerent actors to explanations about the geopolitical context of the Cold War.

Displays further explore the contemporary history of Central America and focus primarily on the 1980s and the politico-military conflict in the region. In addition, students and teachers are offered a free guide brochure to help them understand the peace-building process in Central America.

Central America suffered during decades the bitter tragedies of protracted fratricidal wars. A number of great efforts were put forth in order to end the armed conflicts. One of the first was the forming of the so-called Contadora Group, by Mexico, Panamá, Colombia and Venezuela. This initiative proposed a project for a peace accord which was accepted in 1984 by Nicaragua. The Contadora Group was followed by the Support Group, formed by Argentina, Brazil, Peru and Uruguay.

In 1986, the meetings of the regional presidents kicked off and the negotiations progressed until the moment of the transcendental event celebrated in Guatemala City on the 7th of August, 1987, when the Esquipulas II peace accord was signed, unleashing the peace process.

Most of the documentary evidence and historical materials belonging to the Museum for Peace are now accessible in digital form. Visitors and researchers can access a digital catalogue of the publications of the Arias Foundation. Audio-visual materials are available about the Arias Peace Plan, as well as an electronic archive of documented information and international journalistic coverage of the Central American peace process.

There are no exhibitions at the moment.

<http://www.arias.or.cr/en/museum.php>

Nuclear Free New Zealand and World Court Project exhibition

June 8, 2007 marks the 20th anniversary of New Zealand's nuclear-free legislation. To celebrate this historic milestone, and the 25th anniversary of Christchurch becoming New Zealand's first nuclear free city, the Peace Foundation's Disarmament and Security Centre is organising a *Nuclear Free New Zealand* exhibition at Canterbury Museum from May – July.

The exhibition showcases a remarkable collection of over 50 years of anti-nuclear and peace artefacts such as campaign banners, quilts, photos, posters, stickers, tee shirts, badges, stamps, publications, petitions and music. Most exhibits are originals gathered from a wide range of peace campaigners who worked to make New Zealand, and the South Pacific, nuclear free.

The exhibition also highlights the historic World Court Project, begun in 1986 by retired Christchurch Magistrate Harold Evans, and driven by New Zealand peace

campaigners. This project saw the world's highest court, the UN's International Court of Justice, advise in 1996 that "the threat or use of nuclear weapons would generally be illegal", and that nuclear weapon states have a binding obligation to eliminate their nuclear arsenals.

Since 2002 the Peace Foundation has been building up a peace archive collection as part of Christchurch's declaration as New Zealand's first Peace City. The city marked the 20th anniversary of Christchurch becoming nuclear free by organising the inaugural showing of the exhibition from the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in March 2002. This eventually travelled all over the country to 16 museums and galleries. The late Mayor Ito of Nagasaki opened it in Wellington and met Prime Minister Helen Clark in May 2002.

During 2000-2002 as our government's non-governmental expert on the UN Study on Disarmament and Non Proliferation Education, I was able to feed in ideas from the grassroots peace community into the final document. There were 34 recommendations adopted unanimously by all UN states in 2002 including this one:

"Municipal leaders, working with citizen groups, are encouraged to establish peace cities, as part of the UNESCO Cities for Peace network, through for example, the creation of peace museums, peace parks, websites and the production of booklets on peacemakers and peacemaking."

This resolution has encouraged a coalition of local citizen groups to work closely with the City Council, the Museum, public library and university to implement a range of proposals adopted in the Peace City declaration. We now have a formal agreement between these organisations to develop a peace collection in the Central library; a written, photographic and oral collection at the University library; and a repository for the peace movement memorabilia in the Museum. From this collection we have selected material for the

Nuclear Free New Zealand exhibition.

In 2004 we worked closely with the University and the Museum to create a unique collection of photographs showing a personal perspective on the public life of one of the world's most inspiring political leaders, Mohandas K. Gandhi. The 34 black and white images of Gandhi in the exhibition were taken in the 1940s by Bombay based photographer D R D Wadia. The negatives were brought to New Zealand by the photographer's grandson, Dr Aditya Malik, Head of Religious Studies at Canterbury University. Dr Malik said: "It brings New Zealand's nuclear free heritage in contact with Indian values of non-violence."

The exhibition includes unique memorabilia including a handkerchief woven by Gandhi during one of his many periods of imprisonment and handwritten letters from Gandhi and Prime Minister Nehru to the photographer's wife. So far, it has been shown in 5 museums around the country. Copies of the photos have been made which are not framed in glass and therefore easy to transport. They are available for high schools to display with videos depicting Gandhi's life and work.

There is now an agreement between the Museum and the Peace Foundation that we will curate similar exhibitions every two years. Topics for consideration in the future include conscientious objectors, and opposition to French Nuclear Testing in the Pacific.

With the success of the earlier exhibitions, there is an expectation that the Nuclear Free New Zealand one will travel nationally, and maybe even internationally. For those readers who want more information on any of these resources, please email kate@chch.planet.org.nz

International Red Cross/ Red Crescent Museum: Geneva

FIELD(S), FROM SOLFERINO TO GUANTANAMO

Traces of great events that make up the history of the world, the photo archives of the International Committee of the Red Cross reflect a reality that words cannot convey.

From Solferino to Guantanamo, 88 images of humanity.

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Open from 10:00 to 17:00, except Tuesday
Free entry at the temporary exhibition
Museum shop - Restaurant
From Cornavin station : bus 8 (direction OMS or Appia), Appia bus stop
Access for disabled

International Museum of Peace and Solidarity : Samarkand

On 17 May - to honour the International Museum Day - at the Samarkand State Museum of Cultural History of Uzbekistan we inaugurated a new international exhibition "The World Congratulates Samarkand", dedicated to the 2750-years jubilee of Samarkand. We received a lot of entries (salutations, poems, songs, pictures, artwork, books etc etc) sent in by people from around the world. The ceremony was attended by our guests from Switzerland and France and was filmed by the television.

In August we are planning to add a new exhibition section "Samarkand on Every Continent".

Samarkandiana-project is a permanent

program of our Peace Museum:
<http://www.museum.com/jb/museum?id=26810&show=10&event=4103>

Thanks again for your cooperation and support. See you one day here in 2750-year-old Samarkand.

With very best wishes,
Anatoly Ionesov

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Phone/ fax: +998 (66) 233 17 53.

Web: <http://peace.museum.com>
<http://www.civilsoc.org/nisorgs/uzbek/peace/msm.htm>
<http://www.aliaflanko.de/urbo/samarkand/samarkand.html>
http://www.esperanto-sat.info/article.php3?id_article=357

E-mail: imps86@yahoo.com or imps@rol.uz
(only for messages
in plain TEXT (.txt) format). NO
attachments, please. Thanks for your
understanding!

Children's Museum for Peace and human Rights Project: Pakistan

The Children's Museum for Peace and Human Rights (CMPHR) is being set up in Karachi, Pakistan and hopes to open doors to the public in late 2009. Work is currently in progress on the construction of the custom built premises of over 11,000 square meters of covered area, consisting of 5 galleries, 9 workshop rooms, a large auditorium, and a library & resource centre.

The CMPHR developed as a logical extension of the work of Human Rights Education Programme (HREP), an organisation that had been working with children in Pakistan on peace and human rights education issues since 1995. The CMPHR is conceived as a multi-dimensional educational space for children and young

people that would provide structured opportunities to explore, interact with, reflect upon and understand a wide spectrum of social issues in an enjoyable, interactive and inspiring environment.

The concept for the CMPHR is somewhat different and experimental. There are three main features that define the CMPHR.

One, the CMPHR will primarily focus on children. There are many peace museums and human rights museums around the world. There are also many children's museums around the world based on science or play based learning. However, there are no children's museums that specifically deal with peace and human rights issues the CMPHR will act as a test case.

Two, the CMPHR will specialize in education around social issues, aiming to help children construct an understanding of the social world. Key concepts like peace, human rights and social justice will anchor the work. The educational experience at CMPHR will be explicit rather than incidental and will be the overall driving force behind the conceptualisation, implementation and running of the CMPHR. Since children learn best by hands on activities and play, the CMPHR will be an enjoyable and interactive space.

Three, the CMPHR will be a dynamic and activist organisation. It will have a strong campaigning orientation that will challenge apathy and inspire interaction with local as well as international issues and concerns. The CMPHR will be a museum with a strong message. It will seek to challenge young visitors with relevant and vital information and case studies about peace, human rights and social justice.

A big advantage of CMPHR is the 12 year history of work with children and teachers all over Pakistan, first through HREP and now as CMPHR. Even today, as it awaits the construction of the premises, CMPHR works with around 325 schools and 30

organisations around Pakistan. In July 2004, along with three Japanese organizations, HREP received the HURIGHTS OSAKA Award 2004 for the best International Human Rights Education Materials from the Asia Pacific region.

Since its conceptualization in 2001, the CMPHR has come a long way in developing its working concepts. We were acutely aware that we had no knowledge or expertise of setting up museums and are grateful to all the museums and museum professionals whose advice was critical to get to this stage. We continue to look forward to support as we get closer to realizing this dream.

More information on the CMPHR can be obtained from www.cmphr.org

Swords into Plowshares Peace Center & Gallery: Detroit

Art works by indigenous women in Peru and embroidery by South African women were exhibited in 2006.

Children's drawings related to the Convention on the Rights of the Child were exhibited in May.

Art is used to promote peace education and peace activities. News is available in its newsletter of Harbinger.

Swords into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery

33 E. Adams · Detroit · Michigan · 48226 · (313) 963-7575

<http://www.swordsintoplowsharesdetroit.org/>

International Pacifist Poster Documentation Centre: Italy

It was founded in 1993 and there are about 3000 posters for peace. Please send some posters for peace with English translation.

International Pacifist Poster Documentation Centre

Via Canonici Renani, 8 40033 Casalecchio

di Reno, Bologna, Italia

<http://cdmpinterfree.it/>

Tel: 051 6198744-051584513

Publications

Peacemaker 101: careers confronting conflict edited by Roy J. Eidelson, Jena Laske and Lina Cherfas. Solomon Asch Center for Study of Ethnopolitical Conflict, University of Pennsylvania 2007

Peace Studies and Peace Discourse in Education by Institute for Peace Science, Hiroshima University & Tomsk State Pedagogical University(Russia) Jan 2007 (in English)

DVD Book Peace Archives: Hiroshima and Nagasaki edited by Ikuro Anzai and supervised by Kyoto Museum for World Peace at Ritsumeikan University; published by Iwanami Publishing Company (Japan), Aug.2007 (Photo-rich text in Japanese and some English explanations are provided in DVD which contains about 4,000 photos regarding Hiroshima & Nagasaki and paintings drawn by A-bomb survivors.)

Visual Book: Okinawa to Be Handed down by Ikuro Anzai (Shin-Nihon-Shuppansha) 5 volumes full of photos and illustrations. Mar 2007 (in Japanese)

Notice

The unsigned articles were written up on the editor's responsibility, but the signed ones do not necessarily express the same opinions embraced by the head office of the Japanese Citizens' Network of Museums for Peace or the editor of this newsletter.