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“INTRODUCTION OF THE RENEWAL PROJECT OF THE KYOTO MUSEUM FOR WORLD PEACE, THE A-BOMB DAY MEMORIAL HAIKU MEETING AND THE JAPANESE CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 9 MESSAGE PROJECT WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE ROLE OF ARTS”

Ikuro Anzai is the director of the Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University, which is the first-built university-attached peace museum in the world and has been visited by some 450 thousands people since its establishment in 1992. He is also a member of the board of directors of the Peace Studies Association of Japan, and the coordinator of the Liaison Committee for Peace Studies of the Science Council of Japan, the official organ of the Japanese scientists in 7 different disciplines. He is the chairperson of the Organizing Committee for the A-bomb Day Memorial Haiku Meeting, and the representative of the Japanese Constitution Article 9 Message Project. He was one of the organizers of the 3rd International Conference of Peace Museums held in 1998 at Osaka and Kyoto, Japan.

Abstract

Firstly, a drastic renewal project of the Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University, is briefly introduced with emphasis on the reinforced role of art exhibitions. Secondly, recent activities of the Organizing Committee for the A-bomb Day Memorial Haiku Meeting which is supported by the Kyoto Museum for World Peace are introduced. *Haiku* is the shortest form of poem originated in Japan, and has been becoming popular throughout the world. More than 1,000 Japanese and English *haiku* for peace and nuclear disarmament are sent to this haiku meeting from more than 20 different countries. Lastly, activities of the Japanese Constitution Article 9 Message Project are introduced with some attractive responses from the citizens and Buddhist monks in the fields of music, painting and calligraphy.

There are 2 different ways for peace museums to appeal to the people the indispensability of peace. One is “rational ways”, and the other is “sensuous ways”. Exhibiting history of wars and efforts for peace-building is one of the former methods, and exhibiting arts for peace is one of the latter methods.

In this report, I would like to briefly introduce the recent drastic renewal project of the Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University with emphasis on the enhanced role of arts, and then explain art related activities of two movements, i.e., the A-bomb Day Memorial Haiku Meeting and the Japanese Constitution Article 9 Message Project.

1. Renewal Project of the Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University

The Kyoto Museum for World Peace was established in 1992 in Kyoto, an ancient capital of Japan, and has been visited by some 450,000 people including many young generations.

The museum organized more than 50 special exhibitions about varieties of themes including posters, paintings and public entertainment.

In 2004, the museum was drastically renewed.

1.1 Revision of the Permanent Exhibition Room on History of War and Peace

Firstly, the permanent exhibition room (~850_) has been extended to display the history of wars and conflicts in the world from the Sino-Japanese War in 1894 to the most recent war on Iraq in 2003. The exhibition puts special stress on Japan's “15-year War”(1931-1945) referring to, not only the damage and after-effects experienced by the Japanese people including agonies of atomic bombing on Hiroshima and Nagasaki 60 years ago, but also the aggressive conducts done by the Japanese military forces in Asia-Pacific regions. The museum newly added the exhibitions on recent conflicts after the Gulf War in 1991.

1.2 Creation of 5 Exhibition Rooms for Peace Building

Secondly, the museum established 5 new exhibition rooms on the second floor.

Rooms 1-2 display how the citizens can contribute to peace building by introducing peace-oriented activities of a number of non-governmental organizations in Japan and abroad such as the World Court Project, Hague Appeal for Peace in 1999, Social Forum movement, and 12 national and international NGOs including YWCA, Peace Boat, Alter Trade Japan, Peace Brigade International, September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows, Amnesty International, Japan Volunteer Center, KIKO Network (citizens' network on climate change), Future Bank, Asia Women's Center, and Participation and Solidarity-Korea.

Room 3 introduces peace-related activities of citizens of Kyoto including “Children's Statue for World Peace-Kyoto” built by the joint efforts of high school students; calligraphies of peace messages written by distinguished Buddhist monks of well-known temples in Kyoto; original pictures for Japanese playing cards published by the Kyoto Association for Nuclear-free Government; Kyoto doll entitled “Roar of a Bomber”; a folding screen with a picture on silk entitled “Peace of a Children's Nation”, etc. On the wall is a map of Kyoto on which a number of war-related/peace-related spots are shown with detailed information on the desk under it. Kyoto is well-known as one of the most attractive sightseeing spots in Japan with more than 1600 Buddhism temples and 400 Shinto shrines, but, here in this exhibition room, visitors can find “another Kyoto” with many historical spots related to the past wars. Near the Kyoto Station, for example, there is now a locomotive museum, but in 1945 there was a circular warehouse which was one of the targets of atomic bombing.

Room 4 is *Mugonkan* Kyoto Annex. *Mugonkan* meaning “Silence Museum” is the art museum in Ueda City, Nagano Prefecture, which exhibits paintings and mementos of the art students who were sent to the front and died during World War 2. Seiichiro Kuboshima, director of *Mugonkan*, cooperated with the Kyoto Museum for World Peace to create this moving art exhibition room. About 20 paintings are on the wall with a number of mementos in the display cases. Also on the wall are moving poems written by Kuboshima. At the innermost part of the room, there is a special exhibition corner for Itsuko Okabe, a well-known essayist living in Kyoto, who has authored many important essays regarding war and peace.

Room 5 is a newly established “Mini Exhibition Room” for free use by citizens, in which “Exhibition of Yukio Karaki’s A-bomb Paintings” was first held at the beginning of the 60th anniversary of atomic bombing on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Karaki experienced atomic bombing in Hiroshima on 6 August 1945, and later produced a series of paintings of the scenes he himself witnessed. In addition, the museum newly set up a space for exhibiting peace-oriented arts and literatures in the lobby. The following is a tentative list of paintings on display: “Black Sun” painted by Jakuso Okuda, distinguished Japanese haiku writer, “Bombers” painted by Fumio Matsuyama, well-known Japanese cartoonist, “Good and Evil” painted by Kon Ono, talented painter who won international awards, “Holy Mother and Child” by unknown Polish painter who was once in a German concentration camp after the World War 2 (donated by a Belgian woman living in Japan whose elder sister, the model for “The Nun’s Story” starring Audrey Hepburn, was given this painting while she was working as a nurse in the concentration camp), “Peace” painted by Mineko Ochiai, Japanese pastelist who also won international awards. There is a corner for two famous Japanese writers of juvenile stories for peace, Yuko Yamaguchi, author of “Angry Jizo (Guardian Deity of Children)” about atomic bombing on Hiroshima, and Toshiko Takagi, writer of “Glass Rabbit”, a moving story of a girl who lost her family in WW2.

1.3 Media Library for International Peace

Thirdly, we freshly opened the Media Library for International Peace on the first floor which enables people to learn more about peace by making it easier to access to the materials such as books, magazines, videos, CD-ROMs, DVDs, microfilms, etc. Visitors can also make use of computers through which they can obtain useful information about the activities of other peace-related museums in Japan and abroad.

As the only university-attached peace museum in Japan, the Kyoto Museum for World Peace is going to strengthen its unique contribution to the development of peace education by offering people space and information that are useful for building peace.

2. A-bomb Day Memorial Haiku Meeting

August 6 and 9 are the special days for Japanese people. A uranium bomb nicknamed “Little Boy” was dropped on the City of Hiroshima at 8:15a.m. on the 8th of August 1945. A 16kt classic nuclear weapon killed some 140,000 people within that year. A plutonium bomb nicknamed “Fat Man” was dropped on the City of Nagasaki at 11:02a.m. on the 9th of August 1945. A 21kt nuclear weapon killed some 70,000 people in the course of that year. After the termination of war, approximately 100,000 people were driven to death due to various late effects of ionizing radiations including leukemia and other types of cancers, and more than 250,000 survivors are still alive in physical, economic and social difficulties. Many events are organized around this season of the year all over the nation

Haiku is probably the shortest form of poem in the world, and very popularly liked by Japanese people. More than 10 million people occasionally write haiku about the beauties of nature and the niceties of humanity. Traditional *haiku* is a 17-syllabled verse with a seasonal word consisting of three lines of 5-7-5 syllable pattern, but there has been another traditional stream of free-style *haiku* which obliges no syllable pattern and seasonal word. Haiku has been becoming very popular throughout the world. The Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan

University, has been supporting the A-bomb Day Memorial *Haiku* Meeting, and I am now the chairperson of the organizing committee.

This nation-wide *haiku* meeting was first organized some 40 years ago by a distinguished *haiku* writer Jakuso Okuda, and now the meeting invites peace-related haiku, not only from Japan, but also from the rest of the world. The Organizing Committee for the 2004 A-bomb Day Memorial *Haiku* Meeting received about 1000 *haiku* from 362 Japanese and 170 overseas entrants of 21 different countries. Good *haiku* are selected by the judges appointed by the Organizing Committee, and the writers of good Japanese *haiku* are awarded prizes such as Grand Prix, Kyoto Prefectural Governor’s Award, Kyoto City Mayor’s Award, awards presented by some *haiku* associations and newspaper companies. The writer of the best English *haiku* is awarded Grand Prix, and those of good English haiku are awarded the Peace Museum Award presented by the Kyoto Museum for World Peace. The following are the English haiku awarded last year.

- Grand Prix
Peace prayer repeated the grandmother’s gnarled fingers trace a carved name
Sharon Hammer Baker (U.S.A)
- Peace Museum Award
Peace rally a forgotten scar starts to itch
Tom Painting (U.S.A)
- A teardrop on the medal in the old wife’s hand
Svetlana Stankovic (Serbia and Montenegro)
- The outskirts of town on a rusty cannon pigeons cooing
Tomislav Z.Vujcic (Serbia and Montenegro)

The culture of *Haiku* is thought to be very much peculiar to Japan, but it is obtaining universality, and is attracting more and more fans throughout the world. It is a special charm for the lovers of haiku to have to compose a haiku by strictly abiding by traditional rules of syllable composition and seasonal phrase. The meeting for award-giving ceremony is usually held on the first Sunday of September at the Kyoto Museum for World Peace, in which survivors of atomic bombing on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 and the Bikini hydrogen bomb test conducted by U.S. in 1954 are invited to make a speech on their tragic experiences. Every year the meeting adopts a declaration which states participants’ resolution to contribute to peace building through the culture of *haiku* by appealing to the public the agony of wars and atomic bombing and the significance of peace. I would like to continue to make efforts to develop this unique event by inviting more people from Japan and abroad thereby culturally contributing to the world peace.

3. Japanese Constitution Article 9 Message Project

Japan has a peace-oriented constitution widely known among the peace-loving people throughout the world. Its Article 9 is especially famous as a very progressive declaration for peace. Preamble of the Constitution of Japan declares, “We, the Japanese people, desire peace

for all time and are deeply conscious of the high ideals controlling human relationship and we have determined to preserve our security and existence, trusting in the justice and faith of the peace-loving peoples of the world". Based on this spirit, Article 9 of the Constitution stipulates as follows:

1. Aspiring sincerely to an international peace based on justice and order, the Japanese people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes.
2. In order to accomplish the aim of the preceding paragraph, land, sea, and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained. The right of belligerency of the state will not be recognized.

This progressive stipulation became well-known among the peace-loving people all over the world, and recently quoted in the first item of the final statement of the 1999 Hague Appeal for Peace entitled "Ten Fundamental Principles for a Just World Order". It reads "Every Parliament should adopt a resolution prohibiting their government from going to war like the Japanese article number nine."

But, there has been a deep-rooted political assertion in Japan that strongly demands amendment of Article 9. Japan was disarmed in 1945 after the unconditional surrender, but again possessed an armed unit named "self-defense forces" in 1954 in accordance with the U.S. strategy to make Japan a breakwater against communism. In 1957, the Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi even explained in the Diet that possessing nuclear weapons is not unconstitutional if those nuclear weapons are within the minimum limit of self-defense purpose. Nuclear weapons for self-defense! Since that time, a number of plans have been considered for the amendment of Article 9 by the political leaders of the dominant party in the Government, i.e. Liberal Democratic Party, and they are now preparing a draft of the amendment to be introduced to the Diet in the near future, in which the dispatch of the self-defense forces of Japan, which has the third greatest military budget in the world, to overseas countries even in international disputes is going to be legalized.

In 2004, nine distinguished Japanese intellectuals including Kenzaburo Ohe, a Nobel Prize Laureate, published apprehensive statements about the present situations regarding the amendment of Japanese Constitution, and declared the establishment of "Article 9 Association". I cooperated with Professor Minoru Suda and Mr. Tetsuo Shibano, a writer, to create a citizens' campaign for promoting pacifism of the Article 9.

We started the Article 9 Message Project, and appealed to the people throughout the nation to send us their messages in the forms of essay, painting, music, poem, *haiku*, *senryu* (witty 5-7-5 syllable verse which is different from *haiku* in that it does not refer to the season but comments people's daily life and social affairs satirically), *tanka* (5-7-5-7-7 syllable verse, also a traditional Japanese poem), *kyōka* (witty *tanka*), illustration, picture letter, poster, calligraphy, handicraft, etc. In response to our appeal, many citizens sent us their messages stating their strong determination to defend the Article 9. Some Buddhist monks sent us attractive calligraphy of meaningful phrases in relation to peace. Some of the paintings sent us were exhibited in the Kyoto Museum for World Peace. A musician composed a song entitled "Article 9 of the

Constitution". A beautiful wood-block print of antiwar poem was also sent to us. All these messages are going to be published in the books in preparation, and some of them that are appropriate for exhibition will be introduced in the peace museum.

The Article 9 Message Project has been supported by some 200 distinguished people including Hitoshi Motoshima (former Mayor of the City of Nagasaki), Jakucho Setouchi (influential Buddhist monk known also as a novelist), Sennojo Shigeyama (famous *Noh* comedian), Miyoko Ienaga (the wife of late Saburo Ienaga who instituted suit against censorship of school textbooks, etc. We will continue to promote the movement to protect and develop the pacifism of Article 9 by combined efforts in the fields of both rational and sensuous ways for appealing people.