

WTIS-15

Peace programme on Sunday, 29 November 2015

Visit to A-bomb Dome and Peace Memorial Park (listed as World Heritage site)

A-bomb Dome



The "A-bomb Dome" was originally constructed as the Hiroshima Prefectural Commercial Exhibition on the eastern riverside of the Motoyasu-bashi Bridge in 1915. This facility was a three-storey (partly steel-structured) brick building designed by a Czech architect, Jan Letzel. The centre of the facility is the five-storey staircase structure, on which a copper elliptical dome is positioned.

On 6 August 1945 at 8.15 a.m., the first atomic bomb used in the history of humankind exploded approximately at a height of 580 metres, 160 metres southeast of this facility. The force of this terrible blast was 35 tons per square metre with a blast speed of 440 metres. The atomic blast and heat wave washed over the Dome setting its roof ablaze and completely gutting the building. The blast wave that

travelled in a nearly vertical direction killed all the people working in the building while the centre of the main building was miraculously spared from destruction. The metal frame of the Dome, which was laid bare, formed the ruins that over time came to be called the "A-bomb Dome" by the local residents.

Cenotaph for the A-bomb victims

This monument embodies the hope that Hiroshima, devastated on 6 August 1945 by the world's first atomic bombing, will stand forever as a city of peace.

The stone chamber in the centre contains the Register of Deceased A-bomb Victims.

The inscription on the front panel offers a prayer for the peaceful repose of the victims and a pledge on behalf of all humanity never to repeat the evil of war. It expresses the spirit of Hiroshima-enduring grief, transcending hatred, pursuing harmony and prosperity for all, and yearning for genuine, lasting world peace.



Visit to the Cenotaph for the A-bomb victims and Peace Memorial Museum

We are honoured to invite symposium dignitaries to visit the Cenotaph for the A-bomb victims to offer flowers and visit the Peace Memorial Museum. This provides a great opportunity for us to share with WTIS-15 participants Hiroshima's hope for everlasting world peace.