



広島市長

秋葉忠利

Message

I am happy to send this message to the first Summer Camp Origami Festival 2006.

In Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, there is a Children's Peace Monument dedicated to the many children who were killed by the atomic bomb. This monument was inspired by Sadako Sasaki, a girl who was exposed to the A-bomb when she was two years old. When she was twelve, she died because of an A-bomb disease, but she folded paper cranes until the day she died because she had heard that "you will get your wish if you fold 1000 paper cranes." The monument is sometimes called the "1000 Cranes Monument."

Even today, strings of 1000 paper cranes folded in hopes of a peaceful future are sent by children around the world to the Children's Peace Monument. Sadako's hope and courage reach beyond country and time to continue touching people's hearts. Now, she and her cranes have become worldwide symbols of peace. Unfortunately, there are still tens of thousands of nuclear weapons on our planet, and the danger that a nuclear weapon will be used is actually increasing.

The future of the human race will be decided by the actions of each young person living on Earth. Therefore, it is deeply meaningful that so many young people are taking part in this Summer Camp Origami Festival 2006 and are getting this chance to think and learn about peace through Origami. I do hope that all of you will continue to remember Hiroshima and work with us to get rid of nuclear weapons and build a truly peaceful world.

I close with my best wishes for the success of the Summer Camp Origami Festival 2006 and for the happiness and success of all the participants.

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