

80 Years After World War II: Voices for Peace

-Our Voices on the 80th Year After World War II-

<Introduction>

What is missing here and now?

What is it that we, I, and you cannot see at this moment from where we stand?

In this year marking 80 years since the end of World War II in Japan in 1945,
Let us start by asking the most important question.

Through the voices of individuals and organizations, both domestic and international,
They will tell us what you cannot see.

From here on, it is up to you to decide what to do.
After all, it is the society you live in.

<Our Voices on the 80th Year After World War II>

80 Years After World War II: Voices for Peace.

A collection of voices from many people and organizations to mark 80 years since the end of WW II.

This year, as we mark the 80th year of the end of WW II,

There is a question we wish to pose.

There is something we wish to convey.

What is missing here and now?

What can't we, I, and you see from where we stand?

2025.

Eighty years have passed since the end of WW II.

Every day, events around the world are divided into good and bad, right and wrong,
from our perspective.

History teaches us that we have always done this.

We place two, three, or more opinions and interpretations on a single event.

What seems good to someone,

what seems loud,

or what seems right to one side.

We have chosen "the right thing" based on such criteria.

In this 80th year since the end of WW II, we will not make the same mistake, and we will not divide the voices calling for peace.

We have chosen to bring these voices together,
but we will refrain from adding our opinions and interpretations.

As long as they do not incite hatred or attack anyone,
Each voice and expression that has gathered here is the truth.

Every voice and expression that has gathered here has the right to exist in this society.

Therefore, by bringing each of these voices into society,
Let us ask this question.

What is missing here and now?

What can't we, I, and you see from where we stand?

Let us all be aware of this question, because it is the first step toward building a dialogue of peace with ourselves and others.

Our lives are finite.

Let us recognize what is missing and invisible from where we stand,
and pass this on to the future.

Simple events that occurred in the past eventually become history accompanied by some interpretation.

From where we stand, we are looking at the history of 80 years ago.

Today will one day become history.

This is how the present becomes the past.

One day, we will become someone's "ancestors".

We all naturally take on the role of passing on history.

Let us ask you something.

We must ask you because it is our responsibility.

What is missing here and now?

What can't we, I, and you see from where we stand?

You, the future generation, can think for yourselves.

How can our present and future continue to be peaceful by reading the many voices of peace gathered here?

Beyond our own perspectives, let us turn our eyes to what is not there and invisible from where we stand.

Let us learn to love our differences so that they never become hatred.

Regardless of your position or country in which you live in,

Let us be able to say, "Thank you for surviving," to all those who have lived in the past.

Here we are, 80 years later.
What's missing here and now?
What can't we, I, and you, see from where we stand?
Everyone who lives in society should be celebrated, respected, and loved.
We are simply here to convey the voices that have gathered here.
Each of us can think from here.
From this moment, from where you stand,
Let us move forward to tomorrow, next year, and the future.
Let us listen to these voices and search for what is missing and invisible where we stand.
Let us move forward together.

What's missing here and now?
What do you think is missing here and now?
Let's start a dialogue,
Let's change it to the power to create tomorrow.
The power to build peace for the next 80 years.

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August 1, 2025
Along with the voices that supported the 80th anniversary dialogue.