



## President of Kazakhstan visits Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park for first time

1) On November 9, Nursultan Nazarbayev, 76, the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan, where nuclear tests were repeatedly carried out during the Soviet era, visited the Peace Memorial Park in Naka Ward, Hiroshima for the first time and toured the Peace Memorial Museum.

2) In a speech, Mr. Nazarbayev talked about the damages done to his country by nuclear testing, and said that the people of Hiroshima and Kazakhstan have shared the suffering of exposure to radiation.

3) He called for cooperation to abolish nuclear weapons. Guided by Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui, Mr. Nazarbayev laid flowers at the Cenotaph for the A-bomb Victims then moved to the museum. While listening to explanations offered by Yasuyoshi Komizo, the chairperson of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, Mr. Nazarbayev studied the exhibits, including a lunchbox that was charred by the A-bomb blast.

4) He made his speech before about 500 people at the International Conference Center Hiroshima and said that he was deeply struck by seeing the A-bomb damage firsthand. He went on to describe the damage done to his country by the more than 450 nuclear tests that were conducted there, saying, “The international community has a responsibility to work together and take action so that the terror of nuclear weapons will never again be witnessed. Let us join hands and minds to realize this goal.”

5) Mr. Matsui then bestowed the title “Honorary Citizen of Hiroshima” upon Mr. Nazarbayev. In the museum’s guest book, he wrote, “If we cooperate with one other, we can build peace in the world and the people of all nations can enjoy prosperity.” During the luncheon that followed, he reportedly said that we he would encourage Russian President Vladimir Putin to visit the A-bombed cities during his upcoming visit to Japan in December.

6) Mr. Nazarbayev has served as president since Kazakhstan gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. He shut down the nuclear test site in Semipalatinsk that same year. He was also involved in realizing the Treaty on a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in Central Asia, which entered into force in 2009. 【Nov. 10, 2016／Chugoku Shimbun】

- 1) era 時代
- 2) suffering 苦しみ  
exposure 身をさらすこと  
exposure to radiation 被ばく
- 3) abolish 廃棄する  
cenotaph 記念碑  
A-bomb victims 被爆者  
(A=atomic)  
char 炭にする、黒焦げにする
- 4) firsthand 直に、直接  
terror (非常な)恐怖  
witness 目撃する
- 5) bestow A upon B A(名誉や称号等を)をBに授ける  
honorary 名誉の  
prosperity 繁栄  
luncheon 午餐会、昼食会  
encourage 奨励する、薦める  
upcoming 起ころうとしている  
gain (努力して)得る  
independence 独立  
Treaty on a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in Central Asia=中央アジア非核地帯条約  
enter into force 発効する

### ☆Ice breaker for active discussion

1. What do you know about Kazakhstan?
2. What do Japan and Kazakhstan have in common?
3. Have you ever visited Hiroshima? How about Nagasaki? Please share your experience.
4. Do you think it's possible to have a world without nuclear weapons?
5. Make sentences using the following words: era, abolish, first-hand, terror and prosperity.