

## はじめに

本テキストの原書 *Sachiko* は、6歳の時に長崎で被爆した安井幸子さん（1938～）の実話を元にしたものです。幸子さんは、原爆で最愛の兄弟姉妹を失いました。その後、差別やいじめに苦しみ、原爆症と闘い続ける中で、被爆体験を語る使命に目覚め、語り部として国内外で活動を始めたのです。その気高く、勇気ある生きざまは、人々に大きな感動を与えてきました。本テキストを作成するにあたって、幸子さんにインタビューをお願いしましたが、毅然としたお姿に深い感銘を受けました。

*Sachiko* の筆者である Caren Stelson さん（教師・ノンフィクション作家）は、戦争、平和をテーマとした作品を書こうと模索中に、アメリカで講演をしていた幸子さんの話を直に聞き、被爆体験を知らないアメリカ人のために、この本を書こうと決意したのです。そして、5度にわたり来日し、長崎大学の宮西隆幸氏の通訳を介して幸子さんにインタビューを行い、*Sachiko*（英語版）を完成させました。

*Sachiko* は、2016年～17年にアメリカでもっとも名誉な National Book Award の候補作品に取り上げられました。それ以来、Jane Addams Children's Book Award や Sibert Honor Award など若者を対象とした優れた読み物として数々の賞を受賞し、またマスコミ界からも、読むべき本として高く評価されています。

広島、長崎では、原爆が投下されて70数年の歳月が流れた今も、その記憶を心に刻み、犠牲者に祈りを捧げるために、毎年平和式典が行われています。また、2017年には、核兵器廃絶国際キャンペーン（ICAN）の貢献により、国連で核兵器禁止条約が採択されました（ICANは、同年、ノーベル平和賞を受賞）。けれども世界は、相変わらず、戦争や紛争を繰り返し、平和とは程遠い状態です。このような状況の中、幸子さんや Caren さんの真摯な思いに耳を傾け、生きることの意味のみならず、平和や、暴力、戦争、原爆の意味をもう一度問い直していただけたら幸いです。

戦争と原爆という過酷な現実の中で、たくましくもしなやかに生き抜いてきた幸子さんの足跡をたどりながら、世界平和を希求する各界のメッセージを読むことは、これから生きていくうえで、人生の大きな指針を得ることでしょう。そして物語に引き込まれてぐんぐん読み進めて行くうちに必ず、英語の運用能力の向上にもつながっていくものと確信しています。

なおこの教科書の作成にあたり、Caren Stelson さんには、私たちの質問に懇切丁寧に対応していただきました。また長崎原爆資料館や永井博士記念館からは、写真や地図など、多大な資料を提供していただきました。心から感謝いたします。

最後になりましたが、本書の編集にご尽力いただいた英宝社の下村さんに、厚く御礼を申し上げます。



安井幸子さん

執筆者一同

# Sachiko's Fiftieth Anniversary

## 幸子が迎えた原爆投下 50 周年

"Moshi moshi." (Hello?) Fifty-six-year-old Sachiko answered the telephone. An elementary school principal was on the other end of the call with a question. To help commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb, would Sachiko speak to his sixth-grade class about her hibakusha experience? Sachiko hesitated. Five decades had passed since August 9, 1945. Would she speak? "Yes."

On the evening of August 9, 1995, the ceremony at the Nagasaki Peace Park was over. In a hotel lobby, Sachiko Yasui stood in front of an audience of sixth-grade children and their parents. Sachiko stood tall, like a camphor tree. She smiled at each child before her. They reminded her of Aki, Ichiro, Misa, Toshi, and herself when she was young. Sachiko felt a surge of strength, a clarity of mind. She was ready to speak. The crowd's murmuring stopped.

"This is an important day to talk about peace," Sachiko said. She smiled at each child again. "What can we do to take care of our peace?" Silence wrapped around the room. Sachiko let the question hang in the air. "I hope to give you something to move your heart, to make you think of our peace for the future by telling you about the real misery that happened in the past. To make it happen, I have to share my heart...with you," Sachiko said.

"I think it must be very hard for you to feel what happened because you are so very young, but I'll try to speak about how strong you can be as a human being when you encounter difficulties in the future." Sachiko began her story of the atomic bomb. She started with the egg.

*I was six years old and hungry.*

*So were my three brothers and sister, Aki, Ichiro, Misa, and Toshi.*

*Little Toshi always got the egg, but our hen had not laid an egg that day.*

*I remember the air-raid siren that morning.  
Afterward, Mother and Toshi looked for the egg. Aki and Misa walked back home. I stayed to play house with my friends. We patted mud into dumplings beneath the billowing clouds.  
Above, a B-29 engine whined.  
The clouds parted.  
Pikadon!  
Toshi, Aki, Ichiro. They are gone now.  
So is Misa.  
My father.  
My mother.  
I nearly died, too.*



Sachiko Yasui speaking to young students  
*Sachiko: Nagasaki Bomb Survivor's Story*

Sachiko paused. "What happened to me must never happen to you." A hush swallowed the room. The sixth graders and their parents sat motionless. Sachiko straightened her shoulders and held her head high. She wanted the children to see that even an atomic bomb cannot kill a person's spirit. She began again. "The most important thing is to live your life. Life is what is important," Sachiko's voice grew, stronger, more confident. There was so much more to say, but what would be most important to remember? Sachiko looked into the eyes of the children. "Remember this," she said.

*Every word is precious. / One word can make you feel loved. / One word can hurt. / One word can make you cry. / One word can break your heart. / One word can do so much damage. / One word can lead people. / One word can protect world peace. / Every word is precious.*

"And when you grow up, remember to tell my story. Have your children tell my story and their children and theirs..."

In 2014 Sachiko offered this advice to the young people of the world:

WHAT IS PEACE?  
WHAT KIND OF PERSON SHOULD I BE?  
KEEP PURSUING ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS.

[注] 幸子の兄弟姉妹の本名。

Aki = 昭信 Ichiro = 伸一郎 Sachiko = 幸子 Misa = 美佐子 Toshi = 俊治

**語句**

**commemorate** 「記念する」 **camphor tree** 「クスノキ」

**surge of strength** 「強さがみなぎること」

**clarity of mind** 「頭がはっきりすること」 **murmur** 「ざわつく声」

**encounter** 「出遭う」 **air-raid** 「空襲の」 **dumplings** 「お団子」

**beneath** 「～の下で」 **billowing cloud** 「波状雲」 **whine** 「ブーンと鳴らす」

**part** 「分かれる」 **pause** 「少し間を置く」 **hush** 「沈黙」 **swallow** 「包む」

## Exercises

### A Let's scan!

1. What did the elementary school principal ask Sachiko to do?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What was Sachiko like when she stood tall?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Who reminded her of her family?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What must not happen to the sixth graders?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What did Sachiko say is precious?

\_\_\_\_\_

## **B** Listening Test

Listen and complete the following passage.

Since August 9, 1995, Sachiko Yasui has traveled <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Japan, to Canada, and to the United States, sharing her experience with thousands of students; <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ at universities; and giving newspaper, radio, and television <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. In 2005, the sixtieth anniversary of the dropping of the bombs, Sachiko became <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ of \*the Keisho-bu Branch of the Nagasaki Foundation for the Promotion of Peace, an organization that supports the public sharing of hibakusha experiences. She served as president of the organization until 2013, telling her story and working to <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ peace.

( \* 下線 長崎平和推進協会継承部会 )

## **C** Vocabulary Review

Complete each sentence by using the words in the essay.

1. 私のボーイフレンドが、電話の相手だった。  
My boyfriend was (       ) (       ) (       ) (       ) of the call.
2. あなたたちに未来の地球について考えてもらうことを願っている。  
I hope to (       ) you think (       ) the earth in the future.
3. 少女たちは、泥をこねてお団子を作った。  
The girls (       ) mud (       ) dumplings.
4. 彼は、肩を真っすぐにして、頭を高くあげた。  
He (       ) his shoulders and (       ) his head (       ).
5. あなたの子どもたちに平和の大切さを学んでもらってください。  
(       ) your children (       ) the importance of peace.

## **D** Let's discuss!

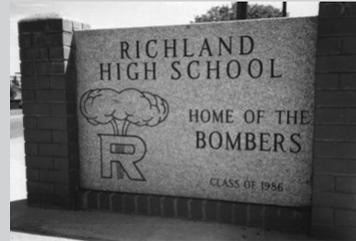
In what ways can people remember the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki?

## Further Reading 1

### Mushroom Cloud Logo

きのこ雲の町

The following is an excerpt from an article, “One cloudy day,” covering a Japanese high school girl who courageously and sincerely raised a question about a mushroom cloud logo.



Mushroom cloud logo for Richland High School Bombers as of 1999

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When Nonoka Koga arrived at Richland High School in the US state of Washington, she bought herself a hoodie featuring the school logo. She was on a year-long exchange program, wanted to fit in, and barely gave the design a second thought. Ten months later, she had sparked a debate about the meaning of that logo.

On walls, T-shirts, and the floor of the basketball court at Richland High is a large, green letter R against a cartoon mushroom cloud. It is a source of local pride that the town produced the plutonium for the bomb that was detonated over the city of Nagasaki in 1945. They say their work helped bring an end to World War 2. “Proud of the cloud” is the school slogan. The high school sports teams are known as the Bombers.

Koga arrived at the school in August 2018. At first, the local ideas about the bomb barely registered with her. But that changed one day in history class, when she heard for the first time an account very different to what she had learned back in Japan. Later she talked about it with Shawn Murphy, a teacher she was close to, and he asked if she knew what the mushroom cloud on her hoodie actually was. “She was very shocked and she was actually in tears,” says her teacher.

Mr. Murphy offered her a platform to share her ideas. With the help of her host mother, she began working on a script. On May 30th, Koga played

the video for the entire school. “Those who were bombed were civilians, not soldiers. Should we have pride in killing innocent people?” Koga asks in the video.

Koga says she was so nervous the night before the video was screened that she couldn’t sleep. In the event, the response from her close friends was overwhelmingly positive. “She’s brave, she’s courageous, I’m very proud of her for stepping up and saying what she wanted to say,” Mr. Murphy said. Koga’s video caught the attention of the local media, and it sparked a debate among the Richland residents over the rights and wrongs of the logo. (Hamamoto)

#### 語句

**mushroom cloud** 「きのこ雲」 **featuring** ～ 「～を表した」 **hoodie** 「パーカー」  
**fit in** 「適応する」 **spark debate** 「議論を呼ぶ」 **detonate** 「爆発させる」  
**register with** 「(人) に印象を与える」 **account** 「説明」 **platform** 「機会」  
**in the event** 「結果的に」 **response** 「反応、反響」  
**step up** 「立ち上がる、奮起する」

## Questions

1. If you were Koga, would you have the courage to express your own opinion if it were different from others?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Why did an atomic bomb’s mushroom cloud become the logo of Richland High School where Koga went as an exchange student?  
\_\_\_\_\_