

## **Yokohama Students' Appeal for World Peace**

### **"May our Message of Peace Travel the Winds of the World"**

The students of Yokohama dream of a world where every person can live happily and safely. A more gentle world where no person experiences hardships and can have dreams for a better tomorrow. A world without injustices hampering a child's dream. A world where both people and nature thrive. A world where no person is robbed of life.

However, presently many children throughout the world suffer from prejudice. Also, many children suffer injury and death brought on by wars, poverty and hunger. Though we are all of the same generation, the thought that so many children are in pain brings a sorrow to our hearts.

Accordingly, we have a request to the world. Please do not destroy our dreams, our future nor our lives with wars and environmental destruction. Our hope is for true peace. Yet, our hopes and wishes alone will not bring peace. Hence, we offer an appeal for world peace.

As children, there are still many things we must learn. Without knowledge we can not begin our challenge, we must begin by learning; "What is happening in our world today?" "What happened in the world of the past."

Facing both our past and present world, we must decide what we should do, and then what we can do, to obtain our desired world peace. The efforts of every single person are desperately needed to reach our goal.

In our youth, we must take advantage of many new experiences. Such as, meeting and talking with people from around the world. We can widen our vision by listening to people who have been raised in cultures different from our own. What seems natural and normal to us may not be true for peoples of other nations. Understanding others' points of view is important to achieving our aim of true world peace.

We should make efforts to learn languages. And if our language skills fail to communicate our idea, we can express our feelings through gestures and other means, when we make an effort to do so.

We should begin by trying our best to do what we can. This may be in the form of raising money for charities or volunteering for local activities. Even simple gestures such as building the nerve to speak with other people about our issues are an important step in beginning our quest for a more peaceful world.

Combining our efforts is vital to realizing our goals. We are one people living on an irreplaceable earth, we must join hands and act positively in order to save our planet for all citizen of our globe.

We must learn more about the problems of the world, consider solutions and take actions. However small our contributions may appear, the important factor is to act with good intention and sincere effort. We hope that all the children of the world will share our commitment to world peace. We can not change the past, but with our unified spirit we can change our future.

The students of Yokohama are intensely serious about world peace and we truly hope that;

"Our message of peace will travel the winds of the world."

Yokohama Student Peace Messenger Committee - August 1, 2001