



Scouts to participate in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony

3 August 2015, Kirara-hama, Yamaguchi, Japan: On 6 August, some 150 Scouts from the National Scout Organizations (NSOs) participating in the 23rd World Scout Jamboree here will be taking part in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony.

This year also marks the 70th anniversary of the nuclear bombing of the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The one-day off-site programme to Hiroshima aims to deepen the awareness of Scouts about the sanctity of life and the importance of empathising with others, which is in line with the Scout Promise and Law.

During the programme, participants will visit the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and join attendees from Hiroshima city as they pray for those who lost their lives in the nuclear bombing, as well as for peace in the world.

The Jamboree participants, Scouts from the Hiroshima Scout Council and Scout Association of Japan will take part in the volunteer activities which include the distribution of flowers and ceremony programme guides to ceremony attendees.

They will also participate in the dedication of paper cranes which have been folded by Scouts during the Hiroshima Peace Programme at the Children's Peace Monument.

Prior to the Jamboree, the Messengers of Peace programme had launched the Paper Cranes for Peace campaign. Each Scout Unit was encouraged to bring 100 cranes that would be made into Senbazurus and presented at the Children's Peace Monument in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.

According to an ancient Japanese legend, folding 1000 paper cranes or Senbazuru entitles one to a special wish that would be granted by a crane. Legend has it that the gesture may also reward one with a sense of peace, happiness and hope.

Paper Cranes for Peace is a key activity of the Messengers of Peace programme at the Jamboree. Inspired by the story of Sadako Sasaki, Scouts would reflect on the past to develop their vision of world peace. It would also encourage the young people to take action to create a better world.

Happening concurrently is the Nagasaki Peace Forum during which Scouts will learn about the importance of peace by visiting the Nagasaki City and Nagasaki Peace Memorial Park. They will also participate in discussions with a group of young people from Nagasaki.

Ends

About the World Organization of the Scout Movement ([WOSM](#))

Scouting is one of the world's leading educational youth movements, engaging millions of young people around the world to be active citizens to create positive changes in the communities they live in. Since 1907! Founded by Lord Baden-Powell, WOSM is a confederation of 161 National Scout Organizations in a network of over 40 million members, including some 7 million volunteers. As it has been doing for more than a century - creating a better world - it will continue to do so, and even better with the many Messengers of Peace across the globe.

For more on the 23rd World Scout Jamboree, visit www.scout.org/ws2015 or follow us on www.facebook.com/23wsj2015 or Twitter [@ws2015](https://twitter.com/ws2015).

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