

# HIROSHIMA DAY

TTM! Mentees join PeaceCrane2020 August 2020

On the 6th of August 2020, Japan completed 75 years since it suffered the world's first atomic bomb attack by the United States of America on the city of Hiroshima. This was followed three days later by the second attack on Nagasaki, and the end of World War II. The cost of this show of force using nuclear power resulted in the loss of over 200,000 lives and unimaginable destruction of property.

As the world commemorated this tragic event that changed history, people from all corners of the globe prayed for the realization of lasting world peace. The tradition of folding the Origami Peace Crane is observed to express solidarity for peace, in memory of eleven year old Sadako Sasaki, a victim of the bombing, who inspired her generation and more, to wish and work for peace. This year the [www.theelders.org](http://www.theelders.org), an organisation of eminent world leaders, initiated #PeaceCrane2020, with Masahiro Sasaki, the brother of Sadako, calling for everyone in the world to fold a crane and pray for peace.



To mark this day, Kalyani Voleti, who has been organising Origami classes for our mentees, encouraged the participants to join the effort and create their own paper cranes. This is what Kalyani had to say about PeaceCrane2020: "It was a nice gathering online. My Japanese friend shared the story of Sadako Sasaki. We folded paper cranes and wrote messages of peace on them."

*"Paper cranes are a symbol of peace. They are a concept of societal friendship and harmony in the absence of hostility and violence. Peace is everywhere. It is us humans who are destroying it. It is very important and helpful for one to be peaceful. People cannot find peace, but they can create it. If one remains peaceful, then others will surely get affected by it, and it will spread. Peace is infectious. If a small girl can create more than 700 cranes for prayer of world peace, then why can't we? It might be impossible to make 1000 cranes, but it is possible to make 1000 people peaceful. For if we get up from our comfort zones and start giving just a sprinkle of kindness with peace, we can make a difference. During this pandemic, it is not possible to go out and to gather people, as it is not safe for us. However, we students can teach our parents, siblings and ourselves to live in peace. So, start giving a little bit of happiness, hope and peace to others."*

- TTM! Mentee, Sneha Das

