

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2013

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



A Nuclear Weapons-Free World: A Perfect Vision with a Deadline

Dr Tadatoshi Akiba, Distinguished Academic, author and former Mayor of Hiroshima, will present the 2013 Red Cross Oration titled: "A Nuclear Weapons-Free World: A Perfect Vision with a Deadline."

As his home of Hiroshima is one of two cities, along with Nagasaki, to suffer the devastation of a nuclear bomb, Dr Akiba is deeply committed to ensuring that the world never again experiences the horror that reduced his city to rubble and killed hundreds of thousands of people.

Dr Akiba was President of Mayors for Peace, a global network of mayors striving to achieve nuclear disarmament, from 2003-2011. In this role, Dr Akiba expanded the organisation from 480 member cities in 102 countries and regions to 4,680 member cities in 150 countries and regions.

He has overseen the development of major Mayors for Peace initiatives including the 2020 Vision (Emergency Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons), a program to eliminate all nuclear weapons by the year 2020 - the 75th anniversary of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

In August 2010, he received the Ramon Magsaysay Award for his advocacy for nuclear disarmament, and in April 2013 he was awarded the Otto Hahn Peace Medal from the United Nations Association of Germany (DGVN) and the Governing Mayor of Berlin. Dr Akiba was named Chairman of the Middle Powers Initiative (MPI) in August 2012 and has been a Professor (Special Appointment) of Hiroshima University.

About the Red Cross Oration: The annual Red Cross Oration is a collaboration between UTAS and Australian Red Cross. The focus of the Oration is on an important contemporary issue that has a distinctly human meaning and significance.

Event details

Who: All are welcome to attend this oration, presented in association with UNAA.

What: 2013 Red Cross Oration.

When: Tuesday 12 November 2013, 6pm.

Where: Stanley Burbury Theatre, University of Tasmania, Churchill Ave, Sandy Bay.

Information Released by:

The UTAS Communications and Media Office

Phone: (03) 6226 2124

Email: Media.Office@utas.edu.au

Follow us on Twitter @UTAS_