



International Network of
Museums for Peace

From General Coordinator' Desk

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10th
Conference
Global
Online

International Conference of
Museums for Peace

INMP 2020

INMP 2020 Started !

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on INMP Website

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INMP 2020 began with a dynamic and passionate performance of Japanese drums (*Wadaiko*) by the students of the Kyoto University of the Arts. *Wadaiko* has historically been used to convey information and inspire soldiers during the Warring States period. Nowadays, it has become a “must” instrument for festival culture in Japan, and in recent years, *Wadaiko* performance has become very popular both inside and outside Japan. The well-trained performance of the students impressed the viewers with the sounds and rhythms that broke the uneasy atmosphere of the pandemic.

Commemorative Speech

Expressing “Wa” through Ikebana

※ “Wa” is a Japanese cultural concept connoting peace, harmony, balance, cooperation, friendliness, gentleness, summing-up, and sometimes Japan itself.



Senko Ikenobo (Headmaster of Designate of Ikenobo)

Ikebana (flower arrangement) is a traditional Japanese culture along with Chanoyu (tea ceremony). The Japanese Archipelago is colored with flowers from season to season. The prehistory of the

formation of Ikebana was engraved, while several elements such as flowers for admiration and flowers for gods and Buddha were intertwined. The establishment of Ikebana is believed to have been done by monks in the Rokkakudo Temple of Kyoto in the middle of the Muromachi period.

Senno Ikenobo, who was active as a master of flowers, established an ikebana theory that included not only technique but also ideological aspects, and began to transmit so-called Kadensho (flower books). Senko Ikenobo (2nd), who mastered the Rikka style, which expressed nature's form on top of the vessels, was used heavily by the imperial court and the samurai family, thus solidifying Ikenobo's position. The Ikenobo is the oldest and largest ikebana school in Japan.

The owner of a family who has inherited Japanese traditional culture such as tea ceremony and flower arrangement for generations is called "Iemoto." At the opening program of INMP 2020, I asked Ms. Ikenobo Senko, the next Ikenobo's Iemoto, to give a commemorative lecture with a demonstration of Ikebana. Senko uses a variety of autumnal flowers, leaves and branches from Japan and abroad to create a harmonious work of art, making the most of the characteristics of each plant, and suggests hints for the creation of a peaceful society in the culture of ikebana that pursues harmony while allowing the diverse elements to show their characteristics.

Interview with Sen Genshitsu, Grand Master of the Ura-Senke School of Tea Ceremony

— A Message for Peace and the Wisdom of Living in the Age of Pandemics —
From the Program of NHK Kyoto Broadcasting Station on August 27 and 28, 2020

◆ Introduction

This presentation is going to introduce an interview with Sen Genshitsu, Grand Master of the *Ura-Senke* School of Tea Ceremony, which was broadcast by Japan's public broadcaster, NHK, on August 27 and 28, 2020. The interview was conducted in Japanese, but the overview of the content is here introduced also in English in view of its importance.

Sen Genshitsu, 97 years old, is one of the most influential figures in the world of tea ceremony, which is known as a traditional Japanese cultural art form along with *Ikebana* (Flower Arrangement). He served as the 15th *Iemoto* of the *Urasenke* School, and now serving as the Grand Master.

The TV program introduces the war experience of Sen Genshitsu, who went off to war as a student and became a suicide bomber, and his postwar efforts for peace through the tea ceremony, as well as his thoughts on the wisdom for living in the age of pandemics.

You can watch the program (in Japanese) by clicking on the following URLs.

<https://www.nhk.or.jp/kyoto-blog/tokusyu/434913.html>

<https://www.nhk.or.jp/kyoto-blog/tokusyu/434959.html>



Sen Genshitsu



Konnichian
Tea House

Born in Kyoto in 1923, now 97 years old. Graduated from Doshisha University. Studied at the University of Hawaii and completed his doctorate at Chung-Ang University in South Korea. Doctor in philosophy and literature.

He went to war as a student soldier and became a suicide attacker but was ordered to stand by

immediately before the planned sortie.

After the war, in 1955, he became the 15th *Iemoto* (head) of the *Urasenke* School and assumed the name of Sen Soshitsu as the head of *Konnichian* (Urasenke's representative tea house).

He has traveled to more than 60 countries in the world over 300 times to promote tea ceremony culture and world peace.

He held peace memorial tea ceremonies at the United Nations General Assembly in 2000 and 2010 in the presence of the UN Secretary General and UN representatives from various countries; in 2007 and 2013, at the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives; in 2011, at the Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, the site of the beginning of the Pacific War; and in 2012, at UNESCO Headquarters.

He currently serves in many capacities, including as UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador, Goodwill Ambassador for Japan and the United Nations, President of the United Nations Association of Japan, etc.

Interview: Living as a former suicide bomber - a message of peace

He was born the eldest son of a tea ceremony *Urasenke* Family, but the year after he entered university, he went off to war as a student. He joined the navy, not with a grandiose desire to serve his country, but with the hope that by dying, his family would be "relieved" and the war would be over. Eventually, he became a soldier on a suicide mission, and at a tea party held on a sortie base, his comrades turned to his home country and cried out "Mom!" His comrades begged him to let them have a tea ceremony in Sen's real teahouse when they returned alive, and they entrusted Sen with the task of creating a peaceful society with the spirit of tea culture. Many of his comrades went off to Okinawa, and most of them never returned. Sen was ordered to stand by immediately before he was to go off to battlefield, and he survived.

After the war, he continued to work for the realization of peace through the tea ceremony culture. He often commuted to Okinawa, where his comrades lost their lives in battle, and made tea for the memorial service in which tea, sweets and flowers were offered on the sea. When the tea bowl containing green tea sank into the sea, water was dyed green and Sen felt like he heard his comrades yelling, "Mom!"

Recalling the tea ceremony on the sortie base 75 years ago, where the comrades expressed their true sentiments in the extreme situation of war, Sen believes that communicating each other in tea ceremony would help make people more peaceful.

The war is tragic and should never be repeated, Sen believes. War is an act that humans should never do, Sen is convinced. With a feeling of peace entrusted to him by his comrades, Sen has only appealed to the people that the servicing tea mutually will bring about compassion for others in the heart which is very important. Communicating one's heart to other people over a cup of tea — Sen believes this is important.

About the General Meeting → Also see page 8

The INMP General Meeting is open to INMP Active Members, and all registered Conference participants.

Participants who are not INMP members are encouraged to join the discussions but may not vote on any matters that arise in the meeting.

Please keep your microphones muted throughout the meeting and use the chat feature to make comments or ask questions.

For those who are not yet INMP members, please consider applying for membership. The forms can be found [HERE](#) on the INMP website.



Conference Opening Remarks by Chancellor Yoshio Nakatani Ritsumeikan University



It is my privilege and great pleasure to welcome you all to the 10th International Conference of Museums for Peace.

I am Yoshio Nakatani, Chancellor of the Ritsumeikan Trust.

The world is facing dramatic changes. The global network is reaching a turning point. Nationalism and protectionism have intensified, and the COVID-19 pandemic has thrust these concerns into the spotlight. In addition to wars and conflicts, it has become a major issue for us how to deal with collective matters such as poverty, hunger, environmental destruction, and the creation of a sustainable future.

Ritsumeikan's founding ideals are "freedom and innovation." With these ideals, we have committed ourselves to a core educational philosophy of "peace and democracy" in over 120 years of history since the university's establishment. Ritsumeikan Academy fosters learning and the development of individual talents in order to nurture just and ethical global citizens.

Our mission is, in keeping with the spirit of Ritsumeikan's Charter as an institute of education and research, to promote peace, democracy and sustainable development in Japan and throughout the world. In our fast-changing world, we announce the Ritsumeikan R2030 vision under the slogan of "Challenge your mind, Change our future." We are currently drawing up concrete measures to this end.

The Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University was established in 1992. This year marks its 28th anniversary. The museum's mission is not only to embody the concept of our educational philosophy, but also to convert the Ritsumeikan Charter into tangible forms. It showcases meaningful display as well as educational and research output.

So, today, many peace museum members from all over the world have gathered to discuss how museums can contribute to the creation of a peaceful world. However, due to the global COVID-19 crisis, this conference is being held in online-bases, and includes over 100 presentations.

Originally, many peace museum workers from all over the world should have held an in-person conference today to discuss how museums for peace can contribute to the creation of peace. However, due to the global COVID-19 crisis, this conference is being held in online-bases, and includes over 100 presentations.

I am confident that this online conference will serve as a "node" to inspire the creation of a world of peace and friendship through museums around the world.

In closing, I would like to applaud the efforts of the "International Network of Museums for Peace (INMP), and to express my hope that this conference will be a success and a meaningful event for all of you.

Thank you very much.





Welcome Speech by Professor Shin-ichi Ago INMP 2020 Organizing Committee Chair



In the capacity of the director of the organizing committee for the INMP 2020 Kyoto Conference, I wish to welcome all of you to the 10 Conference of the International Network of Museums for Peace!

As this marks the tenth of the INMP conference and as it coincide with 75th anniversary of the end of WW2, we had been preparing a great event with highly interesting talks, exhibitions, performances and tours, with Ritsumeikan Peace Museums as the main venue. Alas, our endeavor, like many others, including the Olympic Games, had to be completely reconsidered by the Covid-19 epidemic that is still menacing us worldwide.

The organizing committee had carefully studied the feasibility of a face-to-face conference until the last moment of the end of March, but made a very difficult decision to hold it as a virtual conference, using an on-line technology which is familiar to everyone by now, instead of postponing it to next year or even later to be hosted elsewhere. This was a very hard decision. Think about the Chinese word for conference, which is composed of two characters: People meeting each other (会) + discuss (議). Personal contact is essential in a conference. You would not go back home from a conference with newly acquired knowledge and information only, but also informal discussions with conference participants on the corridor or during lunch breaks etc, making new friends, seeing and feeling the exhibited objects. Those who have been giving classes in universities and schools, should know very well by now that Zoom or Skype does not hundred percent replace class teaching with personal contacts.

However, we were not pessimistic. For we know that a remote conference has a positive side. We have tried to "turn misfortune into fortune", as another Chinese proverb says. If we were able to offer an attractive content in the on-line conference, it was widely known that it could enable larger number of participants to attend from various corners of the world, because it economizes long ours of travel from the other side of the globe. Furthermore, by securing a free access to the recordings of the conference to the general public after September, makes INMP better known and the valuable contents of the conference made public goods. We were not wrong in expecting a large scale participation. Actually more than 100 presentations were registered and we are offering place for all, something, which we would not have been able to do in a conference taking place physically in three or five days.

At the same time, we have tried, as much as possible, to avoid a unilateral emission of information and make the virtual conference close to a real one by offering 4 live panel sessions, overcoming time zone differences ranging from late evenings in Japan to early mornings in USA. It has forced some of the participants to sit in front of his/her PC as early as 6 AM in the morning or ourselves here in Kyoto to stay late in the night such

as 11 PM. We were lucky to be supported by some of the remote speakers with the contention, that it was for them physically less tiresome to wake up early or stay late in the evening, rather than spending a large amount of money and time to travel long distances.

Among many prominent speakers, we are happy to have with us on line, Prof. Christine Chinkin, who had since long time consented to come to Kyoto and give a key note speech in the Gender and Human Rights Panel. Just 20 years ago, she acted as a judge at the Women's International War Crimes Tribunal in Tokyo and since then, as one of the most renowned scholars in her field, she has been vocally criticizing the gender biased international law with a view to promoting peace by ending gender discrimination.

In the Hiroshima Panel, we have other star speakers, such as Mr Akiba, former mayor of the city, as well as Ms Koko Kondo, whom many of you might have had chance to listen to, because she is a rare Hiroshima survivor who can vividly talk about the day of bombing in a fluent English.

The Peace Museum Directors and Curators Panel, many representatives of the INMP allied museums speak out the role of peace museums in the contemporary world, a thought-provoking important discussion.

The Youth Panel, embodies thoughts on one of the main pillars of the conference theme, namely how to hand the baton to the next generation. A very lively discussion will take place, which arouses a hope in the succession of the cause of the current peace museums in the coming century

Special exhibition, which was decided at the last minute to be included in the program, is the effect and the role of peace museums in the era of Covid-19. Your General Co-ordinator, Prof. Anzai and his team, has worked hard to materialize this exhibition in a shortest possible time from March. We are in the middle of this pandemic, suffering greatly. It seems to have entered into the so-called Second Wave and its end is apparently not in an imminent future. We shall share our thoughts on this contemporary challenge to our society.

At the end of my welcome speech, I wish to thank all of you who have virtually participated in this conference and other co-organizers of the conference, namely Kyoto University of Art and Design, Kyoto Seika University and Ikenobo College, Special thanks go to the staff in Ritsumeikan's Peace Museum and the university secretariat, and last but not least, to Prof. Anzai, who was Secretary General of the Organizing Committee, without whose enormous efforts this conference could not have been materialized.





Professor Ikuro Anzai's Speech General Coordinator of INMP Secretary General of Organising Committee



Dear friends for peace around the world. How are you? Welcome to INMP 2020!

My name is Ikuro Anzai, the General Coordinator of the International Network of Museums for Peace, the organizer of this conference. Together with Professor Shin-ichi Ago, Organizing Committee Chair, and Professor Atsushi Fujioka, Program Committee Chair, I have made every possible effort for the success of the INMP 2020, and have worked to publicize the conference by issuing a number of mini-newsletter entitled "From General Coordinator's Desk".

My special thanks should go to Dr. Kazuyo Yamane, Ritsumeikan University, for her tremendous contribution to international communication and also to Dr. Roy Tamashiro, Professor Emeritus of Webster University, USA, for his enormous contribution to website management and technical assistance to the presenters.

First of all, I would like to express my deepest condolences to those who lost their lives due to COVID-19, to the workers of Kyoto Animation Company who were killed by a terrorist attack last year, to the victims of the *tsunami* and the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant accident 9 years ago, and to the peace museum workers who have died in recent years.

As a scientist specializing in radiation protection, I founded the Fukushima Project Team 7 years ago and made 70 visits to Fukushima to support the people there in their efforts to rebuild their lives. The light in front of me is a memorial light made from sesame oil produced by the farmers of Fukushima whom we have been supporting. This light-up performance was prepared in cooperation with Nakamura Candle Shop in Kyoto which has a long history since Edo Era for more than 300 years. I express my gratitude to Mr. HIrokazu Tagawa of Nakamura Candle Shop who has long been cooperating with Fukushima Project Team.



The flowers on both sides of me were specially arranged by Ms. Yoshiko Yamane who is a master of the Ikenobo school of flower arrangement called "Ikebana" in Japan. The peaceful and harmonious spirit of Ikenobo's Ikebana culture will be introduced afterwards in the memorial lecture by Ms. Senko Ikenobo who

is the next head of the Ikenobo school. I would like to thank Yoshiko for beautifully expressing peace and remembrance with flowers.

A virtual conference is quite new to INMP in its 28-year history, and we were initially concerned about the success of the conference. However, I am glad to say that the enthusiasm and efforts of people from around the world, both inside and outside of INMP, are making this conference more successful than we expected.

In addition to many videos and other types of digital information presented by peace museum workers, peace researchers and peace educators, which have been beautifully finished by wonderful insight and technical assistance of Dr. Roy Tamashiro, our Executive Board member, we are going to publish a peace museum directory entitled "Museums for Peace Worldwide" edited by Dr. Kazuyo Yamane with the help of many volunteers including a number of INMP Executive Board and Advisory Committee members. As the General Coordinator, I express my deepest appreciation for the efforts of all those who are making this conference fruitful.

Finally, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to four co-organizers and their staffs.

First, the Ritsumeikan University not only financially assisted the conference to a significant extent, but also co-worked with INMP to organize four important Web seminars that are deeply related to the main theme of this conference that is "The Role of Museums for Peace in Conveying Memories for the Generations to Come." Second, the Institute of Philosophy & Human Values of the Kyoto University of the Arts contributed to making a video of the students' drum performance for our conference.

Third, the Ikenobo Junior College took special care of the memorial lecture on Japanese flower arrangement "Ikebana" culture.

Forth, the Kyoto Seika University together with the Kyoto International Manga Museum greatly contributed to organizing the Manga Pandemic Web Exhibition in cooperation with a well-known professional cartoonist Mr. Kotobuki Shiriagari and a noted illustrator Hajime Anzai, and Professor Satoshi Tanaka of Ritsumeikan University. The Web exhibition is very much enjoyable.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Ms. Hitomi Katayama, Special Accountant at INMP, who has been handling the financial affairs of this international conference neatly and precisely.

I conclude my remarks with the hope that the experiences of this conference will help INMP in its future work. Thank you very much for joining us and I look forward to your continued cooperation.

General Meeting is held on 18 September 2020 at 20:00-21:30 (Japan Time)

The INMP General Meeting is open to all INMP members and registered Conference participants, observers and guests. Invitations to the General Meeting will be sent to registered Conference participants via email.

Register [HERE](#) for the Conference and the General Meeting.
[CLICK HERE](#) for your time zone.

[\[Agenda of the General Meeting\]](#) (click [here](#))

(1) Welcome/Introduction to the meeting, (2) Activity Report by General Coordinator, (3) Financial Report by Treasurer, (4)Discussions on (2)and (3), (5) Announcement of Nominations and Election Process, (6)Awards, (7) Appointment of senior Advisors, (8) Announcement of the next international conference venue, (9) Other/Adjourn