

## MAYORS FOR PEACE: A BRIEF HISTORY

For over twenty years the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have called out to their colleagues worldwide to join hands in the name of their local constituencies to become a great force for the absolute abolition of nuclear weapons from this beautiful earth. Mayors Akiba and Itoh represent the Hibakusha, human beings who know nuclear hell in their spirit and their body. Today this same inferno or worse could be visited upon human beings for any reason. Mayors Akiba and Itoh know that the only way to make certain that no population ever be a nuclear target again, is to unite our efforts to make certain that all nuclear weapons be abolished forever.

Over one thousand mayors globally, and a growing number of Massachusetts Mayors are committing their cities to be Peace Cities. The House and Senate of the Massachusetts legislature passed historic resolutions in 2005 calling for a nuclear abolition and support for the Mayors For Peace movement. In 2004, the U.S. Conference of Mayors passed a resolution in support of The Mayors for Peace.



*"Our goal is to bring forth a beautiful flower, namely the total elimination of all nuclear weapons from the face of the earth by the year 2020. Only then we will have truly resurrected hope for life on this planet."*

*Mayor T. Akiba, Mayor of Hiroshima*

## Reclaiming the Ground of Peace

February 19 - March 20  
Leverett - Boston



*A 4-week walk to find ways  
to root and nourish  
the power of peace and equity, locally,  
nationally and globally.*

WALK  
FOR A  
NEW SPRING 2006

# NA-MU MYO HO REN GE KYO



*"Weapons that can destroy everything have already been made. That is why we must seek a power that surpasses violence. This is called non-violence and it is what humanity is searching for."*

Most Ven. Nichidatsu Fujii  
 Founder and Preceptor,  
 Nipponzan Myohoji,  
 Buddhist Order.

Since 2002, after the banner of "The War On Terror" was officially

raised, we have walked yearly with many hundreds of friends across Massachusetts to reflect, pray, and share food together community by community, renouncing fear and seeking ways to establish the beneficent power of peace and to uphold and be held by the stabilizing force of equity and justice.

We respectfully ask your kind assistance in organizing community gatherings and warmly invite you to join walking

**Walk for A New Spring** is initiated by: Nipponzan Myohoji, Buddhist Order  
 New England Peace Pagoda  
 100 Cave Hill Road, Leverett, MA 01054  
 endorsed by:  
 Asapa, American Friends Service Committee, House of Peace,  
 Traprock Peace Center

with us for a mile, a day, or the duration.

## SUPPORT FOR HR. 4232

### TO END THE U.S. WAR IN IRAQ

This year we carry with us information about U.S.

Representative Jim McGovern's Bill [D,Worcester, MA] **HR 4232**

which calls for the safe and orderly withdrawal of all U.S. troops in Iraq, consultations with foreign governments and international forces to insure Iraqi security and transition to democracy, and contributions of money and equipment to Iraqi security forces. This well thought out legislation can become a vehicle for the U.S. military disengagement with Iraq and for the support of Iraq's needs for its reconstruction.

### SHARING THE CALL OF MAYORS FOR PEACE

This year we redouble our efforts, begun last year, to reach out to cities and towns inviting Mayors and municipal governments to join the inspiring organizing Mayors for Peace, (see final panel.) Over one thousand Mayors around the world have joined the invitation of the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to become a force directly linked to grass roots populations calling for the complete abolition of all nuclear weapons by the year 2020. Although nuclear weapons may not seem to be an immediate concern, we believe their power to annihilate all of humanity is, as the late theologian Rev. Richard McSorley declared, "the taproot" of the consuming violence of our contemporary world. To remove the ultimate weapon from everyone's hands is to start loosening the great coil of fear and violence and degradation of humanity which dominates our thinking and policies today.

### Daily Walk Schedule\*

- February**  
 Sunday, 2/19: Peace Pagoda to Leverett Church  
 Monday, 2/20: North Adams to  
 Pittsfield  
 Tuesday, 2/21: Pittsfield /Lee/Great Barrington  
 Wednesday 2/ 22: Huntington to Westfield  
 Thursday, 2/23: Agawam /Springfield/W.S'field  
 Friday, 2/24: Chicopee/ Holyoke/Easthampton  
 Saturday, 2/25: Easthampton/Northampton  
 Sunday, 2/26: Walk to Vernon Nuclear Plant  
 Monday, 2/27: Greenfield to Orange  
 Tuesday, 2/28: Athol/Royalston to Winchendon



### March

- Wednesday, 3/1: Rest Day  
 Thursday, 3/ 2: Winchendon to Fitchburg  
 Friday, 3/3: Fitchburg to Littleton  
 Saturday 3/4: Littleton to Concord  
 Sunday, 3/5: Newburyport to Amesbury  
 Monday, 3/6: Amesbury/Haverhill/ Lawrence  
 Tuesday, 3/7: Lawrence to No. Andover  
 Wednesday, 3/8: No. Andover to Ipswich  
 Thursday, 3/9: Ipswich/Essex/Gloucester  
 Friday, 3/ 10: Gloucester/Beverly/Salem  
 Saturday, 3/11: Rest Day  
 Sunday, 3/12: Mashpee to Falmouth\*  
 Monday, 3/13: Barnstable/Brewster\*  
 Tuesday, 3/14: Plymouth/Duxbury/Scituate\*  
 Wednesday, 3/15: Scituate/Hingham/Weymouth\*  
 Thursday, 3/16: Weymouth to Boston\*  
 Friday, 3/17: Walk with Communities in Boston affected by recent violence.  
 Saturday, 3/18: **Peace Rally in Boston**  
 Anniversary of Gulf War II  
 Sunday, 3/19: Stop the construction of Bio Terror Lab, Boston  
 Monday, 3/20: Finale Walk from Cambridge to the State House and to Government Center Boston

**\*Daily Contact Information:**  
 Schedule subject to change.  
 Please check with contacts below.  
 Phone Liaison: 413-253-7609  
 Website: [WesternMassAFSC.org](http://WesternMassAFSC.org)  
[www.traprockpeace.org](http://www.traprockpeace.org)  
 Mayors For Peace Resources: 413-584-8975