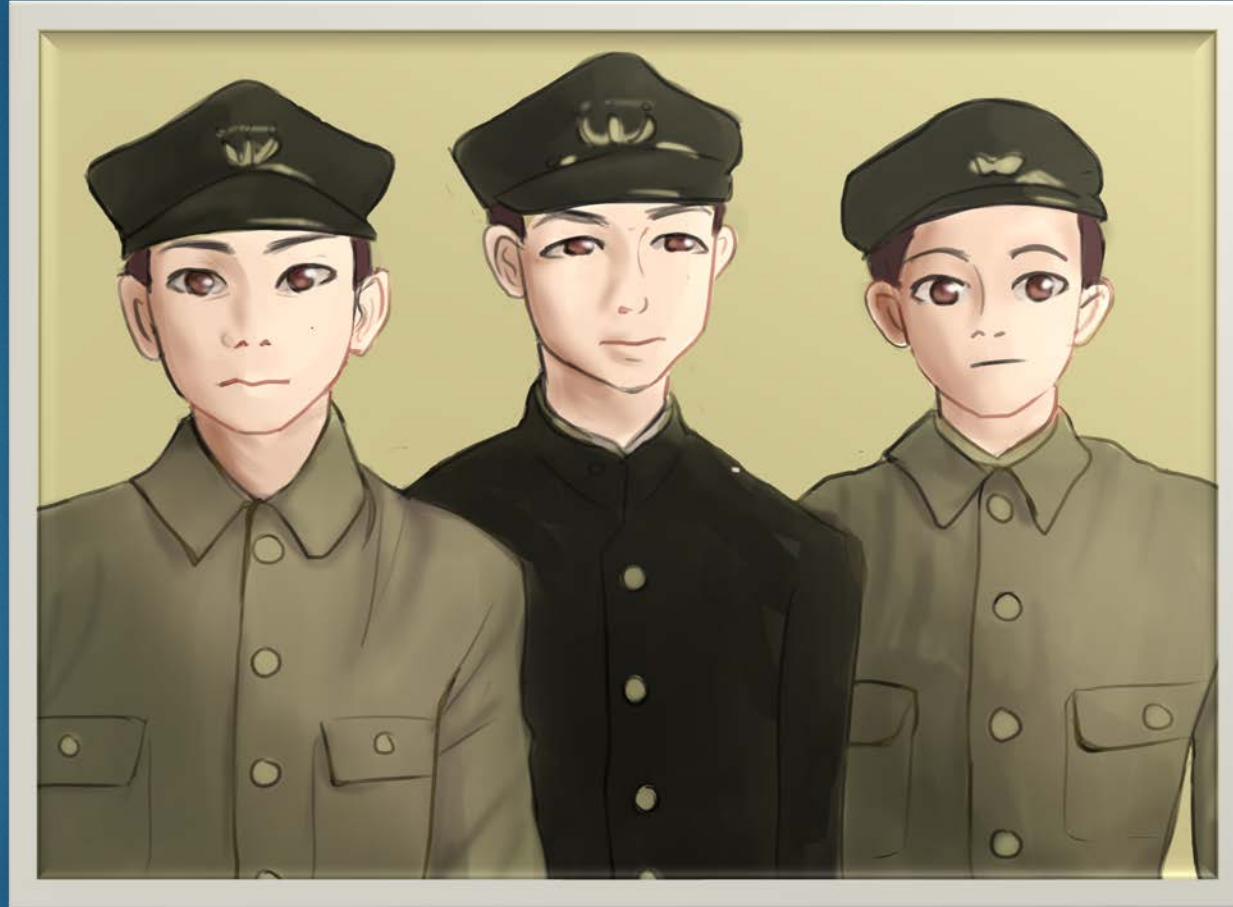


Friends Who Were in Hiroshima



by Junko, Mimi, Masae, Edward and Aina



HEIWA

LIBRARY

JAPAN • PHILIPPINES • HAWAII

heiwalibrary.com

Copyright ©2021, Heiwa Library

All rights reserved. No parts of this book may be reproduced or used in a manner without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.



In December 1941, the Imperial Japanese Army attacked British Malaya.

In February 1942, the Imperial Japanese Army occupied Malaya.

Then, Japanese language classes started at a school in Malaya.

Three students from Malaya were selected as Special Students from Southeast Asia to study in Japan.

Mr. Razak from Penang, Mr. Yusuf from Kelantan, and Mr. Omar from Johor.



Mr. Yusuf and Mr. Omar studied Japanese in Tokyo from 1943.

Then, from 1944, they studied at Hiroshima Higher Normal School (currently the Hiroshima University Faculty of Education).

Mr. Razak had been studying Japanese in Tokyo since 1944 before he started studying at Hiroshima University of Literature and Science in 1945.

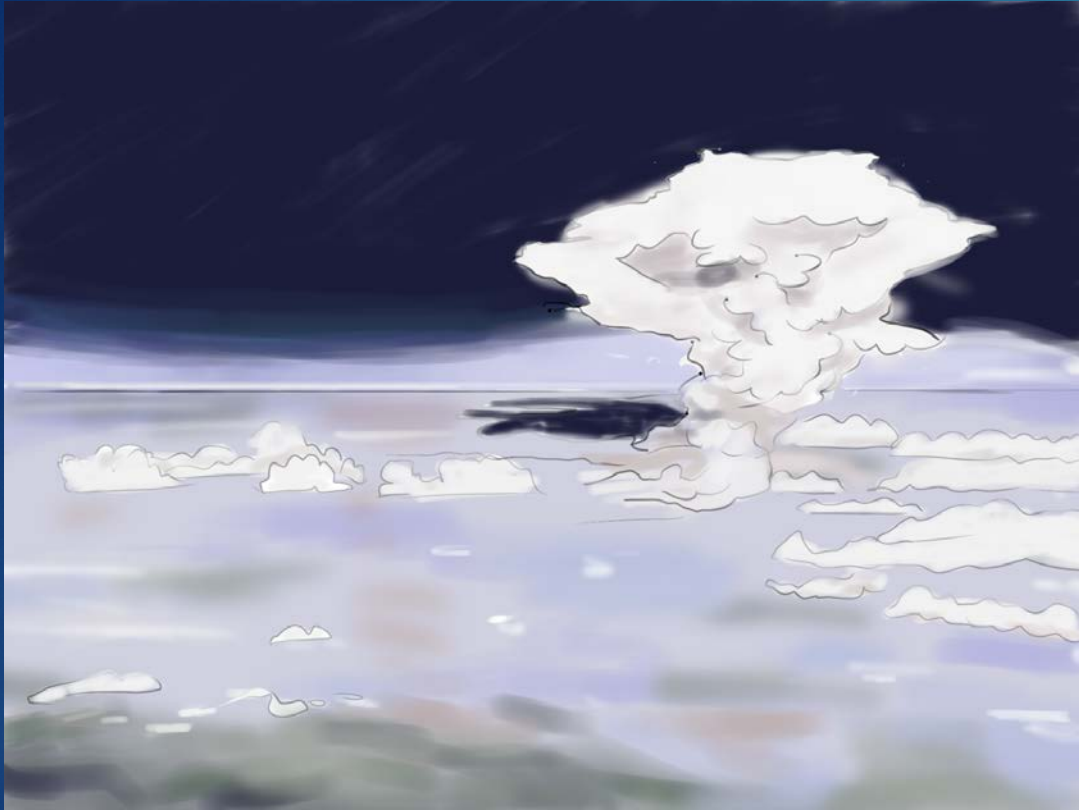
Hiroshima was a quiet town with fewer air-raids than Tokyo.



There were nine Special Students from Southeast Asia in Hiroshima. They came from Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei and so on. There were also students from China and other countries.

Because Japan was in the middle of the war, there wasn't much food. However, some Japanese sometimes had meals at home and invited international students.

After the meal, the international students would sing songs of their hometowns such as Bungawan Solo and Rasa Sayang geh.



August 6, 1945.

Bright sun, blue sky. It was a nice morning.

A new day began, and Mr. Razak went to class.

At 8:15 am, a very strong flashing light suddenly fell from the sky.

“It’s lightning!” said Mr. Razak.

It wasn’t lightning.

Then, like an earthquake, the ground shook, the walls leaned, and the buildings broke.

“Oh, God, Allah!”

Mr. Razak was buried in a broken building.

The surroundings were pitch dark.

Mr. Razak found a small light and at last he was able to get out.

There were no buildings outside.

The surroundings were full of debris.

There were also burned corpses of humans and animals.





**Mr. Razak was bleeding from his head.
But with other international students,
he worked hard to save people under the debris.**



**There were big fires in Hiroshima.
It was so hot that many people
jumped into the river.**

**Mr. Razak also jumped into the river.
It was quite a horrible bomb.**

**Many people lost their lives to the
bomb.**

**Mr. Yusof was found dead on
August 7.**

The war ended on August 15, 1945.

It was decided for the international students to return to their home countries, and they left for Tokyo.

Mr. Omar passed away at a hospital in Kyoto on September 3rd on his way to Tokyo.

Both Mr. Yusuf and Mr. Omar were only 19 years old.

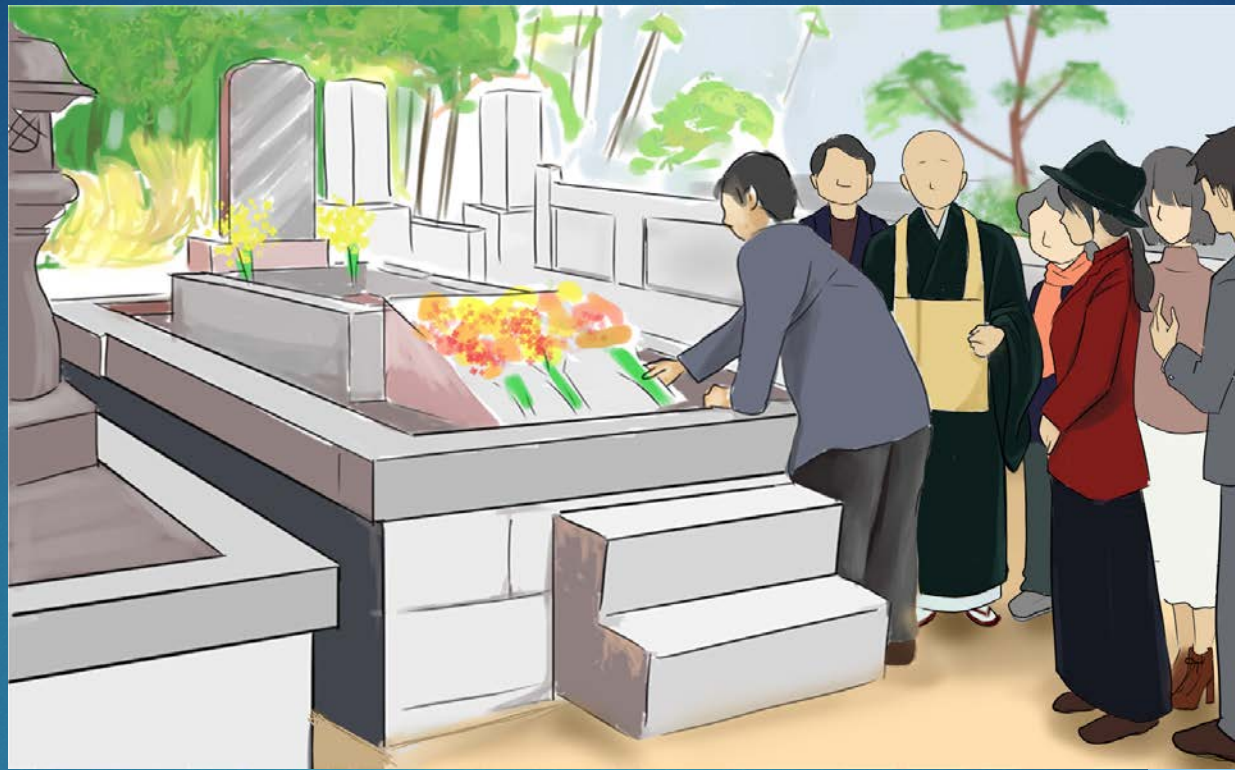
Mr. Razak was able to return to his hometown in September 1945. In 1977, he became an expert in Japanese language education.

Mr. Razak always wished for peace.

He continued to tell people about Hiroshima and the horrible bomb until he passed away in 2013 at the age of 88.

He never forgot about his friends, Mr. Yusuf and Mr. Omar with whom he had studied in Hiroshima.



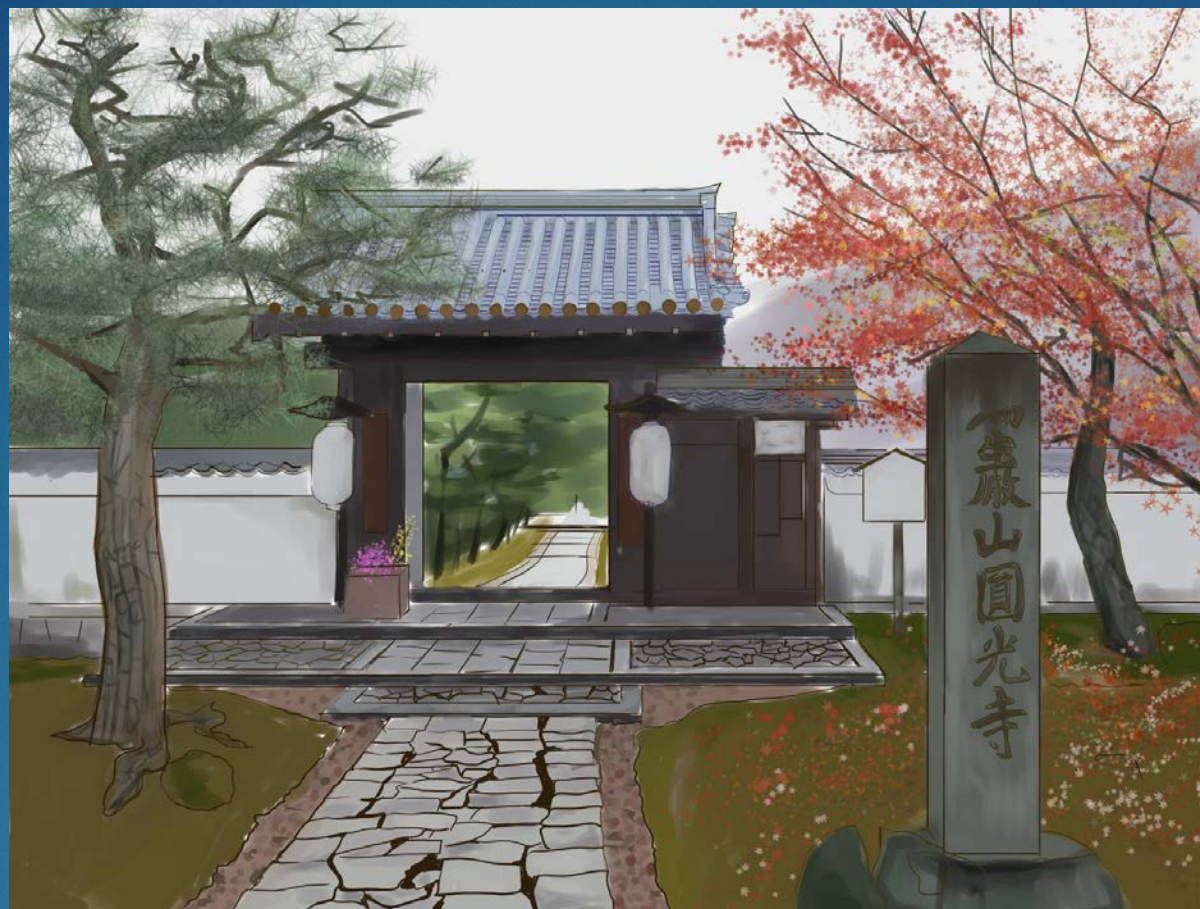


(Postscript)

Japanese people have built an Islamic style grave for Mr. Yusuf and Mr. Omar.

People pray in front of the grave every year on the day they passed away.

**They are hoping not to forget about the two students
(Mr. Yusuf and Mr. Omar) and they are hoping for peace...**



The End
-Thank you for reading-