

My Beloved Child Who was Taken

Mrs. Miyo Hirashima

I was at Hiradogoyamachi [now Otorimachi] when the atomic bomb struck. When it flashed, I got a huge fright and the next thing I remember, I realized I had fled to a shelter without my two children, who had been with me at the time. I went right back to look for them and found out that someone else had led them to safety as they were fleeing. But my boy, who was 4 years old at the time, received burns to his face and arms and my 6-year-old girl had bloody stools for many days, so I took them both to Mitsubishi Hospital every day. Although it was a hospital, I don't think they could really do much treatment back then.

My 4-year-old boy died in the hospital soon after at about 10 o'clock in the evening, on August 20th. When I think of my boy who died at his cutest age, it still saddens me and tears fill my eyes. Fortunately my girl was healed and got better.

I experienced a severe hardship back then, which I can't even describe; it was an extremely painful situation, which people these days wouldn't even be able to imagine, so this is something I don't want to think about anymore.

[Location at Bombing: Otorimachi (Hiradogoyamachi)]