

# HIROSHIMA'S PATH TO RECONSTRUCTION



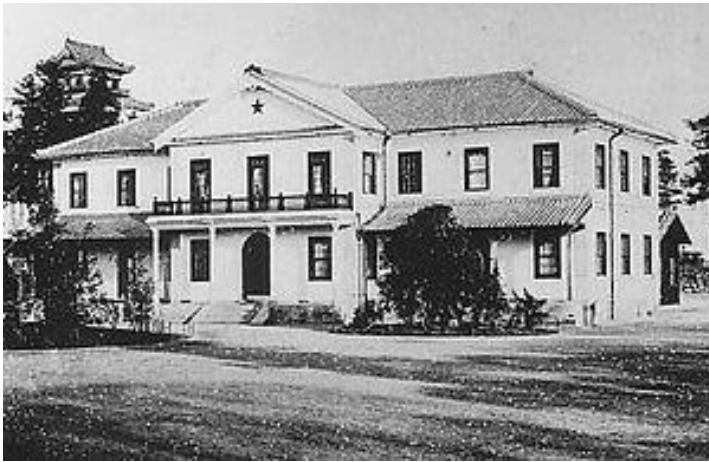
The content of this presentation is based on the booklet prepared by Hiroshima Prefecture and The City of Hiroshima



1. Hiroshima before the war
2. Hiroshima city's damages from the atomic bomb
3. Post-war reconstruction plan
4. Challenges

# 1. Hiroshima before the war

1. Headquarter of 5<sup>th</sup> division, Imperial Army in Hiroshima, 1871.



2. Development of transportation network system

3. Establishment of heavy and chemical industries

4. Center of learning

Hiroshima's past as a center of administration, a military capital and a center of learning led its transformation into a modern city prior to WWII

## 2. Damages from the atomic bomb (In Hiroshima city)

92%

buildings  
destroyed



40%

Hiroshima city residents  
died on 6 Aug 1945



Infrastructure  
destroyed



Electricity, water, gas,  
communication etc.

## 2. Damages from the atomic bomb (In Hiroshima city)



Photos taken by: US army

(Photos provided by: Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum Peace Database)









# 3. Post-war reconstruction plans

## 1. Short-term plan

Funeral of victims, removal of debris and crumbling buildings, restoring water supply and sewage infrastructure, traffic network, electricity, gas, telephone, construction of temporary housing



## 2. Long-term plan

Land readjustment, housing, construction of roads, maintenance of parks and open spaces, medical support to atomic bomb victims



# 3. Post-war reconstruction plans

- Enactment of **HIROSHIMA PEACE MEMORIAL CITY CONSTRUCTION LAW** in 1949.
- Construction of Peace Memorial Park and Museum in 1955.



Hiroshima city made a transition from a 'military capital' to a 'city of peace'.



A poster informing the referendum date for the approval of the Law



# 4. Re-building Industrial Economy

## Factors in rebuilding economy

- Inflow of workers from outside the city
- Active capital investment
- Transformation of military facilities to private companies
- Productive prefecture plan
- Special procurement for the Korean war (1950-1953)

# 5. Challenges

- Government led post-war recovery process often resulted in opposition from the local residents.



Role of private sector also important.