

SIGN POSTS: No More Tragic Scars
By JEFF FARR
SGI-USA Youth Division Study Committee

Life itself is the most precious of all treasures. Even the treasures of the universe cannot equal the value of a single human life. (“The Gift of Rice,” *The Major Writings of Nichiren Daishonin*, vol. 1, p. 267)

India’s excited about the bomb. Pakistan’s excited about it. I’m not.

The recent nuclear tests sent me back to President Toda’s 1957 declaration against nuclear weapons and Nichiren Daishonin’s teaching that “life itself is the most precious of all treasures.” It’s frustrating that the world still doesn’t believe Toda or the Daishonin — bombs are still No. 1, human life still No. 2 (or 3 or 4). There’s a long way to go to convince the world that one human life is worth more than a nuclear stockpile.

But isn’t it naturally our desire, as the successors of Toda and the Daishonin, to prove the truth of what they taught? Until we do — until nuclear abolition is secure — we cannot say that we have completely won as disciples, in my opinion. Not until humanity really shows faith in humanity.

I’ve been busy lately with preparations for the first nationwide conference of the SGI-USA student division (this August at the Florida Nature and Culture Center). We recently realized that the start date of our conference, Aug. 6, is the 53rd anniversary of the Hiroshima bombing, and the end date, Aug. 9, the Nagasaki bombing anniversary.

This renewed my feeling that the youth of the SGI-USA have a big role to play in ending this nuclear age. It reminded me that when I asked Dr. David Krieger if nuclear abolition were truly possible, he said: “You have to have a certain amount of faith. You must have a certain amount of hope that peace is possible. It really is an act of faith.”

In *The New Human Revolution*, volume 1, SGI President Ikeda describes how the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings left “a tragic scar on human history.” With a “certain amount” of faith and hope, I want to win in convincing the world that life is the most precious treasure. Then there will be no more tragic scars.

WT