Malaya Fabros of the Philippines joined the 2013 National Peace Match as the first international marcher. Calling for participation of the Japanese youth in the peace march, she said, “Being a citizen of an A-Bombed country, …. perhaps, like Greta Thunberg of Sweden calling for climate justice, your voice as youth of Japan together with the Hibakushas - will be a strong voice of conscience around the world, especially in the NPT Conferences. Next year will be the 75th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki Bombings. Don’t you think it’s finally time to realize a nuclear-free world for real?”

The first step Malaya marked in 2013 was so significant. Ever since then, as the coordinator of the International Youth Relay of the National Peace March in Japan, she has helped organize so many young and wonderful international marchers from different countries every year.

Today, joining with us on the stage and on the screen are the International Youth Relay Marchers who joined in this year’s Peace March.

Gurrero AG Saño from the Philippines walked from Tokyo through Kanagawa Prefecture, and then in Nagasaki. He organized the “Art Attack” actions to create/paint peace banners together with the young people in Tokyo and the children of Nagasaki.

Charley Sta. Maria of the Philippine Reef and Rainforest Conservation Foundation joined the march in Shizuoka Prefecture. She was always walking with bright smiles to cheer everyone up.

Galileo de Gusman Castillo of the Focus on the Global South - the Philippines, marched in Aichi and Gifu Prefectures. He always called for donation and signatures on the International Hibakusha Appeal.

Pedro Fenis “Jhong” walked in Nara, Osaka and Hyogo Prefectures. As an organic farmer in the Philippines, he also had a great opportunity to meet with members of the Japan Family Farmers Movement in Nara.

Nityalila Saulo of the Philippines marched in Okayama and Hiroshima prefectures. During the march, she composed a song “Sama Sama”, meaning “Come together” in Tagalog language, which you just heard.

For the first time, an international youth marcher joined the Hokuriku Course (on the Japan Sea side) of the Peace March. Yei Hsuan Huang of Taiwan joined the Peace March for the second consecutive year and walked in Ishikawa Prefecture in June.
An Seul Ki of the Republic of Korea marched from Ibaraki to Tokyo via Chiba Prefecture, and then joined the Saga - Nagasaki stretch of the march. Lerry Arogante Hiterosa of the Philippines walked in Nagasaki. These two 20-year-old marchers enlivened the finale of this year’s Peace March.

Now, let’s sing “Sama Sama” together!

Sama Sama (Come Together)
Nityalila Saulo featuring the people of the Peace March Japan 2019
written during the Peace March 2019, Okayama, Japan

Konnichiwa heiwa koshin desu (Hello, we are marching for peace)
Sama sama, sama sama
Watashi tachi wa heiwa ga daisuki desu (We love peace)
Sama sama, sama sama
Pagi-big ay buhay na buhay (Love is alive)
Sama sama, sama sama
Kalikasan ay buhay na buhay (Nature is alive)
Sama sama, sama sama
Kalayaan ay buhay na buhay (Freedom is alive)
Sama sama, sama sama
Kapayapaan ay buhay na buhay (Peace is alive)
Sama sama, sama sama
Tumulad tayo sa mga langam (Be like the ants)
Sama sama, sama sama
Kung lumakbay at humakbang (They walk together)
Sama sama, sama sama
Tumulad tayo sa mga bubuyog (Be like the bees)
Sama sama, sama sama
Sa trabaho at sa pagtulog (They work together)
Sama sama, sama sama
Tumulad tayo sa mga pato (Be like the ducks)
Sama sama, sama sama
Kung lumipad pahilaga o hulo (They fly together)
Sama sama, sama sama
©© Creative Commons.