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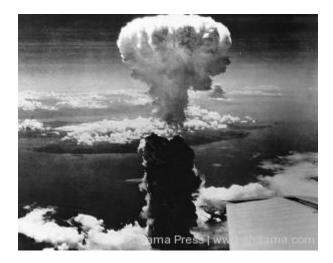
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Hiroshima atomic bomb victim toll at 557,478: New report reveals

March 28, 2013



¹According to the latest report released by the Japanese city fo Hiroshima on Thursday, at least 557,478 victims have been recorded from the actual damage of the 1945 atomic bombing.

This was more than 15,000 people recorded in the previous file, reports Xinhua.

The report also focused on demographic changes in the recent decades, compiling as part of the city's more than 30-year-old investigative project on the victims.

According to the Atomic Bomb Survivors Relief Department at the Hiroshima City Office, The released data was based on the latest tallies, calculated until 2011 with 120,000 additional historical sources such as medical treatment notes and necrologies.

The actual number of "direct victims" of the atomic bombing including those who were within the city and its neighboring towns and villages were updated in the report which totals to 384,743.

The report also revealed that the number of victims who have died so far is 277,996, less than the 280,959 indicated by previous data in 1999.

Kaoru Ohsugi, director of the division, told Xinhua that since there were still different ways to interpret the numbers concerning the A-bomb victims and damage, the division decided to update the figures, collecting new information and checking the details using computers.

"Considering the remaining time the survivors have to live and the verification procedures we can use, this report may be the last edition the city officially issues," Ohsugi said.

The study will most likely be the last one because 68 years have passed since the bombing and it is unlikely that any new documents will be discovered, an official suggested.