Preservation of War Heritage
— A case of the Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Dome —

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ABSTRACT

In studies on the preservation of the Hiroshima A-Bomb Dome, many have focused on its significance as a peace symbol. However, they have not fully examined why only the A-Bomb Dome has been able to get enough support and accorded value. In order to reexamine the process of creating monuments as a heritage representing tragic events, this paper attempts to focus on the relationship between the preservation of the A-Bomb Dome and peace movement by investigating the process in which the Hiroshima A-Bomb Dome was designated a World Heritage Site in 1996. This paper argues that the act for preserving the A-Bomb Dome has been enhanced by the peace movement against the outbreak of war and nuclear problems. Overall, this paper looks at the mechanism of how the preservation of the A-Bomb Dome as a part of peace activism has prevented us from facing the memories and experiences of A-Bomb victims.

Key Words: preservation, memories of A-Bomb experiences, peace movement