

Good evening everyone.

Thank you for coming to watch "GATE- Atomic Flame" tonight.

My name is Az Oakley, I am Japanese and have been in Perth for about 7 years in total.

I found this movie "GATE – Atomic Flame" accidentally, while searching news articles about a proposal for Hiroshima city and Nagasaki city to put in a joint bid for the 2020 Olympics. I am not a member of the Global Nuclear Disarmament Fund which made this movie, I am not a Buddhist either. But I was really impressed by this movie and found many people similarly impressed are organizing fund raising screenings. So I thought I would also like to screen this movie in Perth so that many more people can have the opportunity to see it.

Back to my personal history, I came to Perth in 1991 for the first time for a working holiday. At that time, I just wanted to live in a "foreign" country, have a look around another world. However, I didn't know Japan attacked Darwin during World War 2, I didn't even know Australia was one of the enemies of Japan until I came to Australia. I was really ashamed myself. After one year working holiday here in Australia, I traveled to many other countries and saw a lot of war museums and war memorials in many places. I didn't aim to travel for these but almost everywhere I went, there was something to tell their horrific history. Deep in my heart, I had sadness about war, but I was not sure what to do about it.

After I watched this movie "GATE", I thought about what I can do. I am from Kitakyushu-city, formerly KOKURA city which was one of the 4 biggest industrial areas in Japan. Even now tons of iron ore and gas from Western Australia is imported. Kokura was originally the second target of the Atomic Bomb but due to thick fog, ended up exploding in Nagasaki city on the 9th of August 1945. If, it was a clear day above Kokura city, my parents might have been dead and I wouldn't have been here.

I am fine and I live in Perth now. So I would like to screen this movie to many more people and hope that everyone will think about what they can do. This is the reason we have the movie tonight.

Perth is the 4th place screening both in English and in Japanese, outside of Japan, following New York, Hawaii, South Africa. And, thanks to St. David's Church, this is the first time to screen the movie in a church.

Ohta Jushoku, in the movie said, "Determination of one person can inspire the core of all humanity to follow in the same path. Use this for "good" and you will succeed"

I couldn't have this screening without great help by St. David's Church, JET Alumni Association, JA News, friends and you the audience tonight. Thank you all for your great help.

As I mentioned earlier, this movie has been screened by volunteers who were impressed by the movie before. If you feel you would like to show this movie to others, please contact GATE Perth Screening committee or GND fund. We also would like to know what people thought about the movie. So please send your remarks by email. We will hand out our contacts after the movie.

Thank you for listening. Enjoy the movie.