

# Peace Pole Dedication

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June 17, 2016

## History of the Peace Pole Project

The Peace Pole Project was started in Japan by Masahisa Goi (1916 – 1980), who dedicated his life to spreading the message, “May Peace Prevail on Earth.” Mr. Goi was greatly affected by the destruction caused by World War II and the atomic bombs that fell on the city of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. His desire to assist in creating world peace was answered in 1955 when the Peace Message, “May Peace Prevail On Earth,” came to him in a moment of great inspiration and deep prayer.

After Mr. Goi authored the Universal Peace Message in 1955, a great number of people gathered to support his vision. Activities to spread the Peace Message were promoted throughout Japan. Soon after, Peace Poles inscribed with the Peace Message began to appear in various locations across Japan initiating the start of The Peace Pole Project.

The Peace Pole Project was first introduced to the United States with the opening of The World Peace Prayer Society offices in San Francisco and New York in 1986, The International Year of Peace.

Peace Poles are now the most recognized international peace symbol and monument the world over. More than 200,000 Peace Poles now stand in almost every country throughout the world.

## Call to worship

Lord,  
Make me an instrument of your peace  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love:  
Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is doubt, faith;  
Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is darkness, light;  
Where there is sadness, joy.

**Scripture: Matthew 5:4 -14**

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.