



# Nobel Peace Prize 2024

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## Why in News?

The [2024 Nobel Prize for Peace](#) has been awarded to **Nihon Hidankyo**, a Japanese organisation of **survivors of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki bombings** for its “efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons”.

- The [Nobel Peace Prize for 2023](#) was awarded to the **Iranian human rights advocate Narges Mohammadi**, who belonged to a minority group.
- She was awarded for her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all.

## Nihon Hidankyo

- **Founded on 10th August 1956**, it is composed of **survivors from the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki** conducted by the United States in 1945.
- The survivors, **referred to as “Hibakusha”** or “bomb-affected people,” played a pivotal role in leading the **global movement aimed at abolishing nuclear weapons**.

## What was the Nuclear Attack on Japan?

- On **6<sup>th</sup> August 1945**, the **United States dropped “Little Boy” on Hiroshima**, resulting in catastrophic destruction.
  - More than 70,000 individuals died instantly, with the total death toll later exceeding 100,000.
- On **9<sup>th</sup> August 1945**, before the full extent of Hiroshima's destruction could be grasped, the **US dropped “Fat Man” on Nagasaki**, resulting in at least 40,000 immediate deaths and tens of thousands more in the following days and weeks.
  - **Japanese Emperor Hirohito announced Japan's surrender on 15th August**. In his speech, he warned that continuing the fight would lead to “the ultimate collapse and obliteration of the Japanese nation” and could result in “the total extinction of human civilization.”

## How does Hibakusha Advocate for Nuclear Disarmament?

- The United States' decision to drop the atomic bombs has faced **criticism from both strategic and ethical viewpoints** due to its significant human cost.
  - The bombings altered the global landscape, **prompting major powers to race to develop their own nuclear arsenals** as a deterrent against the United States.
- In response to this nuclear arms race, a global movement for nuclear disarmament emerged, with the **Hibakusha playing a vital role in advocating for disarmament**.
  - Nihon Hidankyo claims to be “the **only nation-wide organisation of A-bomb**”

survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.”

- Their primary objectives include **promoting the welfare of Hibakusha, advocating for the elimination of nuclear weapons, and seeking due compensation for victims.**
- The organisation has focused on **sharing the experiences of the Hibakusha to raise awareness** about the damage and after-effects of the atomic bombings, both in Japan and internationally.
- The Nobel citation **noted their efforts to send A-bomb survivors to the United Nations, nuclear-armed states**, and other countries to share their stories.
- Organisations like Nihon Hidankyo have contributed to **establishing a nuclear taboo**, which has **prevented the use of nuclear weapons since 1945.**

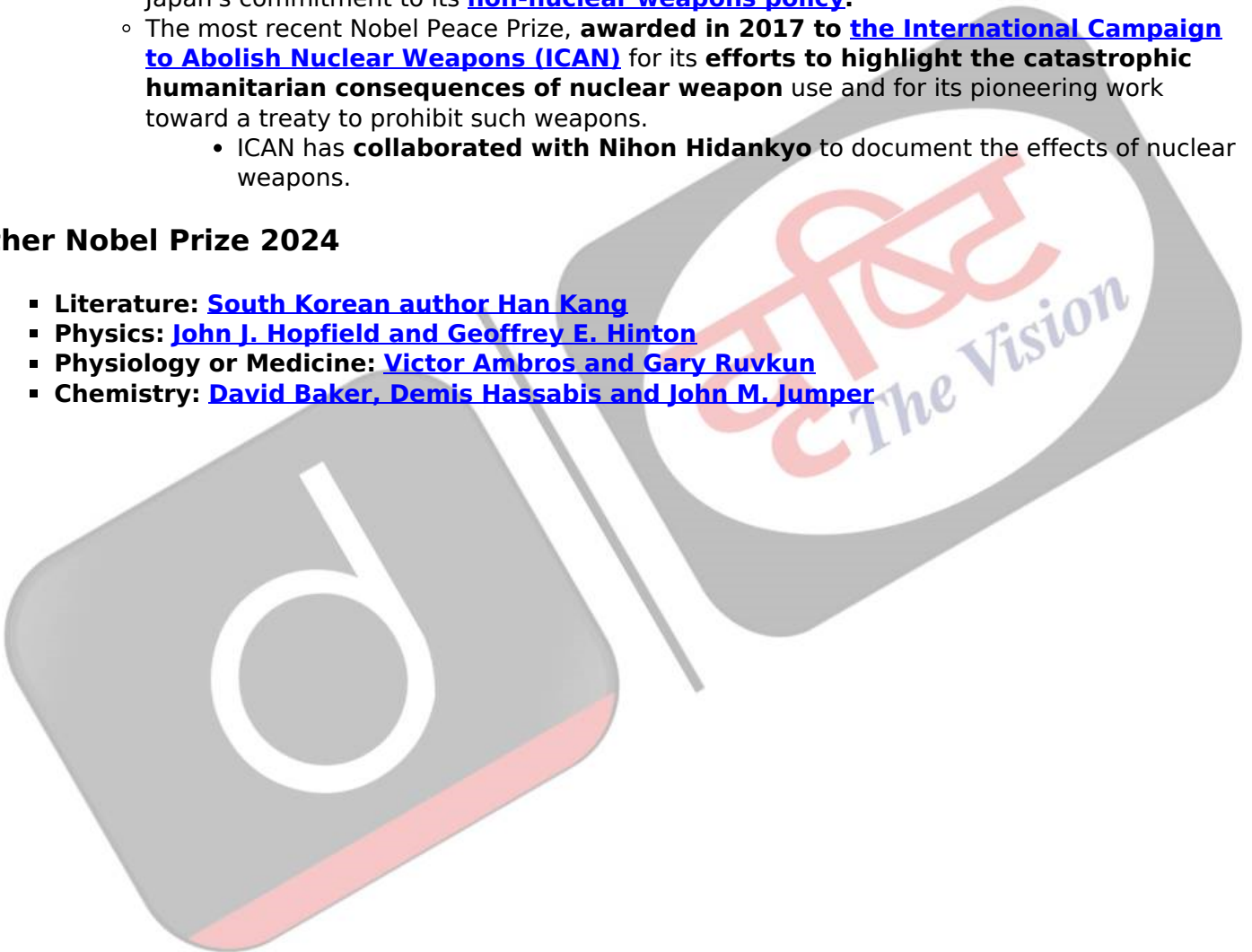
## Other Organisation/Individuals Awarded for Nuclear Disarmament

- **Since 1901**, several **Nobel Peace Prizes** have been **awarded for efforts in disarmament.**
  - **Former Japanese Prime Minister Eisaku Sato** was a recipient in 1974, recognized for Japan's commitment to its [non-nuclear weapons policy](#).
  - The most recent Nobel Peace Prize, **awarded in 2017 to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)** for its **efforts to highlight the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapon use** and for its pioneering work toward a treaty to prohibit such weapons.
    - ICAN has **collaborated with Nihon Hidankyo** to document the effects of nuclear weapons.

## Other Nobel Prize 2024

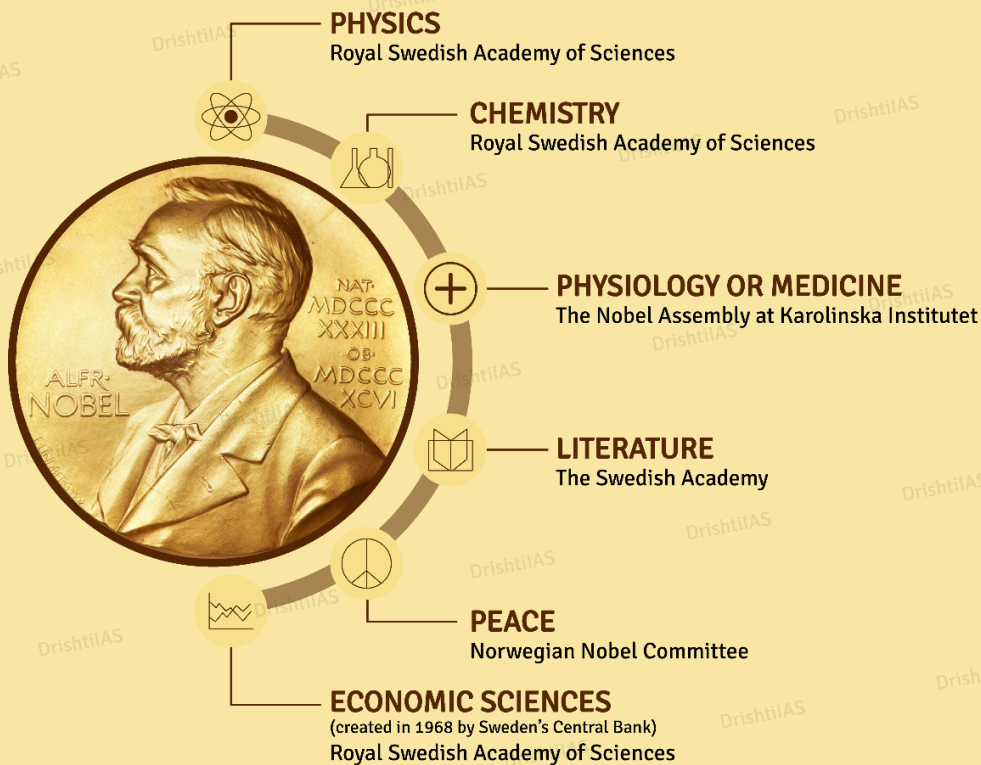
- **Literature:** [South Korean author Han Kang](#)
- **Physics:** [John J. Hopfield and Geoffrey E. Hinton](#)
- **Physiology or Medicine:** [Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun](#)
- **Chemistry:** [David Baker, Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper](#)

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# Nobel Prize

- ✦ Established by the will of Alfred Nobel (inventor of Dynamite)
- ✦ Awarded to those who have conferred the greatest benefit to humankind, during the preceding year
- ✦ First awards were handed out in 1901



- ✦ The Prize Ceremony is held in Stockholm, Sweden, in December every year
  - ▲ The Peace Prize is not awarded at Stockholm ceremony but presented annually in Oslo, Norway, on the same day
- ✦ Each Nobel laureate receives a gold medal, a diploma, and a monetary award
- ✦ Nobel Prize cannot be given posthumously (after death). Also, up to 3 people can share a Nobel Prize award between them

- ✦ **First Indian Nobel Laureate: Rabindranath Tagore for Literature, 1913**
  - ▲ **First Indian Woman Nobel Laureate: Mother Teresa for Peace, 1979**



**Q. Who among the following scientists shared the Nobel Prize in Physics with his son? (2008)**

- (a)** Max Planck
- (b)** Albert Einstein
- (c)** William Henry Bragg
- (d)** Enrico Fermi

**Ans: (c)**

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