

PROFILE
Mr. Hiroo Saionji

Hiroo Saionji, born in Tokyo, Japan in 1949, is the President of the Goi Peace Foundation and the World Peace Prayer Society.

The Goi Peace Foundation is an international peace building NGO based in Tokyo, Japan. It is dedicated to promoting a sustainable and harmonious global society through various educational programs and events that raise public awareness, and by building cooperation among individuals and organizations in all fields, including education, science, culture and the arts. The Foundation is an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. It also maintains official relations with UNESCO. (For more information, please visit www.goipeace.or.jp)

The World Peace Prayer Society headquartered in New York promotes a neutral grassroots peace movement to spread the universal prayer “May Peace Prevail on Earth” as a way of uniting the hearts of humanity transcending all boundaries of race, religion, or politics. The Society is an NGO associated with the Department of Public Information at the United Nations. (For more information, please visit www.worldpeace.org)

Mr. Saionji was responsible for launching both organizations in 1999 and 1988 respectively. He has built the organizations’ extensive international network, and travels the world promoting dialogues and initiatives for peace. In 2005, he launched the initiative for Creating a New Civilization enrolling various global organizations as well as youth.

Mr. Saionji holds a Masters in Business Administration from the Michigan State University. On the business side of his career, he was with the Nippon Seiko Company from 1974 through 1986, and is the President of The Crescent since 1997. He also serves as an Ambassador of the World Wisdom Council, a member of the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation for Cultural Heritage and Art Research, and a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors of Gakushuin University. In 2007, he was awarded the Cultural Prize of the Dr. Lin Tsung-i Foundation of Taiwan in recognition of his contribution to world peace. He also received the Philosopher Saint Shree Dnyaneshwara World Peace Prize of India along with his wife Masami Saionji in 2008.

Mr. Saionji is the great-grandson of Prince Kinmochi Saionji, who was twice Prime Minister of Japan during the Meiji Period. He and his wife live in Tokyo and have three daughters.

PROFILE

Mrs. Masami Saionji

Masami Saionji, born in Tokyo, Japan, is the Chairperson of the Goi Peace Foundation (www.goipeace.or.jp) based in Tokyo and the World Peace Prayer Society (www.worldpeace.org) based in New York. She is also an honorary member of The Club of Budapest, and a member of the World Wisdom Council.

A descendant of the Royal Ryukyu Family of Okinawa, she continues the work of her adoptive father, Masahisa Goi, who initiated a movement for world peace through the universal prayer "May Peace Prevail on Earth." As a spiritual leader, respected both in Japan and internationally, she has touched thousands of people's lives through her guidance and inspiration. She travels extensively on speaking tours, and has led peace ceremonies in many countries as well as at the United Nations and other international organizations.

Mrs. Saionji is the author of twenty books including *The Golden Key to Happiness, You Are the Universe, The Earth Healer's Handbook.*, and *Vision for the 21st Century*. She was awarded the Philosopher Saint Shree Dnyaneshwara World Peace Prize of India along with her husband Hiroo Saionji in 2008.

She and her husband live in Tokyo and have three daughters.