

# 和

‘WA’  
harmony

## HIGASHI HONGWANJI HAWAII BETSUIN BULLETIN

8  
August 2018

### HIGASHI HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

At Higashi Hongwanji, we remain true to our origins as an open Sangha, welcoming anyone who wishes to learn more about the Jodo Shinshu tradition of Buddhism.

A registered 501(c)3 organization

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Minister: Koen Kikuchi

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Editor: Ken Saiki

## ALAYA TAIKO ABOUT THE STOREHOUSE CONSCIOUSNESS

Rinban Kenjun Kawawata

In my home town in Ibaraki prefecture in Japan, Obon is observed in August. I used to visit temple members’ homes for their Obon service. At every member’s home, the children and grandchildren come back from the big cities and spend time with their families at their home during Obon.



Rinban Ken Kawawata

I still remember when Obon time came around when I was little. I always listened to bon dance music and the sound of the taiko. Our village always had its bon odori in the middle of August and the young people in the village would always start practicing their bon dance music and taiko during the evenings from early on. I would hear the sounds in the distance every night and wonder where the music was coming while lying in bed. Then I would fall asleep.

At my previous temple in West Covina, I was asked one day to play the taiko for bon dance practice. I hesitated at first because I had never played taiko for bon odori before. The dance instructor insisted, however, so I went along. I started by practicing with bon dance CDs, and somehow found myself able to follow the rhythm of the music.

I was beginning to enjoy playing the taiko even though I wasn’t very good at it. What surprised me, though, was how I was able to play the taiko at all without taking any lessons. Eventually, however, it dawned on me that the reason I could play lay in Buddha’s teachings.

When I started to play the taiko, my old memories of bon dance music and the drumming and tapping rhythms came back from the impressions I gained when I was a small child.

(cont’d on p. 2)

## アラヤ太鼓

別院のお盆フェスティバルも皆様方のご協力をいただき盛大のうちに無事終えることができました。心より御礼申し上げます。

みなさまご存知のように日本の田舎のお盆は8月にお勤めされます。8月の10日前後になりますとお盆のお参りに各信徒さんの家にお盆のお勤めに回った事

でした。一日に何軒もの家を回り、各家庭のお内仏で阿弥陀経をお勤めいたします。各家庭では都会でいる子供や孫たちがお盆の帰省で帰ってきており、家族そろって亡き方々を偲び一緒にお参りします。

お盆の頃になるといつも子供の頃の事を思い出します。私の田舎のお盆はいつも8月で、毎年その頃になると、夜、何処からともなく聞こえてくる太鼓の音を聞きながら眠りについたものでした。

ウエストコビナのお寺にいるとき、一度お盆踊りの練習の太鼓を叩い

(次のページに続く)



## ALAYA TAIKO (cont'd from p. 1)

In Buddhism, we have eight consciousnesses.

1. Eye, sense and consciousness of sight
2. Ear, sense and consciousness of hearing
3. Nose, sense and consciousness of smell
4. Tongue, sense and consciousness of taste
5. Body, sense and consciousness of touch
6. Mind, consciousness
7. Manas consciousness, the root of illusion
8. Alaya consciousness

Alaya consciousness is just like a container in our mind. Everything we see, hear, smell, touch and experience is placed and stored in this container. When something happens in our daily lives, previous experiences come out from this container and we act.

Every morning you eat breakfast because when you see a cup of milk and bread, you recognize your previous experiences and you instinctively drink the milk and eat the bread. When you are driving and another car suddenly gets too close, you immediately turn your steering wheel and try to avoid hitting the car. Your reflexes react to turn your steering wheel. We subconsciously do these kinds of processes every moment.

So with my taiko, too, no one taught me how to play the taiko but I have in my memory experiences of listening to the taiko rhythm in the distance, and that is how I could play it.

Regarding Buddhism, too, why did you start to come to the temple and listen to the teaching of Buddha? Because you have something in your being that pushes you.

Rev. Ryojin Soga once said that Amida Buddha is Alaya consciousness, which means we already have Amida Buddha in our being. We share the same wish that Amida Buddha has and once we realize that wish, we started to listen to the dharma and start to walk the same path of the Buddha.

Once we listen to the dharma and we receive the eyes to see the truth and our true selves, we have the same awakening of Buddha.

In Buddhism, everybody has a seed to be an awakened person. That seed is hidden in our Alaya consciousness and hearing the taiko this bon season has reminded me of that fact.

In gassho,  
Kenjun Kawawata

## アラヤ太鼓 (前ページより続く)

てくれないかといわれ、一度もやってみた事はないのですが、試しに打ってみました。最初はなかなかリズムが音楽、また踊る人達のステップとうまく会いませぬ。しかし踊り子の足と一定のリズムがわかると自己流ですが、なんとか打てるようになりました。あの子供の頃聞いた音が戻ってきたのです。私は子供の頃一度も盆踊りに行った事もなかったし、その練習も見た事がありませんでした。しかし50年余りの年を経て、今あの音を思い出し、自分が太鼓を打っていたのです。何とも不思議なことでした。

仏教では人間の意識のなかでアラヤ識という意識があり、よい事も悪い事も私どもが経験したあらゆる事がこのアラヤ識という蔵の何か納められ、なにか起こると以前の経験がアラヤ識蔵から引き出され、行動を起こすのだと言われていています。ですから私の太鼓も幼い頃にその音を聞いた経験により、叩く事が出来たと言えましょう。ですから人間はなにか行なう時、必ずこのアラヤ識が働いて、私どもの動かしめる。なにも外から刺激がなければ何も起こらないのです。

お念仏を称することも同じことなのだと思います。私どもはいつかしら、他の人がお念仏を申す事を見聞き、それを無意識の内に憶えている。そしてお念仏を聞く事によって自分も称える身となる。既にお念仏が自分の意識以前に私ども中にあることがわかります。それは私どもの中にズーと昔より願いがあり、それがお念仏となってでてくるともいえましょう。曾我量深師は「法蔵菩薩はアラヤ識」といわれました。法蔵菩薩は自分が仏になり、また衆生を仏としたいという願いを立てられ、それを完成されて阿弥陀仏になられた。私どものなかにすでにその同じ願いがあり、その願いがお念仏、南無阿弥陀仏という言葉となって私どもの中からあらわれるのです。いつから聞いて来たかわからないこの深い願いとお念仏をもう一度このお盆に聴聞しあきらかにして行く事です。

合掌、  
河和田賢淳

## 2018 Bon Festival CHAIR MESSAGE

The 2018 Bon Festival is now just a memory. There are so many people to acknowledge, we'll save individual names for a future issue of Wa, when we can thank everyone properly, from our dedicated committee to the board of directors, the many volunteers and community partners who share our vision. Of course, we appreciate all who attended and were able to enjoy the fruits of our labor.

I received many positive comments about our illumination displays, hanging lanterns, entertainment,

parking and shuttle service. I was also very happy to see people enjoying the food—new items as well as our standard offerings— Gannenmono descendants participating and smiling children walking around with toys they won and crafts they created.

Rest assured we will keep working to make future bon festivals even better and more enjoyable for the community we serve. Mahalo!

— Dennis Saiki



2018 Higashi Hongwanji Betsuin  
**Bon Festival**  
July 20 & 21, 2018



*Clockwise from top left: Gannenmono descendants participate in the Mantoe service\*; dancing at dusk under a colorful sky\*; the Betsuin booth featured Spam musubi, yakitori, inari somen and other bon dance foods\*; food booths lined the temple grounds\*; the Peace illumination tunnel proved to be a popular place for selfies and group shots; free crafts and games packed the back half of Otani Center with throngs of kids; Hawaii Eisa Shinyuu-kai taiko drummer sets the beat for Okinawan dancers\*; hundreds of lanterns and bon dancers everywhere made for an extremely festive evening\*; Gannenmono lantern tribute wall provided a unique backdrop for souvenir photos; what could be more fun than bon dancing with friends on a clear summer evening, cooled by gentle Nuuanu Valley breezes?\*; illumination garden designed and built by Hawaii Tokai International College students featured a plumeria-turned-sakura tree and a brilliantly lit Mt. Fuji.*





Betsuin ministers and board members were among those who gathered to congratulate new United Japanese Society of Hawaii President Faye Shigemura (standing with white lei).

### United Japanese Society picks Faye Shigemura to lead group

Higashi Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii President Faye Shigemura was installed as president of the United Japanese Society of Hawaii (UJSH) at a June 23 banquet at the JCCH Manoa Grand Ballroom.

Betsuin Minister Rev. Koen Kikuchi will serve as a director of the organization. Board member Ken Saiki is a past president and advisor.

Rinban Kenjun Kawawata delivered the invocation before lunch while Faye, Rev. Kikuchi, Rev. Hidesato Kita and board member Margaret Hamachi were part of the day's entertainment program with their *Hanagasa Ondo* folk dance.

UJSH promotes various cultural activities and other events for the benefit of Japanese in Hawaii. Its membership is comprised of many kenjinkai, temples, shrines, Japanese dance and other Nikkei-related organizations and individuals.

### No BBQ chicken sale this summer

Citing a variety of reasons, the board has decided not to conduct our usual barbecue chicken fundraiser this summer.

We appreciate your past support of the temple's fundraising efforts and hope you will continue to support them in the future.

### Do you become age 80 this year?

If you are a Betsuin member born in 1938, you are eligible to receive an invitation to *Nenchosha Ian Engei Taikai*, a special celebration for those reaching the age of 80 this year.

The event, sponsored by UJSH (the Betsuin is a member) will be held at the Manoa Grand Ballroom on Sat., Sept. 22 and features a free lunch, entertainment and gifts for the honorees. Guests are \$50 per person.

For more information, please call the office at 531-9088 with your birthdate information.

### August movie, *August in Tokyo*, a human drama of two families

In a corner of Tokyo, summer student Natsuo (Takashi Okita) earns a living as a yakuza collecting debts and Natsuki (Eriko Nakamura) works part-time delivering food. Although they rarely think about their families, they attempt to reunite with them. Brother and sister, father and daughter; the distance between them begins to shrink, but...

This 2014 film directed by Ryutaro Nakagawa portrays the dynamics of people trying to co-exist in nature and in the city. Even though two individuals may be insignificant in the context of a society, one life meets another and they move forward. This is a film about their footsteps.

World premiere 2014 Tokyo International Film Festival, Japanese Splash Best Picture Award nominee.

Showtime: 6:30 pm, Tuesday, August 28, 80 min. Color. Japanese audio, English subtitles. Free admission. Light refreshments, or bring to share!

### 愛の小さな歴史 (あいのちいさなれきし)

真夏、東京の片隅。食品の配達で生計を立てる夏希(中村映里子)と借金の取り立てを生業とする夏生(沖渡崇史)。ふたりの胸の内に捨てたはずの父と妹の面影が不意によみがえる。長らく離別していた家族を訪ねたふたりは、十数年来の「家族」をやり直そうとする。父娘、兄妹、それぞれの距離は次第に縮まりつつあったが…。この映画では、誰かと共に生きようとする人間の動態を、美しい自然の情景と音、そして静かに流れるラフマニノフの旋律が包み込み、一種の「予感」が演出されている。小さいかもしれないが、ひとつの生命が別の生命と確かに触れ合い、そして巡っていく、その愛の小



さな足跡がここにはある。中村映里子、光石研、池松壮亮の大胆かつ繊細な演技合戦も見どころ。

第27回東京国際映画祭 日本映画スプラッシュワールド・プレミア上映  
監督：中川龍太郎、公開：2014年、カラー、言語：日本語、字幕：英語、映時間：80分、8月28日(火)午後6:30時、入場無料。

# TRADE WIND

## HIGASHI HONGANJI HAWAII DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

HIGASHI HONGWANJI HAWAII BETSUIN / KANEOHE HIGASHI HONGWANJI / HILO HIGASHI HONGWANJI

PALOLO HONGWANJI / WAIMEA HIGASHI HONGWANJI

SUMMER 2018

### LET US DISCOVER THE JOY OF LIVING

I flew to Senegal, Africa at the end of March. Although visiting my friend there was the main purpose of this trip, I found some interesting facts about the country. As you might imagine, people seemed to be poor. I guess their living standard is not high, compared to a more advanced society. But it seemed to me that most of the people in Senegal looked healthy and happy. They seemed not to care about their standard of living, which might be low for us. That's normal for them. They can live well enough as long as they have houses, clothes, and food.

In this respect, I already have enough. As for material belongings, I have everything I want. Residence, infrastructure, clothes, food, two Macintoshes and plenty of musical instruments. However, I do complain every day. I always complain about the weather—this is supposed to be Hawaii, isn't it?—and the taste of the food. I always find fault with others. If others don't do what I expect, I become irritated.

So, I am reminded by these things that possessing material things isn't related to our true happiness. No matter where we go, when we suffer, we do suffer. When I went back to Japan last year for the first time, I realized how I had been blessed with everything while I was living there. The food, the prices, the cleanliness, the convenience, and the nice people. I used to view only the negative aspects of Japan. I took everything for granted. My mom cooked food every day. She did a tons of house chores for me. My dad let me go to a university in Tokyo. I ate cheap and delicious food everywhere in Japan. But I took all these things for granted. That was the cause of my sufferings. I found that my own mind caused sufferings. Even though I had everything in life, I still complained.

A famous Japanese comedian, Sanma Akashiya, said, "It's a big bargain just to be alive." He went through many sufferings in his life. He lost his mother when he was three. His younger brother died in a fire. An airplane he was supposed to take crashed. He said he is happy just being alive. If we are able to think in that way, then don't you think it's an unsurpassed bliss? I can't think of any supreme appreciation or "joy of living" other than this. It's unconditional. You don't need money or material possessions to be happy. Without any conditions, we can

be happy. We can be thankful to everything, including what seems to be a bad situation, because you will find out later that sufferings are actually leading us in the right direction.

Do you still remember the relief you felt after finding out that the alert on our phones was just a mistake? I guess that was the same state that this comedian experienced. We are already happy but we forget this truth. We don't have to do anything to realize this happiness. It's already here. By just hearing the Dharma, the realization will come to us. Although I still take everything for granted, Amida Buddha always reminds me that I forget the truth.

Namu-Amida-Butsu.

— Rev. Hideaki Nishihori

### HOONKO

#### *Hoonko Gathering* September 15, 2018

*The Hoonko Gathering will be held at 1 p.m. at the Higashi Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. This year we invited Rev. Peter Hata from the Higashi Honganji Los Angeles Betsuin. He will talk on our theme, "Let Us Discover the Joy of Living." Previously, he was a guitarist who played in the famous jazz group, Hiroshima. After the lecture, we will serve dinner. Let's share the time and enjoy the Hoonko Gathering.*

#### *Hoonko Service* September 16, 2018

*The Hoonko Service starts at 10 a.m. at the Higashi Hongwanji Betsuin. The officiant, Associate Abbot Yul Otani from Honzan (son of Overseas District Abbot Choyu Otani). This service is the memorial service for our founder, Shinran Shonin, and the most important service of the year for us. It is done in the traditional style. We hope you will attend the Hoonko Service.*

#### TRADE WIND

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# ACTIVITIES

## REPORTS

### **Public Seminar**

**March 23, 2018**

We invited Dr. Michael Conway for the Public Seminar sponsored by the Shinshu Center of America. He talked about the Komyo Honzon Scroll. After the seminar, we had refreshments and talked with him. It was a very meaningful time. We welcome everyone to our Public Seminars, so please come next time.

### **Fukushima Recovery Project**

**March 26 – April 2, 2018**



We invited four university students and two children from Fukushima to visit Hawaii for their recovery. During their eight-day visit, they attended a welcome party at the Higashi Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, stayed in Makaha, swam in the ocean, visited Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center and enjoyed the healing beauty of Hawaii. On Sunday, they attended the Hawaii Buddhist Council Buddha Day Service and shared their experiences at that time. Thank you for supporting this important Fukushima Recovery Project.

### **Joint Buddhist Seminar with Honpa Hongwanji**

**April 13 – 14, 2018**



Dr. Nobuo Haneda of Maida Center in Berkeley talked about Shakyamuni Buddha and Shinran: Buddhism as the Teaching of Self-Examination. This was very interesting and informative. It was a good opportunity for Higashi and Honpa Hongwanji to share time together.

### **Local Dharma Gatherings**

The five Hawaii District temples had Local Dharma Gatherings. Resident ministers from other temples visited and spoke at these gatherings.

- Palolo Hongwanji  
May 9, 2018 Rev. Koen Kikuchi
- Hilo Higashi Hongwanji  
May 19, 2018 Rev. Hideaki Nishihori
- Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji  
May 26, 2018 Rev. Marcos Sawada
- Waimea Higashi Hongwanji  
June 3, 2018 Rev. Hideaki Nishihori
- Higashi Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin  
June 24, 2018 Rev. Noriaki Fujimori

### **Young Buddhist Association (YBA) Hoshidan Tour**

**June 3 – 11, 2018**



Three YBA members joined Rev. Marcos Sawada and visited our Honzan for a retreat. They also went to Hiroshima Peace Museum, to the temples of Nara and to Osaka. This group joined another group of YBA members from the North America District and used the opportunity to share their different experiences.

## FUTURE PLANS

### **District Committee**

**August 25, 2018**

Our yearly Higashi Hongwanji Hawaii District Committee Meeting will be held on Saturday, August 25. Each temple will have representatives attending with their resident minister. This will be the beginning of the new three-year term for selected officers and representatives. More information will follow.



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## TEMPLE ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

### AUGUST

|      |     |         |  |
|------|-----|---------|--|
| 8/5  | Sun | 10 am   | <b>Shōtsuki service/Sunday school</b><br>Dharma message: Rev. Koen Kikuchi                               |
| 8/5  | Sun | 12 pm   | <b>The Larger Sutra</b> study class<br>led by Rinban Kawawata in Japanese<br>無量寿経 日本語仏教講座<br>現代語で仏教を聞こう! |
| 8/6  | Mon | 10 am   | <b>Betsuin study class</b>   |
| 8/9  | Thu | 7 pm    | <b>The Larger Sutra</b> study class<br>led by Rinban Kawawata in English                                 |
| 8/12 | Sun | 10 am   | <b>Sunday service/Sunday school</b><br>Dharma message: Rinban Kenjun Kawawata                            |
| 8/14 | Tue | 3 pm    | <b>Ukulele class/band practice</b>   |
| 8/19 | Sun | 10 am   | <b>Sunday service/Sunday school</b><br>Dharma message: Rinban Kenjun Kawawata                            |
| 8/19 | Sun | 12 pm   | <b>Betsuin board meeting</b>   |
| 8/20 | Mon | 10 am   | <b>Betsuin study class</b>   |
| 8/21 | Tue | 3 pm    | <b>O-kō:</b> Dharma discussion at Betsuin  |
| 8/25 | Sat | 10 am   | <b>Hawaii District meeting</b><br>Fukuhara Conference Room   |
| 8/26 | Sun | 10 am   | <b>Sunday service/Sunday school</b><br>Dharma message: Rev. Koen Kikuchi                                 |
| 8/28 | Tue | 10 am   | <b>Shinran Shōnin memorial service</b>   |
| 8/28 | Tue | 3 pm    | <b>Ukulele class/band practice</b>   |
| 8/28 | Tue | 6:30 pm | <b>Movie night: August in Tokyo (2014)</b><br>愛の小さな歴史  |

### SEPTEMBER

|      |     |         |  |
|------|-----|---------|--|
| 9/2  | Sun | 10 am   | <b>Shōtsuki service/Sunday school</b>  |
| 9/2  | Sun | 12 pm   | <b>The Larger Sutra</b> study class<br>led by Rinban Kawawata in Japanese                            |
| 9/3  | Mon | 10 am   | <b>Betsuin study class</b>   |
| 9/8  | Sat | 10 am   | <b>Oahu MAP class</b>  |
| 9/9  | Sun | 10 am   | <b>Sunday service/Sunday school</b>  |
| 9/9  | Sun | 12 pm   | <b>Omigaki</b> polishing of altar accessories  |
| 9/11 | Tue | 3 pm    | <b>Ukulele class/band practice</b>   |
| 9/13 | Thu | 7 pm    | <b>The Larger Sutra</b> study class<br>led by Rinban Kawawata in English<br>Fukuhara Conference Room |
| 9/15 | Sat | 1 pm    | <b>Hoonko Gathering</b><br>Rev. Peter Hata, Los Angeles Betsuin                                      |
| 9/16 | Sun | 10 am   | <b>Hoonko service</b><br>Associate Abbot Yul Otani, Honzan   |
| 9/17 | Mon | 10 am   | <b>Betsuin study class</b>   |
| 9/18 | Tue | 3 pm    | <b>O-kō:</b> Dharma discussion at Kaneohe  |
| 9/23 | Sun | 10 am   | <b>Ohigan service</b>  |
| 9/23 | Sun | 12 pm   | <b>Betsuin board meeting</b>   |
| 9/25 | Tue | 3 pm    | <b>Ukulele class/band practice</b>   |
| 9/25 | Tue | 6:30 pm | <b>Movie night: Midnight Diner 2 (2016)</b><br>続・深夜食堂  |
| 9/28 | Fri | 10 am   | <b>Shinran Shōnin memorial service</b>   |
| 9/30 | Sun | 10 am   | <b>Sunday service/Sunday school</b>  |

Everyone is welcome to join the morning chanting held at 7 am daily (except on Sundays & the 28th day of the month) in the Betsuin main hall.