



Jushin 樹心

1924 ~ 2019

Our 95th Anniversary

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Minister's Message Please Join Us For Obon

Aloha,

In Japan, the Obon or Urabon tradition has a long history. It is said that the tradition started about 1500 years ago. Over the centuries Obon has become a very important occasion for the Japanese to show our respect and appreciation to all ancestors.

I feel that Obon is a time to think about one's family connection from past to future through the present. Obon used to be a time when families and relatives gathered together to remember their loved ones. All the adults enjoyed reminiscing, talking, eating, and drinking. All the children ran around outside, swam in rivers, and enjoyed fireworks at night.

But what about now in this modern age? How do we spend the time of Obon? I can imagine children enjoying playing Virtual Reality video games in nice air-conditioned rooms. What about the adults?

Yes, time is always advancing. Society changes and adapts. We ought not to compare the present with the past. However, the thought I would like to offer is that Obon has a long history and tradition, and what we, in Hawaii, inherited the joy of our annual biggest event Bon Dance through our ancestors. Fortunately, we in Hawaii have Bon Dances every weekend for about three months across the islands. Thus, many people attend several or many bon dances. How about you?

I won't say, "Please think about the meaning of Obon every weekend," but I hope, while you are dancing, you might be gently awakened to what I'm trying to express here.

Bon Dance is a fun way to express our joy of being able to live this moment through all the interconnections and show appreciation to our ancestors. Thus, in doing so we will help perpetuate this alive, joyous moment for the future.

On July 6, we are having our Obon & Hatsu Bon service and a lively Bon Dance. I and my family wish to see all of you.

Gassho,

Koen Kikuchi, Resident Minister

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Chairperson's Message Mottainai and Arigatai

Dear Members and Friends,

A great big mahalo to the many donors and volunteers who contributed to our annual plant and rummage sale held on May 4. Despite the threatening weather and several Kaneohe downpours, many people arrived to take advantage of the beautiful plants and bonsai and the great abundance of our rummage sale. Smart shoppers came early and patiently stood in lines wondering what bargains they might find. And they certainly did!

Mottainai is the concept of lamenting over wastefulness (of throwing something away because it is no longer useful to us or we have grown weary of its upkeep). Because there is still remaining economic life or utility in the items, it seems a shame to simply discard it. By offering to sell it to others for a token amount, we know that other people will use or cherish it in their own way. Another life, another life! Namu Amidabutsu.

The rummage sale, for all the manpower expended added to our treasury for which we are truly grateful. However, the return of this time investment for our members and volunteers was knowing that the goods were not going to simply end up in the landfill but rather, had found a new and useful life. Many eager and happy buyers (myself included) walked away with good buys and a big smile across their faces. (Proof on page 5.)

Arigatai is the concept of appreciation. Many, many hours of pre-sale work was done by our members and volunteers to make this event possible. On page 7, we have a compiled list from three or four lists and we hope we recorded every handwritten name correctly or didn't miss anyone. Totally awesome! Arigatou! The plant sale saw many keiki of plants which were sold by us in years past. It is rewarding to see the lives of the plants perpetuating year after year. Through this we can appreciate the circle of life — from parent to keiki to keiki repeated. We are arigatai to our loving plant donors, even donors from far away Waimanalo (orchids), Mililani (bonsai), and even Makakilo (ginger, jade, bromeliads).

Mystery Donor Sought! Below is a description of a painting we received for the sale. Unfortunately we do not know who donated this painting and would like to know who you are. Could you please call Kikuchi Sensei at the temple if you were the donor or know who was. Sensei can be reached at 247-2661, or please leave a detailed message if we are not in. Thank you! Framed size: 14"x15" Painting size: 8"x10" Media: Black ink drawn over oil painting. Scene: Country house by a wooded lake. Artist: "H. Hargrove" No date or artist data.

Mothers' and Fathers' Day Celebrate your parents, appreciate all that they have done for us, and give them an extra long hug!

Obon, Oh boy! Obon is just around the corner... how quickly it has come! As always, we promise great entertainment, a reminder of your and Hawaii's past heritage and good family fun. For those who come every year, continue to make memories, for those who are new start new memories and traditions. See you on July 6th!

In Gassho

Mary Matsuda

Remember When?

This eager, young dancer hopped into the dance ring, joining the Iwakuni Odori Aiko Kai dancers at our July 1987 bon dance. Today he is 33 years old. He and his wife have a 5 year-old son and an infant daughter.



Anonymously submitted

?? Old Photos ?? Old Stories ??

Do you have any old photos of our temple, language school, sewing school, or social hall graduations to share?

Shinran's Life Was Filled with Challenges and Enlightenment

Rev. Koen Kikuchi
Excerpts from May 20 Dharma Talk

Thank you for gathering in honor of Shinran Shonin's birth. We just celebrated Buddha's birthday last month, and this month is for Shinran Shonin. Shinran Shonin was born on May 21, 1173 and he passed away on November 28, 1262. He lived 90 years and experienced many difficulties.

First, he lost his parents at an early age. I cannot imagine how sad it would be to separate from parents at my children's age. It is easy to think we understand, but we don't unless we have experienced this. Shinran Shonin must have had deep sadness at that time.

Second, he "hit the wall" when he was 29 during his ascetic practice at Mt. Hiei. After his parents died, he entered the Shoren-in temple near

Maruyama Park in Kyoto. Then, he decided to become a Buddhist monk and practiced for twenty years.

Every day, he tried harder and harder, but finally he found it difficult to remove all delusions like anger, greediness, and ignorance from his mind. He decided to leave Mt. Hiei, and he looked for the Buddhist path everyone can walk in our daily life. I guess this whole situation was pure desperation for him. Up until then, he had never had a doubt that he could find the goal by practicing at the mountain. He thought that was the only and best way to be an awakened one. But he couldn't. He hit the wall of desperation.

Third, he had to give in to authority. He was exiled to the Echigo area because the Nembutsu practice was

prohibited by the government. He wanted to learn more about the Nembutsu teaching and he wanted to share and deepen the teaching with Nembutsu followers. I think he enjoyed his life because of his teacher, Honen, in Kyoto. He had to leave Kyoto where he was in a paradise, but was forced to change his life by an authority, or outside power, a condition that he could not change. Sometimes it can happen that the paradise is like an illusion. We realize that the goal was only the start. Everything can change despite one's original plan or intension.

Shinran experienced many hard and sad things, so he could clarify his problems through the Nembutsu teaching. Because he was honest and his attitude toward living his life was really focused, he had great achievements.

Replica of Shoshinge Scroll Unveiled

In honor of Gotan-e, the service commemorating Shinran Shonin's birthday in May of 1173, the Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji displayed its replica of his poem, Shoshinge. It was simply displayed on white linen table along with his miniaturized statue. Members and visitors were invited to view the scroll that memorializes the chant we say each Sunday service. For some, it was just short of a "chicken-skin" moment.

Miyoko Shimoda of Kaneohe said, "seeing the handwritten Shoshinge made it very real to me, and Sensei's dharma talk on Shinran's life was really interesting. I've been a Jodo Buddhist all my life, chanted Shoshinge all these years and this is the first time I can remember, that I viewed his Shoshinge. I'm glad I came." Shimoda normally attends Honpa Hongwanji's Sunday services by catching the city bus or



Viewing a small-scale replica of Shinran Shonin's original Shoshinge seemed to be a birthday gift *from* Shinran *to* the congregation. Above left, Eleanor Tokunaga looks at the scroll for the first time. Above right, Mai Kikuchi and son, Ren, examine the scroll, including Shinran's revisions.

riding with friends. But the hillside strengthening above the Pali Tunnels disrupted bus routes and traffic. So she now attends our Kaneohe Higashi Sunday services when she can. Gojikai member and dedicated volunteer, Gladys Sakata said, "Sensei's talk made me think how I

should live...my life. I was amazed and thankful that I could really see Shinran's handwritten Shoshinge." Adding that seeing it in his own handwriting "definitely" made Shoshinge more real and not just words printed in our service book.



Bon Dance July ☀



A candle is lighted for each family member who has passed since the previous Obon. (*Hatsubon*)

Irasshai! The Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji Mission proudly announces its combination Obon and Hatsubon Service and Bon Dance on July 6. We're again featuring all-night dancing that has been a real hit with bon dancers. This year is also our temple's 95th Anniversary and we hope to have our specially designed, limited edition anniversary tenugui head band available at the front choba booth.

To defray expenses we ask members and friends to not donate food or drinks but to donate funds instead, if they wish. Any and all donations help to perpetuate our temple and help to share Amida's dharma. ***Namuamidabu!***

Our Bon Dance Practice Night is Tuesday, July 2, 6 to 8pm. (We'll appreciate strong volunteers for 8am Saturday, June 29 for yagura setup and 9am Sunday July 7 for clean up after bon dance.)

Saturday July 6, 2019

- 5:30pmFood Concession Opens
- 6:00pmShin Buddhist Temple Service
- 6:30pmWelcome to Audience
- 6:35pmBegin Dancing Non-Stop
- 10:00pmBon Dance Ends - (noise ordinance)

Dance Troupes - All Night Dancing

- Koolau Sakura Odori Aiko Kai 3-sets (Trad. & Modern)
- Iwakuni Odori Aiko Kai 2-sets (Trad. Iwakuni)
- Hawaii Eisa Shinyuu Kai 2-sets (Okinawan beat)

Free Parking Site - 4-10pm

Benjamin Parker Elem. School - Waikalua Road Lots

(Traffic Alert! We don't know when the City will begin planned Keahala Road excavation so we suggest you drop off handicapped passengers at our Keahala curb then go straight to Benjamin Parker Elem. to park. Please kokua.)

May 4 Rummage Sale Moments



Snaps Taken by
Cheryl Tyler



2020 Higashi Otani Ha Sponsored World Gathering

World Dobo Gathering 2020

April 20th-22nd in Kyoto, Japan

The 13th World Dobo Gathering will be held at the Higashi Honganji head temple in Kyoto, Japan. These Dobo Gatherings are special opportunities once every few years to meet members and ministers from around the world as well as to deepen our appreciation of Jodo Shinshu.

Two tour packages are being planned, we look forward to sharing more details and open registration for the 13th World Dobo Gathering soon. We hope that you will be able to join us on this exciting adventure in 2020!

Pilgrimage and Hot Spring Resort Tour

Apr. 18 Departure from Hawaii.
Apr. 19 Arrive at Kansai Airport.
 Stay overnight at hotel.
Apr. 20 World Dobo Gathering.
 Stay overnight at Dobo Retreat Center.*
Apr. 21 World Dobo Gathering.
 Stay overnight at Dobo Retreat Center.*
Apr. 22 World Dobo Gathering.
 Banquet and Entertainment.
 Stay overnight at hotel.

4/23-25 Pilgrimage Tour by bus, with overnight stay at hotels

Apr. 23 Pilgrimage Tour. *(Hokuriku)
Apr. 24 Pilgrimage Tour. *(Joetsu)
Apr. 25 Pilgrimage Tour. *(Kanto)
 Stay overnight at Hotel
Apr. 26 Pilgrimage Tour. (Kanto)
 Departure from Narita Airport.
 Arrive in Hawaii.
 *Overnight stay at nearby hotel option available

Dobo Basic Tour

Apr. 18 Departure from Hawaii.
Apr. 19 Arrive at Kansai Airport.
 Stay overnight at hotel.
Apr. 20 World Dobo Gathering.
 Stay overnight at Dobo Retreat Center.*
Apr. 21 World Dobo Gathering.
 Stay overnight at Dobo Retreat Center.*
Apr. 22 World Dobo Gathering.
 Banquet and Entertainment.
 Stay overnight at hotel.
Apr. 23 Departure from Kansai Airport.
 Arrive in Hawaii. (Return date and airport can be changed for those wishing to extend their stay.)

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Temple Service & Activities Calendar

June

- 1 Sat 10a-2p Kaneohe Local Retreat with Rev. Noriaki Fujimori **“Let us discover the joy of living”**
- 2 Sun 9am Sunday Service then Yard Cleaning (Bring own tools & gloves. OK to wear grubbies.)
- 9 Sun 9am Sunday Service, Board Meeting follows
- 16 Sun 9am Sunday Service
- 19 Wed Ann Pearl care facility visitation
- 25 Tue Hale Nani care facility visitation
- 29 Sat 8am Yagura Set up Volunteers needed
- 30 Sun 9am Yard day (Please bring own tools and gloves)
No Sunday Service

July

- 2 Tue 6-8p Bon Dance Practice Night
- 3 Wed Ann Pearl care facility visitation
- 6 Sat 5:30 Food Concession Opens
6:00 Bon, Hatsubon Service and
6:30 Bon Dance
- 7 Sun 9am Clean-up after Bon Dance
Volunteers Needed!
No Sunday Service
- 14 Sun 9am Sunday Service
- 21 Sun 9am Sunday Service, Guest Minister
- 28 Sun 9am Sunday Service
- 30 Tues Hale Nani care facility visitation

About our calendar: Because the Jushin is printed every 2 months, events and dates appearing on our calendar may change or might not be ready in time for our printing deadline. Please check our website for current information, or telephone our temple at 247-2661. Mahalo

“Shout Out” to State Agriculture

By Cheryl Tyler

After widespread news of little fire ants (LFA) invading the home of a recent carnival plant customer, the State Department of Agriculture (DoA) was consulted about preventing that from happening with our May 4 Plant Sale. DoA representative Becky Azama, whose friend is a member of our community, immediately offered to test our plants for ants prior to sale day. On May

3, she and co-worker Erin Bishop came to KHH, set out peanut butter-baited vials throughout our sale plants and gave an informational session on LFA history and control in Hawaii. DoA said anyone in the community could ask for an on-site inspection of their property if the presence of fire ants is suspected, without fear of public exposure. The DoA expressed gratitude for our interest in supporting efforts to control the dangerous LFA. We were rewarded with the good news that our plants were free of little fire ants!



Above, Erin Bishop from the State Department of Agriculture (in black polo facing the camera) explains to an attentive plant sale group how dangerous the Little Fire Ant can be. Many thanks for the presentation, ant testing, and literature for our May 4 event.



Above, Mary Kagawa, Wendy Tachikawa, Eleanor Tokunaga and Laverne Tokunaga-Tarumoto inspect baited ant traps for the Little Fire Ant.



Left, Plant buyers who came after