



Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

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戦後 70 年にあたって非戦・平和を願う総長談話

アジア・太平洋戦争の終結から、本年で70年目を迎えました。先の大戦によって犠牲になられた世界中のすべての皆さまに対し、あらためて衷心より哀悼の意を表します。また、大切な方を失った方々の悲しみは、今現在も癒えることがありません。戦争は遠い未来の人々にまで、深い苦しみを与えるのです。

約2500年前、釈尊は「己が身にひきくらべて、殺してはならぬ。殺さしめてはならぬ」と説かれました。しかし、今なお私たちは、自分の都合の良いものには愛着を抱き、不都合なものには憎しみを抱くという、自己中心的な生き方をしています。共にかげがえのない命を受けながら、他者を認めることができず、争いあっているのです。いかなる戦争も、必ず、多くの命を奪います。そして、人と人が命を奪いあうことほど愚かなことはありません。

非戦・平和こそ人類の進むべき道です。

大谷光真前門主は、1997年3月20日、本山・本願寺における基幹運動推進・御同朋の社会をめざす法要で、「すべてのいのちの尊厳性を護ること、基本的人権の尊重は、今日、日本社会の課題にとどまらず、人類共通の課題であり、世界平和達成への道でもあります」と述べられました。私たちは「いのちの尊厳性」が平和実現のキーワードであることを、今こそ認識すべきであります。

また、大谷光淳門主は、2015年7月3日、広島平和記念公園における平和を願う法要で、「人類が経験したこともなかった世界規模での争いが起こったあと、70年という歳月が、争いがもたらした深い悲しみや痛みを和らげることができたでしょうか。そして、私たちはそこから平和への願いと、学びをどれだけ深めることができたでしょうか」と述べられました。

現在、日本では、我が国の平和と安全保障を巡って、国会のみならず、全国各地で厳しい議論がおこなわれていますが、多くの国民が納得できるよう、十分な説明と丁寧な審議が尽くされることを願っております。私たち浄土真宗本願寺派でも、先の大戦の遂行に協力した慚愧すべき歴史の事実から目をそらすことなく、念仏者がどのように恒久平和に貢献しうるかについて、研究を重ねてきました。近々に、その成果《平和に関する論点整理》を中間報告として公表する予定です。これを機に、宗門内外の方々と共に学びを深めることができれば幸いです。

戦後70年を経た今、私たちは過去の戦争の記憶を風化させることなく、仏の智慧に導かれる念仏者として、すべての命が尊重され、自他共に心豊かに生きることのできる社会の実現に貢献すべく、歩みを進めてまいります。

2015年8月10日

浄土真宗本願寺派

総長 石上智康

MESSAGE BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL

ON THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR II IN HOPE FOR PEACE

With this year marking the 70th anniversary of the end of the Asia-Pacific War, I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to all across the world who perished during the war. The sorrow of those who lost their loved ones in the war can never be alleviated, and thus, deep agony from the war will continue to be felt by generations to come.

Approximately 2,500 years ago, Sakyamuni Buddha expounded, "Putting yourself in others' place, do not kill and do not make them kill others." However, being the innately ego-centered beings that we are, we have a tendency to feel affectionate to those who are convenient to us, while feeling hatred to those who are not. Even though we know in theory that every life is equally precious, we cannot accept others as they are and cannot help but fight with one another. Many lives are lost in any war. There is no act that is more foolish and reckless than humans killing one another.

Peace and renunciation of war is the path that human beings must take.

Monshu Emeritus Ohtani Koshin presented a message following the *Service for Promoting the Core Program and Pursuing a Society of Fellow Nembutsu Practicers* conducted at the Hongwanji in Kyoto, on March 20, 1997. In his message Monshu Emeritus stated, "Today, protection of the dignity of life, or preservation of fundamental human rights, is not an issue only within Japanese society but should be a concern shared by all humankind. Besides, it is the path to follow to actualize world peace." Now is the time for us to be aware that "dignity of life" is a keyword to bring peace and harmony to the world.

His successor, Monshu Ohtani Kojun, during the *Memorial Service Wishing for Peace* conducted at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park on July 3, 2015 also stated, "Although seventy years may have elapsed following the experiences of brutal warfare at an unprecedented global scale, have we really been alleviated from the deep sorrow and pain? As a result, has our aspiration for world peace and awareness really been deepened?"

Currently in Japan, debates are taking place concerning the peace and security of our nation, not only within the national Parliament, but nationwide in general. It is my hope that adequate discussion will result in detailed explanation that will satisfy everyone. As a Buddhist organization, we have been trying to figure out in what way we can contribute to eternal world peace while facing up to the regrettable, historical fact that our religious institute once supported the war campaign promoted by the then militarized regime. As a result of this effort, an interim report, "Summary of the Discussion on Peace" will be publicized shortly. Through the report, if we could deepen our understanding of the issue with various parties and individuals both within and outside of the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha organization, it would be more than wonderful.

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the conclusion of World War II, let us be guided by the Buddha's wisdom and strive for realizing a society in which all life is respected and everyone is able to live a life of spiritual fulfillment.

August 10, 2015

Iwagami Chiko
Governor General
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

JINJI (MINISTERIAL ASSIGNMENTS)

Rev. Tatsuo Muneto, currently serving as the Rimban (Chief Minister) of Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, will retire from the active ministry of HHMH as of December 15, 2015.

Rev. Toyokazu Hagio, currently serving as the Fuku-Rimban (Assistant Chief Minister) of Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, will be assigned as the Rimban of Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin as of December 16, 2015.

Rev. Joshin Kamuro, a new minister of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, will arrive in Hawaii on October 1, 2015. He will receive orientation from October 1, 2015 to December 15, 2015 under the supervision of the Executive Assistant to the Bishop and will be assigned to Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin as its Associate Minister as of December 16, 2015.

Ministers of Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin are asked to continue to oversee Puna, Naalehu, and Pahala Hongwanji Mission during the absence of the Resident Minister.

BSC SPECIAL PRESENTATION

WHY SMART MEN DO THE SAME DUMB THINGS

It's Not A Guy Thing – It's A Bushido Thing

BSC, Saturday, October 3, 9:00am to 12:00noon

Dr. Rosalie K. Tatsuguchi, Ph.D. is a practicing psychologist with over 30 years of experience. She is the daughter of Rev. Goki Tatsuguchi of the Shinshu Kyokai Buddhist Temple. She has incorporated basic Buddhist concepts in her practice in what I describe as her own "DR.T." way. She is now working with me developing methods for improving interpersonal relationships from a Shinshu perspective. The October 2 presentation is about her new book that discusses the influence of a warrior mentality on male personalities, even if they did not grow up in a Japanese environment. She approaches her presentation by examining the warrior legacy of Miyamoto Musashi and how it can be balanced by the critical thinking and empirical methods of Shakaymuni Buddha resulting in a more well-rounded healthier approach to life.

(Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki – BSC Director)

2015-2016 SOCIAL CONCERNS FUND DRIVE

We celebrate gratitude in the month of November. The Thanksgiving holiday and the Eitaikyo observance are reminders of the countless blessings in our lives and how we live deeply connected to the world around us. It is in this spirit of gratitude that we begin our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive.

Through the generous contributions of Sangha members, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is able to support worthy organizations and programs with funding to continue their work in our community. Your support also allows us to provide compassionate action during times of disaster and the ability to respond to social issues affecting our community.

Because of your commitment to promoting the Buddhist values of compassion and loving-kindness, we are able to lend our support to such organizations as Project Dana, The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii, Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii, Family Promise of Hawaii and the various food banks on each island. We were also able to raise over \$38,000 to help support relief efforts in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake in Nepal last April.

Because of your kokua over the years, we have also been able to help with recovery efforts after natural disasters and assist members of our Sangha affected by misfortune and other emergency situations. We have

also been able to establish the Golden Chain Grant program that promotes compassionate action through community service. Your generosity directly helps those in need and promotes a more humane world.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Please make all checks payable to **(your temple.)** The suggested donation is the cost of just one meal per person. Any donation you are able to give will make a difference in the lives of others. Your help is needed to continue our mission of sharing the Dharma through compassionate action. Mahalo!

Committee on Social Concerns
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii