



Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

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JUNE 2017

THE 59th ANNUAL HAWAII HONPA HONGWANJI MINISTERS ASSOCIATION SEMINAR

The 59th Annual Hawaii Honpa Hongwanji Ministers Association Seminar was held on June 13-15, 2017 hosted by the ministers of Hawaii District with the support of the Hawaii District members. Annually, a lecturer is dispatched from the Honzan (Main Temple) to provide kaikyoshi ministers with an opportunity to deepen their understanding and appreciation of the Buddha-Dharma. The theme of this year's seminar was "Shin Buddhist Living & medicine" and ministers received very informative and timely sessions from Professor Masahisa Tabata who is a medical doctor and also a professor of Ryukoku University. He has been advocating the integration of Buddhist perspectives into the world of medicine. Simultaneously, there is a movement promoting the inclusion of spiritual care into health care in the United States. In January 2017, HHMH participated in a seminar on "Making Healthcare Whole."

Ministers express their deepest appreciation to the members of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii for their support which makes it possible for ministers to gather for learning, reflection, discussion, fellowship and revitalization.



CONCLUSION OF DENTO HOKOKU HOYO

Dento Hokoku Hoyo (The Commemoration on the Accession of the Jodo Shinshu Tradition) is a series of services at Honzan in Kyoto, Japan to formally announce that His Eminence Kojun Ohtani has taken on the responsibilities of Monshu and is following the footsteps of his predecessors to spread the Dharma with an emphasis on sharing the Nembutsu teaching to a greater number of people throughout the world.

This Commemoration started in October 2016 and, and successfully concluded a total of 80 services conducted on May 31, 2017. About 2,000 people attended each service, and members from the Overseas Districts (BCA, Canada, and Hawaii) were able to participate in this auspicious observance on October 21, 2016 and March 31, 2017.



On May 24, 2017, the Overseas' Bishops (Bishop Kodo Umezu of Buddhist Churches of America, Bishop Tetsuei Somayama of Federacao Budista Sul-Americana Jodo Shinshu Honpa Hongwanji, Bishop Tatsuya Aoki of Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada, and Bishop Eric Matsumoto of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii) participated in the Hoyo representing their respective Kyodans as they gathered for the World Jodo Shinshu Coordinating Council Meeting.

PRESIDENT'S DENTO HOKOKU HOYO REPORT

I had the honor of representing Hawaii Kyodan and joining Bishop Matsumoto in personally congratulating the Gomonshu as he assumed leadership of the Hongwanji worldwide. These are excerpts from my congratulatory remarks:

*"On behalf of the members in Hawaii, we congratulate Gomonshu on his accession to head of our Jodo Shinshu spiritual tradition. I am a member of Jikoen Temple in Kalihi in the city of Honolulu. In front of our temple is a large boulder from Okinawa with the kanji SHIKAI KEI TEI carved in it. SHIKAI KEI TEI translates to: **Within the four seas, all are brothers.** Our presence here today is proof of the truth of this saying. We have come from across the Pacific Ocean to congratulate and wish you well, our brother in Nembutsu, as you lead us into the future. We are proud, motivated, and honored that you are clearly communicating the joys and our responsibilities as Jodo Shinshu followers. You are pointing the way into the future, and we will follow you. Again, congratulations from Hawaii."*

After attending the ceremonies in Kyoto, we traveled north to follow in the footsteps of Shinran. On the seventh day of our trip, we visited the Kotagahama Beach. It was desolate, cold, windy, and cloudy. As I gazed out over the beach, the breaking waves, feeling the cold and wind, I felt in my bones the desolation and loneliness that Shinran must have felt as he approached the beach in his unsteady boat. And yet out of such despair, he was able to nurture the spirit of the Namo Amida Butsu. As we held a short service above the beach, in the cold, and Reverend Hasebe read a Gobunsho, "The Tradition of Shinran Shonin," I was completely overwhelmed by where I was. In that moment, Shinran was real for me, living and breathing. Namo Amida Butsu was real. At that moment, our pilgrimage has accomplished its purpose.

Pieper Toyama
President, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii



IKIYOSHIKI CONFIRMATION CEREMONY BY HIS EMINENCE GOMONSHU KOJUN OHTANI

Confirmation Ceremony, or “*Kikyoshiki*”, is a solemn ceremony performed before Amida Buddha and Shinran Shonin to officially confirm your entry into the Path of the Nembutsu. Participants will affirm their reverence toward the Three Treasures of the Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha. “Buddha” is not simply in reference to Shakyamuni, but refers more importantly to Amida Buddha, the Buddha of Immeasurable Wisdom and Boundless Compassion. “Dharma” is the teaching of Amida’s Compassionate working to embrace all beings without any discrimination. “Sangha” refers to the community of people who have entrusted themselves to Amida Buddha and its Nembutsu teaching.

By participating in the Confirmation Ceremony, you will receive a Dharma Buddhist Name (*Homyo*). These names are in the form of “*Shaku*” and two Buddhist terms which follow. The word “*Shaku*” means “disciple of Shakyamuni” and signifies that the person has joined the followers of the teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha, a community that transcends race or nationality.

His Eminence Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani, the Head Priest and the Spiritual Leader of the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha Organization, will be officiating the Confirmation Ceremony at the following three locations.

**Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin (398 Kilauea Ave., Hilo)
Tuesday, September 5, 2017, 5:30pm**

**Wailuku Hongwanji Mission (1828 Vineyard Street, Wailuku)
Wednesday, September 6, 2017, 5:30pm**

**Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin (1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu)
Sunday, September 10, 2017, 1:00pm
*Please note that the time has changed to 1:00pm.**

Please note that the Confirmation Ceremony is open to anyone throughout the State. There is no minimum or maximum age limit however the individual must be able to participate in the ceremony at the temple. We sincerely hope that you will take this wonderful opportunity and participate in the Confirmation Ceremony.

<http://hongwanjihawaii.com/blog/2017/04/10/confirmation-ceremonies-0917/>. Please contact your resident minister for application instruction.

Application deadline is June 30, 2017.

HQ BOOKSTORE UPDATE – JUNE 2017

HMMH Original Kakocho (Family Record)

New edition is now available at HQ Bookstore. The contents of the previous version were carefully reviewed and updated, and now it includes more helpful information such as “Etiquette toward Family Altar”. The Kakocho is very convenient for you to keep all of your family members’ information including their Buddhist Names in one place.

Price: \$30.00 (We offer 10% discount toward orders from HMMH temples)



8th ANNUAL THREE-PETALS PEACE WALK SERVICE

Wednesday, August 9, 2017, 5pm

Join a multi-faith service & walk to remember the **72nd anniversary** of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, Japan and the 11th anniversary of the 1600-mile pilgrimage of three Buddhist monks to save humanity from

the cycle of nuclear destruction. Walk from the Hongwanji Buddhist Temple to the Nagasaki Peace Bell Memorial at Honolulu Hale (1 mile) to express our gratitude for another year without global nuclear destruction and our hope for continued nuclear peace.

LOCATION

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, 1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI to Nagasaki Peace Bell

SCHEDULE

3 PM – Movie showing: GATE

5 PM – Welcoming Remarks

5:30 PM – Walk Begins

6:30 PM – Aspiration and Ringing of the Peace Bell

THE INSPIRATION FOR THE PEACE WALK

From July 25 to August 9, three Japanese monks made a walking pilgrimage of 1600 miles from San Francisco, California to Trinity, New Mexico to return the atomic flame from Japan to its origin point, thus closing the 60-year cycle of destruction and saving humanity.

The Three-Petals Partnership (Buddhist, Newman/Catholic and Quaker Centers)

Quarterly Peace Services rotating between multi-faith sponsors express our joint affirmations for peace, of mindfulness and a blossoming from our common humanity.

YESS CAMP 34

YESS Camp 34 was held on April 14-16, 2017 at Camp Kokokahi. Our theme this year was YESStopia. It was based off the movie Zootopia, and our message to the campers was “be kind and gentle to every living thing, and protect all who are weaker than myself”. We had about 27 campers this year and our guest speaker was Rev. Satoshi Tomioka. Rev. Tomioka gave a wonderful Dharma message to our campers. Our campers had a great time listening and engaging in the dharma discussions based off of his messages. Our campers also did some activities like egg drop, marshmallows and toothpick building, tarp folding, snowball fight with paper balls, amazing race, and much more. We had a dance Saturday night and this year majority of our campers were dancing!!! We also did a self-letter for our future self. We asked the campers to write about any goals they were currently doing or wanted to achieve by a certain date, reflect on YESS camp, self-improvements, etc. We are going to send these back to the campers at the start of 2018 to see if they achieved some of their goals or if they improved on anything that they were working on. Lastly, we just want to give a big big thank you to Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, our campers and their parents, our counselors, and our staff. Without your help and support we would have not be able to do camp.

Co-Chairs Kristyn Katayama and Bryce Ikeda