



2017 Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC)
Buddhist Youth Tour

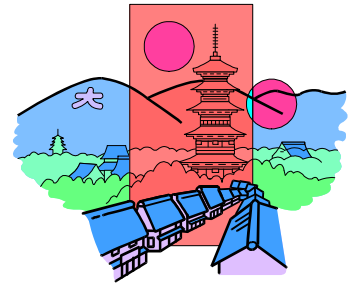
**Young Buddhist International Cultural Study Exchange
(YBICSE)**

For many years, the Hongwanji has been sponsoring the YBICSE program. The basic purpose of this program is to expose young Buddhists to ideas about sharing Nembutsu teaching with others by visiting Hongwanji (mother temple), experiencing a homestay, touring historical Jodo Shinshu sites, and meeting people and YBAs from different countries. The main portion of the trip will be organized through the Hongwanji (July 11 – July 19), and the second part will be just the Canadian group on our own for Tokyo and other cities. Opportunity will be afforded for those youths who wish to receive confirmation rites by our head minister (Gomonshu-sama). Please keep in mind that the participated youth will be the ambassadors representing your local temple and the JSBTC.

Youths who wish to visit with relatives or friends at the conclusion of the group tour may do so; however, please notify Rev. Aoki so that the return flight to Canada can be coordinated. We will be in Tokyo on the last day (July 23).

Candidate Qualifications:

- ✓ Jodo Shinshu Buddhist
- ✓ Between the age of 15 and 25
- ✓ In good health



Dates of Trip: July 10 – July 23, 2017

Cost of Trip: CDN \$2,000.00 (plus Travel Insurance arranged for by the participant)

Application and Selection Process:

1. Fill out the application and waiver form(s), write an essay, and ask your resident minister and lay member (preferably a local temple Dharma School Teacher or a temple president) to fill out the reference forms.
2. Application forms must be submitted to:

Rev. Tatsuya Aoki
YBICSE Registration
Vancouver Buddhist Temple
220 Jackson Avenue
Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3
3. Application Deadline: **May 5 , 2017**
4. Ten [10] Participants (new or past applicants) will be chosen from Canada. Priority of the selection will be given to those who have never participated in the past tours.
5. Canada Delegates will be announced by May 10, 2017

Application form is available from your local temple and your minister.

If there are any questions regarding 2017 YBICSE, please contact Rev. Tatsuya Aoki (JSBTC Group Leader). Manitoba Buddhist Temple: (604) 253-7033 E-mail: rev.aoki@gmail.com

2017 YBICSE Application Form

Is this your first YBICSE? [YES / NO]

(If not, please indicate a year you have participated YEAR: _____ Group Leader: Rev. _____)

Name of Applicant:

(Please write name as **exactly** indicated in your **passport**)

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone (_____) _____ E-mail: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth (Mon/Day/Year): _____ Male or Female: _____

School Grade: _____ School: _____ (Major: _____)

1. Please check the appropriate brackets which best describe your membership and also the number of years in which you have belonged to the organization.

Current temple of which you are a member: _____

Dharma School () Years attended _____

YBA () Years attended _____

Dharma School Teacher () Years taught _____

2. If the above categories are not applicable, please describe your involvement with the temple on a separate sheet of paper.
3. Give names of two references. As checks may be made on the references, please provide their phone numbers. (A reference letter should be included.)

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

4. Attach a one-page essay, double-spaced composition entitled "***Why do I go to a temple? What does Buddhism mean to me?***" (Please express your honest feeling).
5. If applicant wants to stay longer in Japan after the group tour, give us the returning date to Canada. (If you are returning with the group on the scheduled date, please indicate so.)

Returning Date : _____ , 2017

Signature of Applicant _____

Date signed: _____, 2017

Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada
2017
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Reference Form

[Lay Member]

Name of Applicant: _____

Name of Adult: Mr. / Mrs. _____

Temple: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

Please provide your comments regarding the student applicant. Briefly address the length of time and how you are/have been associated with the applicant. Most importantly, comment on why you feel the applicant should be selected to participate in the YBICSE Program. Attach a separate sheet, if you wish.

Comments: _____

This reference form must be submitted in a sealed envelope prepared by the Lay Member.

Signature of Lay Member: _____ Date Signed: _____

Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada
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Personal Information and Health Form

The information on this form will be used at the discretion of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada and its Youth Tour representative (i.e. Minister/Tour Leader and Chaperone) to ensure care and attention is given to the health of the young person while they participate in the YBICSE. All information on this considered Personal and Confidential.

Name of Applicant:

Print name (First, Middle, Last)

Date of Birth: _____ Age _____ Sex: Male () or Female ()

Month, Day, Year

Address:

Street

City

Province

Postal code

Email

Phone

Fax

Provincial Health Care Insurance Number: _____

Subscriber's Name: _____

Other Hospital Insurance Coverage & Policy Numbers: _____

Family Doctor & Clinic (Name of Physician): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name of Parent / Guardian:

[Address, if different from that of Youth Applicant:]

Street

City

Province

Postal code

() _____

() _____

Phone

Fax

() _____

@ _____

Cell Phone

E-mail

If the Parent/Guardian is unavailable in a case of emergency, the following persons can be contacted:

1. _____

Print name (first, last)

(Relationship to the Applicant: _____)

() _____ () _____

Phone

Fax

() _____

@ _____

Cell Phone

E-mail

2. _____

Print name (first, last)

(Relationship to the Applicant: _____)

() _____ () _____

Phone

Fax

() _____

@ _____

Cell Phone

E-mail

Does the participant suffer from any disorders that would make their participation in physical activities difficult? Yes [] No [] If “yes”, please provide particulars.

Are there any special health care or dietary concerns? Yes [] No [] Explain:

Allergies / Yes [] No [] If “yes”, please list the type of allergies, the reactions and treatment.

Is the participant taking any medications? If so, please list.

Signature of Applicant: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Printed name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Date signed: _____, 2017

Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada
2017 Young Buddhists' International Cultural Study Exchange
Parent / Guardian Authorization

WAIVER FORM

We (I), the undersigned, hereby grant permission for our (my) son / daughter named below (hereinafter referred to as "said youth") to participate in the YBICSE (Young Buddhists' International Cultural Study Exchange Program) sponsored by Nishi Hongwanji and JSBTC (Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada).

Travel Authorization

We (I) grant permission for said youth to participate in the planned activities of the travel, and to travel by car, bus, train, airplane, and other means of transportation as required, from July 10 to July 23, 2017

Medical / Emergency Authorization

While my child is in the care of the representative(s) of the JSBTC, I authorize the representative(s) to consent to any emergency medical care recommended by a licensed physician for my child.

I understand that if circumstances permit, the JSBTC representative(s) will attempt to contact me prior to such medical care being rendered, but I also understand that such contact and my consent are not necessary for the medical care to occur.

In the case of illness or injury to said youth, we (I) hereby consent to and authorize such medical or dental treatment as deemed necessary, and agree to pay for such medical and dental costs, if incurred. I agree that I will not make legal or financial claim against the JSBTC or its designated representative(s) for authorization of emergency medical care for my child and for any consequences that may arise from that care.

Discipline Authorization

We (I) understand and agree that in the event my son/daughter violates any of the printed rules and/or is considered a serious disciplinary problem by the JSBTC representative(s) while on this YBICSE trip:

1. We (I) may be called collect to discuss the problem and/or
2. Youth may be sent home; and we (I) agree to pay for any additional expenses caused by this problem.
3. If my son/daughter borrows any money or item from another youth or chaperone, we (I) will be responsible for repaying the amount borrowed or returning the item (or dollar equivalent if item cannot be returned).

Travel, Medical / Emergency, and Discipline AUTHORIZATION

Applicant's Signature: _____

Father's / Guardian's Signature: _____

(Printed Name: _____)

Mother's / Guardian's Signature: _____

(Printed Name: _____)

Date signed: _____, 2017

Authorization to Leave the Group (Optional)

We (I) hereby granted permission for said youth to leave the group at the end of the program on July 23, 2017.

We (I) agree that while the said youth to leave the group, the JSBTC and its representative(s) are not responsible for the said youth.

We (I) agree that any costs caused by this leaving of the group will be paid for by said youth and / or ourselves (myself).

This authorization is filled and submitted only if the said youth is staying longer after the group tour ends on July 23, and he/she is under the age of majority.

Youth will be chaperoned by this responsible adult at the end of the program.

Name: _____ (Relationship to the applicant: _____)

Address in Japan: _____

Phone Number in Japan: _____ Cell Phone: _____

AUTHORIZATION to leave the Group of JSBTC on July 23, 2017

Applicant's Signature: _____

Father's / Guardian's Signature: _____

(Printed Name: _____)

Mother's / Guardian's Signature: _____

(Printed Name: _____)

Date signed: _____, 2017

Confirmation Rites by Monshu Kojun Otani

The Meaning of the Ceremony

This important Shin Buddhist ceremony is for the purpose of affirming one's reverence for the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha. It is to show one's determination to tread the path to Buddhahood. The ceremony is performed before the altar of Amida Buddha and Shinran Shonin.

The Confirmation Rites

The teachings of Sakyamuni Buddha are so extensive that they are said to number 84,000 paths to Enlightenment. It is no surprise, then, that after the Buddha's death, the emergence of various schools were based on the different aspects of his teachings. Shin Buddhism (Jodo Shinshu) is the Buddhist path of Great Compassion clarified by Shinran Shonin. Shinran taught that Sakyamuni appeared in this world in order to reveal the Vow of Amida Buddha to save all beings; it is the salvation of all people by Amida Buddha that is Sakyamuni's fundamental teaching.

The Affirmation Ceremony in Shin Buddhism, therefore, shares a common meaning with the precept of the three refuges administered in the time of Sakyamuni Buddha, but it also has a deeper meaning. In the Affirmation Ceremony, the Buddha of the three refuges is not simply in reference to Sakyamuni, but refers more importantly to Amida Buddha, who is the heart of Sakyamuni's teachings. Sakyamuni came into the world to teach the Vow of Amida Buddha, and our salvation is brought about by Amida. Thus, "Dharma" is the teaching of Amida's compassionate working to save all beings, and "Sangha" refers to people who have entrusted themselves to Amida.

Since there are no precepts in Shin Buddhism, instead of receiving the precept of the three treasures, one participates in the Affirmation Ceremony. Shin practitioners are not required to shave their heads, but rather, undergo a symbolic shaving of the head, which has a similar meaning.

By participating in the Affirmation Ceremony, one receives a Buddhist name (*homyo*). These names are in the form of *Shaku* 釈 and two Buddhist terms which follow. The word "*Shaku*" means "disciple of Sakyamuni" and signifies that the person has joined the followers of the teachings of Sakyamuni Buddha, a community that transcends race or nationality.

The Confirmation Rites by Monshu Kojun Otani will take place during the YBICSE for those who wish to receive it. There will be a separate fee for the Rites. It was 3,000 Yen (approximately C \$35) in 2013 and the fee is collected in Japan.



(OPTIONAL)

Would you like to receive Confirmation Rites? YES / NO

Check List

- Application Form
- Reference Forms
 1. Resident Minister
 2. Lay Member
- Personal Information and Health Form
- Waiver Form(s)
 1. Medical / Emergency and Discipline Authorization
 2. (Authorization to leave the group)
- Essay Written by the Applicant
- (Optional) Confirmation Rites Agreement

Deadline Reminder: May 5, 2017

All documents must be submitted to

**Rev. Tatsuya Aoki
YBICSE Registration
Vancouver Buddhist Temple
220 Jackson Avenue
Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3**