



Ignorant Self “I am right and you are wrong. You make mistakes but not me.”



I think that the label “Buddhism” was devised by westerners who visited India and heard the teaching. However, Buddha’s teaching is not a belief that one particular race holds. Originally, the word was Buddha Dharma. Buddha is the one who discovered and awakened to the Dharma, the universal law which applies to all living beings whether they believe it or not. Therefore, “Buddha” means “Awakened One”.

The Awakened One told us we are not awakened yet but sick and ignorant. Being “sick” here means that we are spiritually blind and ignorant. We are not able to see things as they are and our own life as it is because of selfish desires and blind passions. The cause of blind passion is a self-centered mind or ego attachment. Although we can see problems and faults in others easily and clearly, we are not able to see them in ourselves.

I would like to share my recent experience. A friend of mine living in Vancouver called me the other day. He is also a minister, but not a Buddhist minister. Whenever he has a question about the Dharma he calls me. His question was about the meaning of “misso,” a Japanese word meaning a strictly private funeral. When a well-

known person like a movie star or singer or a president of a large company dies, hundreds or thousands of people come to pay their respects. In order to avoid confusion, the family holds a private funeral beforehand.

I wrote and faxed my friend, explaining the meaning of the word. Then a few minutes later he phoned me again telling me that he was asking for the meaning of “jisso”, not “misso”. “Jisso” has many meanings like true reality, true nature, oneness, nirvana and so on. With some detailed explanation I again faxed him. After sending the fax, I complained to my wife: “He should speak to me clearly and correctly over the phone. If he did I wouldn’t need to fax him twice.”

Then, my wife said to me: “Maybe you didn’t listen to him carefully. You might have heard incorrectly. If you had listened to him carefully, you wouldn’t need to fax twice.” I kept my mouth shut. My way of thinking was very self-centered. As soon as he said “not misso, but jisso” I placed the blame on him, thinking he had made a mistake. The way we think is that “I am right and you are wrong. You make mistakes but not me.” My wife pointed out and revealed my spiritual blindness and ignorance deep within.

When we realize that we are sick and ignorant and not able to see things as they are, we are returning to the world of Buddha Dharma. Truly, we attain birth in the realm of the Buddha by becoming our ignorant selves.

In Gassho,
Yasuo Izumi, Minister of BTSA

「恥じる心」

学生のころ、破廉恥（ハレンチ）という言葉が流行したことがありました。「恥じることを知らない」という意味です。お経には、「恥じる心がない者は、人とは名づけず。畜生と名づく」とあります。しかし、犬でも悪いことをしたときには、恥じ入る様子を見せたりします。ですから、「人間として、恥じる心がない者は、人とは名づけず。畜生以下と名づく」と言ったほうが当たっているかもしれません。日頃は、一見常識あるような言動をしている人も、お金や、名誉や、地位に振り回されると、己れが分を忘れ、破廉恥な振る舞いをしてかすことがあります。条件によって、振り回されるような私たちの不安定な心に、しっかりと杭を打って下さり、「恥じることを知る人間」として育てて下さるのが、智慧の仏様の働きです。いよいよ聞法いたしましょう。 合掌 泉

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BTSA NOTES

Notice of the BTSA 2010 Annual General Meeting

BTSA by-laws stipulate at least 15 days written notice shall be given to the Members prior to the date of the annual meeting. Please consider this as official notification to all members that the BTSA AGM will be held March 7, 2010, following the monthly memorial service on that date. For members who only receive their Hikari through email, a written notice also will be send to them via the postal service.

Thanks from the BTSA Board

As we begin our second year in the new temple, the comfort level has risen noticeably. Maintenance routines, regular services, funerals and memorials, user group schedules, and shared temple operations, especially the toban system, have familiarized us to the physical structure . Construction that concerned us in the early months of 2009 has been completed, and attention has shifted to solving glitches that typically accompany new structures—adjusting cooling and heating, switching to user-friendly cleaners and solvents, finding efficient ways to store furnishings and so on.

Thanks to all members who so generously contributed their time and resources to make the transition as smooth as possible. We seek everyone’s continued goodwill and support to address the challenges that face us in the coming year.

As noted above, our annual general meeting is coming up in a month’s time. The 2009 AGM decided that board members elected at that meeting would serve for two years, until the 2011 AGM. The board has been operating with 11 members since September, 2009, and invites anyone who would like to become the 12th member to let the board know. All members are encouraged to attend to express their views concerning all aspects of the temple’s governance and operations.

BTSA began 2010 with a New Year’s service for which a number of members were present. This year’s Ho-on-ko was held in conjunction with the monthly memorial service for January and was followed by a delicious potluck supper. Thanks to everyone who contributed a variety of scrumptious dishes in such great numbers. It truly was a feast for all.

The Board, at its Jan. 13 meeting, acknowledged with gratitude a contribution made by the former Coaldale Buddhist Church in the amount of \$156,253.29, at the end of last year. Davidson and Williams, the BTSA lawyer, has informed us that the Coaldale temple’s request for dissolution has been approved by the government and the members are now part of the BTSA in accordance with the merger

agreement that was signed on Nov. 18, 2009. Welcome to our new members; we look forward to your full participation in the BTSA.

The Board, at its Jan. 13 meeting, also decided:

- to continue to acknowledge in the Hikari on a monthly basis names of donors and total monthly donations rather than including subcategories of donations made in the memory of individuals
- to engage DMT Mechanical for 2010 to do a 3 times/year maintenance check and bill on a “time spent” basis.
- to engage Summit Construction for sidewalk snow removal on a “time spent” basis with a rate to be negotiated. Summit already has been contracted to remove snow from the parking lot.
- to install an electrical outlet for a humidifier that will be placed in the vicinity of the butsudan.

The minutes are available for viewing by any interested member. We have an archival set of minutes in the board room, starting with those from the inaugural BTSA formation meeting in December, 2006.

Akira Ichikawa

TOBAN UPDATE

Toban Rotation Schedule

February	Toban 3
March	Toban 4

Toban 2 coordinated a terrific Potluck Supper as part of the New Year’s celebration following the Joint Hoonko/ Shotsuki Service on January 10.

Soup Kitchen Schedule for 2010

While the Toban of the particular month is coordinating each session, **please feel free to come whenever and as often you wish.** Please let Lorita know the dates you wish to work so that this can be passed on to all the Toban leaders who will confirm with you.

March 22 coordinated by Toban 3
April 7 coordinated by Tobans 1 & 2
June 22 coordinated by Toban 4
July 21 coordinated by Tobans 1 & 2



JSBTCWF update

The 14th World Buddhist Women's Conference is being held May 16 & 17, 2011 in Kyoto, Japan and I have been asked to get a general count of how many people may be attending.

So far these are the people who have expressed interest: Flo Senda, Sumi and Jim Tsukishima, Yoko & Tak Tsujita, Katie Nakagawa, Reiko Takeyasu, Nancy & Roy Adachi, Kim Sudo, Tosh Ibuki and Donna & John Dubbelboer.

If you would like to get information or are interested in attending, please give me your name, address, telephone number and email address.

We welcome everyone and hope you can join us.

In gassho,
Donna Dubbelboer

GIFT CARDS are still available for sale to raise funds for the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC) Women's Federation (WF). When you purchase gift cards, you get the full value of the card and the WF will automatically receive a percentage from the sale of each card. Please contact Donna Dubbelboer at jdubbelboer@shaw.ca with questions or to place your order. More information regarding the over 250 other types of gift cards is also available.

The JSBTC Women's Federation requires two delegates who can attend the JSBTC AGM, April 24 and 25 in Steveston. Donna Dubbelboer will continue as one of these delegates. Also, assistance with the WF Shop and Save fundraiser for the 2015 World Convention in Toronto is needed. If you are interested in either or both, please contact Donna at jdubbelboer@shaw.ca or 403.381.7643

Shotsuki Hoyo Donations

Nov 25 - Dec 24, 2009

(This list was inadvertently omitted from the January, 2010, Hikari. We apologize for the oversight and inconvenience.)

Gene Horii
Terry Horii
Violet Horii
Akira & Lorita Ichikawa
Jack & Rie Nagai
Richard Nagai
Shig & Katie Nakagawa
Sway & Totsy Nishimura
Mac & Reyko Nishiyama
Frank & Kimi Ohno
Darcee Richardson
Florence Senda
Eichi & Betty Tanaka
Toshiko Tanaka
Bill & June Terakita
Mas Terakita
George Tokuda

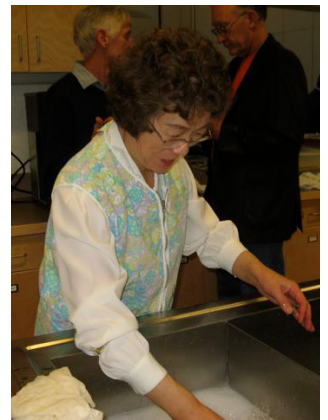
Total Donations \$ 695

Shotsuki Hoyo Donations

January 2010

Judy Fukushima
Shirley Higa
Marie Hirashima
Tomi Hisaoka
Ayako Imahashi
Sue Kado
John & Alice Kanashiro
Ken & Amy Kurio
Jim & Joan Nakagawa
Shig & Katie Nakagawa
May Nishikawa
Sway & Totsy Nishimura
Tak & Jean Oga
May Ohno
Lilly Oishi
Bob & Eiko Shigehiro
Joe & Mary Shigehiro
Tom & Mitsuko Shigehiro
Mas & Miyo Sunada
Shizuo & Dorothy Tomita
Joe & Sumi Tomiyama
Fujio & Yoshiko Tsukishima

Total donations \$780



Building Fund Donations

January 2010

GOLD

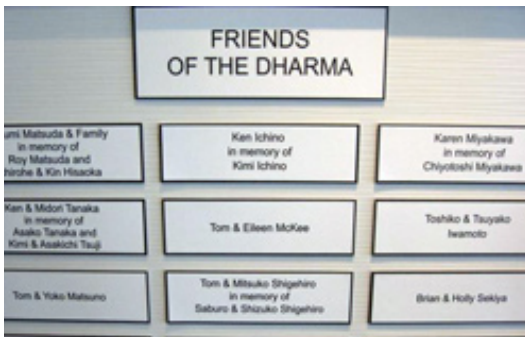
Ken & Bonnie Ohashi
in memory of Kanshiro & Ito Ohashi,
Bob, Ritsuko & Sherry Matsuda,
Mike & Hisaye Ohashi,
and **Joe Ohashi & Kay Tanaka**

BRONZE

Tom & Sumi Medoruma
in memory of Parents,
Isamu (Tarura) & Nobuko Medoruma
and Daughter, **Donna Nobuko Medoruma**

FRIENDS OF DHARMA

Joe & Mary Shigehiro
in memory of Saburo & Shizuko Shigehiro
and **Giichi & Haruko Tomiyama**



Donor Wall Dedication Plaque The first generation of Japanese Canadians to settle in Southern Alberta, despite hardship and limited financial means, established eight Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples. All the southern Alberta temples owe much of their longevity and legacy to these pioneers as well as those forcibly relocated from the west coast, whose devotion never wavered in the face of adversity. As the early founders did for us, we hope to build a strong foundation for Jodo Shinshu in the 21st century. To continue the legacy of those early pioneers of Buddhism and in gratitude to the donors who contributed towards building this beautiful Temple we will always remember its heart and spirit are the treasures within: the Buddha, the Dharma and the Sangha.



BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SOUTHERN ALBERTA

PLEDGE FORM

I wish to support the BTSA Building Fund

Official tax receipts can be issued by the BTSA for any charitable donations. Anyone wishing to donate to the building fund can make a one time donation or pledge their donation over the next 3-5 years. The donor levels are as follows:

DIAMOND	\$25,000 or greater	GOLD	\$5,000 to \$9,999
EMERALD	\$17,500 to \$24,999	SILVER	\$2,500 to \$4,999
PLATINUM	\$10,000 to \$17,499	BRONZE	\$1,000 to \$2,499

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

City _____

Province/State _____ Postal/Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

TOTAL CONTRIBUTION _____

I wish for my pledge to remain confidential

Monthly Instalments of \$ _____ for _____ years

Yearly instalments of \$ _____ for _____ years

One-time Donation of \$ _____

Notation (eg. *In memory of*) _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta
c/o Robert Takaguchi, Treasurer
Box 1249 • Raymond, AB T0K 2S0

Funeral Memorial Donations

Dec 25, 2009 - Jan 25, 2010

Kiyoo & Fumiko Chiba
Donovan & Betty Hattori
Mark Hattori
Sue & Wes Higa
Helen Ikebuchi
Bill & Toshi Kajiwara
Fujie Kariatsumari
Nobuko Nakagama
Kazuo & Nancy Nakamura
James Nishida & Miki Mori
Sumi Nishiguchi
May Nishikawa
Kiyoji & Deborah Oikawa
Lilly Oishi
Fujiko Okamura
Harry & Mae Osaka
Kay Osaka
Yumiko Osaka
George & Thelma Saito
Dr. George & Aiko Sakumoto
Roy & Pat Sassa
Tom & Mitsuko Shigehiro
Toshino Shigemi
Noris & Sachiko Taguchi
Brian Tajiri
Tsuyako Tajiri
Tomiko Takeyasu
Elaine Tanaka
Mas Terakita
George Tokuda
Dick Adachi
Rita & John Aoki
Sunao & Kaye Ayukawa
Tomi Hisaoka
Violet Horii
Rumiko Ibuki
Akira & Lorita Ichikawa
Gail Ikebuchi
John & Alice Kanashiro
Dave Kunimoto
Joyce Miyashita
Shigemi Nagata
Shig & Katie Nakagawa
Stony Nakano
Saburo & Kimino Nishi
Kaz & Setsuko Ohno
May Ohno
Setsuko Okuma
Nobuko & Mary Shono
Tom & Tsuyako Tajiri
Eichi & Betty Tanaka
Bob & Shirley Taniguchi
Bill Teshima
Teruko Tokitsu
Kaz & Marg Tomomitsu
Tak & Yoko Tsujita
Mrs. S. Yamagishi
Heidi Oishi

Total donations: \$3710

Ho-onko Donations

Jan 2010

Roy & Nancy Adachi
Eiko Aoki
Rita & John Aoki
Eietsu Chiba
John & Donna Dubbelboer
Judy Fukushima
Mas & Mutsuko Fukushima
Shinako Higa
Shirley Higa
Hideo & June Hinatsu
Janet Hinatsu
Mitsue Takahashi
Marie Hirashima
Jim & Aya Hironaka
Robert Hironaka
Tomi Hisaoka
Violet Horii
Tosh & Marian Ibuki
Akira & Lorita Ichikawa
Ayako Imahashi
Bob & Sharon Imahashi
Koji & Sumiye Itaya
Molly H. Ito
Grant & Doris Jeffery
Sue Kado
Tom & Lily Kaga
John & Alice Kanashiro
Sadae Kanegawa
Irene Karia
Hiroshi Kitagawa
Takeshi & Sue Koyata
Dave Kunimoto
David Major & Laverne Hamabata
Katoye Maruno
Kay Matsuda
Kinuko Matsuno
Yutaka & Chiyomi Matsuno
John & Jean Miyanaga
Nobuko Nakagama
Jim & Joan Nakagawa
Teiji Nakamura
Roy & Minnie Nakatsuru
Hideko Nishi
May Nishikawa
Sway & Totsy Nishimura
Mac & Reyko Nishiyama
Noriko Oga
Tak & Mitsuko Oga
Frank & Kimi Ohno
Kaz & Setsuko Ohno
Ken Ohno
May Ohno
Randy Ohno
Arlene Oishi
Hideko Oishi
Lilly Oishi
Fujiko Okamura
Tak & Jan Okamura
Setsuko Okuma
Yumiko Osaka
George & Grace Oshiro
Joanne Planidin

Tosh & Joyce Saruwatari
Roy & Pat Sassa
Florence Senda
Bob & Eiko Shigehiro
Joe & Mary Shigehiro
Joyce Shigehiro & Trevor VanSluys
Tom & Mitsuko Shigehiro
Toshino Shigemi
Yoshiye Shirakawa
Nobuko & Mary Shono
Tomiko Shono
Nobby & Michiko Sudo
Noboru & Kaz Sugimoto
Tomiko Sugimoto
Mas & Miyo Sunada
Noris & Sach Taguchi
Kaz Takaguchi
Robert & Judy Takaguchi
Fuji Takeda
Toshiko Takeda
Reiko Takeyasu
Tomiko Takeyasu
Eichi & Betty Tanaka
Masaye Tanaka
Toshiko Tanaka
Bob & Shirley Taniguchi
Sam & Betty Taniguchi
Amy & Masami Tashiro
Joe & Jean Tatebe
Bill & June Terakita
Mas Terakita
Akira Terashima
Raymond & Sue Thibodeau
Dr. Bruce Todd
George Tokuda
Shizuo & Dorothy Tomita
Joe & Sumi Tomiyama
Tak & Yoko Tsujita
Fujio & Yoshiko Tsukishima
Jim Tsukishima
Kay Tsukishima
Sumie Tsukishima
Ken & Ruby Yamamoto

Total donations: \$5,900

Memorial Donations

Jan 2010

Janet Hinatsu
Tak & Jan Okamura
Bob Eiko Shigehiro
Reiko Takeyasu
Kazuo Tanaka
Bill & June Terakita
Tak & Yoko Tsujita

Total donations: \$230

February & March 2010 Schedule

二月と三月(2010年)の予定表

FEBRUARY

- 07 SUN 9:40am** Chanting (Shoshinge)
10:30am Monthly Shotsuki Memorial Service 祥月法要
Please bring Homyo (Buddhist Name) of your loved one.
法名をご持参ください。
- 14 SUN 9:40am** Chanting (Shoshinge)
10:30am Nirvana Day Service 涅槃会
- 21 SUN 9:40am** Chanting (Shoshinge)
10:30am Regular Service, Monthly Toban Leaders Meeting
- 26-27 FRI** Mein Making
- 28 SUN 9:40am** Chanting (Shoshinge)
10:30am Regular Service

MARCH

- 07 SUN 9:40am** Chanting (Shoshinge)
10:30am Monthly Shotsuki Memorial Service 祥月法要
Please bring Homyo (Buddhist Name) of your loved one.
法名をご持参ください。
- 14 SUN 9:40am** Chanting (Shoshinge)
10:30am Regular Service
- 21 SUN 9:40am** Chanting (Shoshinge)
10:30am Spring Equinox-Ohigan Service
- 28 SUN 9:40am** Chanting (Shoshinge)
10:30am Eshin-ni and Kakushin-ni Service 恵信尼様、覚信尼様法要

Any questions or requests? Please contact your minister (403)382-7024

PROGRAMS open to the community

Gentle Yoga for Seniors with Val Kunimoto runs January 12 – March 9 (no class Feb. 16)

Cooking Club

Main course meals will cover (not necessarily in order):

- Tempura
- Rice dishes
- Oden
- Table cooking (Sukiyaki or Shabu-shabu)

Date: March 6, 13, 20, 27
Time: 9am - 1pm
Registration fee: \$ 25.00
BTSA- kitchen
Maximum: 10
Instructors: TBA
Plan on staying for lunch

Please contact Pat Sassa
403-329-3105 or sas7@telus.net

Naikan: An Approach to Self-Reflection

is a gentle way of reflecting on one's life, one's relationships with others and our impact on the world around us. Using a journal writing approach, participants will be guided through a simple yet profound way of self-reflection. Each session will include introductory information, brief meditation and discussion.

Saturdays March 6 – April 24 for eight sessions 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Temple events may require rescheduling. Contact: lorita.ichikawa@gmail.com or 403.327.1668

Tai Chi

We are exploring the possibility of offering Tai Chi sessions at the Temple, but need to gauge the interest. It would be for all ages – no experience required and with a well qualified instructor. If are interested, please contact Lorita.

REGULAR EVENTS

*Study/Discussion Group

Sundays after morning service and tea. The purpose of meeting is to deepen our understanding and appreciation of Buddha's teachings, study the Dharma and facilitate discussion. Please contact Renae Barlow (renaeb@telus.net) or Rev. Izumi

Southern Alberta Buddhist Choir

Thursdays 7 – 9 pm
Contact: Katie Nakagawa 403. 327.4296 or katiinak@shaw.ca

Tonarigumi

Tuesdays 12 - 3 pm

Taiko Class

Tuesdays 7 - 8:30 pm
Please contact David Tanaka
403.330.1548 or david@eyesquared.com

The Lethbridge Karaoke Club

Wednesdays 1 - 4 pm
All interested are welcome to join or just listen and enjoy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Obituaries

The Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta expresses heartfelt sympathy to those who have lost loved ones.

Masao Kajiwara (87) Dec 22, 2009

Namiko (Barbara) Kajiwara (84)

Jan 10, 2010

Sunao Aimoto (70) Jan 10, 2010

Temple Scheduling Reminder

To avoid disappointments and conflicts in scheduling events at the temple, please insure that you check with Fudge Takeda (403-345-3171 or ktakeda@telusplanet.net) beforehand and ask her to reserve the appropriate facility.

Monthly Toban Leaders Meeting

Feb 21 after Service/Tea. Everyone welcome!

Mein Making

Feb 26 - 27

Flowers are delivered to those in hospital. Please contact Kay Tsukishima, 403.327.9786 or Kaz Takaguchi, 403.328.3190 if you are aware of a BTSA member who has been hospitalized for a week or more.

Onenju (Ojuzu) For Sale

New Onenju from Japan are available. (\$15 for male onenju. \$18 and \$20 for female onenju)