

BOMBU BOMBU

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Story of A Conversation Between Rev. Horyu Ito and Mr. Shuko Yoshikami

By Higashi Honganji North America District Bishop Noriaki Ito

About 10 years ago, we were conducting the Spring Ohigan Service at the Betsuin. I had delivered the Dharma talk. As I was speaking, I realized that an old friend, Shuko Yoshikami was in the audience. So when the service finished, I went to the back of the hondō to say hello to Shuko. He and his wife moved to the Washington DC area to work for CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). He was researcher for the organization.

After exchanging greetings, he told me that he appreciated my message and said he was so happy that I chose to follow in my father's footsteps to be a minister. His father, Rev. Masamichi Yoshikami was a Higashi Honganji who served for a short time here in Los Angeles and spent most of his career as a kaikyoshi in Berkeley and in Hawaii. Shuko was extremely intelligent and received his Ph D. in medicine.

He is at least a few years older than me and so back when I was a child, he helped the temple by serving as a teacher for the Dharma School (called Sunday School back in those days).

As we were talking about old times when he was living in Los Angeles, he said to me, "I want to share with you a story about a conversation your father and I had way back in the late 1950's. At the time, he said, there was a plan in the city to allow prayer in Los Angeles public schools. So Shuko went to the temple to meet Rinban Horyu Ito. At that meeting, Shuko explained the situation to Rev. Ito and said, "I am sure that if this law is approved, those prayers will invariably be Christian, and as a Buddhist, I think we should protest against the passing of such a law. Would it be possible to get the temple's endorsement to campaign against its passage?"

Rinban Ito's reply went like this. "Shuko, I agree with you that it would be a bad idea to have a prayer at the beginning of the school day. As you say, most likely, as you say, would be from Christianity. You asked if the temple would join you to protest against such a law. I myself would be willing to support your effort. However, I cannot pressure the temple to do the same. My opinion is that I cannot decide that the temple should or should not get involved. As a Buddhist minister, it is my role to share the Dharma with anyone who is interested in learning. But what they do with the teachings is not for me to control. Each person must find their own path and live according to how they digest what they have learned.

Shuko told me that he was a young man and hoped that the temple would support his efforts. But he said that the wisdom in Rev. Ito's response made him understand how each of us must live his or her Buddhism.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 2021



Date	Day	Time	Event
2	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Family Service/Dharma School
		11:00 a.m.	Meet up with Jr.YBA by zoom
9	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Shotsuki service/Dharma school
16	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Shinran Shonin Birthday
		12:30 – 2:00 pm	WBA membership luncheon (online)
18	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Temple Board meeting
23	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Family Service/Dharma School
30	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Family Service/Dharma School

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY TOBAN
(group #1) *Janice Adachi, Wendy Adachi, Nina Costales, Satoko Davidson, Grace Goto, Alice Horio, Doreen Imada, Elsie Lum, Denice Nakano, Diane Nishioka, Michi Takata, Miyoko Truong*

SUNDAY SERVICES
Bay Area counties have extended coronavirus stay-at-home orders to the end of May, so while our temple will remain closed, we will be live-streaming our Sunday services via Facebook.

You DO NOT NEED a facebook account in order to view the live stream. Just go to the link on Sunday at 10:00 am. You will also be able to watch the service later if you miss the initial 10:00 am broadcast. Here is the link: www.facebook.com/berkeleyhigashi/live

[facebook.com/berkeleyhigashi/live](http://www.facebook.com/berkeleyhigashi/live)

SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE
Our Shotsuki service will be held on May 9 via live-streaming. The following families observe memorials for loved ones this month: *Bob Sasaki, Donald Madden, George Araki, Kuniaki Umemoto Kuranoshin Yatabe, Masako Takahashi, Masami Jitoshu, Richard M. Fujii, Shizue Inoue, Tokito & Konobu Komori, Wilma Tolle Yoshii, Kondo, Makishima, Otani, Yokota, Miyoko Uyemoto, Shizu Fujimura Paul Asazawa.* We hope you'll attend the Shotsuki service this month. Also, help us by calling or emailing the temple if names are inadvertently omitted from this

Shotsuki name list.

LIVE-STREAMING SHINRAN SHONIN'S BIRTHDAY

We will observe Shinran's birthday on May 16th during our regular family service and dharma school. Jodo Shinshu Buddhism is based on the teachings of Shinran (Shonin is an honorific title). In his lifetime, Shinran wrote many things, including "Shoshinge," which we chant, and poems, called wasan, some of which we also chant. His words and writings over time have brought Buddhism to life for many people. Learn more about Shinran at this special service.

Hatsumairi Also, Shinran's Birthday service is often held along with a hatsumairi "first



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service for infants” service. If anyone would like to participate in an Online-hatsumairi for their baby, please contact Rev. Ryoko Osa.

MEET UP WITH JR. YBA

May 2, Sunday, 11 a.m.

The third generation Dharma Seeds will lead a “Meet up with Jr. YBA High School Kids.” This year, we have new Jr. YBAers, but as you know, they haven’t been able to come to the temple and see our members. So we hope that you join this event, welcome

them and talk to the Jr. YBAers so they get to know the temple and feel they are part of our temple family. Perhaps Dharma Seeds can give a short talk, for example, about Anti-Asian incidents and Buddhism. Please join this event and meet them!

YBA means Young Buddhist Association

Zoom Meeting ID: 869 0374 9239
Passcode: 810600.

S**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**
We are pleased to announce that a scholarship in the amount

of \$1,000 is available to high school seniors graduating in 2021, and to college and trade school students, provided by the Sajiro Morita Memorial Scholarship Fund. The fund was started several years ago by Sajiro Morita and has received subsequent donations from the Morita family. Only temple members and their children are eligible to apply. Applications may be requested by contacting the temple. The deadline to apply is September 30, 2021. The award will be presented at our Ho-onko service in November.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

BIG THANK YOUS TO THE FOLLOWING

Thank you everyone for your donations, time, energy and support. Because of you, our temple exists for us and for future generations. Help us by calling or emailing the temple if names are inadvertently omitted from acknowledgments or donations. Domo arigato gozaimashita!

SECURITY CAMERA INSTALLATION *Tom Morioka*

FLOWER DONATION *Anna Hightower, and Nina Costales*

NEW FENCE PROJECT *Jane Fujii, Artie Yamashita, Jimmy Kihara, and Mike Yatabe*

OLD KITCHEN STOVE INVESTIGATION *Shannon & Trevor Davidson*

DONATIONS

2021 Pledges

Lynn Wade	200
Yoko Tsuno	100
Wayne Kurahara	50
Steven/Kim Chew	50
Satoshi Iwahashi/Elsie Lum	600
Kiyoko Iwahashi	300
Lorraine Yoshikawa	250
Thomas and Karen Morioka	1200
Miyoko Truong	100
Steven/Denise Nakano	600
Emie Kaida	150

Shotsuki Monthly Memorial

Irving Yamashita	50
(for Shotsuki in memory of Carl Kurahara)	
Michael Yatabe	50
(for Shotsuki in memory of Carl Kurahara)	
David & Holly Araki	100
(for April Shotsuki in memory of Chiyoko Araki)	
Kenneth & Terry Fujii	50
(for April Shotsuki in memory of Hiro Fujii)	
Satoko & Shannon Davidson	100
(for Shotsuki in memory of Hideko Nagatoshi)	
Jane Fujii	30
(for Shotsuki in memory of Hiro Fujii)	
Edwin & Marilyn Fujii	30
(for Shotsuki in memory of Hiro Fujii)	

Deborah and David Yatabe	100
(for Shotsuki in memory of Joseph Yatabe and Hiro Fujii)	
Lorraine Yoshikawa	50
(for Shotsuki in memory of Yasuko Yoshikawa & Shizuo Yoshikawa)	
Toyoko Araki	50
(in memory of Chiyo Araki)	
Gerald and Barbara Hanabusa	25
(in memory of Hideko Nagatoshi)	
Tokumaru Raymond Fujii	25
(for Shotsuki in memory of Maruo Fujii)	
Toshiko Nakai	250
(for Shotsuki)	

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Hanamatsuri Buddha's Birthday Service

Shizuko Asazawa	50	Toyoko Araki	25	Diane & Eugene Nakamura	100
Christine and Kevin Sullivan	50	Deborah and David Yatabe	50	Ed Oasa	200
Doreen Imada	25	Dick & Alice Horio	50	Lorraine Yoshikawa (2020 Summer Bazaar)	150
Sachiye Toyofuku	50	Constance Morita	50	Jitosho Family	500
Grace Goto	50	Arthur & Patricia Yamashita	50	(for WBA, \$100 for Dharma School, \$200 for Jr.YBA In memory of Miya Jitosho)	
Eiko Iwata	50	Kazuko Doi	25	Thomas & Karen Morioka (for bazaar & services for 2021)	800
Mark Toyofuku	200	Miyoko Truong	25	Anonymous Donor	
Rev. Akinori & Mrs. Akiko Imai	50	Temple		from Los Angeles	2500
		Shannon & Satoko Davidson	100	(for covid special fund)	
		Eiji & Kazue Kinoshita	1000		

HIGASHI HONGANJI (SHINSHU OTANI-HA) NORTH AMERICA DISTRICT SEMINAR (ENGLISH)

Jōdo Shinshū in the Interfaith World

Speaker: Rev. Patti Nakai Resident Minister, The Buddhist Temple of Chicago

Saturday, May 15, 2021 10:00–12:00 am (PDT)

Lecture: 90 min., Q&A: 30 min.

Please register from <https://forms.gle/iUWH3Sm11U2os9Cq8> to receive the Zoom link.

The fee is \$10. We can only take check now. Please send us your check payable to:

Higashi Honganji North America District 505 E. 3rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90013.

PLEDGE DONATION

Many of you received a request for our annual pledge donation. The upkeep, repair and maintenance of our temple, as well as various programs and activities depend on the support and generosity of our members. Unlike other organizations, we don't require a membership fee, however we do rely on voluntary pledge donations from our members. If you'd like to make a pledge, simply send a check for any amount, marked "2021 pledge" to the temple, payable to Berkeley Higashi Honganji. To everyone who has pledged already for this year, we thank you very much.

STUDY CLASS

In addition to the live-streaming of Sunday services, there is a zoom Shoshinge class on Tuesdays at 1 pm.

And Japanese Dharma zoom Gathering on Thursday 5:00 pm.

If you are interested, please contact me at osa@higashihonganji.org



Berkeley Higashi Honganji
**Annual Dick Fujii
Memorial Tournament**

Monday, May 31, 2021

Due to the surprising demand to participate
we have reached the maximum.

**We are still looking for sponsors.
If you would like to sponsor a hole
or donate prizes it would be
welcomed and appreciated.**

**Tee Times Start at 10 am
Chardonnay Golf Club**

Questions: Patti Yamashita 510-339-9867 or
email pbaba@berkeley.edu



バークレー東本願寺会報

2021年5月号

5月お寺の行事予定

詳しい情報はお寺のホームページ(bombu.org)またはお電話でご確認ください。

2日(日)	午前 10 時	日曜礼拝、ダルマスクール
9日(日)	午前10時	祥月法要、日曜礼拝、ダルマスクール
16日(日)	午前10時	親鸞聖人御誕生会慶讃法要
18日(火)	午後 7 時半	仏教会定例理事会
23日(日)	午前 10 時	日曜礼拝、ダルマスクール
30日(日)	午前 10 時	日曜礼拝、ダルマスクール

礼拝はすべてライブ配信です。<http://www.facebook.com/berkeleyhigashi/live>.

5月当番(当番1): あだちジャニース、あだち ウェンディ、Costales ニーナ、Davidson さとこ、
ごとうグレイス、堀尾アリス、今田ドーリン、Lum エルシー、中野デニース、西岡 ダイアン、高田みち、
みよこTruong (敬称略)

ライブ配信祥月法要 5月9日: 今月の施主は、佐々木、荒木、梅本、矢田部、高橋、地頭所、藤井、
井上、小森、吉井、近藤、まきしま、大谷、横田、あさざわの諸家です。祥月法要は亡き人を偲び、
亡き人から教えを いただく貴重なご縁です。お名前に欠落がありましたらお寺までご連絡ください。

親鸞聖人御慶讃誕生会法要

来る5月16日午前 10 時より宗祖親鸞聖人のお誕生をお祝いする法要があります。親鸞聖人の
お誕生日は旧暦では4月1日で真宗大谷派(東本願寺)では4月1日当日に法要をお勤めしております。
アメリカの寺院では新暦換算し(5月14日)の近い日曜日にお勤めしています。どうぞお参りくださ
いませ。



故由上正道(よしかみまさみち)先生は、バークレー東本願寺1934年から1941年まで駐在されておられました。その御子息である由上周行(しゅうこう)氏は東本願寺ロサンゼルス別院でダルマスクールの先生をされ伊東憲昭北米開教監督と親交がありました。由上周行氏と伊東監督のお父様である故伊東抱龍輪番の思い出を伊東監督に記していただきましたので、日本語訳をここに掲載いたします。

ひとりひとりの歩み

北米開教監督

伊東憲昭

1950年代後半のロサンゼルス市のことです。当時、公立学校において祈りの朗読を認めるという動きがありました。それを危惧した由上周行氏は伊東抱龍輪番を訪問し次の様をお願いをしました。「この法律が可決されれば、必ず基督教の祈りになるはずです。私たちは仏教徒としてこのような法律が可決されないように抗議すべきです。お寺としてこの抗議運動を支持していただけますか？」

抱龍輪番はこたえました。「周行、学校の初日に祈りを朗読するようになるということは私も良い考えではないと思います。そしてあなたが言う通りきっと祈りは基督教の祈りになるでしょう。お寺がこの法案への抗議行動に参加できないかと尋ねましたね。私は、個人的にはあなたの運動を支持します。しかしお寺に対して同じように支持しなさいと言うことはできません。私の立場としては、お寺がこの問題に関わるべきかそうでないかということには何も言えません。仏の教えを聞きたい人には誰にでも教えを伝える、というのが僧侶としての私の立場です。教えを聞いてその人がどういうふるまいをするかは、その人のご縁であって私が思い通りにできることではありません。各人がそれぞれのご縁で道を見つけ、各人がそれぞれに聴聞した教えに生きていくのです。」

周行氏はお寺が抗議運動に参加してくれることを期待していましたが、抱龍輪番の返事を聞いて、仏道とは一人一人が歩む道だとあらためて教えられたと、私に語ってくれました。



Words of the Month | 今月の言葉

Temple is the special place to share the Dharma with anyone who is interested in learning.

お寺は 仏の教えを求めるすべての人に開かれた道場です。



If you have an email address, please consider switching to a paperless subscription. Please contact the temple if you are interested. Thank you.



Berkeley Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple
1524 Oregon Street
Berkeley, CA 94703
U.S.A.

Address Correction Requested