



Peace

by Rimban Katsuya Kusunoki

In August 1945, the Atomic Bombs were dropped onto Hiroshima and Nagasaki. My father was a survivor of Nagasaki's A-Bomb. He was in first grade. In this month, I want to think about peace through the A-bomb with you. First, I would like to introduce a video message made by Ms. Nonoka Koga who was a Japanese Exchange student to Richland High School, Richland, WA.

I have enjoyed my time in America while I attended Richland High School. I have made many friends and memories that will last a lifetime. I have grown from my experience and learned many things. While I have learned many things about your history, culture and perspective... I would like to share some of mine. I am from Fukuoka, which is by Nagasaki. Nagasaki is the location where the 2nd atomic bomb was dropped. It is ironic that I ended up a bomber.

My city was originally targeted to be destroyed by the bomb. My grandparents would have been incinerated. I wouldn't be here today; however, it was cloudy that day and the target was changed to Nagasaki. While in Richland High School, that cloud is celebrated, it is the mascot of the school and you see it everywhere. I see it as a way to remember people who lost their lives to ensure the peace we have today. Those who were bombed were civilians, not soldiers. Should we have pride in killing innocent people? In my country, every year we have a peace day where young students learn about and reflect on the devastation and terror that was

caused by the bombs. In Nagasaki, 80,000 civilians, many children and women, were unjustly killed. I'm not trying to change your mascot, but just help you consider a perspective that's more personal. At Richland High School, the mushroom cloud is something to take pride in. Please think about this, after the explosion, the cloud is basically made of the things the bomb destroyed. I cannot be proud of remains of a city and the innocent children, women and men who had no part in the war. I am here today, because it was a cloudy day.

I would like to express my respect and appreciation for her to share her honest feeling. I sometimes feel that there is a gap between the perspectives of people living in my hometown, Nagasaki, and people living in this country. At one conversation, we talked about the A-bomb. I introduced my father who experienced the aftermath of the A-bomb. Then one person said, "Even now, I would press the button to drop the A-bomb if I were the sergeant." Using my limited English words, I tried to convey my thought that peace will never come true if human beings continue using an A-bomb. I was at a loss for words. I don't think I was able to tell that person my thought clearly. I realized that the A-bomb is still being dropped in someone's mind. How can I stop their finger from pressing the button in their mind? When people talk about the A-bomb, some people just focus and talk of whether it was right to drop the A-bomb or not. They are always taking the side to drop the A-bomb. They have not thought of the A-bomb dropping onto the city where they live now. If the A-bomb drops here, we die. Our family dies. Our friends die. This beautiful city is destroyed. Even if we survive, we are exposed to radiation, suffer from severe burns, and, also, discrimination. Those who press the button in their mind, I think, have never seriously thought that way. When people

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put themselves on the side where the A-bomb is dropped, when they can think of the survivors' and victims' pain as their own pain, their finger should stop and not press the button. In the future it is important for us not to create a situation in which we discuss whether it is right to drop an A-Bomb. Rather, we should discuss how we can live in peace and tranquility without using any weapons. Mr. Katsuji Yo-

shida, who was a survivor of the Nagasaki's A-bomb, said, "The basis for peace is for people to understand the pain of others". We should engrave his words in our heart.

Gassho,
Rev. Katsu

Notes on Dharma Exchange

Dharma Exchange is a mix of discussion and educational programming that takes place in the dining-room downstairs. Join us — we enjoy coffee and donuts almost every Sunday after service until 12Noon.

June 2 - Don Castro Sensei - Talked about the Tanisho by Shinran Shōnin, which is a classic and the most important text in Jodo Shinshu. He said the first paragraph about being born in the Pure Land goes to the heart of the general religious Buddhist teaching. We will not be forsaken once we are embraced; there is no retrogression. He said we are saved from ourselves through the working of Amida Buddha. We have the inherent desire to utter the Nembutsu, Namo Amida Butsu. It comes from Amida Buddha and we are embraced by Amida Butsu just as we are.

June 9 - Rosalie May MA spoke of the Pride Parade which will take place Sun., June 30. It will be the third anniversary of the temple's participation. (There will be a van in the parade for those who need it) She continued that we welcome all LGBTQ people, and that there is not much written on the subject. Rosalie said Wisdom and Compassion are for all sentient beings, and that it is important for us to share the dharma with others. We want to make LGBTQs comfortable at the temple and to make it more inclusive. The question is how? We need to think and act with an open mind. . . This will be the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riot in New York, dating back to the riot caused by the police trying to round up gays. The gays fought back and the police retreated -- this was the beginning of the LGBTQ movement. A participant asked if homeless people have the right to learn the Dharma. The answer is yes. . . Rosalie asked what we liked/disliked about the previous parade. A participant said it demonstrates that non-gays accept

LGBTQs. A participant had the feeling of community and love. A participant said the reason for being in the parade was that he was once homeless and living in a car and in a men's shelter. He said it is hard to have love for parents who shun their kids and kick them out. . . Rinban Kusunoki has performed marriage ceremonies for LGBTQs.

June 23 - Rinban Kusunoki conducted the Dharma Exchange. He was asked to talk about the Pride Parade. Rinban said the Buddha Dharma comes first, and we think of ourselves as first; he said the Buddha comes first. . . After the four local senseis who spoke at a meeting of the Sangha, the conversation continued among themselves at Rinban's house. They talked about the Pride Parade and the 48 Vows. In No. Three - the vow stated that all beings will have gold features. No. 4 - the vow stated that all beings will have the same appearance. . . Sensei said suffering discrimination in school, work and in daily life comes from categorizing things. . . In the Pure Land there is no discrimination. . . A participant asked if there has been a statement from the Hongwanji about LGBTQs. Sensei said no, their statement indicated Buddhism is open to all to participate. . . Same-sex weddings in Japan according to law is illegal. A participant thinks LGBTQ is not political. Participant asked if the Ojoraisan will be chanted again. Sensei said yes, and cited that in California 1,000 people chanted it. . . Sensei said we should have a Buddhist name because it means we receive the teaching of the Buddha. A bishop can give a Buddhist name. The resident minister gives the name at death. . . Sensei thinks it is important to participate in the parade and not just observe it. Further, he thinks Japan will be more open to LGBTQ in the future.

Editor's Note: a related article by Meya Stout is found on pp. 8 and 10 of this issue.

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Musical Notes

submitted by Kemi Nakabayashi

We practiced and then sang *Obon no Uta* and *Obon, Obon, It's Festival Day* at Obon service again this year. For those of you who were not able to join for the Dharma Exchange gatha practice on June 30, I explained that Yumi Hojo arranged the piano accompaniment for *Obon no Uta* and composed *Obon, Obon, It's Festival Day*. Her courtesy copies of *Sing Namo Amida Butsu* were presented to her at her residence in San Jose when Reiko Iwanaga and I visited her there. Details for the logistics of the second printing of the new gatha book publication have required extending the deadline for temple orders. Please refer to any updates provided on the Seattle Betsuin website music page. We are happy in the meantime that we have received acknowledgements of thanks as well as generous donations to the H/M Kaneko Music Fund from temples and individuals contributors from the first printing. Francis Okano, chairperson of the Hawaii Music Committee and one of the organists at Hawaii Betsuin, reports that the new books have been used for service, and Rinban Toyokazu Hagi has supported singing as many new gathas as possible, in particular music of Donna Sasaki. How gratifying that music written in the Pacific Northwest can be shared with our Dharma friends in Hawaii while we introduce music composed in Hawaii! This year for the Atomic Bomb Victims' Memorial Service on August 11, we will include *May Peace Prevail*, composed by Takeo Kudo originally as a commission from Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii for the occasion of the Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial Observance.

This summer has been notable for community outreach in addition to Seattle Bon Odori. The Seattle Betsuin sangha support and participation in the ACRS Walk for Rice, Pride Parade, Lights for Liberty, and Hiroshima for Hope events are remarka-

ble. In addition to the key organizers and all participants for these events, we appreciate the musicians participating as well.



Seattle Betsuin musicians in the 2019 Pride Parade

(photo by Joe Gotchy for Seattle Buddhist Temple)

More Musical Notes on p. 4....

Choir thanks Kemi

The Betsuin Choir Group had an annual luncheon at Joyale Seafood Restaurant on June 30, 2019. We thanked Dr. Kemi Nakabayashi for her dedicated leadership.



Submitted by Tsukasa Namekata, Photos by Ms. Naomi Takemura and Ms. Akiko Taniguchi.



Seattle Betsuin Choir, Kemi, and Jim Norton at Joyale Seafood Restaurant

...Musical Notes continued from p. 3

Lights for Liberty taiko finale led by Donna Zumoto with participants from 6 local taiko groups (photo by Kemi Nakabayashi)



TACOMA BON ODORI
A JAPANESE FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL

Outdoor festival | Japanese food | Traditional dance
Taiko drumming | Beer garden | Candlelight memorial service

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3RD
4:30 - 9:00 pm

TACOMA BUDDHIST TEMPLE
1717 South Pacific Ave
Tacoma, WA
tacoma.org

Everyone Welcome!

Dance lessons
in Temple social hall

JULY 16 - 18
7:30 - 9pm

Saturday
August 3, 2019
4:30 - 9:00PM

Spokane Buddhist Temple
OBON FESTIVAL
927 S Perry,
Spokane, WA



Sunday - August 18, 2019
3 pm - 7 pm

Japanese Art & Food
Spokane Taiko
Bon Odori Dancers

www.SpokaneBuddhistTemple.org 509-334-7954

The Betsuin EcoSangha Committee

will be collecting polystyrene (Styrofoam) items periodically and taking them to the free StyroRecycle in Kent.

Accepted items are molded polystyrene, (but not tan colored), food take out containers, shipping coolers, bubblewrap.

Please bring these items, clean, dry and free from tape and labels on **Sunday August 4**. Gail Kaminishi will collect them in the back parking lot after dharma exchange.

Do not drop them off at the temple at any other time. Help is requested for future collections. Also, many cities have excellent collection events. Please contact Gail to discuss options.



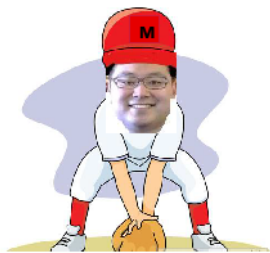
Children's Playgroup!

At Seattle Betsuin
0-4 years old

next play sessions are:

Aug. 14 Wednesday 11:00-2:00
Sept. 18 Wednesday 11:00-2:00
Oct. 16 Wednesday 11:00-2:00

3rd ANNUAL SEATTLE / TACOMA SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT



TEAM KUSUNOKI

vs

TEAM MIYAJI

Sunday, August 18, 2019

1:00 pm

Aubrey Davis Park
2030 72nd Ave SE
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Players - please sign up with Connor McKinney: connor@seattlebetsuin.org

There will be two games, one recreational game for anyone and everyone who would like to play and one competitive game where Seattle and Tacoma field their best teams to try and bring home the trophy!

SBBWA Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Women's Association

submitted by Nina Tomita-Kato



- Please look for more information regarding our outing to Seiki Gardens, among other stops, for September 11.
- Omigaki cleaning August 22, along with the cleaning of the Memorial Hall, and lounge in preparation for the Gomonsu's Visit.
- Please look for information regarding our "N.W. District Barbecue to Welcome the Gomonsu September 3; cost is \$30.00 for adults, children 12 and under \$15.00. Space is limited due to the gym capacity.
- Thank you for all of your support during the Bon Odori festivities. Sharing information to others about the Bon Odori is an important way to contribute and all of you as continuing members is a huge gesture of support.
- Thank you to those that are able to attend the services at Nikkei Manor, Keiro, and Merrill Gardens Renton. We continue to support the Inter-denominational food bank at St. Mary's, every 4th Friday of each month at 9 AM.

ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE...

We would like to "thank" the following **regular members**, for contributing their minimum annual Sustaining Membership dues (the basic dues toward the Temple maintenance/operations). These are the most recently paid members for the fiscal year of **2019**.

Don Akira, Michael & Carol Aoki-Kramer, Burke Dykes, Ellen Hale, Gary & Sandee Hamatani, Steve Harada, Michiko Hirata, Gail Kaminishi, Kazue Kato, Noburo & Hatsuye Kawada, Harold Kawaguchi, Bill & Beth Kawahara, Lisa Kumasaka, Julie Mayeda, Connor McKinney, Julie Myers, Eric & Betty Nakashima, Tsukasa & Keiko Namekata, Louise Sakuma, Joe & Carolyn Schwab, Robert Seko, Dennis Shibata, Gary & Debbie Shibata, Roy & Kazumi Shimizu, Masaru & Anna Tahara, Sonoe Taketa, Susie Taketa, Robert & Elaine Tanaka, Fumie Taniguchi, Kayoko Terada, Stuart Teramoto, Shokichi Tokita, Tazuko Uyenishi, Leanne Nishi-Wong, Marissa H. Wong, Curtis Yokoyama, Fuyo Yoshida, Crystal Yoshimi

We'd like to 'WELCOME'

Connor McKinney, Julie Myers, Robert & Elaine Tanaka, Marissa H. Wong, and Curtis Yokoyama as new members of our Sangha (compiled by Howard, Joan, Pauline & Steph)

Dharma School

Thank you everyone for all of your help during Obon! So many of you worked numerous shifts, spanning over multiple days. Special thank you to Obon chairperson extraordinaire, Ron, for leading the way, Nikudon chair Gary and Kori booth chairs Tara and Connie all of you are greatly appreciated! 2019 Seattle Obon is in the books!

We hope everyone enjoyed the last day of Dharma school activities. It looked like the kids were having fun. We are now looking forward to next year.

Save the date-the first day of Dharma school will be Sunday, September 8, 2019. Have an awesome rest of your summer!!

submitted by Joyce Tsuji

Seattle Betsuin Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations June - July 2019

Funeral / Memorial / Nokotsudo:

Given by:

Hiroshi Kajimura – Funeral Service	\$ 2,000.00	Hiroshi & Mutsuko Kajimura
Kay Kobata – In Memory of	\$ 500.00	Kayser's Chapel of Memories
Daisy Toyoko Kuramoto – 3 rd Year Memorial	\$ 400.00	Wayne Kuramoto
Rinban Tatsuya Ichikawa – In Memory of	\$ 250.00	Satoru & Grace Ichikawa
Yasashi Ichikawa – In Memory of	\$ 250.00	Satoru & Grace Ichikawa
Shigeko Sudo – 1 st Year Memorial and Inurnment	\$ 200.00	Mary Fujii
Yoshito Fujii – 25 th Year Memorial	\$ 100.00	George & Irene Mano
Kiyoko Miyahara – 13 th Year Memorial	\$ 100.00	George & Irene Mano
Nokotsudo for Yutaka & Takiko Inokoji	\$ 100.00	Anonymous
Ami Yabuki – 7 th Year Memorial	\$ 50.00	Akiko Yabuki

In Memory of:

Given by:

Ron Mamiya	Ellen Hale; Mutual Fish Company, Inc.; Jerry Shigaki; Masaru & Anna Tahara; Margaret Teramoto
Krista Nakano	Nelson Harano; Chrissy Madison on behalf of Steven Do's community of friends/ coworkers at Dropbox; Richard & Nancy McManigal
Masayuki Shimada	Frances Shintaku

Temple Supervision:

Yakima Buddhist Church \$ 100.00

Endowment:

HM Kaneko Music Fund:

Jennifer Ura Gavin; David Ho; Tim Taira; Haruo & Aiko Yamamoto;
Vickie Izuka – In Memory of Marion Dumont;
Kemi Nakabayashi – In Memory of Marion Dumont;
Yakima Buddhist Church – Appreciation for Gatha Books

General Donations:

Donor:

For:

Wilma or Kim Kawasaka	General Donation
Yaeko Ito	General Donation
Ron Hamakawa	General Donation
Jeffrey & Susan Yamane	Appreciation for Scholarship presented to Lindsey Yamane
Pauline Sakuma	Appreciation for Congratulatory Certificate for Sue Fujino
Sue Fujino	Appreciation for Congratulatory Certificate and Orchid Plant
Megumi Preschool	Temple Visitation
Akira & Lorita Ichikawa	General Donation
Dean O'Shields	Donation to Religious Dept. for Pride Parade
Susanne Umeda	Facility Use for Jeannie Yee and Ray Stange celebration
Kelly Kuwahara	Boeing YourCause, LLC
Donna Zumoto	Boeing YourCause, LLC

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The NW District Buddhist Temples are honored to be hosting the “Gomonshu-sama”

**Please join us at the Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple in
welcoming the Gomonshu to the Pacific Northwest.**

**We will be serving delicious, old fashioned BBQ in the spirit
of Summer time. Dinner will begin at 6:30pm following the
“Kikyoshiki” (Buddhist name confirmation) service**

Adult Tickets - \$30

Youth (Ages 12 and under) - \$15

**We hope you will be able to join us for this rare
experience. Seating is limited so get your tickets early!**

To get tickets online, go to *Seattlebetsuin.org/gomonshuvisit*

**Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple
1427 S Main St
Seattle, WA 98144
(206) 329 - 0800
office@seattlebetsuin.org**

.....**General Donations** continued from p. 6

Donor:

Cyrus Honmyo & May Chinn
Brian Kaku
Robert Hamatani

For:

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Boeing YourCause, LLC
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Charles Natsuhara
Leanne Nishi-Wong
Kemi Nakabayashi
Anonymous

} Donation for Puget Sound Shin Buddhist Study Series. Collected Funds to be sent to NWD Council for the Shin Buddhist Grant

“A Buddhist In Pride”

by Meya Stout

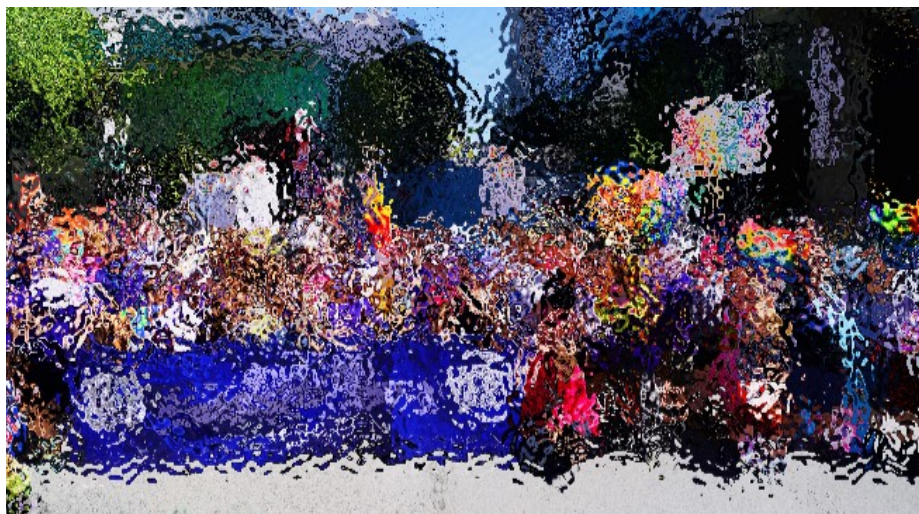
The Seattle Buddhist Betsuin Temple has completed its third year involvement with Seattle Pride and the Seattle Pride Parade. It was a truly positive and unifying experience (as Pride always is), but experiencing things with the interconnectedness of our Sangha and my other communities is emotionally overwhelming (in a very good way!). I hope everyone had a great Pride month. I know this one was especially deep and memorable for me having merged my lives into one on this given Pride Parade day. I have never felt so complete. To understand the history of Pride, the progress that it has made over the past fifty years, and what it means with our continued involvement, reveals who we are and the ties that this has between our Sangha, our Dharma, and our Nembutsu way of life.

Stonewall Inn was a gay bar when gay bars were not accepted. It was run by the mob and when police would raid the bar to do "gender checks," the bar would turn on the lights. This was the signal for folks to stop dancing and prepare for the raids. These raids entailed ensuring that there were at least three items of clothing worn that matched someone's gender. There were also "bathroom checks" that the police would do in

order to confirm that someone was the gender that they claimed to be. These raids were usually held in the afternoons, but on this particular time in history, the raid at the Stonewall Inn happened in the wee hours of the morning. As people were being dragged out of the bar, the community decided to take a stand. Shot glasses were thrown out of windows, bricks were thrown at the police. A riot broke out and the people won. So the very first Pride was actually a riot. Two people took a very large stand. Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera. They were a drag queen and a transgender activist, also attending the riot at Stonewall Inn. They brought the attention of the riot to the LGBTQ activists and the story went global. A year later, the march was born, a protest for equal rights.

And back in the day, even in my day, there was-

n't even a T at the end of LGBTQ. It was just LGB. The reason why people use the term Stonewall rather than Stonewall Inn is the significance of the historical movement. Although the Stonewall Inn itself is just as



June 30, 2019 **Seattle Pride Parade** photo intentionally blurred

important to recognize and know. It also still exists as a bar to this day, and is also now deemed an historical location.

One of the first words I noticed and learned when joining the Seattle Betsuin this year was from a YMA during a Dharmathon. The word she used was

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WHAT IS "OBON"?

"OBON" IS A TIME OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THOSE THAT PASSED AWAY OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

IN OUR TRADITION OF BUDDHISM, REMEMBERING AND HONORING THOSE CLOSE TO US AFTER THEIR PASSING IS VERY IMPORTANT.

GATHERING WITH A SENSE OF GRATITUDE IN HONOR OF OUR DECEASED LOVED ONES ENSURES WE KEEP THEM IN OUR HEARTS WHILE ALSO SERVING AS A REMINDER THAT WE ARE ALL INTERCONNECTED.

THIS ALSO GIVES US REASON TO GATHER WITH THOSE WHO WE DON'T GET TO SEE ON A REGULAR BASIS, REINFORCING OUR TIES WITH FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.

ONE WAY WE DO THIS IS THROUGH MEMORIAL SERVICES OR "HOJI" (DHARMA AFFAIR) AT INCREMENTAL DATES FOLLOWING A LOVED ONE'S PASSING. SOME OF THESE DATES ARE:

THE DATE OF PASSING

49TH DAY SERVICE

100TH DAY SERVICE

1ST YEAR MEMORIAL

3RD YEAR MEMORIAL

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT "HOJI" SERVICES AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE VISIT WWW.SEATTLEBETSUIN.ORG/SERVICES

TO SCHEDULE A SERVICE WITH US, CONTACT THE TEMPLE OFFICE AT OFFICE@SEATTLEBETSUIN.ORG (206) 329 - 0800

Third Annual Seattle vs Tacoma Softball Game

Our third showdown with the Tacoma Buddhist Temple will be held on August 18 at Aubrey Davis Park on Mercer Island. As in recent years we will have two games, one for kids and adults unfamiliar with Softball and one for competitive players to see who can bring home the trophy!

Last year's game ended in a tie after 11 innings. Come out and see who will win this year!

If you are interested in playing, contact Connor McKinney (connor@seattlebetsuin.org) with your full name, which game you wish to play in and any other members who may be joining you!

Rimban officiates Obon Cemetery Services

On Sunday, July 14, 2019 after the Hatsubon Service at Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple, Rimban Kusunoki conducted two services - one at Tahoma Vista site at 1:00PM within Evergreen Washelli Cemetery and Ron Hamakawa chairing the service. Rimban conducted another service at 3:00PM at Sunset Hills Funeral Home in Bellevue chaired by Paul Mori. The previous day, Saturday July 13, Rimban Kusunoki conducted services on Queen Anne Hill's Mt Pleasant Cemetery at 12noon, Lake View Cemetery on Capitol Hill at 1:00PM, and Washington Memorial Cemetery, Sea-Tac, WA at 3:30PM, all arranged by Joe Gotchy.

Photos by E. Mayeda
Submitted by Irene Goto



Tomi Zumoto, Julie Mayeda, Rimban Kusunoki, Mihoko Tazuma

“interdependence.” I thought it was a very unique and powerful word, and did not realize until later that it was not only from a college vocabulary, but also from a well-used terminology within the functions of our Buddha, Dharma and Sangha. It plays a part in everything involving the Dharma, and since the Dharma is everywhere, interconnectedness and interdependence play a large role in the Right View and Right Thought. We become what we surround ourselves with, and we are a product of the environment we create. It is all one and the same, and that is why it ties together so very well with social justice.

In “Cessation and Contemplation in the Five Teachings of the Hua-yen” by Du Shun, it describes jewels of a countless nature reflecting inwardly and outwardly upon themselves in infinity. It states, “In modern Buddhist social commentaries, this perspective is applied to argue that the poverty and injustice faced by the members of a disenfranchised minority negatively affects the quality of life for all members of that society, up to the most privileged elite.” This is why Buddhism has that welcoming nature—all are welcome without judgement, there is no exclusion. It is what sets Buddhism apart from other religions. Acceptance for all sentient beings is key. For many people, including myself, this has made a huge impact on my life. Knowing that regardless of how different I may be on the outward, superficial birth to death level, my sentient self is the same as all others and will be viewed and accepted as such. This creates a touching comfort and safety within the Buddhist Sangha and also a trusting heart in knowing and living the Nembutsu and the Dharma.

My most recent and valuable example for this is this past month: Pride Month. Although not all Buddhist sects have risen up their voices to celebrate it as widely as the Jodo Shinshu followers, it is still a resounding step in interconnectedness and interdependence. We had Dharma exchange groups all month long discussing the minority groups, the homeless, the LGBTQ, and the ties that bind us as Buddhists and the Dharma to these communities. The final Dharma message this month given by Reverend Kusunoki was about Pride and having the Right View, following Vows 3 and 4 from Amida’s 48 Vows. He was very humble and brave to share that he struggled to share the Right View. The enlightenment that I felt during those Dharma exchanges from people trying to learn and grow an understanding of the LGBTQ and of the history of Pride was like hearing a call and answering it. Like turning a jewel and reflecting itself on all others.



Reverend Katsu and Dean

That Huayen statement correlates so much for me as far as who I am and with modern social justice. When we marched in that parade, it didn’t matter if the on-lookers knew Jodo Shinshu or not. They saw that we were Buddhists, they shouted “Namaste,” they cheered at our dancing and our

signs reading “All Are Welcome Here.” But the sign that they roared for, that they cheered for the loudest the entire march, was the sign that read, “Performing Same-Sex Marriages Since the 1970’s.” The reason is this: this is the social justice that is referenced. This is the social justice that this minority community has fought and marched for, for decades, and here we march, our jewel selves reflecting theirs, having accepted that we are one and the same all along. We came to march in acceptance and celebration of them, and they were all cheering us along in celebration and acceptance of us.

I hope that the future involvement within the LGBTQ community, Pride, and the Sangha continue to strengthen and grow, for we have so much to learn and love from one another.

In Gassho, Meya Stout

Meya Stout is a first year member of the Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple. Her past three years as a Buddhist were at the Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha, where she was an acting Minister’s Assistant and Board Member. She just moved back to Washington this March and began regular attendance the very next day after arriving. She also joined the SBBWA this year, assisted with the Pride Committee, and will be participating in the Obon Festival as a dancer. Meya is currently in the JSCC program in the hopes to further her studies and understanding of the Nembutsu and the Dharma, and to someday achieve Tokudou and become a Minister. She is also happa, a member of the LGBTQ community, a mother, and a passionate cook.

###

BECOME A SPONSOR FOR THE NW DISTRICT'S GOMONSHU WELCOME BANQUET

SPONSORS FOR THE GOMONSHU'S VISIT ARE APPRECIATED. A \$100 MINIMUM DONATION WILL BE RECOGNIZED IN THE PROGRAM BOOKLET, HOWEVER, ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE WELCOME.

THE PROCEEDS ASSIST IN OFFSETTING THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS EVENT. ANY EXTRA PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO THE HONGWANJI'S "DANA FOR WORLD PEACE" CAMPAIGN. THIS INITIATIVE IS ENDORSED BY THE GOMONSHU.

CHECKS CAN BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE SEATTLE BETSUIN BUDDHIST TEMPLE WITH A NOTE OR MEMO IDENTIFYING THE DONATION AS A BANQUET SPONSORSHIP

**Atomic Bomb Victims' Memorial Service Sunday, August 11, 2019
10:00AM at Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple**

Connect with the Buddhist Churches of America *Electronically*

BCA has Locator Page for Temples and Churches!

BCA consists of over 60 member temples and sanghas throughout the mainland U.S. Please check their websites or contact them regarding service and activity schedules as well as membership information. To find a particular minister or if you have any general questions, please direct your question to "General Questions" using the form on the [contact us page](http://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/contact-us/).

[http://
www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/
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WHEEL OF DHARMA

Read back issues online

Search for topics, issues by month, by year

<http://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/wheel-of-dharma/>

8月日本語法話 [平和について考えよう]

8月は1945年に広島と長崎に原爆が落とされた月です。私の父は小学校1年生の時に長崎で被爆しました。この機会に、皆さんと原爆を通して平和について考えてみたいと思います。今回は、日本からリッチランド高校への留学生、古賀野々華さんのビデオメッセージを紹介します。

(以下、古賀野々華さんの記事)

アメリカ留学、リッチランド高校での学校生活は楽しかったです。一生忘れないような友人や思い出もできました。色々な経験から成長でき、多くのことを学ぶことができたと思います。

みなさんの歴史や文化、視点について私は学んできたので、今回は私の「視点」を知ってほしいと思います。

私は長崎に近い、福岡の出身です。長崎は2発目の原爆が投下された場所です。わたしがこの高校に来れたのは皮肉な感じもします。

私の出身地は当初、原爆の標的でした。私の祖父母が焼け死んでしまっていたら、私はここにはいなかったかも知れません。しかしその日、天気が曇りだったので標的は長崎に変わりました。

リッチランド高校ではキノコ雲のロゴは誰にも愛され、そこらじゅうにあります。私にとって、キノコ雲は犠牲になった人と今の平和を心に刻むものです。キノコ雲の下にいたのは兵士でなく市民でした。罪のない人たちの命を奪うことを誇りに感じる

べきでしょうか。

私の国では毎年“平和の日”があり、若い人たちは原爆によってもたらされた荒廃や恐怖について学びます。長崎では8万人もの市民、多くの子どもや女性が不正義なことに殺害されました。

私はみなさんのロゴマークを変えたいと思っているわけではありません。みなさんに個人的な見方について知ってほしいのです。

リッチランド高校ではキノコ雲は誇りの対象です。考えてみて下さい。爆発の後にできるキノコ雲は、爆弾が破壊したもので作られています。私は、町の残骸や、戦争に参加していない罪のない子どもや女性、男性からできたキノコ雲に誇りを感じることはできません。

私がここにいるのは、あの日が曇りだったからです。

まずは、正直な思いを伝えてくれた野々華さんに感謝と敬意を表したいと思います。原爆については、アメリカ人と特に広島、長崎の原爆を経験した人では違うなと思うことが私もあります。ある夕食の席で、戦争や原爆の話になりました。私も、父が被爆者であることも話しました。その席で、ある方が、「今でも、私が当時の司令官なら原爆投下のボタンを押す。」絶句しました。つたない英語で私の思いを伝えようとしたのですが、その場ではうまく伝えられなかったように思います。改めて、原爆投下のス

←
イッチというのは、今もいろんな人の心の中で押されているのだな、と思いました。その手をどうしたら止めることができるのでしょうか。どうしたら、考え直してもらえることができるのでしょうか。原爆の話になると、広島、長崎への原爆の投下が正しかったかどうかというところに焦点が当てられることがあります。その議論は、どこまでいっても原爆を落とす側の立場の議論です。原爆が自分たちが住むこの街に落とされることを考えていません。常にどこか遠くに原爆が落とされることを想定しています。原爆が落ちて、自分が死ぬ。家族が死ぬ。友達が死ぬ。きれいな街が破壊される。生き残ったとしてもやけどや放射能の後遺症で自分や家族が苦し

む。また差別に遭う。原爆のボタンを押したら自分がそうなる、自分が愛する人がそうなる。自分が落とされた側の立場に立って考えたとき、被爆した人たちの苦しみが自分事として考えることができるようになった時、その原爆を押す手が止められるように思います。今後は、原爆投下が正しいか正しくないかという議論をしなければいけないような状況を作らず、武器を用いずみんなが平和に暮らしていくにはどうしたらいいかをみんなが議論していくようになると思います。

「平和の原点は、人の痛みをわかる心を持つこと。」被爆者だった吉田勝次さんの言葉です。この言葉を常に心に刻んでおくことが大切です。

...Dharma Exchange Notes

continued from p. 2

July 7 - Matt May MA presented Rev. Ken Tanaka's talk, "Buddhism on Air," *Mutually Sustaining Life*. It is a call to a troubled world. Suffering occurs when one is restrained and restricted. If freedom exists in everyday life there is no suffering. The conditions of suffering are simply a part of life and suffering is optional. . . He described the metaphor of "One Water and Four Views" as follows:

- Hungry Ghost - the water consists of pus and phlegm.
- Fish - an abode.
- Human - a drink, bodily needs
- Heavenly beings - a pond of shimmering jewels
- We are admonished to turn difficulties into a resource.

Non-attachment does not mean becoming indifferent, but rather letting go of fear and pain, which enables us to see more clearly. In his book, Morrie said,

"Turn on the faucet and wash yourself with emotion." Further, he said, "When you learn how to die you learn how to live." A woman named Christine was in a car accident and had to be confined bed for a year. She said, "I have eyes, I have ears and I have a brain, so do not worry about me." Rev. May said this chapter explains the extremes of dukkha/suffering. We all experience displeasure, and the idea of miracles can be misleading. We all try to lessen dukkha and we all have a different set of problems to resolve. We have the potential to be kind. Rev. Matt said his job is to encourage people who make software to listen to those who don't have software.

July 14 - We celebrated Hatsubon and there were no after-service events, including Dharma Exchange. The service was followed by Nokotsudo (temple's columbarium) service. All other after-service programs were cancelled due to off-site services.

In Gassho,
Pat Bobrow



AUGUST 2019 SEATTLE BETSUIN SCHEDULE

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September 2019: Major Events							
Sept 3	Gomonshu's visit - Kikyoshiki Confirmation Ceremony and Banquet				1 <i>Rinban in Japan</i> 1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (MA Rev Goto) 7 pm Betsuin BoD mtng	2 <i>Rinban in Japan</i>	3 <i>Rinban in Japan</i> 9:30 am Book Study
Sept 8	First Day of Dharma School 2019-2020 term						
Sept 22	Fall Ohigan Svc with Rev Kazuaki Nakata, Fresno						
Sept 22	DS Teachers' workshop with Rev Kazuaki Nakata						
Sept 29	Eshinni-Ko & Kakushinni-ko Memorial Service						
4	<i>Rinban in Japan</i>	5 <i>Rinban in Japan</i>	6 <i>Rinban in Japan</i>	7 <i>Rinban in Japan</i> Morning service canceled	8 <i>Japanese service at White River canceled</i>	9	10 10:30 AM Gagaku practice
9:00 am	Meditation (MA Rev Irene Goto)						
10 am	SUNDAY SERVICE (MA Rev Matt May)						
10:50 am	DX "Tannisho" (Rev Castro) Japanese (Video - MA Rev Matt May)						
11:45 am	SBBWA BoD meeting						
11		12 Rinban's day off	13	14 10 am Morning Service 11 am - 2 pm Play Group	15 1:30 pm Nikkei Manor Service (Rinban)	16 10 am Shinran Shonin Monthly Memorial Svc	17
9:00 am	Meditation (MA Leonora Clarke)						
10:00 am	ATOMIC BOMB VICTIMS' MEMORIAL (Rinban)						
10:50 am	Combined DX & Japanese Program in Hondo with Dr. Tsukasa Namekata						
18		19 Rinban's day off	20	21 10 am Morning Service	22 9:30 am SBBWA temple clean-up	23 8 am Temple carpets cleaned	24
9:00 am	Meditation (TBD)						
10:00 am	SUNDAY SERVICE (MA Rev Irene Goto)						
10:50 am	DX "Buddhism on Air" (MA Rev Matt May) Japanese (Rinban)	8 pm Newsletter deadline					
1:00 pm	Softball game vs Tacoma at Aubrey Davis Park						
25		26 Rinban's day off	27 10:30 am Keiro Service	28 10 am Morning Service	29 BCA Ministers' Annual Summer Seminar at JSC Merrill Garden Renton visit (Rev Castro)	30 World Buddhist Women's Convention in San Francisco	31 World Buddhist Women's Convention in San Francisco
9:00 am	Meditation (TBD)						
10:00 am	SUNDAY SERVICE (Rinban)						
10:50 am	DX (Rinban) Japanese (Video - MA Rev Irene Goto)						

Seattle Buddhist Church
1427 S Main Street
Seattle, WA 98144

August 2019
Wheel of the Sangha
**A Monthly Newsletter of
Seattle Buddhist Church**

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**Softball Game
Sunday, Aug. 18**

*Seattle Buddhist Temple and
Tacoma Buddhist Temple at
Aubrey Davis Park, Mercer Is.
1:00PM. Come out and root for
the home team!*

“Peace and Harmony” when we encounter the Dharma

Sundays... Please confirm at www.SeattleBetsuin.org “coming events” or
call the temple office 206.329.0800

9:00 am - 9:40 MEDITATION in Memorial Hall Chapel east wing

10:00 am - 10:35 SERVICE - in *hondo* (main hall)

10:35 am - 10:45 SANGHA GATHERING - offer incense, “meet and greet”

10:50 am - 11:30

CHILDREN’S DHARMA SCHOOL classes during the public school year
JAPANESE PROGRAM in *hondo* (main hall) with a message in Japanese
DHARMA EXCHANGE – a mix of discussion and educational programing;
downstairs dining room

PARENTS’ DHARMA EXCHANGE in Memorial Hall Chapel - discussion
among young adults and parents while children are in class.

TEMPLE TOUR

11:30 - 12:00 REFRESHMENTS and Social in dining room downstairs

Contact Us

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***Visit us on the web at
WWW.***

SeattleBetsuin.com

Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 9am—4pm

***Emergencies: Call
the temple office
for updated record-
ed message.***

Wheel of the Sangha Editors
Irene Goto, English: newsletter@seattlebetsuin.com

Deadline is the third Monday each month at 8PM

Atomic Bomb Victims’ Memorial Service Sunday, August 11, 2019 10AM