



An Intermediate-level Introductory Course on  
Shin Buddhism in the West and Beyond

# Fireside Chat Sessions with 20 Laypersons and Teachers

Starts October 4, 2025

<b>Description:</b>	An intermediate-level introduction for those seeking a religious/spiritual understanding of Shin (or Jodo Shinshu) Buddhism, the largest Buddhist school in Japan today, with a history of 136 years in North America.
<b>Dates:</b>	10 classes on the <i>first</i> Saturday of the month (except in July)
<b>For Details:</b>	Please click <a href="#">here</a>
<b>Topics:</b>	<p><b>October 4:</b> <i>Boarding the Ship — Starting Our Human Journey</i></p> <p><b>November 1:</b> <i>Falling off the Ship — Encountering Suffering</i></p> <p><b>December 6:</b> <i>Swimming by Striving — Practice</i></p> <p><b>January 3:</b> <i>Gasping for Air — Spiritual Impasse</i></p> <p><b>February 7:</b> <i>Letting go — Shinjin Realization and Entrusting</i></p> <p><b>March 7:</b> <i>Floating — Ocean that is Amida's Primal Vow</i></p> <p><b>April 4:</b> <i>Swimming with Ease — Assurance, Joy, and Clarity</i></p> <p><b>May 2:</b> <i>Thinking of Others — Engagement with Others</i></p> <p><b>June 6:</b> <i>Reaching the Island — Birth in the Pure Land</i></p> <p><b>July 11:</b> <i>Going out back into the Ocean — Returning to this Sahā Realm</i></p>
<b>Instructor and Moderator:</b>	<b>Kenneth K. Tanaka</b> , Professor Emeritus, Musashino University, Tokyo. Former Assoc. Prof. and Assist. Dean, the Institute of Buddhist Studies, Berkeley. Former Minister of Buddhist Churches of America.
<b>Register for the Course:</b>	Please apply <a href="#">here</a>
<b>Donation:</b>	Suggested amount \$50–\$100 (In Japan, ¥6,000) (Less is accepted for students and anyone on fixed or low income.)
<b>Textbook:</b>	<i>Ocean Two: The Ten Phases of Shin Buddhism for the West and Beyond</i> (Draft of this book will be provided free of charge to all registrants.)
<b>Video Recordings:</b>	Available to registrants when they miss the class.
<b>Contact email:</b>	<a href="mailto:shinbuddhismcourse@gmail.com">shinbuddhismcourse@gmail.com</a>