



Worldview Perspective Panel Reverend Yuki Sugahara

In last month's article, Reverend Sugahara answered the first two of four questions asked of him at the World Perspective Panel which was held April 20 on-line. The first two questions were 1. What is love? What is the source? Is it possible to love without conditions attached? 2. How would you define justice? Is justice relative? The following answers questions 3 and 4.

3. How do you verify that something is true? Where does truth come from?

In one of the ideas in Buddhism, it is understood that we all have our own world even though we experience the same thing at the same time as others. This is called imagination. Just like when kid's fight, he or she says "she did it first", "no, he did it first." The truth is different for each individual.

There are a few truths we talk about in Buddhism: impermanence of all things and interdependence of all things. We know everything is impermanent. No one can live forever and we all experienced separation from our loved ones in our lives. I lost my mother 21 years ago. I was thinking that she will be a grandma one day and play with my children, but it never happened. We all have to experience separation. This is the truth of impermanence.

Today at this gathering, we all have different faiths, lives, experiences, ethnicities, gender, but we are here at this moment. If one of us did not show up today, we could not have the same experience as we do now. Many people's choices to attend today's panel made this experience possible.

I am the fifteenth generation of Buddhist ministers in my family. To have my life here, I had at least 32,768 direct ancestors. Moda Center's capacity is about 20,000 people so all my ancestors cannot see the Blazers game together at Moda Center. A sports game can go on even if one in the audience does not attend, but our lives could not be here if we lacked even one of our ancestors. If one of them didn't exist in the past or if they made different choices in their lives, we would not be born. This is an example of interdependence.

Comparing these two truths, impermanence and interdependence, which is more important? It is

interdependence of all things because impermanence is based on the interdependence.

We are standing on the ground of impermanence and interdependence. Truth is not coming from somewhere else, but it is here always. Things are as they are without adding our imaginary views. This is the truth in Buddhism.

4. What do you see that you have in common with the other panelists? What piece of advice would you give us on how to accept differences in people?

Ultimately, we are all human beings. The language we speak, the culture we preserve, the beliefs we hold - these are tiny differences. We all seek for the peaceful life and we would like to live as happily as we can.

It is often described that all the religions have the same goal, but just the path is different. So I am sure that we have much in common.

Having common ground is important, but it is okay to be different and Buddhism emphasizes the importance of accepting differences more than having common ground.

I play music. I was born into a minister's family, but I was passionate about becoming a musician and spent most of my twenties playing in a rock band.

Some musicians might say that we can create music with one note, but, usually, the music consists of different notes. A chord consists of three or more notes. When we think our lives as music, we can create beautiful music if we have variety, different notes, chords and rhythm. Likewise, ethnicities, religions, gender, lifestyle are all the differences that create music.

One of the Buddhist texts is about the net of jewels. On each knot of the net, there is a jewel and each jewel is illumined by the light of the other jewels and each jewel is also illumining other jewels. Other texts say various colors of flowers emit radiance and every radiance of light merges together harmoniously.

We all have differences, but these differences are not for excluding or discriminating. All the differences are here to create beautiful harmony. They illumine each other and there are no worthless lives compared to others. All of us are part of an orchestra of life as each member listens to others' sound carefully. We need to listen carefully to the opinions of other people with respect. This is the advice I can offer.

Gassho

"OBT welcomes all people regardless of ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identification, and political or religious affiliation."

Oregon Buddhist Temple 3720 SE 34th Avenue Portland, OR 97202-3037 503-234-9456

E-mail: info@oregonbuddhisttemple.com website: <http://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com>

Please contact the temple with any comments, questions or concerns, or if you wish to report a change of address.



Good Times and Hard Times

Charles Reneau
OBT President

I hope you've had a chance to get outside recently. I've been hiking a few times and have been working in my garden a good bit, too. I always enjoy looking at the various flowers that grace our presence this time of year. My wife and I have put a lot of work into our garden, and there are lots of flowers. There are familiar friends, like the purple-blossomed rhododendrons near my garage, the bleeding hearts that we planted under the cedar tree, and my favorites, the wild-looking lupine.

There are new flowers, too. We planted a lot of native wildflowers years ago, and those have a way of spreading seeds around where we don't expect them! For example, the few large-leaved avens that we planted now have descendants all over our backyard.

We also have California poppies. . . but never planted them! Where'd they come from? Turns out, when you buy a plant at a nursery, nearby flowering plants at the nursery can deposit seeds in the potting soil of the plant you take home. When you plant your chosen specimen, friends from the wild have come along for the ride. We always enjoy those surprises.

When we resumed in-person services, I knew it would be fun to see my familiar Temple friends. I hadn't counted on getting to meet so many nice new people, though! In the last few weeks, just as flowers were popping out of the ground all over, we've had an increase in the number of visitors to our Sunday services. I met one person who has worked for many years overseas, and appreciates the cool, rainy weather here in Portland. I just met a couple from the Bay Area- they're testing Portland out to see whether they like living here.

It's exciting for me to meet new people at the Temple, and ever since the Board discussed making an effort to chat with newcomers and be friendly, I've enjoyed looking around the Hondo for fresh faces. If someone sticks around after the service, and looks inviting, I encourage you to do the same.

To that end, the Buddhist Education Committee and the Board have discussed creating an informal social hour after service, to be held outside while we enjoy the summer weather. It's one thing we miss about pre-pandemic services: the opportunity to socialize in a low-pressure way during and after Dharma Exchange. We're still working out the details, but expect to see some bright yellow canopies and perhaps very light refreshments after service starting in June.

Obon 2022: Finally, in case you haven't heard yet, we're planning for an in-person Obon Festival this summer, on

Saturday, August 6. Marilyn Achterman has been working on it since January, and I'm really excited about her plans! It's odd not to be working on it as closely as I normally do, but I'm so grateful that Marilyn is applying her creativity, energy, and institutional knowledge. Stay tuned for more details!

Kujo Sagarifuji No Mon 九條下り藤の紋

Kujo-pendent-wisteria-crest



This is the more familiar of two crests used by the Hongwanji-ha. It consists of two pendent wisteria flowers forming a circle in the center of which are two intertwining vines. The earlier crest of the Hongwanji was a Chrysanthemum crest associated with the Imperial Family. The Ohtani family of the Hongwanji, a direct blood line from Shinran Shonin, married into the Imperial Family in the late Muromachi Period (16th Century) becoming a Moneki Jin or Imperial Temple. Later, when the Emperor Meiji ascended the throne in 1868, the Chrysanthemum crest was restricted to members of the immediate Imperial family. The family crest of the Kujo family, a great patron of the Hongwanji, was then offered to the Hongwanji. This Wisteria rest has since been the official crest of the Jodoshinshu Hongwanji-ha.

Until the Meiji Restoration (1868), Japanese who were not of the aristocracy or high ranking families of the military class did not have family names. In the early Meiji Period, commoners were allowed to take family names and adopt family crests. These family names and crests were picked at random and do not indicate any relations with the upper class families. Japanese-Americans, with the exception of one military family and priestly families, are largely of this commoner tradition. Thus their crests cannot be traced by family name.

Each Japanese family has adopted two family crests; one which is passed through the male line from fathers to sons, and one which is passed through the female line from mothers to daughters. Thus a son would receive his father's crest, and a daughter would receive her mother's crest which was received from her mother in turn.

There are two crests used by the Jodoshinshu Hongwanji-ha. The more familiar one is described above.

Above narrative extracted from Cocktails, by Reverend Masao Kodani

June Shotsuki Hoyo

This is a monthly memorial service to honor and remember those loved ones who passed away during the month of June. The Shotsuki-Hoyo service will be held June 12th at the Sunday service at 10 am. Please join us and offer incense in memory of your relative(s) or friends.

Listed below are the names of those who passed away starting from 1950. Oregon Buddhist Temple has records from 1904. Names of deceased prior to 1950 are added if requested. If a name is missing or incorrect, please notify Jean Matsumoto, Etsu Osaki, or the temple.

Akiyama, Uhichi 6/12/1967	Kawasaki, Corky Tokuyoshi 6/7/2001	Okamoto, Misuyo 6/4/1997 *
Asai, Matsu 6/12/1967	King, Hugh Ryunyo Gerald 6/28/2014	Okawa, Misu 6/18/1978 *
Asawu, Benosuke 6/25/1963	Kinoshita, Kise 6/7/1989 *	Onishi, Shiz 6/2/2006 *
Aso, Benzo 6/25/1963	Kinoshita, Teddy 6/6/1956	Ota, Hajime 6/24/1987
Fujii, Mary Nakata 6/30/2017	Matsubu, Yone 6/5/1964 *	Sato, Yoshio Joe 6/12/1975
Fujii, Seiichi 6/25/1963	Matsuda, Denishiro 6/5/1956	Shido, Mary Miyeko 6/15/2000
Fujikawa, Shigeo 6/1/2021	Mayeda, Soichi 6/26/1973	Shiiki, Asa 6/4/1991
Gekko, Harry Hare 6/12/2004	Mishima, Aster 6/7/1983 *	Shinoka, Kiyokichi 6/3/1959
Hamada, Tokuichi 6/1/1972	Mishima, Charlotte Ann 6/17/1961	Shiogi, Chiyo 6/9/1999 *
Hanning, Adolph 6/1/1953	Mishima, John 6/23/2010	Sumino, George Yoshio 6/27/1996
Harada, Kimie 6/16/2005 *	Miyoshi, Toku 6/9/1987 *	Suzuki, Kagi 6/8/1984
Hasegawa, Tsune 6/13/1953*	Muramatsu, Henry 6/15/2016	Takao, Hachiro 6/26/1962
Hasuike, Grace 6/11/2020	Naganuma, Frank Y 6/17/1997	Takeuchi, "Tad" Tadashi 6/25/1997
Hasuike, Torazo 6/30/1967	Niioka, Kiyokichi 6/3/1959	Tamiyasu, Eric M. 6/30/2001
Hondo, Mas 6/26/2004	Niiyama, Tanezo 6/7/1984	Uyeda, Mariko 6/28/1955
Honma, Ed 6/6/1996	Ninomura, Yukiyo 6/16/1972 *	Yada, Yoneko 6/10/2006
Ikata, Yone 6/5/1964 *	Nishikawa, Kiyoshi 6/10/1979	Yamaguchi, Mary 6/20/2017
Ito, Yoshiko 6/21/2020	Oguri, Kuni 6/29/1959*	Yasui, Shizue 6/29/2013 *
Kaga, Mura 6/24/1955 *		
Kagawa, John Masaaki 6/13/2001		
Kanno, Makoto 6/7/1993		

*OBWA member

Year	Memorial	Year	Memorial
Of Passing		Of Passing	
2021	1 Year	2006	17 Year
2020	3 Year	1998	25 Year
2015	7 year	1990	33 Year
2010	13 Year	1973	50 Year

If you would like to schedule a memorial service for
Loved ones or ancestors, please make arrangements
With Reverend Sugahara at 916-834-7350 or
ysobtoportland0612017@oregonbuddhisttemple.com

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Board of Directors
2022 to 2024**

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Association
Nancy Kajitsu**



Greetings! Our May OBWA meeting was well attended! An excellent presentation by Dr. Lisa Yanase concerning Stroke

Awareness taught us what signs to be aware of and the importance of reacting immediately! Posters will be posted around our temple with this information! Thank you! It was well worth attending the zoom meeting!

Get ready for Obonfest 2022! Marilyn is planning the event for Saturday, August 6, 2022 at our Temple! Food booths, odori, lanterns and worship will be represented this year among other exciting activities. "Families and Friends" is the theme for continuing the food booth, this to help with our health and safety.

The 2022 Chow Mein crew wish to thank all those involved in our first attempt at reproducing this wonderful dish. Good Job!

The JAMO Cookbook continues to progress toward publication. Robbi Ando who is helping with the project would like to hear from you and your experiences with

Japanese foods prepared by you at home, at church, in a group or with your parents/grandparents. I remember drying daikon on a string to make tsukemono with my Grandmother!

Submitted by, Nancy Kajitsu
Next OBT reporter is Etsu Osaki

Alice, We Hadn't Seen You for a While



Back on Sunday April 3, we had a joyful visit with Alice Ando, as she sat before her Obutsudan. She is staying with her daughter Melissa Eisaman in east Portland. Alice gratefully accepted the knitted shawl she is wearing. She is doing well and keeps up with OBT activities by reading the newsletter that Melissa prints out for her. It was good to see you, Alice and Melissa.

Jayne and Shinya Ichikawa

**Dharma School
Ann Shintani**



Summer! Wow, we thank students and families for joining in-person classes these past few months... What are some reasons we come to the temple? As teachers and adults, I think we want to help each other live a healthier life – this means to be honest with ourselves and each other, to cultivate empathy, and how to be confident in ourselves. I think Buddhism, our Jodo Shinshu tradition, and our leaning on each other helps us to do this.

Although we won't have Dharma School classes, we want to continue to see you this summer! So, we will have an activity for families after service from July 3rd until ObonFest (August 6th).

Picnic! On Sunday, June 26th, after service. We are looking for volunteers to help with the following:

- Help set up and reserve picnic tables at the park (and set up a canopy or two).
- Transport beverages in ice chest.
- Bring and moderate a ball game (or other outdoor games).
- Staff an information/craft table.

If you can help, please contact Ann at 503 753-1813 or ann@hoonko.com.

**Father's Day, June 19, 2022
Third Sunday in June**

Father's Day was inaugurated in the United States in the early 20th century to complement Mother's Day in celebrating fathers, fathering, and fatherhood.

Father's Day was founded in Spokane, Washington at the YMCA in 1910 by Sonora Smart Dodd, who was born in Arkansas.^[3] Its first celebration was in the Spokane YMCA on June 19, 1910. Her father, the Civil War veteran William Jackson Smart, was a single parent who raised his six children there.. After hearing a sermon about Anna Jarvis's Mother's Day at Central Methodist Episcopal Church in 1909, she told her pastor that fathers should have a similar holiday honoring them. Although she initially suggested June 5, her father's birthday, the pastors of the Spokane Ministerial Alliance did not have enough time to prepare their sermons, and the celebration was deferred to the third Sunday of June.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**From the book, MIDNIGHT IN WASHINGTON,
HOW WE ALMOST LOST OUR DEMOCRACY
AND STILL COULD by ADAM SCHIFF**

“We held out the United States as a model of democracy to other nations, but our history was replete with ethnic discrimination and violence that included the enslavement of Black Americans, the wholesale slaughter of Native Americans and the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.”

Oregon Buddhist Temple Japan Tour

May 07 - May 24,
2023

TOUR ORIENTATION MEETING Oregon Buddhist Temple JAPAN TOUR 2023

Agenda

1. Tour Highlights
2. Tour Price & Payment Schedule
3. Cancellation Policy
4. Travel Insurance &
5. Online Registration
6. Notes
7. Contact

Here is some information about the upcoming May 2023 tour of Japan. Below you will find a detailed itinerary (attached) and a registration link and YouTube video:

Japan Tour Presentation (the first 15 minutes are not available)

<https://youtu.be/-J1a6-DMbzc>

Registration Link and Itinerary (Deadline August 31st)

<https://cvent.me/E3eNRP>

Please contact Sensei Yuki Sugahara with any questions you may have about the trip at his email address:

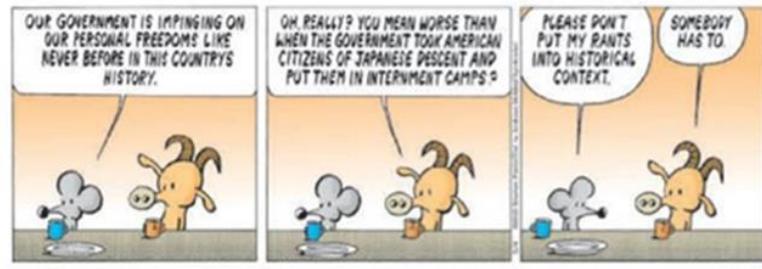
ysobtport1and060117@gmail.com

From the May 4th

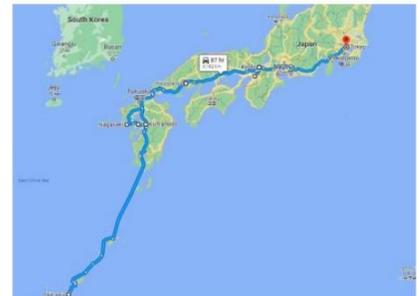
The Oregonian

Comics

Pearls Before Swine



- You will visit
1. Osaka
 2. Kyoto
 3. Hiroshima
 4. Kumamoto
 5. Shimabara
 6. Nagasaki
 7. Hakata
 8. Okinawa
 9. Tokyo



Congratulations

- To Tsuyako May Takemoto (Tsuyako May Nishikawa), for reaching the Century mark, Birth Date: 17 May 1922
- To Joy Yuzuriha, for graduating from Stanford University

OBT Services, Events, and Meetings by Date

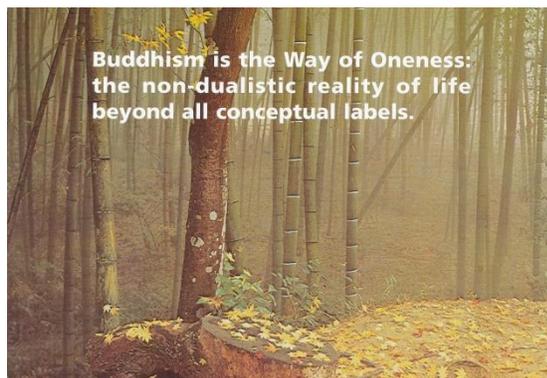
Links to Recurring Events – special links in table following For questions: bec@oregonbuddhisttemple.com

NOTE: Because OBT reopened March 27th the schedules/meetings are a little different. Please check our website for any last minute updates.

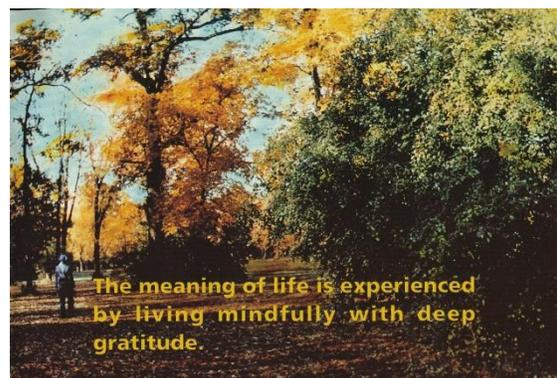
<p>OBT Regular Service Every week – Sun 10 AM Services are now hybrid – in person and on zoom. Link below to website for the filmed services, and below that the zoom link for the hybrid services. https://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/</p> <p>zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85452093371?pwd=RkV2QkRyb3dIRllyQkNneFE5cTRKQT09 Meeting ID: 854 5209 3371 Passcode: 517706</p>
<p>ON HOLD until further notice</p>
<p>Dharma Exchange Every 2 weeks – Sun 11 AM Zoom Meeting ID: 991 9789 7816 Passcode: 103319 https://zoom.us/j/99197897816?pwd=amRuZ1Y1bEM3Mk5kU0lHeXNleVM4dz09</p>
<p>Intermediate Study Class Every 2 weeks – Wed 7 PM Zoom Meeting ID: 815 9359 3428 Passcode: 704135 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81593593428?pwd=WEhYSEZTV0RlcEN4MjhpNnNvOUxBZz09</p>
<p>OBWA 3rd Sat, mid-month, each month – 10 AM Zoom Meeting ID: 962 3703 0266 Passcode: 574232 https://zoom.us/j/96237030266?pwd=QjYxMjI5dDM3cnFVLzR5YmEvUU94UT09</p>
<p>Dharma School and Parents Group are in person on Sunday (including Dana). Check with Ann Shintani for details</p>
<p>Dharma School Every 2 weeks – On non-Dharma Exchange Sundays Zoom Meeting ID: 972 9043 7213 https://us06web.zoom.us/j/97290437213</p>
<p>Meetings in person at OBT at 12:15 on 1st and 3rd Sundays. Check with leader Amy for details – dates below in table.</p>
<p>OBT Girl Scout Troop Zoom Meeting ID: 934 4857 6281 Passcode: 43720 https://zoom.us/j/93448576281</p> <p>Calendar: https://zoom.us/meeting/tJcpc-GtqT0oEtVJpNmFUrmDsDwMTlJqIwF4/ics?icsToken=98tyKuCrqj8iH9OTshGGRowqBo-gWe_wtiFBj7drtg_LDgZmcA7SjCzVH4ZWOsnc</p>

DATE	DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	WHERE/NOTES
NOTE			OBT Reopen –	Meetings, locations, and links subject to change
May				
5/29	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	Rennyō Shonin Memorial – in person, on Zoom
5/29	Sun	11 AM	Dharma School	In person – see Ann Shintani for details
5/30	Mon	see list	Memorial Day Services	10 AM OBT Nokotsudo; 11 AM Gresham; noon OBT Service at Rose City Japanese Cemetery; 1 PM Community Service at Rose City Cemetery; Lone Fir Cemetery TBD
June				

6/5	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	In person, on Zoom
6/5	Sun	11 AM	Dharma School	In person – see Ann Shintani for details
6/5	Sun	12:15	Girl Scout Meeting	See Leader Amy for details -- in person at OBT
6/8	Wed	7 PM	Intermediate Study Class	Rev. Sugahara
6/12	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service - in person, on Zoom
6/12	Sun	11 AM	Dharma School	In person – see Ann Shintani for details
6/12	Sun		Dharma Exchange	ON HOLD
6/18	Sat	10 AM	OBWA	Watch email for information – on zoom
6/19	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	Father's Day In person, on Zoom
6/19	Sun	11 AM	Dharma School	In person – see Ann Shintani for details
6/19	Sun	12:15	Girl Scout Meeting	See Leader Amy for details -- in person at OBT
6/22	Wed	7 PM	Intermediate Study Class	Rev. Sugahara
6/26	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	Recognition of OBT Graduates
6/26	Sun	11 AM	Dharma School	Picnic – last Dharma School event before summer break - see Ann Shintani for details
6/26	Sun		Dharma Exchange	ON HOLD
July				
7/3	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	In person, on Zoom
7/3	Sun		Dharma School	Summer Break
7/3	Sun	12:15	Girl Scout Meeting	See Leader Amy for details -- in person at OBT
7/6	Sun	7 PM	Intermediate Study Class	Rev. Sugahara
7/10	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service - in person, on Zoom
7/10	Sun		Dharma School	Summer Break
7/10	Sun		Dharma Exchange	ON HOLD
7/16	Sat	10 AM	OBWA	Watch email for information – on zoom
7/17	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	Hatsubon – Kangi-e Hoyo Memorial Service - in person, on Zoom
7/17	Sun		Dharma School	Summer Break
7/17	Sun	12:15	Girl Scout Meeting	See Leader Amy for details -- in person at OBT
7/19	Tue	7 PM	Bon Odori Practice	In Parking lot and hopefully also live stream on zoom
7/20	Sun	7 PM	Intermediate Study Class	Rev. Sugahara
7/21	Tue	7 PM	Bon Odori Practice	In Parking lot and hopefully also live stream on zoom
7/24	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	In person, on Zoom
7/24	Sun		Dharma School	Summer Break
7/24	Sun		Dharma Exchange	ON HOLD
7/26	Tue	7 PM	Bon Odori Practice	In Parking lot and hopefully also live stream on zoom
7/28	Tue	7 PM	Bon Odori Practice	In Parking lot and hopefully also live stream on zoom
7/31	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	In person, on Zoom
7/31	Sun		Dharma School	Summer Break
7/31	Sun		Dharma Exchange	ON HOLD



Photography: Howard Taylor



Text: Adapted from the works of Rev. Gyomay M. Kubose

**Oregon Buddhist Temple
April Donations**

In memory of Herb Osaki

Susan & Chris Leedham
Janice Okamoto
Yoshie Kagawa
Robert Kagawa
Carolyn J. Saiget
Diane Ando Harder
Ann Shintani & Scott Winner
Dennis & Sandra Yamauchi
Ted & Martha Tamaki
June & Stan Shiigi
Roberta Ando
Jean Matsumoto
(*Hishinuma Fund*)

In memory of Sumie Ishida

Jean Matsumoto
Alice Ando

In memory of James Nist

Anonymous

SHOTSUKI HOYO

Lily Meiners (*service donation*)

In memory of Michael Ando

Jean Matsumoto

In memory of Seijiro & Haru Fujita

Kay Fujita & family

In memory of Tsuneki Kagawa

Yoshie Kagawa

***In memory of James Kida &
Shoemon Nakamura***

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In memory of Kikuo Ando

Roberta Ando

In memory of Richard Harder

Roberta Ando

In memory of James & Dorothy***Nakagawa***

Anonymous

In memory of Katsumi & Kazuko***Sunamoto***

Dennis & Virginia Sugihara

In memory of Masaki Kinoshita

May Watari
Duane Watari & family

Special donations

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Kent M. Matsuda
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Atsuko Richards
Denise Kawasaki
Kaiser Foundation
Paypal Giving Fund
Anonymous
Roberta Ando (*BCA Dana Program*)
Ann Shintani & Scott Winner
(*chow mein event*)

Hanamatsuri

Etsuko Osaki
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Leslie Uyeji
Diane Ando Harder
Setsy & Chip Larouche
Lily Meiners
Henry & Eulia Mishima
Kathleen King
Toshiko Hayashi
Michiko Kumashiro

Hanamatsuri (continued)

Alfred Ono
Jimmy & Mary Ann Yoshida
Roberta Ando
Susan Lilly & Erik Ackerson
Todd & Elaine Yuzuriha
Kiyomi Dickinson
Shoun & Grace Ishikawa
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Anonymous

2022 Annual Pledge

Joy Yuzuriha
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***Monthly/quarterly/semi-annual
pledge donations***

Susan Lilly & Erik Ackerson
Jean Matsumoto
Diane Ando Harder
Susan Endecott

***Donation acknowledgements
are mailed for donations of
\$250 or more, to donors not
on the OBT mailing list, and
to any donor upon request.
Please inform us of any
significant errors or omissions.
Thank you.
sjendecott@gmail.com***

Thank you for your continued support

A reminder to encourage readers to continue donations for the below events and any other time.

January	Hoonko
February	Nirvana Day
March	Spring Ohigan
April	Hanamatsuri
May	Gotan-E Shinran Shonin Birthday Celebration
July	Kangi-e "A Celebration of Joy" Obon Service
August	Obonfest
September	Fall Ohigan
November	Eitaikyo - Perpetual Memorial Service
December	Bodhi Day Year End Gift for the Temple

Pledges for the Oregon Buddhist Temple The Membership/Committee

It is because of each and every one who has ever been a part of the OBT Sangha since its inception, through caring for each other and our home Temple, that OBT has continued for so many, many years. It is up to us to nurture the Dharma teachings in our hearts and through our actions, keeping it alive for our children and generations to come

Your pledge is important in supporting all that we do at OBT. Pledges of \$300 per individual also include your membership dues with the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA). Any amount shows your support of OBT's Dharma services, classes and programs and our other Sangha community activities. If you can, pledges beyond \$300 are greatly appreciated. (Pledge form below).



OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE

PLEDGE FOR 2022

Please provide the information below to ensure that our records are accurate and up-to-date.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

I / we will pledge for 2022, the amount of \$ _____

The above amount is to be given as a one time amount of \$ _____ or

The above amount is to be given in payments of \$ _____

Monthly Quarterly

Those who pledge any amount will be listed as supporters of the Oregon Buddhist Temple.

Pledges of \$300 or more per individual will be listed with the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) as members of Oregon Buddhist Temple. The \$300 includes the BCA membership dues which will be forwarded to BCA.

Please send this completed Pledge for 2022 to:

Oregon Buddhist Temple
3720 SE 34th St.
Portland, OR 97202-3037

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OregonBuddhistTemple.com

In gratitude for your support of the Oregon Buddhist Temple.

The Role of a Superpower --a meditation

“Guided by the Buddhist principles of Wisdom & Compassion, the Ministers Association of the Buddhist Churches of America opposes the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Buddha taught that Greed, Hatred, and Ignorance are poisons, and we see all three fueling this war.” (From the BCA Ministers Association Statement on the Russian Invasion of Ukraine)

Years ago I had the opportunity to study the French, German and Russian languages. Although all have been quietly rusting in the back of my mind for quite some time, each comes back in moments of particular salience. At the current moment, I am paying significant attention to the genocidal invasion of Ukraine, and my prior language study provides me with some ability to read, watch, listen to and understand primary-source reporting. I can hear much of the Russian and also pick out some of the Ukrainian—that last through tears and terror as well as determination.

Buddhist practice calls me to see the world as it is, so I don't turn my eyes from the rape, the torture, the deliberate targeting of civilians for murder, the lust for obliteration. I hear the occupiers talk about it—many with indifference or even glee. I hear *their* loved ones at home, cheering them on! I see and hear Ukrainian survivors and resisters, their wounds painted with such antiseptics and medicaments as are available. I watch the anguish of principled (and often scattered) Russians, aghast at this grievous turn in their history.

It all feels so very familiar.

At those junctures when fascism and genocidal dictatorship bubble up through the human consciousness, opinions fly across the journalistic sphere as to the role of superpowers in arresting their murderous advance. Each time, we also seem to re-evaluate who the superpowers might be: the United States alone? The United States and China, unfree Uighurs and all? Ascertaining the role of a superpower against a threat to all of humanity is an excruciatingly difficult task even for fine and compassionate minds, but there is one superpower we can each mobilize effectively, efficiently and right away.

Dana is our superpower. We can give. Yes, you and I, here—as small as we are! We can feed people—real food that really gets there! We can get medicines and supplies to Ukraine! We can help Ukrainians de-mine, for the occupiers have seeded mines everywhere, in the most obscenely inappropriate places. We can help them defend against annihilation—recognizing, of course, that Ukrainians are at the front of a line of targets that include us and all of humanity, and that the performance or allowance of genocide tears at all of our human-ness.

Where can we give? I tend to scrutinize non-profits very carefully, prioritizing not only good intent/above-boardness but also **efficacy**. There are squillions of non-profits (Portland alone has a scary number), so it becomes very important to me to get the most bang (that is, the most efficacious reduction of suffering) for the buck. Avoiding delays and middlemen are particularly important in the case of Ukraine.

For this reason, my husband and I have chosen to give to United 24, an official initiative set up by President Zelensky and directly administered by the Ukrainian government through the National Bank of Ukraine. You can specifically designate your gift toward one of three areas: defense/demining, medical aid or rebuilding Ukraine. Gifts are scrupulously tabulated daily and receipts-and-disbursements reports come out weekly.

The United 24 webpage is here:

<https://u24.gov.ua/>

The first receipts report is here:

https://files.u24.gov.ua/report_20220512_EN.pdf

World Central Kitchen has been doing amazing work in Ukraine, and they are also a good bet:

<https://donate.wck.org/give/396273/#!/donation/checkout>

The April issue of the Wheel of Dharma speaks of the BCA's gifts to Ukraine through Global Giving and UNICEF:

https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/files/ugd/458b11_4b93ff46b6734c6bb77ebf07cfdc9a48.pdf

Please consider these and other opportunities to use your superpower to do something real and immediate.

Namo Amida Butsu.

--Marilyn Huh