

BUKKYO DENDO BUNKA-SHO/ KORO-SHO AWARD CATEGORIES

BUKKYO DENDO BUNKA-SHO (The Cultural Award for the Promotion of Buddhism)

(A) Research, Thesis, Literary Work, Translation, Field Investigation, Publication, etc.

(B) Literary Arts, Arts, Music, Critique, etc.

(C) Missionary Work, Practice of the Dharma, etc.

BUKKYO DENDO KORO-SHO (The Award for Distinguished Service for the Promotion of Buddhism)

Presented to distinguished individuals who have long devoted themselves to the promotion of Buddhism.



The 1st BUNKA-SHO(1967)

(A) IWANO, SHINYU: Born 1892 in Tokyo. Devoted many years to the translation and publication of Buddhist scriptures.



The 4th BUNKA-SHO(1970)

(A) HIRAKAWA, AKIRA: Born 1915 in Aichi prefecture. Produced world-acclaimed research work such as A Study of Early Maha-yana Buddhism.



(B) KINO, KAZUYOSHI: Born 1922 in Yamaguchi prefecture. Wrote many popular books on Buddhism, thereby contributing to the modernization of Buddhism.



(B) NIWA, FUMIO: Born 1904 in Mie prefecture. Recognized for his work "Shinran" and his services in the promotion of Buddhist literature.



The 2nd BUNKA-SHO (1968)

(B) KITAGAWA, MOMOO: Born 1899 in Tokyo. Promoted through his writings an understanding of Japanese Buddhist art both in Japan and abroad.



The 5th BUNKA-SHO (1971)

(B) OUCHI, SEIHO: Born 1898 in Tokyo. Leading figure in the world of Japanese sculpture who broke original ground in the production of Buddhist images.



(C) TSUNAWAKI, RYUMYO: Born 1876 in Fukuoka prefecture. Forerunner in work for the relief of the lepers, he also actively practiced respect for fellowmen as taught in the "Chapter of the Bodhisattva Never Disparaging" in the Lotus Sutra.



(C) KUBOSE, GYOMEI: Born 1905 in San Francisco, U.S.A.. Was active in the fore-front of missionary work in the U.S.A. as a second-generation missionary of Higashi Hongan-ji Temple.



The 3rd BUNKA-SHO (1969)

(A) UMEHARA, TAKESHI: Born 1925 in Sendai. Philosopher who devoted himself to the study of Buddhist thought, ushering in a new age in the popular dissemination of Buddhism.



The 6th BUNKA-SHO (1972)

(A) FUJITA, KOTATSU: Born 1928 in Hokkaido. Produced pioneering work in the unexplored field of Early Pure Land thought.



(C) TSUNEMITSU, KONEN: Born 1891 in Hiroshima prefecture. Practitioner of Buddhism who devoted himself to the All-One Buddhist Movement and after the war, launched a Buddhist news-paper.



(C) ONO, SEIICHIRO: Born 1891 in Iwate prefecture. Was the supreme authority in Japanese legal circles and an ardent devotee of Shinran.



The 7th BUNKA-SHO (1973)

(A) TOMOMATSU, ENTAI: Born 1895 in Nagoya. Promoted a mass enlightenment movement in the early years of the Showa era and later also promoted the Truth Movement.



(B) NAKAYAMA, GENYU: Born 1902 in Shiga prefecture. Authority in traditional Tendai Buddhist music who rendered great services through performance, instruction and writing.



(KORO-SHO) NOSU, KOSETSU: Born 1885 in Kagawa prefecture. Devoted his life to the drawing of Buddhism paintings based on the life of Shakyamuni.

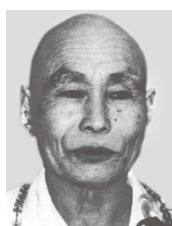


The 8th BUNKA-SHO (1974)

(B) TAKEDA, TAIJUN: Born 1912 in Tokyo. Writer and religionist who squarely faced the desperate plight of man and pursued true wisdom.



(C) TOKIWA, SHOKEN: Born 1930 in Osaka prefecture. Head priest of Tsubosaka-dera Temple who devoted himself to the welfare of the blind and was also active in the movement for the relief of lepers.

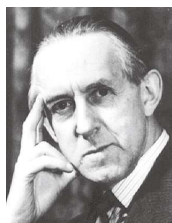


(KORO-SHO) FUJII, NITTATSU: Born 1885 in Kumamoto prefecture. Leader of the Nihonzan Myohoji Samgha and a devoted advocate of the non-violent peace movement.



The 9th BUNKA-SHO (1975)

(A) NAKAMURA, HAJIME: Born 1912 in Shimane prefecture. Leading authority in Japanese Buddhological circles who was recognized for his work in the compilation of "A Comprehensive Dictionary of Buddhist Terms"



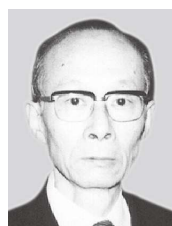
(C) HUMPHREYS, CHRISTMAS: Born 1901 in London, U.K.. Was active as president of the Buddhist Society, London, in the worldwide dissemination of Buddhism.



(KORO-SHO) ONISHI, RYOKEI: Born 1875 in Nara prefecture. Abbot of Kiyomizu-dera Temple and active in social welfare work, the propagation of Buddhism, and Buddhist exchange between Japan and China.



(KORO-SHO) MATSUURA, SHINOBU: Born 1896 in Fukui prefecture. Rendered her service as wife of a Buddhist missionary in North America and endeared herself to all as "mother of the heart."



The 10th BUNKA-SHO (1976)

(A) TAMAKI, KOSHIRO: Born 1915 in Kumamoto prefecture. Pursued the elucidation of Buddhist thought with his superb competence in comparative philosophy and textual criticism.



(B) MAYUZUMI, TOSHIRO: Born 1929 in Yokohama. Created a series of Buddhist musical pieces with the profound sound of bells and traditional Buddhist music as their themes.



(KORO-SHO) YAMAGUCHI, SUSUMU: Born 1895 in Kyoto. Published outstanding academic papers and was recognized for his compilation and publication of "The Teaching of Buddha."

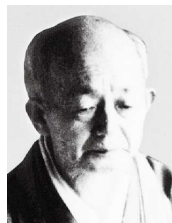


(KORO-SHO) SHIMIZUTANI, KYOJUN: Born 1891 in Gunma prefecture. As abbot of Senso-ji Temple was actively involved in the propagation of Buddhism and as a scholar, was an authority on the study of Esoteric Buddhism.



The 11th BUNKA-SHO (1977)

(B) HIRAYAMA, IKUO: Born 1930 in Hiroshima prefecture. Japanese painter who produced many works relating to the Buddhist ruins of the Silk Road.



(C) YAMADA, MUMON: Born 1900 in Aichi prefecture. Was actively involved as president of Hanazono University in the propagation of Buddhism through student guidance, writing and lectures.



(KORO-SHO) TOKI, ZENMARO: Born 1885 in Tokyo. Famous poet who published a work entitled “NO” dealing with Buddhist historical figures.



The 14th BUNKA-SHO (1980)

(B) INOUE, YASUSHI: Born 1907 in Hokkaido. Author known for his many works related to Buddhism, such as “Roof tile of Tem-pyo” and “Tun-huang.”



The 12th BUNKA-SHO (1978)

(A) NAKAMURA, ZUIRYU: Born 1915 in Aomori prefecture. Made field surveys of Buddhist sites in India and Tibet and undertook excavations at the ruins of Kapilavastu.



(C) SEKI, HOZEN: Born 1903 in Kagoshima prefecture. Spent a colorful quarter-century in mission-ary work in north America and established the New York Buddhist Academy.



(C) KATO, BENZABURO: Born 1899 in Shimane prefecture. Lay patron of Buddhism who as a businessman dedicated himself to the Lay Buddhism Movement.



(KORO-SHO) NASU, SEIRYU: Born 1894 in Aichi prefecture. Foremost authority on the doctrines of Esoteric Buddhism who also devoted himself to the propagation of Buddhism as a “Shingon practitioner.”



(KORO-SHO) KUREBAYASHI, KODO: Born 1893 in Shizuoka prefecture. Recognized for his work in education as president of Komazawa University and for his distinguished services as a scholar in Soto studies.



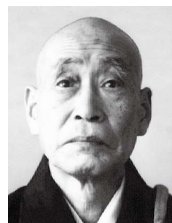
The 15th BUNKA-SHO (1981)

(A) KAMATA, SHIGEO: Born 1927 in Kanagawa prefecture. Foremost authority on Hua-yen doctrine who also undertook field research of Buddhist historical sites.



The 13th BUNKA-SHO (1979)

(A) NAGAO, GADJIN: Born 1907 in Hiroshima prefecture. Recognized for his supervision and compilation of Mahayana scriptures and for scientific investigations in central Asia.



(C) SHIMIZU, KOSHO: Born 1911 in Hyogo prefecture. Recognized for his great achievement as abbot of Todai-ji Temple in overseeing the repairs on the Great Buddha Hall.



(B) DOMON, KEN: Born 1909 in Yamagata prefecture. Made an original contribution as a photographer to the dissemination of Japanese Buddhist art.



(KORO-SHO) MIZUNO, KOGEN: Born 1901 in Saga prefecture. Great scholar in Pali studies with A Pali Dictionary and many other works to his credit.



(KORO-SHO) TAKEMURA, KICHIEMON: Born 1900 in Akita prefecture. Active in many fields such as education, lay patronage of Buddhism, and as chairman of the board of directors of the Foundation for the promotion of Buddhism.



The 16th BUNKA-SHO (1982)

(A) TAKASAKI, JIKIDO: Born 1926 in Tokyo. Produced out-standing results in his study of Tathagatagarbha thought, an important current of Buddhist doctrine.



(KORO-SHO) TAMAI, YOSHITAKA: Born 1900 in Toyama prefecture. Active as a missionary in the U.S.A. and popularly known as “Today’s Ryokan.”



(B) NAKAMURA, SODO: Born 1901 in Shizuoka. Active as a leading figure in calligraphical circles, with more than 80% of his work being Buddhist in content.



(KORO-SHO)

HANAYAMA, SHINSHO: Born 1898 in Ishikawa prefecture. Prison chaplain for the International Military Tribunal for the Far East who also devoted himself to the eastern spread of Buddhism.



(KORO-SHO) NISHITANI, KEIJI:

Born 1900 in Ishikawa prefecture. Authority on religious philosophy and recognized for his work in elucidating the value of Buddhist philosophy.



(KORO-SHO) CHAO, PUCHU:

Born 1907 in Anhui, China. Applied himself to the revival of Buddhism in China and also rendered great services in Buddhist exchange between China and Japan.



(KORO-SHO) TAIRA, KIKUJI: Born

1911 in California. Physician in California by vocation, he was also active in missionary and volunteer work.



The 17th BUNKA-SHO (1983)

(B) NISHIMURA, KOCHO: Born 1915 in Osaka prefecture. Active in the restoration of Buddhist images, he also applied himself to the research and preservation of Buddhist images and the education of successors to his work.



The 19th BUNKA-SHO (1985)

(A) ISHIDA, MIZUMARO: Born 1917 in Hokkaido. Recognized for his sound and meticulous research on the precepts in Japanese Buddhism.



(C) INTERNATIONAL BUDDHIST BROTHERHOOD ASSOCIATION Rep. IWAYA, SHOYU: Erected the Nihon-ji Temple in Bodhgaya, India, and rendered services in welfare work.



(B) IRIE, TAIKICHI: Born 1905 in Nara prefecture. Conveyed Buddhist culture to the world at large through his vivid depictions of ancient temples and natural scenery in and around Nara.



(KORO-SHO) AOKI, YUKO: Born 1891 in Tokyo. Contributed to the dissemination of Buddhist music both in Japan and abroad as a transmitter of the traditional Buddhist music of Buzan sect.



(KORO-SHO) YAMADA, ETAI: Born 1895 in Hyogo prefecture. Head of Tendai school who applied himself to the popular dissemination of Buddhism and transformed Mt. Hiei into a propagation center.



(KORO-SHO)

JAYEWARDENE, J. R.: Born 1906 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. President of Sri Lanka and a devout follower of Buddhism.



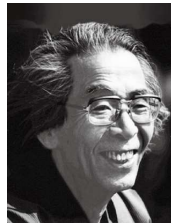
(KORO-SHO) JOH, MYUNG GEE:

Born 1905 in Korea. Recognized for his many years of research in Korean Buddhism and his services to Buddhist academic exchange between Korea and Japan.



The 18th BUNKA-SHO(1984)

(A) OCHO, ENICHI: Born 1906 in Aichi prefecture. Recognized for his work in breaking new ground in the study of Chinese Buddhism.

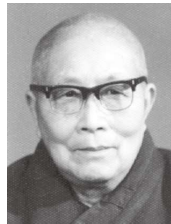


The 20th BUNKA-SHO (1986)

(B) HANAOKA, DAIGAKU: Born 1909 in Nara prefecture. Breaking new ground in Buddhist juvenile literature, he conveyed the spirit of Buddhism to a wide range of readers.



(C) FUJIMOTO, KOHO: Born 1910 in Nagano prefecture. Advocated "one temple, one orphan" and devoted himself to welfare and propagation activities.



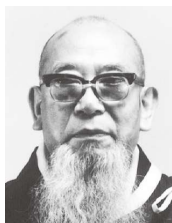
(C) RYU, REN: Born 1909 in Sichuan, China. Nun well versed in both Exoteric and Esoteric Buddhism who applied herself to the revival of Buddhism in China.



(KORO-SHO) NISHI, GIYU: Born 1897 in Hyogo prefecture. Professor at Toyo University and authority on the difficult Abhidharma doctrines.



(KORO-SHO) MICHIHATA, RYOSHU: Born 1903 in Hokkaido. Leading authority in the study of the history of Chinese Buddhism who also applied himself to friendship and exchange between Japan and China.



(KORO-SHO) SOBUE, SHONEN: Born 1908 in Gifu prefecture. Applying himself for many years to a traditional form of preaching, he was active in its preservation and the popular propagation of Buddhism.



(KORO-SHO) ITO, SADA0: Born 1906 in Aichi prefecture. Organist and composer of Buddhist music who dedicated himself to the propagation of Buddhism through music.



The 21st BUNKA-SHO (1987)

(A) LEGGETT, TREVOR: Born 1914 in London, U.K.. Undertook the study, translation and popular dissemination in Great Britain of Japanese culture and Zen philosophy.

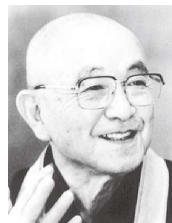


The 23rd BUNKA-SHO (1989)

(B) MAEDA, JOSAKU: Born 1926 in Toyama prefecture. Opened up a new field of Buddhist Art, through the depiction of the spirit and realm of Mandara.



(B) OSUGA, HATSUZO: Born 1923 in Nagano prefecture. Recognized for his business management based on the spirit of Buddhism and his establishment of Ibaraki Human Center.



(C) MATSUBARA, TAIDO: Born 1907 in Tokyo. Pushed forward the propagation of supradenominational / sectarian Buddhism to the general public, as the leader of NAMU-NO-KAI.



(KORO-SHO) KATAYAMA, NIKKAN: Born 1899 in Hyogo prefecture. Applied himself to the restoration of Omosu Honmon-ji Temple and the spread of the Dharma Protection Movement of Nichiren school.



(KORO-SHO) KOBAYASHI, YOS0JI: Born 1913 in Toyama prefecture. Contributed to the nurturing of religious faith through the continuation of the television programming on the Nihon Television Network "Hour of Religion."



(KORO-SHO) NISHIMURA, SHICHIBEI: Born 1907 in Kyoto prefecture. Inherited a family business devoted to the publication of Buddhist books and brought out many fine works.



(KORO-SHO) HONDA, GENSHO: Born 1915 in Hyogo prefecture. Foremost authority of Tendai chanting, strived for its transmission and nurturing of its successors.



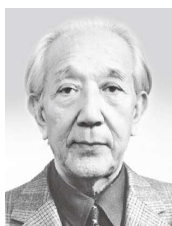
The 22nd BUNKA-SHO (1988)

(A) KATSUMATA, SHUNKYO: Born 1909 in Niigata prefecture. Authority on Yogacara thought and Esoteric Buddhism who was active as head of Buzan sect of the Singon school in both research and the propagation of Buddhism.



The 24th BUNKA-SHO (1990)

(A) INADA, KENNETH K: Born 1923 in Hawaii, U.S.A.. Professor of Buddhist Philosophy at the State University of New York at Buf-falo, and has devoted himself to the publication of books on Buddhist philosophy and the internationalization of Buddhism.



(B) MORIYA, TADASHI: Born 1912 in Gifu prefecture. Utilizing the techniques of traditional Japanese painting, he devoted his energies to the production of numerous outstanding Buddhism paintings and temple adornments.



(C) YONEZAWA, HIDEO: Born 1909 in Fukui prefecture. Devoted himself to writing Buddhist literature and delivering lectures while pursuing his profession as a M.D.



(KORO-SHO)

HIKATA, RYUSHO: Born 1892 in Fukui prefecture. Devoted himself to research of Jataka literature and the edition and revision of the Sanskrit text of the Suvikrantavikramipariprccha.



(KORO-SHO)

DHARMASAKTI, SANYA: Born 1907 in Bangkok, Thailand. Now serves as the president of the World Fellowship of Buddhists and has contributed to the spreading of Buddhism on an international scale.



The 25th BUNKA-SHO (1991)

(A) TAKEUCHI, YOSHINORI: Born 1913 in Mie prefecture. Devoted himself to research on the religious philosophy of Shinran's thought, and introduced Buddhist thought to the West.



(B) SAKAMURA, SHINMIN: Born 1909 in Kumamoto prefecture. Wrote poems which show the essence of Buddhism in daily life, and thus provided spiritual support to people.



(KORO-SHO) SATO, MITSUO: Born 1901 in Toyama prefecture. Clarified various aspects of the Sangha of Early Buddhism through the study of Buddhist precepts.



The 26th BUNKA-SHO (1992)

(B) NISHIKIDO, SHINKAN: Born 1908 in Ibaraki prefecture. For over forty years, he devoted him-self to the sculpturing of many statues of Buddha as objects of worship.



(KORO-SHO) DOI, MASA HARU: Born 1894 in Hyogo prefecture. As president of Bukkyo Gakujutsu Sinko-kai (The Foundation of the Advancement of Buddhist Academic Studies) he contributed to the publication of the index Tripitaka.



The 27th BUNKA-SHO (1993)

(A) YANAGIDA, SEIZAN: Born 1922 in Shiga prefecture. Authority in the studies of the history of early Zen sect in China, he translated and introduced many analects of Zen masters.



(C) KO, SHIMEI: Born 1932 in Yamaguchi prefecture. Novelist. Through novels based on the teaching of St. Shinran, he gave many young people the hope to live.



The 28th BUNKA-SHO (1994)

(A) MAKITA, TAIRYO: Born 1912 in Shiga prefecture. Attained excellent academic results in the study of modern Buddhist history in China and in the study of sutras whose origins are not certain.



(B) ENOMOTO, EIICHI: Born 1903 in Hyogo prefecture. Wrote poems which are simple and clear convey, the essence of Buddhism for 30 years after the age of 60.



The 29th BUNKA-SHO (1995)

(B) IIDA, RIGYO: Born 1911 in Gunma prefecture. Great authority on phonology, he introduced worldwide the achievements of Ryokan, Soseki, Shiki, and Yaritu Sozai.

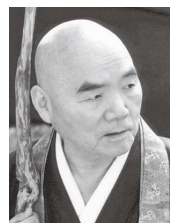


(KORO-SHO) SAKAI, YUSAI: Born 1926 in Osaka. Twice completed Kaiho-gyo (rigorous 1,000 day religious marathon) on Mt. Hiei and made a deep impression on many people.



The 30th BUNKA-SHO (1996)

(A) MIYASAKA, YUSHO: Born 1921 in Nagano prefecture. Conducted in-depth study of Buddhism, especially Esoteric Buddhism. Through his lectures and writings, he helped many people to understand Buddhism.

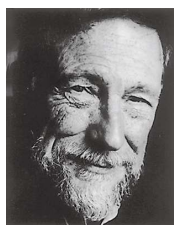


(KORO-SHO) SASAKI, JOSHU: Born 1907 in Miyagi prefecture. Moved to the United States. Over many years, he transmitted Zen Buddhism to Americans and trained disciples. He is the founder of the Joshu Zen Center and the Rinza Temple in America.



The 31st BUNKA-SHO (1997)

(A) MIZUNO, YAOKO: Born 1921 in Tokyo. Rendered distinguished service by preparing detailed annotations on the very difficult writings of Zen Master Dogen and translating them into modern Japanese.



The 32nd BUNKA-SHO (1998)

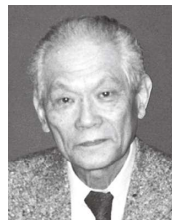
(B) SNYDER, GARY: Born 1930 in San Francisco, U.S.A.. For the great achievement of conveying to the people in the West the essence of Zen and Nature poeticized in his poems.



(KORO-SHO) SATO, HIDEO: Born 1907 in Hiroshima prefecture. Seeking to transmit Mahayana Buddhist teachings, he propagated the essence of Buddhism to many people.



(C) INOUE, SHINICHI: Born 1918 in Kumamoto prefecture. For distinguished service putting Buddhism into practice as a lay Buddhist and also as economist.



The 37th BUNKA-SHO (2003)

(A) UEDA, SHIZUTERU: Born 1926 in Tokyo. Studied Buddhist thought with a background of German mysticism, religion, philosophy, etc. Promoted cultural exchange between the East and the West.



The 33rd BUNKA-SHO (1999)

(A) KUSUNOKI, KYO: Born 1915 in Toyama prefecture. Clarified the meaning of "myokonin" and its relative importance. In daily life, he demonstrated living Buddhism.



(B) YOKOMICHI, MARIO: Born 1916 in Tokyo. World renown researcher of Buddhist music. Made outstanding contribution of systematically combining Buddhist music with religious services which led to appreciation of Buddhist music.



(C) BLOOM, ALFRED: Born 1926 in Philadelphia, U.S.A.. With Shinranism as the core teaching, he acted as intermediary between the East and the West.



(KORO-SHO) YOSHIDA, KYUICHI: Born 1915 in Niigata prefecture. Distinguished himself by research in modern Buddhist history after the Meiji Period, and lecturing on impact of role and history of Buddhism on social welfare.



The 34th BUNKA-SHO (2000)

(A) KUMOI, SHOZEN: Born 1915 in Osaka prefecture. Specializing in early Buddhist texts, he published a Pali Buddhist dictionary. Contributed greatly to research done by subsequent generations.



The 38th BUNKA-SHO (2004)

(B) ITSUKI, HIROYUKI: Born 1932 in Fukuoka prefecture. Using his writings, television and lectures, he attracted many people to Buddhism.



(KORO-SHO) ABE, MASAO: Born 1915 in Osaka. For decades, well published author of many Buddhist texts in English. Highly respected leader of Buddhist-Christian dialogue in Europe and U.S.A..



(C) SHIMANO, EIDO: Born 1932 in Tokyo. Establishing the Dai Bosatsu Zendo in New York, he taught and spread Zen teaching among Americans.



The 35th BUNKA-SHO (2001)

(C) TAKESHITA, SATORU: Born 1923 in Nagasaki prefecture. As TV personality, lecturer, and writer of books and magazine articles, he propagated Buddhism widely, using simple language.



The 39th BUNKA-SHO (2005)

(A) SCHMITHAUSEN, LAMBERT: Born 1939 in Cologne, Germany. Familiar with various languages, he had many academic accomplishments regarding Alaya-vijbana and on the relationship between Buddhism and nature.



The 36th BUNKA-SHO (2002)

(A) TAMURA, ENCHO: Born 1917 in Nara prefecture. Internationally recognized through his research and writings on development of Pure Land thought, the biography of Honen Shonin and the history of Buddhism between Japan and Korea.



(C) NODA, FUSETSU: Born 1921 in Aichi prefecture. Engaged in issues of young people for many years. After retiring, he began teaching Buddhism to the common people in easily understood words.



(KORO-SHO) MAYEDA, EGAKU: Born 1926 in Nagoya. Contributed to the development of philological and historical studies in Early Buddhism, and developed the inter-disciplinary studies of Buddhist culture in Pali.



The 40th BUNKA-SHO (2006)

(A) UNNO, TAITETSU: Born 1929 in Kitakyushu. Widely recognized for his research on Pure Land thought from the standpoint of Comparative Religion, and his nurturing of young Buddhist scholars overseas.



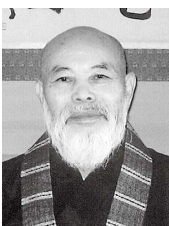
(KORO-SHO)

AOYAMA, SHUNDO: Born 1933 in Aichi prefecture. Nun who has provided leadership to other nuns and opportunity for many women to encounter the Buddha Dharma through writings and talks.



The 41st BUNKA-SHO (2007)

(B) ERI, KOUKEI & SAYOKO: Koukei (born 1943 in Kyoto) creates Buddhist statues and Sayoko (born 1945 in Kyoto prefecture) gilds them with gold leaf. Creating many pieces together, they have contributed greatly toward the advancement of Buddhist arts.



(C) HAYASHI, GYOU: Born 1923 in Hokkaido. Through his example of following the spirit of traditional Buddhist practice of receiving alms, he has guided many people to a Dharma-based lifestyle.



The 42nd BUNKA-SHO (2008)

(A) RUCH, BARBARA: Born 1932 in Philadelphia, U.S.A.. Initiated and now directs efforts for the unprecedented excavation, investigation, and research on the culture of Japanese Imperial Convents.



(C) NODA, DAITO: Born 1946 in Kagawa prefecture. Established a training hall for truant youths and endeavored for their rehabilitation through Buddhism.



The 43rd BUNKA-SHO (2009)

(A) NARA, YASUAKI: Born 1929 in Chiba prefecture. Contributed to the advancement of research on the history of Indian religious culture.



(KORO-SHO) INAGAKI, HISAO: Born 1929 in Kobe. Recognized for his English translations of Buddhist sutras and the creation of "A Dictionary of Japanese Buddhist Terms."



The 44th BUNKA-SHO (2010)

(A) SAKUMA, KENICHI: Born 1921 in Kyoto prefecture. Painted renowned "Gassho-Doji" (Children Praying in Gassho) Series sharing the message of the Buddha's compassion.



(KORO-SHO) ASUKA, KANRITSU: Born 1915 in Toyama prefecture. Has devoted his life to the research and promoting of Buddhist music.



The 45th BUNKA-SHO (2011)

(A) SHIGARAKI, TAKAMARO: Born 1926 in Hiroshima. Spent his career studying Pure Land Buddhism and clarified a contemporary meaning of Buddhism through looking into Shinran's thought from a modern perspective.



(C) ARIYARATNE, TUDOR AHANGAMAGE: Born 1931 in Calle District, Sri Lanka. Founded and developed the worldwide Sarvodaya movement whose activities are based on Buddhist philosophy for the cultivation and advancement of agrarian communities.



Commencing with nominations for the 46th BUKKYO DENDO BUNKA-SHO, we have reorganized the basic award qualifications and removed the three categories for the cultural award. The new basic purpose of this award has been redefined to recognize individuals or organizations which have made significant contributions over an extended period of time in the promotion of the Buddhist spirit, culture and research.

Additionally, BDK has initiated a new award to be called the Numata Innovation & Visionary Award which will be presented to an up and coming Buddhist leader, cleric or visionary who has shown innovation and promise in the promotion of the spirit of Buddhism.



The 46th BUNKA-SHO(2012)

(BUNKA-SHO) NISHIRAI, TAKEHARU: Born 1924 in Sapporo. A pioneer in establishing a Buddhist telephone counseling service and taking an active role in commenting on Japanese medical issues from a Buddhist perspective.



(SHOREI-SHO) SHIRATATE, KAIUN: Born 1942 in Tibet. Introduced Tibetan Buddhism and its culture to Japan, and has endeavored to promote academic exchanges between India and China with Japan.



(SHOREI-SHO) GENYU, SOKYU: Born 1956 in Fukushima prefecture. An Akutagawa prize-winning author of Buddhist related works and has devoted his efforts to assisting in the rebuilding after the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.



The 47th BUNKA-SHO(2013)

(BUNKA-SHO) TAYAMA HOONKAI: Contributed to the development of social welfare and activities and continues to lead the Buddhist lecture series at the Hiroshima Red Cross Hospital and the Atomic Bomb Survivors Hospital.



(SHOREI-SHO) NAGAKURA, NORIHIRO: Born 1953 in Kagoshima prefecture. Enlarging the scope of “Vihara” activities, based on the teaching of the Buddha, through direct dialogue with terminal patients in the hospital.



The 48th BUNKA-SHO(2014)

(BUNKA-SHO) WATANABE, HOYO: Born 1932 in Tokyo. Made a great contribution in the research of the Heart Sutra and Nichiren doctrine. Devoted to the education and development of tomorrow's citizens as president of Rissho University.



(SHOREI-SHO) DUCOR, JEROME: Born 1954 in Geneva, Switzerland. Belongs to the Swiss Shingyo-ji Temple of the Shin Buddhist tradition. Promotes Buddhism in Europe through the translation and dissemination of Buddhist texts in French.



The 49th BUNKA-SHO(2015)

(BUNKA-SHO) KANAMITSU, TOSHIO: Born 1927 in Okayama. Promoted Buddhism for many people as a director of NHK, Japan Broadcasting Corp. and introduced Buddhists from rural areas in Japan.



(SHOREI-SHO) BIHARA MEDICAL GROUP: Developed the relationship between medical care and Buddhism. Organized workshops and promoted Buddhist teachings for terminal care.



The 50th BUNKA-SHO(2016)

(BUNKA-SHO) ISHIGAMI, ZENNO: Born 1929 in Hokkaido. An authority on the research about Indian narratives and Jodo sutras. Achievement of spreading knowledge of Buddhist culture around the world through broadcasts, lectures, and writings for decades.



(SHOREI-SHO) MATSUSHITA, ISAO: Born 1951 in Tokyo. A pioneer of modern music that fuses oriental compositions, Japanese traditional performing arts and chanting of Buddhist hymns.



The 51st BUNKA-SHO(2017)

(BUNKA-SHO) ISHIMURE, MICHIKO: Born 1927 in Kumamoto. Published Japanese book “Suffering Ocean of Pure Land” and introduced the problem of civilizational Minamata disease to the world in terms of Pure Land Buddhism.



(SHOREI-SHO) SHAKU, TESSHU: Born 1961 in Osaka prefecture. Recognized for his non-sectarian and welfare Buddhist promotional activities and introduction of Buddhist teachings through media such as television and radio.



The 52nd BUNKA-SHO(2018)

(BUNKA-SHO) NISHIMURA, ESHIN: Born in 1933 in Shiga prefecture. Recognized for his contribution to the research and propagation of the Zen spirit and culture in Japan and overseas for a long time in an easy-to-understand way.



(SHOREI-SHO) MIURA, JYUN: Born 1958 in Kyoto. Driving force behind the boom of Buddhist statues. He created some Buddhist vogue words and contributed to the transmission of the Buddhist spirit to the younger generation.



The 53rd BUNKA-SHO(2019)

(BUNKA-SHO) FUJITA, TETSUBUN: Born 1941 in Osaka. Advocated the sociality of Buddhist faith and published many books on Buddhist promotion. Held Dharma talk gatherings all over Japan and guided many people to the Buddhist path.



(SHOREI-SHO) MORIMURA, SHINHO:
Born 1956 in Changchun, China. Researched Shinran's thoughts and translated the "Kyogyoshinsho" into Chinese for publication. Expected to further develop Buddhist activities such as lectures for the public.



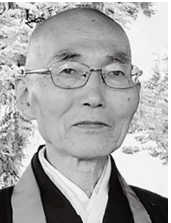
The 54th BUNKA-SHO(2020)

(BUNKA-SHO) MAYEDA, SENGAKU:
Born 1931 in Nagoya. Contributed to the development of researchers' resources and the Nakamura Hajime Eastern Institute and the Japanese Association of Indian and Buddhist Studies, for which he served as president.



The 55th BUNKA-SHO(2021)

(BUNKA-SHO) OGAWA, ICHIO:
Born 1936 in Hokkaido. He has studied the fundamental ideas of Indian Buddhism for many years, and has devoted himself to preaching Buddhism. In addition, he actively spoke on the issue of organ transplantation in the National Diet from the perspective of the spirit of Buddhism.

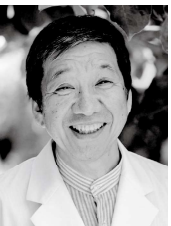


(SHOREI-SHO) TAKAOKA, SHUCHO:
Born 1943 in Nagoya. He has accepted and supported people from abroad at his temple under the philosophy of "Tomonikiru (Living Together)." Moreover, he has contributed to the protection of cultural properties including sutras in Sanskrit and ritual ceremonies.



The 56th BUNKA-SHO(2022)

(BUNKA-SHO) TANAKA, SHOTOKU:
Born 1931 in Kanagawa prefecture. Has composed numerous Buddhist anthems for over half of a century. Moreover, he has dedicated himself as head priest to Sensoji, where a lot of tourists visit from all over the world.



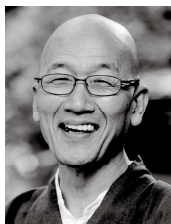
(SHOREI-SHO) TODAIJI WELFARE CORPORATION: established 1955 in Nara prefecture.

Based on traditions of Nara Buddhism and the "Avatamsaka Sutra (Kegon-kyo)," it has supported children with intractable diseases and their parents.

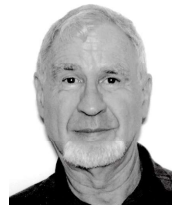


The 57th BUNKA-SHO(2023)

(BUNKA-SHO) IMAEDA, YOSHIRO:
Born 1947 in Aichi prefecture. Has produced significant research results for Tibet and Bhutan in the area of historical philology in the French National Centre for Scientific Research. He has devoted himself to being in the forefront of Buddhist studies.



(SHOREI-SHO) FUJITA, ISSHO:
Born 1954 in Ehime prefecture. Through experience as a master teaching Zen in America, he has promoted Zen Buddhism to modern people in English. In addition, he has instructed Zen practice beyond denominations. He is expected to be a leader of Japanese Buddhism.



The 58th BUNKA-SHO(2024)

(BUNKA-SHO) PAUL, GRONER:
Born 1946 in California, the U.S.A. Has devoted himself to study Japanese Buddhism and its culture for a long time. Through his research activity, he has introduced Japanese Buddhism to many countries in English.



(SHOREI-SHO) YOSHIMIZU, GAKUGEN: Born 1978 in Tokyo.

His temple's religious social activity, such as nighttime activities to support people living on the streets is based on the teaching of compassion, and enjoys a high reputation.



The 59th BUNKA-SHO(2025)

(BUNKA-SHO) KONO, TAITSU:
Born 1930 in Oita prefecture. Has devoted himself to war memorial services, humanitarian aid, and disaster recovery, embodying the spirit of Buddhism through exchanges with various Asian countries.



(SHOREI-SHO) OYA, RYOSEI:
Born 1961 in Ishikawa prefecture. Has been engaged in building inclusive communities that transcend disabilities, generations, and nationalities, and has developed a wide range of welfare services.

