

50th Anniversary
Special Issue

Michi - The Path -

BUKKYO DENDO KYOKAI Society for the Promotion of Buddhism

Michi

— The Path —

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Society for the Promotion of Buddhism

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50th Anniversary
Special Issue

The Door to the Future, Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) Celebrates 50th Anniversary

In 1965, Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) was established by the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata, the founder of Mitutoyo Corporation, the world's leading company manufacturing precision measuring machines and instruments. His fervent wish was to spread the teachings of Buddha throughout the world. From that time on, BDK has diligently been translating and distributing "The Teaching of Buddha" with the support and cooperation of like-minded individuals and organizations. Mitutoyo celebrated its 80th anniversary in 2014.

BDK has set the ultimate goal of propagating Buddhist wisdom found in the basics of Japanese culture by sponsoring a wide range of cultural activities and academic programs.

Wars and terrorism continue in today's world and people are fighting over different religions, races, ideologies and so on. They have taken away many innocent lives and it is hard to imagine the follies that we human beings can commit.

We need to go one more step forward in this difficult time and speak loudly about the spirit of compassion and symbiosis, which are the basics of Buddha's wisdom. BDK must make contributions toward a more peaceful world in this special year, and I truly appreciate your generous understanding and continued support of BDK activities.

With Gassho,



Toshihide Numata,
Chairman

Celebrating 50 years: Appreciation for Mitutoyo Corporation



As we celebrate our 50th anniversary, we realize that BDK could not come this far without the great support from the Mitutoyo Corporation, and we

would like to take a moment to remind ourselves of the basic Mitutoyo philosophy and the relationship it has had with BDK for decades.

Mitutoyo set its management philosophy when the founder, the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata, originally started the business in Japan. It was and always will be the essential starting point for the corporation. "The Mitutoyo Philosophy" is presented in the official Mitutoyo website, and all

employees can always reply on it.

- (1) To contribute to people's welfare through support of the advancement of Buddhist understanding.
- (2) To see that Mitutoyo excels in its field of expertise and in its business conduct throughout the world

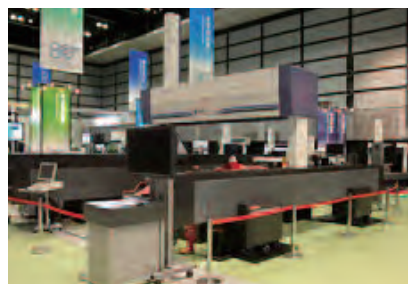
This philosophy is basic to Mitutoyo's management principles of "contributing to the well-being of society through precision measurement technologies."

Mitutoyo Celebrates 80th Anniversary: Mitutoyo Exhibition, "Japanese Quality by Mitutoyo" with a special display about BDK

Mitutoyo held a special event in April, 2014 to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the foundation of the Japanese company that specializes in measuring instruments and metrological technology.

The 80th anniversary celebration was held in Ota-ku Sangyo Plaza Pio, Tokyo under the theme "Japanese Quality by Mitutoyo." The event showed Mitutoyo's contribution in the field of precision measurement and also highlighted some of its new products, as the company sets its sights on its 100th anniversary.

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) was



also featured with a special display that introduced its activities and the relationship between "Business and

Buddhism" with explanations about how business terms in Japanese are deeply related to the basics of

Buddhist thought.

In October, BDK was featured in another Mitutoyo anniversary exhibition in Hiroshima, and many visitors stopped by the BDK display and

showed an interest in the ideas about “Business and Buddhism.”

We also distributed the following:
“Toyo Keizai” offprint leaflet: 5,300 copies

“Ayumi” BDK’s introductory brochure: 5,300 copies

“The Teaching of Buddha” 200 copies
“The Wisdom of Buddhism in Bukkyo-no-Himitsu” Manga: 300 copies

“Sosensai” Service in Mitutoyo

Mitutoyo / BDK Founder, the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata, started a “Sosensai” service in Mitutoyo. All the Mitutoyo branches have held the service

once a month to express appreciation for family members who already have passed away.



The late Rev. Dr. Numata said the following in “My Path,” which is a transcript from the Buddhist Culture Lecture Series at Sensoji Temple, October, 1975.

—“When I started my business, Japan was in an acute depression. The world was drifting into the wild tide of eroticism, grotesque exhibitionism and nonsense. Even serious young workers from the countryside were tempted to follow easy going and sometimes foolish ways. They often forgot their parents back home and their original intentions for coming to the big city. I remembered the peacefulness of mind that I had when I sat in that basement room facing the paper my father had handwritten for

me. I made a place in my factory where the workers could assemble with the spirits of their ancestors. The workers could burn incense in memory of a lost one, especially when the worker could not be with his loved ones. I had hoped that the burning of incense and the recitation of “Namu Amida Butsu” or a moment of meditation would bring comfort and peace to my workers, just as I had felt comforted when I was in America. The beneficial effects of this rite came to increase gradually. The employees’ faces became peaceful, and the number of people who quit decreased. Manufacturing micrometers is a very precise task, so a worker could easily omit some necessary but tiresome

step if he/she wanted to. It is difficult to detect such careless work. Such careless and lazy workers would be the cause for losing public confidence and gaining a bad reputation for our products. Through this ancestral rite, I could succeed not only in reforming some bad characters but also in assuring the value and achievement of my products.’ I believed that the makings of fine personal characters and fine products are the same.” (pg. 13 – pg.15, “My Path”)

Rev. Toshihide Numata, Mitutoyo advisor (current BDK chairman), has followed the will of the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata and kept the great tradition. He has visited each Mitutoyo branch office all over the country and participated in “Sosensai” services every month.

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|| BDK Publications

BDK English Tripiṭaka



BDK 50th Anniversary Special Interview with Dr. Sengaku Mayeda

Interviewer & Photography: Kaoru Eguchi, BDK

Location: the Editorial Room for the English Tripiṭaka, BDK Center Building

As BDK marked the 50th anniversary year of its establishment in 2015, we took a moment to focus on the “BDK English Tripiṭaka,” one of our most important projects since 1982. Some people might have heard about the ‘English Tripiṭaka’ before, however we

believe that many people still do not know what it exactly is. We had a great opportunity to interview Dr. Sengaku Mayeda, the chairman of the editorial committee, and we asked him some questions about the “BDK English Tripiṭaka” project.

Special Thanks to the BDK English Tripiṭaka editorial team for their cooperation with the interview: Dr. Kenneth Tanaka, Dr. Shogo Watanabe, and Mr. Yoshiyasu Yonezawa

Q What is the ‘English Tripiṭaka’?

What is the ‘English Tripiṭaka’?

I think there are two big questions that come up at first. 1) Since we call it the ‘English Tripiṭaka’, “what language is it being translated from?” 2) “What is Tripiṭaka?” in the first place?

It is being translated from Kanbun, classical Chinese, into English, and the texts are originally from the “Chinese Mahayana Tripiṭaka.” The same question about the translation can be asked about the Chinese Tripiṭaka: what language was it translated from? It was mostly from Sanskrit, that is, classical Indian or hybrid Sanskrit. Those languages belong to the same linguistic family as English and German.

I know this is not enough of an explanation for everyone, so I will try to give you more detail. Some Japanese people are familiar with some Sanskrit cognates. For example, “Terebi tou,” or TV tower in Japanese, is related to the Sanskrit word, stūpa. ‘Tou’ in Japanese means ‘tower’ in English, and ‘tower’ means ‘stūpa’ in Sanskrit. We can find a lot of words such as this in our daily life in Japan.

Well, now let us go back to the question of the Tripiṭaka: “who transmitted the Sanskrit sutras?” The answer is Xuanzang (602-664), who was the model for the character Sanzo-Hoshi in “Saiyuki, A Journey to the West (also called Monkey),” a popular

Chinese novel describing Xuanzang’s travels to India with his companions. ‘San’ means three and ‘Zo’ means a storehouse of sutras in Japanese. He is mainly referred to as “Tang Sanzang” in the novel. His name refers to his mission of seeking the “Three Collections of (Buddhist) Scriptures.” In some English translations of Journey to the West, his name is rendered as “Tripiṭaka.” He brought so many sutras and scriptures back to China, and the Chinese government built a translation center after he returned and supported his translation project. ‘Tripiṭaka’ refers to all of this.

When I was younger, I was once a member/judge of a committee for scientific research funds sponsored by the Japanese government. At one of



Dr. Tanaka, Dr. Mayeda, Mr. Yonezawa and Dr. Watanabe (from left to right)

the meetings, some government officers from the Ministry of Education and Culture at the time kept misreading Tripiṭaka. I did not even notice what he was talking about at first. In Japanese, Tripiṭaka is read as ‘Daizokyo,’ but the officer was calling it ‘Okurakyo.’ ‘Daizo’ can also be read ‘Okura’... but I was extremely surprised that they had no idea what the Tripiṭaka was about; they did not even notice that they misread it! I realized, then, that BDK’s Tripiṭaka project was important in our long history but that it was not known very well at the same time.

And now, I am going to talk about OUR Tripiṭaka project. It is based on the Taishō Tripiṭaka, and let me explain a little about it. This is a major masterpiece that Dr. Junjiro Takakusu (1866-1945) and Dr. Kaikyoku Watanabe (1872-1933) had spent ten years to compile. The compilation is

based on the ‘Tripiṭaka Koreana,’ which is now registered as one of the World Heritages and is highly valued in the field of Buddhist studies. Now we have been translating this masterpiece into English and digitizing it furthermore. I hope you now have a better understanding of what we have been doing and how important and significant our project is.

I still remember an article in The Nikkei, a leading Japanese newspaper about economics (July 6, 1985), in which Dr. Hajime Nakamura (1912-1999) explained how aspects of Asian people’s thinking are based on Buddhist spirituality. The Tripiṭaka project could be an effective way to help people from the West to understand the Asian way of thinking. Buddhist ideas are hard to translate into English; however, it might be a good first step in clearing up any misunderstandings based on stereotypical

images people have of Japan.

Q I see. That is why the BDK Tripiṭaka project is magnificent and influential among scholars of Buddhist studies as well as historians all over the world. So, could you tell us about the history of the project and the editorial committee to date? And why do we need an ‘English’ Tripiṭaka?

I remember clearly that the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata, the founder of BDK, was the first person who conceived of and planned this magnificent project. The first chairman of the editorial committee was my classmate at Tokyo University, Rev. Dr. Shoyu Hanayama (1931-1995). It was very sad that he passed away at the age of 63 in 1995. We cannot ask him about those early days, but I will try to tell you about the history as I know them.



BDK JAPAN NEWS 2014

"It is my greatest wish...to make the translations available to the many English-speaking people who have never had the opportunity to learn about the Buddha's teachings." — Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata

Dr. Numata had "The Teaching of Buddha (TTOB)" translated into as many languages as possible and widely disseminated throughout the world at the time, but he was not satisfied with the great success of the TTOB project. He came up with the idea of translating the Buddhist sutras themselves, which was the source of TTOB. It was such a grand idea!

Buddhists in China translated the teachings of Buddha into Chinese from Indian Sanskrit, and monks in Tibet created the Tibetan version of the Tripitaka. However in Japan, we did not try to translate it into Japanese from Chinese. We do have versions in which the Chinese characters are annotated with Japanese pronunciations. We did not imagine that we were going to translate it into English and not into Japanese.

Dr. Hanayama talked about this project in The Nikkei (July 6, 1985), and he said that he did not even take it seriously when he first heard the idea from Dr. Numata. There is no Japanese version of the Tripitaka. He had no idea where to start at first.

However, Dr. Numata officially established the 'Translation Committee of the English Tripitaka' in 1982 shortly after he talked about his plan to Dr.

Hanayama. The Committee selected 139 major texts from India, China, and Japan for the first series. An international community of nearly 100 top Buddhist scholars, from the United States, Japan, India, China, France, Germany, Belgium, and Canada, has been involved in the translation work. When the first series of texts is translated and published, the Committee will select and assign texts for the second series, continuing in this way until the entire Taishō Tripitaka is completed. It has been estimated that it will take a hundred years or more to translate and publish the entire canon, and that eventually it will be compiled into a thousand volumes.

At the time we started, we usually came to the BDK office twice a week, and some members were working three times a week. We planned to complete the first series by the end of the 20th century. We selected young, promising scholars for such a long-term plan, however, some of them unexpectedly passed away, and the plan was just a plan. When Dr. Hanayama first asked me to join the committee, I felt I should accept it since he had asked me. Time flies so fast, and it has already been thirty years since we had that conversation.

The project has begun to fulfill Dr. Numata's dream of introducing the largely unexplored Chinese Mahayana Tripitaka throughout the English-speaking world. It was just a simple wish without any academic purpose. To be read by many people throughout the world, it had to be

translated into a language like English. Dr. Numata wanted everyone, not only scholars in the field, to be able to read it. In order to facilitate this prodigious project, the Publication Committee was established at the Numata Center for Translation and Research in Berkeley, California in the United States in 1991.

The Publication Committee in Berkeley is like a twin brother to the Editorial Committee in Tokyo. However we had complaints from them that some of our translation works were not good enough to be published in the U. S. We had a hard time understanding each other's way of thinking, but both of us still exist like a family until today. Moreover, I have been surrounded by three competent scholars like Dr. Kenneth Tanaka, Dr. Shogo Watanabe, and Mr. Yoshiyasu Yonezawa, and without their great help, I would not have been able to chair this committee. I truly appreciate them.

Translation works are not usually recognized as academic research. It takes time, and I know it does not pay well either. Therefore, we have had a hard time recruiting scholars as competent as our team members who have remained on the committee.

In translating Buddhist texts into a language that most people in the world speak, it is important to note that Buddhism has a variety of different schools and sects. It is hard enough to present the magnificent

accomplishments of even one school, but Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) is a nondenominational “Public Interest Incorporated Foundation,” and therefore can represent and work for all schools.

As we have started making available the BDK Tripiṭaka Translation Series in collaboration with the SAT Daizōkyō text database project, you can not only browse the English translations online but also consult the original Chinese texts and the Digital Dictionary of Buddhism, along with a range of other resources. For Japanese speakers, the Tripiṭaka might be familiar, but for English speakers, this will surely help a lot of people learn more about the basic ideas of Buddhism.

Q Thank you very much for sharing the stories of your experience. For the last question,

let me ask, what is the ‘English Tripiṭaka’ to you? And what do you think about the future plan for this project?

As I told you earlier, the ‘English Tripiṭaka’ is an English version of a major cultural heritage in history. We have seen and heard many sad and cruel scenes from the events in today’s world. I believe that the Buddhist spirit of compassion will help people let go of hatred. I know it is difficult to accomplish, however, I would like to make a fresh resolve and prepare for more publications in this 50th anniversary year of BDK.

Dr. Tanaka was telling us that these days there are more opportunities to use Buddhist texts in religious studies classes at universities in the U.S. ‘English Tripiṭaka’ texts have already been used as textbooks in classrooms at some universities. We also provide free online PDF versions as well.

Therefore, the ‘English’ Tripiṭaka is offering more opportunities for more people to learn about Buddhism. I hope our BDK ‘English Tripiṭaka’ will become the global-standard in the future. We are making every effort to complete the first stage of the project at the earliest possible time.

The gentle and sincere personality of Dr. Mayeda and the friendly committee members helped us to better understand the complexity of this monumental project. Although the project is still a difficult one to complete, their dedication to the project deeply impressed us. Dr. Mayeda strongly emphasized that point when he stated, “we will continue to maintain our resolve to keep up our work with the translations and publications into the future.” BDK truly hopes that Buddhist spirituality will be disseminated more widely through this Tripiṭaka project.

Profile Dr. Sengaku Mayeda

● Award/medal winning philosopher in Japan and other Asian countries such as China, India, Korea, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. President of Hajime Nakamura Toho-Kenkyusho, The Nakamura Hajime Eastern Institute. Also serves as a professor emeritus of Tokyo University and Musashino University. Born in Nagoya in 1931. Graduated from the University of Tokyo and the University of Pennsylvania.



The BDK English Tripiṭaka Series – Update for 2014

We have completed the 46th translation, “THE NIRVANA SUTRA, Vol. #1 [Taisho 374,]” in January 2014. We have also made the PDF versions of the English Tripiṭaka available on our official website, starting from February. You may browse 20 volumes out of 40 at the moment. BDK hopes that more English readers will have the opportunity to become familiar with the Buddhist canon and sutras. For more information about the BDK English Tripiṭaka Series, please visit the BDK official website.



BDK JAPAN NEWS 2014

01 Activity

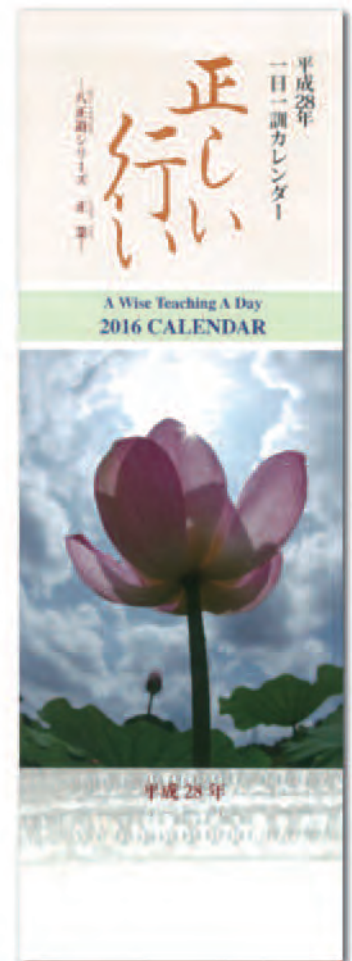
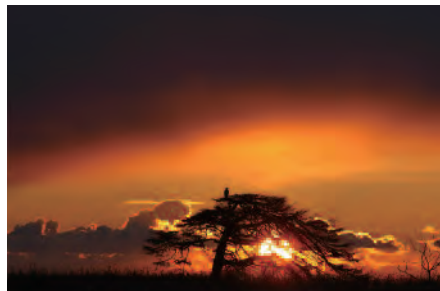
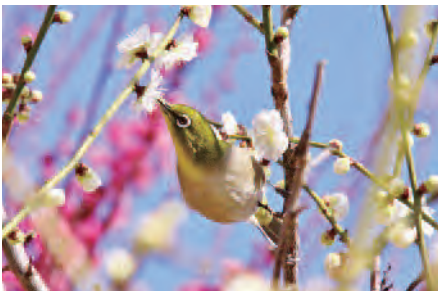
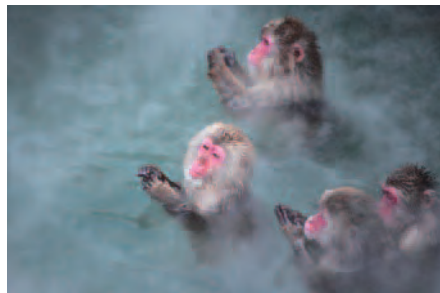
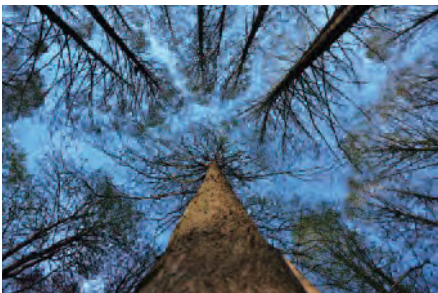
The 50th Anniversary Project: Photography Competition for BDK Calendar "A Wise Teaching A Day"

We held a photography competition for the BDK calendar, "A Wise Teaching A Day" as one of our 50th Anniversary projects. We publish this popular calendar every year, and for the 2015 version, we invited people to send in good photographs.

We received over 1400 pieces for the competition and our selection committee chose 31 of them in September 2, 2014. All of the selected pieces were also published in "Japan Camera," one of the leading Japanese magazines for photography. We were thus able to provide a great opportuni-

ty for people to feel the spirit of Buddhism through these art works.

The 50th Anniversary version of the BDK Calendar, "A Wise Teaching A Day," will be published in June 2015.



Publication of the Newest Michishirube, "Tadashii Kotoba -SHOGO"

A commentary Book for the BDK Calendar, "A Wise Teaching A Day"

We have published the newest Michishirube series, "SHOGO," as a commentary book for the 2015 BDK calendar. We have changed the designs and colors according to the "Color Universal Design." It is a user-

oriented design system, which has been developed in consideration of people with various types of color vision, to allow information to be accurately conveyed to as many individuals as possible. Our book has been officially approved by the Color Universal Design Organization. The book was written by Rev. Prof. Emeritus Eshin Nishimura from Hanazono University.

All the winning entries with their reviews can be seen in the BDK official website.



“The Teaching of Buddha” In A Hotel

Interview with Mr. Hiroshi Suzuki, Deputy General Manager
/Head of Room, Food & Beverage Division, Hotel New Otani

Location: Hotel New Otani

Interviewer & Photography: Kaoru Eguchi, BDK

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) has been distributing “The Teaching of Buddha” for the past decades as one of its major activities, and the books have been utilized in a variety of ways in today’s modern world.

Today, we are welcoming Mr. Hiroshi Suzuki, the Deputy General Manager of Hotel New Otani, to ask him about how they have been using our books for years at their hotel.

Q First of all, could you tell us the concept of Hotel New Otani and its history?

It is our hotel’s 50th anniversary year this year (in 2014). Tokyo has been officially selected for the summer Olympics in 2020 and people have spotlighted it all of a sudden. As the last Olympic Games were held in Tokyo 50 years ago, people rushed all

kinds of construction projects everywhere in Japan. The Japanese government tried to build more hotels in Tokyo to welcome more guests from all over the world to see the Olympic Games at that time, and Hotel New Otani was opened as the first “international hotel*” in Japan.

**international hotel: hotels that provide all the necessary facilities and*

minimum room sizes to meet the international standard

The founder of Hotel New Otani said that he wanted “all the hotel guests to see Mt. Fuji,” and so he put the sky view lounge on top of the hotel. We welcome guests from all over the world and try to provide all of them with comfortable rooms. For the last



few years, Japanese people started using the word, “Omotenashi,” which expresses a traditional Japanese way of hospitality, and the word was selected as one of the “2013 Buzzwords of the Year in Japan.” However, our hotel has been providing “Omotenashi” to our guests for the last fifty years. We have been trying to create a hotel atmosphere similar to a town that families as well as state guests can enjoy at the same time, but the environment surrounding the hotel has dramatically changed in the last fifty years. At the time we opened our hotel, it was called “the greatest super high rise hotel in the East.” We installed “prefabricated baths” for the first time in Japan, and it was an innovative and practical idea to build such a prominent hotel. We also have been trying to serve “the best and fresh dishes all the time.” Good food makes

people smile, no matter who they are or where they come from or what they believe in. We always strive to achieve this goal.

In the 2000s, we had to think about whether to rebuild our main building (currently called The Main) since it was 40 years old. We decided to renew it without destroying the whole building. It was clear that tearing it down and building a brand new one would cost much less than renewing it, but we chose “Eco-Friendly Renewal” for our future. We could use lots of water, gas, electricity and great food to make our guests happy, but think about it... this will result in a significant impact on our environment. Taking good care of our own environment is a great idea and we believe that “Eco-Friendly Omotenashi” will be welcomed by our guests. We

now use garbage to create compost with our 100% recycling system for growing plants in organic compost.

Q I see. Then, what is the purpose of having “The Teaching of Buddha (TTOB)” available in such a prestigious and luxurious class hotel? What has been the reaction of your hotel guests?

In a simple answer, (with a smiling face), let me say that “there is no reason to take it away.” We believe that a lot of guests need it. If we remove it, guests will surely complain. And I do know many of them are actually reading it in their rooms. About 35 percent of our guests are non-Japanese. The purpose of their visit to Japan varies, however most of them are interested in visiting temples and shrines somewhere while they are staying in Japan. People return from sightseeing with the book in their hands. Buddhism is one of the most popular religions in Japan and we have TTOB in our guest rooms as a part of our “Omotenashi.”

I think that no one likes to rush during their stay in a hotel. TTOB invites guests to stop for a moment even though they are extremely busy and have to rush, and that is important. There always will be a copy of TTOB by the bed in our hotel rooms, and therefore everyone can easily access it and use it as they wish. We have had TTOB available in all of our guest rooms since the time we started the business here. TTOB sits there as it always has been in our rooms. It is just “natural” that we include it as one of our room amenities. “There is no other thing like this book in the world.” This is our answer after 50 years and I am confident that we made the right decision.

Q Thank you so much. What do you think about the use of TTOB in the future at your hotel?

Religious liberty is guaranteed in Japan, so we do not try to persuade our guests to read it. We have been just trying to provide something our hotel guests need. We are going to have TTOB available in every room as we currently do. I heard that TTOB has been translated into a variety of languages, so we could put a different language version at our hotels in other countries.

TTOB has taken on the role of giving a “relaxing” feeling to a room. I personally believe that a religion can ease the pain and agony in people’s lives. We are not selling a hotel room as much as we are offering happiness, and we would like to provide more opportunities for our guests to understand Buddhism, one of our typical religions in Japan.

Q Lastly, do you have any new promotions and plans as we are expecting more tourists from all over the world as we move towards the year 2020 of the Tokyo Olympics?

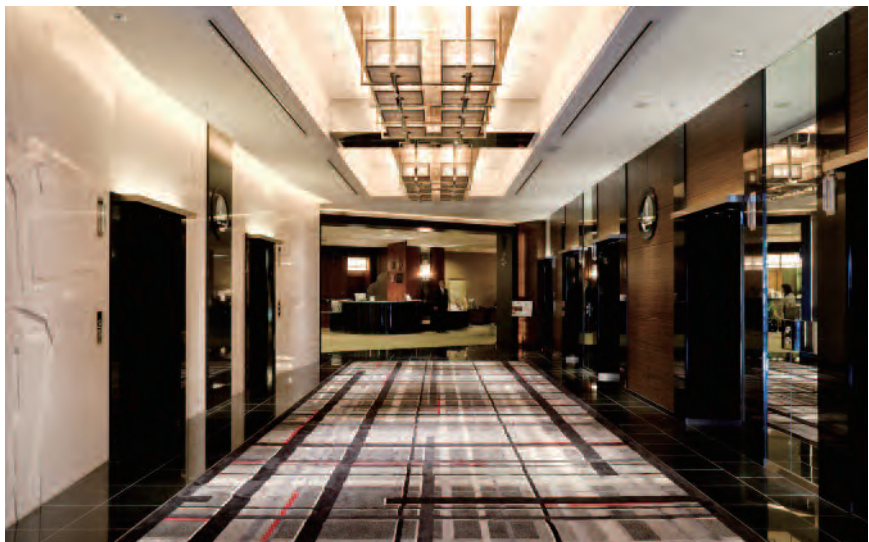
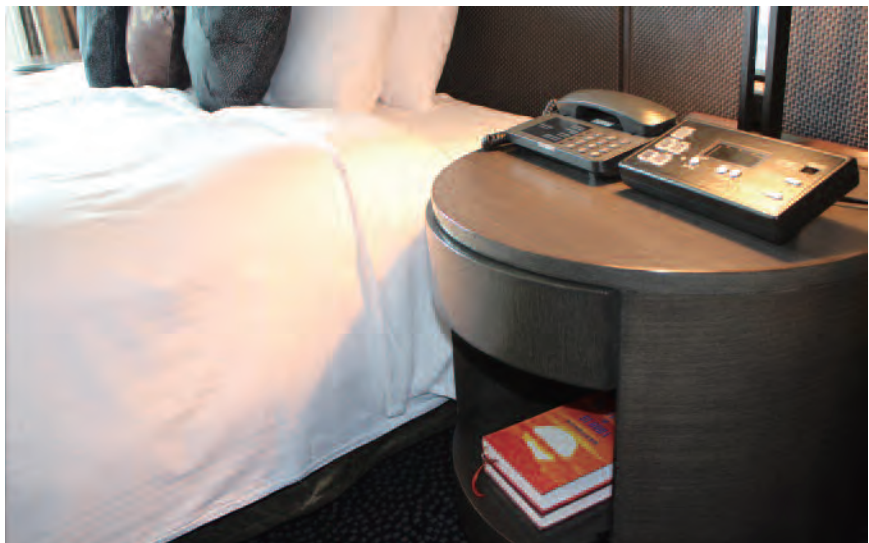
It is not only because of the Olympics, but we are expecting more guests from all over the world. Therefore, we have been trying to improve the language skills of our employees and focus on providing “Omotenashi” in a friendly way. We do not have a service manual in detail, and each employee is developing his or her own “Omotenashi” in the New Otani way. As I mentioned earlier, we do not sell a room or food or a banquet. We sell “happiness,” as our president always reminds all of us.

To date, we have distributed over 8.4 million copies of the book to over 13,000 major hotels in more than 60 countries, and the book has been translated into 46 languages. As Mr. Suzuki promised, they are going to have “The Teaching of Buddha” available in their hotel from now on as one of their “Omotenashi.” BDK will continue to distribute free copies of TTOB to hotels throughout the world. We hope all hotels will accept

our book and place it in their guest rooms. We bear the entire cost of the book distribution, including shipping. We also supply additional complimentary copies at any time upon request.

.....
If you are interested in participating in this program, please feel free to contact your nearest BDK office. We will be happy to receive requests from all over the world.

For more information about Hotel New Otani, please contact them directly as follows:
Hotel New Otani Tokyo
4-1 KIOI-CHO, CHIYODA-KU, TOKYO 102-8578, JAPAN
Tel : 81-3-3265-1111 Fax : 81-3-3221-2619
<http://www.newotani.co.jp/en/tokyo/>





BDK JAPAN NEWS 2014

02 Activity “The Teaching of Buddha” - Update for 2014

BDK has distributed over 8.6 million copies of “The Teaching of Buddha (TTOB)” in 46 different languages to date. We have focused on distributing them to educational institutions in 2014. More than 90,000 copies of the book have been distributed to about 60 percent of the Buddhist universities and other related schools in Japan.

TTOB has been a good introductory book for students to begin their study of Buddhism. “The Wisdom of Buddhism

in Japan,” a manga comic book, was also published by BDK, and it has been popular among schools overseas as well as Japanese students who live outside of Japan. Through it, students are able to learn about Japanese traditions and the Buddhist spirit.

The BDK headquarters in Tokyo, Japan has been distributing TTOB to hotels for decades, and we donated over 14,000 copies to more than 40 hotels in foreign countries such as Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Nepal

and such. For the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, we are focusing on a Portuguese version of TTOB to distribute.



In addition, our free booklet, “Buddha’s Teachings,” has been widely distributed throughout Japan. For more information about BDK publications, please visit our official website.

BDK Fellowship Programs

01 Activity BDK Fellowship for Foreign Scholars

The BDK Fellowship was established to promote international cooperation and mutual understanding in Buddhist studies, and is intended to enable researchers to engage in research on Buddhism while in Japan. The BDK Fellowship committee was established in 1991 and has selected over 60 promising

scholars up to the year 2015. Most of the recipients are active in the front lines of today’s Buddhist academic world.

The BDK Fellowship committee selected three prospective scholars for the 2014 grant. It is with great pleasure that we introduce them at this time.

Scholarship : BDK Fellowship for Foreign Scholars

Scholarship Year : 2014

Name : Anton Luis Capistrano Sevilla

Nationality : The Philippines

Affiliation : Lecturer, Faculty of Arts and Science, Kyushu University

Theme of Research : “The Dilemmas in Watsuji Tetsurô’s Ethics of Emptiness”



Message

I have always known about the BDK

through the BDK Tripitaka Translation Series. The availability of

free Buddhist documents was very helpful for me as a young researcher

from a developing country. When I had the opportunity to receive the BDK Fellowship, I was very thankful, not only for the financial assistance to complete my Ph.D. at the Graduate University of Advanced Studies, but also for the chance to play a (small) role within an organization I have always respected.

Thanks to BDK's support, I have completed and successfully defended

my dissertation entitled "Exporting the Ethics of Emptiness: Applications, Limitations, and Possibilities of Watsuji Tetsurō's Ethical System," and will be receiving my Ph.D. in March. Also, I have found employment at the Faculty of Arts and Science of Kyushu University, where I hope to continue my dharma duties both in teaching and in research.

For the next phase of my research, I am shifting my focus to a more

applied philosophy, and will examine the mutual contributions between the Buddhist-inspired philosophy of nothingness/emptiness and contemporary Philosophy of Education. Through this work, I hope I can, to a certain extent, repay my debt of gratitude to the BDK, and help in fulfilling its mission of trying to bring true peace to the world and spreading the teachings of the Buddha in a relevant way.

Scholarship : BDK Fellowship for Foreign Scholars

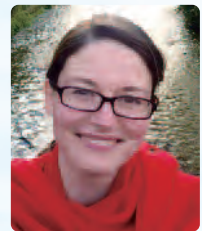
Scholarship Year : 2014

Name : Mónika Kiss

Nationality : Hungary

Affiliation : Ph.D. Candidate in the Doctoral Program of Japanese Philology at the Eötvös Lóránd University, Faculty of Humanities

Theme of Research : Changes in the Iconography of the Images of Fugen Enmei Bosatsu



Message

Already half a year has passed since I arrived in Japan last October. My goal here is to gather as much materials as I can for my future dissertation about the iconography of Fugen Enmei Bosatsu, the Bodhisattva for the Prolongation of Life, one of the many deities in the pantheon of Japanese Esoteric Buddhism.

Usually every day I go to Ōtani University and continue searching and working, and thanks to that, my research is moving forward at a fast pace. I have discovered many pictures and statues still remaining in temples and museums in Japan and abroad as

well (almost 80 in all). I am focusing not only on the old images but examining the art of Fugen Enmei Bosatsu throughout the whole history of Japanese art, from the Heian period (when it appeared first in Japan) to the modern days. These artifacts and the Esoteric scriptures of the Shingon and Tendai sects are the basis of my work. I have started to translate into English the Fugen Enmeihō and Enmeihō of the Kakuzenshō (Shingon) and the Asabashō (Tendai) with my adviser regarding Fugen Enmei Bodhisattva, the main deity of these ceremonies.

For the remainder of my time in Japan, I will try to visit as many tem-

ples as I can to examine the pictures and statues first hand. I hope that I will have enough time to get to such places as the Jikōji temple in Hiroshima prefecture or the Tateyama City Museum in Chiba prefecture. I have already seen the oldest statue, originally in the Taisanji temple in Ōita prefecture, in an exhibition that was held in Fukuoka last November.

I am very grateful to the Bukkyō Dendō Kyōkai, for giving me this opportunity. I am hoping to achieve all my goals in Japan in order to be able to write my PhD dissertation when I get back to Hungary this fall.



BDK JAPAN NEWS 2014

Scholarship : BDK Fellowship for Foreign Scholars

Scholarship Year : 2014

Name : Van Anh Thi Vo

Nationality : Vietnam

Affiliation : Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Buddhist Studies, Graduate School of Letters, Ryūkoku University

Theme of Research : A study on the formation of the theory of religious practice in the Yogācāra School



Message

Having received a BDK Fellowship for Foreign Scholars, I am not eco-

nomically bothered, so that I am able to concentrate on my studies all the time. I would like to thank deeply

everyone at BDK who have given me the rare opportunity of study. Thank you so much, BDK!

02 Activity BDK Fellowship for Japanese Scholars

Since the BDK Fellowship for Foreign Scholars was established in 1991, we have supported and contributed to the development of many foreign scholars of Buddhist studies. BDK established the Fellowship for Japanese scholars to enable worthy scholars to

engage in research on Buddhism in foreign countries. The BDK Fellowship committee selected two prospective scholars for the 2014 grant. It is with great pleasure that we introduce them at this time.

Scholarship : BDK Fellowship for Japanese Scholars

Scholarship Year : 2014

Name : Sayaka Kishi

Affiliation : Graduate Student, Doctoral Program in Philosophy, Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Tsukuba

Theme of Research : Who are Mahāyānika bodhisattvas? — A comparative study of commentaries on Mahāyāna sūtras and Yogācāra-vijñaptivāda treatises—



Message

After submitting my dissertation, I wanted to study abroad, so I applied for a BDK scholarship on the basis of a new research theme, The Mahāyānasūtrālamkāra is one of the Yogācāra treatises, and it contains many canonical citations from Mahāyāna sūtras, such as the Akṣayamatīrdeśasūtra and

Ratnakūṭasūtra. I had researched this in my dissertation, but I needed to elucidate a link between the original resources from the Yogācāra theory in the Mahāyānasūtrālamkāra and these canonical citations. In order to clarify this issue, I thought it would be best to do my research under Prof. J.A. Silk, who is a professor at Leiden University in the Netherlands.

When I received the acceptance letter from BDK, I was so grateful for being given a chance to work on my research abroad and to improve my ability to read Mahāyāna sūtras. I also thought that it must have been the hand of the Buddha.

Now, as noted above, I'm working on

the comparison between explanations in the Mahāyānasūtrālamkāra and the canonical citations as authorities of these theories. I'm convinced of the importance of analyzing both Yogācāra treatises and Mahāyāna

sūtras for figuring out the development of the history of the Mahāyāna Buddhism. Moreover, I have had great opportunities for doing my research and communicating with other academic scholars all around the

world. Thanks to the scholarship from BDK. From now, I hope to utilize my knowledge and experiences in order to promote the development of research and to make Buddhist ideas more widely available.

Scholarship : BDK Fellowship for Japanese Scholars

Scholarship Year : 2014

Name : Toshikazu Watanabe

Affiliation : Institut für Kultur- und Geistesgeschichte Asiens

Theme of Research : Acceptance of logical thought in Mahāyāna Buddhism and its development



Message

I happened to find the information about the BDK scholarship on the H-Buddhism website. At that time my previous three-year project was coming to an end and I had just come up with a new idea for the next project. So I thought it would be a good chance to implement my idea and I applied for the scholarship. I remember that when I heard about the acceptance of my application, I was very excited about carrying out my new project and, at the same time, I truly felt grateful to the people of the Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai, my teachers, colleagues, and my family for their

kind help.

I am currently studying the influence of Buddhist logic systematized by Dignāga (ca. 5 CE) on subsequent Hindu and Buddhist thinkers. By seeing the historical development of Mahāyāna Buddhism from the point of view of logical thought, it is possible to clarify the relationship between the Madhyamaka and Yogācāra schools; and to see that they are not only opposed, but also have a mutual effect on each other.

One of the requirements of this scholarship is that the recipient must be

affiliated with a foreign university or research institute. This is very helpful for me in order to create an international research network. At the next World Sanskrit Conference to be held in Bangkok I will read a paper at a panel organized by a colleague of my institute and will present the results of my new project.

I will, in the future, also deal with Chinese and Japanese Buddhism and will investigate how Buddhist logic is accepted in these cultures and how it affects their thinking in different times and places.

For more information about the scholarship program, please visit the BDK official website.



BDK Financial Aids

Activity 01 BDK Special Programs and Photography Exhibition for the Support of the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake and Tsunami –“Buddha’s Words and Views of India: Live Out Your Life”

Four years have passed since the 2011 Great Eastern Japan Earthquake and Tsunami struck Japan. Since then, BDK has been setting up financial aid and vol-

unteer programs each year. Even though time has passed, we still need to continue a variety of support to help people recover.

The great earthquake and tsunami washed everything away and took thousands of precious lives. For the year, 2014, BDK hosted a photography exhibition to use the power of art to try to ease people’s feelings of suffering. Photographs were originally taken for “Following in the Footsteps of Buddha” by Isamu Maruyama, an award winning photographer. We prepared commentaries on each work by citing the words of the late Dr. Hajime Nakamura, one of the world’s leading authorities of Buddhist Studies.

The photographs were exhibited at three locations in Iwate-prefecture, starting from September 2014. We visited Kitakami City, Miyako City, and Kamaishi City and welcomed about 5,300 people.

Following the showings in Iwate, we held an exhibition in Tokyo as well. It opened on March 10, 2014 at the Mitsuo Aida Museum inside the Tokyo International Forum. During two weeks, over 7,000 people visited the Tokyo venue and enjoyed the exhibition.

BDK also held a lecture talk show in Tokyo on March 14, 2014. We sponsored Mr. Jun Miura, a cartoonist and illustrator, and Mr. Tetsuo Nakanishi, a comedian, who made presentations on the theme of “Supporting the People of the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake and Tsunami – A Funny Buddhist Lecture.” Over 1,100 people attended the show and had an unusual opportunity to experience new aspects of Buddhism.

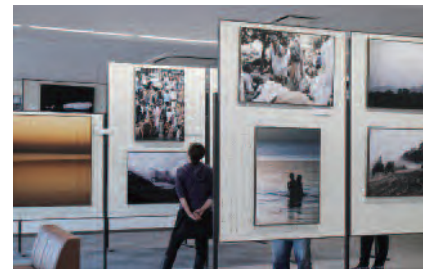
A lot of people made donations during the exhibitions and the show, and all of the proceeds were donated to the charity “Iwate-Manabi-no-Kibou-Kikin,” Iwate Hope Educational Foundation.

It is BDK’s wish that these supporting programs and contributions will help revive the well-being and happiness

of the people in the stricken area and will be a little boost to support them in the future ahead.



In Kamaishi City



In Miyako City



In Tokyo



02

Activity

The 48th BDK Cultural Awards

Starting from the year 2012, BDK established a new award besides the BUNKA-SHO, the Cultural Awards for the Promotion of Buddhism. It is called the “Numata Shorei-sho (Numata Innovation & Visionary Award),” which is given to individuals who are already exhibiting dedi-

cated service to Buddhism, and in time will become an up-and-coming contributor to the promotion of Buddhism.

The BDK Cultural Award Committee selected the following awardees and presented them with a gift and hono-

rarium of JPY3,000,000 for the Cultural Awards for the Promotion of Buddhism and JPY2,000,000 for the Numata Innovation & Visionary Award. The 48th ceremony and banquet were held at the BDK Center Building in Tokyo on October 17, 2014.



**The 48th Bukkyo Dendo
Bunka-sho:
Rev. Hoyo Watanabe**

● 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 Risho University.



**The Numata Shorei-Sho:
Rev. Jerome Ducor**

● 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.



Buddhist Lectures and Seminars

01
Activity

The 44th Jissen Fukyo Kenkyukai, BDK Buddhist Missionary Seminar at Daihonzan Myoshinji



The first Jissen Fukyo Kenkyukai (BDK Buddhist Missionary Seminar) was held as a small discussion group organized by BDK founder, the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata, in 1970. BDK has sponsored this event every single year since then, and the seminar has gradually become popular amongst Japanese Buddhist priests. More than 2,300 priests and their temple family members have attended these Jissen seminars since that time. Annually, this seminar is held at the headquarters of a different Japanese Buddhist sect, and each host sect enthusiastically supports BDK in hosting this event, which enables everyone to enjoy and learn a great deal from this opportunity each year.

BDK hosted the 44th Jissen Fukyo Kenkyukai at Daihonzan Myoshinji from June 3 to June 6, 2014 with the theme of “Learning from Rinzai-Zen,” and welcomed about 55 priests and their temple family members from throughout Japan: 45 male priests and 10 female priests, age 21 to 82, including one from Thailand.

During three days of the seminar, participants experienced Zazen meditation practices and, listened to lectures from three special guest speakers: “Learning from Zen” by Rev. Eshin Nishimura, “The Future of Japanese Buddhism” by Prof. Shizuka Sasaki, and “The Mind of Rinzai-Zen” by Rev. Sodo Yasunaga. Moreover, Rev.

Kogaku Mine, the superintendent priest and chief abbot of Rinzai-shu, addressed the participants. They also had provocative discussions about the theme, “The Future of Japanese Buddhism.”



Activity 02 Mita-Rakugo-Kai

Rakugo is one of the oldest forms of Japanese verbal entertainments. It is said that the origins of Rakugo came from Fushidansekkyo, which is a style used by Buddhist priests to tell the teachings of the Buddha with gestures and melodic rhythm. Some Japanese words are even originated from Rakugo such as Zenza, an opening performance, Tenugui, a traditional Japanese towel and so on. BDK offers opportunities for the general public to experience the essence of Buddhist culture and spirituality through the event.

We hold “Mita-Rakugo-Kai” six times a year; in February, April, June, August, October and December. April has the day of Buddha’s birthday, April 8th. August has Obon, observed around August 15th, the homecoming time for the souls of ancestors. December includes the day for celebrating Shakyamuni’s enlightenment. We have both daytime and night performances in a scheduled day. For the year 2014, we welcomed Mr. Gontaro Yanagiya, a Rakugo master with Purple Ribbon Medal, Mr. Shozo Hayashiya, a popular Rakugo mas-



ter/TV star and other masters of Rakugo for each month.

“Mita-Rakugo-Kai” has been introducing a variety of traditional and orthodox Rakugo stories for decades.

Activity 03 Buddhism Through English

One of BDK’s missions is to “support educational programs that advance the Buddhist spirit, culture and its study.” Seminars and lectures geared toward specific and general interests are sponsored throughout the year.

BDK provides an opportunity to learn about the basics of Buddhism in both Japanese and English. Through this means, we hope to create opportunities for those with an interest in Buddhist teachings to learn more about themselves and Buddhism. The English lectures are provided by Prof. Kenneth Tanaka from Musashino University and were first offered in 2012. The lectures for 2014 were based on the BDK DVD “TV

Preaching,” which includes interviews with leading priests and scholars in Buddhist studies.

For the year 2015, we have welcomed a new lecturer, Mr. Stefan Grace, a visiting researcher from the Shinran Buddhism Center. From April to September 2015, Mr. Grace will introduce “Learning Zen Through Easy English Words” based on “The Teaching of Buddha” in Japanese/English. From October, Prof. Kenneth Tanaka will be back.

BDK will continue to provide more chances for everyone to learn about Buddhism and its basic ideas. For more information about “Buddhism



Through English,” please visit the official BDK website or our Facebook page. You may also browse through past BDK TV programs online for free.



04 Activity Special Summer Program: Studying “The Teaching of Buddha” for Business / Studying “The Teaching of Buddha” for Daily Life

Studying “The Teaching of Buddha” for Business was established in 1981 for business people who desire a background in Buddhism to help them operate and manage their companies and business ventures. And Studying “The Teaching of Buddha” for Daily Life was started in 1982 to share the Dharma so that attendees could learn how to live their daily lives with the spirit of the Buddha through reading “The Teaching of Buddha.” People gather once a month and learn some teachings from the lectures.

During the summer, those two separate study groups get together and hold a special program every year. The 2014 program was held in Kyoto and 30 people attended and visited many popular Buddhist sites for two



At Sanjusangendo, Kyoto

days from August 30 to 31, 2014.

Participants enjoyed visiting many popular Buddhist sites such as the Jodoshinshu-Hongwanji headquarters and attended the early morning services. Moreover, Reverend Shinkai Sugarawa, the Monshu of Myohoin-Monzeki, offered special words to the group.

The participants hardly have an opportunity to talk to each other during the regular study groups, however in the summer program, they are able to get to know each other and this energizes each study group with a more lively atmosphere.

For more information and schedules about those lectures, please visit our official website.

05 Activity BDK Meditation Seminar: Meditation Retreat for Business People



BDK provides an opportunity for people to reflect on their way of life and

to provide some calm and peace amidst today’s stressful society. We have been conducting the “BDK Meditation Seminar” since 2013 especially for busy women under the guidance of Rev. Junsho Oka (Head priest, Tendai-shu Enyuji Temple). From 2014, we invited all working people to participate in it.

Meditation Retreat for Business People” for 2014 was also quite popular, and welcomed more than 150 men and women in their 20s to 60s. For 2015, we are going to continue these meeting with a seminar on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. For more information about the meditation seminar, please visit our official website.

The “BDK Meditation Seminar:

06 Activity

2014 BDK Symposium: “Buddhism and Myself”



BDK held three lectures for the “2014 BDK Symposium” with the common theme of “Buddhism and Myself.” We invited three people to give lectures about how they deal with the question, “What is Buddhism to me?”

For the first lecture, we welcomed Ms. Mitsuyo Ohira, lawyer, author and former deputy mayor of Osaka-city. Her lecture was about how we can make daily life better through Buddhist ideas. She also explained how she could find happiness in hard times by talking about her past experiences.

We welcomed Mr. Tetsuya Miyazaki, critic, author and visiting professor, for the second lecture. He talked about “why we need Buddhism now” and explained the necessity of Buddhism in terms of his own thinking and experiences. His wide knowledge of Buddhist philosophy and his new perspective provided the audience with tips on how to live a better life in the modern world.

The third lecture was about “How we can live with harsh realities,” and we welcomed Dr. Rika Kayama (top left photo), certified psychiatrist, critic

and professor. From her medical point of view, she talked about why we need Buddhism and how we can rediscover the value of Buddhism.

After each lecture, there was a lot of feedback from many of the participants. BDK would like to continue to provide more opportunities for everyone to experience and feel the positive meaning and purpose of Japanese Buddhism in today’s society.

For the “2015 BDK Symposium” schedule and further information, please visit our official website.

Take a Break: A Buddhist Way of Food Education

A Vegetarian Recipe by Rev. Koyu Inuma, Fukushoji

Report & Photography: Kaoru Eguchi, BDK

Special Thanks to Rev. Gashin Tomomitsu for photography

How seriously do you think about what you eat daily these days when people pay attention to a healthy diet and food safety? Why don't we take a little break here and rethink our eating habits? We have welcomed Reverend Koyu Inuma from Tendai-shu

Fukushoji, who is known as a “chef-monk,” and asked how he feels about “food education.” He also will introduce a Buddhist SHOJIN, vegetarian recipe made exclusively for our newsletter.



Koyu Inuma - Profile ● Tendai-shu Fukushoji Temple, AKA “chef-monk”

Born in Kawasaki City, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan in 1982. Ordained as a Tendai-Buddhist priest at Hieizan Enryakuji Temple at the age of 19. Had interest in missionary work through foods while at Taisho University. Received a professional chef's license after training at some restaurants. Hosted “Suwaribito – Shungayu” and “Toki-wo-miru-kai,” gatherings at his temple for Buddhist food education. Served some special dishes at “100 Young Priests with the Dalai Lama” as one of three “chef-monks.”

Encouragement of “A Buddhist Way of Food Education”

It has been five years now since I started the gatherings in which anyone can experience Buddhism through SHOJIN dishes at my temple. I always try to prepare some dishes cooked with a theme related to each

season and the season's best ingredients, and participants have left here with smiling faces.

One of the teachings of the Buddha is, “CHUDO,” the middle way. I believe

that CHUDO is one of the most important yet difficult practice in Buddhism because it is related to very simple things in our daily life.

Shakyamuni was born as a prince of a

noble Indian family about 2,500 years ago, and he had no worries about his life at his young age. However, once he grew up, he left his comfortable life at the palace and started his practices to solve questions about why we are born, age, get sick and die in the end. He noticed that he could not achieve a peaceful and quiet life even though he practiced very hard for such a long time in the woods. He washed his body in a river and received milk porridge from a village girl named Sujata, and then he quietly started to meditate in a healthy and stable condition under a Bodhi tree until he attained enlightenment.

He thought that neither a rich and luxurious life at a palace nor a poor and hard practice in woods was good. Keeping a balanced life in a middle

way was the most important.

In SHOJIN dishes, we respect “Tanmi,” a light flavor that is the taste of each ingredient itself. You cannot bring out Tanmi if you lean toward sweet, sour, salty, bitter or spicy flavors. Each person has a different taste; therefore, we should think about each one and try to achieve a seasoning that is just right. That is an example of CHUDO. Moreover, we are not allowed to eat fish, eggs, cheese or butter. In addition, we also exclude “Gokun,” the five pungent roots such as garlic, chives and onions. This is the basic way of Buddhist eating. If you do not think about where it comes from and always appreciate the ingredients while you eat, SHOJIN dishes will seem no different from other vegetarian dishes.



The phrase “ Sansen-Soumoku-Shitsuu-Bussho,” expresses our belief that everything in this world has a life. We humans, eat a variety of foods derived from animals and plants in today’s world. It does not matter whether you eat SHOJIN dishes or regular dishes. I hope that people can experience a feeling of “Okagesama,” gratitude to everything when you eat every day. This will add a greater richness of spirit to your life.

Koyu Inuma, Tendai-shu Fukushoji

Spaghetti with Rich Miso Flavored Tofu Ragù a la Bolognese

Ingredients : 2 servings

(Miso Flavored Tofu Ragù)

- ① 200g Momen, Hard Tofu,
Drain water from tofu before cooking
- ② 100g Ito-Konnyaku, konjak noodles
- ③ 2 pieces of Shiitake mushrooms, cut into tiny dices
- ④ 1/2 can of tomatoes
- ⑤ Fresh parsley to taste, finely chopped
- ⑥ 1 1/2 tablespoons of your favorite kind of Miso,
Japanese soybean paste
- ⑦ 1 tablespoon of Mirin, sweet sake for seasoning
- ⑧ Salt to taste
- ⑨ 90cc of water

<Other Ingredients>

- ① Your favorite seasonal vegetables and mushrooms
(in the picture) : 100g of Shimeji mushrooms
80g of Daikon radish, quarter sliced
50g of carrots, quarter sliced
- ② 160g of spaghetti
- ③ 1 tablespoon of Shoyu, soy sauce
- ④ Salt to taste
- ⑤ Olive oil to taste
- ⑥ 90cc of water



- 1 Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add the spaghetti and cook until al dente. Drain the spaghetti.
- 2 Meanwhile, in a large, deep skillet, heat the olive oil until simmering. Add the tofu, Konnyaku and Shiitake mushrooms and cook over moderately high heat, breaking up the tofu with a spatula, until lightly browned.
- 3 Add tomatoes, parsley and Miso and cook over moderate heat until softened, about 5 minutes. ***If you are not in a hurry, you can

put the sauce into a fridge for a night and it will be milder after a day.

- 4 Heat the olive oil and add your favorite seasonal vegetables and cook over high heat until softened. Add 90cc of water and boil them over moderate heat, about 2 minutes. ***Simmer the vegetables until really softened. It is better to allow the flavors to blend.
- 5 Add the spaghetti to the sauce and toss over low heat until combined. Sprinkle soy sauce, olive oil and fresh chopped parsley as you wish.



BDK Affiliate Organization Activities

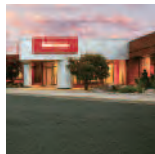
World Map & Contact Info.



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BDK JAPAN

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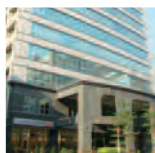
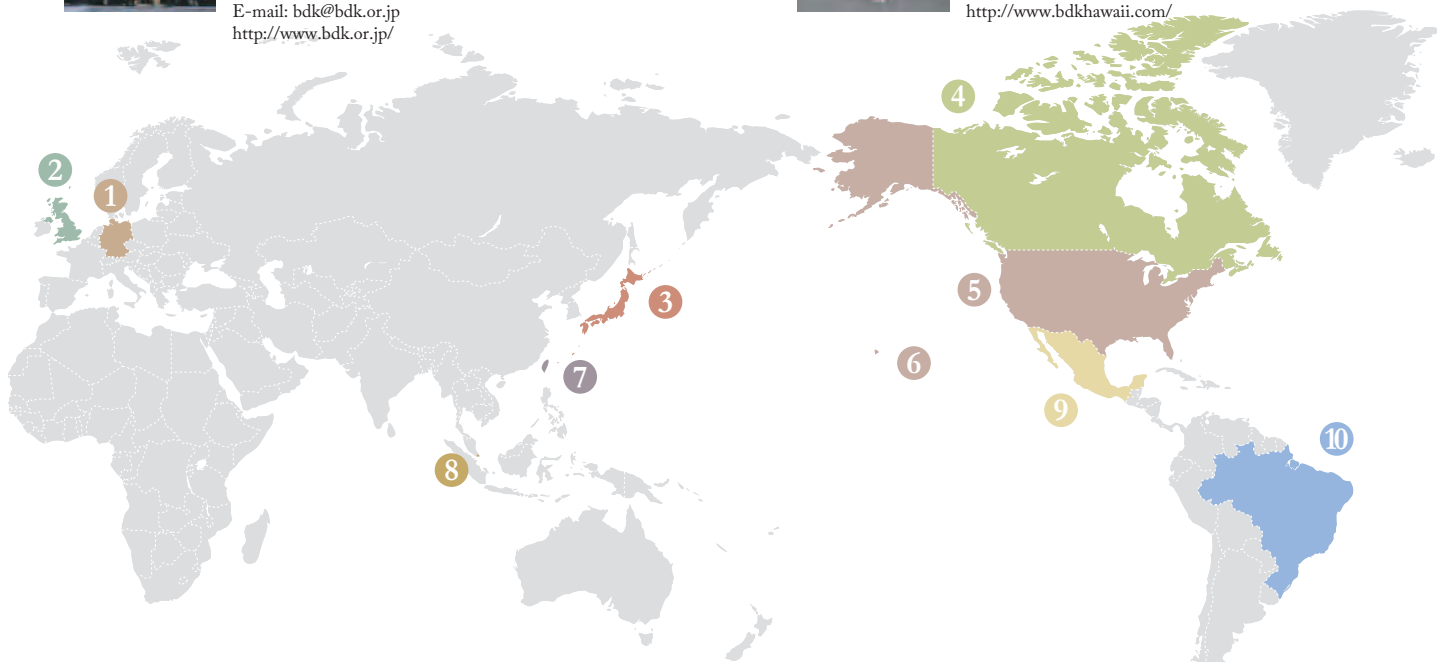
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2014 Winners of the Toshihide Numata Book Prize

The Selection Committee of the Toshihide Numata Book Prize selected two winners as the best books published on Buddhist Studies in 2013. Administered by the University of California, Berkeley's Center for Buddhist Studies, the award was presented to Dr. Erik Braun of the University of Oklahoma for his book *The Birth of Insight: Meditation, Modern Buddhism, and the Burmese Monk Ledi Sayadaw*, published by the University of Chicago Press.

The second selected award winning book was written by Dr. John Nelson of the University of San Francisco. His *Experimental Buddhism: Innovation and Activism in Contemporary Japan*, was published by the University of Hawai'i Press.

The Berkeley Administering Committee sponsored the Book Prize

ceremony and a symposium entitled "Buddhist Modernisms" on November 14, 2014 at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley. Chairman of the Board for BDK America, Dr. George Tanabe, representing Chairman Toshihide Numata and BDK America, presented the shared \$10,000 cash prize (\$5,000 each) to the awardees.

Following presentations by the two awardees, respondents Dr. Patrick Pranke of the University of Louisville, Dr. Richard Jaffee of Duke University and Dr. Alexander von Rospatt of the University of California, Berkeley spoke on various aspects of Buddhist Modernisms.

The "Toshi Prize" is now widely respected in the field of Buddhist Studies, and the selection committee reviewed more than twenty-five submitted entries from various publishers



Dr. Erik Braun



Dr. John Nelson

to determine the two recipients of the 2014 Prize.

2014 Numata Program Coordinators Meeting

Each November, some 7,000 North American and international professors and students of religious studies gather for the annual conference of the

American Academy of Religion (AAR). Billed as the largest academic conference of its kind in the world, this AAR conference also brings

together the North American coordinators of the various Numata Programs in Buddhist Studies to share information and discuss problems and concerns for the Buddhist Studies field in North America. The half-day meeting concludes with an annual appreciation dinner at a Japanese restaurant hosted by BDK America and BDK Canada to thank the coordinators for their continued support and efforts for the Numata Programs at their respective institutions. The 2014 conference was held in San Diego, California and the 2015 conference



will be held in Atlanta, Georgia.

Attending this year's meeting were (bottom row, left to right): Margaret Mitchell, University of Chicago Divinity School; Mark Rowe, McMaster University; Janet Gyatso, Harvard Divinity School; Robert

Sharf, UC Berkeley; Brian Nagata, BDK America; George Tanabe, BDK Hawaii; Charles Hallisey, Harvard Divinity School; Christoph Emmrich, Toronto; Regina Pfeifer, Chaminade, Hawaii; Lara Bratstein, McGill (partially visible); Back Row: Mikio Yamashita, BDK America; James

Benn, McMaster; Richard Payne, Institute of Buddhist Studies; Robert Buswell, UCLA; Wendi Adamek, Calgary; Scott Mitchell, Institute of Buddhist Studies; Yasuo Honjo, BDK Canada and Naoyuki Ogi, BDK Japan.

Dharma Talk Workshop for Ministers Sponsored by BDK America



Dr. Tanabe

BDK America sponsored a "Dharma Talk Workshop" for twenty ministers of the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) on November 11-13, 2014, at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley, California. This exciting and challenging workshop was created and facilitated by Dr. George Tanabe, professor emeritus in the Department of Religion at the University of Hawaii and current Chairman of the Board for BDK America. Dharma talks were given by the attendees, digitally recorded, and then played back for

review and critique. "This may be a first for us, in BCA, to have a ministers' training session like this, dedicated to critiquing each other's dharma talks and getting feedback for improvement," said Center for Buddhist Education Co-director, Rev. Marvin Harada. "We really appreciate Dr. Tanabe's guidance in this dynamic and interactive workshop."

"I appreciated that... after I delivered a dharma talk, other ministers gave me some frank and honest opinions," Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki stated.

"Later, I deeply thought about how I could improve my dharma talk with reference to their opinions. It was a good opportunity to reconsider my dharma talk."

"Thanks to Dr. Tanabe for his careful planning of the seminar on dharma talks," said Rev. Henry Adams. "I came away from the seminar with a better understanding of how I give dharma talks and areas in which I can improve. As much as reflecting on my own speaking, I was inspired by hearing other ministers speak."



Minister participants

In Memoriam Reverend Seishin Kiyoshi Yamashita 1920 - 2015

On January 20, 2015, Reverend Seishin Yamashita, the first director of the Numata Center for Buddhist Translation and Research, passed

away, just shy of his 95th birthday.

A second-generation Japanese American, Rev. Yamashita was born

in Auburn, Washington, graduated from the University of Washington and later Columbia University, majoring in Economics. During World War

II, Yamashita Sensei taught Japanese linguistics to American Navy and Army personnel. He began his formal studies in Buddhism at the American Buddhist Academy with Rev. Hozen Seki in New York City. Upon the end of World War II, Sensei moved to Japan and worked for the United States Government as a Civil Service intelligence officer. He received his ordination (tokudo) into the Nishi Hongwanji priesthood in 1950. Rev. Yamashita, along with several other Nisei, would form the International Buddhist Association at the Tsukiji Hongwanji Betsuin in Tokyo, which sponsored regular Sunday religious services conducted in English, which continue to this day.

In the early 1980's when Rev. Yamashita decided it was time to return to America, he was approached by BDK founder Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata, who asked him if he would assume the position as the initial director and organizer for the planned Numata Center for Buddhist Translation and Research, which

founder Numata was going to establish in Berkeley, California. Rev. Yamashita heartily accepted this position which he held for 26 years until his retirement in 2008.

Rev. Yamashita is survived by his wife Marrie, sons Dennis and Rev. Koshin Yamamoto, two sisters and five grandchildren.

BDK expresses its deepest appreciation to Reverend Seishin Yamashita

for his many years of dedicated service, leadership and direction, which he provided to the on-going BDK English Tripitaka Series project.



Yamashita Sensei and Numata Kaicho in 2014



English Tripitaka Berkeley staff and friends celebrating Sensei's 94th birthday in 2014

The Princeton Dictionary of Buddhism Wins Award

Released at the end of 2013, the dictionary was edited by two of America's senior scholars of Buddhism, Robert E. Buswell of UCLA and Donald S. Lopez of the University of Michigan. Now deemed the most comprehensive dictionary of Buddhism ever produced in English, it includes over 5,000 entries totaling over one million words. It is the first dictionary to cover terms from all of the traditional Buddhist languages and traditions---Sanskrit, Pali, Tibetan, Chinese, Japanese and Korean. It also includes selected terms in Thai, Burmese, Vietnamese,

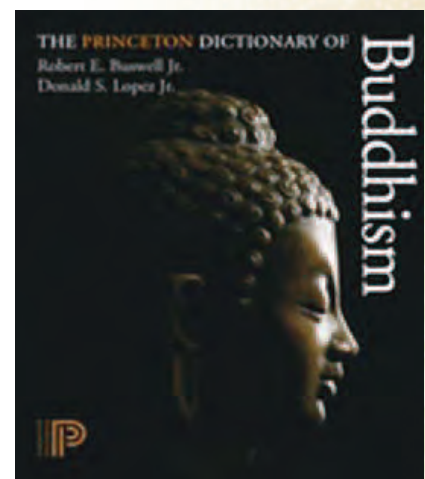
Lao, Khmer, Sinhalese, Newar and Mongolian.

This multi-year project was supported by grants from the UCLA Numata Fund in Buddhist Studies and by BDK America.

In January of this year, it was selected as the 2014 recipient of the American Library Association's Dartmouth Medal, honoring the best reference work of the year.

We congratulate Dr. Buswell and Dr. Lopez on their outstanding dedication

and determination to publish the best English language Buddhist dictionary of our time.



Washington DC Ekoji Summer Obon Festival

The Washington DC Ekoji Temple's Obon festival is held each July and has become a community event which attracts nearly one thousand people for an afternoon and evening of Japanese cultural programs, community information booths, children's games, food, Nendaiko performance, and traditional Obon Odori dance festival, culminating with a memorial candle lighting ceremony and chanting of Buddhist sutras to remember loved ones who have passed away.

When the meaning of Obon is explained to non-members, most do not hesitate to join in the Obon Odori dancing and also to offer a candle in memory of their respective loved ones.

Temple founder Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata and Rev. Kenryu Tsuji would be happy to know that Ekoji's observance of Obon has been a community-wide tradition and the temple members are sharing the Buddha-Dharma with hundreds each summer.



BDK Hawaii



The year 2015 marks the 50th year since BDK was established in Japan, and it will be the 37th anniversary of BDK Hawaii. We continue to carry out our main mission of distributing "The Teaching of Buddha(TTOB)" and other materials to promote a better understanding of Buddhism. We live in a time of rapid social and technological change, and we are finding it necessary to develop new and different ways of realizing the original

vision of Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata.

In addition to placing books in hotels and temples, we have extended our outreach through an eBook version of TTOB, which is available as a Kindle Book. In 2014, our Kindle version was acquired by people in the U.S., U.K., Germany, Italy, Spain, France, Canada, Japan, India, Mexico and Australia.

Recognizing that Buddhist ministers are in need of continuing education programs, we conducted workshops to help ministers give better Dharma talks, and to provide counseling services to their members. In cooperation with the Buddhist Study Center of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission, we conducted one Dharma talk workshop in Hilo on the Big Island of Hawaii.

For 2015, we are planning to have

new workshops for Buddhist ministers' wives, a group that is often taken for granted and overlooked. Like BDK Japan, we are also encouraging the development of new Buddhist music, but our target audience is young people, and we are therefore working with local musicians to create ballads, hip-hop, jazz and rock songs with Buddhist messages.

The BDK-Fujitani Interfaith Program is inviting a speaker to give a public lecture on Buddhist-Muslim relations

in Myanmar, and also to have symposiums on Christian, Buddhist and Jewish chanting and the symbolic meanings of robes worn by ministers of these religious traditions.

We are constantly experiencing the Buddhist truth that everything changes. We face many new challenges, and BDK remains committed to cooperating with as many people as possible to find solutions based in the old traditions and new interpretations of Buddhism.



BDK Hawaii staff

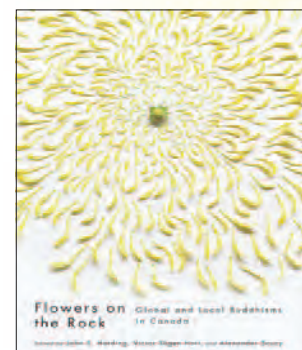
BDK Canada



BDK Support for "Flowers on the Rock"

In 2014, BDK Canada supported the publication of a book entitled "Flowers on the Rock: Global and Local Buddhisms in Canada" edited by Canadian religious studies professors John S. Harding, Victor Hori and

Alexander Soucy. It not only records the histories of various Buddhist paths as they came to Canada but also the role and changes undertaken in these paths as they evolved in Canada.



BDK Fellowship Recipient – Chris Jensen



The independent BDK Fellowship Selection Committee has selected Chris Jensen as the next BDK Fellowship recipient to study in Japan for one year beginning in June 2014. Jensen is a PhD candidate in Chinese Buddhism at McMaster University under the supervision of Dr. James Benn and will be at Kyoto University working with Professor Funayama Toru.

Chris is a scholar of medieval Chinese Buddhism and his dissertation is provisionally entitled "Oneiric Visions and Social Realities: Dream Narratives in Medieval East Asian

Buddhism." He studies dreams in medieval East Asian miracle tales and is interested in discovering how to access the dream worlds of medieval East Asia. His research explores how dream visions helped to define the waking experience of religion, and how dreams were discussed, explored and contested in Buddhist literature.

The BDK Canada Fellowship Program was established by BDK Canada and is administered by McMaster University in Hamilton, Canada. Every two years, a recipient is selected by an independent and anonymous team of scholars. Several

recipients have gone on to become scholars in their own right and are

contributing to the advancement of Buddhist Studies in North America

while several others are finishing up their Ph.D. programs at this time.

Toronto Vesak Festival

For several years now, BDK Canada has joined together with the Toronto Buddhist Church to participate in the Toronto Vesak Festival honoring Shakyamuni Buddha. Copies of “The Teaching of Buddha” and lapel pins with short Buddhist teachings are distributed to the several thousand in attendance at each year’s festival.



BDK Mexico



Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) Mexico has offered a variety of opportunities for children to adults to get to know Buddhism better. Especially at Ekoji Temple, we have meditation, Yoga, Zazen, and martial arts classes. Moreover, we conduct Sosensai, Buddhist weddings, Buddhist anniversary services and many other activities and services for everyone.

For the last few years, we have received many requests for seminars and lectures at schools. At Alva Edison University in Pebra, Mr. Leon, the chancellor, has distributed “The Teaching of Buddha (TTOB)” to all faculty members and students even though he is a Catholic. He believes that the schools are “the places for moral education” and “Buddhism and TTOB are the best textbook for students to develop what they learned at a school in a real world.”

In July, 2014, Mr and Mrs. Shinzo Abe, the Japanese Prime Minister, vis-



BDK Mexico staff

ited Mexico, and Mr and Mrs. Katsura from “CHAEN,” a Japanese tea salón, opened a facility inside the Ekoji Temple in 2010. They have been invited to the welcoming banquet hosted by the Japanese Embassy. Mrs. Katsura is an expert of Kendo, Japanese sword fighting, and she practiced with a former prime minister, Mr. Ryutaro Hashimoto, when he

visited Mexico before.

The economy of Mexico has developed dramatically in the last decades, however, the crime rate is also getting higher because the strife between the former government and the drug gangs has intensified. In this kind of chaotic condition of society, the Buddhist emphasis on a peaceful and

harmonious world is important.
Ekoji Temple hopes that people would

change their preconceptions and
return to a simple and secure way of
life. We always consider people's feel-

ings and wish to provide more activi-
ties for everyone.

BDK South America



BDK South America staff

In 2014, the FIFA World Cup games were held in Brazil. The results for Team Japan were not good at all, however, what we saw on TV after the game amazed people in the world. Japanese supporters picked up pieces of trash and cleaned their seats after the game. These scenes expressed the feeling that we should clean up our own mess first. It also was a good example of "Ichigu-wo-Terasumonokoso-Takara-nari," which expresses the idea that we can still make efforts to improve on a situation that we have been already given. We have tried to take simple steps and focus on the basic mission of BDK South America,

and to develop the distribution of "The Teaching of Buddha" to the next level.

From that point of view, BDK South America has revised "The Teaching of Buddha" in Portuguese with more modern expressions in accordance with opinions received from readers. We know that the times and readers are always moving forward and changing.

Mitutoyo South America has a monthly Sosenesai service and uses a text called "Shiori." Shiori used to be written only in Japanese, however, we



*"The Teaching of Buddha" in Portuguese (right)
"Shiori" for Sosenesai at Mitutoyo South America (left)*

added a Portuguese translation on one side so that more employees are able to understand what it says and what it means correctly. As a result, they can comprehend the significance of Sosenesai itself.

For 2014, we have distributed "The Teaching of Buddha" as the graphs show; about 583 copies per a month for temples and 211 copies per month for hotels.

BDK Taiwan



BDK Taiwan staff

BDK Taiwan celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2014, and all kinds of activities were held to commemorate it. First, we established BDK exhibition areas both in Mitutoyo Taiwan's new Taichung office in April and the new Kaohsiung office in November. We introduced Buddhism and BDK through the newly-made Chinese panels and leaflets. As a result, more people became interested in "The Teaching of Buddha," and many oth-

ers asked us to send books to them after the exhibition.

BDK Taiwan held its 25th anniversary ceremony on November 13, and Chairman Numata, and Managing Director Ikuta from BDK Japan were invited to join us. In the ceremony, we not only reported on activities sponsored around the world, but, we also invited President Myoho Asari, who has a yeast business with a history of over three hundred years in Oita, to give a speech to us based on the concept of healthy body and mind. After the speech, a simple cuisine made from her yeast was prepared for attendees, and everyone had a positive reaction to it.

Professor Ben-Hang Chang, who is not only President of BDK Taiwan, but is also a prominent calligrapher,



demonstrated his calligraphy with two other calligraphers in the ceremony. The calligraphy was given as precious souvenirs to the lucky attendees selected by drawing lots. In all of these ways, we had a good commemoration of our 25th anniversary.

BDK Europe



Worldwide Numata Chair Coordinators meeting

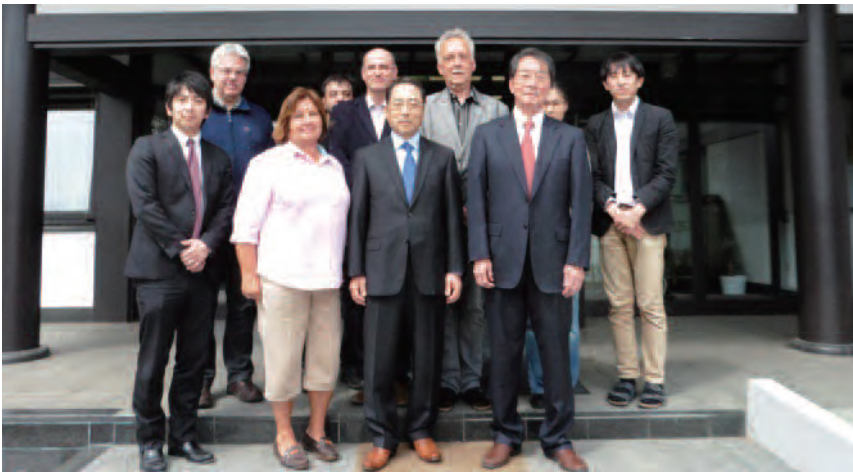
Coinciding with the Congress of the International Association of Buddhist Studies, a meeting of the coordinators of the worldwide Numata chairs program took place in Vienna on August 19, 2014 (local time). It was the first meeting of this kind since the establishment of the Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (public benefit foundation).

With its aspiration to spread the spirit of Japanese Buddhism and its culture throughout the world, and to promote

academic studies, the Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai established in 1984 the first Numata Chair for Buddhist studies at the University of California, Berkeley. Since this time, other Numata chairs have been established throughout the world at important universities. At present there are Numata chairs at 15 universities: seven in the US (University of California/Berkeley, Harvard University, University of Chicago, Smith College, University of Hawai'i and University of California/Los

Angeles), three in Canada (University of Toronto, University of Calgary and McGill University), and five in Europe (University of Oxford, University of London, University of Hamburg, University of Leiden and University of Vienna). (At the University of Oxford and the Harvard University, full-time Numata Chairs for Buddhist Studies were initiated).

Thirty years after the establishment of the first Numata chair, the academic



BDK Europe/Ekō-Haus staff

teachers who coordinate the Numata chairs program throughout the world, came together in a meeting. In total, there were 22 participants: 13 coordinators from 11 of the 15 universities and nine people from the foreign

administration staff of the Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai.

Presided over by Prof. Shōryū Katsura (Ryūkoku University), the meeting was opened with an address

by Chairman Toshihide Numata. After the activities of the Numata programs were reported from every university, participants discussed ideas about the direction in which the programs can be developed in the future. The Numata professors at the various universities are internationally recognized scholars in Buddhist studies, work at first-rate universities in their respective countries, and are training many young scholars and recipients of the BDK Fellowship. Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai, plays a big role in promoting Buddhist studies throughout the world through its Numata chairs and other programs.

Information Booth at the Congress of the International Association of Buddhist Studies

The XVIIth Congress of the International Association of Buddhist Studies was held in Vienna from August 18 to August 23, 2014. This conference, which takes place triennially, is the largest congress for academic Buddhist Studies worldwide, and attracts leading Buddhist scholars from all over the world.

Since the conference took place in Europe, most of the participants were scholars from Europe or America, but many participants came also from Japan, and even from other Asian countries like Korea, China, Taiwan, India or Thailand. The University of Vienna is well-known for studies in Indian and Tibetan philosophy and Buddhism, because authorities in this area such as Prof. Erich Frauwallner and Prof. Ernst Steinkellner belong to its teaching staff. Now Prof. Klaus-Dieter Mathes (Numata chair coordi-



nator), who follows in this tradition, was in charge as coordinator of the whole conference.

In order to inform the Buddhist scholars attending this conference about its activities and publications, the Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai hosted an information booth presenting not only

“The Teaching of Buddha” and the BDK Tripitaka Translation Series, but also publications of the German Ekō Center of Buddhist Culture (Hōrin, Das Große Wörterbuch des Buddhismus etc.). On a big monitor in the center of the booth, visitors could watch a documentary on the development and activities of the Bukkyo

Dendo Kyokai.

During the breaks of the conference, a large number of people surrounded the Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai booth and examined the exhibited publications with interest. Because most of the participants of the Conference were scholars, the BDK Tripiṭaka

JAPAN DAY

About 7,000 Japanese live in the wider area of Düsseldorf, where the EKŌ-house of Japanese Culture is located, and every year in May or June, Japan Day (Nihon Day) is celebrated. Events like Japan Day, which are promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, take place in various cities, but the Japan Day in Düsseldorf attracts hundreds of thousands of people every year. At last year's Japan Day, which was held on March 17, 2014, an especially large crowd of people could be seen at the riverside promenade along the Rhine, the site of the main events.

As a special event on the eve of Japan Day, the Ekō Center presented in the Ekō temple a shinobue (Japanese transverse flute) concert performed by Mr. Satoshi Katano. Mr. Katano, who is from Sawara in Chiba prefecture, is a master of the Sawara folk music style and had won the Gold Prize, as well as the Governor's Proze and the Special Prize at the First Japanese Shinobue Contest. This concert was Mr. Katano's third concert in a row within three years, but his concerts always receive favorable reception. This time many people were already waiting in front of the entrance before the hall was opened, and soon afterwards all of the more than hundred seats inside the temple had been taken. It was so crowded that many

Translation Series attracted their interest and many people could be seen examining the books carefully. Moreover, many visitors showed interest in the Numata Chair program and scholarships and asked for more information.

In the afternoon of August 20, Mr.

people had to stand outside the temple hall in order to enjoy the concert. With a diverse program, ranging from Sawara folk music to Mr. Katano's own compositions, the performance lasted about two hours, and the audience listened to this marvelous concert until the end.

As in former years, Ekō Center granted free entrance to the Japanese Garden, the tea house and the Ekō temple. Under a cloudless, blue sky, more than a thousand people visited the Ekō Center during its open hours between 1 and 6 o'clock p.m. Many visitors came not only from Germany, but also from the Netherlands and Belgium. Among them were many cos-players – young people who are dressed up with costumes influenced by Japanese anime characters. An exhibition of paintings by Makoto Ueno, which took place in the Kyōsei Hall of the Ekō Center, was also very crowded on that day. Scheduled only for 11 days including the Japan Day, this art exhibition attracted more than 800 people.

Many Japanese food stands and information booths about Japanese culture lined the riverside promenade of the Rhine, and at the main stage of the event many performances took place. The children of the Ekō kindergarten performed some children songs, and

Ōgi from the Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai gave in the Lecture Hall of the Iuridicum a presentation on the Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai and the Numata Chairs in Buddhist Studies at various universities around the world, which attracted the interest of the audience.



the dancer, Tomokinu Hanayagi, who is in charge of Japanese dance courses in the Ekō Center, gave a performance with her ensemble. According to an announcement of the Japan Club, 750,000 people came to the Japan Day celebration this year, the highest number of visitors compared with past years. Finally at about 11pm the annual Japanese firework on the Rhine started and a very bustling Japan Day came to an end.



Signing Ceremony for the Establishment of a Full-Time Numata Professorship for Japanese Buddhist Studies at the University of London



Dr. Paul Webley(left) and BDK chairman, Numata(right)

The School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at the University of London has had the Numata Program in Buddhist Studies since 1992. Now Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) has established a full-time professorship especially for Japanese Buddhist Studies and a signing ceremony was held at the University of London on



October 7, 2014.

Toshihide Numata, chairman, and Tadashi Ikuta, executive director, were welcomed from the BDK headquarters in Japan. Paul Webley, chancellor of the University of London, Lucia Dolce, the first Numata Professor, and many other students and program members also attended the ceremony. A shakuhachi performance during the ceremony gave a friendly and welcoming touch. It was such a great opportunity to deepen the solid relationship between BDK and the University of London.



BDK UK staff

Obituary – Our Great Friend and Supporter, Rev. Ganshin E. Rock

Rev. Ganshin E. Rock contributed greatly to Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) activities, especially in the distribution of “The Teaching of Buddha” and the spread of Buddhism in the UK since 1991. He passed away in a hospital in Southampton on September 1, 2014, at the age of 88. For the last 23 years, Rev. Rock sup-

ported the development of BDK UK and taught the basic ideas of Buddhism to local people in the UK.

We truly appreciate his huge contribution for decades and express our deepest condolences. His passing is a great loss.



Rev. Ganshin E. Rock

Inochi (Life)

“Inochi”(Life).“Jumyō”(span of life).The force that makes an organism a living thing. There is in the word “inochi” the sense of “the most important part of things.”

Lately, however, “ inochi” (life) and “seimei”(life) are often used with different meanings. That is, when “inochi”[using the characters for “seimei”] is used, it means the force that causes this body to be a [living] body. It is limited to the time that this body exists in this world.

In contrast to this, when “inochi”(life) is used, it relates to that which passes through from the past before the birth of this body, through existence in this world at this time, to the future

after the extinction of this body, and what makes me who “I” am.

The existence that is “I” is not just the existence that lasts while this body exists in this world. If it concerns only the time that this body exists in this world, the being called “I” arises from nothingness and the being called “I” becomes nothingness.

Through I may not understand it, I am “I” in the past and in the future. That is the way of thinking of “inochi.”

(Taken from “Sasaeatte” authored by Toshihide Numata, Chairman of BDK)