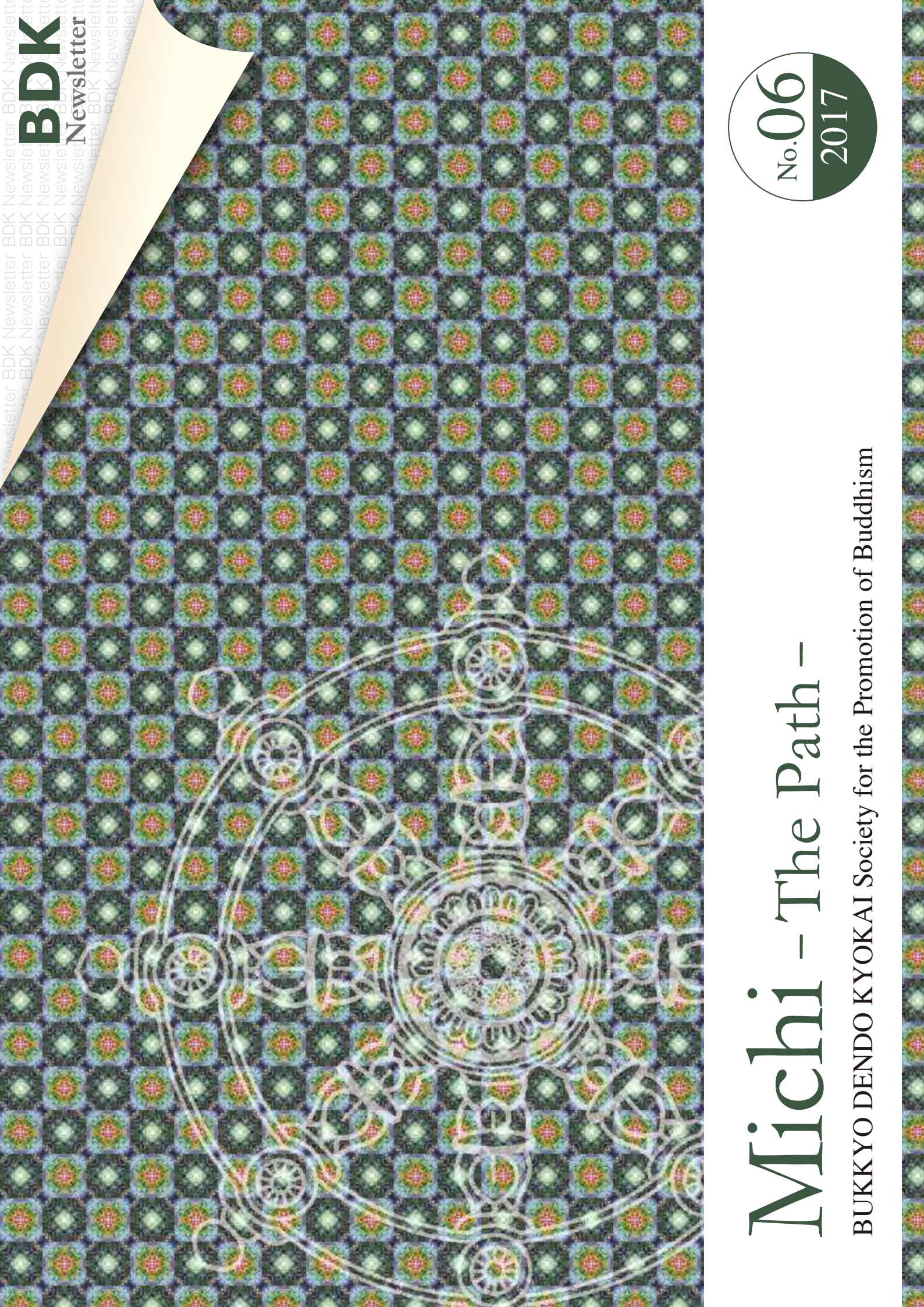


BDK Newsletter



No.06
2017

Michi - The Path -

BUKKYO DENDO KYOKAI Society for the Promotion of Buddhism

Michi

— The Path —

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BDK Chairman Rev. Toshihide Numata Passes Away

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) Chairman / Mitutoyo Corporation (Mitutoyo) Senior Adviser, Rev. Toshihide Numata, passed away on February 16, 2017 after being ill for some time. A private funeral was held by his family and relatives, and BDK and Mitutoyo jointly sponsored the formal funeral on March 30, 2017 at Tsukiji Hongwanji temple in Tokyo, Japan.



Chairman Numata started working on many BDK projects in 1985, following in the footsteps of his father, the founder of BDK and Mitutoyo, the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata. Toshihide Numata contributed in many different ways to promote Buddhism such as distributing more copies of “The Teaching of Buddha” to the world, establishing more Numata Programs in Buddhist Studies at major universities in the world, developing the English Tripitaka translation projects, holding more lectures and seminars for those who wanted to learn about Buddhism and its culture for the first time, and so on. He devoted his life to walking along the “path” to spread the teachings of Buddha.



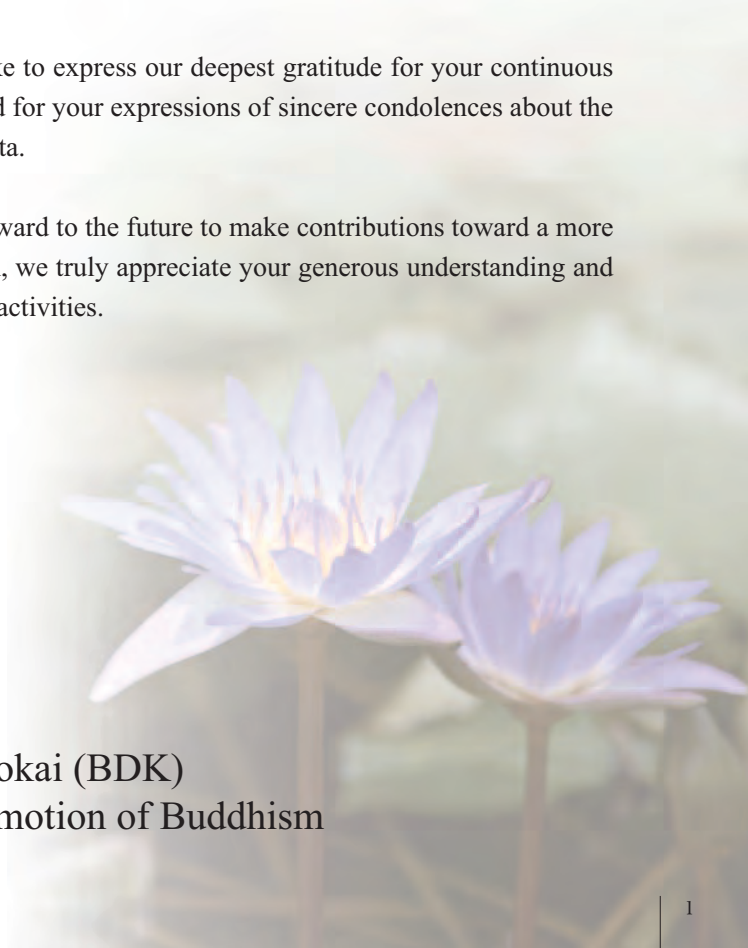
All of us at BDK would like to express our deepest gratitude for your continuous support of our activities and for your expressions of sincere condolences about the passing of Chairman Numata.

BDK will keep moving forward to the future to make contributions toward a more peaceful world. Once again, we truly appreciate your generous understanding and continued support of BDK activities.

With Gassho,



Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK)
Society for the Promotion of Buddhism



Special Feature: Newly Published “Buddha-ga-Sensei (Buddha Is Our Teacher)”

Why is it popular at educational institutions?

Editing & Photography: Kaoru Eguchi

Location: Shukutoku Junior College and Shukutoku Kindergarten in Tokyo, Japan



The Religion class at Shukutoku Junior College



“Buddha-ga-Sensei (Buddha Is Our Teacher)”

Find out at Shukutoku Junior College / Shukutoku Kindergarten.

Special Thanks to Shukutoku Junior College and Shukutoku Kindergarten for their cooperation with the interview

There has been a lot of discussion about our problems with the declining birth rate and the aging population in Japan for a long time. However, children in the modern world have been living their lives with energies and hopes just like the children in the old days did. They have a variety of choices and unlimited possibilities ahead in their future, and it is one of our most important responsibilities as adults to orient them in the right direction in the future. Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) published “Buddha-ga-Sensei (Buddha Is Our Teacher)” in July 2017 to help children develop “kind, right and strong” minds for living in this world

of possibilities.

“Buddha Is Our Teacher” has been quite popular since its release, and lots of educational institutions use the book for their students. One of those schools, Shukutoku Junior College (Chancellor, Mr. Hideharu Maehara) uses the book in their Religion class, and Shukutoku Kindergarten (Principal, Rev. Etsuko Kikuchi) utilizes it to educate children in every day life. But why are the books popular at various kinds of educational institutions? We wanted to find out the reasons at Shukutoku University and Shukutoku Kindergarten.

Shukutoku Junior College offers courses in children's education, health and wellness, social wellness, medical office administration work and secretarial work. Most of the students take a Religion class, and Rev. Kiyotaka Nawa lectures to them. He uses "Buddha Is Our Teacher" in his class, and we asked him about the effectiveness of the book. Moreover, we had a chance to meet his students in the children's education course and we listened to their dreams and hopes of becoming teachers.

First of all, could you describe how your students like the book, "Buddha Is Our Teacher"? Do you think that it was a good decision to use the book in your class?

I would say that my students definitely liked the book. The book has cute pictures like those you find in manga comics and the students are instantly interested in reading it. We read the book aloud together in my class. I believe that it is important for everyone to understand the teachings of Buddha by the heart not just by the head. Reading aloud helps to understand deep in the heart.

I have heard that the book was published especially for children, but I think it is good enough even for college students. The words and phrases are easy to follow. The quotations from sutras are written side by side, so it is a great help for instructors as well.

I see lots of people who dislike "religion" in today's Japanese society. It is not only with the younger generation, I mean. People wel-



Shukutoku Junior College students

come the ceremonies at temples like having their family's funeral and such, but they are just not interested in anything other than that, or maybe they want to avoid the teachings of Buddha.

As an instructor and a Buddhist priest, I have always been trying to explain how useful the teachings of Buddha can be in our daily life. Unfortunately, students have not been interested in hearing that so far. However, "Buddha Is Our Teacher" gives them an opportunity to open a book and read a page or two. I notice that the book draws their attention easily.

It is great to hear that your students are interested in our book that much. So what do you think of how "Buddha Is Our Teacher" can be used at educational institutions in the future?

As I said earlier, they love those pictures. The words and phrases are easy to read and it is even nice for elementary school students. My temple is located near an elementary school and lots of children walk by every day, so I would like to put a big poster of one of the pages in front of my temple for everyone in the neighborhood to have a chance to read.

That must catch their eyes! By the way, do you and Shukutoku Junior College have any special ideas about encouraging students to become teachers in the future?

Our school founder, Rev. Ryoshin Hasegawa, stated that there are three types of ideal personality traits: 1) understanding others, 2) having an expansive mind at all times, and 3) having confidence under the guidance of Buddha's teachings.

In our children's education course, we guide our students to consider Rev. Hasegawa's words and learn the essence and principles of children's education. We try to develop future teachers who can support all types of children such as those in poverty, the ones with disabilities and disorders, and so forth. In other words, we would like to educate our students so that they can grow up with and pass Hasegawa's teachings onto the next generation.

I see. Thank you. Then, is there anything you would like to suggest for future BDK programs?

As I told you earlier, I believe that the teachings of Buddha should not be understood only by the head, but also by the heart. So, it is very important to create a variety of opportunities to experience some-

thing related to Buddhism. I truly hope that BDK would continue to develop more publications that can be used for children, households, temples and even at kindergarten and schools.

Thank you very much for your suggestions, Rev. Nawa. Now, we would like to ask your students some questions. Since you are majoring in children's education, could you tell us what your ideal teacher is?

A: I would like to teach children while they are playing.

B: I would like to watch each child with special attention. I have had the experience of losing my friend when I was a child. I still remember it and feel that I could have done something to help my friend.

C: I learned something from a teacher during my practical training at a kindergarten. She was teaching the kids a word so that they could understand why they needed to be quiet without anyone yelling out loud, "Shut up!" I was really impressed by how she managed the class and respected her students' self-governing skill.

D: I would like to be a teacher who thinks of students first and not be controlled too much by the instruction manual.

E: I would like my students to tell their parents "I want to go to kindergarten" every morning and I would like to understand each one of them. I should not forget the children's perspective when I think about something.

F: I would like to establish a good relationship with kids and their parents as well. I want my students to

experience lots of seasonal and traditional recreation in our country. I also want to be involved with kids from all over the world.

What do you like about studying at Shukutoku Junior College?

A: Meeting Rev. Nawa is the best! (With a big smile) In comparison with other college campuses I visit, I think Shukutoku has a great curriculum that allows students to learn more practical lessons in becoming a professional kindergarten teacher. And the Religion class is good, too, and I realized that it gives me a broader perspective and I even try to change my daily habits.

B: I think Shukutoku has lots of choices for students in the field of children's education. We can learn about social welfare at the same time, so we can learn about education from a variety of different angles.

C: I have a friend who goes to a different college at the moment and we often meet up after school. I have heard lots of stories about her college and I feel that Shukutoku has a long history and a better curriculum. It does not waste our time at all and what I am learning here is effective.

D: I truly enjoy Rev. Nawa's Religion class! I was not interested in this field at all when I entered college, but in this class I enjoy learning about the history of Buddhism. At one time, Rev. Nawa talked about his family and I realized that we cannot always do what we should do even though we totally understand what we should do in our heads. I totally agree that most of us cannot do that easily.

(Everyone nods and agrees)

E: I like Mr. Y, who is in charge of the practical training sessions. He provides students an open environment for thinking by themselves, so that they can make their own decisions.

F: Mr. Y has a big and warm heart for all the students. He always suggests to us new ways of thinking so that we can try something new at every time. He is like the person we learned about in "Buddha Is Our Teacher." He is just like that! I do not hate the Religion class. To tell you the truth, I had a feeling that religion is a scary thing before I took this class. But I no longer think that it is scary. Now it is something familiar. When I go abroad, some people ask what my religion is and I can confidently give an answer now.

How did you like "Buddha Is Our Teacher"? Do you have any ideas for new books for children if you have a chance to teach them with that?

A: I really liked the pictures in this book. They are so cute!

B: I would like to photocopy the pages and use them in my classroom!

C: Yes, I think that we should enlarge the right page and show it to the kids. And we can read the left page and explain it to them. It is so easy to use!

D: Yeah, I want to use this book for children right now!! (Everyone agrees)

E: I would recommend this book to people who do not know much about Buddhism because it can be easily read and understood.

F: Yes, it is not only great for children but also for adults.

A: I like “Buddha is Our Teacher,” but I would like to have something like a picture book that children themselves can read.

B: Children love colorful things, so I would like to see some books with lots of colors and pictures!



I felt energized by those powerful college students with dreams and hopes. Then I visited Shukutoku Kindergarten and saw how they use “Buddha is Our Teacher” at their school.

The morning gathering started with offering flowers and lights to the Buddhist altar by students, and piano playing by a teacher. After the ceremony, they chanted the Heart Sutra without looking at anything, and the principal, Rev. Etsuko Kikuchi, started talking to all the students using “Buddha Is Our Teacher.” She read the book aloud. “Do not do a bad thing. Let’s do the right thing and clean the mind (pg. 16 and 17). Then she asked them, “What is a bad action?” Children raised their hands and answered with sparkling eyes.



The morning gathering at Shukutoku Kindergarten

They think that talking bad about someone behind his/her back, or using a bad word and getting angry are bad things to do.

After the morning gathering, students go back to their grade rooms and read the book with a teacher in

a classroom. They read about “how to clean the mind” on page 9 together and confirmed what they read. The teacher indicated that cleaning the mind is not doing bad things and the students answered, “YES!!!” Then Principal Kikuchi asked them, “What are bad things?” The students quickly gave her lots of examples with their own words.

I was surprised in a good way that everyone both at Shukutoku Junior College and Shukutoku Kindergarten greeted me with great smiles and saying, “Hi” “Good morning” “Hello.” In recent years, people teach kids not to greet people who do not know anything about them for security reasons in order to protect children from strangers and criminals.

There is a phrase on page 9. Suffering from defiled minds and dirty words is not good at all. Good/clean minds and words can help us be fulfilled with rich feelings, and everyone can easily start today.

Principal Kikuchi explained that beginning with the new semester this year, Shukutoku Kindergarten

is planning a new monthly project using a story from “Buddha Is Our Teacher” along with a picture story board handmade by teachers. Surely this will be a fantastic opportunity for students to broaden their perspectives.



Rev. Kiyotaka Nawa

Born in 1972. Graduated from Waseda University. Completed his doctorate degree at Taisho University. Lecturer at Shukutoku University, Taisho University, Asia University in Tokyo, Japan. Researcher at Jodoshu Research Center. Jodoshu Priest at Jonenji Temple.



Rev. Etsuko Kikuchi

Principal of Shukutoku Kindergarten. President of Mahayana Gakuen, Social Welfare Service Corporation. Jodoshu Priest at Daiganji Temple.

At Shukutoku Junior College, Rev. Nawa related a conversation he had with his elementary school daughter. He told us about how important it is that we learn from the heart, not just inside the head. Therefore, we should keep learning about teachings of Buddha from the younger generation as well, and understand that there are lots of things we just cannot do right even though we already understand that.

“Buddha-ga-Sensei (Buddha Is Our Teacher)” is on sale now! Find out more at the BDK official website. <http://www.bdk.or.jp>



BDK Publications

01
Activity

The 1st BDK Buddhist Picture Book Prize “Kokoro-no-Ehon-Taisho (Picture Book for Your Heart and Mind)”



“Boku-no-Omairi-ga-Nagai-Wake,
The Reason Why I Pray for So Long”

With the aim of promoting the development of the hearts and minds of children through reading, Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) established “Kokoro-no-Ehon-Taisho,” the BDK Buddhist Picture Book Prize, co-

sponsored by Suzuki Publishing and supported by the Mainichi Newspaper, the Japan Buddhist Nursing Association and the Japan Young Generation Education Council.



We received 159 submissions for the 1st competition and selected one for First Prize, three for Outstanding Performance Awards and five for Fine Work under the guidance of Mr. Tomohiko Fujimoto, a popular picture

book artist, who created a legendary children’s TV program, “Okaasan-to-Issho, Together with Mommy” on NHK E-tere.

The First Prize went to Ms. Yumiko Murata’s “Boku-no-Omairi-ga-Nagai-Wake, The Reason Why I Pray for So Long.” The story depicts two opposite feelings of a little boy who is waiting for the birth of his younger sibling. He is very much excited about the baby and wants to treat this new life as important, but he also wants to be treas-

ured as well. As a mother working at a library and writing this book, the author illustrates the boy’s swinging feelings between the two with humor.

The First Prize winner received JPY500,000 and the book was published in March 2017.

For more information about “Kokoro-no-Ehon-Taisho, BDK Buddhist Picture Book Prize,” please visit our official website at <http://www.bdk.or.jp/>

02
Activity

“The Teaching of Buddha” Update for 2016

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) has distributed 36,523 copies of “The Teaching of Buddha (TTOB)” to hotels in Japan. Tourists visiting Japan have increased and numbered 24,040,000 people in 2016, and we are

expecting more tourists to come to Japan in 2017. We hope TTOB can be a little help by adding a great touch of “Omotenashi,” the Japanese traditional way of showing hospitality at hotels.

We started distributing TTOB to Buddhist schools and kindergartens in 2011, and in 2016 we donated 43,541 copies to 246 educational institutions. The cumulative total for donations to schools is 289,000 copies, and approximately 67 percent of all the Buddhist high schools, colleges, and universities, and 25 percent of all the kindergartens

in Japan use TTOB at the moment. In addition to the above, we started distributing the TTOB commentary, “Satori-no-Chie-wo-Yomu (Reading the Wisdom of Enlightenment)” as well. The commentary has been compiled in a compact and easy-to-read package, and it has been used at schools. We donated 23,527 copies of

those to 76 schools in Japan. Moreover, we published new editions of TTOB in Polish, Tibetan, and Burmese. The editorial committee of TTOB welcomed a new chairman, Dr. Makio Takemura, the chancellor of Toyo University, who replaced the former chairman, Dr. Sengaku Mayeda in February 2017.



Keikando Chapel on Machida campus of Oberlin University

“The Teaching of Buddha” in a Christian University



Interview with Prof. BaiGali Toba and Rev. Toshiyoshi Dobashi, Oberlin University

Location: Oberlin University, Tokyo, Japan

Interview and Photography: Kaoru Eguchi, Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK)

Special Thanks to the public relations office of Oberlin University

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) has been distributing “The Teaching of Buddha (TTOB)” 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. TTOBs have been distributed to hotels, temples, medical facilities as well as educational institutions at the moment. Today, we visited the campus of Oberlin University in Machida, Tokyo and had an opportunity to talk to Prof. BaiGali Toba, Associate Professor, who uses TTOBs in his class, and Rev. Toshiyoshi Dobashi, the school chaplain of Oberlin University.

Oberlin University was established in 1966 with colleges of Arts and Science, Performing and Visual Arts, Business Management, Health and Welfare, and Global Communication. Their graduate division has the Graduate School of International Studies, Business Administration, Language Education, Psychology, Higher Education Administration, and Gerontology as

well. Oberlin University has nearly 9,000 students from all over the world as of 2016, and it is well-known as a “Christian University” in Japan. Why is TTOB used at such a university? And is it possible for it to be compatible with Christianity? We posed those questions to Prof. Toba and Rev. Dobashi.

First of all, I would like to ask Prof. Toba a question. Since you use TTOB in your class, how did you meet TTOB for the first time?

I came to Suwa-city, Nagano-prefecture in Japan for the first time in 1991 as an international student and went to a Japanese language school. At the time, I had a part-time job at a hotel and encountered the book in a guest room. I was very much interested in the book because I thought there was no religion in Japan. I was from China and there was no such thing in my country. People were taught that religion is like a drug that paralyzes your body. I automatically thought that Japan was an advanced nation so that there was no such thing as religion in Japan. However, what I saw in Japan was totally different from what I was taught, and there were lots of religious sites like temples, shrines, and churches all over the country. I was shocked.

Some years later in 1996, I had a chance to meet Mr. Mambaryn Enkhbajar who was the Minister of Education in the Mongolian government at the time (he became President of the country later and a translator of TTOB into Mongolian at the same time) and we exchanged some ideas about translating TTOB into the Mongolian language.

I also remember the time I was studying at Toyo University. I met the late Dr. Shuyu Kanaoka (1927-2009), a doctor of philosophy in Buddhist studies. He suggested to me that I should add more information about Mongolia in TTOB.

I see. So why do you like to use TTOBs in your class then?

I currently teach a class on “Mongolian History and Culture” at Oberlin University. It is a 90 minute class and I am trying not to talk too much. What I mean is that I hope for my students to experience something new and participate in the class. For instance, I let them listen to some sutras from all over the world, watch DVDs and have TTOBs in their hands. I think just touching the book is a nice experience. Students will remember for a long time what they actually experienced for themselves.

There are so many sutras in the world and it is impossible to explain all of them. It is too difficult for ordinary people like my students to understand everything. However, I would like to tell everyone that there is such a Buddhist book that is like a “Bible,” something through which you can understand the basics of Buddhism in one book.

People generally think that Oberlin University is a “Christian university,” and we train our students to be Christians, but what we are trying to achieve at our university is educating students to be international citizens under the guidance of the spirit of Christianity. Therefore, students have to be people who can understand other cultures and accept them. You won’t be able to be a true international citizen if you hate everything you do not like. That is why students need to learn more about a variety of religions and ideas out there. I take my stu-

dents to a church, a mosque, a temple, a shrine, etc. as field trips and let them have an opportunity to experience these places.

As I walked around the campus today, I saw lots of international students. Can TTOB be a good textbook for those who have different backgrounds as well?

Some Muslim people think that Buddhism is not a religion, but other people are surprised at such a way of thinking. But first we must learn about things behind this way of thinking and to know why they think that way. It does not fit our school policy if you immediately remove things just because you dislike them. I truly hope my students will first understand lots of things in the world and then draw their conclusions later.

The world is a society of coexistence. As instructors, it is our responsibility to impart information with an objective perspective about understanding each other. So TTOB is perfect. It can be a great introductory book, especially for those who come from socialist nations. It can be very confusing when people tell them about God or Buddha for the first time. It happens a lot with those students. In my opinion, Christianity is to believe in God and Buddhism is to train/practice. It might be difficult for them to understand that instantly, so TTOB is a good first step as an introduction.

There are societies in which people do not know about the true meaning of religion or they use it politically



Rev. Dobashi on the left and Prof. Toba on the right talking about "The Teaching of Buddha"

and kill each other. I think each religion should act with perspective. It is a big problem that some people forcibly use religion with political intentions.

You might have already heard in the news of the world, "Jihad or Holy War" among Muslims. The word originally means a war inside oneself, not a war with someone/something else. Under the control of "religion," how can we manage our desires? That is important, I guess.

A society in which people do not accept each other cannot exist. In that sense, I hope people will get a hint of "co-existence and co-prosperity" from Mongolian history.

Thank you very much. Understanding each other is important in the world. Now, I

would like to ask Rev. Dobashi some questions. There is news about the Japanese version of chaplain, "Rinsho-Shukyo-shi (RSS)." Why did you take a course for RSS at Musashino University, one of the Buddhist Universities in Japan?

The Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011 gave me a chance to rethink my role as a chaplain. I saw some priests from various religions come together, transcending their differences of religion. As lots of media showed scenes of priests helping each other among the survivors, I felt a new beginning of my religious perspective. I realized that only Japanese people have such divine natures to cooperate with each other in such disasters.

As Prof. Toba mentioned, 9-11

shook the US in 2001 and created conflict among religions. However 3-11 washed everything away in East Japan in 2011, and created a chance to have an interfaith dialogue among religions.

I would like to learn more and try to talk to people who believe in different religions beyond Christianity from now on. It was a great honor that Musashino University had welcomed a student like myself to be involved in their circle of learning. It was such a good opportunity. What I learned there gave me energy to positively take action in society. Prof. Kenneth Tanaka, who taught this course, was very enthusiastic in trying to renovate our minds. I felt a positive energy from him that transcended religions and nationalities and I realized that we are all going in the same direction.

In Christianity, justice is not to exploit or oppress the weak in the society. The painting “Des glaneuses” by Jean-François Millet expresses a way of thinking that people should keep a little left behind for the poor people who come later. That is the spirit of co-existence and co-prosperity, you know. We have a history of repeating wars and invasions in the name of God since the crusades. It always happened whenever religion was attached to politics.

I see. In whatever way “Jihad, Holy War” in Islam or “Justice” in Christianity was used, we totally misunderstand the true meanings. It is amazing that three religions including Buddhism have the same teaching of co-existence and co-prosperity.

Now, I would like to ask both of you more questions. Do you try anything special as a Christian university to understand different religions and backgrounds while more students are coming to your university in recent years?

Prof. Toba:

First, all the instructors at Oberlin University are not Christian. (With a big smile) I repeatedly say this, but we educate students to be international citizens under the guidance of the spirit of Christianity, not to train our students to be Christians. In the modern world, we tend to see the “western” point of view. We are Asian and Japanese before being international citizens of the world. I would say that we should have

stronger points of Japanese views. We cannot become an international citizen in a day. For the first step, we must learn the origin of where we were born or raised.



The Mongolian History and Culture class at Oberlin University

Rev. Dobashi:

That is so true. As our school policy says, we would like to educate students to be international citizens of the world with a high knowledge and spirit of Christianity. To globalize the university, we welcome all students from all over the world with various nationalities and religions, of course. We have room for Muslim students to pray each time every day.

Lastly, what do you think about the future possibilities of BDK activities, Buddhism or maybe Buddhist priests?

Prof. Toba:

Christianity, Islam and Buddhism are the so-called biggest religions in today’s world. Buddhism is polytheistic, so I hope Buddhism will provide more opportunities for all of us to interact with each other. Not only through the teachings of Buddha, but it would be great if we could communicate with other universities and nationalities. It is time

for everyone to share ideas and discuss our future. I would like to think again about what religion can do, and I hope that BDK will actively keep providing those opportunities.

Rev. Dobashi:

Yes, I was also thinking about what religions can do, and all priests can feel that we have something in common. I as a priest would like to tell that to everyone who is living now.

My grandparents believed in Buddhism, so we had Buddhist funerals when they passed away. I was surprised at the difference between the Christian way and the Buddhist way. In my experience, the Buddhist priest who took care of the funeral left so quickly after he chanted for the ceremony. I felt that it might be better for those who attended the funeral if there had been a sermon or some comments on life after death or how it feels to experience someone’s death. I believe that eases people’s anxieties and warms up the atmosphere. In a Christian funeral, we ministers give a ceremonial address for all the attendees of the funeral. We talk about his/her background and lifetime with details, so it takes a lot of

time to prepare and give an address. (With smiling face) It would be great if a Buddhist funeral could provide an opportunity for attendees and the priests to connect with each other.

Talking about “interfaith,” there are a variety of publications about the conversation between Buddhists and Christians. I am reading a few of them at the moment. The “Bible” and “The Teaching of Buddha” are in the same drawers in hotel rooms, but it does not mean that they are interacting with each other. I would suggest that we should create something connected to each other. It should be very interesting if there is such a thing. Maybe, the Gideons International, the Japan Bible Society and Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) should have a partnership and publish something like that together to open a door to a new world. In either way, I must say that what BDK has been doing for so long is important and I hope to see more future activities for everyone.

.....
I was a bit nervous when I first vis-

ited Oberlin University which is one of the most famous Christian universities of all time in Japan. However, Prof. BaiGali and Rev. Dobashi welcomed me and their gentle kindness helped me to enjoy my time on campus.

I attended a chapel hour led by Rev. Dobashi and experienced Bible study for the first time. The “Parable of the Prodigal Son” showed us the importance of forgiving others. Making comparisons with other people and contending with criticism all the time are not good. It is more important to interact with and forgive others. I felt the importance of living in the present moment and learned something that is commonly shared by Christianity and Buddhism.

After the chapel hour experience, I heard a lecture given by Prof. Toba and witnessed that his students are very much interested in “The Teaching of Buddha (TTOB).” They read the book and took it with them when they left the class. At the end of the class, some international students from East Asian

countries talked about the religious situation in their countries and they seemed to be happy to take the book in their own languages.

TTOB gave us a fantastic opportunity to visit Oberlin University. The founder of the university, Mr. Anzo Shimizu, said that “learning is not just for oneself but for the betterment of others.” Indeed, our philosophy is based in a spirit of service that transcends all cultures and nationalities. I was impressed with their commitment to educate students to be true international citizens of the world.

BDK will continue to distribute free copies of TTOB to schools in the world and we aim to publish a book that will allow readers to become familiar with different religions and nationalities.

For more information about “The Teaching of Buddha” and other BDK publications, please visit the official BDK website at <http://www.bdk.or.jp/>



Prof. Dr. BaiGali Toba

Born in Inner Mongolia in 1963. MA at Inner Mongolian Normal University. Ph.D. at Toyo University. Associate Professor at Oberlin University. Teaches Mongolian History and Culture, Nomadic Culture, Japanese Religions, etc. Researcher at Institute of Oriental Studies, Toyo University. Member of the Japanese Association for Mongolian Studies.



Rev. Toshiyoshi Dobashi

Born in 1961. BA at Meiji Gakuin University. MA at Rikkyo University and Oberlin University. Minister of United Church of Christ in Japan. Chaplain at Oberlin University. Director at Japan University Chaplain Association.



BDK Publications

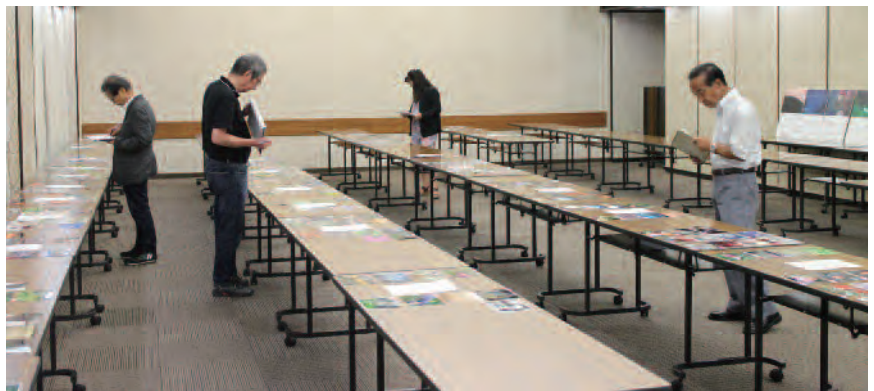
03
Activity

Other BDK Publications and Related Events

We started a photography competition as a part of the 50th anniversary projects in 2014 and this is our third time to have this event.

We received 1,172 submissions for the competition and our selection committee chose 32 of them in September, 2016. All of the selected photos were also published in “Japan Camera,” one of the leading Japanese magazines for photography. We were thus able to provide a great opportunity for people to feel the spirit of Buddhism through these art works.

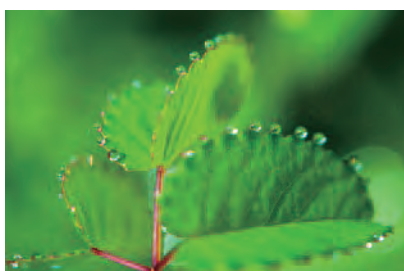
We organized an exhibition of all of the selected photos at Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha Tsukiji Hongwanji Temple in July, 2016 for two weeks. About 10,000 people visited the exhibition, and we also handed out booklets and flyers about



Selecting photos for the 2016 competition by the committee

BDK and its activities. One visitor said, “Only one photograph with a simple phrase can make a day brighter.” Another said, “The messages of Buddhism and photography gave me a clear image of the teachings.”

The 2018 version of the BDK Calendar, “A Wise Teaching A Day” with the selected pieces from the third competition will be published in June 2017. For more information about the BDK Calendar, please visit the BDK official website at <http://www.bdk.or.jp/>



The 2016 winning photos

04 Activity

“BDK English Tripiṭaka” Translation Project Prof. Dr. Kenneth Tanaka welcomed as the new chairman of the editorial committee



“BDK English Tripiṭaka”



The BDK English Tripiṭaka editorial committee (Prof. Dr. Tanaka, third from the left and Dr. Mayeda, third from the right)

The BDK English Tripiṭaka editorial committee welcomed Prof. Dr. Kenneth Tanaka as the new chairman replacing Dr. Sengaku Mayeda in June 2016. Dr. Mayeda oversaw the translation of 42 works, and

he made a great contribution to the translation project. We truly appreciate Dr. Mayeda’s contribution to all of the previous translations undertaken since 1996.

Chairman Tanaka has been promoting projects with a broad network of a variety of Buddhist scholars overseas. The editorial committee aims to move forward to the completion of the first term project.

We published one of the oldest sutras taught by Shakyamuni, “The Canonical Book of the Buddha’s Lengthy Discourses,” volumes 1 and 2 out of three. In addition to it, we pub-

lished “The Sutra that Expounds the Descent of Maitreya Buddha and His Enlightenment.” and “The Sutra of Mañjuśrī’s Questions.”

For more information about the “BDK English Tripiṭaka” project, “The Teaching of Buddha” and other BDK publication, please visit the BDK official website at <http://www.bdk.or.jp/>



Donating the “BDK English Tripiṭaka” to Rev. Lhaxdor at the Tibetan Text Library in India



Financial Assistance and Honorees

01 Activity

BDK Fellowship Programs

The BDK Fellowship was established to promote international cooperation and mutual understanding in Buddhist Studies, and it is intended to enable

researchers to engage in research on Buddhism while in Japan. The BDK Fellowship committee was established in 1991.

For the 27th year in 2017, we have selected three promising scholars below.

Ms. Dörte Kamarid

Affiliation in Japan : International College for Postgraduate Buddhist Studies (ICPBS)

Academic Advisor in Japan : Prof. Akira Saito

Theme of Research in Japan : Cultural Transfer between India and Tibet and its implication for the development of Prāsaṅgika Madhyamaka in Tibet: The Commentary on Mūlamadhyamakakārikā by Pa tshab Nyi ma grags

Juti Rakkit Shraman

Affiliation in Japan : The Department of Indian Philosophy and Buddhist Studies, The Division of Asian Studies, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, The University of Tokyo.

Academic Advisor in Japan : Prof. Kenryo Minowa

Theme of Research in Japan : Textual Analysis of 'Tathāgata' in the Context of Itivuttaka.

Katarzyna Marciniak

Affiliation in Japan : The International Research Institute for Advanced Buddhology, Soka University

Academic Advisor in Japan : Prof. Seishi Karashima

Theme of Research in Japan : A new edition of the Mahāvastu on the basis of the oldest extant Manuscripts Sa and Na

We hope our newest three family members of the BDK Fellowships will have successful stays in Japan for the year 2017, and it is with great pleasure that we present reports about previous scholarship holders of the year 2016.

Questions for the 2016 BDK Fellowship holders

- 1) What made you apply for the 2016 BDK Fellowship?
- 2) What is/are the best thing(s) about being a BDK Fellowship holder?
- 3) What do you think about your future career?

Mr. Emanuele Davide Giglio

Affiliation in Japan : Doctoral Student at the Department of Indian Philosophy and Buddhist Studies, The Division of Asian Studies, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, The University of Tokyo

Academic Advisor in Japan : Prof. Kenryo Minowa

Theme of Research in Japan : The genesis of the 諸法実相鈔 ("On 'The True Aspect is All Dharmas'"), an epistle attributed to Nichiren but not yet recognized in the collection of his autographical works from a methodological, bibliographical and a philosophical viewpoint.

1) My research is about documents traditionally attributed to Nichiren (1222-1280) but which are of uncertain identity, and are often suspected of being forgeries made by latter disciples in the Muromachi Era. Such documents are not yet systematically researched from both the bibliographical and philosophical viewpoints in Japan or overseas. In this context, my work has, from its very beginning, the aim of establishing a more systematic method of research and providing new materials concerning an issue nobody knows even how to start thinking about. Before submitting my master's paper, I made a bibliographical discovery that made me able to continue my work in the doctoral course. But after that, I was left with only fragmentary hints. Then I strongly felt the necessity of discovering something new that was likely hidden in the darkness of a long and not yet clear history of collecting and recording this particular type of



Mr. Giglio on the right and Prof. Minowa on the left

documents. This occurred to me in November of 2015, when I actually discovered something I was convinced from the very first moment will lead me to an answer. However, this happened late, when I was near the end of my previous scholarship, and it was also very close to the end of my 4th year in the doctoral course. I did not have enough time to decode and analyze

what I had just found. It was in these circumstances that I happened to encounter the BDK Fellowship.

2) Thanks to the BDK Fellowship, I was provided enough time and resources to become more experienced in reading pre-Edo Japanese Buddhist manuscripts (when everybody's way to transcribe documents still was personal and lacking a recognizable style). I was able to read



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the code I found, and obtain enough information to submit to my professor the first draft of my doctoral paper in the second half of March. We are convinced that our work will have a historical impact on future research in the same field, and now we are also taking into account the opportunity to offer our contribution to the development of

new technologies for making decoding faster.
3) I'm presently planning to enter as soon as possible into the examination period of my paper by competent authorities of my University. Then, I will continue to contribute to the development of research about controversial documents from a problematic period of Japanese

Buddhist history. I hope my ten years in Japan will be helpful when the time comes to establish a graduate school of East Asian Buddhist Literature in my country so that we can provide more people overseas with opportunities to appreciate its profoundness and philosophical utility.

Ms. Katarzyna Marciniak

Affiliation in Japan : The International Research Institute for Advanced Buddhology, Soka University

Academic Advisor in Japan : Prof. Seishi Karashima

Theme of Research in Japan : Buddhist Sanskrit as attested in the Mahāvastu of the Mahāsāṃghikas-Lokottaravādins. A comparative study of the language on the basis of the oldest extant manuscripts of the text (MS Sa, MS Na).

1) I have been working on a Buddhist Hybrid Sanskrit text, namely the Mahāvastu, since 2010. In Japan, there have been outstanding scholars of this particular text, to name a few, Shindō Shiraishi, Hōryū Kuno and Akira Yuyama, and, also, there are quite a few researchers in Japan who are currently working on this Vinaya text of the Mahāsāṃghika-Lokottaravādins. Therefore, I decided to apply for the BDK Fellowship, hoping to be given a chance to come here and meet Japanese scholars whose interests are the same as mine. And my expectations are being fulfilled.

2) The best thing about being a BDK Fellowship holder is being able to do research at great academic institutions in Japan and cooperate with prominent Japanese scholars, as well as getting to know the culture and the people of this country. The



Ms. Marciniak on the right and Prof. Karashima on the left

Fellowship enables me to carry out my academic projects and at the same time enjoy many various aspects of everyday life in Japan.

3) I wish to continue my research on Buddhist Sanskrit literature and, at the same time, to encourage and

support students who are interested in Buddhist philology in Poland. I am hoping to be able to employ the skills I am learning now in my future research projects and academic career.

2016 BDK Fellowship for Japanese Scholars

The BDK Fellowship for Japanese Scholars program was established in 2012, and aims to promote international cooperation and mutual understanding in

Buddhist Studies. They are intended to enable Japanese researchers to engage in research on Buddhism while in foreign countries.

We are pleased to introduce two of the 2016 BDK Fellowship holders.

Questions for the 2016 BDK Fellowship Holders

- 1) What made you apply for the 2016 BDK Fellowship?
- 2) What is/are the best thing(s) about being a BDK Fellowship holder and what do you think about your future career?
- 3) What did you like the most about life in a foreign country?

Mr. Toshio Horiuchi

Affiliation : Department of Indian and Tibetan Studies, Asia-Africa Institute, University of Hamburg

Academic Advisor : Prof. Dorji Wangchuk

Theme of Research : Critical edition and philosophical study of the former part of the Lankāvatārasūtra Chapter 2

1) I just wanted to take the opportunity to spread what I have learned about the teachings of Buddha in Japan, and I left my country to focus on research and study abroad.

2) The BDK Fellowship provided a perfect opportunity for me to focus on my research at the University of Hamburg. It allowed me to rent a room to stay so that I can go to the campus on foot and do what I have to do. I audit lots of classes, too. I was so surprised that the classes for Tibetan and Sanskrit texts were filled with more than twenty people! And my academic advisor, Prof. Dr. Dorji Wangchuk, is the best, and other faculties and staff members are all friendly. I truly appreciate this great opportunity given to me by BDK.



Mr. Horiuchi on the right and Prof. Wangchuk on the left

3) One thing I was a bit surprised at was that people start so early in the morning! Two classes that I took started at 8:15 in the morning. Even before that time, people are very active. It might be because Germany is located in the northern part and the time of sunset is early

especially in the winter, I guess. Anyway, I am thankful that I received such a great opportunity from BDK that is allowing me to have some the best experiences of my lifetime! This is encouraging me to keep up my research and study here in Germany.



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Ms. Hiroko Matsuoka

Affiliation : Institute for Indology and Central Asian Studies, University of Leipzig

Academic Advisor : Prof. Eli Flanco

Theme of Research : A Study of the Beginnings of the Buddhist Treatises

1) I have been doing my research on Kamalasila’s “Dharmakīrti’s Proof of Self-Awareness” in 8th century in India. I found out that Prof. Eli Flanco of the University of Leipzig has worked on the manuscripts of the revised edition. My academic advisor at Hiroshima University, Prof. Dr. Shoryu Katsura, introduced me to the BDK Fellowship for Japanese Scholars while I was thinking of studying at the University of Leipzig, and so. I decided to apply for the 2016 BDK Fellowship.



Prof. Flanco



Ms. Matsuoka

2) It has been ten months since I first arrived in Germany. I appreciate my life here every minute. I attend the project meeting and the Buddhist text practice at my institute and a seminar at the University of Vienna with a videophone. In addition, I cooperate with my academic advisor, Prof. Eli Flanco, and

am working on a translation of “Nibandha” and “Dharmakīrti’s Proof of Self-Awareness.” I am so grateful that I will be able to continue my studies and researches here for another year with the support of BDK. After the tenure of the scholarship is over, I will be at the Institute for the Cultural and Intellectual History of Asia of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, and will participate in the “Kamalasila” Project. I cannot imagine that I could have done all of this without the BDK Fellowship.

3) I love the library of our institute that has a variety of Sanskrit, Sino-Tibetan, Japanese and Chinese texts. In addition to the academic aspects of my life, I truly enjoy the Christmas markets that sell the famous Stollen, a traditional German confectionary/bread. The city of Leipzig is also famous for music and we can walk down to the Thomas Church as well as Gewandhaus where we can enjoy classical music such as that of Johann Sebastian Bach.

The BDK Fellowship committee selected two scholars for the 2017 grants listed below.

Mr. Ryo Nishiyama

Current Affiliation in Japan : Ryukoku University

Affiliation to be : Boston University, USA.

Ms. Hiroko Matsuoka

Current Affiliation in Japan : Kyoto University

Affiliation to be : University of Leipzig, Germany

For more information about BDK Fellowship programs, please visit the official BDK website at <http://www.bdk.or.jp/>

02 Activity

The 50th BDK Cultural Awards

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) offers the Bunka-Sho, the Cultural Award for the Promotion of Buddhism, which was started in 1967, and the Numata Shorei-Sho, the Numata Innovation & Visionary Award, which

was started in 2012 and is given to individuals who are already exhibiting dedicated service to Buddhism, and in time will become up-and-coming contributors to the promotion of Buddhism.

The BDK Cultural Award Committee selected the following awardees at its selection meeting on July 2016. The committee presented them with a gift and

honorarium of JPY 3,000,000 for the Cultural Award for the Promotion of Buddhism and JPY 2,000,000 for the Numata Innovation & Visionary Award.



The 50th Bukkyo Dendo Bunka-Sho, BDK Cultural Award for the Promotion of Buddhism
Rev. Dr. Zenno Ishigami

● Born in Hokkaido in 1929. A leading scholar of the research on Indian narratives and Jodo sutras. Recognized for his achievement in broadcasting, lecturing and writing to promote Buddhism and its culture for many years.



The Numata Shorei-Sho, the Numata Innovation & Visionary Award
Mr. Isao Matsushita

● Born in Tokyo in 1951. A pioneer of harmonizing modern music with traditional Japanese music, art, and Shomyo, Buddhist liturgical chants, that gives an Oriental atmosphere.

The 50th Cultural Award Ceremony

The ceremony and banquet were held at the BDK Center Building in Tokyo in October 5, 2016.

Rev. Dr. Ishigami reflected on the old days, and said, “I just wanted to study. I wanted to learn about the fundamentals of Buddhism. The university was not functioning well after the chaos of WWII, but all the professors were enthusiastic about teaching and guiding students. And my colleagues taught me how I can do my research and studies. I am truly grateful to have those people around me.” He expressed his deepest gratitude to all of them.

Mr. Matsushita remembered his days in Berlin, Germany. “I always felt a connection with Buddhism because I found myself composing a piece of music from a passage of the “Heart Sutra” once when I was in trouble and was worried about composing a piece of music in Berlin, where I was studying as an international student.” “I believe that praying, believing and loving are common things among all religions. And I would like to keep appreciating everything I experience and encourage myself for my future work.”

In a congratulatory address, Rev. Dr.

Masayoshi Hasegawa, president of Daijo Shukutoku Gakuen, stated that Rev. Dr. Ishigami’s great achievement was in his ability to tell people about the Buddhist world in various effective ways. “For a long time, he opened a door to the new world of Buddhism in addition to his academic achievements.” Rev. Taiin Murakami, head priest of Yakushiji Temple in Nara, expressed a great expectation about Mr. Matsushita’s future work, and said, “He expresses religions and minds through music with a broad perspective. The spirit of Buddhist promotion will enable him to improve even more in his artwork.”



03 Activity Revisions of the BDK Financial Assistance Programs

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) has been supporting recommended groups and organizations that actively promote the spirit of Buddhism and Buddhist culture for years. From the year 2016, we started an open sys-

tem that allows all groups and organizations to submit applications for high quality public programs to promote Buddhism and its culture. We established three different classifications of financial support listed below.

<Classification>

A. Support for Groups

A group must have the same purpose as BDK's purpose. All the activities of the group have to contribute to society in general, and those activities have to be in need of constant support.

B. Support for Projects

A project must have the same purpose as BDK's purpose. BDK supports costs of particular projects. We will provide support for a year or more as appropriate.

B-1 Promoting the spirit and culture of Buddhism and supporting humane activities B-2 Promoting Buddhist studies

B-3 Protecting Buddhist cultural properties

C. Support for Numata Chairs in Buddhist Studies

BDK currently supports the "Numata Chair in Buddhist Studies" at major universities in the world, and will consider establishing new programs.

<Qualification for all Classifications>

1. Must understand and affirm BDK's requirement for social utility. Programs can be in Japan or overseas. Applicant must be a group or an individual that actively promotes the Buddhist spirit, culture, studies and related activities and projects.
2. The purpose of the activities and projects has to be non-profit or non-commercial.
3. The purpose of the activities and projects cannot promote any specific or ideology.

<Criteria for All Classifications>

- (1) Social utility (2) Contribution to the community (3) High possibility for completion of project (4) Demonstrated results of activities in the past (5) Continuation and development of activities (6) Adequate costs (7) Non-sectarian

<Application Period>

October 1 to December 31 every year

<Procedures>

1. Download the designated application form online. Fill out the form with the statement of budget and balance. Submit along with the reference.
2. Fill out the form on a year-basis. If it is a multi-year project, applicants may fill out one form for each year with details. Submit along with the business plan and the statement of budget and balance.
3. Must submit a recommendation with the application.

The new system was instituted in October 2016 for the 2017 application. We received twice as many applications as we did for last year.

For more information about BDK financial assistance programs, please visit our official website at <http://www.bdk.or.jp/>

Buddhist Lectures and Seminars

01 Activity The 46th Jissen Fukyo Kenkyukai, BDK Buddhist Missionary Seminar, at Hossoshu Daihonzan Yakushiji Temple in Nara



Participants presents what they discussed

The Buddhist Missionary Seminar (BMS) study groups encourage participants to experience and practice the path of the founders of various Japanese Buddhist schools. BDK hopes participants will deepen their understanding of Buddha’s teachings by listening, thinking and sharing with everyone.

BDK hosted the 46th BMS with the theme of “Learning from Master Xuanzang and Master Jiàn zhēn” for

two nights and three days at Hossoshu Daihonzan Yakushiji Temple in Nara. We welcomed 44 priests and their family members from different sects.

On the first day, the BMS group visited Nenposhinkyo Sohonzan Kongoji Temple in Osaka and listened to the dharma talks delivered by Rev. Ryoyu Okeya, the executive director of the head office, and by Rev. Shunei Tagawa, the head priest of Hossoshu Daihonzan Kofukuji Temple.

On the following days, participants listened to Rev. Hoin Yamada, head priest of Yakushiji Temple, and also visited Risshu Sohonzan Toshodaiji Temple and listened to Rev. Myogen Nishiyama, head priest of Toshodaiji.

Participants enjoyed the three days and were impressed with the temple buildings at Yakushiji temple and felt the wishes of people who were copying-sutras to pray for world peace.

For more information about BMS and its history, please visit our official website at <http://www.bdk.or.jp/>



Morning service at Yakushiji Temple

02 Activity Buddhist Lecture: “How to Learn the Kodo Incense Ceremony”

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) hosted a Buddhist lecture for people to experience Buddhism and its culture by focusing on the relationship between

the Kodo Incense Ceremony and Buddhism.

The Incense Ceremony has been

essential for prayer services since the Asuka era, about 1,500 years ago when Buddhism and the Incense Ceremony arrived in Japan for the



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first time. Incense purifies places and people at the same time, and this original purpose and function have not changed a lot since then.

BDK held the lecture, “How to Learn the Kodo Incense Ceremony” on July 12, 2016. The participants learned the basics of the ingredients of a variety of incense as well as the basics of use. Moreover, Mr. Yoshihiro Inasaka, a professional Kodo instructor, taught them about how incense developed in Japanese history.

Mr. Inasaka, who is also a scriptwriter and commercial producer, has an active career of introducing Japanese incense culture to the world. He was in charge of a lecture presentation at the United Nations. He is called the



The lecture about the Kodo, Incense Ceremony

“evangelist of the Incense Ceremony” by various media.

“What is the difference between incense and the incense stick?” “How can we enjoy incense more in our daily life?” Mr. Inasaka had some conversations with the participants.

They even had a chance to touch a precious branch of incense and enjoyed the time of experiencing the world of incense. It was absolutely a great opportunity for people to be exposed to a new aspect of Buddhist culture.

03 Activity The 50th Anniversary Project Continues - Opening of the “BDK Memorial Museum”



The wall display inside the museum

Although Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2015, the “BDK Memorial Museum” was finally opened this year to commemorate the achievements of the last 50 years and introduce BDK activities.

The BDK headquarters office in Tokyo has welcomed people from all over the world. We opened the museum on October 5, 2016 in the Bukkyo Dendo Center building.

As soon as you walk into the museum, you will see center piece display.

There is a banner of the BDK founder, the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata, hanging from the ceiling to welcome guests. The exhibitions below display the items Rev. Yehan Numata used throughout his life, such as his briefcase, stationery, watch, and other items. Moreover, his sutra book and Buddhist prayer beads, which he always carried, are also displayed along with the very first edition of

“The Pacific World,” which was his initial inspiration for promoting Buddhism. There are lots of important and valuable items through which we can feel his enthusiasm and energy at that time.

The panel displays review the history of BDK for 50 years, present information on each sect of traditional Japanese Buddhism, and present



The items Rev. Yehan Numata used throughout his life
many publications of BDK. We plan on installing more displays and sponsoring lectures to promote the essence of Buddhism to more people in the world.

04 Activity “Real Buddhist Practice Experience” at Tendaishu Sohonzan Hieizan Enryakuji Temple – Staying at Temples and Walking with Priests

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) has hosted the Buddhist Missionary Seminar (BMS) for Buddhist priests and their family members every year for the last 46 years. In 2016, we organized the seminar as a tour for the public, and was billed as “A Real Buddhist Practice Experience” in which people could experience authentic Buddhist training and practice.

The tour was held on October 8 and 9, 2016 for a night and two days. It was too short to experience everything in two days, but participants could enter areas not normally open to the public, and they tried Zazen meditation and listened to dharma talks. In addition, they learned the strict manner of eating at dinner and walked for all night and prayed at each of the temples in the Enryakuji area. The tour enabled everyone to experience the essence of the strict principles and hard practice



Rev. Mitsunaga with participants

of Buddhism.

During the stay, participants could not use cell phones, tablets, and other devices. The dharma talk by Rev. Soho Miyamoto, the director of Kojirin, and the walking practice led by Rev. Endo Mitsunaga, Great Ajari, provided the participants a chance to reexamine their lives through those practices.

The weather was terrible during the



From the top of Mt. Hiei



The lecture by Rev. Miyamoto

all-night-long walk with Rev. Mitsunaga, and most of the participants completed it between 1 am and 8 am. They were all exhausted after the walk, but told us that they had an unbelievable and fulfilling time for two days.

For more information about “Real Buddhist Practice Experience” Tour, please visit our official website at <http://www.bdk.or.jp/>



05 Activity Special Zazen Retreat at Sotoshu Daihonzan Sojiji Temple



Yoga workshop by Mr. Nakajima

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) held a new event, “Special Zazen Retreat,” combining Zazen, Yoga and Shojin Ryori (Buddhist vegetarian food) at Sotoshu Daihonzan

Buddhist way of vegetarian food enjoyed the authentic Sojiji style of Shojin Ryori after the special zazen hours. More than 100 people attended the event, and Mr. Masaaki Nakajima,

Sojiji Temple to provide more opportunities for people to experience Buddhist culture and its spirit.

The event combined Zazen practice and added a Yoga workshop. Moreover, those who were interested in experiencing the

professional Yoga instructor directed the workshop. Rev. Komyo Hanawa of Sojiji Temple gave a Dharma talk to everyone and explained the details of the origin of Zen, Zazen and Shojin-Ryori. Everything was presented at an elementary level so that it was easy to follow. The participants took notes and listened to what the instructors explained. They also updated scenes of the event through SNS and seemed to enjoy the time at Sojiji Temple very much.

BDK would like to plan more interesting and beginner-friendly events collaborating with temples from now on.

06 Activity Elementary Course of Buddhist Lectures "Japanese Buddhism - Learning from Scratch"

For many years, Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) has sponsored a variety of Buddhist lectures and seminars to the public so that people can understand Buddhism through various perspectives. In 2016, we started a new series of lectures called “Japanese Buddhism –Learning from

Scratch” to provide opportunities for everyone to learn about the basics of each sect of Japanese traditional Buddhism and its founders.

Starting from the April lecture about “Tendai-Shu and its Founder, Master Saicho,” more than 70 people have consistently attended the series until

the last lecture in November.

The first half of the lecture was about the basics of each sect such as the principles, the history and the life of each founder, and the second half was a dharma talk about each lecturer’s own experience and beliefs. The participants said, “The dharma talks



Rev. Minowa



Rev. Chiba



Rev. Oka

were touching.” “It was a fantastic opportunity to learn not only about my own sect but also about other sects.” “The resumes were easy to follow and great for reviewing at home.”

For more information about the BDK lectures and seminars, please visit our official website at <http://www.bdk.or.jp/>

Lectures in 2016

Month	Theme	Lecturer
April	Tendai Shu, Master Saicho	Rev. Junsho Oka (Enyuji Temple)
May	Singon Shu, Master Kukai	Rev. Kohan Watanabe (Koboji Temple)
June	Jodo Shu, Master Honen	Rev. Ryosho Shoji (Jodo Shu Research Institute)
July	Jodo Shin Shu, Master Shinran	Rev. Toshio Maeda (Jodo Shin Shu Hongwanji Ha Research Institute)
September	Rinzai Shu, Master Eisai	Rev. Daiko Matsuyama (Myoshinji Taizoin Temple)
October	Nichiren Shu, Master Nichiren	Rev. Kenryo Minowa (the University of Tokyo)
November	Soto Shu, Master Dogen	Rev. Koji Chiba (Horinji Temple / Komazawa Women's University)

07 Activity Other BDK Related Lectures, Classes, and Events.

In accord with its purpose to promote the spirit of Buddhism and its culture, Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) sponsors various lectures, classes, and events that are open to the public.

Studying “The Teaching of Buddha” for Business



The study group “The Teaching of Buddha for Business”

This study group explored tips for business people in regard to treating people nicely and helping to provide signposts for living. We welcomed Rev. Dr. Kiyotaka Kimura from Soto Shu Ryuhoji Temple and Rev. Michio Henmi from Jodo Shin Shu Jodoji Temple for the 2016 lectures, and hosted the study group monthly on the third Wednesdays at 6 pm at the Bukkyo Dendo Center in Tokyo.

Studying “The Teaching of Buddha” for Daily Life

This study group examined the spirit of Buddhism with humor and used “The Teaching of Buddha” as a textbook to learn lessons for making a difference in daily life. We welcomed Rev. Shoshin Ichishima from Tendai Shu Sensoji Temple and Prof. Rev. Kenneth Tanaka from Musashino University for the 2016 lectures, and hosted the study group monthly on the fourth Thursdays at 1:30 pm at the Bukkyo Dendo Center in Tokyo.



The study group “The Teaching of Buddha for Daily Life”

Buddhism Through English

Feel the gap between the Buddhist spirit and culture? Learning Buddhism through English provides a different experience from the other lectures. We welcomed Prof. Rev. Kenneth Tanaka from Musashino University for the 2016 lectures. This series of lectures were held monthly on the fourth Thursdays at 7 pm at the Bukkyo Dendo Center in Tokyo.

BDK Zazen-Kai, Meditation Retreat for Business People

BDK offers an opportunity to experience calm and peace amidst today’s stressful society. We welcomed Rev. Junsho Oka from Tendai Shu Enyuji Temple for the 2016 sessions held monthly on the third Tuesdays at 8 pm at the Bukkyo Dendo Center in Tokyo.



BDK JAPAN NEWS 2016



BDK Zazen-Kai

BDK Buddhist Yoga

The two aspects of Buddhism and Yoga can help in developing a calm and healthy life. Rev. Yuuka Gazzo from Jodo Shu Seiganji Temple is also known as a professional Yoga instructor, and she led the class held monthly on the first Wednesdays at 7

pm at the Bukkyo Dendo Center in Tokyo.



BDK Buddhist Yoga

Mita Rakugo-Kai

Some of the traditional Japanese arts are said to be related to the Buddhist Fushidan Sekkyo, which is the origin of Rakugo. Mita Rakugo-Kai introduced the traditional stories and provided opportunities to experience the



Mita Rakugo-kai

spirit of Buddhism. The 2016 events were held in February, April, June, August, October and December.

For more information about "Buddhist English Guide Program," please visit our official website at <http://www.bdk.or.jp/>

08 Activity Buddhism Through English: "Buddhist English Guide Program"

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) has welcomed many participants who learn about Buddhism through English since 2011.

Tourists visiting Japan have increased, and most of them visit temples. However, explanations and signs at those places are not good enough for tourists to understand what they are seeing.

The purpose of this course is to train guides who can explain Buddhism and its related facilities to the English-speaking people who visit temples in Japan. We hope this new program, "Buddhist English Guide Program," has been of some help for those who participated in the past



The lecture by Prof. Tanaka

few years, and that it has added a stronger motivation to learn Buddhism through English.

For more information about "Buddhist English Guide Program," please visit our official website at <http://www.bdk.or.jp/>

09

Activity

2016 BDK Symposium: “Journey of Mind”



The lecture by Prof. Yokoyama

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) sponsored three lecturers for the 2016 BDK Symposium on the theme of “Journey of Mind.”

The lecturers talked about “Mind” from the different perspectives of Buddhism, education and medical studies. The venue was packed with people each time, and many of the participants gave us positive feedback and seemed to feel a closer relationship to Buddhism.

The 10th BDK Symposium on May 26, 2016

“Health from the Unconscious Mind – Learning from Yogacara Ideas” by Emeritus Prof. Koitsu Yokoyama, Rikkyo University.

The 11th BDK Symposium on September 13, 2016.

“Children Suffering from a Mental Illnesses – What Religions Can Do” by Mr. Osamu Mizutani, former high school teacher and education critic.

The 12th BDK Symposium on March 10, 2017

“Solving Zazen with Serotonin Neurons” by Emeritus Prof. Hideho Arita, the Medical School of Toho University.

10

Activity

Memorial Service on the 23rd Anniversary of the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata, the Founder of BDK

It has been 22 years since the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata, the founder of Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) and Mitutoyo Corporation, passed away in 1994. BDK and Mitutoyo held the 23rd anniversary memorial service on April 5, 2016.

Rev. Seishu Yamamoto from Tsukiji Hongwanji Temple led the ceremony, which included music. Rev. Daishun Ueyama gave a Dharma talk to more than 100 participants and recalled his contributions to the promotion of Buddhism.

Everyone took this special opportunity to reaffirm their commitment to

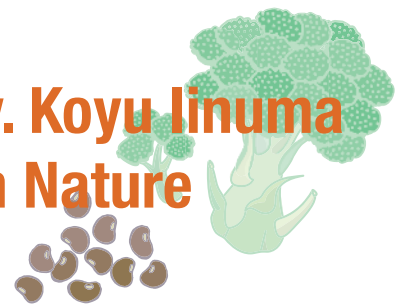


The 23rd anniversary memorial service

pass his legacy onto the next generation.

Take a Break: Buddhist Vegetarian Recipe Let's Try "SHOJIN Life"

Once A Month with the recipes of Rev. Koyu Inuma - Improving the Harmony of Soul with Nature



Report & Photography: Kaoru Eguchi, BDK

People have been paying attention to healthy diets in recent decades, but we should also take note of how people eat too much.

When you think about your eating habits, it would be perfect if you could think of balanced nutrition and eat what you cook for yourself. However in the modern world, most people do not have time to think about this for every meal, and it is very diffi-

cult to carry this out in practice. Therefore, we suggest that you consider the "SHOJIN Life" once a month with a healthy and easy-to-cook recipe that uses ingredients without wasting them. Shojin Buddhist vegetarian dishes can purify your body and mind, and Rev. Koyu Inuma from Tendai Shu Fukushoji Temple, who is known as a "chef-monk," introduces recipes exclusively for our newsletter.

For this special occasion, we would like to introduce the newest soy bean product: "Shojin Yuba (Tofu Skin)" released from Mitutoyo Foods Co. in the spring of 2016. "Shojin Yuba" is rolled soft tofu skin cooked in a vegetarian soup stock, and Rev. Inuma invented two recipes using "Shojin Yuba" with rice so that everyone will be able to experience the "Shojin Life" once a month.

Try not to waste the ingredients by using the vegetable stems you usually throw away! ◆ Rice Dish Cooked with Yuba (Tofu Skin) and Broccoli Stems

Ingredients for 2 servings

- 3 pieces of "Shojin Yuba" = 1/2 package of "Shojin Yuba" (cut into 5mm squares)
- 50g of broccoli stems (peel the hard skin off and cut into short pieces)
- 150g of white rice (wash and leave in water for 15 minutes then drain water and leave again for another 15minutes)
- 1/2 tablespoon of sesame oil
- 1 teaspoon of Miso (any kind of Miso, salted bean paste, of your choice)
- Ground toasted white sesame seeds to taste

<A> 50cc of "Shojin Yuba" soup = 1/2 of "Shojin Yuba" soup in package (Konbu kelp or Shiitake mushroom Dashi soup stock can be good, too)
120cc of water
10cc of soy sauce

***1 package of "Shojin Yuba" contains 6 Yuba pieces and 100cc of soup

(1) Steam the rice and Yuba with <A> in a rice cooker

*** Washing and leaving the rice in the water gives the rice more moisture and it will cook to perfect softness

(2) Sauté the broccoli stems with sesame oil and Miso

*** Do not try to sauté Miso neatly. The chunks of Miso add bitterness and a flavorful touch to the broccoli.

(3) Mix (2) with cooked rice and sprinkle the ground toasted white sesame seeds on it!



New Texture!

◆ Rice Porridge with Yuba (Tofu Skin) and Black Beans

Ingredients for 2 servings

- 3 pieces of “Shojin Yuba” = 1/2 package of “Shojin Yuba” (cut into 5mm squares)
- 30g of black beans (You may use roasted soy beans used in the Setsubun bean throwing ceremony or other kinds of beans as well)
- 110g of white rice (wash and leave in water for 15 minutes then drain water and leave again for another 15minutes)
- Salt to taste
- Wasabi (Japanese horseradish) to taste

<A> 50cc of “Shojin Yuba” soup = 1/2 of “Shojin Yuba” soup in package (Konbu kelp or Shiitake mushroom Dashi soup stock can be good, too)
120cc of water
10cc of soy sauce

***1 package of “Shojin Yuba” contains 6 Yuba pieces and 100cc of soup

(1) Roast black beans for a few minutes. Stop roasting them when you see cracks on the surface.

(2) Put (1) into <A> and boil them together in a pot on high heat. Add rice to the pot and simmer on low heat for 10 minutes.

*** Do not cover the pot and keep on low heat so that the rice will be perfectly soft.

(3) Turn off the heat, add Yuba to it and cover the pot for 3 minutes. Prepare salt and wasabi on the side as you wish!



Soy food products are popular examples of food with high nutritional value from ancient times in Japan, and there are a variety of soy foods out there in today’s world. There are tofu, natto, deep-fried tofu, etc. We focused on “Yuba (tofu skin)” that is high in soy bean content.

You might think that “Yuba” is mostly served at traditional Japanese restaurants, but in 1986, the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata, founder of Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) as well as Mitutoyo Foods Co., successfully

started the mass-production of soy products for everyone to enjoy at home. He aspired to a world of non-killing and wished to spread the Buddhist spirit by introducing good and healthy food.

Yuba itself is completely vegetarian, but is often produced by cooking and seasoning in with animal ingredients by boiling in a chicken or beef soup stock. Therefore, Mitutoyo Foods Co. developed a new Yuba product without using any kind of animal food ingredients for seasoning and thus

provides opportunities for everyone to enjoy Shojin Yuba.

“Shojin Yuba” for Your Meal at Home!



Find out more about “Shojin Yuba” and other Yuba products at the official website of Mitutoyo Foods Co..
<http://www.mitutoyofoods.co.jp/>



Rev. Koyu Inuma, Tendai Shu Fukushoji Temple.

Born in Kawasaki City, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan in 1982. Ordained as a Tendai-Buddhist priest at Hieizan Enryakuji Temple at the age of 19. Developed an interest in missionary work through foods while at Taisho University. Received a professional chef’s license in Japan after training at some restaurants. Hosts “Suaribito – Shungayu” and “Toki-wo-miru-kai,” gatherings at temples all over Japan for Buddhist food education.

BDK Affiliate Organization Activities

World Map & Contact Info.

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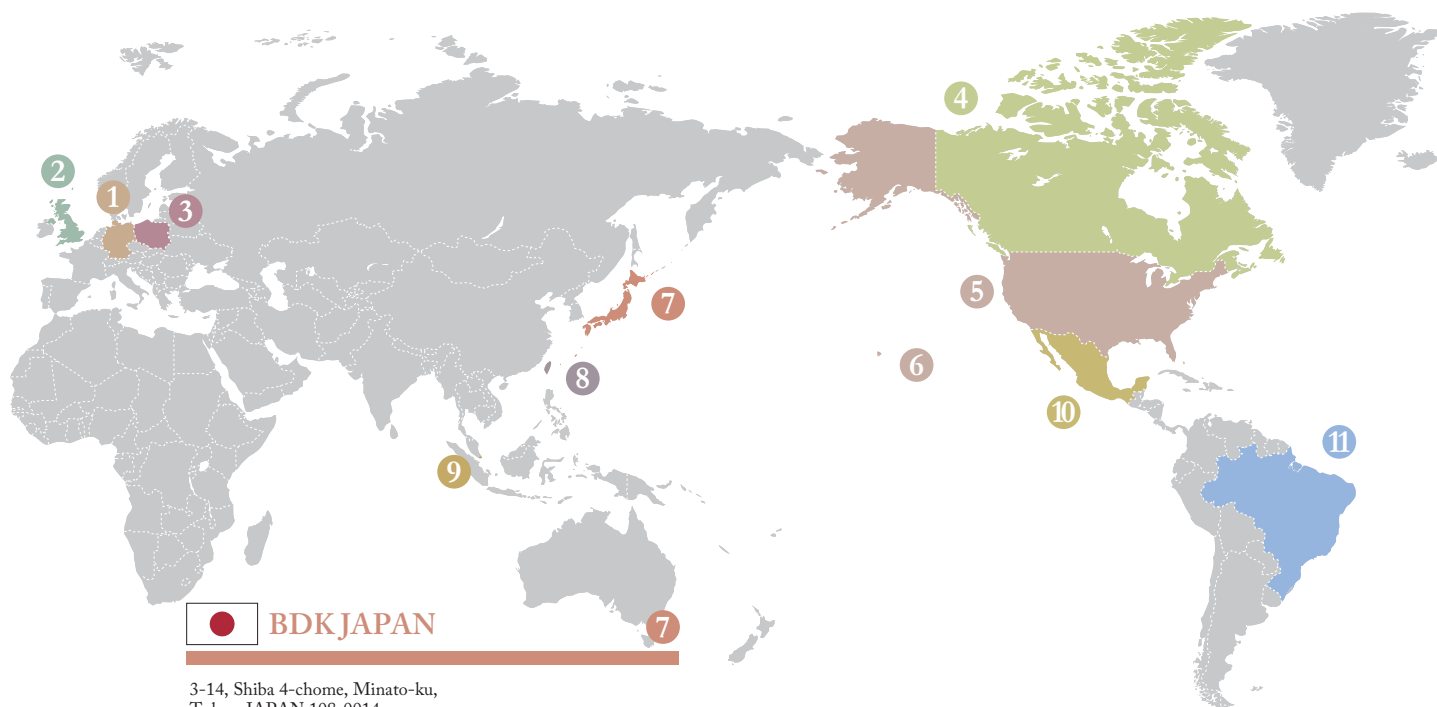
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Japanese Buddhist Sects in America Meeting



On February 22-23, BDK America sponsored the first meeting of representatives from the traditional Japanese Buddhist sects with followings in America. Held at the Buddhist Churches of America's Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley, California, representatives from the Nishi Hongwanji, Higashi Hongwanji, Soto, Nichiren

and Koyasan organizations came together for the first time in the nearly 120-year history of Japanese Buddhism in America.

Stimulating discussions and lectures were led by Professors Mark Blum of UC Berkeley speaking on "What Japanese Buddhism has to offer 21st

Century America," Duncan Williams of USC spoke on "The Current State of the Japanese Buddhist Community in America" and John Nelson from the University of San Francisco shared his ideas on "Opportunities for the Future of Japanese Buddhism in America."

At the conclusion of this historic summit gathering, the group agreed to continue to meet to share common concerns, needs and opportunities in an effort to expand a sharing of the teachings of Japanese Buddhism with more Americans.



2016 Toshihide Numata Book Award in Buddhism

Each year, the Toshihide Numata Book Award in Buddhism (Toshi Award) recognizes a book that excels

among the books on Buddhism published during that year.

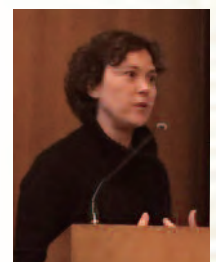
In 2016, it was awarded to "*Being Human in a Buddhist World: An Intellectual History of Medicine in Early Modern Tibet*" written by Professor Janet Gyatso of Harvard University. The award ceremony and the symposium were held at UC Berkeley on October 28, 2016 with about 70 people in attendance.



The 2016 Awardee, Prof. Gyatso and BDK America President, Dr. Tanabe



Dr. Adams



Dr. van Vleet



Dr. Thompson



Dr. Sharf

Numata Program in Buddhist Studies

We held a Numata Program coordinators meeting on November 18, 2016 in San Antonio, Texas where the AAR meeting was held. Eleven coordinators from universities sponsoring Numata Programs in the US and Canada gathered to report and discuss the status of their programs.



Participants of the meeting



BDK booth at the AAR meeting

The Words of the Buddha in the Landscape of India

This photo exhibit was held at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley from December 1 to 9, 2016. About 200 people came to see the exhibit during that time and many thought it was wonderful.

This exhibit was originally held in 2015 in Japan as a commemorative event for BDK Japan's 50th anniversary, and donations received at the exhibitions were used to ease the suffering of those still affected by the massive earthquake and the tsunami of 2011.

With the success and the great response received in Japan, we brought the exhibit to the US and developed an English version of it. We plan to hold more exhibits in dif-

ferent cities in the future.

* For more information about activities in the U.S., please contact BDK America.



The exhibit at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley

BDK Hawaii



Humanities BDK Hawaii Buddhism Program at Honolulu City Hall

During the year of 2016, BDK Hawaii reached out beyond our local Buddhist organizations and sponsored special programs for the general com-

munity at large.

In May, BDK Hawaii had a special tent pavilion at the Hawaii Book and

Music Festival, an annual event held on the grounds of Honolulu City Hall. More than 15,000 people attended the event, and our tent was filled with

people who came to the seven panels held throughout the day.

Topics included Temple Architecture

in Hawaii, Translating Buddhist Texts, the Future of Temple Buddhism in Hawaii, American Zen, Meditation and Mindfulness, Socially Engaged

Buddhism, and Buddhism, Christianity and Native Hawaiian Religion.

Workshop on Suicide Prevention at Higashi Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

In August, BDK Hawaii co-sponsored a workshop on suicide prevention in cooperation with the Samaritan Counseling Center, Higashi Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, and the BDK-Fujitani Interfaith Program.

In Hawaii, one person commits suicide every two days, and this workshop addressed this crisis, which is often hidden from view. Michelle Snyder from Pittsburgh led a program called Soul Shop, which is designed to help people, especially ministers,

deal with this widespread problem. The workshop was attended by over

50 people, half of whom were Buddhists.



The workshop on suicide prevention

“Teaching of Buddha” to Military Bases

BDK Hawaii has a close relationship with chaplains in the U.S. military. We donate the *Teaching of Buddha* books to military bases, and also supply the Hale Koa Hotel in Waikiki, which serves military personnel and their families on vacation.

The highest ranking chaplain in the Pacific Command is Colonel Charles Lynde, and we received a request from Chaplain Lynde for a Dharma Wheel altar piece that can be used by Buddhist soldiers at a chapel at Fort Shafter. “There are more Buddhists in

the U.S. military,” said Chaplain Lynde, “than there are Jewish or Muslim soldiers.” We made a Dharma Wheel altar piece, and presented it to Chaplain Lynde.

Repair of BDK Hawaii Building

Our activities are supported by revenue we receive from the BDK Hawaii apartment building, which is now over 22 years old and has been in need of repair and painting. With the cooperation of Mitutoyo and BDK Japan, we were finally able to repair the cracks in our concrete building and paint it for the first time since its construction. We are relieved that we

can now expect the building to serve us well for many more years in our mission of promoting Buddhism and serving our community.

* For more information about activities in Hawaii, please contact BDK Hawaii.



The BDK Hawaii building is under repair



Mexico Ekoji Head Priest Rev. Todaka Receives the Honorary Doctorate from Alva Edison University

Alva Edison University in Puebla, Mexico officially announced that the Ekoji head priest and BDK Mexico president, Rev. Koichi Todaka is the recipient of an honorary doctorate from the university for his contribution to educating students and faculty about the teachings of Buddhism.

In December, 2017, Rev. Todaka accepted the honorary doctorate from the chancellor, Prof. Jorge Leon, at a

ceremony held in his honor. In his speech, Rev. Todaka stated that “The Teaching of Buddha” is an excellent textbook for promoting co-existence and co-prosperity, not just for surviving in today’s competitive world. He also told all the students that they should learn important lessons at the university and make a difference by becoming a citizen of the world with an international and balanced perspective. As Rev. Todaka concluded his

speech, he encouraged them to be persons who can always make fair decisions.

* For more information about BDK Mexico and other BDK related activities in central/southern American countries, please contact BDK Mexico/Mexico Ekoji Temple.



Rev. Todaka on the right and Prof. Leon on the left



“The Teaching of Buddha (TTOB)” Distribution in Thailand

Mitutoyo Thailand is in charge of sales and service of Mitutoyo products in the kingdom of Thailand, where 95% of the population believes in Buddhism. We also distribute “The Teaching of Buddha (TTOB)” in Thailand to our customers, distributors, university libraries, and vocational schools in accordance with the wishes of Mitutoyo’s founder, the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata.

On the 25th of January, we were one of the sponsors of the “Koma Competition” at the Thai Nichi Institute of Technology, and we distributed copies of TTOB as a prize for all 60 students who competed.

In the “Koma Competition” students of the Thai Nichi Institute of Technology use lathe machines at

their facilities to produce their own spinning tops (Koma). The students then spin their tops and let them fight each other in a Sumo ring, and compete with each other to see which top can spin for the longest time.

Also, we had a measurement seminar at a school in Thailand that was organized by one of our dealers, Sumipol Co., Ltd.. This vocational

school is located in the royal palace and was established by Princess Sirindhorn, who is a sister of the current King, with the aim of providing learning opportunities to the children who are poor and cannot afford school. In our seminar, we introduce “Mitutoyo’s Founding Spirit” established by the late Rev. Dr. Yehan Numata. In addition, they put their

own company sticker on the back of “The Teaching of Buddha” and distribute the books to students and teachers.

* For more information about activities in Thailand and other Asian countries, please contact BDK Asia.



“Koma competition” participants

จิตวิญญาณของผู้ก่อตั้ง Our Founding Spirit

ความปรารถนาของผู้ก่อตั้งอันเป็นรากฐานของ **Mitutoyo**
Our founder’s wish as expressed upon the foundation of Mitutoyo

ทำให้ผู้คนมีความเป็นอยู่ที่ดีขึ้นโดยใช้ศรัทธาอันแรงกล้าในศาสนาพุทธเป็นสิ่งชี้นำ
To contribute to people’s welfare through support of the advancement of Buddhist understanding

ทำให้ **Mitutoyo** เป็นเลิศมีความชำนาญในการทำธุรกิจทั่วโลก
To see that Mitutoyo excels in its field of expertise and in its business conduct throughout the world



The Distribution of “The Teaching of Buddha”

BDK Taiwan



2016 BDK Taiwan Board Meeting

The BDK Taiwan board meeting is held every two years and took place on December 15th in 2016. We invited Mr. Ikuta, Managing Director from BDK Japan, and he introduced the BDK activities taking place around the world and gave us lots of precious advice. In addition, we also invited a Tibetan Buddhist "Rinpoche," who

gave us a lecture on “Buddhism and Life.” It was a very valuable experience for everyone who attended.

The attendees of the meeting included employees, distributors and agents for a total of 110 people. Once again, cultural exchanges between Japan and Taiwan were made possible through

the intermediary of Buddhism, and it was a very meaningful gathering.

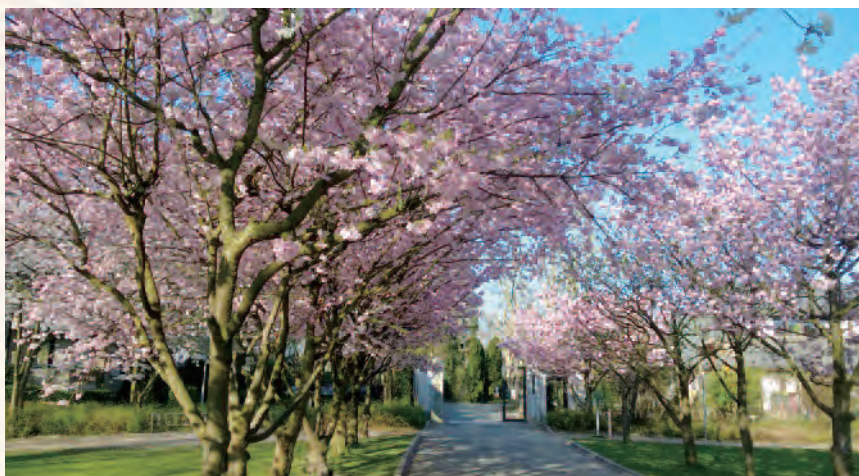
* For more information about activities in Taiwan, please contact BDK Taiwan.



BDK Taiwan board members and guests



August Workshop of the Jōdo Shinshū Center



Cherry trees inside the EKŌ temple garden



Rev. Umezu greets participants



Prayers at Anshindo

On the 20th and 21st of August 2016, the August Workshop of the Jōdo Shinshū Center was held at the EKŌ temple in Germany. The Jōdo Shinshū Center, located in Berkeley, California, is an

institution of the Buddhist Churches of America, and it offers a “Jōdo Shinshū Correspondence Course” to students from the US, but also from other countries all over the world. Usually, the par-

ticipants meet once a year in the summer for a workshop at the Center in Berkeley, but this year for the first time the location was different.

Students not only from the US Mainland, Hawaii, Canada, and Brazil took part, but also former students from Europe. About 30 people gathered in the EKŌ temple.

The first day of the workshop started with a guided tour of the EKO center, and many participants expressed their surprise at the existence of a Japanese garden in Europe. After the tour, an opening ceremony was held in the temple, and the overseas ministers from the US and Canada held presentations in the EKO hall. In the afternoon, training in the Shōshinge service took place in the main hall, and after the dinner, there was time for a discussion between the participants on the teaching of Jōdo Shinshū. The debate was very vivid and did not end earlier than 9:00 pm, long after the original timetable.

Weekend Zazen Retreat

BDK Europe (EKŌ-Haus der Japanischen Kultur e.V.) holds the Weekend Zazen Retreat twice a year in spring and fall at EKŌ Hall. We welcomed the Zazen masters, who came all the way from Japan, and held the events in April 15 -17 and in December 2-4, 2016.

We had Rev. Sōtai Hiromi for the April retreat and Rev. Sensho Kishida for the December retreat. 30 people from inside and outside of Germany

attended and they experienced Zazen practice as well as cleaning the EKŌ-Haus and the garden together.

* For more information about activities in Germany and other European countries, please contact BDK Europe.



Zazen practice



100th Anniversary of the Establishment of the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at the University of London



Mr. Thomson on the left, Mr. Suma in the middle and Mr. Katayama on the right



Shogyoji Temple in London

The School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at the University of London celebrated the 100th anniversary of its establishment on September 8, 2016 and Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK) Chairman, Toshihide Numata, and the executive director of BDK, Mr. Tadashi Ikuta, attended the ceremony. SOAS currently holds the Numata Professorship, and the chancellor, Prof. Valerie

Amos, and the Numata Professor, Prof. Lucia Dolce, greeted them. On the day before the ceremony, the BDK Japan group visited Jodoshinshu Shogyoji temple in London and discussed the future of BDK UK activities while enjoying the view of the traditional Japanese garden at the temple. It was a perfect opportunity to deepen our mutual friendship.

Announcement from BDK UK

Former BDK UK board member, Mr. Takaji Katayama has resigned, and Mr. Shunsuke Suma replaced him as of September, 2016. We will enthusiastically continue our activities in the UK!

* For more information about activities in the UK, please contact BDK UK.

BDK Poland



New Establishment of BDK Poland

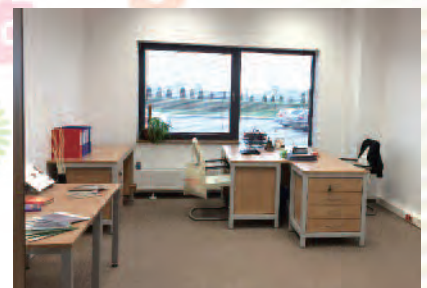
With our primary goal of promoting the teachings of the Buddha, Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK), and our affiliated organizations throughout the world are involved in a variety of activities and programs.

For many years in Europe, BDK U.K. and BDK Europe have been engaged in many promotional activities such as spreading the spirit of Buddhist compassion and coexistence, and distributing “The Teaching of Buddha” to

the public and lodging facilities in European countries. In January 2016, BDK Poland opened their office as the third affiliate organization in Europe.

The establishment of BDK Poland is supported by Mitutoyo Poland and the office is located inside their building. BDK Poland is now ready to get started with the distribution of “The Teaching of Buddha” and other BDK materials.

* For more information about the distribution of “The Teaching of Buddha” and other activities in Poland, please contact BDK Poland.



BDK Poland office

Heiwa (Peace)

Although it is said generally that there is peace when there is no war and all is calm and peaceful, it is certainly not peaceful even when there is no war in a world in which the life of every person is not valued. There is, moreover, discrimination.

There is no peace in a world in which a majority group generally exerts pressure on a minority group, and causes this minority group to feel as if their life was being choked off, wherein one group of people are especially careful in this regard. Thus it is said in Shakyamuni Buddha's teaching:

If those who govern believe in the Buddha, believe in the Teaching, respect the deeply compassionate virtues, and value this, the nation will certainly prosper without enemies or any regret. And if the nation's riches flourish, there is no need to covetously invade another country and there will be no need for weaponry for attacking others. Accordingly, the people will also be satisfied and be happy, and high and low can live harmoniously. (Sūtra of Golden Light)

Taken from "Sasaeatte" authored by the late Rev. Toshihide Numata, former Chairman of BDK