



THE SANGHA STREAM

October 2024

DHARMA MESSAGE

Our natural human nature is to observe the world with the faculty of our senses. These senses enable us to become aware of our surroundings and help us negotiate our journey through life. Sometimes we sense things and immediately recognize whether we like it or not. Other times however we can sense things and not really know how to explain how we know. Our Buddhist experience teaches us to further develop our power of observation by looking within. It is a teaching of observing our thoughts, observing our internal dialogue and observing our feelings. The importance that Buddhism places on looking within is based on the consequences of our speech and actions which follow our thoughts.

Did you know that observing is a key element of all Buddhist traditions. Buddhist followers are always developing their skills of observing the Dharma. Skills such as developing a calm mind. Logically this makes sense because if the monkey mind is allowed to run wild and unable to develop calmness, we will not be truly mindful of our observations.

In the tradition of Jodo Shinshu, a mind of observation is also developed. This is done with the practice of the Nembutsu. Nembutsu means to meditate, to think about Amida Buddha. When we are thinking about Amida Buddha we are observing inward and outward with wisdom and compassion. This mind of observation is not a result of our own calculation it is because Amida Buddha represents Wisdom and Compassion. When we take the time to recite the Nembutsu, Namo-Amida-Butsu, Amida Buddha is in our thought. This means that we are touching and developing the seed of wisdom and compassion in our mind. The practice of the Nembutsu whether recited at home, in a vehicle, at a park, in the temple, when we are feeling lonely, or when we are feeling happy is inviting the light of the dharma into our thought.



MINISTER ARTICLE

Words of wisdom to observe from the late Rev. Kenryu Tsuji found in his book, “The Heart of the Buddha-Dharma”:

The Nembutsu is the center of my being, the spiritual home from which I operate and where I find the spiritual power to carry out my moral, social and religious commitments. It is the verbalization of my inner awakening to the reality of life and the world.

Namo-Amida-Butsu
Robert Gubenco Sensei



Calgary Buddhist Temple

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MESSAGE FROM BISHOP

2024 Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada Day Message from the Office of the Bishop

“Those who are born first, guide those who come later, and those who are born later, join those who were born before them. This is so that the Boundless Ocean of birth-and-death may be exhausted.”

(In “Passages on the Land of Happiness”, by master Tao-ch’o [562-645])

On October 12, 1905, Rev. and Mrs. Senju Sasaki arrived in Vancouver as the first *Kaikyoshi* (overseas minister) for Canada. With the minister's arrival, the local Buddhists formed the Vancouver Nihon Bukkyo-kai (Japanese Buddhist Association), and thus began our history. Although we are proud to be acknowledging that Jodo Shinshu is the school of Buddhism first established in Canada, it was not easy to continue and settle down in Canada.



I visited Tashme internment site in B. C. with Vancouver Buddhist Temple members on August 24. It was a day trip to visit the site and museums co-sponsored by the Japanese Canadian Survivors Health and Wellness Fund. Tashme was established in 1942 as one of several sites by the Canadian government to incarcerate Japanese Canadians during the World War Two. At its peak, Tashme was home to 2,644 people. At the museum, we watched a short documentary film about life in Tashme. I cannot image the difficulty and worries that Japanese Canadians experienced. It is too easy for us to take for granted that we are able to attend services or make Manjus (pastries) for fundraisers. We should not forget that we are able to continue gathering at our temples, and listen to the Buddha-Dharma because of the efforts and sacrifices of pioneers.

Next year, 2025, marks our 120th anniversary. On this significant occasion, we should reflect and rediscover the lessons of those who were born before us, so that they may guide those who will come later. May we continue to discover joy by listening to the Dharma and together walk the path of the *Nembutsu*. Namo Amida Butsu.

In gassho,
Tatsuya Aoki,
Bishop, Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada



Photo: Service at Tashme



MESSAGE FROM BISHOP

2024 カナダ教団創立記念をむかえて

「前に生まれん者は後を導き、後に生れん者は前を訪(とぶら)え。」

『安楽集』 道綽禪師 [562-645]



1905年10月12日に、佐々木千重先生夫妻がカナダの最初の開教使としてバンクーバーに到着し、カナダ開教区の歴史が始まりました。浄土真宗がカナダで最初の仏教グループとなったわけですが、その歴史には多くの困難な時代・状況がありました。

日系カナダ人基金支援のもと、8月24日にバンクーバー仏教会メンバーと一緒に強制収容地の一つであったTashme（「多志美」タシミ）を訪れました。タシミは1942年に始まり、2,644名の日系カナダ人が収容されていたそうです。今でも住居を含め一部の建物が当時のまま残っていて小さな博物館もあります。当時の写真や生活の様子展示品、収容時のドキュメンタリーを見ました。いつ解放されるか先の見えない不安や不便な生活を送った当時の人々の苦労は計り知れません。今、私たちが当たり前のように仏教会へ参拝に來たり、お饅頭を作ったりできることは、移民当初の方々のご苦勞、そして戦後に仏教会再興を果たした人々のお陰です。

来年2025年は、カナダ開教区の120周年を迎えます。道綽禪師のお言葉にあるように、先人たちのお導きを大切に、今後も仏法を聴聞し、私たちが後の世に生きる人を導けるように仏教会を護っていきましょう。この120周年が私たち自身、仏法に出遭えたご縁を喜べる年としたいものです。

合掌

カナダ開教区 総長

青木龍也



Photo: Service at Tashme

写真：タシミでの参拝



PRESIDENT'S LETTER



JODO SHINSHU BUDDHIST TEMPLES OF CANADA

11786 Fentiman Place, Richmond, BC, V7E 6M6 Canada
Tel: 604-272-3330 • Fax: 604-272-6865
www.livingdharmacentre.ca

October 2024

Dear Temple members and Dharma Friends,

In October 1904, one hundred and twenty years ago, Buddhist lay leaders decided to build a temple and ask Nishi Hongwanji to send a minister to Canada. One year later, in October 1905, Rev. Senju Sasaki arrived in Canada and delivered the first Dharma talk. And it was in October 1974, that Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada was founded as the official organization to bring all Jodo Shinshu followers in Canada together in a national Buddhist community.

The annual October JSBTC Day marks the creation of the national organization and reminds us of the work which the JSBTC does to keep Jodo Shinshu alive and the Temples together across Canada. It is a time for us to remember, with gratitude, of all those who have gone before and who contributed to the propagation of Jodo Shinshu Buddhist in Canada, as well as all those who work today to spread the Dharma.

All donations made on JSBTC Day either through your temple or directly to the JSBTC go towards the health and education of our ministers and to support the work of the Bishop. Your support of the JSBTC is both needed and greatly appreciated in this important effort.

Please note that cheques may now be made payable directly to the JSBTC. Donations can also be made through Canada Helps at

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/LivingDharmaCentre/>.

This link enables you to designate a general donation to JSBTC, or support for the Ministers' Retirement Fund, the Living Dharma Centre, or the Women's Federation.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the JSBTC, as the JSBTC continues to support our ministers and local temples.

In gassho,

Laura Sugimoto, President



OCTOBER 2024 MEMORIAL (SHOTSUKI) SERVICE LIST

Gerrit Dooge
Keiko Hinatsu
Richard Kanegawa

Lloyd MacDonald
Masanori Nishikawa
Jack Pittman
Sean Reilly

Florence Shikaze
Jerry Takeda
Toshiko Takeda

TEMPLE SERVICE REMINDERS

OCTOBER SERVICES

- Sunday, October 6th - Shotsuki/Monthly Memorial at 10:00 am
- Tuesday, October 8th - Meditation and Naikan Reflection from 7:00 to 8:00 pm
- Sunday, October 20th – Family service at 10:00 am
- Tuesday, October 22nd - Meditation and Naikan Reflection from 7:00 to 8:00 pm



MINISTER'S APPRECIATION MONTH

MINISTERS' APPRECIATION MONTH
Our Ministers

Vancouver & Fraser Valley Buddhist Temples



Socho Tatsuya Aoki
Minister



Robert Akune Sensei
Assistant Minister

Steveston & Fraser Valley Buddhist Temples



Grant Ikuta Sensei
Minister



Roy Akune Sensei
Assistant Minister

Kamloops, Kelowna & Vernon Buddhist Temples



Naoki Hirano Sensei
Minister

Calgary Buddhist Temple



Robert Gubenco Sensei
Minister

Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta



Roland Ikuta Sensei
Minister

Manitoba Buddhist Temple



Tanis Moore Sensei
Assistant Minister

Toronto Buddhist Church,
Hamilton Buddhist Temple & Montreal



Kensho Hashimoto Sensei
Minister



Jeff Wilson Sensei
Assistant Minister

Toronto Buddhist Church,
Hamilton Buddhist Temple & Montreal
Chaplain Canadian Armed Forces - Kingston



Captain Joanne Yuasa Sensei
Assistant Minister

**September is
Ministers' Appreciation Month**

A time of the year where all temples across Canada show appreciation to their ministers for all their hard work in providing support for their Sangha



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

JAPANESE TEA CEREMONY DEMONSTRATION

Sunday, Oct 13 from 2:00-4:00pm – FULL but waitlist started



Don't miss this special demonstration of the Japanese Tea Ceremony, with ikebana display, proudly hosted by the Calgary Buddhist Temple Sangha Engagement. The tea ceremony involves the ceremonial preparation, presentation, and drinking of matcha [抹茶] or powdered green tea. Come and discover the history and intricacies of this age-old cultural activity while surrounded by the beauty and serenity of ikebana which is the art of Japanese flower arrangement. The philosophy behind ikebana is

grounded in Japanese aesthetics, which emphasizes simplicity, understated elegance, and a respect for nature.

We are honored to have Rika Saruwatari leading this skillful demonstration. She is learning from these schools of tea ceremony and ikebana:

- [表千家] Omotesenke School of Tea
- [光風未生流] Kōfumisho School of Ikebana

Cost for this demonstration is \$15 per person including tax and processing fee. A [和菓子] Japanese confectionery/sweet will also accompany the matcha.

Workshop is FULL but you can email calgarytemplesangha@gmail.com to be put on a waitlist if a space opens up.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE CORNER

Saturday, Oct 19 between 3-6pm

Hello Sangha members! Here is information for our main fundraiser of the year, the Chowmein & Ribs Takeout Dinner & Bake sale.

1. Dinner Event details

- When: Saturday, Oct 19 between 3-6pm
- Pickup: Temple (658-1 st Ave NE) Please bring your own bags.
- Tickets: \$20/plate. Can be purchased at the temple after the Sunday service or by emailing calgarytemplevolunteer@gmail.com.





UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS



FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE CORNER CONTINUED

Saturday, Oct 19 between 3-6pm

2. We are asking for baked goods for the bake sale

The bake sale is taking place at the same time as the Chow Mein & Ribs event. Please contact Masaye (masaye.tanaka@gmail.com) preferably by October 16, if you are able to contribute with baked goods.

Suggested items:

- Bread/buns, cakes, squares, muffins, cookies, pies, jelly rolls, sweet dough items like doughnuts
- Rice/mochi goods, candies/sweet treats, savoury treats

Additional details:

- Due to public health food safety restrictions, we cannot accept home canned/processed food items nor foods that needs refrigeration including products with fresh dairy products.
- Please label wrapped goods with the product name and a list of ingredients.

3. Volunteer signup for vegetable cutting

(Friday Oct 18) and Dinner event volunteers (Oct 19)

More information and Signup Genius emails to follow. If you have questions, please contact Mickey at mhkuta@outlook.com.

FALL IKEBANA CLASS

October 5 and 19, November 2 and 16

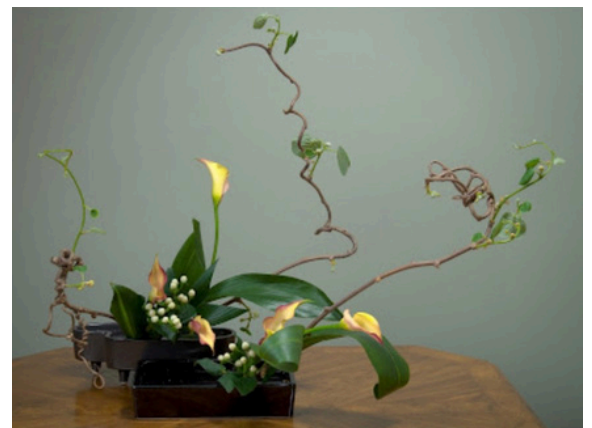
1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

The 5 classes are a series and the cost is \$250 total including flower material and instruction for Temple members or \$300 for non-members. No refunds for missed classes.

Students must supply their own containers (please ask Rika for a suitable size and shape), scissors and kenzan (frog). Contact Rika if you need help selecting your items but these are not supplied as part of the lesson.

Rika Saruwatari trained under Ms. Takako Yokoyama, and became a certified Shihan (teacher) in 2012.

光風未生流 (Kofu misho school ikebana) classes





UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Sunday, Nov 10

CALGARY DROP-IN CENTRE

A great way to support our community, and the final date for 2024! We'll be providing lunch service so please join us. Ten volunteers (16 years of age or older) are needed. We leave after service, around 11:15am, to walk over to the Drop-In Centre together, or meet us there at 11:30am. It's not time-consuming and it really means a lot to those less fortunate.

Sign Up for Nov 10: <https://bit.ly/community-10Nov24>



GET YOUR RICE ON

Sunday, Nov 17, 2024 after service

Plan to attend this free rice workshop to be held at the Temple on Sunday, Nov 17 starting around 11:15am/after service. Come learn about the importance of this staple and the differences between some of the different varieties. Then we'll show you different ways rice can be used and do some sampling!

Please Sign Up so we know how many people to expect: <https://bit.ly/17nov24-riceon>

GIVE MINDFULLY

November 17th to December 15th

From Sunday, Nov 17 until Sunday, Dec 15, a holiday tree will be set up at the front of the hondo for centralizing the charity collection of:

- New, unwrapped gift donations for children ages 0-17; and
- New or gently used winter weather clothing items such as socks, gloves, coats, etc for all age groups.

Should anyone wish to make a monetary donation or donate with a gift certificate, please talk to Susan Huntley or Laurie Takeda or email calgarytemplesangha@gmail.com to coordinate.





PAST WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS



SUNDAE SUNDAY FOR SENSEI

Sunday, Sep 22 was a great day to show our dedicated Sensei Robert Gubenco how much we care and appreciate his generous nature and inspiring dharma talks. He is a role-model for all as he consistently demonstrates his commitment to the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Sangha.

The Calgary Buddhist Temple is so lucky and we wish to express our sincere appreciation - thank you, Sensei!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Thank you to those who volunteered their time to serve lunch at the Calgary Drop-In (DI) Centre on Sunday, Sep 8. Your ability to think of others and support the community is greatly appreciated by many.

You make a difference!





LIBRARY NEWS

The library is open on the 3rd Sunday of each month, so that will be Sunday October 20th. Come downstairs and browse the books while you enjoy a cup of tea!

I am looking forward to meeting you and would greatly appreciate feedback on books, especially book recommendations that you may have.

For any newcomers to the church, it is easy to join our library. For \$20.00, you get a lifetime membership. The book loan period is 3 months. Please see me if you are interested in joining. I will be at the library anytime it is open.



We have a new book return box! Now you can return a book even if the library is closed. Just leave it in our Returns box.

If you have books on Buddhism that you would like to donate to the library, we are very grateful to accept donations! These can go into the Returns box too.

Book recommendation for October (courtesy of Jocy McCormack):

- Ocean - Introduction to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism by Kenneth Tanaka

If you would like to look at the list of books available, there is a hard copy available to browse in the library.

Thanks, Kim and Masaye



AUGUST DONATIONS

Canada Helps

Giggs, Melanie
Gillis, Emi
Haddon, Samantha
Howard, Leslie
McCullagh, Bob

Miyanishi, Kiyoko
Oishi, Courtney
Robson, Tomiko
Stewart, Matthew

Stewart, Sara
Sugimoto, Laura
Sugimoto, Sumire
Wright, Charlene
Zheng, Yifan

Temple Donations

Gomyo-Miller, Yoshiko
Alexander, Robert and
Sano, Tracee
Anonymous
Delisle, Yuri

Kitazaki, Betty
In memory of Rae Oishi
Kitazaki, Betty
In memory of Ron and son Gary
Kitazaki, Susan
In memory of Rae Oishi
McCormack, Daniel

Oishi, Hideko
*In memory of Yoichi, Rocky, Sam,
Gilbert, Reiko Oishi Roy & Kerry
Nagata*
Oishi, Jits
Oishi, Junko
Ota, Fumi
Rivero, Erech Augean