



Buddhist Thoughts

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The Color of the Pure Land J.K. Hirano

If, when I obtain Buddhahood, humans and devas in my land should not all be the color of pure gold, may I not obtain perfect enlightenment.

If, when I obtain Buddhahood, humans and devas in my land should not all be of one appearance, and should there be any difference in beauty, may I not attain perfect enlightenment.

Vows 3 and 4 of the 48 vows of Amida Buddha

This past month on February 21, we had a wonderful celebration at the rededication service for our newly renovated Salt Lake Buddhist temple building. It was an opportunity to thank all the members and friends who have given so generously of their time, effort and money over the past ten years to make our temple a beautiful place to gather. I would especially like to thank Ernie Kyed and Brenda Koga for all their extra effort in chairing the committee for the rebuilding.

It was wonderful to proudly display the new pews, lighting, carpet, woodwork in the gejin (outer area) area and the beautiful way Ernie designed the layout and lighting for the naijin (inner area). The new windows throughout the temple added certain radiance throughout the building. I'm sure many people were impressed with the completely new kitchen, the stainless steel appliances, sinks and the new ventilation system, which rivals any professional restaurant.

However, the true beauty of the temple is not in the building but is in our Sangha. The physical structure of our temple should mirror the Sangha. No matter how magnificent a physical structure we may build, if the Sangha is not thriving, why build? I don't believe in the words Kevin Costner heard in the movie Field of Dreams, "If you build it they will come." A temple is nothing without a thriving Sangha.

At our Sarana Affirmation service we had 37 people receive their Buddhist names. These 39 people were Asian, Caucasian, African American, young, old, it was quite a sight to behold. On seeing the diversity of our Sangha, Bishop Ogui commented, "I wish all of BCA could see that some Sanghas are thriving outside of California, like here and Denver." Two weeks earlier the Bishop and I had taken part in the Sarana Affirmation in Denver, where there were 45 people of all races and ages. This is the true beauty of our temple. This is what our BCA must strive towards.

There were a few who I felt particularly represented and symbolized our Sangha. Justin and Jordan Roberson are the great grandsons of Rev. Shintatsu Sanada, the minister who inspired and led

the Sangha in the building of our present temple building in 1963. They are not only Japanese American, through their mother, Tracy Sanada Roberson, but also African American through their father, Ed Roberson, a connection with the past while moving into the future. David and Holly Black and their daughters Delaney and Callahan also received their Buddhist names. This family had no racial or familial connections to our temple. It was their desire to listen to the Buddhist teachings that brought them to join our Sangha.

Over the past few years I have heard complaints throughout BCA and Canada about how the diversity in our temples doesn't pay the bills. I have heard many long time Japanese American members lament the good old days, when the temple was a cultural fortress for the Japanese American community and how they have given to the temple for so many years, while the non-Japanese don't give. To those individuals, I need them to look at themselves, are all your family Japanese or Japanese American? Do your sons, daughters, nieces, nephews and grandchildren contribute the same as you do? Most Christian and Jewish church and temple members contribute about 10% of their income; do you? What would your family be if not for non-Japanese? To be a Japanese American cultural museum is very different from being a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temple.

I have also heard complaints on the complete opposite side of the spectrum. BCA temples are too Japanese. We should do away with anything that mires us to the past. Japanese words are too hard to say. The cultural bazaars and activities sometimes make non-Japanese Sangha members feel like outsiders. Isn't Buddhism for everyone?

I believe both sides need to pull their heads out of the ground or wherever they may have them stuck. If you believe Jodo Shinshu is only for Japanese and Japanese Americans and the few outsiders that have an appreciation of Japanese culture, QUIT JODO SHINSHU BUDDHISM. It has done nothing for your personal understanding. The longer you have been a paying member the bigger a waste of time it has been. You are believers and followers of a cult, not a religion that is manifesting Universal Truth, Wisdom and Compassion.

If you are of the thinking that we should do away with anything Japanese, you should quit also. Jodo Shinshu has not taught you anything about gratitude or indebtedness, concepts that are at the heart of Buddhism. What you are mistaking for Buddhism is your ego desire. You are merely trying to make the temples and Buddhism fit into what you believe or want to be the Truth. You are searching for Truth without compassion, gratitude or a sense of obligations or indebtedness. There would be no BCA if not for the Japanese and Japanese American culture that has sustained the temples materially and spiritually for over one hundred years. With that type of ideal, Buddhism obviously hasn't taught you anything so you have to ask if you are just wasting your time in ego building games and not spiritual Truth.

The passages I began this article with are from the Larger Sutra. Among the forty eight vows that Dharmakara Bodhisattva established and completed to become Amida Buddha are these third and fourth vows. In these, Amida Buddha wishes for the world that we can see one another with the radiance of gold; that we do not view each other as black, white, yellow, brown or red, but with the color of enlightenment, which each of us have the potential to attain. In the fourth vow, Buddha is not wishing for a cookie cutter world of everything being the same; he is hoping that we recognize the true beauty of one another, the beauty of our individuality and differences. He is telling us that all is beautiful in the Pure Land, not one over the other but equal.

Please consider these wishes for the world that Amida Buddha strove so hard to establish. They are within our grasp. Besides just making a beautiful temple building, whether it is our temple or the Jodo Shinshu Study Center in Berkeley, let us strive to create a beautiful Sangha, which

reflects the colors of the Pure Land in this world. Namo Amida Butsu.

President's Message

Dot Richeda

The long awaited Salt Lake Buddhist Temple Rededication Service was held on February 21st. After many years of uncertainty, a lot of hard work and support from the sangha, we have a beautiful Temple to share with friends and future members. It was an honor and privilege to have Mayor Peter Corroon and the crew from Cameron Construction to take the time from their busy schedule to attend our service. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your attendance at this service.

Bishop Koshin Ogui shared his words of wisdom and his sense of humor with us. Bishop Ogui officiated at the Sarana Affirmation, assisted by Rev Hirano, Rev. Hayashi and Dr Carmela Hirano, where we had 35 members presented with their Buddhist names. What a special occasion! Bishop Ogui, you are always welcome to Salt Lake City. Thank you for coming and sharing this day with us..

A commemorative group photo was taken to celebrate this occasion and if you would like to purchase a photo, I have some order forms. Thank you Brandon and Kimi Ushio.

A formal presentation by Brenda Koga and Ernie Kyed was made to Cameron Construction to show them our appreciation. Thank you Cameron Construction, Brenda and Ernie.

I would like to offer a special thank you to the Ogden Temple for donating the five altarpieces to our Temple. They make a wonderful addition to our altar.

Thank you to Reiko Matsuura, the BWA ladies and Dharma School parents for preparing the luncheon. As always, it was delicious. Thank you everyone for helping with the set-up and clean up.

That evening, we spent a wonderful evening at the Salt Lake Interfaith Week, Musical Tribute, "Building a World of Harmony" at Salt Lake Tabernacle on Temple Square. Many faiths and cultures were represented. The Salt Lake Buddhist Temple's children choir did a wonderful job. Thank you, Carmela. Thank you, all.

The Ministerial Committee is ready to listen to any suggestions, concerns and questions you have about the Temple. Chair is Stanley Endo. Please see Stan or myself with your concerns.

We will have our spring clean up in the Month of April. Time and date to be announced later.

Please support the Jr YBA and the YBA at movie night on March 13th, 5:30 PM.
"Swing Girls."

The Temple Board Meeting will be March 11, 2010 at 6:00 PM.

BWA NEWS

Brenda Koga

The BWA continues to be very active in their support and participation with the temple activities. At

the last meeting held on February 7, 2010; committees for the year were established as follows:

Food Committee: Reiko Matsuura, Reiko Watanabe, Sherrie Koga and Elaine Endo

Hospitality/Public Relations: Maxine Furubayashi and Sandy Iwasaki

Esshiniko Service & Luncheon: Dot Richeda

Annual Steak Fry: Judy Watanabe and Holly Black

Las Vegas Obon: Jane Sakashita

On February 21, the BWA was very involved with the luncheon for the rededication celebration. Thank you to **Reiko Matsuura** and **Reiko Watanabe** for heading up the preparations, and my deep appreciation to all the BWA members who labored over their special dishes to create a delicious spread for the occasion. Many positive comments were received from temple members and visitors.

Upcoming events for the BWA include the Naikan Workshop on March 20, 2010 from 9 to 5, with **Dot Richeda** in charge of registration and refreshments to be coordinated by **Sherrie Koga and Reiko Watanabe**. Nihon Matsuri will be April 24 with the BWA handling much of the food preparation. The next BWA meeting is scheduled for March 14 at 11:30 in the hondo.

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

Brenda Koga

The Dharma School continues with their many activities, having a bowling party on February 14, 2010 at Bonwood Bowl. The Ogden students joined in for a fun event planned by **Tammy Fukushima** and **Ryoko Okamoto**. Thank you to the families for the salads that accompanied the pizza luncheon.

February 21 was a busy day for many of the Dharma School families, beginning with the temple rededication service and luncheon. We are grateful to all the families for providing delicious salads for the luncheon and for assisting with the serving and clean-up. Later that day was the Interfaith Music Concert held at the Mormon Tabernacle with many of our Dharma School students participating in the Interfaith Choir.

March 7 will be the annual Ski Outing at Brighton Ski Resort. Our appreciation is extended to **Maya Chow** and **Christy Fong** who once again will be organizing this event.

Upcoming on April 11, 2010 will be the annual Hanamatsuri celebration. The chair for the program portion of this event is **Tracy Akimoto** with **Rise Hirabayashi** in charge of the gifts. Dharma School classes will be performing, displaying the many talented youth we have among us.

The next meeting for the Dharma School teachers and board will be **March 14 at 9:00** a.m. in the classrooms. Please make every effort to attend.

THANK YOU...In Appreciation For All You Do

Brenda Koga

This was the title of the small books that were presented to the representatives from Cameron Construction and Silver Peak Engineering at the temple's recent rededication service on February 21, 2010. It was a compilation of short sayings and paragraphs related to the expression of gratitude and appreciation.

I thought it was a very appropriate gift as a token gesture to express mine and Ernie's feelings related to our interactions with this group of professionals throughout the construction and remodeling of the temple. If feasible we would have liked to have also been able provide all of you with that same gift.

Although it was over 10 years in the making, this project was basically completed in a little over a 3-month period. However, it would not have happened without all of you.

Due to your patience, perseverance and generosity, this renovation was made possible. All of you are to be commended and thanked for your substantial contributions which assisted in funding this endeavor.

Of course there will continue to be a need to complete needed repairs and upgrades on our facilities. We ask that you not become complacent in your thoughts regarding this issue since your continued assistance will be required.

In the near future a permanent display will be exhibited in the temple to reflect your donations as well as those from our greater community. Please recognize and thank the many contributors outside of our temple. We are truly blessed to have such a giving Sangha as well as many friends of the Dharma and community supporters. Thank you to you all.

“The Buddha's Wish for the World”

Chris Oki

As mentioned by Hirano Sensei in one of his Dharma talks, this book is the recently translated work of Abbot Ohtani. It is a very easy to read collection of the Gomonsu's essays that concretely explain Buddhism and the teachings of Shinran Shonin. The text, itself, is broken into very short segments that allow readers to stop and think about the Gomonsu's words. With a foreword by the prestigious scholar, Robert Thurman, this book comes highly recommended.

The temple library will be having a book sale during the Naikan retreat that Dr. Carmella will be leading this month. We have a very limited number of The Buddha's Wish for the World, however if you would like to have a copy, we will be more than happy to order one for you. Please come and browse through the collection of books that will be on sale.

March Shotsuki Hoyo

March 21, 10:00 am

Deceased	Date	Next of kin
Adachi Henry	3/11/97	Masayo Adachi
Brouwer Mayeda Emiko	3/4/96	Toshi Mayeda
Endo Nobuzo	3/16/93	Stan Endo
Ikegami Mitsuko	3/2/72	Yuta Ikegami
Imada Matsuyo	3/12/91	Tsukamoto
Ishimatsu Otoichiro	3/21/48	Chizuko Ishimatsu
Iwata Miya	3/11/91	Tsuruko Imai
Kano Setsu	3/14/40	Victor Oishi
Kida Uwano	3/16/67	Jeff Kida
Koseki, Iseko Ada	3/17/92	Kathy Terashima
Kumagai Hyozo	3/11/86	John Kumagai
Maeda Matsuzo	3/18/64	Koga Family
Matsumiya Chiyo	3/12/90	Jeanne Konishi
Matsumiya Jinzaburo	3/19/64	Jeanne Konishi
Matsuura Kame	3/25/54	Francis Akimoto
Muraki Tomekichi	3/1/75	
Nakano Tokuyo	3/3/91	Atsumu Nakano
Namba Makiji	3/2/57	
Nishikawa Emily	3/20/95	Nancy Wayman
Sasaki Yvonne Katsuyo	3/16/56	Haruto Sasaki
Shimizu Toshi	3/24/88	Kerry Lee
Tachiki Tetsu	3/18/83	Steve Tachiki
Uyeda Hisashi Harry	3/7/85	Ray Uyeda
Kobayashi Sakae	3/17/00	Ken Kobayashi
Shiba Takataro	3/10/01	Helen Nakashima
Igata Toshizo	3/2/02	Tomi Igata
Kasai Seiko	3/20/02	Grace Kasai
Taketa Shizuo	3/1/04	Nanae Taketa

BWA Donations

Connie Sakashita

Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	50	Ken's 1 yr Memorial Services
Shizue Tamagawa	25	Special
Karie Minaga Miya	40	Special
Carmela Javellana Hirano	40	Special
Connie Sakashita	10	Special
Alice Ogura	15	Special

Tomiyé Ishimatsu	50	Special
Jeanne Konichi	25	Special
Ayako Tohinaka	50	Special
Yukie Okubo	50	Year End Donation
Ken Nodzu	50	Year End Donation

BWA 2010 Memberships Paid

Holly Black	Shizuye Nakagiri
Aki Chow	Merry Nakamura
Maya Chow	Takae Nakamura
Kristine Clifford	Cheryl Nakano
Yuriko Dennison	Alice Ogura
Lynne Doi	Aiko Okada
Ruby Doi	Yukie Okubo
Takeko Doi	Grace Oshita
Elaine Endo	Dorothy Richeda
Christy Fong	Connie Sakashita
Terry Fujinami	Jane Sakashita
Maxine Furubayashi	Donna Sato
Ritsuko Hayashi	Karen Seo
Carmela Hirano	Joni Sueoka
Mitsuko Hirota	Stephanie Sueoka
Lisa Imamura	Chie Sugaya
Masako Imamura	Nancy Takagi
Brenda Koga	Nanae Taketa
Sherrie Koga	Shizue Tamagawa
Tammy Kuramoto	Chic Terashima
Leann Leach	Kathy Terashima
Renee Matsuura	Cindy Yamada Thomas
Karie Minaga-Miya	Judy Watanabe
Faye Mitsunaga	Reiko Watanabe
Junko Mitsunaga	Kazuko Yakumo
Setsuko Nagata	

2010 February Donations

Maya Chow

HOONKO			
Ben & Maurea Terashima	100	Kazuko Terasawa	30
Paul & Karen Seo	25	Asako Mori	25
Dean & Rise Hirabayashi	25	Bill & Shigeko Mizuno	50
Masaji Imai	25	Yuriko Iwamoto	25
Helen Mitsunaga	25	Mary Doi	25

Lynn & Marilyn Shimada	30	Reiko Mitsunaga	25
Joseph & Rose Kamaya	50	Misuko Shimada	25
Chiyoko Nishimura	25	Setsuko Schock	25

Ivan Van Laningham	100	Special	
Helen Mitsunaga	25	Shotsuki Hoyo	
Lynn & Marilyn Shimada	55	Shotsuki Hoyo	
Katherine Rowlands (CA)	250	Memory of Dr. Lance Rowland	
Karie Minaga-Miya	125	Special pledge	
Karen Cone-Uemura	15	Special	
Eleanor & Scott Sasaki	200	1 yr memorial for Susie Nakai	
Richard & May Matsuda	50	Special	
Shizue Nakagiri	100	Annual donation	
Ivan Van Laningham	100	Special	
Aiko Okada	50	Mother's memorial	
Buster Mayeda	500	In memory of Rose Mayeda	
Chic Terashima	200	1 yr memorial for Kay Terashima	
Max & Kathleen Hirabayashi	100	Affirmation for Ethan & Olivia	

NEHAN-E

Shizuye Nakagiri	25	Jane Sakashita	20
Ichiro & Takeko Doi	25	Mits & Terry Fujinami	25
Jerry & Carmela Hirano	50		

SHOTSUKI -HOYO

Chic Terashima	25	Bruce & Christy Fong	20
Brenda Koga	20	Setsuko Nagata	30
Misao & Elsie Doi	25	Ichiro & Takeko Doi	25
Aiko Okada	25	Ruby & George Doi	25
May Koike	25	Byron & Reiko Watanabe	50
Eleanor Sasaki	25	Paul & Kathy Terashima	50
Setsuko Schock (Dec)	25	Chiyoko Nishimura (Dec)	50
May Akiyama	25	Kenneth & Jean Kobayashi	25
LaVerne Kyed	25		

RE-DEDICATION SERVICE

Moe Neishi (Calif)	20	Naomi Sanada (San Jose)	100
Mayre & Kenge Okada	50	Bebe & Ila Okada	50
Takako Ogata (Las Vegas)	100	Kiyo & Halu Aoki	100
Annette Koga	15	Frances Hamada	20
Aiko Hamada	30	Tommy & Kimiko Hattori	25
Kunie Oda	50	Billy & Pam Sugihara	20
James & Marisa Aoki	25	George & Yuko Aoki	50

Max & Georgia Yoshida	35	Toby & Mui Yoshida	20
Kirk & Betty Yamashita	20	Hiro Yamashita	20
Steve & Ellen Kato	50	Akiko Kato	50
Ruth Kawashima	25	Steve & Kris Yamada	20
Reiko & Kenneth Matsuura	50	Alice Hirai	20
Nobuo Aoki	25	Neil & Aki Chow	50
George & Ruby Doi	50	Ichiro & Takeko Doi	100
Richard & Lynne Doi	100	Stan & Elaine Endo	50
Jim & Faye Eng	30	Bruce & Christy Fong	75
Mits & Terry Fujinami	100	Dean & Rise Hirabayashi	200
Mitsuko Hirota	35	Jerry & Carmela Hirano	1000
Masako Imamura	25	Chizuko Ishimatsu	100
Tomiye Ishimatsu	25	Grace Kasai	25
Brenda Koga	50	Brent & Sherrie Koga	25
Kozo & Hisa Minaga	25	Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	100
Karie Minaga-Miya	50	Setsuko Nagata	30
Merry Nakamura	25	Aiko Okada	25
Floyd & Yukie Okubo	100	Grace Oshita	100
Dot Richeda	30	Tracy Akimoto-Roberson	50
Jane Sakashita	50	Phillip & Connie Sakashita	50
David Sekino	100	Nancy Takagi	25
Cindy Thomas	50	Yoshiko Uno	100
Ivan Van Laningham	100	Kazuko Yakumo	50
Ron & Linda Omori	25	Tamiko Adachi	50
May Akiyama	50	LaVerne & Ernie Kyed	100

AFFIRMATION DONATIONS

Graham & LeAnn Leach	Dot Richeda
Miye & Seiji Hayashi	Jordan & Justin Roberson
Olivia & Ethan Hirabayashi	

BUILDING FUND

Joni & Dru Sueoka	100
Lynn & Marilyn Shimada	1000
Setsuko Nagata	100
Lynne & Richard Doi	1000
Buster Mayeda	100
Joni & Dru Sueoka	100
Kenneth & Jean Kobayashi	100
Chiyoko Nishimura	100
Setsuko Schock	100
Torao & Merry Nakagawa	100
Karen & Mike Tohinaka	100
Mits & Terry Fujinami	1000
Koyo Restaurant	100
Kenneth & Jean Kobayashi	100

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Paul & Karen Seo -Katherine
Haruko Moriyasu
Rick & Susan Spehar -Sydnie
Buster Mayeda
Setsuko Schock

Nobue Sudoko
Jamie Doi Slade
Sadie Kato
Shizue Tamagawa
Chiyoko Nishimura

DHARMA SCHOOL

Goodie Bags --

Masaji Imai	25	Grace Kasai	25
Kozo & Hisa Minaga	20	Kayo & Jeannette Hayakawa	50
Alice Ogura	15	Hiroshi & Mary Aramaki	40
Richard & May Matsuda	20	Nobue Sudoko	15
May Koike	25	Fujie Kunimoto	20
Otome Hasegawa	20	Misao & Elsie Doi	25
George & Ruby Doi	25	Chiyoko Nishimura	25
Setsuko Schock	25	Mitsuko Hirota	25
Helen Mitsunaga	25		

Buster Mayeda	25	Memory of Rose Mayeda
Renee Matsuura	25	Bowling
Maya Chow	20	Bowling
Chic Terashima	50	1 yr memorial for Kay Terashima

YBA

Buster Mayeda	25	Memory of Rose Mayeda
Chic Terashima	50	1 yr memorial for Kay Terashima

JR YBA

Buster Mayeda	25	Memory of Rose Mayeda
Chic Terashima	50	1 yr memorial for Kay Terashima

BWA

Chic Terashima	50	1 yr memorial for Kay Terashima
Chiyoko Nishimura	25	Special
LeAnn Leach	35	Monto Shikisho
Chic Terashima	35	Okesa
Sadie Kato	10	Dues

DOBO GAKKO

Chic Terashima	50	1 yr memorial for Kay Terashima
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