



Buddhist Thoughts

Salt Lake Buddhist Temple: 211 West 100 South
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July, 2010
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5755

OBON Dance Festival

Japanese Food served from 1 pm
Japanese items and gifts for sale
Snack Bar open from 3:00-10:00
Chapel Tours 2:00-7:00
Entertainment Inside/Outside 3:00-6:00
Taiko Drum Exhibition 7:00
Obon Street Dancing 8:00
Obon Sunday Service at 1:00 on July 11

*Saturday July 10, 2010
Salt Lake Buddhist Temple
211 West 100 South
For further information www.slbuddhist.org*

FREE ADMISSION / PUBLIC WELCOME

Obon 2010

Hatsubon

Richard Matsuno
Frank Enomoto (Ogden)
Mary Chiyoko Nagao (Honeyville)
Atsushi Sayama (Honeyville)
Kiyoko Okawa
Toki Yoshida (Ogden)
William Yamane (Ogden)
Kozo Minaga
Fred Taniguchi (Ogden)
Machiko Fukui (Honeyville)
Tetsuji Okada (Honeyville)
Shizue Tamagawa
John Kasubuchi

Each of these names represents more than an individual. They were fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, aunts, uncles, brothers and sisters. These thirteen names represent hundreds of individuals who have been touched by death over the past year. These thirteen friends were loved and had touched the lives of many and their influence lives on in this world.

Amida Buddha's compassion embraces us in the worlds of past, present and future. Obon is the bridge of love that spans these worlds. It is a time we breach the divide that we put up between us and them. It allows us to celebrate along with our Mothers and Fathers, Jichans and Bachans, brothers and sisters who have died before us. We dance in love. We gather in joy. The world of the living and dead are one, in love.

Our Obon festival is on July 10th. We can use the help of all members and friends. Our Obon dance practices are on the following dates: June 28, 29 and 30, July 1, 2, 5-8. This year we will be adding some new dances, so please join us in practice.

Selfless Giving (Dana) Temple Donations

In fact, the true act of dana paramita involves giving up what we cherish the most - ultimately our ego self. I know a school teacher who encourages the practice of dana in children by setting an example. Once, he took his students to give fruits to the homeless. In doing so, he purchased the most expensive fruits at the grocery store. When one mother complained that the homeless did not deserve such extravagance, he explained two important things about true giving. First, it requires some sacrifice on the part of the giver. To give away something that one doesn't need is not dana. Second, the act must not be condescending but must show respect to the one who receives the gift. In fact, one is grateful to the recipient who makes the act of giving possible.

Rev. Taitetsu Unno

Dana is one of the six paramitas. It is often translated as selfless giving. It can take many forms, from monetary donations to a smile or kind words. It is giving without worrying about what you are getting in return. It is the teaching we base donations to the temple. Without Dana of any type from the smile,

sweat equity, monetary, there would be no temple or Buddhist Churches of America (BCA). In Utah, we all know about the Mormons giving ten percent of their gross income to their churches. How much should you as a Buddhist give to your temple?

It seems that there are many people that do not understand how the temple financially supports itself. The membership fee to the temple does not come close to paying the expenses of the temple. Of the \$150.00 for individual membership almost \$90.00 goes to help our national organization BCA. To accomplish the rest of our temple's budget and activities we rely on income from events such as Obon, Food Bazaar and donations from the temple's major services. If we received 10 percent of each members' gross income, I think we would be comfortable financially. However, this is not our tradition and one of the ways we collect donations is to send out envelopes to members through the temple's newsletter as we are doing this month.

The reason I'm writing this article during the Obon season is that during one of the first Obon festivals as the minister of this temple, I said it seemed tacky to post the amount of donations for the keiko mimai. Keiko mimai is a donation made by individuals to help the temple. These are collected during the Obon dance practices (keiko). I asked if we could stop posting the amount of donation. Some of the older members told me that they felt the donation amount would go down if we didn't post the amount and name. I thought they were being cynical, however, I asked that we try it for one year. I ended up eating my honorable intentions. The donations that year were down by about 25%. The next year, we began posting the amount again, the donations went back up. I have also heard that with the change in generations and basic temple culture, many members do not know how or how much to donate to the temple. I thought that we could explain the basics.

The major fund raisers for the temple are Obon and Food Bazaar which raise about a quarter of the operating costs of the temple. The Dharma School Building fund holds two major fund raisers -- the temple golf tournament, and the Holiday Boutique, plus booths at our food bazaar and other activities, and has raised at least \$10,000.00 a year. These are all important ways to support our temple.

Whenever someone asks for a family service whether it is funeral, memorial service, wedding etc., it is customary to give two donations, one to the minister and one to the temple. The amount for these donations varies by temple and is usually equal between temple and minister, each receiving the same amount. For example, after a funeral I would receive two envelopes from the family. Each of these envelopes would contain the amount I have listed below for example \$250-\$500.00 for myself and the same amount for the temple. There would often be other envelopes for the various organizations of the temple. These would usually be lesser amounts.

I have asked many ministers through BCA what the donations are like at their temple and what they think about the system. Most ministers felt that there should be no set amounts for services, because it hurts the entire concept of Dana. Traditional it is left up to the giver. They examine what they believe they can afford. It's interesting how over the past fifty years, there has not been a big change in donations and amount. Most of the ministers I spoke with commented that it was interesting how it is usually non-members or members with the smaller incomes that give the most. Our temple once received a \$5000.00 donation for a funeral I performed. I did not receive an equal amount. However, as this person from Japan gave me the donation \$5000.00 to the temple and \$1000.00 to me, he was extremely apologetic, commenting that he was only allowed to bring so much cash into the United States. I was told by some ministers in Japan that at \$1000.00 would be considered a minimum donation to a minister. I was quite shocked but it is the difference between Japan and the U.S.

I am often asked by members and non member how much to donate. I usually reply that it is totally up to them. However, many new members have no idea about the amount of these donations; I would like to list the approximate range I have experienced personally and from what I have learned from other ministers

and temples. There are occasions when people do not know the traditions and will offer nothing, although these are rare. The amounts I have listed are pretty consistent among the ministers I have talked to, although it seems that the Eastern District temples are a little higher and the large Betsuins are a little smaller. Most of the ministers have also received \$1000.00 or more for weddings or funerals, but these are as rare as when they have not received anything. And I know there have been occasions when the temple received more than \$1000. There has also been a discussion among ministers that there is a large discrepancy between ministers assigned to certain temples that have many weddings, funerals and memorial services and ones that have only a few. As I have said these are all just discussions. The amounts I am listing are just average ranges that I have heard and I hope it will help in the discussion with members and ministers.

Holiday donations
such as Obon: \$25.00-\$100.00

Funerals: \$250-\$500.00

Memorial services: \$100-\$300

Weddings: \$250-\$500.00

Organizations:
Dharma School

BWA

YBA

Jr. YBA \$25-\$100.00

President's Message

Dot Richeda

It's official!! Summer is here and it is time for sun and fun. Obon will be held on July 10th this year. Please support Bruce Fong and Dave Sekino, co-chairs for this event. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Dave or Bruce or come by Friday, July 9th or Saturday, July 10th. Mark Minaga will need help putting up the yagura at 1:00 PM.

Obon dance practice will begin on Monday, June 28th at 7:00 PM and will continue until July 8th. Teachers will be Maxine Furubayashi, Sandy Iwasaki, Tracy Akimoto-Roberson, and Emily Iwasaki. Please come and join us.

Reminder: Movie night will be Saturday, August 21st at 6:45 PM. They will be food, snacks, popcorn and soda. Suggested donation: Family \$10.00, Adults \$4.00, Seniors Free.

Las Vegas Obon: We will leave August 13th, Friday, and return August 16th, Monday. Please contact Jane Sakashita for more information.

At the last Board meeting, I was reminded that there are still some members of the Temple that did not pay their dues for 2010. If you have not, Please contact Maya Chow as soon as possible. Dues and donations keep the Temple working.

Toban

July

Brian Fukushima	Henry Kuramoto
Tammy Fukushima	Tammy Kuramoto
Richard Doi	Lynne Doi
Craige Mayada	Bob Kasabuchi
Gary Koga	Dot Richeda
Ivan Van Laningham	

Next Board Meeting: July 8th, Thursday, 6:00 PM in the West Building.

With Deepest Sympathy

Our Temple offers our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of

John Kasubuchi
Floyd Okubo

We hope that through the Nembutsu teachings and the strength of your family and community, you will find comfort in this difficult time. Namo Amida Butsu.

Shotsuki Hoyo

Deceased	Date of Death	Next of Kin
Beppu Yoshio	7/25/55	Jane Sakashita
Fujii Daiji		Amy Tomita
Hasegawa Masuta	7/1/81	Otome Hasegawa
Kameda Tasaku	7/14/84	
Konishi Becky	7/14/91	Jeanne Konishi
Konishi Isamu Lawrence	7/1/91	JeanneKonishi
Matsuda Kanji	7/1/63	Dick Matsuda
Matsumiya Kaoru	7/1/54	Sego Matsumiya
Matsumori Tome	7/12/86	

Matsuura Yosaku	7/31/40	Reiko Matsuura
Mochizuki Jiro		Jerry Mochizuki
Ogi Seiji	7/16	Tomoko Ogi
Ogi Takeshi	7/22	Tomoko Ogi
Nishida Roy Kazuo	7/10/03	Aiko Okada
Okino Shoichi	7/31/89	Kazuko Okino
Sanada Shintatsu Rev.	7/6/82	Tracy Roberson
Sasaki Shozo	7/73	Charlie Sasaki
Satomura Tome	7/20/86	Kimiko Mizuta
Sugino Kizo	7/28/52	Bob Sugino
Tohinaka Heizo	7/15/53	Sachiko Tohinaka
Yamaguchi Hoshiro	7/14/91	Jeanne Yamaguchi
Sumida Kimiyo	7/9/95	Barbara Mitsunaga
Tadehara Yukiyei	7/22/98	Amy Tomita
Roy Naosaburo Tachiki	7/16/01	Steven Tachiki
Ken Ogura	7/20/07	Alice Ogura
Rowena Ling	7/21/07	Elaine Fukushima

YBA Maya Chow

Thank you to all the YBA for another successful Parents Day luncheon. I appreciate your efforts and giving up a few hours sleep to come cook. Special thanks to Karen Tohinaka, Merry Nakamura, Christy Fong and Troy Watanabe for helping in the preparation also. Please keep Obon (July 10) open and plan on participating then--have a great summer!

Salt Lake Jr. YBA Jim Eng and Mark Minaga

The Salt Lake Jr. YBA appreciates the support the Nihon Matsuri committee gave us by selling water and soda at this event. We also are very thankful for the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple for their support by helping us sell water in the booth also. The kids made enough money to have a sleep over and movie night at the Gateway theatre for this Saturday night on June 12th. The Jr. YBA will be paying for the kids movie tickets.

On June 12th at 7:00 p.m. the Jr. YBA will be making items to sell at the Obon festival. Thank you to Reiko Watanabe for donating the tea cups to the Jr. YBA to sell. It is a great idea and we appreciate your saving the tea cups for us. Also thank you to Bruce and Christy Fong for coming up with the idea to sell them at the Obon.

We are in the first stages of planning our bus trip to California for the summer of 2011. The kids all want to go back to Northern California and we will be discussing what Temples and events we will be doing at our

next meeting.

Thank you for supporting the Jr. YBA!

JUNE DONATIONS

Karie Minaga-Miya	125	Special pledge
Ivan Van Laningham	100	Special
Mitsuko Hirota	35	Memorial
Mark & Gail Minaga	10	Matthew's birthday
Karen Cone-Uemura	10	Graduation service
Stan & Elaine Endo	25	Parents Day

ESHINNIKO

Mary & Hiroshi Aramaki	20	Aki Chow	25
Gail & Mark Minaga	25	Brenda Koga	25
Karie Minaga-Miya	25	Chic Terashima	25
Ruby & George Doi	25	Chie Sugaya	25
Connie Sakashita	25	Dot Richeda	25
Elsie Doi	25	Grace Oshita	50
Holly Black	20	Jane Sakashita	25
Jeanne Konishi	50	Joni Sueoka	25
Junko Mitsunaga	30	Kazuko Yakumo	25
Lynne Doi	25	Maxine Furubayashi	25
Merry Nakamura	25	Mitsuko Hirota	35
Reiko Matsuura	20	Reiko Watanabe	25
Sandy Iwasaki	25	Setsuko Nagata	25
Takae Nakamura	20	Takeko Doi	25
Terry Fujinami	25	Yoshiko Uno	20

ESHINNIKO SEMINAR --

Aki Chow	20	Carmela Hirano	20
Christy Fong	25	Connie Sakashita	25
Dot Richeda	20	Junko Mitsunaga	20
Kristine Clifford	20	Lynne Doi	25
Maya Chow	25	Reiko Mitsunaga	10
Reiko Watanabe	25		

SHOTSUKI HOYO

Takae Nakamura	25	Mits & Terry Fujinami	25
Merry Nakamura	25	Grace Oshita	25
Tom & Fran Akimoto	20	Yoshiko Uno	20

Otome Hasegawa - membership dues

BUILDING FUND

Koyo Restaurant	100
Joni & Dru Sueoka	100

DHARMA SCHOOL

Sandy Iwasaki	25	Emily's graduation
Karen Tohinaka	25	Chad's graduation
Merry Nakamura	25	Merissa's graduation

JR YBA

Chizuko Ishimatsu	50	Special
LaVerne & Ernie Kyed	20	Sleepover activity

DIAMONDS IN THE ROUGH

DHARMA DISCUSSION GROUP FOR YOUNG ADULTS

WHO AM I?

WHERE DID I COME FROM?

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF MY LIFE?

WHAT IS LIFE?

WHAT IS DEATH?

Salt Lake Buddhist Temple, after Summer Service
211 West 100 South, Japantown St., Salt Lake City 84101
(801) 718-5755 / (801) 414-1336

www.slbuddhist.org

August 1, 8, 22, 29, 2010 @ 10 a.m.

Taught and facilitated by Rev. Jerry Hirano
and Carmela Javellana-Hirano, M.D.