



Buddhist Thoughts

Salt Lake Buddhist Temple: 211 West 100 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101, volume 20 issue 2
web site: slbuddhist.org

February, 2012
Rev. Hirano's contact numbers: Office: 363-4742,
home: 299-8727, emergency 819-2648

The Reason I was born was to take out the Garbage J.K. Hirano

The Reason for Life
Lyrics and music by Sada Masashi
Translated by Rev. David Matsumoto

The reason that I was born...was to meet my father and mother.
The reason that I was born...was to meet my brothers and sisters.
The reason that I was born...was to meet all of my friends.
The reason that I was born...was to meet you, my love.
Just as flowers bloom naturally with the coming of the spring...
Just as leaves fall naturally with the coming of the autumn...
Everyone has been born in order to be happy!
Just as the fruit of joy is borne from the flowers of grief...
The reason that I was born...was to hurt someone somewhere.
The reason that I was born...was to be hurt by someone somewhere.
The reason that I was born...was to be saved by someone somewhere.
The reason that I was born...was to save someone somewhere.
Just as darkness pervades naturally with the coming of the night...
Just as brightness shines naturally with the coming of the morn'...
Everyone is alive in order to be happy!
Just as joy rises up from beyond the seas of sadness...
The reason that I was born...was to meet you, my love.
The reason that I was born...was to care for you, my love.

On January 26, 27 and 28th, Carmela and I attended classes in Southern California at the Orange County Buddhist Church and the Los Angeles Betsuin. These classes were taught by my good friend Rev. David Matsumoto. The classes were on "Shinjin", a subject that is at the core of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. There are many different translations for the Japanese word *shinjin*. This word consists of two Chinese characters; the first character is usually translated as "belief" or "faith," and the second is usually rendered "heart and mind." Therefore, it can be translated as faith, the entrusting heart, the mind and heart that believes etc. etc. As Rev. Matsumoto explained in his lectures, it is just a word. It is what is behind and in front of the word, which shape our meaning and understanding for the concept that the word *shinjin* describes.

Shinran Shonin used the word *shinjin* in many places and ways within his magnum opus Ken Jodo

Shinjitsu Kyogyosho Monrui, often abbreviated as Kyogyoshinsho. I don't want to get into an explanation or discussion of Shinjin. Rev. Matsumoto's classes only touched on a small portion of the meaning and he spoke for over 20 hours of lectures. However, during the class we had some discussion on how we felt about Shinjin. One of the questions was, "Is shinjin necessary for life?" I realized that shinjin was not necessary for life itself, but it was necessary for me to truly live life. It made me think of eating; life without shinjin would be like eating without the ability to taste, see or smell what I was eating. On further thinking about this question, I began to realize that shinjin is the reason I was born. It is my spiritual life.

There are some people who think of shinjin as something you get or receive. I don't think shinjin can be defined or understood as a noun. It is the meeting of two great life forces, the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha and my realization of my limitations as a human being. In a non-terminological way of explaining this, Amida Buddha's vow is the deep wish of the life force or compassion and love of the Universe, wanting to become life. The realization of my limitations is to understand how much I have been given to live this life. The meeting of these two result a deep appreciation for life itself. This process and result is shinjin.

The song I began with was a song written and sung by a Japanese folk singer named Sada Masashi. Rev. Matsumoto had told me months before what a great song this was. It was written in commemoration of Honen Shonin, Shinran Shonin's teacher's 800th memorial service. I didn't really listen to the whole song until Rev. Matsumoto's class and it blew me away. For at least three days after the class this song echoed through my head. It echoed as I ate my dinner, as I watched T.V. as I argued with my kids or Carmela, while taking a shower, sitting on the toilet, during every mundane task that make up my life. Through this experience I realized that the reason that I was born was not only to do and have these wonderful miraculous experiences described in this song, but the reason I was born was to take out the garbage on Tuesday nights, to cook dinners and wash dishes for my family, to be honked at in traffic for something I didn't do. The reason I was born was to live and appreciate all that I have, the good and the bad. To all of this I can only bow deeply, put my hands together and say, "Namo Amida Butsu".

President's Message

Dot Richeda

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the officers of the various Temple organizations and say thank you for your support and hard work.

Hoonko was a success again this year with so many of you attending. As always the lunch was delicious. Thank you for your support. Thank you, Rev Yuki Suguhara and Namiko for coming all the way from California for our Hoonko. I really enjoyed listening to your guitar music.

Did you see the movie "Sumo Do, Sumo Don't." It was so funny that I laughed so loud I was glad the gym was dark. Can't wait to see what the next movie the Salt Lake YBA will bring for their Sunday Movie Afternoon. Hope all your hard work paid off and have fun at YAC.

The following current business is on the Temple Board agenda:

*By-Laws will be voted on at the General Membership Meeting on January 29th. Thank you Ernie for your hard work.

*A Screen (TV) will be coming to the Hondo in the fall. Mark Minaga is looking into the cost of purchasing and stalling the TVs.

*The Salt Lake Taiko group will be closing its membership on January 29th. Members of the Taiko group will pay a \$20.00 membership fee so we can start building our own Taiko with the help of Stan Hirari and Betty Yamashita.

*West Building: the Temple Board has asked Victor Oishi to stop the releasing of the West Building. We have no takers. The Board would like to thank Victor for his hard work all these years.

*Hood cleaning: Brenda Koga has contacted a company to clean the hood over the stove.

*BCA 2012 Ministers' Association and National Council Meeting will be February 22-25, 2012.

Sensei Hirano, Carmela Hirano, Bruce Fong and I will be attending. At the Saturday night Banquet at the National Council Banquet it will be the retirement dinner for Socho Koshin Ogui.

*In early March, Ernie Kyed has scheduled for the gym floors to be redone. It will probably take two weeks.

*This year, Sensei Hirano will have his 25 years of Service for the BCA. Stan Endo will chair a committee to celebrate.

*Congratulations to Buster Mayeda and Terri Fujinami for their Dana Awards. Its members like you that make the Temple run so successfully. Thank you to Jane Sakashita for being the chair of Dana Awards every year.

*2012 Celebration- the Buddhist Centennial Committee is meeting monthly in preparation for this celebration to be held on Sept 15, 2012 at the Salt Palace. Troy Watanabe and I are collecting the history of the SLB Temple.

We have started Members Orientation for new members as well as current members after Sunday Service. We held our first orientation on January 8th. We will do this every quarter. We are in the process of updating the current handbook for Temple members.

*Temple Board Meetings are held every Thursday of every month at 6:00 PM. Please join us, the meeting is open to all members.

Announcements:

February 4th, Utah Art Council, Block 8, 7:00 PM

February 11th, Naikan: A Taste of Grace, 1-5 PM

February 9th, Temple Board Meeting.

BWA - February 2012

Reiko Matsuura

The Buddhist Women's Association is looking forward to the new year, and the continued support from the members. We began the new year with the BWA preparing Ozoni, a main entrée and side dishes for the HoOnko luncheon. We received many wonderful comments on the delicious luncheon provided. We appreciate everyone who brought side dishes and desserts. Special appreciation to Junko Mitsunaga, Setsuko Nagata, Reiko Watanabe and Connie Nakahara for setting up and preparing the Ozoni and miso salmon (main entrée). Thank you, Thank you to the members who helped with the clean up after the luncheon.

At our January meeting, an electronic e-mail from the FBWA (Federation of Buddhist Women's Association) has requested FBWA dues (2.00 per member), FBWA DANA(\$1.00), Federation of Dharma School Teachers League (\$1.00 per member). The fees will be sent in by the deadline of March 2, 2012. The FBWA is focusing on recruiting new members. We would like to invite all the Ladies in our temple to please join our temple BWA, as your expertise and support for the forthcoming 2012 year events will help us to succeed.

The BWA approved funding for the kitchen hood to be cleaned. Thank you to Brenda Koga for making arrangements to have the kitchen hood cleaned. Also, Thank you to Karie Minaga and Gail Minaga for scrubbing and steam cleaning the kitchen stove.

The BWA members would like to thank Brenda Koga, past 2011 president, for her dedicated service to our organization. Brenda's leadership helped our organization flourish, but also gave BWA members an opportunity to volunteer in a fund raising event for the Road Home a private non-profit social service agency that assists individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Salt Lake County. We appreciate the service of all of the 2011 Officers and Committee Members.

Our next scheduled meeting will be held on February 5, 2012, at 11:30 a.m.

Dharma School Happenings

Brenda Koga

Hard to believe we are already into the second month of the 2012 year, but our Dharma School continues to progress without missing a beat thanks to the dedication of the officers, board and especially the teachers. The temple is very appreciative of the continued efforts of the volunteers who reliably attend each Sunday to offer the dharma to our students.

If you have not noticed, we have had the various classes rotating to participate in our services. Thank you to the **5th and 6th grade** students who assisted with the services in December by reciting The Golden Chain and The Promise. In January we had the **3rd and 4th graders** performing those duties, and the **1st and 2nd graders** take on those responsibilities this month.

Additionally, we are grateful to the **Jr. Young Buddhist Association** and **YBA** for chairing our services, and a special thanks to our **pianists**. Our appreciation is extended to the **teachers** of the students in preparing them for their duties. Due to the shared efforts and cooperation of all these sangha members, our services materialize with minimal effort.

Thank you to all the sangha who donated items for the goodie bags distributed to the seniors at the HoOnko luncheon on January 15, 2012. Under the direction of **Gail Minaga, Judy Watanabe** and **Holly Black** over 60 bags were gifted to the elderly, a number of who are shut-ins and have little contact with the temple other than through this gesture.

Upcoming on **February 12, 2012** the Dharma School will hold its annual bowling outing at **Bonwood Bowl, 2500 So. Main Street** from **11:00 a.m.** Families participating are requested to bring a salad or side dish to accompany the pizza and drinks provided by the Dharma School.

Anyone wishing to bowl may do so by paying the applicable fees charged by the alley. For students the rates will be \$5.00 for 2 games including shoes, and adults will be \$6.00.

Questions should be directed to **Bobbi Ikegami** or **Brenda Koga**. Please let Bobbi know if you/your family are planning to attend and if you will be bowling since a **count is needed by February 5 for the pizza and lanes**. You can e-mail her at bgi6@comcast.net.

Look for details in this newsletter for the upcoming ski outing on March 4, 2012.

YBA News

Maya Chow

Thanks to all the YBA members and their parents for helping with the successful movie day and luncheon. We especially like to thank the sangha for participating and donating towards the YBA. The members will be attending the YAC conference this weekend at the Jodo Shinshu Center with the funds raised.

DANA AWARD FOR 2011

Presented to Buster Mayeda and Terry Fujinami

Jane Sakashita

A hundred years ago, the Issei men and women who came from Japan planted the seeds of Buddhism here in Utah. Several years later the Nisei nurtured the seeds until the Buddha Dharma blossomed into the lives of all of us at the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple.

Over the years two members who have spent countless hours toward the success of our temple who are deserving of the Dana Award are: Mr. Buster Mayeda and Mrs. Terry Fujinami.

BUSTER MAYEDA

Buster served on the temple board for twenty years from the 1970's throughout the 1980's. He also worked tirelessly during our bazaars in operating the Chinese chicken salad booth and the beverage booth. Since he was an expert radar technician at Hill Air Force Base for over 30 years, he was able to focus in on and help with all temple activities.

He was born in Othello, Washington and came to Utah because of the World War II evacuation orders. He was married to Rose Yagi for over 50 years and they had two sons: Brad is Vice President of the Investment Department at Zions Bank and Scott is the Corporate Counsel for Sinclair Oil Corporation. Buster and Rose were avid University of Utah football and basketball fans for over 40 years, and Buster enjoys bowling, fishing and hunting, and traveling—especially to Hawaii. Buster has countless bowling friends and entertains his team every time he makes spares or strikes.

TERRY FUJINAMI

Terry has been active in the temple from the early 1970's serving as Sonenkai treasurer; the BWA board since 1985, holding positions as auditor and public relations officer; preparing the Hana Mido for Hanamatsuri for over 24 years; working in the Nigiri sushi booth for bazaars; and always doing odds and ends in the kitchen.

Terry was born in Southern California and her family evacuated to the Layton, Clearfield area when World War II erupted. She worked at Western General Insurance Agency in the accounting department for over 35 years. Terry is married to Mitsuru Fujinami and they have two sons: Robert who is a professor and research scientist of M.S. and Autism at the University Hospital and Michael who works for the Federal Reserve Bank. She enjoys bowling, golfing and traveling. One of the memorable happenings of her travels occurred at San Paolo, Brazil where the World BWA conference was held. Mits and Terry were staying at the same hotel as the then Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko and were able to see them and exchange greetings. Most enjoyable are the family's yearly trips to Southern California and the Midwest.

Congratulations to Buster and Terry!

Buddhist Practice for Busy People

Beginning on February 7, we will be holding a new study class focusing on Chanting the Shoshinge. This class will be held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7pm. It will consist of chanting the Shoshinge and meditation, then discussing the content of the Shoshinge. In studying the Shoshinge we gain an insight into the essence of Jodo Shinshu. Please join us.

February Shotsuki Hoyo

February 19, 10:00 am

Deceased	Date of Death	Next of kin
Doi Masayo	2/23/87	Ichiro Doi
Ishimatsu Yoshiko	2/17/26	Chizuko Ishimatsu
Kawaguchi Hirokichi	2/2/	Bill Kawaguchi
Kikushima Shizue	2/20/86	Bernice Kida
Kobayashi Yasuji	2/5/50	Jean Kobayashi
Kojima Hideo	2/3/85	Tama Kojima
Maeda Shime	2/4/36	Koga Family
Nakai Kanesaburo	2/19/60	Lily Havey
Nishida Hide	2/23/68	Aiko Okada
Nodzu Shige	2/7/80	Ken Nodzu

Ogawa Gentaro	2/9/09	Bob Sugino
Oike Kazuyoshi	2/3/59	May Koike
Okawa Paul	2/11/87	Kathy Okawa
Sauki Izyo	2/28/94	Marge Kruze
Seko Kikuno	2/4/89	Duzo Seko
Shiotani Sataro	2/13/85	Kai Shiotani
Suyehiro Otozo	2/2/36	Greg Matsuura
Suyehiro Tomiko	2/4/31	Greg Matsuura
Sueoka Tokusaku	2/4/70	Dru Sueoka
Tsugino Masuko	2/8/80	Bob Kasubuchi
Tsutsui Mojiro	2/23/73	Geraldine Chappell
Ushio Tatsu	2/14/03	Janet Thomas
Watanabe Ichiro Roy	2/19/85	Byron Watanabe
Yagi Emiko	2/6/83	Helen Yagi
Koga Sueyoshi	2/22/99	Koga Family
Sauki Tamaye	2/22/98	Marge Kruze
Yamamoto Lessie	2/4/99	Eleanor Nakamura
Ushio Tadao	2/22/01	Janet Thomas
Koga Michiko	2/5/02	Gary Koga
Tsuyuki Jerry	2/7/02	Mark Tsuyuki
Tsutsui Harry	2/27/02	Geraldine Chappell
Tokunaga Utako	2/27/02	Al Tokunaga
Kido Jimmy Yoshi	2/26/03	Yoshiko Kido
Lew David	2/14/06	Bobbi Lew
Nakai Frank	2/15/06	Eleanor Sasaki
Nagata Shigeo	2/28/07	Setsuko Nagata
Iwasaki Mary Tsuru	2/23/07	Karen Tohinaka
Endo Kathleen	2/26/07	Thomas Endo
Tachiki Hanako	2/08	Steve Tachiki
Ushio Ruby	2/28/08	Janet Thomas
Terashima Kay Kiyoshi	2/15/09	Chiyoko Terashima
Mayeda Rose	2/27/09	Buster Mayeda

2012 JANUARY DONATIONS

Walter & Karen Sato	100	Sangha award
Daniel Ikemoto	100	Special
Stan & Elaine Endo	50	Joya-E service
Ron & Linda Omori	20	Joya-E service
LaVerne & Ernie Kyed	50	Shusho-E service
Chizuko Ishimatsu	10	Shusho-E service
Tomiye Ishimatsu	25	Shusho-E service
Tom & Fran Akimoto	30	Joya-E/Shusho-E
James & Marisa Aoki	20	Special
Ivan Van Laningham	25	Special
Brent & Sherrie Koga	50	Bodhi Day/Joya-E
Carmela & Jerry Hirano	100	Joya-E
Masami Hayashi	100	49 day service for Ritsuko Hayashi
Sasaki Family	50	Memorial service

Chizuko Ishimatsu	100	Memorial for Harry & Yukio Ishimatsu
Tomiye Ishimatsu	100	Memorial for Harry & Yukio Ishimatsu
Asako Mori	100	Memorial for Carol Mori
Mitsuko Hirota	20	Nokotsudo

MEMORIAL FOR AYAKO TOHINAKA

Hiroshi & Mary Aramaki	Hiro & Elaine Iwasaki
Marjorie Jones	Marge Sowby
Nikkei Senior Center	Bob & Aki Sugino
Judy Iwamoto & Ken Yamane	Byron & Reiko Watanabe
Kazuko Yakumo	Japan Sage Market
Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	Richard & Lynne Doi
Grace Oshita	McGillis School
Sallie Warmath	

HOONKO --

Charlie Sasaki	20	Setsuko Nagata	50
Tamiko Adachi	20	Ichiro & Takeko Doi	100
Jun & May Sudoko	25	Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	100
Helen Mitsunaga	40	Kazuko Yakumo	50
Misao & Elsie Doi	50	Christopher Oki	30
Naomi Sanada (San Jose)	25	Shelley Doi-Taketa	20
Yuriko & Carl Dennison	50	Dave Sekino	40
LaVerne & Ernie Kyed	50	Maxine Furubayashi	50
Chie Sugaya	20	Reiko & Ken Matsuura	50
Rise Hirabayashi	20	Kiyomi Ryujin	25
Ruby Doi	50	Yoshiko Uno	30
Bruce & Christy Fong	30	Paul & Kathy Terashima	50
Aki & Neil Chow	20	Kristine Clifford	10
Dorothy Richeda	50	Sandy Iwasaki	25
Asako Mori	25	Nanae Taketa	50
Takae Nakamura	20	Hisa Minaga	25
Karie Minaga-Miya	30	Reiko Mitsunaga	25
Masami Hayashi	100	Aiko Okada	25
Nancy Takagi	25	Chic Terashima	25
Brenda Koga	25	Brian & Tammy Fukushima	100
Judy & Troy Watanabe	25	Faye & Jim Eng	25
Rose Watamura	25	Connie & Phil Sakashita	50
Terry & Mits Fujinami	100	Donna Sato	20
Nobuo Aoki	50	Rick & Bobbie Ikegami	20
Byron & Reiko Watanabe	50	Sherrie Hayashi	20
Tina Munson	100	May Akiyama	25
Jane Sakashita	50	Buster Mayeda	100
Grace Oshita	50	Richard & Lynne Doi	50
Tracy Akimoto	25	Mark & Gail Minaga	25
Anonymous	20	Yoshiko Ninomiya	100
Nobue Sudoko	25	Bill & Shigeiko Mizuno	50
Hiroshi & Mary Aramaki	50	Jerry & Carmela Hirano	100

Mitsuko Hirota	30	Sadie Kato	25
Kayo & Jeannette Hayakawa	25	Thomas Endo	25
Misuko Shimada	30	Kyle Matsumura	25
Richard & May Matsuda	25	May Koike	50
Kazuko Terasawa	30	Rose Kamaya	50

SHOTSUKI HOYO -

Karie Minaga-Miya	70	Robert Kasubuchi	25
Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	30	Robert & Tami Tokita	20
Nanae Taketa	25	Aki & Neil Chow	20
Takae Nakamura	25	Nobuo Aoki	50
Misao & Elsie Doi	50	Mitsuko Hirota	35

DHARMA SCHOOL

Buster Mayeda	50	Special
---------------	----	---------

GOODIE BAG --

Maxine Furubayashi	25	Ichiro & Takeko Doi	25
Terry & Mits Fujinami	25	Bob & Aki Sugino	20
Helen Mitsunaga	20	Kayo & Jeannette Hayakawa	50
Sadie Kato	20		

YBA

Faye Eng	30	Ice skating activity
Buster Mayeda	50	Special

JR YBA

Chizuko Ishimatsu	50	Donation for pizza for JRs
Chizuko Ishimatsu	25	Memorial
Buster Mayeda	50	Special

February 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 7:00 Block 8 performance
5 8:30 taichi 9:00 Meditation 10:00 Dharma School	6	7 7:00 pm chanting, meditation, study	8	9 6:00 pm Board service and mtg.	10	11 Naikan Retreat 1-5 pm
12 8:30 taichi 9:00 meditation No Dharma School	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 No taichi or meditation 10:00 Nehan E/Pet memorial, Shotsuki	20	21 7:00 pm chanting, meditation, study	22	23 BCA National Ministers mtg., Sacramento	24 BCA National Council	25 BCA National Council
26 No taichi or meditation 10:00 Dharma School	27	28	29			

Block 8

Free Reading by Plan B
Theatre Company 7:00 pm
February 4

Dharma School Bowling Party

The Dharma School is hosting
the annual Bowling Party and
luncheon at Bonwood Bowl
11:00 am, February 12

Naikan Retreat

As part of the Interfaith Month
our temple will be offering a
Naikan Retreat Open to the
Public 1-5 pm, February 11

Nehan E/Shotsuki Hoyo

Nehan E is the memorial service
for Shakyamuni Buddha we also
have the Pet Memorial Service
and Shotsuki Hoyo 10:00 am,
February 19

March 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 8:30 taichi, 9:00 meditation, No DS, DS Ski Party, Brighton	5 State Legislature Opening Prayer	6 7:00 pm chanting, meditation, study	7	8	9	10
11 8:30 taichi, 9:00 meditation, 10:00 Ohigan, Shotsuki	12	13 7:30 Ogden Board mtg.	14	15 6:00 Board mtg.	16	17
18 8:30 taichi, 9:00 meditation, 10:00 D.S.	19	20 2:00 Honeyville Ohigan 7:00 pm chanting, meditation, study	21	22	23	24
25 8:30 taichi, 9:00 meditation, 10:00 D.S.	26	27	28	29	30	31

Events

Dharma School Ski Party

Brighton Ski Resort, Potluck Barbeque starts at Noon. No Dharma School, March 4

Chanting, Meditation and Study

We will begin chanting Shoshinge and learn the basics of chanting, meditation and the meaning of Shoshinge. First and third Tues. at 7:00

Ohigan

Spring Ohigan service and the March Shotsuki Hoyo, March 11 at 10:00am. Ohigan is the Spring Equinox and is the time to listen for the other shore