



# Buddhist Thoughts

Salt Lake Buddhist Temple: 211 West 100 South  
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## What Bon Odori is Not

Rev. Masao Kodani

- \* Bon Odori in America is Japanese-American, not Japanese.
- \* Bon Odori is generally not observed at Jodo Shinshu temples in Japan.
- \* Bon Odori is not "*Ondo*." Ondo does not mean dance in the Japanese language, it means to "take the lead" in a cheer or toast, and is a form of music with a single singer and a responsive chorus. Ondo meaning "dance" is a term coined by non-Buddhist Japanese Americans (JA) who wanted to secularize the Bon Odori and mistakenly used the term Ondo to mean "dance."
- \* Bon Odori is not "*Nihon Buyo*" or classical Japanese dance. It is folk music and dance.
- \* Bon Odori is not performance dance for others to see-it is for people to dance. Bon Odori is not meant to be watched, it is meant to be danced.
- \* Bon Odori is to be danced as you are, symbolized by wearing Yukata (literally-bathrobe) as opposed to a kimono.
- \* Bon Odori is to reach a state of forgetting your ego, and thereby being able to remember and reconnect to those who have died. This is done by forgetting your ego, not indulging it.
- \* Whether you learn every dance or come to the dance cold, your ego will initially flaunt or be embarrassed. Real Bon Odori is that moment when you forget showing off and being embarrassed. Bon Odori's spiritual meaning is to discover your ego through dance and thus being able, even momentarily, to forget the self. That moment of "just dancing" is Bon Odori-and it is then that one naturally remembers the dead.
- \* Real Bon Odori is thus not used to attract crowds to a carnival.
- \* Bon Odori taiko is meant to help the dancers dance - it is not performance taiko. Bon Odori taiko is not meant to be noticed, except by its complete absence. Taiko players are not necessarily Bon Odori taiko players. Being a taiko player does not qualify you to play Bon Odori taiko-knowing the Bon Odori dances does.
- \* Being a dance teacher does not qualify you to teach Bon Odori dance, knowing the spirit of Bon Odori does.
- \* Bon Odori & taiko, like tofu salad & spam musubi, are not Japanese - they are uniquely Japanese-American.

ODORU AHO NI MIRU AHO  
A FOOL DANCING AND A FOOL WATCHING  
ONAJI AHO NARA  
IF IT IS THE SELF SAME FOOLISHNESS  
ODORANNYA SON  
NOT DANCING IS LOSING  
-refrain from the Awa Odori

SEE YOU AT BON ODORI, DANCING!

*\*Rev. Masao Kodani is the resident minister of the Senshin Buddhist temple. He is the co-founder of the Kinnara taiko group and the founder of Japanese American Buddhist taiko. He is the author of numerous books, among them Gathering of Joy, a book and CD about the history of Obon in America. He is also one of my inspirations for having become a minister.  
JKH*

## Deepest Condolences

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

Sueko Watanabe  
Kerry Shimada  
Kim Kawashima

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

Shotsuki Hoyo  
June 9, 10:00 am

<b>Deceased</b>	<b>Date of death</b>	<b>Next of kin</b>
Akiyama Uhichi	6/12/67	Francis Akimoto
Fujimoto Kanta	6/7/56	Grace Oshita
Fujinami Tomakichi	6/12/68	Mitsuru Fujinami
Harada Tsuyono	6/2/85	Harada Family
Imai Fujii	6/28/91	Aoki Family
Kobayashi Tsui	6/20/43	Kobayashi Family
Mayeda Buntaro	6/5/89	Fumio Mayeda
Muraki Sakae	6/24/87	Nakamura Family

Nakamura Chogoro	6/28/45	Takae Nakamura
Noda Ben	6/29/92	Noda Family
Sakinada Kathleen	6/4/89	Sakinada Family
Sasaki Nobuko	6/22/34	Charlie Sasaki
Shiba Eiji	6/30/85	Shiba Family
Suzuki Kiyoji	6/11/69	Masako Suzuki
Tadehara Mary	6/30/84	Rose Kamaya
Tani Hatsuye Mary	6/17/84	Eleanor Nakamura
Yokome Roy	6/26/95	Ray Uno
Araki Aiko	6/16/98	Aoki Family
Aoki Fred Toshio	6/17/98	Kay Aoki
Niwa Teruchiyo	6/11/00	Pat Ninomiya
Karen Haruko Shiba	6/17/00	Tosh Shiba
Kiyo Nakamura	6/10/04	Phil Nakamura
Fusano Mayeda	6/21/76	Yoshiko Kido
John Kasubuchi	6/8/10	Robert Kasubuchi
Floyd Okubo	6/22/10	Byron Okubo

## YBA THANKS

Thank you to all YBA and JRs hard workers for preparing, serving and cleaning up the Parents Day luncheon. We had many compliments and plenty of food! Special thanks to Troy Watanabe, Stephanie Sueoka and LaVerne Kyed for assisting us in the kitchen. (It was Troy's secret recipe for the beef) The YBA also thanks the sangha for the many donations of appreciation. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate those seniors who will be graduating high school. We hope you will continue to visit us at the temple next year.

Thanks to the boys who participated in the JAACL basketball tournament on May 16 and 17. It was exciting games with us losing by 2 points in overtime play. I hope you all enjoyed it and will be able to play again next year.

In gassho,  
Maya Chow, Advisor

## 2013 MAY DONATIONS

Gary & Kathleen Takenaka	50	Shotsuki Hoyo for Lois Crook
Osamu Hideshima	200	Special
Ivan Van Laningham	100	Special
Kimiye & Horace Aoki	25	Buddhist Thoughts
Thomas & Nancy Hohler	20	Special
Ivan Van Laningham	100	Special
Howard Nakagiri	100	Shotsuki Hoyo for Haruo Nakagiri

Nikkei Senior Center	30	Gym use	
May Akiyama	25	Parents Day	
Brian Fukushima	50	Parents Day	
Sherrie Hayashi	25	Parents Day	
Jane Sakashita	25	Parents Day	
Tracy Akimoto	25	Parents Day	
Faye & Jim Eng	25	Parents Day	
Ivan Van Laningham	100	Parents Day	
Rebecca Jackson	5	Parents Day	
Rise & Dean Hirabayashi	20	Parents Day	
Fran & Tom Akimoto	20	Parents Day	
Tina Munson	50	Hanamatsuri	
May Akiyama	30	Hatsumairi Infant presentation for Erik & Brian	
Gary Okamoto	20	Birthday for Brandon	
Stephanie Sueoka	100	Birthday for Samantha	
Tina Munson	100	April Shotsuki Hoyo	

#### GOTAN-E

Mits & Terri Fujinami	25	Reiko Mitsunaga	20
Byron & Reiko Watanabe	25	May Akiyama	25
Reiko & Ken Matsuura	20	Paul & Kathy Terashima	50
Chic Terashima	25	Maxine Furubayashi	25
Brenda Koga	20	Tomio Mitsunaga	30
Yoshiko Uno	25	Setsuko Nagata	25
Kazuko Yakumo	25	Ichiro & Takeko Doi	25
Christopher Oki	25	Karie Minaga-Miya	100
Hisako Minaga	25		

#### SHOTSUKI HOYO FOR MAY

Maxine Furubayashi	25	Merry Nakamura	25
Craige Mayeda	50	Mark Minaga	50Tomi Atagi
Karie Minaga-Miya	100	Taka Minaga	& Taka Minaga
Hisako Minaga	50	Taka Minaga	
Charlie Sasaki	20		

#### DHARMA SCHOOL

Maya Chow	100	In appreciation -teachers conference	
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#### PARENTS DAY

LaVerne & Ernie Kyed	25	Kazuko Yakumo	25
Maya Chow	20	Hisako Minaga	20
Karie Minaga-Miya	20	Jane Sakashita	20
Mits & Terri Fujinami	25	Paul & Kathy Terashima	25
Chic Terashima	25	Maxine Furubayashi	25
Tomio & Junko Mitsunaga	30	Chizuko & Tomiye Ishimatsu	50
Mark & Gail Minaga	25	Renee Matsuura	20
Ichiro & Takeko Doi	25	Merry Nakamura	20

Byron & Reiko Watanabe	25	Bruce & Christy Fong	20
YBA			
PARENTS DAY LUNCH --			
Buster Mayeda	20	Maya Chow	20
Bruce & Christy Fong	20	Walter & Karen Sato	25
LaVerne & Ernie Kyed	25	Kazuko Yakumo	25
Reiko Mitsunaga	10	Judy & Troy Watanabe	25
Paul & Kathy Terashima	25	Maxine Furubayashi	25
Yoshiko Uno	35	Setsuko Nagata	25
Byron & Reiko Watanabe	25	Ichiro & Takeko Doi	25
May Akiyama	25	Renee & Ken Matsuura	20
Mits & Terri Fujinami	25	Chic Terashima	25
JR YBA --Parents Day			
Renee Matsuura	20		
Anonymous	20		
MEMBERSHIP DUES			
Ray Tohinaka		Gary & Ryoko Okamoto family	
Ray Nishikawa		Troy & Judy Watanabe	
Kristen & Daniel Larson		Tina & Henry Munson	

## Obon Dance Practices

June

26, 27, 28

July

1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11

**7:00 pm**

Salt Lake Buddhist Temple  
SUMMER SERVICES

10 A.M. Sundays on the following dates:

June 16, 23, 30

July 14\*, 21, & 28

\*Hatsubon Service starts at 1:00 p.m.

Obon Seminar: "If the Buddha Went Nuts"

July 14, 10:30-12:00

Guest Speaker David Pating M.D.

Join us for Qi Gong at 9:30 a.m. &  
Dharma Discussion at 11:00 a.m.



Open to the Public \* "Come as You Are"