



## **How Do We Look at Buddhism, Part 2**

By Rev. Bert Sumikawa

Here is a story that teaches us what the Buddha said or did, and our self-realization that is directed to us through the teachings.

Once upon a time, there were three princes. One day they went out for a picnic on a mountain. There they bumped into a mother tiger that was lying on the ground. She was so emaciated that she could not even stand up. And her five cubs surrounded her. When the three princes saw the tiger and cubs, each prince expressed his respective ideas.

The oldest prince said, “Good, the tiger is emaciated. Let’s kill her. The skin of a tiger is precious. Let’s capture these five cubs and sell them.” Then the second oldest prince said, “How sad to see a starving tiger! Let’s give her our lunch. She will regain her strength and will be able to nurse her babies.” The youngest prince said, “Giving our lunch is not enough. To save her and her cubs, I want to offer my body to her.” Having said so, he threw his body to the mother tiger. But she was so weak that she could not eat him. So, with a sword, the youngest prince cut his arm, and offered his bloody arm to her. Then the tiger licked the blood and ate the arm. When the animal regained her strength, she jumped at the youngest prince and devoured him. The other two princes were terrified and ran away. That’s the story.

After reading this story to his audience, Iwao Hosokawa, a modern Shin thinker asked, “How do you read this story?” How do you answer this question? When you read this story that talks about three princes and a tiger, with whom do you identify? Probably we would identify with the oldest or with the second oldest prince. Although we cannot identify with the youngest prince, we would admire his extraordinary compassion for the tiger.

If you would ask me, I think I would identify myself with the mother tiger. I think perhaps I would be the mother tiger that devoured the youngest and compassionate prince. I am no different from her.

I have received so many wonderful things from my teachers, friends, and my parents, but I am so ungrateful. I am no different from the tiger who devoured the prince without even thanking him.

This story shows the reality of the self – my own self. What an ungrateful person I am. This is what Shinran is teaching us. Shinran is saying that we should read a text to show the reality of your own self. Like a mirror that shows who you really are.



Our teachers read texts solely for the purpose of examining the self - as a mirror that reflects. They ask, “What is this text teaching me?” “What aspect of myself can I learn from reading the texts?”

Haneda says that we can compare a Buddhist text to a drum. A drum doesn’t have a fixed or standard sound. It can emit different sounds depending on how hard it is hit. If we hit it softly, we get a soft sound. If we hit it hard, we get a loud sound.

We can say the same thing about a Buddhist text. If we ask a Buddhist text a shallow question, you will get a shallow answer. If we ask the Buddhist text a deep question, the text will return with a deep answer. There is no objective or standard teaching in any Buddhist text. Just as our hitting determines the nature of the sound we get from the drum, the degree of our seriousness determines the nature of the teaching we receive from a Buddhist text.



# May 2019

5	<b>NO Service – Honolulu District Picnic at Magic Island</b>	
8	Board Meeting	6:30p.m. @ the temple
12	Family Service 9:00 a.m. Mother's Day 	Speaker: Rev. Bert Sumikawa M.C.: Stephen Ochikubo
19	<b>Gotane Service</b> (St. Shinran's Birthday)  9:00 a.m.	Guest Speaker: Rev. Satoshi Tomioka M.C.: Shirley Yanagisawa
26	Monthly Remembrance Day 9:00 a.m.	Speaker: Michael Jaffe M.C.: Roy Inouye
<b>Remembrance:</b> If you'd like to remember a loved one who passed away in the month of May (of any year), you will be given the opportunity to do so during this service. A sign-up sheet will be available at the reception desk.		
<b>Temple Prep: May 1-5 by Team Camellia (Janet)</b> <b>May 6-31 by Team Pikake (Shirley)</b>		

## Gotane Guest Speaker: Rev. Satoshi Tomioka



Reverend Satoshi “Ka’imipono” Tomioka was born in Shimane, in the southern part of Japan. He is the youngest of three children.

He completed his studies at Ryukoku University in Kyoto, majoring in Intercultural Communication and Shin Buddhism. Continuing on at Ryukoku, he entered graduate school and received a M.A. in Literature Shin Buddhism.

After attaining a *tokudo* ordination followed by a *kyoshi* certification in 2010, Rev. Tomioka underwent the International Ministerial Orientation Program (IMOP) in 2012 and was assigned to Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin in 2013. He currently serves at the minister of Puna, Pahala and Naalehu Hongwanji Missions on the island of Hawaii.

Rev. Tomioka’s hobbies are playing the ukulele, reading books and sports.

It was his dream to become an overseas minister. Now he is living his dream by sharing the teachings of Jodo Shinshu with Hongwanji members and the people of Hawaii.

# Welcome

Windward Buddhist Temple NEW Members  
Ron Nakao and Takashi “Tak” Ueda!

Project Dana is comprised of volunteers who assists or offers aid in the form of friendly visits, shopping, or transportation to a *kupuna* (elderly). As more *kupuna* in our community are unable to drive or are housebound, they would appreciate a volunteer for a friendly phone call or visit, Longs or food shopping, or offer a ride to the doctor. A client's needs would dictate how often the volunteer is needed. If you would like more information on becoming a volunteer, please call Project Dana at 945-3736 or Jean Fukumoto, the Windward site coordinator at 247-0514.



-----Jean Fukumoto



Our second session of Family Promise will be held from May 26 to June 2 at the Hawaii Betsuin on Pali Highway. Windward Buddhist Temple is in charge of dinner on Thursday, May 30 and breakfast on Friday, May 31.

The following volunteers are being sought:

- 2 people to set up on Sunday May 26 at 1 p.m.
- 4 people to take down on June 2 at 7 a.m.
- 4 volunteers to prepare and bring food for dinner on May 30
- 4 volunteers to prepare and bring breakfast for May 31.
- 1 or 2 people to sleep over on May 30
- 1 person to launder the linens

Thank you for your support and participation in Family Promise. If you are able to help, please let Shirley Yanagisawa know on Sunday's at our temple services or call her at 261-3454. Mahalo.

----- Shirley Yanagisawa

*Mahalo*

For the donations of flowers and greens for our Buddha Day *Hanamido* (Flower Pavilion) and to everyone that helped put together the beautiful finished product. It was gorgeous!



*Continued from page 1 "How Do We Look at Buddhism – Part 2"*

The more self-reflective we become, the more self-reflective the teaching we receive from a text. We can then receive a wonderful teaching, not only from the books but also from people and things in this world. We can learn our true nature from them.

As we deepen our understanding of Buddhism, we must know that Buddhism is nothing but a teaching of self-examination. We must read a text subjectively as a mirror that is showing us what we really are. We are so fortunate to have many wonderful teachers to guide us on the path.

# Activities Corner

## WBT DHARMA SCHOOL

Providing dharma education is a primary goal of Windward Buddhist Temple. Along with teaching the dharma, hands on activities are planned for the students. Dharma classes for keiki ages 3-18 are held the SECOND Sunday of each month.



### May's Dharma Class & Activity:

On Sunday, **May 12, 2019**, we will reflect upon our mother's love for us and thank our moms by making flower vases.

## April Keiki Dharma Class and Activity



### EXERCISING, STRENGTHENING & WALKING

Tuesdays & Thursdays - 8:30 a.m. at the temple

### GARDENING

Gardening class will be on Sunday, **May 19, 2019** at 2:00 p.m. There is no sign up – everyone is welcome!



### TAI CHI

Tai Chi classes continue at the temple as follows:

**Tuesday 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

**Friday 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

If you're interested and have not already signed up for tai chi class, please contact Dennis Tashiro by email at [dhtashiro@gmail.com](mailto:dhtashiro@gmail.com) or call 226-0339.

## IKEBANA

(Flower Arranging)

This month's Ikebana classes are on the following Saturdays: **May 4** and **11** both 1:30 p.m. at the temple. Cost is \$5 per class plus the cost of the flowers/foilage (\$5-8). Instructor needs a count of participants as flowers are

## MEDITATION

Mondays 6:30-7:30 pm

Guided meditation, walking meditation and offering of incense, and chanting of a sutra. Followed by a short "talk story" section. Meditation is conducted by Rev. Dr. Bert M. Sumikawa. All are welcome to participate. There is no fee.

## Taste of Hongwanji

Windward Buddhist Temple (WBT) participated in the "Taste of Hongwanji Bazaar" held at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin on March 31, 2019. We joined the Hawaii Betsuin and Moiliili Hongwanji for this fundraiser. The proceeds of each booth went to the respective temples.

WBT members made and sold our popular takuan, manju, mochiko cupcakes, boiled peanuts, bitter melon namasu, marmalades, jam, *myuoga* (Japanese ginger) plants, cut flowers, cards and pillowcases. It was a very successful fundraiser for us! Mahalo to all that prepared and sold the items.



Sign with our new temple name!



Ron selling takuan



Yummy manju & other baked goods



Cut flowers

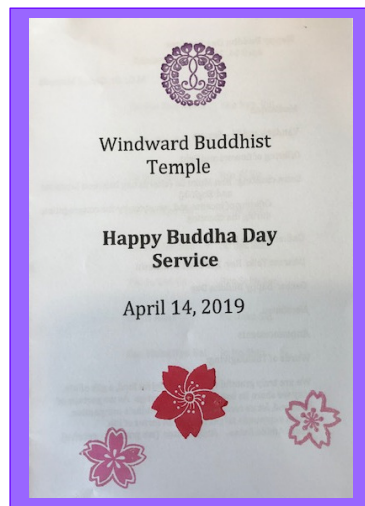


Roy offers myuoga plants



Dennis & Shirley – It was a beautiful day!

# Happy Buddha Day at WBT!





# Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

## HEADQUARTERS UPDATE



1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Phone: (808) 522-9200 Fax: (808) 522-9209  
Web: [www.hongwanjihawaii.com](http://www.hongwanjihawaii.com) Email: [hqs@honpahi.org](mailto:hqs@honpahi.org)

April 2019

### PBA GRADUATION

The Pacific Buddhist Academy will be holding its 13th Baccalaureate Ceremony on May 9, 2019 at 6:00 pm at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. The Ceremony will be officiated by Bishop Eric Matsumoto assisted by the ministers who will represent each district. 10 students will be graduating from PBA this year. The Commencement Exercise will be held on May 10, 2019 at 5:00 pm at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii.

### YBICSE – Young Buddhist International Cultural Study Exchange (JULY 15-27, 2019)

#### Hongwanji-sponsored educational trip to Japan

- Visiting Jodo Shinshu historical sites including the Hongwanji (mother temple) in Kyoto
- Fellowship with new friends from US Mainland, Canada, South America, and Japan
- Homestay Program
- Learn & experience Japanese Culture
- Share joy of living in the Nembutsu Teachings
- Many other life-changing experiences

#### Candidate Qualification (Fifteen (15) delegates will be selected.)

- A person who appreciate the Jodo Shin Buddhism
- A Person who is currently in 9<sup>th</sup> grade through age 25
- In good health

#### Registration Fee: \$1,600.00

\*Rest of the travel expense will be covered by Hongwanji.

\*Some meals and other personal expenses are not included.

\*Inter-island airfare within Hawaii is not included.

**\*\*Go to <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/blog/2019/04/01/ybicse-2019-applications-invited/> for more information and application. Application deadline is April 30, 2019.**

### KAHUKU HONGWANJI SCHOLARSHIP

Kahuku Hongwanji Mission closed its doors in February 2013 after serving its membership for 111 years. To maintain the legacy of the Kahuku Hongwanji Mission and to develop the future generations of the Hongwanji, Kahuku Hongwanji Mission established a scholarship for college students.

#### Eligibility:

- The applicant must be a member of the BSC Fellowship Club or an active member of a Hawaii Kyodan organization.
- The applicant must be a full-time student of an accredited college, university, or a post-high school program in the State of Hawaii, and earn a minimum of 12 college credits per semester.
- The applicant must have a required minimum college GPA of 2.5.
- The applicant must be of college age up to 35 years old.
- The applicant must submit the application form with an essay on “Dharma and My Life”.

**Application Deadline:** July 31 of the year of application      **Scholarship Amount:** \$1,500.00

For more information of this scholarship, please contact the HHMH Headquarters at (808) 522-9200 or email at [hqs@honpahi.org](mailto:hqs@honpahi.org)

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 ***Mahalo*** 

*for your kind monetary donations*

Gary & Annette Tashiro for Buddha Day  
Ryan Miyamoto for Buddha Day  
Roy & Cynthia Miyamoto for Buddha Day  
Stephen & Geraldine Ochikubo for Buddha Day  
Richard & Pauline Horita for Buddha Day  
Mitsue Miyamoto for Buddha Day  
Marjorie Ikeda for Buddha Day  
Family of the late Akio Serizawa Inurnment Service  
Mernie Miyamoto-Crawford  
Julie Kusumoto in memory of Robert Yoshida

**SAVE THIS DATE: July 13, 2019**  
**Windward Buddhist Temple's Bon Dance**