#### NOVEMBER 2023 • ISSUE 1



# HHMH TRIPLE CELEBRATION



### SHARING THE JOY OF NEMBUTSU TOGETHER: OUR LIVING HEART OF GRATITUDE SEPTEMBER 7 & 8, 2024



# LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER!

## BY REV. TOMO HOJO, CO-CHAIR

We are pleased to inform you that the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will commemorate the Triple Celebration on September 7 & 8, 2024.

The year 2023 will mark the 850th anniversary of the birth of Shinran Shonin, the founder of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist tradition, and 2024 will be the 800th anniversary of the establishment of the Jodo Shinshu teaching and the 135th anniversary of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Accordingly, in 2024, we will observe commemorative services and workshops on those auspicious occasions.

- Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Triple Celebration
- Theme: Sharing the Joy of Nembutsu Together: Our Living Heart of Gratitude
- Keynote Speaker: Dr. Rev. Takashi Miyaji
- Date: September 7 & 8, 2024
- Place: Ala Moana Hotel

We would like to encourage the Honpa Hongwanji affiliated organizations, members and friends to join the celebration. The Triple Celebration will start Saturday morning and finish Sunday around lunchtime. The event schedule is the next page. TOPICS

INVITATION - 1 SCHEDULE & REGISTRATION - 2 BUDDHIST EDUCATION - 3 & 4



Dr. Rev. Takashi Miyaji

# SCHEDULE

## **SEPTEMBER 7 & 8, 2024**

#### September 7

- Service: We will have an 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching Commemorative Service with Shinsei Gohonden Saho which was established for this joint celebration. Gohonden (lit. 'Major Scripture'), refers to Shinran Shonin's main work, *Kyogyoshinsho*, or *The True Teaching*, *Practice*, *and Realization of the Pure Land Way*, from which all the verses in this new ritual were selected. The melody was created to make it easy for the general public to join in chanting.
- Keynote Speaker: Dr. Rev. Takashi Miyaji of the Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church. In addition to his ministerial duties, he teaches at the Institute of Buddhist Studies located in Berkeley, California.
- Workshops: We may provide five workshops. Each workshop will be about one hour and you can select two of them based on your interest.
- Lunch Banquet.

#### September 8

- Service: We will have a HHMH 135th Anniversary Commemoration Service. Memorial message will be given by Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani.
- Panel Discussion: We are planning to have a panel discussion "Sharing of the Joy of Nembutsu Together."

The triple celebration is not only a two day event on September 7 & 8, 2024. We are providing a variety of articles based on the triple celebration on Ka Leo Kāhea.

We also have seminars which are related to Shinran Shonin doctorens since this year is the 850th anniversary of the birth of Shinran Shonin, and 2024 will be the 800th anniversary of the establishment of the Jodo Shinshu teaching.

It is not just a service but provides a great opportunity to share the joy of Nembutsu together with Hongwanji Sangha.

## Contact

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

- Phone: (808)522-9200 (Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii)
- E-mail: triple.celebration@honpahi.org

Sharing the Joy of Nembutsu Together: Our Living Heart of Gratitude



Ala Moana Hotel

## Registration

The triple celebration registration form will be shared soon. The early registration deadline is March 31, 2024 and the registration fee is \$250. The late registration deadline is July 31 and the registration fee is \$300. The registration cost includes one breakfast, one lunch banquet, services, workshops and panel discussion. We will provide a \$200 subsidy per person for neighbor island participants.





# BUDDHIST EDUCATION DIVISION

## BY REV. SATOSHI KA'IMIPONO TOMIOKA

Since the Jodo Shinshu Tradition was established with Shinran Shonin's writing of *Kyogyoshinsho* in 1224, it is important and appropriate to provide a Buddhist education considering its essence and doctrinal aspects.

At the same time, it is important to create a content of class and format which will lead people to receive the mind of awakening from Amida Buddha, and to have them relate the teaching to their life, bring the Buddha's wisdom to social issues, build a community of understanding Buddha's equanimity, encourage individual temple to have series of Buddhism classes which can cause transformation to occur in people's life guided by Amida Buddha's Primal Vow.

The goal of Buddhist Education is to share joy of being embraced by the

Buddha of Vigorous Compassion and Transcending Wisdom which resonate in our human life of struggles and brings us the warmth of the great embrace.

Touched by joy, it is our wish that people live the life of Nembutsu with self-

reflection through Amida Buddha and contribute for the realization of society in which everyone can live a life of spiritual fulfillment.

Kyogyoshinsho is a doctrinal writing based on the systematic structure of

Buddhism. It shows the way of attaining enlightenment (sho) through reciting the Name of Amida Buddha (gyo) caused by entrusting heart (shin) which is taught in the Larger Sutra (Kyo). Therefore, the topics will be according to this structure. Also, practical and relatable Buddhist education class and activities are needed to reach out to the current existing diverse members and also to the public.

Buddhist education consist of 4 main topics:

- 1. Significance of the establishment of Jodo Shinshu Tradition
- 2. Essence of Kyogyoshinsho
- 3. Transmission of Jodo Shinshu from the past to present
- 4. The world is waiting for Buddhism and Shinran Shonin



Date: Saturdays (HST)

January 13, 10 a.m. What is Mahayana Buddhism?

January 20, 10 a.m. What is Pure Land Buddhism?

Dr. David Matsumoto Institute of Buddhist Studies

Shinran Shonin, the founder of Jodo Shinishu tradition said, "The true essence of the Pure Land way is the consummation of Mahayana Buddhism." Learning the origin and circumstances of emergence of Mahayana and Pure Land Buddhism deepen the understanding and uniqueness of our tradition.



**February 3 & 17, 2 p.m.** Development of Jodo Shinshu in Japan and Hawaii Part 1 & Part 2

Our Living Heart of Gratitude

Prof. Mitsuya Dake Ryukoku University

Exploring the history of Jodo shinshu in Japan and Hawaii will lead us to capture the dynamics of Hongwanji in Buddhism movement locally, internationally and the world. How was the Buddhism introduced to Hawaii and what were the circumstances surrounding its transmission?

Sharing the Joy of Nembutsu Together:

## BUDDHIST EDUCATION DIVISION (CONTINUED) Date: Saturdays (HST)

March 16, 2 p.m. Significance of establishment of Jodo Shinshu Tradition Prof. Eisho Nasu Ryukoku University



The year 1224 is considered as the establishment of Jodo Shinshu Tradition. Understanding its significance and the background of it leads us to appreciate the teaching that we are able to hear today, and it also gives us a moment of reflection on the Nembutsu that has been transmitted.

May 18, 10 a.m. Kyogyoshinsho: Practice Rev. Yuki Sugahara Buddhist Church of Sacramento



"Nembutsu - Hearing what the Buddhas Enjoy-" Understanding the heart of nembutsu through the interpretation of the six character of Namo Amida Butsu.



July 20, 10 a.m. Kyogyoshinsho: Enlightenment Rev. Henry Adams

Exploring some perspectives on what it means to be born in the Pure Land, how it is that we attain birth, and why we aspire for birth in the Pure Land in the first place. As background, I also plan to touch on Buddhist views of birth-and-death, including reincarnation and the traditional teaching of the six paths of birth April 13, 10 a.m. Kyogyoshinsho: Teaching Rev. Dr. Mutsumi Wondra Orange County Buddhist Church IBS Adjunct Professor



Shinran's principal text, A Collection of Passages Revealing the True Teaching, Practice, and Realization of the Pure Land Way describes a systematic discourse of the dynamic activity of Pure Land Buddhist path, which he named "the true essence of the Pure Land way (Jōdo Shinshū). This lecture reviews and explains the contents of the General Preface (Sōjo 総序) and Chapter of the True Teaching (Kyō-kan 教巻), focusing the Three Pure Land Sutras and the central purport of the Larger Sutra.

June 22, 10 a.m. Kyogyoshinsho: Entrusting Heart Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara



Ven. Shinran revealed the essence of Amida Buddha's Wisdom and compassion after receiving guidance from Shakyamuni Buddha and the Pure Land Buddhist masters. The Buddhist path formed by those who followed the guidance of Ven. Shinran is called Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. The teaching has spiritually enriched and empowered people's lives all over the world for over 800 years. It could be said that Shinjin is a state of mind or a life enriched and empowered by Amida Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion, from which recitation of the Nembutsu arises. We will explore what Shinjin is and how it is connected with the recitation of the Nembutsu through the text of his main work Kyogyoshinsho.

> August 24, 2 p.m. The world is waiting for Buddhism and Shinran Shonin:Joy of the nembutsu Rev. Gene Sekiya



Jodo Shinshu tradition has been spreading in the world. Many people are reciting the same Nembutsu beyond space and time. Joy of Nembutsu in the world will echo in one's heart which is filled with Amida Buddha's Great Compassion and Great Wisdom.

Sharing the Joy of Nembutsu Together: Our Living Heart of Gratitude