

Origins

No. 299 July 2016



Hawaii Tenrikyo Students Association camp was held at Kahana Bay Beach Park from June 10 to 12. The program included morning & evening services, cleanup Hinokishin at the beach, and a Joy Workshop. The picture was taken after Bishop Yamanaka's lecture.

Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters of Hawaii

RELAY ESSAYS by Bishop & Mrs. Yamanaka & Board of Directors

Takatoshi Mima

In the concluding year towards Oyasama's 130th Anniversary, a book entitled "*Tenrikyo no Kangaekata, Kurashikata*" (Tenrikyo Ways of Thinking and Living) was published by Doyusha. In this the editor states his hope in the afterword of the book as follows:

"In this book, 100 stories from "*Tenrikyo no Joshiki*" (Tenrikyo's Common Sense), which was published in series in the Tenri Jiho special issues between 1980 and 1993, are selected and filed. Needless to say, Oyasama's teachings are the never changing truth. And Her course of life, which She demonstrated by Her own example is the Divine Model by which all humans should follow. I hope with all my heart that this book will help as many people as possible to reassure them how great these teachings are and to lead them to the path of salvation."

This book gives the readers many hints on how to live joyously while helping one another and also helps us to understand Tenrikyo's basic teachings. All Yoboku should read it. As you read it, you will find many words that will touch your heart. I would like to share some of these words, which I found in the pages of the "*Nichijosei no Yokigurashi*" (Joyous Life in Our Daily Lives) in Part 6, titled "*Innen to Toku*" (Causality and Virtue).

Here, the author briefly explains the

essence of our faith:

"We are taught that God the Parent created human beings and this world to see their Joyous Life and share in that joy. Thus, the Joyous Life is our final destination, which is beyond reasoning. The purpose of Tenrikyo is to lead people to the Joyous Life from an individual level to any level. So, can we live the Joyous Life once we become Tenrikyo followers? The answer can be both "Yes" and "No." It can be "Yes" because you can know the way to the Joyous Life. However, it can be "No" because even though you may know the way, you may not feel the Joyous Life right away. Implementation connects knowledge and the feeling of achievement. Our faith should be a path of implementation."

On a personal note, after I got married on September 1, 1973, my wife and I came to Hawaii for missionary work. When we were departing Japan, my father encouraged us by saying: "God the Parent will show you various knots during the course of your overseas mission. However, they are all from God's parental desire to save humankind. Do not struggle, but immerse yourselves in the world of God's blessings to the fullest. The important thing is to complete walking through the path of your life. While you are walking on the path of single-hearted salvation for 30, 40, 50 or more years, aim for Oyasama's

Divine Model and the day will come when you are convinced. Settle your minds as husband and wife so as to complete your duties on this path of sowing seeds of sincerity.”

Although we settled our minds and started walking this path in Hawaii, our path did not go well. Rather, there were twists and turns, zigzags, and ups and downs. We have had illnesses and troubles, which made us sad, suffer, and sometimes cry. However, “Illnesses and troubles are flowers of the path.” Everything that happens around us are knots which help us to grow spiritually in our respective seasonable times. I have been shown various knots such as a variety of illnesses and troubles in my family. And so have many of our supporting church members who have passed away for rebirth been shown various knots as well. As I experienced these knots, I have come to know that the Joyous Life exists.

Going back to the book, the author went on to state: “An instant faith where you will get something from God soon after having faith seems to be preferable for humans. However, I doubt if such a faith leads us to the Joyous Life.”

Needless to say, God the Parent does not want us to have such an instant faith because that faith does not provide us with a path toward our spiritual growth which God the Parent really wants us to walk on. In the Ofudesaki, the path of faith, which a true Yoboku should follow is written,

Ponder and come follow Me with firm resolve. There is a path of hope in the future
(V-24)

These words are my mind’s guide now. I feel that God the Parent urges us to contemplate God’s intention and settle our minds to complete our walk on this path. I believe that through these words, God the Parent promises us that our firm resolve will lead us to a path of hope in the future. In order for this, through my life, I must continue to train my mind and body through the daily implementation of the Service and Sazuke, thus nurturing human resources as parents.

43 years have passed since my wife and I began our overseas mission. We have been blessed with 5 children and 10 grandchildren. While performing daily services together with my family, I settle my mind to nurture my children and grandchildren who will shoulder the path in the future. I would like to continue walking on this path towards the Joyous Life, spiritedly and joyously.

Narrowness such as this holds the promise of joy. You should not be dissatisfied because things are yet small. As virtue is accumulated, small things grow great.

(Anecdotes of Oyasama, the Foundress of Tenrikyo 142)

June Monthly Service Prayer

Appearing before You, God the Parent, Tenri-O-no-Mikoto, I (Shugo Yamanaka) Bishop of the Mission Headquarters of Hawaii speak with reverence on behalf of the Hawaii congregation.

God the Parent, You revealed Yourself to this world by receiving Oyasama as the Shrine, taught us the truth of origin of all things and the Service as the means of single-hearted salvation, thus laying the very path to guide us toward the Joyous Life. We are living in joy and high spirits as we feel Your blessings each and every day. At the same time, we are putting forth our efforts to grow spiritually to accord with Your intention. Today is the day we are granted to conduct the June Monthly Service at this mission headquarters. We the service performers will unite our hearts as one to perform the Seated Service and the Dance with Hand Movements joyously in high spirits, while earnestly praying for world salvation. We will be joined by our brothers and sisters of the path in Hawaii who have looked forward to this day and have gathered here today, in singing the Songs for the Service in unison and high spirits. As You watch us, we hope You will be spirited as well.

On the 27th of this month, 4 people from Hawaii will be completing their 3-month-long Shuyoka life in Jiba and starting their new life as instruments of Oyasama. From today, the Hawaii Spiritual Development Course is to be held here at Dendocho. Even though we only have one participant, all the instructors and Dendocho staff are determined to make earnest efforts. The annual Tenrikyo Picnic will be held on July 4, through which we hope to strengthen the bonds and unity of our congregation. Also the Oyasato Seminar will be held in Jiba next month with 6 students attending Course I and 2 attending Course III from Hawaii. They all shall earnestly and spiritedly learn Oyasama's teachings. Furthermore, Tenri Forum 2016 will be held in Jiba on the 15th and 16th of next month with many participants from Hawaii including the committee members. Followers from English speaking countries shall deepen their friendships, share their enthusiasm for world salvation, and enhance their awareness and sense of mission as Yoboku.

Together we vow to accord with the intention of God the Parent, whose desire is for all humankind to live the Joyous Life, and as instruments of Oyasama we will walk firmly on the Path of single-heartedness with God, single-hearted joyousness and single-hearted salvation here in Hawaii. All of us, who have been drawn to this Path, are determined to continue making daily efforts to grow spiritually hereafter, by always engaging ourselves in hinokishin, spreading the fragrance of the teachings, and salvation work, so as to respond firmly to the intention of the Parent. May You, God the Parent, accept our sincerity, and we ask that You guide us further towards the advancement of the Path in Hawaii and the reconstruction of the world into the truly peaceful Joyous Life World, even a day sooner, where everyone will come to know of the Parent of Origin thus awakening to the truth of universal brotherhood & sisterhood and live together in harmony helping and caring for one another. Together with all present, I sincerely pray that You bless us so.

Mission HQ June Monthly Service Sermon

Rev. Audrey Nakagawa

Head Minister of Lanai Church

Today is Father's Day. In honor and recognition of this special day for all dads, I want to share my adaptation of a sermon delivered over 25 years ago by my father, the late Rev. Harry Suga, second head minister of Lanai Church. In his sermon, he shared the Suga family's history and introduction to the Tenrikyo faith and their journey as Yoboku. He described some of the hardships and losses they faced along the way, and how the family managed to maintain and perpetuate their faith and trust in God the Parent.

The family story began when Dad's father, Ennosuke Suga arrived in Hawaii in 1907 along with his cousin, Koichi Iida to run the family business. This was the Iida Store which sold Japanese specialty items, home furnishing and dishware to the local Japanese community in Hawaii. (The Iida store was the major importer of Japanese goods prior to the establishment of Shirokiya and Marukai stores, and eventually became a landmark tenant at the Ala Moana shopping center) Grandpa Suga became the general manager of the family business which began to thrive and expand. Eventually, he married and was joined by his wife, the former Yoshie Takamiya and the Suga family began to



expand as well. The Sugas were blessed with 4 sons and 1 daughter. My dad was the second oldest son.

Tenrikyo became an important part of the family when Rev. Sakujiro Ueno and his wife, Tsuji arrived at Honolulu as missionaries in 1929. Informed of their arrival by the local Japanese newspaper's owner, my grandparents were asked to meet and welcome them to the community. Through this meeting, my grandparents became very interested in this new Tenrikyo religion and began to pay their respects at the modest church on a daily basis. Dad was about 3 years old at that time, and stricken with polio, a crippling disease which affected his ability to walk. Rev. Ueno began to visit their home daily and perform the Sazuke on dad. He came to the house twice a day to pray for dad's recovery. After some time, while playing with his older brother, Dad suddenly got up and began to walk towards him. His

brother was so startled to see him walking and excitedly called out to his mother. Overjoyed by this miraculous blessing, she ran over to the store to inform her husband who immediately rushed home. Together they carried dad over to the church and gave their thanks to God. From that day forward, the Suga family became the first members of Honolulu Church. A few months later, Grandpa Suga decided to help Mr. and Mrs. Ueno find a larger home for their growing congregation. The Uenos were renting a small 12 x 12 room in a building initially and Grandpa found a larger home on Fort Street next to the YBA in the lower Pauoa district. This was in 1930, and then the church moved again in 1932 to another larger property. Dad's father was a very generous person and took care of all of the church's expenses. In addition, he recruited all the Iida store employees in becoming members of the Honolulu Church.

A year later, dad's father suddenly became very ill and was hospitalized at Kuakini Hospital. At that time, Rev. Ueda of Honbu and the Shinbashira were in Hawaii for the very first time. Rev Ueda, hearing of Grandpa's grave illness rushed to Kuakini and performed the Sazuke. Moments later, Grandpa Suga died. He was 47 years old and left a young widow and 5 children behind. Shortly after Grandpa Suga's death, Uncle Iida decided that dad's mother should remarry being that she was

still young and pretty. He wanted to place four of the five Suga children for adoption and made plans to take my dad who was only 7, back to Japan and become a child disciple in a Buddhist monastery. Hearing of the uncle's plans, Rev. Ueno stepped forward and firmly said that he would take care of the Suga family and to forgo these plans. Angered by this opposition, the Iida uncle took all of the father's money, insurance and stocks out of the bank and gave them to his mother declaring that they were no longer relatives of the Iida's and proceeded to cut all ties. Dad's mom took this money and donated all to the Honolulu Church in gratitude for saving the Suga family. She shortly entered Bekka (currently known as Shuyoka) for six months in Tenri, taking two of the youngest children with her and leaving behind the older 3 including dad under the Ueno's care and guardianship in Hawaii. During her spiritual training, tragedy struck again in which Dad's younger brother James Toru became ill and died in Japan. Despite the untimely death of her young son, Grandma Suga persevered through her grief and completed her studies in Bekka. She returned to Hawaii and was sent to Lanai alone to perform her missionary work. This was in 1935, and she remained there for the next 40 years—spreading the teachings to the plantation workers and local Lanai residents which included two individuals,

the late Rev. Isao Jyo and Mike Inouye, who later became the head ministers of the Castle and Kaimuki churches. During the time Grandma Suga was in Lanai, she was joined by her oldest son, Roy. Meanwhile, the remaining 3 Suga children lived under the care of Rev. and Mrs. Ueno who raised them all those years. It was not an easy life for Dad and his siblings living at the church, but they lived there with pride. As a young boy, dad worked every weekend cleaning people's yards near Punahou school and earning 75 cents for 3 hours work. He worked at the Dole Cannery during the summer months - earning money for school supplies for him and his younger siblings while donating the rest to the church. Life was hard and humbling but he never expressed any self-pity of losing his father at a young age or being separated from his mother who visited the children in Honolulu only for major monthly services (Go daisai). In fact, he was very thankful to be part of the Kyokai Family and proud to be a Tenrikyo follower.

While dad was cured of polio and able to walk, he had a slight limp in his leg which exempted him from serving in the army when the second World War broke out. His brother, Roy was also shielded from danger although he was a soldier. Because of his Japanese bilingual skills, Uncle Roy served as a translator for the U.S. military officers and never saw battle. The war was a terrible

time for all. The Japanese-Americans were illegally placed in the infamous internment camps throughout the West Coast and mid-West states which included all men, women, elderly and children. The vast majority of the local Japanese in Hawaii, however, were spared of this internment except for the Japanese ministers, priests, school teachers and business leaders. All the Japanese-based churches including the Honolulu Church were closed, and Rev. Ueno and other Tenrikyo ministers were taken away by the authorities. One day, the FBI showed up at the Honolulu Church. Mrs. Ueno was very frightened by their unexpected visit and tried to hide the Kanzane-sama or the Symbol of Worship. One of the followers living at the church scolded her and strongly urged that she put it back in place. Surprisingly, the FBI agent told Mrs. Ueno to get a large curtain and place it in front of the shrine. That was all he said and no one from the FBI ever visited the church again. This allowed Mrs. Ueno and the followers to continue their daily service behind the curtain. After the war ended, Rev. Ueno returned home safely and in good health. Two days after his homecoming, dad's Uncle Iida showed up at the church and asked to see dad and Rev. Ueno. He came to apologize to the Suga Family for making a grievous mistake in trying to break up the family. Uncle Iida was one of the business leaders

who coincidentally was interned with Rev. Ueno in the same camp. He and Rev. Ueno became very good friends, and he came to make amends for his earlier decision. The uncle expressed his deep regrets and asked that the Sugas and Iidas become a close family again.

As the Suga children grew older, they continued to support the Honolulu Church since they consider it their home. For those who remember in the 1950's, the Honolulu Church originally purchased and owned this Nuuanu property which is now the site of the Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters. Dad's brother, Roy, was the chief negotiator and helped the church purchase this residence and large piece of land from the former owner, Jack Hall, the ILWU union boss. This residence was actually my first home as well. Shortly after getting married, my Dad and mom lived in a small one bedroom cottage attached to the car garage near the main house's kitchen. I spent my first few years living here in Nuuanu along with the Saito family, and still have many old photos of the Saito, Jyo, Suga and Maeda children all happily celebrating Christmas and New Year's together.

Dad grew up to become a well-known commercial artist - painting fabulous movie posters for the local movie theater industry, the Japanese theaters such as Nippon, Toho and Toyo, and advertising for many companies. He met many famous movie

stars and singers such as Elvis Presley, Toshio Mifune, and Kiyoko Suizenji who performed or filmed in Hawaii. However what impressed my friends more especially the boys, was the fact that dad worked for local wrestling promotor Gentleman Ed Francis and personally knew the superstar wrestlers – Handsome Johnny Barend, Ripper Collins and the Missing Link from 50th State Big Time Wrestling at the old Civic Auditorium. Trained at the Honolulu Academy of Arts and Honolulu Advertiser newspaper, dad had a gift with his hands and eyes. He generously used his artistic talent and effortlessly made posters and banners for Dendocho, other Tenrikyo churches, and the associations' general meetings and special events such as the Bazaar. Year after year, he delighted his grandchildren, and many other children with customized birthday and graduation banners featuring their favorite super hero, fairy princesses and cartoon characters.

Dad eventually succeeded his mother as the head minister of Lanai Church. The church had been moved to Honolulu upon her retirement when she suffered a stroke. Still working full time as a commercial artist, Dad was not exactly the traditional Tenrikyo minister. Often times, he was caught dozing off during the monthly service, probably couldn't quote a single passage from the Ofudesaki, could only play 3 of the men's instruments proficiently

including the counter (Kazutori), and I won't discuss his dancing the 12 chapters. However, he fully embraced the essence of the Tenrikyo teachings and was truly grateful of the daily blessings in his life. He used his artistic skills to bring joy to others and led by example of his generous spirit and thoughtfulness. There is a famous quote by an American author and inspirational speaker, Dr. Leo Buscaglia who states: "Our talents are the gift that God gives to us... What we make of our talents is our gift back to God". These words exemplify dad's belief and personal conduct. While the Suga family sadly acknowledges that dad's artistic talent had skipped a generation (my sisters and I are hopeless), there is a glimmer of hope for the next – that his grandchildren, grand nieces and nephews would also share his love of beauty, kindness towards others and faith in God.

I want to conclude by sharing one brief story which illustrates this hope. When my niece Dayna was in kindergarten, she had a classmate who suffered a medical condition which resulted in his hair loss. Being self-conscious of his baldness, the little boy wore a baseball cap to school every single

day. On the day of the school picture taking, he was required to remove his cap for his school picture identification card and individual portrait. When the school photos were developed and distributed to the students in the classroom, he sadly looked at his own portrait while all others excitedly admired theirs. Dayna who sat next to him, suddenly leaned over to gaze at his photo and said to him, "I think you look very handsome". The little boy broke into a big grin, slowly removed his baseball cap and kept it off for the rest of the day. The teacher happened to witness this and shared the incident with the boy's mother when she arrived to fetch her son later that day. Hearing this story, the boy's mother broke down, and cried and cried. It was truly amazing how one child's small gesture of kindness and her true vision of beauty had the most profound impact on her classmate, his mother and even the teacher. My father would have been very proud of his granddaughter that day and so would God the Parent.

Happy Father's Day, Dad and to all those special fathers out there who strive to be a good role model and teach their children about kindness, compassion and gratitude!

46th Annual TENRIKYO BAZAAR

*Sunday, August 28, 2016 from 8:30AM to 2:00PM
At Tenri Cultural Center (2236 Nuuanu Ave.)*

Tid Bits

Associations' Reports

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

July is probably the liveliest month in Jiba, full of joy and laughter brought by children returning to the Home of the Parent from all over Japan and overseas. Without forgetting the mind of a three-year-old child, let's continue to bring joy to the everliving Oyasama, to our families and community.

Bazaar Sewing Hinokishin

Every Wednesday 9:00am - 12:00pm
At West House

Nuuau Hale Visitation

July 9th (Sat) 9:30 a.m.

*NO monthly meeting and musical instruments practice in July.

Simply Hanging Out, Hawaiian Style

"I used to think 50 was old. I was wrong.....NOT EVEN CLOSE."

So now, we are looking for **60+ (Senior Men's Club)** young-at-heart gentlemen who would like to be part of a group of guys interested in adding some spice and laughter to their lives in a relaxing atmosphere "with no formalities."

Gateball, Music (*karaoke, ukulele, group singing*), Excursions, Light Exercise (*line dance*), Craft, etc. are some suggestions. Looking forward to hearing suggestions you may also have.

Date, time, location, and frequency of gatherings will be discussed at our first meeting at **10:00 am on Wednesday Sept. 21, 2016** at the Tenri Cultural Center Courtyard, 2236 Nuuau Ave.

Men of ages 50 - 59 yrs. are welcome to attend as "*Junior Members*" after the club is established. For further information, please call Takatoshi Mima at 227-9298, or Clyde Mikuni at 221-8289.

The July Monthly Service luncheon hinokishin is assigned to Shuto group. Mahalo!

BOYS & GIRLS ASSOCIATION

Children's Pilgrimage

The Hawaii group has 81 participants in this year's Children's Pilgrimage including the Aloha band, 10+1 counselor in the Boys and Girls Hinokishin Corps, and total of 8 high school students in Oyasato Seminar with six in course I, and two in Course III. An additional 21 members and families from the Tenri Judo Club will be traveling to Tenri as well.

YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION

Monthly Meeting

July 13th (Wed) 7:30 p.m.

The Life of Oyasama Study Session

July 29th (Fri) 7:00 p.m.



The Hungry Reporter

This recipe introduces a great marinade that can be used for pork, chicken or steak! The recipe suggests an outdoor grill but can also be prepared in the oven. Wonderful for outdoor picnics, potluck gatherings or when you want something you can prepare ahead and grill later. It will bring smiles to the table for sure! Enjoy!

Marinated Spicy Pork Chops

Ingredients:

3/4 Cup Soy Sauce
1/4 Cup Fresh Lemon Juice
1 Tbsp Brown Sugar

1 Tbsp Chili Sauce
1/4 tsp Garlic Powder
8 Pork Chops, Center Cut

Directions:

1. In a large resealable bag, mix together the soy sauce, lemon juice, brown sugar, chili sauce, and garlic powder.. Place the pork chops into the bag, carefully seal the bag, and marinate for 6-12 hours in the refrigerator. Turn the bag over about halfway through.
2. Preheat an outdoor grill for high heat.
3. Arrange pork chops on the lightly oiled grate, and cook 5 to 7 minutes on each side, until the internal temperature reaches 145 degrees F (63 degrees C).

*Note: you can use your favorite chili sauce. My favorite is Maepley (found in most Asian Sections at the market). A little sweet but really good!



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July Calendar 2016

1 st	Fri	Monthly Nioigake Day	Meet @ Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
2 nd	Sat	Adopt A Hwy Cleanup Hinokishin	Meet @ Mission HQ	1:00 p.m.
4 th	Mon	Tenrikyo Picnic	Kapiolani Park	9am - 2pm
5 th	Tue	TCC Monthly Service	TCC	9:30 a.m.
7 th	Thu	Monthly Community Hinokishin	Meet @ Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
9 th	Sat	WA Nuuanu Hale Visitation	Meet @ Mission HQ	9:30 a.m.
11 th	Mon	Jason Miyauchi to return to Jiba (until July 30) TCC & Bunko Joint Comm. Meeting	TCC	7:30 p.m.
13 th	Wed	YMA Meeting	Rainbow Hale	7:30 p.m.
14 th	Thu	Hawaii Shuyokai to close (Closing Ceremony) BGA Meeting	Rainbow Hale	9:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.
16 th	Sat	Board of Directors Meeting TSA Hinokishin & Sleepover	Mission HQ	2:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
17 th	Sun	Mission HQ Monthly Service Sunday School/Aloha Band Practice Head Ministers Meeting Tenri Forum Meeting	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m. Mission HQ 12:30 p.m. Mission HQ
18 th	Mon	Kamina-nagashi in Waikiki	Waikiki	10:00 a.m.
19 th	Tue	Mrs. Yamanaka and her son to return to Jiba (until July 30)		
20 th	Wed	Bishop Yamanaka to return to Jiba (until August 3)		
26 th	Tue	Yohaishiki (26th day service)	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
29 th	Fri	YMA The Life of Oyasama Study Session	Mission HQ	7:00 p.m.