



The Padma



March 2021

Berkeley Buddhist Temple Newsletter

Web Edition.1

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If enlightenment is the center of our life, our blind passions will diminish.

Dana Day Service



March 14

Spring Ohigan Service



March 21

Our Vision

A Community Where Our Spiritual Life And True Self Can Be Realized

Our Mission

To Live A Life Of Joy In The Nembutsu And Share The Dharma With Others

March 2021

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
	1	2	3 7p Evening Meditation	4	5	6
7 9:30a Livestream - Dharma Family & Shotsuki Memorial Service 10:15a Virtual Yoga	8	9 7p Executive Committee Meeting	10	11	12	13
14 9:30a Livestream - Dharma Family / Dana Day Service 10:15a Drawing with Darren Padma articles due	15	16 10:30a Padma Newsletter Production	17 7p Evening Meditation	18	19	20
21 9:30a Livestream - Dharma Family / Spring Ohigan Service Guest Speaker: Rev. Diana Thompson 10:15a Virtual Yoga	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:30a Livestream - Dharma Family Service	29	30	31			



FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

Wed

3 Evening Meditation 7pm

Mar

Sun

11 Hanamatsuri Service

Apr

Sun Livestream

7 Shotsuki Memorial Service

Mar Virtual Yoga 10:15am

Sun Livestream

14 Dana Day Service

Mar Drawing with Darren 10:15am

Wed

17 Evening Meditation 7pm

Mar

Sun Livestream

21 Spring Ohigan Service
Gst Spkr: Rev. Diana Thompson

Mar

Virtual Yoga 10:15am

KEIRO TEMPLE MEMBERS

If you are 77 years or older
look for your next
KEIRO CARE PACKAGE
in March!



There will be some useful items and some
delicious surprises!





What is it in the *Wagashi*?

It's been almost 16 years since I started living in the U.S. I've found many differences and similarities between life in the U.S. and that in Japan. One of them is Valentine's Day. In Japan, this is the day when girls or women give chocolates to their boy or male friends. But in the U.S., it is an annual festival to celebrate love or friendship among family members or friends. One of my American friends told me that many men give gifts to women on Valentine's Day, which is a different custom from that in Japan. On March 14th, which is called "White Day", now boys and men give reciprocal gifts, usually candies, to their girl or female friends in Japan.

My wife Hitomi-san kindly gave me traditional-style Japanese sweets (Jpn. *wagashi*) this year. One of her friends is a professional pastry chef. She made several kinds of delicate Japanese sweets on Valentine's Day this year and kindly shared them with her friends. They tasted really good!

I could make *wagashi* (I have never tried in my life yet, though...) but I am sure that the appearance and taste of mine would be totally different or poor. She has worked so hard and made great effort as a professional pastry chef for more than ten years. The *wagashi* that my family enjoyed on Valentine's day were small pieces of traditional-style Japanese sweets. However, it could be said that those delicate and delicious sweets represented the huge effort that she made in the past.



To consider why she made them might add more "flavors" to her *wagashi*. It takes several hours or even a couple of days to make several kinds of such delicate *wagashi*. But she did so and kindly gave them to her friends for free. Her love or gratitude to her friends drove her to make those sweets. While making them, I am sure she expected her friends would enjoy or become happy with her sweets.

When we are asked "What is it in the *wagashi*?", the answer would be "anko (sweet bean paste)." That is right. However, when we see them with a broader perspective and become more aware of something formless within them, we would be able to taste or enjoy them more.

This is one of the important practices for Pure Land Buddhists. There are many symbols and narratives in Pure Land Buddhism. They are like *wagashi* in this story, that is, they are telling us something important or profound. When we discover the messages or thoughts within the symbols or narratives of Pure Land Buddhism, we will come to enjoy or appreciate them better and deeper.

For example, why do we use a standing statue of Amida Buddha, not a sitting one, in the Jodo Shinshu tradition? Shinran Shonin, founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, understood that Buddha or Dharma is not something statically sitting or residing somewhere, but is always moving toward or working for us. When we carefully look at a standing statue of Amida Buddha from the side, we can find that it is slightly leaning forward with its left foot forward as if it is about to walk. A standing statue is showing us the dynamic compassion of Amida Buddha or Dharma to approach us.

When we become aware of deep and profound messages in the symbols or narratives of Pure Land Buddhism, I am sure that we will come to enjoy or appreciate this teaching more or at a deeper level. This is how we truly encounter Amida Buddha's wisdom and compassion. Therefore, it is important in the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist tradition to discover the profound meanings beyond those symbols or narratives by listening deeply, not superficially. It could be said that such deep listening is the practice of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

Once we get used to listening in this way, we will come to discover invisible profound meanings and messages within things around us in our everyday lives as well. This is how Jodo Shinshu Buddhism enhances the quality of our spiritual lives.

In gassho (palms together),
Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara

COMBINED DHARMA FAMILY SERVICE & SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, March 7, 2021

9:30 am

Live Stream Only: <https://www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/dharma-live>

The following persons will be remembered during the Shotsuki Hoyo (monthly memorial service) for *March*.

Ryoichi Roy Anzai	Shizuo Matoba	Judd Masami Sato
Thomas Arima	Yutaka Matoba	Marie Shiromoto
Kimiyo Sakurai Bloom	Naoya Matoba	Fusao Tagumi
Toshiko Ehara	Frank T. Matsui	Fujiye Takaha
Satoru T. Fujikawa	Glenn Matsunaga	Tametaro Takahashi
Keiko Imagawa Fukui	Yoichiro Matsunaga	Wataru Takahashi
Masao Handa	Seizo Mayeda	Haruko Takemori
James E. Hansen	Aiko Miike	Akira Takemori
Mary Fumiko Haraguchi	Ben Morita	Tsuneyo Tanaka
Jinichi Hashizu	Dean M. Muranishi	Hisayo Tasaki
Toki Hataye	Yukito R. Nagahisa, Sr	Yukino Terazawa
Kiyoshi Hayate	Denji Nakabayashi	Tomeko Tsuchihashi
Tom Tamotsu Hataye	William Nakatani	Gregory Jun Unno
Shizuo Hiramoto	Frank Takazo Nishikai	Katsumi Unoki
Junian Hirooka	Tamako Yamagishi Nishikai	Naoki Wakaye
Willy Osamu Ide	Tokuo Nitta	Waki Wakaye
Kusuo Jimmy Inadomi	Hayaji Oda	Kyujiro Waki
Sumi Irikin	Kazuko Oda	Kyo Waki
Mitsue Ishizue	Masami Oda	Mary Chiseko Wakida
Thomas T. Kimura	Misao Hiramoto Okano	Tomo Watamura
Richard Shinto Kurakazu	Minoru Oki	Osamu Sam Yamauchi
James Kurata	Akira Okita	Ann Toyomi Yamoto
Rev. Haruyoshi Kusada	Masae Onizuka	Michizo Yokota
Henry Hiroo Kuwada	Chiyome Sakamoto	Hatsuyo Yokoyama
Amy Kuwada	Tokutaro Sato	Kiyoji Bill Yokoyama
Chiyo Kuwai	Etsu Sato	Takashi Yoshimura

Note: If there are any additions, corrections or deletions to the above list, please notify the Berkeley Buddhist Temple at [510-841-1356](tel:510-841-1356).

Buddhism and Race as Illusion

By Diane Ames



It was when the radio mentioned Black History Month that a rather stern Indian ascetic appeared on my bookshelf. “Who are you?” I gasped.

“I am Asvaghosa, the second century Buddhist sage,” he calmly announced, as if sages out of the second century appeared on bookshelves every day. “I have materialized at this appropriate time to discuss what you Americans call race. You see, in my time, Indians were divided into four castes which were supposed to form a hierarchy, with Brahmins at the top and Sudras, also called untouchables, at the bottom. Brahmins boasted that they were a sort of superior race, pure of blood and light-skinned, that all the other castes were their inferiors, beneath them socially and even spiritually, partly because they were darker than they. They hardly considered the Sudras human at all. That these assertions about their social position and even about their color were not true in every case did not bother them. Brahmin priests even asserted that only Brahmins could attain nirvana. I argued that this was all nonsense.

“I pointed out that among animals, it is easy to tell one species from another because there are so many differences between them. For example, anyone can see that the foot of a horse is very different from the foot of an elephant and that horses and elephants must therefore belong to different species. But how is the foot of a Brahmin different from the foot of a Sudra? Human bodies are all formed in pretty much the same way. People are all born in the same way and are all subject to pleasure and pain, hope and fear. It is surely then clear that they are all of one species or race.”

“You practically plagiarized me, Asvaghosa,” said Sakyamuni Buddha, who had just appeared on a higher bookshelf. “I made exactly the same arguments in the Sutta Nipata. And I went on to say that such small differences as skin color and facial features did not affect the argument. And in the Majjima Nikaya, I criticized the way that Brahmin priests looked down on one of their number, the priest Devala the Dark, because of the color of his skin. I called it a false and evil view that the Brahmins should consider themselves superior to everybody else in every way, even spiritually, just because they were Brahmins. I meant it, too. There was no such thing as caste in my Sangha. And if you’re wondering why Asvaghosa and I materialized just now, it was because of the situation in your country, it seems a good time to point out that there is a Buddhist position on race and has been for over two thousand years.”

MAR
14

Livestream DANA DAY SERVICE

Dana is the act of selfless giving and is one of the Six Paramita. This service reminds and encourages us to put forth this practice in our daily lives.

MAR
21

Livestream SPRING OHIGAN SERVICE GUEST SPEAKER: REV. DIANA THOMPSON

"Higan" is a translation of the Sanskrit word "paramita" meaning "other shore". We gather during the spring equinox and harmoniously devote ourselves to the Six Paramita: Dana (selfless giving), Sila (ethical conduct), Ksanti (patience), Virya (endeavor), Dhyana (meditation) and Prajna (wisdom).

CUSTOMIZED BUDDHIST FACE MASKS

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+
BCA
Your Temple



Pick Your Colors & Lettering

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- Pick 2 colors - black, gray, purple, light purple

Features

2 masks in 1 - flip over for new look
Machine washable - multi-layered - antimicrobial coating

How to Order

<https://www.flipmasks.com/collections/BuddhistTemple>
\$11 each + \$1.95 for shipping 1-5 masks

Questions: Naoko.Fujii@gmail.com or 650-485-1560

*Thank you for your support of the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple Dharma School
Nishi Hongwanji Pilgrimage Fundraiser*





- Sunday, Mar. 7: Regular Dharma School classes
- Sunday, Mar. 14: No Dharma School classes; students encouraged to attend BBT-sponsored event
- Sunday, Mar. 21: Regular Dharma School classes
- Sunday, Mar. 28: Regular Dharma School classes

The Dharma School students have been grateful for our temple's wonderful keiro/elders, who have been graciously receiving our students' cards and messages. Namu Amida Butsu.

Our Dharma School teachers have been showing off their online teaching skills, from crafting homemade cards to lessons about the Buddhist concepts of emptiness and impermanence. Thanks to Karen Kato Sensei, the high school class continues to enjoy exploring the Dharma with high school students from Berkeley Higashi Honganji.





Berkeley
Buddhist Temple

2121 Channing Way
Berkeley, CA 94704

1.510.841.1356
berkeleybuddhisttemple.org

2021 is finally here, and hopefully with it brings the return of kindness, empathy, and an end to the devastating pandemic that has touched us all. Unfortunately, the disturbing events of the past weeks may have left many of us and our families feeling upset, saddened and uncertain. You can be assured that the temple, community and Dharma are always here to support and comfort you.

Despite being physically closed nearly all of last year, we managed to maintain and even strengthen our sense of community through virtual gatherings and special projects. Reverend Kuwahara, Temple President Bradley Menda, and staff worked tirelessly to bring us weekly online services and other virtual events. Dharma School teachers held weekly Zoom classes sharing the Dharma and worked with students to build bridges with our temple's most senior "Keiro" members by sending homemade cards. 81 Keiro members received care packages as a gesture of appreciation for their many years of helping to build the temple, and to let them know the temple is always here for them.

We may all be living with different challenges than in years past, but our temple community, whether in-person or virtual, is a precious gift that sustains us all.

If you've enjoyed the temple's livestreams and virtual events, consider becoming a member of the Berkeley Buddhist Temple and join an inspiring community working together for our shared future.

Membership is open to all who view the Temple as their spiritual home and seek the Buddha-Dharma.

Kindly complete a [Membership Form](#), have your name entered in the membership roll and support the Temple through a pledge and participation.

For more information about becoming a member, visit our [Registration](#) page, or contact our [Membership Chair](#).

Metta,
Berkeley Buddhist Temple

Community Organization Highlight

The Beat Within

There are many non-profit organizations in the community that are working towards positive ways to help youth in the community learn and grow. In December, we highlighted [Restorative Justice](#) organizations. In November, we highlighted [Positive Communication Practices](#).

This month we'd like to highlight [The Beat Within](#). The Beat Within is a non-profit organization in the Bay Area (including Alameda County) and has stretched to other parts of California and other states. The Beat brings creative writing and art workshops to youth in juvenile hall. The youth create poetry, spoken word, art and more to both learn and express themselves.

Their mission: *"The Beat Within's mission is to provide incarcerated youth with consistent opportunity to share their ideas and life experiences in a safe space that encourages literacy, self-expression, some critical thinking skills, and healthy, supportive relationships with adults and their community. Outside of the juvenile justice system, The Beat Within partners with community organizations and individuals to bring resources to youth both inside and outside of detention. We are committed to being an effective bridge between youth who are locked up and the community that aims to support their progress towards a healthy, non-violent, and productive life."*

Community Outreach Announcements:

Join us for our upcoming virtual events!

- **Sunday, February 21, 2021 @ after service: Yoga** (every 1st and 3rd Sunday after service)
- **Monday, February 22, 2021 @ 7:30 pm College Welcome Event:** All college age of folks who identify as college students, join us for fun, games and prizes!
- **Sunday, February 28th @ 11:00 am: Yosakoi** with Ito Yosakoi: Japanese style dancing based on obon dancing. Open to all levels of dancing and anyone interested! RSVP here: <http://bit.ly/yosakoiwithbbtfeb2021>
- **Sunday, March 7, 2021 @ after service: Yoga** (every 1st and 3rd Sunday after service)
- **Sunday, March 21, 2021 @ after service: Yoga** (every 1st and 3rd Sunday after service)

Community Outreach Surveys:

Would you like to **teach or share something** with the Sangha? Or know someone who has something cool to teach?

[Fill out this form!](#)



Do you want to teach or share something with the Sangha? Fill out this form!


Hey everyone! Do you know how to make injera soup? Do you love to fold origami or write haiku? Do you know how to make a yummy smoothie that you can enjoy before service? Do you have a green thumb and can show us how to plant a succulent?

Please fill out this form if you would be willing to lead a lesson of any kind, OR if you can recommend someone else.

*Please note these will be virtual events!

Interested in BBT **Book Club**?

[Fill out this form!](#)



Want to join virtual book club? Please fill out this form!

Hi everyone,

Please fill this form out if you are interested in joining book club? This is for us to choose what book to start with. We will read a few chapters in a book each month and will discuss together once a month on a zoom call. The book selection will be based on community input. We are thinking about beginning book club in December 2021.



College Welcome Night!

Mon. February 22nd @7:30PM

All are welcome!

This is a zoom event to welcome college aged young people to the temple. There will be a short service, an ice breaker led by Nikkei Student Union of UC Berkeley and then Trivia with prizes! Hope you can join us!

Sign up here:

<https://bbtevents.info/collegenight>

**Berkeley Buddhist Temple
2121 Channing Way, Berkeley CA 94704
1(510)-841-1356
info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org**



berkeleybuddhisttemple.org

信心

- Shinjin -

BBT DHARMANAR

MONTHLY STUDY
SESSION



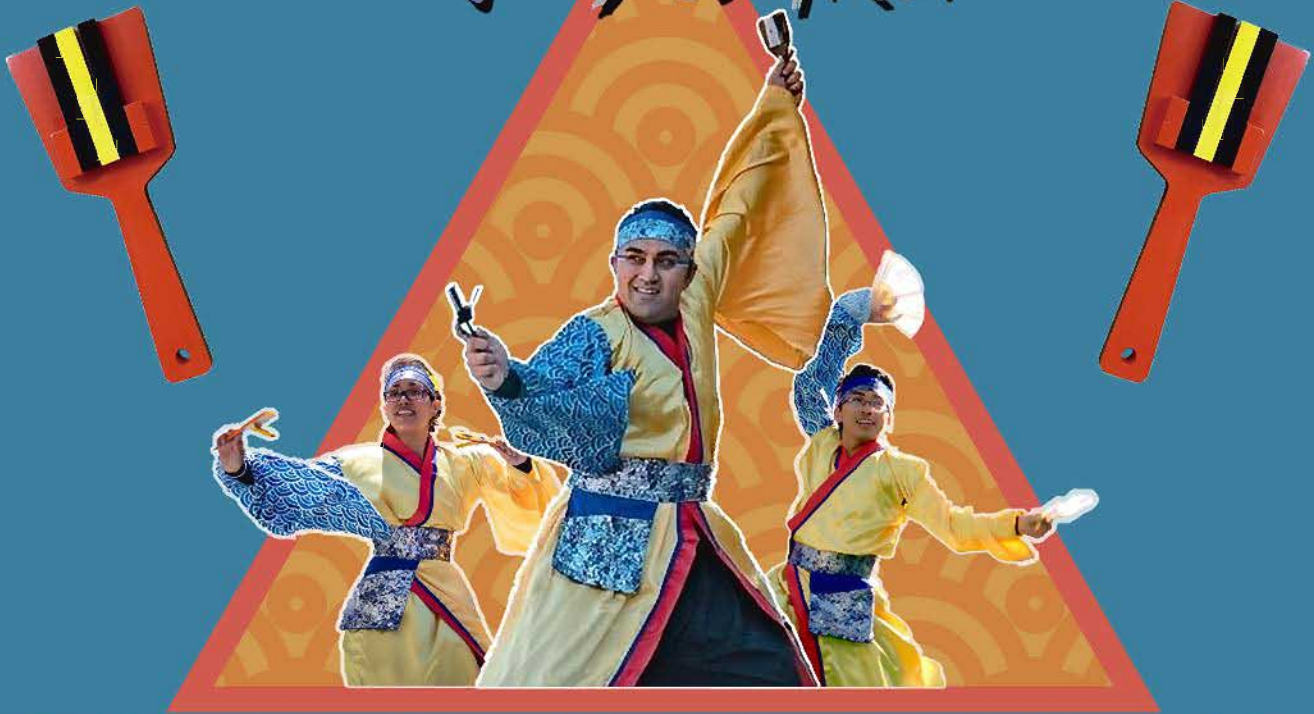
Join us for BBT's monthly study session. This month's topic is "Shinjin". Rev. Kuwahara, Rev. CJ, and John Mullins will give their presentations on what Shinjin is from their own perspective. Then we will discuss it after.

Thu. February 25th, 6:30-8PM
via Zoom

Sign up:
<https://bbtevents.info/dharmanar>

Berkeley Buddhist Temple
info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org
(510)841-1356

糸節 YOSAKOI



FREE DANCE WORKSHOP!

Sunday, February 28

11:00-12:30 PST via Zoom

Register at bit.ly/yosakoiwithbbtfeb2021



Berkeley
Buddhist Temple





Berkeley Buddhist Temple

SUN. 1/17, 2/7, 21, 3/7 & 21, 2021

Virtual
YOGA Immediately
after the
service

at:

<https://bbtevents.info/yoga>

Join us for a gentle yoga session that you can do while sitting on a chair or couch without a yoga mat. No experience needed.



Instructor: Hitomi Kuwahara



<https://www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/>

**BERKELEY
BUDDHIST TEMPLE**



EVENING MEDITATION

EVENT DETAILS:

- Wed. Feb 3, 17, Mar 3, & 17, 2021**
- 7 - 8PM**
- via Zoom**
- Registration required**
- <https://bbtevents.info/meditation>**

**Berkeley Buddhist Temple
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YOU'RE INVITED TO
DRAWING WITH DARREN

“Makin’ the world a little more kawaii with my art”



HI, I'M DARREN,

From tracing the pages of my coloring books to tracing scenes of my favorite cartoons on my TV screen, I knew I wanted to be an artist. My work is very much a reflection of my love for childhood cartoons, pop culture, and my Filipino and Hawaiian heritage. My art style is inspired by the “chibi” (small) style of drawing and making things kawaii (cute). With my love and passion for art, I graduated with my Bachelor of Fine Arts in Entertainment Art /Animation at CSU Fullerton. As I continue to push toward this dream, my mission is to make the world a little more kawaii, one work of art at a time.



Sunday, March 14th at 10:15 am

Visit <https://bbtevents.info/social> to join on Zoom!

All ages are welcome and no skill is needed!

Bring a blank sheet of paper, a pencil and follow along to Darren Yasay’s instructions to create a kawaii character!

If you enjoy Darren’s class, please consider sending him a little boba tip:

Please Venmo Darren @darrenyasay

Follow Darren Yasay on Instagram @destroyitdarren

Check out and buy his kawaii stickers on his website <https://darrenyasay.com/>

And, best of all, commission him to create a customized character for you!

The Temple would like to gratefully acknowledge the following members for their generous contributions:

2020 Membership Pledges

Chiyomi Pohan, Ryan Matsuda

2021 Membership Pledges

Robert & Carol Akiyama	Ittsei & Kiriye Nakagawa
Michiko Yokota Anzai	Lorene & Gary Nakagiri
Irene Asao-Wells & Russell Wells	Chizuko Nakashita
Detlev Gempf & Lorraine Nobuye	Takashi & Miri Nikaidoh
Lucy Hamai	Alan Nishihara
Gail Harada	Nobuko Nishikado
Sady & Amy Hayashida	Gary Oda
Yo Hiraoka	Dii Lewis & Joyce Oishi
Ron Hiraga & Gayle Nishikawa	Kay Okamura
Patricia & Michael N.	Joyce Okimoto
Arthur Betsy Ishida	Eugene & Yukiko Otake
Yoshio & Junko Kamimura	Harold & June Sano
Kiyoshi & Emiko Katsumoto	Wayne Sugihara
Judy Kono	Pat Takeda
Michiko Kubota	Scott Takeda
Eric & Mary Lindquist	Yoshiro & Julia Tokiwa
Rev. William & Kiyoko Masuda	Geraldine Ueda
Don & Fumi Matsubara	Tara Umemoto
Denise Matsubara Lapidus	Opal Wakayama
Bradley Menda & Myron Jung	Roy & Alice Wakida
Samuel Mori	Yasuyo Wolfe
Maya Murashima & Paul Yonemura	Andy Yamashita
Catherine Nagareda	Norma Yamauchi
	Yae Yedlosky

Thank you all for your generosity and continuing support!

If you have any questions, please contact Mimi Kagehiro at membership@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org or 510-841-1356.

TOBAN

Coordinators

Lena Yin & Pat Takeda

MARCH TOBAN

Chair

Tony Hale

Cochair

Scott Wakida

Toban

Dick Adachi*

Jackson Fields

Noreen Fukumori

Susan Gabriel

Tony & Stacy Uyeda Hale

Ritsuko Ide

Yoshio & Junko Kamimura

Cathy Kaneko-Jones

Rev Will & Kiyoko Masuda

Alan Nishihara

Mark Sugihara

Wayne Sugihara

Mieko Taketa*

Tara Umemoto

Scott & Sheila Wakida

APRIL TOBAN

Chair

Akemi Hamai

Cochair

Bob Matsueda

Toban

Diane Ames

Naomi Fukumori

Akemi Hamai & Amy Haruyama

Lucy Hamai*

Scott & Antonia Glenn Horstein

Frank Kami*

Keiko Kawakami

Bob & Ranko Yamada Matsueda

Paul & Sara Jotoku Nolan

Laurie Omori

Akira Roueche

Dennis Sakurai

Glenn & Amy Shinsako

Roy & Alice Wakida*

Andy Yamashita

* Denotes disabled and/or elderly
Toban duties optional

Berkeley Buddhist Temple



Dear Temple members and friends:

The Berkeley Buddhist Temple wants to extend its heartfelt thanks and appreciation for your continued support of the temple's annual Satsuki Bazaar & Arts Festival. Each year, this event draws crowds from across the Bay Area, bringing the community together for a weekend of food, fun, and entertainment. The Satsuki Bazaar celebrated its 70th anniversary in 2019 and continues to be the temple's largest fundraiser of the year because of your invaluable support.

Out of the abundance of concern for the safety of our members and the community, the BBT Board of Directors and COVID-19 Response Committee have made the difficult decision to cancel the 2021 bazaar. However, we plan to host a virtual event on May 16 and will feature various performers.

So, for this year, put your booth chair, food prep, and booth assignment worries aside as we invite you to take a seat, relax, and join our Virtual Bazaar on May 16. More details on the performers and the time of event will follow.

Until then, we hope to see you at our virtual services, hosted every Sunday morning at 9:30. You can view the services at:

<https://www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/dharma-live>.

Thank you again for your support and understanding.

Berkeley Buddhist Temple expresses condolences and deep sympathy

To the Family of
Mrs. Hide Oshima
February 23, 1921 - December 28, 2020

Namo Amida Butsu

Namo Amida Butsu

Namo Amida Butsu



The following is a list of special service years.
If you have a departed relative who has passed away
in any of the listed years,
and would like to make arrangements
for a memorial service,
please contact Rev. Kuwahara at [\(510\) 841-1356](tel:5108411356).

2021 MEMORIAL SERVICE SCHEDULE

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
2020	1 st Year
2019	3 rd Year
2015	7 th Year
2009	13 th Year
2005	17 th Year
1997	25 th Year
1989	33 rd Year
1972	50 th Year
1922	100 th Year

The Coronavirus

by Detlev (Ted) Gempf

Medical experts advise that people over 65 are particularly vulnerable to die should they become infected with COVID-19. As a result, at 76 I have been confronted with and reminded of the real possibility that I might die soon - not theoretically or in the distant future - but in the very real immediate days and weeks. So as a Buddhist, what can I learn from this threatening, fearful experience?

In the Tannisho, Yuien-bo quotes Shinran Shonin:

"...having no thought of wanting to go to the Pure Land quickly, we think forlornly that we may die even when we become slightly ill...", and "...I have no thought of wanting to go to the Pure Land quickly." (CWS, Vol. I, pp. 665-666).

During a class I took at IBS, where we discussed the Pure Land, Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara mentioned that he really doesn't think much about his own death or what happens afterwards - implying that he's too busy focusing on the immediacy of his existence. Perhaps, due to my Western and Christian upbringing and heritage, rich in allusions to hell and damnation, I am unable to be so sanguine, but I do admire his attitude.

While recently viewing a retirement condominium for sale, I noticed an elderly gentleman who was obviously frail and nearing the end of his life. He was sitting quietly and alone with his back to me in his bedroom, a blanket draped over his shoulders. As we toured the fruit and finality of his labor, i.e. his carefully appointed home with handsome bookcases displaying his carefully arranged books and momentos, I asked myself if he was not telling me something. As our former resident minister, Sensei David Matsumoto taught us: to better master our life's path is to view everyone we encounter as a bodhisattva, namely someone who teaches us about the meaning of life and the Buddha. This would include all of our good and unpleasant personal contacts.

In a psychology class I took as a freshman in college many years ago, a professor commented on how he

could immediately instill anxiety in us. He simply pointed out that each and every one of us will one day die. It worked for me - I felt anxious. In my later years I went back to graduate school to be trained in psychotherapy. We were taught that one of our main objectives was to get in touch with our feelings and to put aside judgements and discriminative thinking - the only way of achieving true empathy with another person. I think that this pandemic has helped me achieve a similar goal of accepting my inevitable death and avoiding calculations and anxiety.

Art, like religion can capture the flavor of life and death, transcending our egotistical calculations. I am reminded of the famous cinematographer Ingmar Bergman's movie *The Seventh Seal*. The aging protagonist, who had just returned from the Crusades, is asked if he was sorry he went to fight in the wars. His response was that he was not sorry, but confessed to being tired - a fitting comment for someone who had exhausted his last lifeblood, numbed by the violence of war and perhaps wondering how he even made it so far.

This would be an analogy to life itself or to my surviving the pandemic, if I continue to be so lucky. I was born into a war zone in Berlin, Germany and through some miracle have made it this far. In the end like Bergman's crusader, if we live so long, we will all get tired of fighting and adjusting to life's demands. For in the end, we have no choice but to surrender to the inevitable, as did Shinran Shonin, and which the knight did - not joyfully, but with resignation.

Thus, perhaps as a result of confronting the dangers of this pandemic, I may have lost a little of my fear and come one step closer to accepting the inevitable, by involving my feelings and faith instead of trying to judge with discriminative thinking and bonbu calculations.

Namo Amida Butsu

BCA
Center for
Buddhist
Education

CBE SEMINARS ONLINE FOR ALL

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK

*Pacific Time - Check local time zone

TWO SATURDAY SESSIONS, 11 AM - 1 PM (PACIFIC TIME)

ZEN & SHIN BUDDHISM

PART 1:

MARCH 6, 2021



Letting Go:

A ZEN & SHIN
APPROACH TO LIBERATION

Dr. Duncan Ryuken Williams

University of Southern California
Author, *AMERICAN SUTRA: A STORY OF FAITH AND
FREEDOM IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR (2019)*

Duncan Ryuken Williams was born in Tokyo, Japan to a Japanese mother and British father and grew up in Japan and England until age 17, when he came to the U.S. to attend college (Reed College) and graduate school (Harvard University, where he received a Ph.D. in Religion). He is currently Professor of Religion and East Asian Languages & Cultures and the Director of the USC Shinso Ito Center for Japanese Religions and Culture. Previously, he held the Shinjo Ito Distinguished Chair of Japanese Buddhism at UC Berkeley. He has also been ordained since 1993 as a Buddhist priest in the Soto Zen tradition and served as the Buddhist chaplain at Harvard University from 1994-96.

REGISTER ONLINE FOR MARCH 6: PART 1

Guest Speaker: Dr. Duncan Williams
<https://forms.gle/Fhcur6qHiMK8Y9bK7>

PART 2:

MARCH 13, 2021



Zen Practice

TIMELESS CALLING,
TIMELY RESPONSE

Tenkei Coppens Roshi

Abbot, Zen River Temple- Uithuizen, The Netherlands
Author, *TIMELESS CALLING, TIMELY RESPONSE, A GUIDE
FOR ZEN BUDDHIST PRACTICE (2020)*

Anton Tenkei Coppens is the abbot of Zen River Temple. Born in The Netherlands, he has a background in art and art history, started his Zen training in England in 1976, and continued it from 1980 with Genpo Merzel Roshi and Taizan Maezumi Roshi, mostly in the US but also in several European countries. He received Shiho, Dharma transmission, from Genpo Roshi in 1996 and Inka, the final seal of approval, in 2006. Tenkei Roshi also practiced Zen in Japan with Junyu Kuroda Roshi and became a fully qualified representative of the Soto school. Together with his wife, Tamara Myoho Gabrysch Roshi, and a number of close students, he established Zen River Temple in 2002.

"Timeless Calling, Timely Response aims to serve as an inspiration for anyone interested in hearing their life's calling and finding their own way to respond to it." - Tenkei Roshi

REGISTER ONLINE FOR MARCH 13: PART 2

Guest Speaker: Tenkei Coppens Roshi
<https://forms.gle/TEoGsKJYehi5ZsCA8>

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TEL: 510.809.1460



CBE SEMINARS ONLINE FOR ALL

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**Pacific Time - Check local time zone*

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 5 PM - 6:30 PM (*PACIFIC)

SOCIALLY ENGAGED BUDDHISM:

Jodo Shinshu Perspectives

What is “Socially Engaged Buddhism”? What are some examples of Buddhist social engagements in Japan and elsewhere? How do we apply the idea of socially engaged Buddhism to a Jodo Shinshu life guided by the Nembutsu ?

Guest Speakers:

Prof. Mitsuya Dake

Graduate School of Intercultural Communications,
Ryukoku University, Kyoto, Japan



Prof. Dake is on the faculty of Ryukoku University’s Graduate School of Intercultural Communications, and is director of its Center for the Studies of South Asia. He received his masters degree from Ryukoku and has completed his Ph.D. courses for literature. His areas of research include: Shinran

Thought; Engaged Buddhism; and Inter-faith Dialogue. He serves on the editorial board of the journal, *Contemporary Voices of Dalit*.

Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara

Supervising Minister, Berkeley Buddhist Temple
Manager, Jodo Shinshu International Office



Rev. Kuwaharahas a master’s degree in Jodo Shinshu Studies from the Institute of Buddhist Studies and Ryukoku University, and completed the Ryukoku Ph.D. program in Jodo Shinshu studies. He has also served as co-director of the BCA Center for Buddhist

Education; coordinator for the Hongwanji Office of the BCA Jodo Shinshu Center; and staff member of the International Department of the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha.

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CBE SEMINARS ONLINE FOR ALL

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK

**Pacific Time - Check local time zone*

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2021 11 AM - 1 PM*

What is the Future of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in the West?

*namo
amida butsu
namo amida butsu*

GUEST SPEAKERS: THREE BISHOPS

HAWAII



REV. ERIC
MATSUMOTO
BISHOP,
HONPA HONGWANJI
MISSION OF HAWAII

BCA



REV. MARVIN
HARADA
BISHOP,
BUDDHIST CHURCHES
OF AMERICA
(NORTH AMERICA DISTRICT)

CANADA



REV. TATSUYA
AOKI
BISHOP,
JODO SHINSHU
BUDDHIST TEMPLES
OF CANADA

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2021 BCA YOUTH RETREAT EVENTS

**APR 24:
MIDDLE
SCHOOL
SESSION**

**JUL 12-16:
BYR HIGH
SCHOOL
SUMMER
RETREAT**

**NOV 6:
BYR &
FRIENDS
REUNION
EVENT**

**REG INFO
WILL BE
EMAILED TO
YOUR
TEMPLES**



Questions please email: bkmizushima@bcahq.org

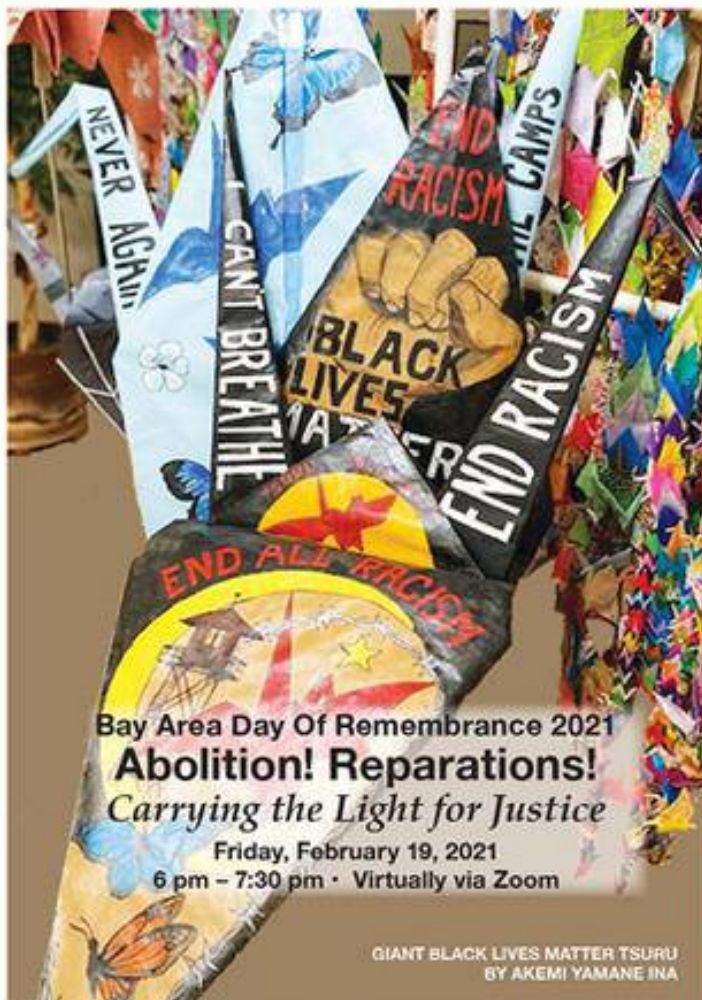
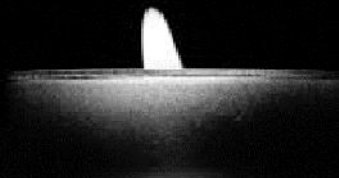
The Nikkei Student Union of UC Berkeley
presents

Day of Remembrance

February 19, 2021 at 6:30 PM PST - bit.ly/NSUBerk2020

featuring speakers from UC Berkeley
Muslim Student Association and Nikkei Resisters

79 years after EO 9066



Join us for the 42nd Anniversary of DOR
Abolition! Reparations!
Carrying the Light for Justice

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2021, 6-7:30 PM

Virtual ZOOM Event. To register:

<https://www.njahs.org/dor2021>

PROGRAM

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Arnold Townsend
Associate Minister, Church Without Walls
Vice President, San Francisco NAACP

Emcees: Dianne Fukami, Award-winning filmmaker
Hillary Nakano, Attorney and activist

Clifford I. Uyeda Peace & Humanitarian Awardee:
Campaign for Justice: Redress NOW for Japanese
Latin Americans! represented by Bekki Shibayama

Virtual Candlelighting Ceremony

Performance: Ito Yosakoi

Interfaith Benediction: Japanese American
Religious Federation (JARF)

For more information: www.njahs.org
voicemail: (415) 921-5007 • email: grace@njahs.org

DOR Funders: San Francisco Japantown Foundation, San Francisco
Grants for the Arts, San Francisco Chapter of the JACL in Memory
of Greg Marutani

BCA Music Committee Webinar



INNOVATIONS & CHALLENGES with BON ODORI ONLINE

March 27, 2021 • 11:00 am – 12:15 pm PST

**Featuring short presentations by five BCA temples
followed by an open forum to share ideas and resources.**

Temples:

San Jose, Sacramento, Pasadena, Seattle & Seabrook

Moderator: Wynn Kiyama, Oregon Buddhist Temple

For registration

<https://forms.gle/kkug16Y9bGuzA6Ye8>

Hosted by the BCA Executive Committee



**INNOVATIONS & CHALLENGES with
TAIKO ONLINE**

April 3, 2021 • 11:00 am – 12:15 pm PST

**Featuring short presentations by four taiko leaders followed by
an open forum to share ideas and resources.**

Panelists:

**Johnny Mori, Senshin Buddhist Temple
Elise Fujimoto, Mountain View Buddhist Temple
Sydney Shiroyama, Palo Alto Buddhist Temple
Paul Sakamoto, Puna Hongwanji Mission**

Moderator: Tyler Moriguchi, Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple

**For registration
<https://forms.gle/5AvJfviLkbjzznt6>**

Hosted by the BCA Executive Committee

Services

Our regular Sunday program begins with a Chanting Service at 8:30am followed by a Family Service at 9:30am. A Dharma talk is available after the Family Service while Dharma School classes are convened for students.

Special Services

January 1	Gantan-e	New Year's Day Service
February	Nehan-e	Nirvana Day
March	Ohigan	Spring Equinox
April	Hanamatsuri	Flower Festival
May	Gotan-e	Birthday of Shinran
July	Kangi-e	Obon
September	Ohigan	Autumn Equinox
November	Hoonko	Shinran Shonin Memorial
December	Jodo-e	Bodhi Day
December 31	Joya-e	Year End Service

A Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial) Service is held the first Sunday of each month.

Dharma School

Our Dharma School (Sunday School) has classes from preschool through high school. Our teachers are happy to discuss the appropriate level of spiritual enrichment for your student.

Monthly Discussions

In our discussions, we strive to experience the Buddha-Dharma with our entire selves – with our bodies (quiet sitting and other forms of meditation), voices (chanting and other liturgy) and minds (study and discussion).

Our sessions focus on ways in which Buddhist teaching and practice can impact our everyday lives. Each session will take up a different topic and you are welcome to attend any or all sessions.

All interested persons are welcome to attend.

Visitor Information

Please feel free to ask any of our greeters for information. We are here to assist you with whatever level of participation you may be seeking.

Whether you are here to satisfy a slight interest or to make a more personal connection, we wish you well and hope that you will be visiting us again soon.

Membership Information

Membership is open to all who view the Temple as their spiritual home and seek the Buddha-Dharma.

Kindly complete a [Membership Form](#), have your name entered in the membership roll and support the Temple through a pledge and participation.

For more information about becoming a member, visit our [Registration](#) page, or contact our [Membership Chair](#).



Berkeley Buddhist Temple

2121 Channing Way
Berkeley, CA 94704

Office Hours
Monday – Friday
10:00am – 1:00pm

510-841-1356

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