



## Two Kinds of Approaches



About 30 years ago a salesman came to our house to sell us a vacuum cleaner. Since our vacuum was getting old we had been thinking of buying a new one. So, I asked the man to give us a demonstration in our living room of how the vacuum worked. It was very powerful and he indicated it was a commercial model. When I asked him how much it costs, he replied “\$2,000”. My wife immediately whispered to my ears that it was too expensive. I told the salesman that it was too expensive and that we could not afford that price. He then immediately reduced the price to \$1,500 and his voice took on a threatening and aggressive tone as he said loudly, “I spent some time with you to do this demonstration. Why don’t you buy it?” I did not like the way he talked to me so I told him I would not buy it. He then began to beg and implore with a pitiful tone and said, “I have to sell this vacuum today. How about \$1,000? Please buy it.” We then continued to talk until we reluctantly decided to buy it. Fortunately it was a good deal and it is still working today.

**BTSA Minister: REV. YASUO IZUMI**  
403.382.7024 • yasuo123@telus.net  
470 - 40th Street South  
Lethbridge, AB T1J 3Z5  
403.327.1260  
www.theBTSA.com

I am not telling you this story to highlight how I negotiated with a vacuum salesman. The point of my story is to describe how people often use two kinds of approaches or techniques to make others give way to what they want. One is to use a threatening manner (a top-down approach) and the other is to plead or implore for help (a bottom-up approach). In both cases it is often selfish desires and manipulation that are behind the motivation of persuasion, leaving bad feelings behind.

I sometimes encounter similar approaches or techniques from “religious people” who try to convert others to their religions. When I listen to them it usually entails bad feeling in my mind because I feel they have some kind of strong religious ego in them.

There are two skilful methods that the Buddha uses to convince and guide others to the Dharma. One is called “embracing” and the other is “breaking”. The “embracing” corresponds to Buddha’s boundless compassion that embraces our blind passion of greed, anger and folly. The “breaking” corresponds to Buddha’s infinite wisdom that breaks our blind passions. In both cases, since Buddha’s true and sincere mind of oneness is behind the motivation of sharing, (not manipulation), it leaves us with a good feeling about the experience. It makes us feel grateful and joyous and eventually guides us to the realm of enlightenment of true awakening. “Namo Amida Butsu” we recite is a natural response of our joy and gratitude to Buddha’s continuous working of embracing and breaking.

Namo Amida Butsu,  
Yasuo Izumi, Minister of BTSA

### 聞法の大切さ

ペットを持つ人が大変増えました。最近の新聞には、犬の毛を、飼い主の好きな色に変えたりする商売も出回っているそうです。お犬様の時代になることはないでしょうが、第五代將軍徳川綱吉は生類あわれみの令を出して、相当市民を苦しめたという例もあります。將軍といえば、社会の指導者的立場の方です。いつの時代でも、正しい智慧のない者、自分のことばかり考えている者が、人の上に立つととんでもないことが起こります。

人間には常に智慧の光(仏智)を仰ぐ謙虚さが必要であります。少々の地位やタイトルを得、ついには落ち場を知らぬほどに高上がりすると、結局、身を滅ぼすことになるということは、よく知るところです。親鸞聖人は仏の智慧の光を仰ぎ、照らされて90年のご生涯を閉じられました。万巻の書を読破しながら、「愚禿」と自らを名のり、多くの弟子を持ちながら「親鸞、弟子一人も持たず」と言われたのです。人の師になることを避け、仏の光のもとでは、すべてが平等であると説かれました。聞法する、と言うことは、自分の小さな殻を超えた世界、まことの智慧の働きに出会うということでありましょう。合掌 泉康雄

## JULY & AUGUST Service Schedule

There will not be regular Sunday services at the temple on July 4 and 11, and August 1, as Izumi sensei will be making his Obon cemetery visitation on these days to Brooks (July 4), Temple Hill and Magrath (July 11) and Taber (Aug. 1). The BTSA board at its April meeting decided not to schedule services on those days when Izumi sensei was not available. Informal services with chanting and dharma talks are scheduled for July 25, and Aug. 8, 15, 22 and 29, moderated by assigned emcees. The regular Sunday service schedule resumes on Sept. 5 at 10:30 a.m. with the monthly memorial for that month.

Please be reminded that the BTSA Obon on July 18 begins with the cemetery visitation at 1 p.m. The service at the temple is at 2:30 p.m., with guest speaker Patricia Usuki sensei of San Fernando Valley (California) Buddhist Temple. The July and August monthly memorial services will be combined with the obon service. Supper will follow with a full Japanese meal prepared by Toban Four. Usuki sensei also will be speaking at a dharma gathering at 7 p.m. that will be open to the public.



### **GUEST SPEAKER Obon Service**

**Rev. Patti Usuki** *Transmit, Transform, Transcend:  
Adapting the Wonderful Teaching of Jodo Shin  
Buddhism for Here and Now*

Sansei-born Usuki was raised in Toronto, Ontario. She received a B.A. in Modern Language and Literature from the University of Toronto and a B.Ed at the University of Ottawa. She graduated from Chuo Bukkyo Gakuin Seminary, Kyoto and received Tokudo and Kyoshi ordination in 2002. Rev. Usuki is married to Rev. Fumiaki of West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple. Presently, she is minister of the San Fernando Valley Hongwanji Buddhist Temple.



## **Bon Odori Japanese Dance Festival**

*The Bon Odori is a Japanese Buddhist folk dance performed outdoors in a circle around a taiko on a raised platform decorated with lanterns. Obon is a dance of joy, a time to remember and honor all those who have passed on, appreciate all that they have done for us and to recognize the continuation of their influence upon our lives. It is also a time of self-reflection that reminds us to practice Dana (self-less giving) to family, friends, and all beings.*

The seventh annual Bon Odori takes place on July 17, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Galt Gardens. Once again it will be a festive occasion with traditional Japanese dress, music and dancing. David Tanaka and Kynan Gordon, Taiko, will open the program at 7pm followed by the chanting of San Bujo by Izumi Sensei. Deanna Jones, Master of Ceremonies, will introduce the dances and other entertainment. Aya Hironaka, dance instructor has been working with the dancers since the beginning of June and they will perform several familiar dances. All who attend, children and adults are invited to join the circle of dancers and fully participate in any or all of the dances.

Global Drums of the University of Lethbridge will be on hand for Taiko entertainment during the dance intermission. Global Drums performs exciting traditional music from around the world on authentic instruments. Performing with large and small ensembles at summer festivals, public and private, they also travel internationally on tours that included a trip to Japan. Also performing will be Charlotte Ikuta and Katie Nakagawa with Roland Ikuta leading a sing-along.

Bazaar items will include Dharma Dogs (Japanese style hot dogs), Yakitori (grilled chicken and beef skewers), Nigiri (rice balls), and the traditional kori or snow cones. Handmade rice-sack aprons and tea towels will also be on sale. Several activities and crafts are planned for children, including yoyo balloon fishing, made popular in Japan. Bazaar tables are also being made available to the Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden and the Nikkei Cultural Society to as part the event's cultural awareness.

Please invite your friends and neighbors!  
For further information or to volunteer or distribute posters, please contact [lorita.ichikawa@gmail.com](mailto:lorita.ichikawa@gmail.com)

# BTSA NOTES

With the onset of summer comes the Obon season and the activities associated with it. It's also time for family reunions, and BTSA looks forward to greeting many old friends and meeting new acquaintances from various geographical points in Canada. Izumi sensei has a full schedule of cemetery visitations as well as the BTSA bon odori/Obon service weekend with guest minister Patricia Usuki sensei from the San Fernando Valley Buddhist Temple in California.

Keep in mind that the monthly memorial services for July and August will be combined with the Obon service on July 18. Remember to bring the homyo (the Buddhist name card) of deceased relatives for presentation during the service.

Please refer in this issue to a related service schedule article for cancellation of regular Sunday services on the days of cemetery visitations, and regular informal services for the remainder of the summer.

BTSA's annual picnic on June 20 fell prey to rainy weather during the week that blocked access to Pavan Park, although the day of the picnic was summery, sunny and warm. It was moved to the otera where close to 100 persons enjoyed a potluck dinner supplemented with temple-provided KFC, rice and takuan. Children's activities in Lumbini's Garden included races and piñata-smacking. It was an occasion to relax, play bingo, and visit leisurely with friends and guests. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped organize the picnic.

The day before the picnic, numerous BTSA members were honored, along with other community elders, during a keirokai sponsored at the temple by the Nikkei Cultural Society. About 275 persons filled the temple and enjoyed a tasty, catered meal, followed by a delightful entertainment program. Seeing the temple used for community purposes like this helped achieve one of the goals considered for the building during its idea stage, to make it a center of community gatherings as well as religious services.

At the time of the building's planning stage, the City of Lethbridge required a portion of the site be set aside for a green strip. Hoping for a low-maintenance landscape, the original plan was to xeriscape, as can be seen by the minimal greenery immediately surrounding the building. But, the green strip along the sidewalk was installed to meet city regulations thereby necessitating lawn work. Subsequently, Lumbini's Garden was sodded. During last summer and now again this growing season, we have Gord, Joy and Mark Saruwatari to thank for keeping the grass trim with their regular mowing. Thanks for the great job.

The main item of the June board meeting focused on a renewed membership committee, newly-designed to see what can be done about recruiting new members, retaining current members and recapturing some former members who have drifted away. Roland Ikuta agreed to chair the committee and

invites anyone who might be interested in serving on it. The aim will be long-ranged and will include a variety of ways to increase membership.

Just a reminder that this issue of Hikari covers both the months of July and August, and the temple board will take a brief recess after the July meeting. No board meeting is scheduled for August. Thereafter, both the Hikari and the board meeting will resume in September. Have an enjoyable summer.

Akira Ichikawa

## TOBAN UPDATE

### Toban Rotation Schedule

July	Toban 4
August	Toban 1
September	Toban 2

On Sunday, July 11 at 9am, **Toban 4** will be doing a regular Temple cleaning plus cleaning of the Naijin for the Obon service. Also, all the lower windows will be cleaned, inside and outside. If anyone would like to help, you are welcome.

**Toban Leader's Meetings are not scheduled for July and August. We will commence again in September.**

**Annual Picnic Thanks** to Pat Sassa and Katie Nakagawa for overseeing the annual picnic potluck set-up and to all those who helped out. Thanks to Brenda and Roland Ikuta and Maya Ichikawa for running the bingo and children's activities. Our Lumbini Garden turned out to be a great play site for the little ones.

**Thank You** Our continuing appreciation is extended to Mrs. Sachi Izumi, always helping each and every Toban, Sunday mornings with the tea and refreshment preparation and other special events.

**Soup Kitchen Report** We had 11 in our group: Jean & Noriko Oga, Betty & Sam Taniguchi, Yumiko Osaka, Stan Peters, Kaz Takaguchi, Kay Tsukishima, Judy Fukushima, Tak & Jan Okamura.

Menu was chunky vegetable soup & egg salad and meat sandwich, sliced tomato and cucumber, fresh fruit salad and a drink choice. We made 14 1/2 loaves of bread sandwiches and 4 pots of soup. Many came for seconds and some even for the fourth time. We served 88 patrons and 8 staff members.

Our group went for a late light lunch at the Regent and had many laughs as we found out that we were all related - but very distantly of course.

Jan Okamura, Toban 4

Next Soup Kitchen is July 21. Please contact Lilly Oishi or Judy Takaguchi to volunteer.



# BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SOUTHERN ALBERTA

470 - 40th Street South, Lethbridge, AB T1J 3Z5 | 403.327.1260 | www.thebtsa.com

## 2010 Membership Form

- Full Membership  
(\$100 for each member)
- Student Membership\*

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Names(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Names(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, Province, Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Cellphone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- Check to receive The Hikari newsletter by Email only.

Please send this form and your remittance to:  
 Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta Treasurer  
 470 40th Street South  
 Lethbridge, AB, T1J 3Z5

### Notes

\*Student membership is limited to persons 18 years or older who are currently registered in a recognized educational institution. It is free of charge with a valid student ID card. Student Members are not entitled to vote at general meetings or to hold office in the BTSA and this category of membership does not include membership in the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada.

## LET'S EXPAND THE CIRCLE OF THE DHARMA!

### ATTENTION DONORS

The Finance Committee is trying streamline the donation process! To that end, we kindly request that, whenever possible, please make your donations with a cheque (instead of cash). This would greatly assist and streamline our bookkeeping efforts and, more importantly, ensure the amount of your donation is recorded accurately. Also, we will be counting and depositing donations on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month. Those donations received on or before the 3rd Sunday of the month will be recorded in the next month's Hikari. Those donations received after the 3rd Sunday will be featured in the subsequent month's Hikari. Official tax receipts can be issued by the BTSA for any charitable donation.

### Memorial Donations

June 2010

Martha Akune  
 Tomi Hisaoka  
 Rumiko Ibuki  
 Ayako Imahashi  
 Doug & Alice Kamitomo  
 Katie Kamitomo  
 Akiko Kobayakawa  
 Ken & Amy Kurio  
 Kay Matsuda  
 Cheryl Matsugi  
 Yuse & Chiyomi Matsuno  
 Nobuko Nakagama  
 Shig & Katie Nakagawa  
 Yoshiye Nakata  
 Mitsuko Nishi  
 May Nishikawa  
 Mac & Reyko Nishiyama  
 Kaz & Setsuko Ohno  
 Hideko Oishi  
 Lilly Oishi  
 Fujiko Okamura  
 Kay Okugawa  
 Yumiko Osaka  
 Shig Sakamoto  
 Gordon & Joy Saruwatari  
 Florence Senda  
 Tom & Mitsuko Shigehiro  
 Noris & Sachiko Taguchi  
 Tom Tajiri  
 Don & Lisa Takaguchi  
 Kaz Takaguchi  
 Fuji Takeda  
 Mas Terakita  
 Tak & Yoko Tsujita  
 Fujio & Yoshiko Tsukishima

**Total - \$1,630.00**

### Shotsuki Hoyo

June 2010

Shinako Higa  
 Rumiko Ibuki  
 Yuse & Chiyomi Matsuno  
 Takumi & Mitsuko Oga  
 Frank & Kimi Ohno  
 Lilly Oishi  
 Fujiko Okamura  
 Noris & Sachiko Taguchi  
 Tsuyako Tajiri  
 Reiko Takeyasu  
 Brenda & Lester Tanner  
 Shizuo & Dorothy Tomita  
 Fujio & Yoshiko Tsukishima  
 Aiko Yoshihara

**Total - \$310.00**



## Senior Citizens Are Living Treasures!

Keiro Kai is a tri-annual event sponsored by the Nikkei Cultural Society of Lethbridge & Area. In Japanese, “kei” means to honor, or respect, and “ro” means elderly, thus the term “keiro” means to honor the elderly. In Japan, Keiro Day is a national holiday with many events honoring and paying tribute to the elderly citizens of their nation. Nikkei Cultural Society carries on this beautiful cultural tradition to show appreciation to the seniors over the age of 80 for all that they have done for us. This year’s Keiro Kai, attended by 263 people (including 126 honored guests between the ages of 80 and 101), was held on June 19.

Over the past year dozens of people helped plan and execute the celebration. Among other things, volunteers compiled the guest list, prepared and mailed invitations, hand crafted origami center pieces, set-up, decorated and cleaned-up after the event. We would like to thank all the generous volunteers that contributed their time, energy and expertise to ensure the success of this special occasion. Thank you, we appreciate you more than mere words can ever convey!

Kimie Sudo & Yvonne P. Sugimoto  
Nikkei Cultural Society of Lethbridge & Area  
Keirokai Committee Co-Chairpersons

### Japanese Lesson:

#### How do you say this in Japanese?

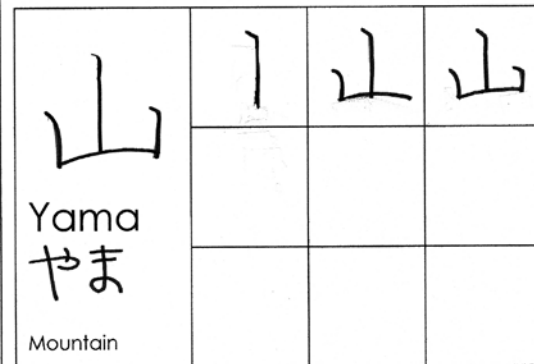
Where are you going?

(Anata wa) doko e ikimasu ka?  
ni ikimasu ka?


I'm going to the mountains. = (Watashi wa) yama e ikimasu.  
**Boku = I (used by males)** ni ikimasu.

(Boku wa) yama e ikimasu.  
ni ikimasu.

### Kanji Corner



3 strokes

Derives from a pictograph of three mountains.   
The middle is the tallest mountain to overlook the plains.

## CHAIR SCHEDULE Jul/Aug/Sept 2010

**July 04** NO SERVICE

**July 11** NO SERVICE

**July 18** OBON

Chair: Mas Terakita  
Audio: Lorita Ichikawa

**July 25** REGULAR

Chair: Mac Nishiyama  
Audio: Roland Ikuta

**Aug 01** NO SERVICE

**Aug 08** REGULAR

Chair: Robert Takaguchi  
Audio: Roland Ikuta

**Aug 15** REGULAR

Chair: Jack Nagai  
Audio: Robert Takaguchi

**Aug 22** REGULAR

Chair: Roland Ikuta  
Audio: Brenda Ikuta

**Aug 29** REGULAR

Chair: Pat Sassa  
Audio: Roy Sassa

**Sept 05** SHOTSUKI

Chair: Sway Nishimura  
Audio: Tak Okamura

**Sept 12** REGULAR

Chair: Mas Terakita  
Audio: John Dubbelboer

**Sept 19** REGULAR

Chair: Brenda Ikuta  
Audio: Tak Okamura

**Sept 26** REGULAR

Chair: Mas Terakita  
Audio: John Dubbelboer

### PROGRAMS will commence in the fall.

#### REGULAR EVENTS

##### Japanese Conventional Language Class

No classes in July and August.

Classes resume in September at a new time: Sunday 3 - 4pm  
Izumi Sensei at 382.7024 or yasuo123@telus.net  
Denise Takao at 381.1187 or detakao@telus.net

##### Study Class

Wednesdays, 10:30am to 1pm  
Please join anytime. Everyone is welcome!

##### Study/Discussion Group

Sundays right after the morning chanting (Shoshinge). The purpose of meeting is to deepen our understanding and appreciation of Buddha's teachings, study the Dharma and facilitate discussion. Please contact Renae Barlow (renaeb@telus.net) or Rev. Izumi 382.7024

##### Southern Alberta Buddhist Choir

Thursdays 7 - 8:30pm, last practice until fall is July 15  
Please contact Katie Nakagawa 403.327.4296 or katiinak@shaw.ca

##### Tonari Gumi

Summer break during July and August.  
Will resume September 14, 2010

##### Taiko Class

Tuesdays 7 - 8:30pm  
Please contact David Tanaka 403.330.1548 or david@eyesquared.com

##### Bon Odori Practice


Wednesdays, 7 - 9pm  
Through July 14

**B.C. Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples Federation**  
Fraser Valley Kamloops Kelowna Steveston Vancouver Vernon

**Shinran Shonin 750<sup>th</sup> Memorial Convention**  
"May Peace and Tranquility Prevail throughout the World"

2010 September  
24 (Fri) 5:30 PM Banquet (Radisson Hotel)  
25 (Sat) 1:30 PM Convention  
5:00 PM Sarana Affirmation (by Shinmon sama)  
26 (Sun) 10:30 AM 750th Memorial Service

**Steveston Buddhist Temple** (Sep. 25<sup>th</sup> / 26<sup>th</sup>)  
4360 Garry Street, Richmond, BC, V7E 2V2, Canada  
Tel: (604) 277-2323  
www.steveston-temple.ca



カナダの佛教区 ビーシー州 浄土真宗蓮友  
親鸞聖人750回 大遠忌法要

世のなか  
安んずる  
穏やかな  
れ

2010年9月24日(金) 5:30 PM 夕食懇親会 (Radisson Hotel)  
25日(土) 1:30 PM コンベンション  
5:00 PM (前門様より) 帰敬式  
26日(日) 10:30 AM 親鸞聖人750回遠忌法要  
会場: (25・26日) スティーブストン仏教会

### Onenju (Ojuzu) For Sale

New Onenju from Japan are available. (\$15 for male onenju. \$18 and \$20 for female onenju)

**Harry Sugimoto** has recently resigned as Toban 3 co-leader as he will not be available in the months ahead. Thanks to Harry for his continuing contributions to BTSA and we wish he and Yvonne happy traveling.

**Robert Hironaka and Cliff Thomas along with Nader Froud** pruned at the new Montessori School, the former Honpa church, on Wednesday morning June 23. They are about half finished with sprucing up the outside area. Another work bee will be scheduled the second week of July to complete the job. Please contact Robert at hironaka@uleth.ca if you would like to help. The Frouds were very appreciative to have BTSA members assistance in the pruning and this makes for another community partnership.

**The Membership Committee** in an effort to attract new members will be holding **Buddhist film nights**. We would like to try the first showing on Thursday, August 12th 2010. We will be showing the movie "Departures" which won the Academy award for foreign films in 2009. It is an interesting movie about the life of encoffiners in Japan. We will order out for pizza for all who attend and we will have a short discussion group following the movie. If anybody would like to attend please let Roland Ikuta know (403-317-0078). Please invite your friends. Thanks to Tomiko Sugimoto for suggesting the film, Departures, and lending us her copy for this showing.

The membership committee is looking for additional members. The membership committee will be considering various efforts to try to increase membership for the BTSA. We will be meeting once per month and try to come up with ways to attract new members and get former members involved with the temple. If you are interested please contact Roland Ikuta (403-317-0078).

### Flowers are delivered to those in hospital.

Please contact Kay Tsukishima, 403.327.9786 or Kaz Takaguchi, 403.328.3190 if you are aware of a BTSA member who has been hospitalized for a week or more.

It's nice to receive a fresh flower arrangement. Eventually the flowers wither and decay, but the container is useful and can be recycled. Thank you to all who have been bringing your container/vases to the Temple to be recycled at the local florists. To date we have received \$159.25 from the florists for these vases and I have a new shipment to take over soon. Keep these vases coming and place them in the closet near the kitchen. Thank you for cleaning them. The funds received are for the use of the Temple Dharma Class. Thanks to Jan Okamura for coordinating this project.

## JSBTC Request

The Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temple of Canada is making a direct appeal to temple members for pledges and donations to help it financially. Letters from Larry Ryan, the JSBTC secretary, and Socho Orai Fujikawa have been received requesting assistance to help underwrite JSBTC programs and to reduce annual assessments. The letters are posted on the temple bulletin board.

### Remittances may be made to:

**Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada**

**11786 Fentiman Place**

**Richmond, B.C. V7E 6M6**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Obituaries

The Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta expresses heartfelt sympathy to those who have lost loved ones.

**Mr. Yoshio Akune (88) May 23, 2010**

**Mr. Takao Fujimoto (85) June 27, 2010**

### Nikkei Cultural Society (NCS) 2010 Scholarship

The 2010 NCS Scholarship is \$500 awarded to a graduating high school student who is pursuing post-secondary studies and has an interest in Japanese/Japanese-Canadian culture and/or Japanese language. For additional information please contact deanna.oye@uleth.ca or kimie.sudo@uleth.ca. Copies of the application will be left at the Temple.





THE BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SOUTHERN ALBERTA  
**children & youth dharma classes**

**THE BTSA ANNUAL PICNIC**

**Sunday, June 20, 2010**

Due to the wet weather causing mudslides, the picnic took place at the temple rather than Pavan Park. Luckily the picnic date was a beautiful, sunshine-filled day. Children enjoyed games and treats outside on the playground.



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