



Funeral and Self-reflection

My father passed away at the end of September. He was 68 years old and his death was very sudden. He died when he was at home alone. According to the coroner, he probably died from a heart condition that he had for many years. My mother found him lying on the floor in the hallway near the bathroom. It looked as though he had just taken a bath and put on his underwear. His face was peaceful as if he was sleeping.

It is said that a family member's death is a time to learn. Having encountered my father's passing, I could learn a lot. I could especially learn about my self-centeredness. I was shocked and saddened when I heard the news, but reflecting on my thought at that time, I saw that I al-

continued on page 2

ways think of my convenience as my first priority.

When I received a phone call from my sister in Japan, I was shocked and felt lonely. I thought, “I was planning to visit him in November. I was looking forward to seeing him. It’s sad.”

But soon, my calculating mind began to work actively.

I thought, “This means I have to go to Japan twice this month.” From October 18th, I am going to visit Japan with some of the temple members for Shinran Shonin’s historic site tour. But now, my father’s funeral is scheduled for the second week of October which means I need to come back to Los Angeles after the funeral, then go to Japan again. Thinking about my convenience, I thought, “Couldn’t my father wait to die just a few more weeks?” or “I wish he could have died in early September or after my Japan tour.”

But who can choose the day of his death? Thinking to change the date of the death of my father is selfish. I apologized to my father and started to make plans to go to Japan. Again, my self-centeredness became active. “I must go to Japan for the funeral,

but what about my family? Of course, they should,” I thought, but a moment later, “If I take my whole family, it will cost about \$5,000.” I began to calculate. “My father is already gone so my kids cannot talk to him even if they go,” or “If we hold a service at Senshin for our family members, we won’t have to go to Japan, Amida Buddha is everywhere in the universe,” or “My father’s smoke of cremation would come to the United States with the wind in a few months, so my kids do not have to go to Japan.” This is the kind of specious logic that came up in my mind. But the bottom line was that I just did not want to pay a lot of money to go to Japan.

When I met my sister and mother in Japan, we agreed that although he died early, it was good for him. If he lived longer, he would need to go to a nursing care facility, and, if he became a patient with Alzheimer’s disease, then he would not recognize his family anymore. It is very sad. While he was alive, he was healthy, and when he died, he died quickly without lingering pain. He had a good life. This may be true but this thought is based on the family member’s convenience. My

father wanted to live longer but I again reflected on my ego calculation.

Meeting with a family member’s death is an opportunity to learn Buddha’s teaching. Experiencing my father’s death, I could see how strong my ego is. Whatever I decided, my convenience was the criterion. Even the sad feeling over the loss of a family member comes from self-centeredness. “I am lonely, because I will not be able to meet him anymore.” Existence of “I” is in capital letter and “him” in smaller letters is an example of my self-centeredness. But, because of my self-centeredness, Amida Buddha established the vow enabling me to be born in the Pure Land. Such a person, also called a foolish being or an unenlightened being, is the very object to be saved by Amida Buddha.

Rennyō Shonin stated, “In this final age of extreme uncertainty, all unenlightened men and women who single-mindedly and devotedly rely on Amida’s Eighteenth Vow no matter how heavy the weight of their evil karma may be, will be assured of deliverance through Amida Buddha.” At my father’s funeral service, the minister read this letter of Rennyō Shonin besides his *Letters of White Ashes*. It was very meaningful to me and I appreciate my father who taught me a lot since my childhood and showed me my ego upon his death.

Namoamidabutsu

REV. RYUTA FURUMOTO

父の死から学んだこと

私事になりますが、9月末に父が急に亡くなりました。68歳でした。私の姉によると、父が一人で家にいたときに、シャワーを浴びて下着を着た後、気分が悪くなったのか廊下に横たわり、そのまま眠るように死んだということでした。

父の訃報を受け、私はたいへんショックを受けました。父は心臓に持病があったので、もしかすると早く亡くなるのでは、と心配はしていましたが、これほど早く亡くなるとは思っていませんでした。

私は、10月18日からお寺の方々と親鸞聖人ゆかりの地を訪れるツアーに行くことになっており、ツアーが終わったあと、広島に行き、父に会うのを楽しみにしていましたので、とても残念に思いました。

「会者定離」、「愛別離苦」などと、お釈迦様がお示くださっている通り、家族とはいつか離れないといけないのが常ですが、いざそれが自分の身に起こると、やはり悲しく、寂しいものです。

お釈迦様は、その悲しみや寂しさよりも強い思い、またその感情がでてくる根源があるともお示くださっています。それは、自分のエゴです。「肉親の死は学びの時である」と言われますが、「自分のことが一番かわいい」という悟りから遠ざける思いはこれほどまでに強いのかと、父の死を通じて知ることができました。

姉から電話をもらった後、ショックを受けたのですが、「すぐ葬式に行かない」と思い始めた時から、いろいろな計算の心がでてきはじめました。「今から葬式に行くということは、今月は二回も日本に行かないといけないということになるな。ちょっとたいへんだな。お父さんもできたら、ツアーが終わった後に亡くなってくれたらよかったのにな。」と自分の都合で勝手に肉親の死ぬときを決めようとするのです。また、「葬式には子供たちと妻も連れて行かないと。けど、ちょっと待てよ。家族皆で行ったら、5000

ドルはかかるじゃないか。うちにそんなお金あったかな？」と思い、「まあ、もう父も亡くなっていることだし、家族が言っても話せるわけなし。阿弥陀様はいつでもどこでものおはたらきだから、父の往生を引き受けてくださる阿弥陀様への感謝を表す法要ならば、日本でなくても、洗心のできるじゃないか。日本に行かなくてもいいか。」とか、「火葬になった煙が風となって、数週間あとにはロサンゼルスに来るのではないか？千の風だね。」などと、お金をセーブしようというエゴの思いつきから、日本に行かなくてもよい理由をみつけようとするのです。

このように、父の死に際して、悲しみや寂しさはあるものの、自分の都合をまず考える、というものの見方をしているということがよくわかり、反省させられました。

蓮如上人が末代無智章で、「そのような自己中心の心を持つ無智で、罪業の深い者をこそ、阿弥陀仏がお目当てとしてくださっているのだ。称名念仏して、自分のエゴを反省しつつ仏様に感謝しなさい。」とお示くださっています。父の葬儀では、僧侶が末代無智章を拝読してください、家族ともども、あさましい無智の者とはまさに自分のことだと、ありがたく聞かせていただいたことです。父の死のご縁に大切なことを学ばせていただきました。

南無阿弥陀仏

古本竜太

Monthly Memorial Service NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 1, 2015 10:00am

SESHU (OBSERVANT)	DECEASED'S RELATION TO OBSERVANT	DECEASED
Akahori, Ted and Tomi	Friends	Imai, Harry and Ida
Imamura, Kikue	Brother	Yoshimura, Toshiyuki
Isomoto, Glen	Mother	Isomoto, Satoko
Kada, Dorothy	Mother-in-law	Kada, Takiye
Kammerer, Michele	Father	Kammerer, William
Kiyohara, Ruby	Husband	Kiyohara, Akira
Kojima, Chikako	Grandmother	Uneda, Yoshiko
Kuwata, Yuriko	Mother	Yamada, Tosao
Matsumura, Henry	Grandmother	Matsumura, Satomi
Minami, Jean	Brother	Yokomi, Tadashi Ted
Munekata, Ryo	Mother	Munekata, Kasumi
Murakami, Hisako	Mother	Takahashi, Koito
Nakagawa, Fred	Mother	Nakagawa, Kiyo
Nakawatase, Sachiko	Husband	Nakawatase, Hideyoshi
Nakawatase, Yasuko	Father-in-law	Nakawatase, Anzaemon
Nishisaka, Yuriko	Husband	Nishisaka, Arthur
Ota, Masaru	Mother	Ota, Hisayo
Otamura, Katherine	Husband	Otamura, Roy
Sato, Terry	Husband	Sato, Gene
Shimohara, Ellen	Husband	Shimohara, Jerry
Shimohara, Ellen	Mother-in-law	Shimohara, Chiyoiko
Sonday, Reiko	Father	Nimi, Shinichi
Takashima, Iris	Uncle	Yasuda, Shig
Tanaka, Lillian	Mother	Shiosaki, Ethel
Toji, Dean	Mother	Toji, Evelyn
Ushirogata, Mutsuo	Father	Ushirogata, Kiichi
Ushirogata, Yukie	Brother	Matsushita, Hiroshi
Uyeno, Matsuko	Father-in-law	Uyeno, Yoshisuke
Wakinaka, Asa	Father	Wakinaka, Hiroyuki
Wakinaka, Asa	Mother	Wakinaka, Tane
Wakinaka, Bernice	Father	Nagaoka, Tokuzo
Yamaguchi, Toshiko	Husband	Yamaguchi, Frank
Yamasaki, Reiko	Husband	Yamasaki, George
Yamashita, Betty	Brother	Takahashi, Paul
Yokoyama, Arlene	Father	Yamada, Harold
Yoshimura, Brett and Susan	Daughter	Yoshimura, Deklan

The monthly memorial service is usually held on the first Sunday of each month in memory of those who have passed away in that month. At the service, the list of names of the deceased, the person observing the memorial and the person's relation to the deceased is read. The Monthly Memorial List is also published in the Prajna newsletter. To have a name entered into the Monthly Memorial List, please call the office as names may not automatically be entered after a funeral.

Listed are donations handled by the Regular Treasurer:

Special: donation received with no specific reason given

Orei: donation for use of temple facilities, equipment, etc.

Nokotsudo: donation by families who have family cremains in the Nokotsudo (columbarium)

The Regular Treasurer is required to send receipts for donations of \$250.00 and over. Receipts for all other donations will not be sent unless requested by the donor.

OCTOBER
FLOWER DONATION

Tomi & Ted Akahori
Ikari & Wong Families
Miwako Hashimoto
Yuri Nishisaka
Richard Miyagawa
Ron & Fujie Ohata
Reiko Sonday
Yo Takeuchi
Barbara Tanezaki
Betty Yamashita

9/3/2015	Jill & Fred Katsuda Jean Minami Misako Yokomi Sue Yokomi Judy Nakatani Dennis Nakamura Lena & Julia Murakami Sharon Nakagawa	25th cycle Itsuto Yokomi, 13th cycle Ted Yokomi 25th cycle Itsuto Yokomi, 13th cycle Ted Yokomi 25th cycle Itsuto Yokomi, 13th cycle Ted Yokomi 25th cycle Itsuto Yokomi, 13th cycle Ted Yokomi 49th day service for Frank Nakatani Service for Sumi Nakamura In memory of Raymond Murakami <i>Nokotsudo</i> for Ayako Mae & Shunichi Takaoka In memory of Tom Harada Special In memory of Yoshimi Ishitani In memory of Bob Toji
9/6/2015	Lynn Taketomo Wasabi Kai Sumi Hayamizu Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa Edith Nishikawa	Special <i>Orei</i> <i>Nokotsudo</i> for Robert Hayamizu Kelly: Graduation, Pace Law School <i>Cum Laude</i> Derek: Graduation, Arizona State University <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> Sale of Norton House Sale of Norton House
9/12/2015	Harry & Nell Sawada Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha, Kyoto	Birth of great-grandson, Drew M Dowling Donation, via BCA
9/19/2015	Kiyoko Yoneda Gilbert Leong & Marilyn Shimabukuro Curtiss Rooks & Miki Fujimoto Rev. Masao Kodani	<i>Nokotsudo</i> for Kazuo Yoneda YBICSE Japan trip for Ross Leong In memory of Kikuyo Rooks In memory of Bob Toji
9/27/2015	Katherine Hayashi Miki Fujimoto Richard & Yoko Miyagawa Gail Finney Suzanne Toji Michael & Suzanne Tobin	In memory of Lillian & Tsugio Takeuchi Husband's return to health <i>Nokotsudo</i> 49th day service for Bob Toji 49th day service for Bob Toji 49th day service for Bob Toji
9/30/2015	Iris Takashima Elso Kanagawa & Celia Huey	<i>Orei</i> for welcoming Sei Jinde into Temple Family Special

Updates & ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Religious Committee

SAVE THE DATE!
Bodhi Day
Program & Service
December 5th & 6th,
Saturday & Sunday,
at Senshin
(details in the next issue)

B W A

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations:

Kiyo Yoneda,
 in memory of Kazuo Yoneda
 Jean Nakashima,
 in memory of George and
 Emiko Shigeyasu
 Miki Fujimoto,
 husband's return to health
 Iris Takashima,
 in memory of Seichi Jinde

The next meeting is at 8:30am on
 Sunday, November 1st.

A B A

No news, but our next
 meeting will be on
 Sunday, November 1st
 at 9am. All new mem-
 bers are welcome.

Jr Y B A

The Jr's have a new cabinet for the
 2015-2016 year:

President – Russell Uyemura
 Vice President – Ross Leong
 Secretary – Mariko Rooks
 Treasurer – Gavin Fukawa
 Historian – Justin Kawaguchi
 Athletics – Taylor Wiemer

The Jr's would like to gratefully



acknowledge
 the generous donation from Suzanne
 Toji in memory of Bob Toji.
 Here are a couple of pictures from
 our End of Summer/Beginning of Fall
 pool party at the Uyemura's home.

Our next meeting will be on



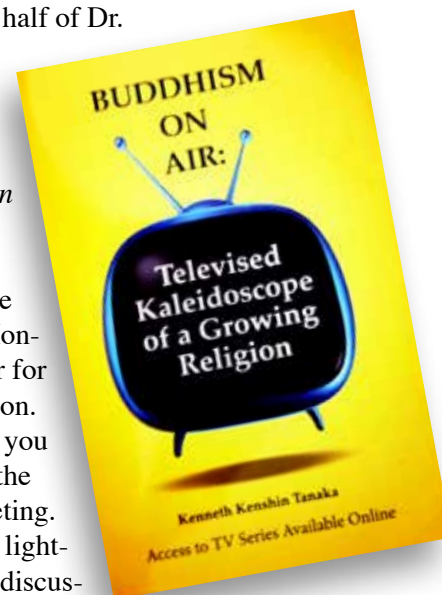
November 1, 2015 after service.

If you're a high school student and
 want to join, please contact Marilyn
 Shimabukuro at (818) 248-4720.

Book Group

Our next meeting is on November
 15th. We will be discussing at least
 the first half of Dr.

Ken
 Tana-
 ka's
*Bud-
 dhism on
 Air*. The
 book is
 available
 in the Hon-
 do foyer for
 a donation.
 Sorry if you
 missed the
 last meeting.
 It was a light-
 hearted discus-
 sion for a light-
 hearted



book. New titles, new authors and new
 members are welcome. Contact Lilly
 & Mike Yanagita (818) 956-1070,
 email n7willow@gmail.com.

Wasabi-Kai

We will resume in January 2016.
 Please sign up if you are interested,
 as a first-timer or returning student.
 Questions? Call Bob Miyamoto (323)
 791-2719

Facilities

Nothing broke.

Senshin-ji Building Fund November 2015 Update

As noted last month, we had moved
 beyond the LADWP's involvement in
 our project because we were granted a
 waiver from their requirements.

Following a prolonged and very
 contentious back-and-forth interaction
 with the Los Angeles County Health
 Department (LACHD), and with the
 assistance of an empathetic staff mem-
 ber of the Building Department, we
 finally received an exemption from the
 LACHD's requirements that asked us
 to make some major design changes to
 our construction plans.

Now, we have been engaged in a
 lengthy dispute with the Los Angeles
 City Sanitation Department's Indus-
 trial Waste Management Division
 (IWMD). They contend that the mem-
 bers of our temple are a segment of the
 "public," and because we serve food
 to them following monthly memorial
 services, or special service *otoki*, they
 say that we are required to install a
 \$20,000 plus Grease Interceptor and
 pay annual fees that will exceed \$300
 per year. We are adamantly protesting
 their definition of the term "public" as
 they apply it to our temple members.

In addition, the IWMD's staff does
 not even recognize the provisions of
 its own Code, nor the policies and reg-
 ulations that apply to that code. That is
 the basis upon which we hope to con-
 test the IWMD staff's position that we
 prepare food "to serve to the public."
 We are in the process of soliciting the
 assistance of our area's councilperson,

but as of the date that this article is
 being written, we are still awaiting
 word from the council office. If we are
 unable to secure the councilperson's
 help, then we will again turn to the
 LADBS's staff member who secured
 the Health Department exemption.

We hope that we can resolve this
 issue in Senshin's favor by the end of
 October. We just have to wait and see.

In *Gassho*,
 Wilbur Takashima

DONATIONS RECEIVED IN SEPTEMBER:

Jean Nakashima
 (in memory of husband, Howard)
 Yuriko Nishisaka
 Shigeichi Shimabukuro
 Tak & Betty Yamashita



洗心仏教会

2015年11月

10月感謝録:

特別寄付: 金川エルソ/セリアヒュイ,竹本リン 故東司ロバート49日 東司スザン,フィニゲイル

寄付: BCA経由西本願寺,京都 小谷正雄,トビンマイケル/スザン

お祝い: 孫Drew Dowling誕生 沢田ハリ/ネル 故中谷フランク49日 中谷ジュディ

大学卒業: 娘Kelly-Pace Law School(Cum Laude) 故中村すみ追悼 中村デニス
息子Derek-Arizona State(Magna Cum Laude) 故村上レイモンド追悼
村上リナ/ジュリア

西川ケルビン/ようこ 故原田トム追悼 原田ジェムス

夫健康回復: 藤本ミッキ 故石谷よしみ追悼 石谷ジャニス

ノートンハウスセール:西川エデイス,ケルビン/ようこ 故ルックスきくよ追悼 ルックスカティス

Ross YBICSE日本旅行:レオンギルバート/島袋マリリン 藤本ミッキ

納骨堂: 速水すみ,米田きよ,宮川リチャード/ようこ 故竹内リリアン&つぎお 林キャサリン

お礼: 父人出せい葬儀 高島アイリス故よこみいつと25回忌 & よこみテッド13回忌
わさび会 勝田ジル/フレド,南ジーン,よこみみさこ,スー

11月日程:

1日(日)	午前8時半	婦人会
午前9時半	日本語法要 午前10時 午前11時	祥月法要 英語勉強会 キッズクラブ
5日(木)	午後7時半	理事会
7日(土)	USC-Arizonaフットボール駐車	
8日(日)	午前9時半 午前10時 午前11時 12時	日本語法要 家族礼拝- 英語勉強会、キッズクラブ 洗心寺総会
15日(日)	午前9時半 午前10時 午前11時	日本語法要 家族礼拝 英語勉強会、日曜学校
22日(日)	午前8-12時	大掃除、おみがき キッズクラブ
28日(土)	USC-UCLAフットボール駐車	
29日(日)	午前9時半 午前10時 午前11時	日本語法要 家族礼拝 英語勉強会 日曜学校

10月供花:

赤堀テッド/トミ ,大畑ロン/ふじ,竹内よう,種崎バーバラ,猪狩&ウオン家族,橋本みわ
西坂ゆり,宮川リチャード,ソンディれいこ,山下ベティ

本堂当番:

J.中島,C.横田,E.村上,R.勝田

内陣お花当番:

7日:B.山下/K.猪狩,14日:Q.山下/D.江畑,21日:S.東司/J.入江,28日K.石塚/B.中村



SENSHIN-JI 2015 NOVEMBER 2558

1311 W. 37TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90007 ☎ 323 731 4617 ✉ SENSHINTEMPLE@GMAIL.COM 🌀 SENSHINTEMPLE.ORG

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i>	2	3	4	5	6	7 <i>Parking Fundraiser</i>
8:30a BWA Reikai 9:30a Japanese Study Class 10a Monthly Memorial Service / <i>Shotsuki Hōyō</i> Rev. Masao Kodani , BCA Minister Emeritus 11a Study Class / Kids' Club		9:30a Exercise Class	7:30p Kinnara Gagaku	9:30a Exercise Class 7:30p Temple Bd Mtg 8p Kinnara Taiko		Time TBA USC Football Parking (Arizona)
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9:30a Japanese Study Class 10a Family Service 11a Study Class / Kids' Club 12noon Temple General Meeting		9:30a Exercise Class	7:30p Kinnara Bugaku	9:30a Exercise Class 8p Kinnara Taiko		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9:30a Japanese Study Class 10a Family Service: Rev. Masao Kodani , BCA Minister Emeritus 11a Study Class / Dharma School		9:30a Exercise Class	7:30p Kinnara Gagaku	9:30a Exercise Class 8p Kinnara Taiko		
22 <i>Osoji: Temple Clean-up & Omigaki</i> (<i>Omigaki</i> : altar polishing) No Services / Kids' Club	23 7:30p Zadankai	24 9:30a Exercise Class	25 7:30p Kinnara Bugaku	26 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	27	28 <i>Parking Fundraiser</i>
						Time TBA USC Football Parking (UCLA)
29	30					
9:30a Japanese Study Class 10a Family Service 11a Study Class / Dharma School						

NOVEMBER TOBAN

Sunday Service Temple

Hondo Toban Jean Nakashima, Carole Yokota,
Eugene Murakami, Richard Katsuda

November Onaijin Flower Toban

Nov 7 Betty Yamashita, Kathy Ikari

Nov 14 Qris Yamashita, Donna Ebata

Nov 21 Suzanne Toji, Joji Iriye

Nov 28 Karen Ishizuka, Bob Nakamura

Upcoming in December

Dec 5 *Bodhi* Day Program and Potluck

Dec 6 *Bodhi* Day Service & *Shotsuki*

Dec 31 *Joya-e*, End of Year Service

*All classes subject to change
without notice.*

*Please call a group member to
confirm meeting/rehearsal.*