



Golden Chain

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BUDDHIST CHURCH

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September 2019

I am a link in the Buddha's golden chain of love that stretches around the world. I must keep my link bright and strong. I will try to be kind and gentle to every living thing and protect all who are weaker than myself. I will try to think pure and beautiful thoughts, to say pure and beautiful words, and to do pure and beautiful deeds, knowing that on what I do now depends not only my happiness or unhappiness, but also that of others. May every link in the Buddha's golden chain of love become bright and strong and may we all attain perfect peace.

Structure of each vow before the 48 Vows

Each vow is short and follows the same format just like a sandwich as follows:

"If, when I attain Buddhahood, XXXX, may I not attain perfect Enlightenment."

"If, when I attain Buddhahood" is the one slice of bread; "may I not attain perfect Enlightenment" is the other slice of bread, and the part of "XXXX" shows the contents of Ultimate Dharma. Each vow is made this way. But, why does each vow take this structure?

One pickup one episode that shows why. One day I listened to a speaker from Washington DC who talked about his experience of his son. The story goes like this. His son had a serious skin problem. The son's skin got infected and started melting. It gave the son terrible pain every day. So, the father took him to dermatologists one after another. The doctors, however, commonly said that they did not know the cause of the skin problem. So, there was no hope to cure! The father got frustrated very much, but his son was suffering from the pain every day. Finally, the father made the strong commitment or vow: "If skin doctors can not cure, I will do save my son."

Then, he visited the National Library in Washington DC every day for a few years. Then, he found cure for his son, and tried it. It worked very well and his son was freed from pain and his skin returned to normal.

If I rewrite his experience, I can write as follows:

"If, when I become the true father for my son, I surely save my son from his problem. If I cannot cure him, I am not the true father for my son."

We are so-called "**Bon-Bu** (Common persons)" who possess 84,000 blind passions or problems. Not one, but 84,000 trouble makers! How can we be freed from them? First, each vow shows "cause" of our problems (Wisdom). Then, the perfect cure is shown to us (Compassion). The "cure" applies to 84,000 problems. That's why the cure is called "Ultimate Dharma" or Immeasurable working (Amida in Sanskrit).

The part of "XXXX" symbolizes the cause of our problems and the nature of Supreme Dharma. In other words, each vow teaches what I am. Indeed, and fortunately, we can see the concrete forms of Ultimate Dharma through vows. Now, shall we go into each vow.

In Gassho,
Rev. Doei Fujii

私が毎日していること



Rev. Doei Fujii

私は二つの目を持っているが、この目では自分の顔を見ることはできない。そこで鏡（かがみ）の前に立つ。すると自分の顔が映り「ああ、ここに飯粒（めしつぶ）がついている。ここには醤油（しょうゆ）がついている。ああ、髪（かみ）がボサボサだな」と分（わ）かる。分かっているそのまの顔で出かけることはない。それらしき顔にしてから出かける。

ところがである、鏡でみる私の顔は左右（さゆう）反対（はんたい）に写っていることに中々気付かない。鏡でみる顔が自分の本当の顔だと思っているが、実は、私は本当の自分の顔を知らないということである。なんとも情けない話ではないか。

その証拠に、自分の名前を英語で書き、それを持って鏡の前に立ってみると良くわかる。自分の名前なのに直ぐには読めない。それは左右反対にうつし出されるからである。

さて、なぜこのようなことを言うのかといえ、法（真実）が私に現れる時は反対に現れるからである。例えば、法は「私の国（浄土じょうど））には怒（いか）りも・貪（むさぼ）りも・愚痴（ぐち）もない」とあらわれる。この法の現れ方は同時に「藤井は怒り・貪り・愚痴の世界に住んでいる。それゆえにどうしても私の国に生まれて欲しい」と私に願いをかけ、私を求めているからである。このような法の現れ方は「私とは何者なのか、私は毎日何をしているのか」を知らせんがためなのである。

法とは、言い換えれば、光の部分しか語らない。しかし、光は同時に影を結ぶ。この私の影の暗（くら）さを通して光の世界があることを私に知らせるためなのである。暗い世界に住むなよ、明るい光の中に住んでくれよ、と私を求めているのである。我が国（光の世界）に住むには「我が名（なもあみだぶつ）と称（とな）えなさい。それが我が世界に生まれる正しい道なのである」と教えていますよ。

合掌、
藤井道栄



Services for September 2019

September 1, 2019 – No Service: BWA World Conference
San Francisco, California

September 8, 2019 – Shotsuki Hoyo
10 A.M.

At this monthly memorial service, we will honor those loved ones who passed away in the month of September.

August & September birthdays will be celebrated.

Dharma School will have registration for 2019-2020.

Dharma message in Japanese will follow the English service.

Appreciation Lunch will follow service.

September 15, 2019 – Family Service
10 A.M.

Kathy Velasco, Minister's Assistant, will conduct the service.

Café Dharma will follow service.

September 22, 2019 – Fall Ohigan & Bishop's Memorial Service
10 A.M.

Ohigan marks the Fall Autumnal Equinox.

This is the time when the Earth and the Sun are situated such that the hours of Daylight is equal to the hours of Night.

Ancient Japanese Buddhist nobles marked this auspicious time by practicing the 6 Paramitas and dedicating their spiritual path to the Pure Land.

This Memorial Service is dedicated to all past and present Buddhist Churches of America ministers who have served as Bishop of the BCA.

Dharma message in Japanese will follow the English service.

Café Dharma will follow service.

September 29, 2019 – Family Service
10 A.M.

Dharma message in Japanese will follow the English service.

Café Dharma will follow service.

Rev. Fujii's Study Classes: September 22 & 29
9 - 9:45 AM in the Hondo

Everyone is welcome!

SEPTEMBER SHOTSUKI HOYO

Family, relatives and friends are invited to attend the monthly memorial service for the following on Sunday September 8, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

DECEASED

1943	Ken Enta
1963	Senzaburo Kotake
1968	Suekichi Shimamura
1969	Shizue Tanaka
1986	Dorothy Kishiyama
1987	Chuck Shikano
1989	Yonetaro Tsurui
1990	Hideko Kajikawa
1990	Yutaka Handa
1990	Mary Shimamura
1991	Elsie Hamano
2000	Fumiyo Hisaoka
2001	Frank Fujitani
2004	Fusako Shinagawa
2005	Takashi Fred Tsurui
2008	Ayako Hashimoto
2009	Ted Inouye
2009	Muriel Sydney Brozowski
2009	Kari Mariye Morita
2011	Masao Kato
2013	Edwin Tanaka
2016	Ippei Usui
2017	Michiwo Nakashima
2016	Ippei Usui
	Kyuta Kishiyama
	Cory Keiji Naruo
	Chujiro Kamimoto

FAMILY

Enta Family
 Mrs. Jean Kotake
 Ms. Merry Shimamura
 Kitani Family
 Kishiyama Family
 Shikano Family
 Mrs. Alice Nagata
 Kajikawa Family
 Mr. Bill Handa
 Mr. Dave Shimamura
 Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Hall
 Hisaoka Family
 Fujitani Family
 Mr. Roy Shinagawa &
 Mr. & Mrs. Brad Myers
 Mrs. Joy Tsurui
 Dr. Walter Hashimoto
 Mrs. Jenny Clark
 Ms. Laura Brozowski
 Mrs. Keiko Okubo
 Mrs. Kyung Ja Kato
 Mr. Mike Tanaka
 Usui Family
 Mrs. Dianna Nakashima
 Ms. Etsuko Miyazono
 Kishiyama Family
 Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Naruo
 Mr. & Mrs. Art Sakai

[illegible]

Memorial Service 2019

Memorial year for those who passed away in:

2018 – 1 year	2007 – 13 year	1987– 33 year
2017 – 3 year	2003 – 17 year	1970 – 50 year
2013 – 7 year	1995 – 25 year	1920 – 100 year

If this is a special service year for a departed relative, please contact the church office at (510) 471-2581 to schedule a memorial service.

SAVE THE DATE!

The *Keiro Kai* will be held on
November 3, 2019 at SACBC.

As mentioned last year, I am hoping guests will look through their albums and submit photocopies of baby pictures (with name identification on them) during the month of September. Pictures may be left in the Dharma School box. Thanks in advance to all those who can help with this project.

In Gassho,
Cindy Sakihara

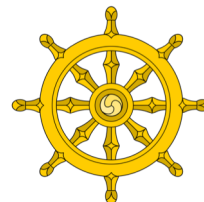
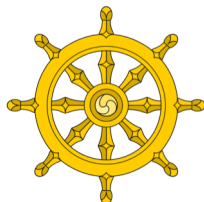
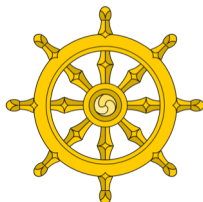


THANK YOU to those who have attended Café Dharma!

More thanks to the following Dharma friends who have shared snacks and treats: Michiko Fujii, Nancy Dodd, Pat Takemoto, Art & Jessie Sakai, Judy Tokubo, Karen Suyama, and Karen Fujii.

Apologies if I have accidentally and unintentionally forgotten your generosity.

Thank you, Sensei, for starting Café Dharma! It is so nice to spend time visiting, asking questions, getting explanations, and sharing thoughts and ideas.



BWA NEWS by Nancy Minamide

It is time again to clean out your closets, cupboards, and shelves!

**Our bi-annual RUMMAGE SALE will be
Saturday, October 5 and Sunday, October 6.**

Doors open at 9:00 AM so we need help to set up on October 5. Please come at 7:00 AM so we can quickly put out items to sell. We will also need help on Sunday, October 6 to put items away beginning at 3PM. If you can help during the day, the time on Saturday is 9 to 3 and on Sunday 11 to 3.

REMEMBER: NO CHILD CAR SEATS
NO FURNITURE
NO LARGE STUFFED TOYS

You may bring your items and place them on and in front of the food counter behind the gym.



Thank you for helping at the various funerals these past few months. The families appreciate the various jellos, salads and desserts. I am rotating the toban groups so that members only have to participate every other time.

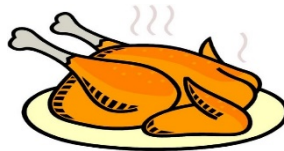
STORAGE ROOM CRISIS!

Gail Minamoto did a terrific job organizing the storage room with her helpers a few months ago, but it turned into a DISASTER AREA after Bazaar! N.O. couldn't handle the sight anymore, so with the help of L.U., K.M., and S.A., they set to work on straightening it out.

K.M. got the back area organized, and L.U. put the plastic storage cabinet in working order. S.A. and N.O. went through the food cabinet and got rid of old ingredients. It was a big surprise to find so much expired food stashed away in the cabinets.

So, WE NEED YOUR HELP! If you have spare time at the temple, please open a drawer and start organizing. Sort through the cabinets, organize the drawers, and throw away broken utensils. There is so much more that needs to be done.

To take credit, get a Post-It near the phone, write "(YOUR NAME) WAS HERE" and stick it where you worked so everyone can see what you did. We need to claim responsibility and work together instead of just complaining about the mess.



Thank You to the Great Chicken Team!

Thank you very much to all of the people that helped prepare and cook the chicken for this year's bazaar. Many people volunteered their time to prepare a delicious product, and we appreciate your help a lot. These people performed many tasks such as cleaning raw chicken, lifting heavy barrels of marinating chicken, carrying burning-hot racks of chicken, and standing in the sun and smoke. We are very grateful for everyone's dedication and assistance.

These helpful people are listed below :

SACBC members Hideo Okada, Betty Yamasaki, Emi Yamasaki, Kyle Yamasaki, Noel Lowe

Non-members : Don Uriu, Daniel Uriu, Steven Uriu, Gary Kihara, Sho Okada, Ken Okada, Rui Okada, Tricia Okada, Chrysanthe Pappas, Andrew Dupler, Laura Vander Veen, Jason Vander Veen, Daniel Yakuma, and nine Logan High School students

Thank you
Iris and Steve Yakuma

SEPTEMBER 2019

SACBC ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 NO SERVICE	2 LABOR DAY <u>Office Closed</u> 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	3 5:00p AA 7:00p Scouts	4 2:30p Exercise 5:00p AA 7:00P Taiko	5 5:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	6 5:00p Bingo (Logan Water Polo)	7 9a-12p JLS
8 Shotsuki Hoyo Appreciation Lunch 11:30 DS Registration	9 REVEREND 2:30p Exercise 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	10 VACATION 5:00p AA	11 2:30p Exercise 5:00p AA 7:00P Taiko	12 5:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	13 5:00p Bingo (SACBC)	14 9a-12p JLS
15 REVEREND 10a Family service conducted by Kathy Velasco/ Café Dharma	16 VACATION <u>Office Closed</u> 2:30p Exercise 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	17 <u>Office Closed</u> 5:00p AA 7:00p Scouts	18 2:30p Exercise 12p GC Deadline 5:00p AA 7:00P Taiko	19 5:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	20 5:00p Bingo (Logan Band)	21 9a-12p JLS
22 9-9:45a Study Class 10:00a Fall Ohigan BCA Bishop's Memorial Café Dharma	23 2:30p Exercise 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	24 5:00p AA	25 2:30p Exercise 5:00p AA 7:00P Taiko	26 5:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	27 5:00p Bingo (Faafouina)	28 9a-12p JLS
29 9-9:45a Study Class 10a Family Service Café Dharma	30 2:30p Exercise 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko					NOTE: Mondays & Tuesdays are the Reverend's days off. You can still contact him for urgent matters on these days. (510)509-5477

OCTOBER 2019

TENTATIVE-SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
NOTE: Mondays & Tuesdays are the Reverend's days off. You can still contact him for urgent matters on these days.		1 8:45a Exercise 5:00p AA 7:00p Scouts	2 5:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	3 8:45a Exercise 5:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	4 5:00p Bingo (JLS)	5 9a-12p JLS 9a-3p BWA Rummage Sale
6 9-9:45a Study Class Shotsuki Hoyo 11a-3p BWA Rummage Sale	7 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	8 8:45a Exercise 5:00p AA 7:00p Scouts	9 GC Deadline 5:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	10 8:45a Exercise 5:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	11 5:00p Bingo (SACBC)	12 9a-12p JLS
13 9-9:45a Study Class Dharma Family Service/Café Dharma	14 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	15 8:45a Exercise 5:00p AA 7:00p Scouts	16 5:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	17 8:45a Exercise 5:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	18 Bingo (?)	19 9a-12p JLS Bonsai Show
20 9-9:45a Study Class Dharma Family Service Café Dharma Bonsai Show	21 ****OFFICE 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	22 CLOSED 8:45a Exercise 5:00p AA 7:00p Scouts	23 5:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	24 8:45a Exercise 5:00p AA 7:00p Kendo	25 5:00p Bingo (Heiwa Taiko)	26 9a-12p JLS
27 9-9:45a Study Class Athletic Association Service Otoki following service	28 ****OFFICE 7:00p Kendo 7:00p Taiko	29 CLOSED 8:45a Exercise 5:00p AA 7:00p Scouts	30 5:00p AA 7:00p Taiko	31 8:45a Exercise 5:00p AA 7:00p Kendo		

