



Temple Reflections

A TSDBT Monthly Publication

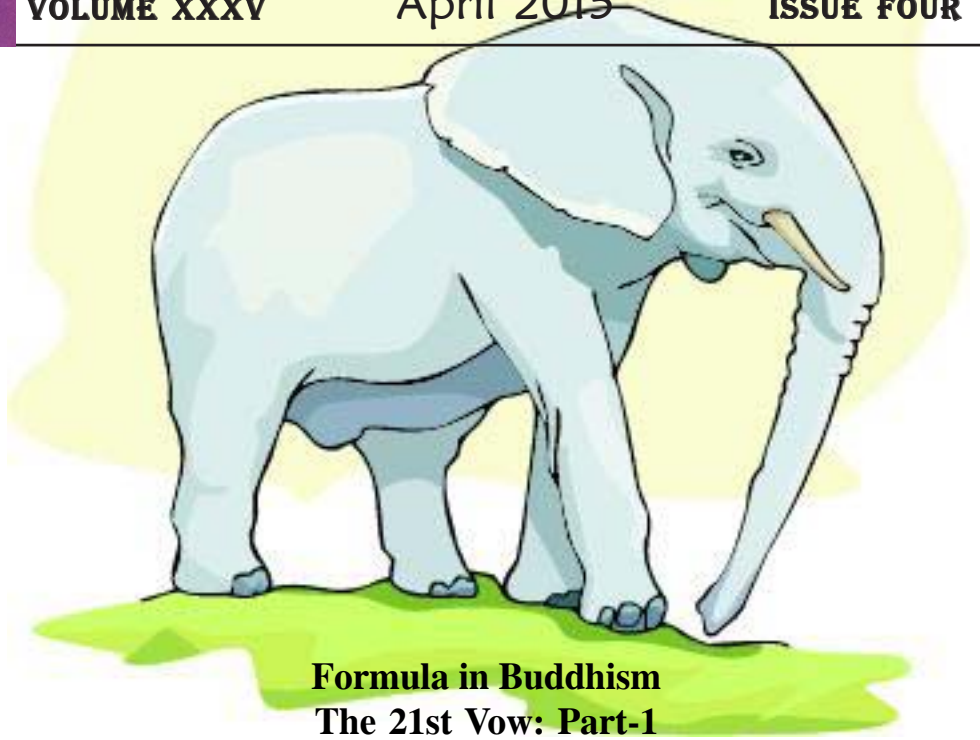
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April 2015

ISSUE FOUR

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Formula in Buddhism The 21st Vow: Part-1

The formula below consists of essential elements for learning the Teaching of Buddha:

1. To Learn Buddhism is to learn myself,
2. to learn myself is to learn Buddha's Compassion.
3. to learn Compassion is to forget myself,
4. and to forget myself is to throw me into Buddha's World.



The 21st Vow

"If, when I attain Buddhahood, the humans and devas in my land should not have the **32 major physical characteristics of a great person**, may I not attain the perfect enlightenment."

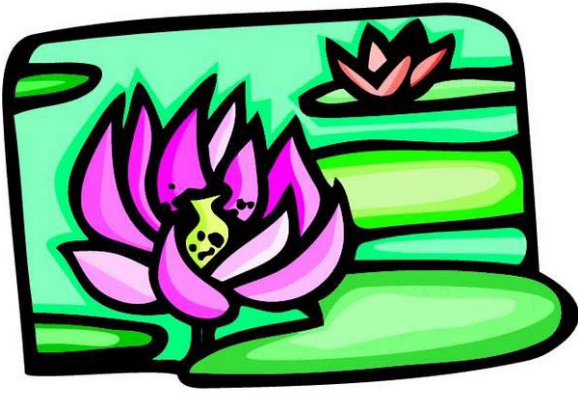
When Buddhism was first shared in India, it was not necessary to make any images of a physical Buddha. A lotus pedestal alone was good enough. But when Buddhism was introduced to different people in different cultures, people wanted to see the physical Buddha. So Buddhist priests started creating a picture or statue of Buddha. Then, the priests came to know that pictures and statues of Buddha worked very well to convey the Teachings of Buddha.

What are a Great person's 32 physical characteristics? Why does Amida have the special characteristics? Every characteristic is the result of virtues and practices by Dharma-Kara, the Bodhisattva before attaining Enlightenment. Here are the first five physical characteristics of a great person:

(continued on page 2)

April
Buddhist Holiday

Hanamatsuri
Birth of Buddha



The 21st Vow - Part 1

(continued from page 1)

1. The sole of the foot is flat.
This trait represents Compassion; the soles touch the ground equally, thus allowing Amida Buddha a stable stance. Dharma Kara completed every important practice and attained Wisdom by observing sentient beings equally. The ground we walk upon is not flat - like the quality of people, it usually has ups and downs, but Amida Buddha embraces all sentient beings equally.

2. The soles have a thousand light-ring-patterns.
Each light-ring on the sole symbolizes virtues Dharma-Kara completed such as caregiving of his parents, treating his master with respect, sharing the Dharma with people and traveling quickly to the 10 directions to conquer ignorance of all sentient beings with Compassion.

3. The 20 fingers of hands and toes are long, perfect shapes.
The long and beautiful fingers and toes symbolize Immeasurable Life. The beautiful shapes generate an atmosphere of respect and joy when the Bodhisattva bows to his masters with true mind. The shapes also show the results of his sincere practices such as no arrogance, no stealing, no killing. The trait also generate the mind that people entrust themselves to Dharma.

4. The heel is wide and flat.
These characteristics were gained from his practices of observance of rules, listening of Dharma, sharing of Dharma, and non-attachment. Wide and flat heels also indicate Immeasurable Life; necessary when leading people to the Dharma.

5. Amida has the golden webs between his fingers and toes just like frogs.
The webs come from the virtues of four important practices as a Bohisattva. These practice embrace sentient beings, generate the mind to come closer to Dharma, let people entrust themselves to Dharma, and lead the people to enlightenment. Briefly, the four practices are:

1. Practice to share materials and Dharma-Teaching.
2. Practice to give compassionate words to people.
3. Practice to give benefits and happiness to people.
4. Practice to join people and to solve their difficulties.

Why does Amida need webbed appendages? It is because people are drowning in the water of ignorance, attachment, blind passions such as love, hatred, anger, and greed. So Amida freely swims and saves people out of the painful water.

There are the 27 left. Please remember that each physical characteristic symbolizes the results of virtues and practice that Dharma Kara completed. In other words, Namo-Amida- Butsu contains the virtues that I can not gain out of any practice. These characteristics also tell me what I am and what Amida is. I will explain the rest of them in subsequent newsletter issues.

In Gassho,
Rev. Doei Fujii

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Newsletter articles are due by the 10th of each month for publication in the next month's issue.

For additional information, or to read the newsletter online, go to our website at www.tsdbt.org

“なも・あみだ・ぶつ” とはなにか？ 2/6.

「南無阿弥陀仏」とは何ぞや？ どうしてそれ一つでよろしいのか？ どうして他の修行が不要なのか？ ここで親鸞聖人の出番となりますが、聖人の言葉は短いですが深すぎるので私の平易な言葉で説明します。

聖人は法（ダルマ）について大体以下のように言う。法（ダルマ）というものは私達には見ることも知ることもできない。法には色も形もないが、その法は動き、かつ働く。その法の働き方はその人の器量に合わせて顕れ出ると示す。

例えば、水には本来色も形もない。ところが水は器の形に従ってその相（すがた）を顕す。丸い器に水を入れれば丸く成り、四角い器に入れれば四角くなるではないか。法は丁度水の如く、器量の優れている者には優れた法として顕れ、愚者には愚者が受け取れる相（すがた）として顕れる、と。では、人間の器量に合わせて法が顕れるというこは、具体的にはどういうことなのだろうか？

ミダ法はどのような人間を目当てとして顕れたのだろうか？ 丸い人間か、四角い人間か。その人間の器量・性質とは「両親を平気でなぶりものにして殺すような息子」を目当てにして顕れた。まあ、これ以上ないほどの極悪非道の人のことで、その息子の名を「アジャセ王」と言う。こんな悪党が出てきた。まさしく「浄土往生の行業を修するにふさわしい者が出てきた」のだと聖人は示す。だからこそお釈迦様はこの「アジャセ王」に向かってアミダ仏の教えを説いた。汚れきったアジャセの心に「浄土への法」を説いた。だが、なんとこの極悪人「アジャセ」は、他人様のことではなく、仏法を聞いてみれば実は私のこと。

この法の顕れ方とは、例えば、道端に倒れ苦しんでいる人をあなたが見たとしよう。あなたはその人を助けようと思う。だが、その人はどこが悪いのか。その人を担いでもいいものか、動かしてもいいものか、そのままにして救急車を呼ぶべきか。あなたのその人を助けたい心は働き、その人の症状に相応しい方法を見つける。父親をすでに殺し、次は母親に手を伸ばした息子、アジャセは、成した罪の重さで心身に異常をきたし倒れ、助けを求めている。そのアジャセに向かって釈迦仏は「浄土」を説いた。ミダ法はそうにしてアジャセに顕れ、かつ私の前に顕れ出た。アジャセの苦悩、アジャセの力量に合わせてミダ法が説かれた。

さて、そのミダ法とは具体的には何を示すのだろうか？ どんなものなのだろうか？ 結論から言えばそれは「南無阿弥陀仏」のことである。では、なぜ「南無阿弥陀仏」なのだろうか。なぜこれ一つで浄土の世界を体得できるのだろうか。他の行は不要だというのが、その理由は何なのだろうか。このことを如実に知るには、ミダ法の智慧・慈悲の働きから見て行くとはいきりする。ではその智慧・慈悲とはどのように具体的に私達に働くのだろうか。南無阿弥陀仏はどのように働くのだろうか。そのことについて大切なことが五つある。

合掌、
藤井道栄

Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples gratefully acknowledges donations and offerings received from February 1, 2015 February 28, 2015:

Nehan E service

Robin Burchardt
 Michiko Chikuma
 Mabel Googins
 Jim Holland
 Hiroko Hung
 Dorothy & Herb Inouye
 Kent & Jane Kano
 Manabu & Junko Kimura
 Ayako Kimura
 Kazuo Maruyama
 Frank Miyazawa
 Kiyoko Omoto
 Hank & Irene Shibao
 Sayoko Takata
 Michio & Hisae Taniwaki
 Unmarked envelope
 Fumiko Yamashita
 Richard & Michiko Yoshida

Temple Lighting Fund

2nd/3rd Grade Dharma Class
 Anonymous
 DBT Volleyball
 DBT YBA
 Eijiro & Michiko Fujii
 Ann Hyde
 Susan Inouye
 Francie Marfia
 Carol Moore
 Louise Nash
 Shirley Tsuchimoto
 Unmarked envelope

In memory of Steve Koga

Ken & June Tagawa; Endowment Fund donation
 Kirk Horiuchi & Stacey Umemoto Ospina
 Bill & Ann Murphy

In memory of Yoshio Matsuda

Kagiyama Families
 Michael Matsuda

Facilities Usage

Denver Aikikai/Denver Aikido
 Michie Sakai
 Kohaku Uta Gassen

Pet Hoji

Zak & Shannon Umetani in memory of Amu
 Richard & Michiko Yoshida in memory of Lulu & Taisho

Amanda Cook donation
 Donna Inouye funeral memorial; Steve Koga
 Michie Sakai funeral; Ron Sakai
 Preschool Dharma Class osaisen
 Castle View High School visitation
 Marie Nishimoto in memory of Shigeru Nishimoto – 1st yr
 Fumiko Yamashita in memory of Tadao Yamashita – 7th yr

Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples' membership offers wedding congratulations to:

*Casey Imada Acosta & Vy Bui
 January 21, 2015*

Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples' membership offers condolences to the family and friends of:

*Joanne Knight
 April 15, 1949 - February 15, 2015*

*Herbert Inouye
 November 14, 1928 - March 3, 2015*

*Carrie Horiuchi
 January 23, 1918 - March 12, 2015*



BWA News

by Lesli Hirokawa

Please give a warm welcome to our newest members to BWA from the Longmont Buddhist Temple! They are:

Nancy Edmonds
Ethel Shimoda
Jeanne Goffredo
Rose Takamoto
Meredith Hutmacher
Jackie Tono
Jane Kanemoto

We have been very busy as a group since the 2015 New Year started. Unfortunately, it is not the way we wanted to start it. Stacey or I will let you know when we reschedule the Sushi 101 and the Japanese Cooking classes. It would probably be after Hanamatsuri.

For the past several months, Mrs. Elaine Tsumura and Mrs. Lillian Miyazawa have been heading up a group of ladies working on a quilt for the Temple's 100 Year Anniversary. They have been working hard on the quilting blocks but learning a lot on how to put a quilt together. I'm not going to tell you what design is on it. SURPRISE!

JACGP 60TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

By Gary Yamashita

The **Japanese American Community Graduation Program** is proud to announce it will celebrate its 60th Anniversary this year with the awards banquet scheduled for June 13, 2015 at the Arvada Center. Please show your support by attending this annual community event that has provided hundreds of thousands of dollars of scholarships over the years to graduating seniors in our community.

We are very excited to have as this year's keynote speaker, Traci Akemi Kato-Kiriyama, a poet, writer, actress and community activist from the Los Angeles area. Traci is a vibrant and engaging speaker who will challenge all of us to pursue our passion and identity. Mark your calendars now for this event. Let's have a big turnout from our community showing support for this worthwhile program that has benefited so many of our students throughout the years. Many of the current JACGP committee volunteers are former recipients of these scholarship awards.



SAKURA SQUARE

Sakura Square Update

By Gary Yamashita

There have been many exciting changes at Sakura Square in recent months. The ownership and operations entity for Sakura Square has transferred from the Tri-State Buddhist Church Apartments, Inc. to **Sakura Square LLC**. This is not a formal sale or change of actual ownership of Sakura Square, but represents a shift in ownership structure. Sakura Square continues to be managed by Gary Yamashita as the CEO of Sakura Square LLC. The rest of the Sakura Square LLC staff includes Stacey Shigaya as the Executive Coordinator and recently hired Nozomu Tim Higashide as the Business Operations Manager. Charles Ozaki is the Chairman of the Sakura Square LLC Board of Managers. Sakura Square Management Corporation which previously was in charge of managing Sakura Square has been dissolved and no longer exists.

The Tri-State Buddhist Church Apartments, Inc. which was a 501(c)(3) entity, has changed its name to the **Sakura Foundation** and maintains its charitable non-profit status and mission. Its new mission statement is; *"To sustain the Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple and celebrate Japanese-American heritage, culture and community"*. Joe Ozaki is the President of the Sakura Foundation Board of Trustees. The Sakura Foundation already has plans this year for scholarships and grants to the Temple and the Japanese-American community. These changes represent a unique opportunity for Sakura Square to now reinvest resources back into the property and provide support to the Temple and community.

Please take a moment to look at the new Sakura Square website, SAKURASQUARE.COM, which outlines these changes and the organizational structure in more detail. The events calendar is a great source for information about upcoming community activities. We also encourage you to "like" us on Facebook by searching "Sakura Square LLC."

April Shotsuki Names

(Sangha members who have passed away in the month of April)

SEE: page 7

Min Abe	Genkichi Koishi	Martha Masako Cox Ozaki
Lily Akahoshi	Ito Kojima	Motoichi Joe Ozaki
Mitsuno Aoki	Torayo Konishi	Cheryl Jane Parisi
Naru Arai	Wai Konishi	Hisano Sakaguchi
Rupert Arai	Haruko Koshio	Hiroshi Sakurai
Noboru Ashida	Koma Kuge	Paul Toru Sakurai
Chih-Yuan Chia	Keiji Kusumi	Chohachiro Sameshima
Chizu Chikuma	Kiyo Kuwada	Inokichi Sasaki
Winbourne Enomoto	Eshin Mabe	Sam Isamu Sasaki
Umeno Eto	Seiri Mameda	Yogo Fred Sasamoto
Todd Kana Fujimoto	Fumiko Mamiya	Setsu Sato
George Hichizo Fujinami	Kenji Matsuda	George Kazuwo Shibata
Sano Fujino	Tetsuko Matsunaka	Kinhichi Shigemura
Chiyeno Fujita	George Hiroshi Matsushima	Cissy Tatsuko Shigetomi
James Fukuhara	Johnny Yoshikuni Mayeda	Masao Shimada
Misayo Fukuhara	Kantaro Mayeda	Amy Shimamoto
Tetsuo Fukui	Kimiyo Mayeda	Yoshio Shuto
Genhichi Funakoshi	Naka Migaki	Kenzo Soma
Kazumi Furuta	Tamie Miyamoto	Caroline Misako Tagawa
Kume Furuta	Toyo Mizushima	Eiko Tagawa
Josuke George Hada	Mary Hatsune Momii	Eijiro Charles Takahashi
Denjiro Hiraiwa	Takeo Momii	Yataro Takahashi
Kanichi Hiraki	Fujie Moore	Natsuye Takamori
Moriichi Hirokawa	Masakatsu Morikawa	Chiyono Takeshita
Jojiro Honda	Kiyoshi Morimitsu	Frank Morito Takeshita
Gonroku Hongo	Hisao Morishige	Kumaichi Frank Tanabe
Sakiye Horiuchi	Chizuko Mura	Isao Tanaka
Shizuko Shirley Horiuchi	Masao Mura	Tsuyo Tanaka
Take Hoshijima	Frank Masaki Murakami	Saburo Ray Tani
Matsuye Ihara	Jimmie Tamotsu Muroya	Jiro Tanigawa
Sumie Imatani	Tatsuma Nagai	Satoko Taniguchi
Yukino Imatani	Tsutomu Roy Nagata	Jane Tsurue Tashiro
Joan Ella Grime Inouye	Jeannette Nakagawa	Kimiko Tatsumoto
Michita Inouye	Patricia Nakamoto	Sadako Tochihara
Rin Inouye	Kaneo Nakamura	Aiko Mary Tomita
Yoshie Inouye	Kinjiro Nakamura	Kei Tsukamoto
Yonejiro Inouye	Seishiro Nakamura	Frank Nagayuki Urano
Seitaro Ioka	Tatsuzo Nakamura	Henry Urano
Saichi Iritani	Toki Nakamura	Yusaku Uyeda
Minoru Jackson Ishida	Toshiko Nakashima	Margaret Uyemura
Frank Ishiguro	Chiyo Nakayama	Masao Joe Uyemura
Fumiko Ito	Mieko Elaine Newhouse	Yai Uyeno
Michiko Iwahashi	Toyo Nobuta	Torakichi Watanabe
Shigeko Iwasaki	Yoneko Nobuta	Carol Yago
Kiyoshi Roy Kagiya	Yoshi Ogata	Sono Yamada
Mary Kajiwara	Darryl Ohye	Rikizo Yamaguchi
Goroku Kanemoto	Eddie Shigeru Okada	Teruaki Yamamoto
Murano Katayama	Terujiro Okazaki	Sumi Yamaoka
Minoru Lawrence Kato	Kumataro Okubo	Jody Lynn Yamasaki
Shigeko Kawaguchi	Toyoko Okumura	Betty Shizuko Yanari
Donald Masao Kawano	Tsugi Okuno	Florence Hatsuko Yanaru
Yutaka Kawano	Tsuru Okuno	Keni Frank Yokooji
Yutaka Kawata	Aiko Omiya	May Yokooji
Tsutomu Kaya	Lorelei Mayumi Omoto	Yone Yokooji
Haruko Kimura	Kamekichi Ono	Chitoshi Toshi Yoshida
Tsurue Kimura	Yae Osaki	Keiichi Roy Yoshida
Mitsue Kinoshita	Kameo Otsuka	Lisa Eiko Yoshida-Henn
Betty Naoye Kitashima	Marge Otsuka	Kumiko Kate Yoshihara
Eto Kitashima	Tsunetaro Otsuki	Naoji Yoshikawa
Tokujiro Kitashima		

Religious Services

FRI	Apr 3	5 pm Hoji
SUN	Apr 5	Hanamatsuri 9:30 am Family/Adult combined service
MON	Apr 6	1 pm Sedgwick 5 pm Scottsbluff
FRI	Apr 10	11 am Shinran's Day service (F)
SUN	Apr 12	9:30 am Dharma Family service(F) 10:15 am Adult service(F) 9:00 am Brighton service(T) 11 am Ft. Lupton service(T)
SAT	Apr 18	12 noon Greeley Hanamatsuri (T) 4 pm Hoji - offsite
SUN	Apr 19	8:30 am Nihongo service (F) 9:30 am Dharma Family service 10:15 am Adult service
SUN	Apr 26	9:30 am Dharma Family service(T) 10:15 Adult service w/ April Shotsuki(T)

Special Events

SAT	Apr 4	8 am - 5 pm Aikido Tournament
SUN	Apr 5	11 am Hanamatsuri luncheon 12:30 Hanamatsuri program
SAT	Apr 11	KeiroKai by YBA
SAT	Apr 25	10 am BWA Cooking Class
SUN	Apr 26	11 am Judo/Aikido Tatami Dedication

Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service

Every 4th Sunday of each month

The Shotsuki Service is a general memorial service held on a monthly basis for members and friends of the temple who have passed away during the month of service. For instance, if a member passes away in March (of any year), then his/her passing would be observed by surviving Sangha family and friends every succeeding March.

Although there are major memorial (hoji) services set at specific time intervals such as 49th Day, 1st Year, 3rd Year, 7th, 13th, 17th, 25th, 33rd and 50th years, the temple will now also provide families with monthly memorial (shotsuki) services; these will be held in conjunction with regularly scheduled Sunday services. At each Shotsuki service, family members will have the opportunity to pay respect and gratitude to loved ones who have passed away in that particular month.

Donation by affected family members: \$50/observance.
In Gassho,

Meetings & Classes

SAT	Apr 4	9 am 100 YR committee mtg 9 am Ikebana class making corsages 9 am Time w/Fujii Sensei
TUES	April 7	7 pm Humu Humu Ukulele class
WEDS	Apr 8	7 pm JACGP meeting
THURS	Apr 9	7 pm Dharma Discussion (T)
SAT	Apr 11	9 am Time w/Fujii Sensei
SUN	Apr 12	11 am MAP/discussion with Fujii
SAT	Apr 18	9 am Jodo Shinshu discussion w/Fujii
SUN	Apr 19	11 am TSDBT Board Annual General Meeting
THURS	Apr 23	7 pm Dharma Discussion (T)
THURS	Apr 30	7 pm Dharma Discussion (T)

Gym Schedule

SUNDAY	11:30 am Karate
MONDAY	6 - 7:30 pm Aikido 6:30 - 8 pm Judo
TUESDAY	7 pm Volleyball
WEDNESDAY	7:30 pm Basketball
THURSDAY	6 - 7:30 pm Aikido 6:30 - 8 pm Judo
FRIDAY	6 - 7:30 pm Family Aikido Judo (every other week)

May 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 BWA World Conference Dharma School Picnic					1 11:30 am HS visitation	2 9 am Time w/Fujii Sensei
3 8:30 Nihongo service (F) 9:30 DS Service(F) 10:15 Adult Service(F) 1 pm Sedgwick (T)	4 (R)	5 (R)	6 (R)	7	8 (R) 11 am Shinran's Day service	9 (R) 9 am Time w/Fujii Sensei
10 (R) 9:30 Dharma School service(T) 10:15 Adult service(F) 9 am Brighton 11 am Ft. Lupton	11 <i>articles due for June newsletter</i>	12 7 pm Humu Humu Uke	13 7 pm JACGP mtg	14	15	16 9 am Time w/Fujii Sensei 1 pm Greeley (T)
17 Gotan E w/Hatsumairi 8:30 Nihongo service 9:30 Dharma School service(F) 10:15 Adult service (T) 11 am TSDBT Board mtg Colfax Marathon	18 (R)	19 (R)	20 (R)	21 (R)	22 (R)	23 (R) 11 am Funeral/Memorial
24 (R) NO DBT services 9 am Crown Hill 11 am Lafayette	Monday, May 25th 10 am Brighton 9:30 am Olinger 11 am Ft. Lupton 11 am Riverside 12 noon Platteville 9:30 am Fairmont families 11 am Fairmont; NVHF service		27 7 pm JACGP mtg	28	29	30 BWA World Conference

April 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
					5 pm Hoji - 49 day	8 am - 5 pm Aikido Tournament 9 am Time w/Fujii Sensei 9 am Ikebana - corsages 9 am 100 YR Mtg
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 (R)
8:30 Nihongo service (F) 9:30 Hanamatsuri service 11 am Hanamatsuri lunch 12:30 Hanamatsuri program	1 pm Sedgwick (F) 5 pm Scottsbluff (F)	9 am high school visit 7 pm Humu Humu Uke	7 pm JACGP meeting	7 pm Dharma Discussion (T) <i>articles due for May newsletter</i>	11 am Shinran's Day Service (F) 3 pm WY high school visitors	9 am Time w/Fujii Sensei 11 am KeiRoKai (YBA)
12 (R)	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30 Dharma School service(F) 10:15 Adult Service(F) 11 am MAP/discussion (F)		WeHoPe Conference (T)	WeHoPe Conference (T)			9 am Time w/Rev Fujii 12 noon Greeley Hanamatsuri (T) 4 pm Hoji - offsite
19	20 (R)	21 (R)	22 (R)	23 (R)	24 (R)	25 (R)
8:30 am Nihongo service(F) 9:30 Dharma School service 10:15 Adult service 11 am TSDBT Board Annual General Mtg						FDSTL Conference in Los Angeles, CA (F) 10 am BWA Cooking class
26 (R)	27	28	29	30		
9:30 Dharma Family service(T) 10:15 Adult service w/ April Shotsuki (T) SEE: page 7 11 am Judo/Aikido Tatami Dedication			9 am high school visit 10:15 Middle School visit	7 pm Dharma Discussion (T)		
				7 pm Dharma Discussion (T)		

Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples
1947 Lawrence Street
Denver, CO 80202

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Discussions With Diana Sensei

Thursday, April 9th at 7 pm
Thursday, April 23rd at 7 pm
Thursday, April 30th at 7 pm

MAP & Discussions With Rev. Fujii

Saturday, April 4th at 9 am
Saturday, April 11th at 9 am
Sunday, April 12th at 11 am
Saturday, April 18th at 9 am

Dates and times are subject to change. Signing up or contacting us ahead of time is highly recommended if you wish to park in the Sakura Square lot and also so that we may keep you informed of changes or cancellations.

Contact: Sensei Diana Thompson
(303)295-1844
dthompson@tsdbt.org



Arigato Gozaimasu

Thank you to following people who prepared last month's newsletter for mailing: Dora Shibata, Judy Smith, Kay Takahashi, Joyce Mizunaga, Richard Yoshida and Alley & Yoshimi Watada.

Thank you to Kaitlyn Mascher-Mace who organized and solicited funds for the Temple Lighting project. You are a great model for perseverance.

Thank you to Kevin Kutsuma, Kyle Inouye and Alan Bungo for servicing the sound system in the Hondo so that service participants (speakers and listeners) can hear and enjoy.

Thank you to BWA and affiliated organization members; your services have been in unusually high demand (due to the unusual number of funeral services). Thank you for your immediate and "easy" response; you are a great model for compassion.