



Temple Reflections

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A TSDBT Monthly Publication

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April 2018

Special Event of interest

- Sunday, April 8th
- Hanamatsuri

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Ju-Sei-Ge Summary of 48Vows

The 3rd verse in JuSeiGe is translated to English as follows:

**When I attain Buddhahood,
My Name shall be heard throughout
the 10 directions,
Should there be any place where it is
not heard,
May I not attain perfect Enlightenment.**

OR, My Name (All-In-One Practice) is heard anywhere and anytime by anybody. If not, I will not attain perfect Enlightenment.

Just about 30 years ago I visited one of my former professors in Kyoto. After exchanging greetings, he said, "I thought you were working in Tokyo, but I heard you became a Buddhist priest, moreover you became a Hongwanji minister - - I recently heard an interesting story related to *Jodo-shinshu*. Is it ok with you if I talk about it?" Of course I wanted to hear his story and so prompted him to continue.

The professor began, "Mr. Fujii, do you remember the chief of Student Affairs Section? Did you know that he was a graduate from Tokyo University (like Harvard or Yale University)?" I replied, "No, sir. I sometimes saw him selecting Buddhist books at secondhand bookstores in downtown Kyoto. So I thought he was a temple minister."

The professor continued:

"Recently, this chief of Student Affairs joined in a class reunion of Tokyo University in Kyoto. The reunion started with introduction of each participant. Everyone was a person who gained power, fame, position, and wealth. Then, this chief of Student Affairs introduced himself, "I am working for a private college and I am a chief of the section."

"Some of participants made strange faces. But the party began and they ate, drank, and talked. Then one of the attendees who

made strange face during the self-introduction asked him, "You said that you were working as a head of student affairs section. You are the graduate of Tokyo University. Probably, you could get a better job, but do you have any reason? Why did you settle for a job that is not related to power, fame, position, and promotion?"

"The Chief explained his choice of career which began with his experience during World War II when he was a student. He was drafted and sent to China. One day Chinese army attacked his unit, and cannonballs fell down like rain. Instantly, he jumped in a small foxhole nearby, fearing he was about to be killed.

He did not remember how long he was in there, but he recognized it became quiet outside. Fortunately, he survived the attack. Strangely enough, however, he found himself unconsciously reciting *Namo-Amida-Butsu*. But he was not interested in any religion, and he was not a Buddhist. He was never taught the *Nembutsu*. So why and how could he be reciting it in the foxhole?

"When he returned alive to Japan, he saw cities and towns were burned down all over. He also saw people wandering around without hope. So he thought he would work some how for the reconstruction of Japan.

"When he recounted his war-experience to his home town friends, including the unconscious recitation of *Namo-Amida-Butsu*, one villager came to him and said, "You unconsciously recited *Nembutsu*. Shinran clarified what *Nembutsu* is all about. Hongwanji is Shinran's Temple.

(continued on page 10)

Monthly Salutations from Rev. Diana Thompson

Hello everyone, welcome to April! This month we are observing Hanamatsuri which is the celebration of the birthdate of the historical Buddha. I believe that most of us know the story of Buddha's birth by heart, or at least the major points in the story; queen Maya's dream of the white elephant entering her side, the prediction that this dream meant that she was pregnant with a great leader/teacher, Buddha's miraculous birth in Lumbini Garden, his seven steps and pronouncement that he was the World Honored One and the sweet rain that fell from the sky. Each element of this story is meant to point to the future greatness of this baby, but for our purposes here, I would like to focus on one; namely, the seven steps that the baby took.



Ancient Buddhist tradition says that there are six realms of existence: the realms of divine beings, demi-gods (or fighting gods), humans, animals, hungry ghosts and hell beings. These are not permanent realms of existence and all are considered to be unfortunate to a degree because being born in them means that one is still subject to death and rebirth. Of all of these realms, the human realm is considered to be the best realm to be born into because it is the only realm in which the Dharma can be heard and understood fully. The Buddha was, of course, born into the human realm, but when he took that seventh step after his birth, it symbolized his eventual enlightenment which would take him one step beyond existence. It meant that he would no longer return in the vast cycle of birth-and-death.

The story also relates that with each step he took, a lotus flower bloomed under his feet. The lotus is an important symbol in Buddhist tradition because it symbolizes humanity. This flower begins its life in muck but is eventually able to reach to the top of its scummy pond to bloom, perfect and pristine, on the surface of the water. The Buddha's first steps on these flowers were also foreshadowing his eventual enlightenment but we, too, despite being surrounded by muck and mire, also have the potential to come out perfect and pristine. In other words, we have the potential for great enlightenment.

So this year, as you hear the story of Buddha's birth, think about those seven steps. Like the Buddha, we can begin to move past the six realms of existence. We can be mindful of our arrogance and anger (gods and demi-gods) as well as our greed and ignorance (animals, hungry ghosts, hell

beings) and try to ensure that they do not overwhelm us. We can consider our own human selves, remembering that the above five realms are part of these selves, but not the only part. We can also think on those blooming lotuses and remember, with great gratitude, that not only were we lucky enough to have been born in this realm where the Dharma is available to us but also that through the Dharma, we can navigate those realms, take that seventh step, and come out perfect and pristine.

Namo Amida Butsu

ノーベル賞よりはるかにすごいもの

「ノーベル賞」という言葉を耳にするといつも思うことがある。それはアミダさんについてのこと。経典には「なもあみだぶつ」ができあがるのに5劫（こう）も時間がかかったとされるされている。この「劫（こう）」とはインドでの時間の単位なのだが、ヒンズー教ではその長さを「43億2千万年」としている。はたして誰がどのように数えてのかは知らないが、まあ、そういう事になっている。

ノーベル賞は毎年発表されるが、その研究の成果がでるまでには数十年もかかっている。見方を変えれば人類は500万年近くの歴史をもつから、一つの新しい大発見、例えば物理学ならば、その成果にいたるまでに人類は500万年もかかっていることになる。では5劫だから、43億2千万年 x 5（劫） = 216億年。地球ができたのが約45億年前。まあ、仏教にはやたらと大きな数字がでてくる。

では、なぜ「なもあみだぶつ」ができるまでに5劫という長い時間がかかったのだろうか。経典にはその経緯がかいてある。話を短くすると、さとり慈悲は全ての衆生（しゅじょう）を平等にすくうために、智慧の眼で人々の質をつぶさにみると優秀な者より愚鈍（ぐどん）な者の方がはるかに多いことが分かった。この愚鈍な者たちを除くわけにはゆかない。いやむしろすべての愚鈍な者こそに智慧・慈悲が注がれねばならない。では、そのような大多数の愚鈍な者をどのようにして救えばよいのか。このことに行き着くまで5劫もかかったと記されている。

愚鈍な者をすべて平等に救うには次の三つの条件が満たされねばならない。一つには、誰でも平等に救うこと。簡単に聞こえるが意味するところは「その人の持ち物の一切を救いの条件としないこと」である。男女・老若・人種・器量・善悪・仏教徒か否か、などの一切の持ち物を救いの条件としないこと。二つには、「いつでも」ということ。若い時も・苦しい時も・元気な時も・死にかかっている時も・朝も昼も夜も、とにかく「いつでも」救われねばならないということ。三つには、「どこでも」ということ。お寺であろうが・自宅であろうが・トイレであろうが・山の中であろうが、死の床であろうが、とにかく「どこにいても」救われねばならない。

その救われる方法を「行（ぎょう）」という。修行のこと。「だれでも」「どこでも」「いつでも」救える行とは何か。すべての人々が救われる行とは何か。大きな働きは全ての人々を救うために自分の名前（アミダ）を行にした。つまりは、自分の名前を称えさせることを行にし、名前をもって衆生を救うことにした。この行ならば「誰でも」「いつでも」「どこでも」衆生を救うことができる。名前を称えさせて大きな法（ダルマ）の中に迎えとるとは、何ともノーベル賞よりもはるかにすごい大発見ではないか。

合掌、

藤井道栄



Greetings from Dharma School!

by Sara Robinson, Co-Superintendent

Dharma Discussion With Rev. Thompson

April 3rd, 10th & 24th
Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m.

Discussion preceded by a
short service

You are invited to join in
dharma discussions that
cover such topics as Amida
Buddha and the PureLand,
basic temple etiquette,
onajin objects and other
concepts related to Jodo
Shinshu Buddhism. Bring
your own questions and
thoughts to keep the dis-
cussions lively and relevant.

Contact:
Diana Thompson Sensei at
303.295.1844 OR
dthompson@tsdbt.org

*Dates and times are subject to
change. Contacting Diana Sensei
ahead of time is highly recom-
mended.*

Hello Dharma School Families!

Hanamatsuri is April 8th! We hope you
are all as excited as we are. We're en-
couraging everyone to dress up and
celebrate this wonderful occasion with
our sangha.

We'd like to thank all teachers and stu-
dents for working so hard to make sure
their performances are outstanding.
Sangha audience - be ready for some
major cuteness from Preschool!

Here are the suggested assignments
for the Hanamatsuri Potluck (based
upon first initial of last name):

- A-H - Main Dish
- I-R - Side Dish or Appetizer
- S-Z - Dessert or sweets



Look for Hatsumairi (infant/toddler introduc-
tion) information next month!! Turn in regis-
tration right away!

Bake sale for April is as follows:

April 1st: 4/5th

April 8th: Hanamatsuri Potluck

April 15th: Dancers

April 22nd: YBA

April 29th: Jr. YBA

Please make sure you're attending your
Dharma School classes and participating
in all the great activities the teachers are
planning. Our sangha is stronger when
your Dharma School students are pre-
sent.

Also, as the Dharma School year begins
to wind down, please make sure you've
registered and paid dues for the 2017/18
year.

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

Lillian Sato

December 14, 1928-February 18, 2018

Alice Hara

November 13, 1926 - March 4, 2018

Lisa Kimiko Campbell

December 25, 1973 - March 13, 2018

Okagesama de

Thank you to Shirley and Rod who double-handedly folded and sealed last month's newsletter in an intense four-hour session, which would have been a less-than-two-hour session with our regular crew. I really, really, really appreciate Shirley and Rod; together we really really really appreciate our fellow, monthly folders!

Do you realize that when we greet the beginning of April, not only do we open to April Fool's Day but we have also completed the first quarter of 2018? How did that happen and what got accomplished? Hopefully, you were able to attend last month's Annual General Meeting to participate and witness the passing of a new set of Temple By-Laws.

We also welcomed new term (2018-2020) Board of Directors: Wayne Berve, Jay Charness, Jon Campbell, Chad Nitta, John Nitta, Joni Sakaguchi, Randy Sasaki and Zak Umetani. Please take a moment to congratulate and thank these Temple volunteers for all their efforts.

Thank you to Jerry – Sakura Square Management employee. Early morning downtown arrivals will find him sweeping the block sidewalks, including those that surround the Temple. He also shovels snow and ice in the winter and washes our courtyard deck in fair weather. And, if you are fortunate enough to "catch him in the act" and offer your gratitude, he will always respond with a sincere smile. A great way to begin any day.

Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples gratefully acknowledges donations and offerings received from February 1, 2018—February 28, 2018:

HoOnko Service

Kiyoko Omoto
Hank & Irene Shibao
Hisae Taniwaki
Fumiko Yamashita

Nehan E Service

Shizue Asano
Robin Burchardt
Michiko Chikuma
Miyuki Mabel Googins
Ken & Amy Inouye
Jack & Alice Kimura
Ayako Kimura
Frank Miyazawa
Hisae Taniwaki
Elaine & Ted Tsumura
Fumiko Yamashita
Richard & Michiko Yoshida

Pet Hoji Service

Armijo Family
Richard & Michiko Yoshida

Donation

Anonymous
Hiroko Dennis

Facilities Usage

DBT Minyou Kai
DBT Craft Class

Osaisen

Armijo Family
Yoko Mooney
Kumiko Ohtake
Preschool Dharma Class
unmarked envelope

January Shotsuki donation
Mia Tsuchimoto

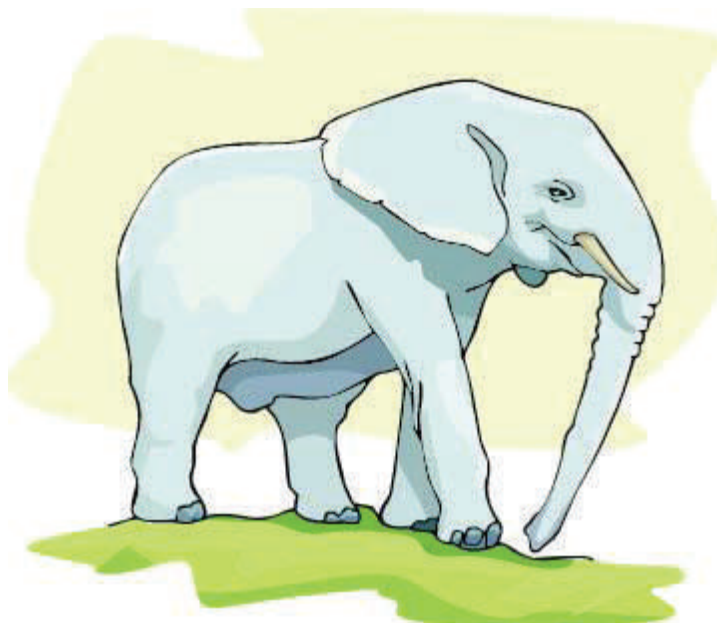
February Shotsuki donation
Janet Fujita
Phil & Lillian Miyazawa
Elaine & Ted Tsumura
Lenard Nobuta
Katherine Sakurai
Randy & Helen Sakurai
Frances Furukawa
Ray & Carole Sierchio
Eiji & Fumiko Horiuchi
Mutsu Osaki
Frank Miyazawa
Kathy Kuge
Families of Tosh&Mary Tawara
Mabel Googins
Betty Inamasu
.....
Fumiko Yamashita
Ida Sasaki

Donations by
Mark Kunugi
June Matsuda
Kuge Family
Hisae Taniwaki
Yoshiko Sameshima
Yasumura Family
Kathleen Watada
Lily Uyeda

in memory of
Scott Kim

in memory of
Gregory James Fujita
Harry Yanari
Harry Yanari
Hatsuyo Miyamoto
Ito Sakurai
Ito Sakurai
Janette Furukawa
Joanne Knight & Robert Knight
Keiji Horiuchi & Kunio Osaki
Kunio Osaki
M. Kasa
Masaye Kuge
Mitsuzo Aigaki
Roy Nishimura & Jim Arita
Suteji Ito, Taichiro Omaye
Tom & Alice Terada
Tom Yamashita
Yukiye Hirokawa

for
funeral; Jean Kunugi
funeral; Jean Matsuda
Masaye Kuge – 13th yr
Michio Taniwaki – 100th day
Takako Hatanaka – 1st yr
Tomoe Yasumura
Toshiaki Inouye – 25th yr
Yoshio Kataoka – 33rd yr



Building a Legacy for the Future: The Redevelopment of the Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple and Sakura Square

FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple and Sakura Square will undergo redevelopment to ensure a vibrant future.
- The path toward redevelopment has been over seven years in the making involving thoughtful discussion and careful planning.
- Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple and Sakura Square physical structures have served the community well. However, after more than 40 years, these structures face costly maintenance challenges that cannot be sustained on a long-term basis.
- Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple, Sakura Square commercial property, residential facilities and parking structure will all be included in the redevelopment process.
- It is very likely that a new temple will be built as part of the redevelopment.
- To ensure a successful outcome, Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple and Sakura Square LLC have worked together as a team and will continue to do so throughout the redevelopment process.
- As owners of the property, Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple and Sakura Square LLC have selected Nichols Partnership/Olympia Investments LLC as a redevelopment partner.
- The cultural legacy, religious offerings, and contributions of those who envisioned and initially created the Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple and Sakura Square will be honored and preserved.
- The redeveloped block will continue to serve the community and celebrate our heritage, culture and community.
- The results of the Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple and Sakura Square redevelopment project will enable future generations to sustain themselves and thrive in growing downtown Denver.

Note from the Editor: This list of bullet-points was submitted by Sakura Square LLC as part of their efforts to keep the Community informed and involved.

April Shotsuki Names

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

Min Abe
Lily Akahoshi
Mitsuno Aoki
Naru Arai
Rupert Arai
Noboru Ashida
Chih-Yuan Chia
Chizu Chikuma
Martha Masako Cox Ozaki
Winbourne Enomoto
Umeno Eto
Todd Kana Fujimoto
George Hichizo Fujinami
Sano Fujino
Chiyo Fujita
James Fukuhara
Misayo Fukuhara
Tetsuo Fukui
Genhichi Funakoshi
Kazume Furuta
Kume Furuta
Josuke George Hada
Denjiro Hiraiwa
Kanichi Hiraki
Noriichi Hirokawa
Jojiro Honda
Gonroku Hongo
Sakiye Horiuchi
Shizuko Shirley Horiuchi
Take Hoshijima
Matsuye Ihara
Sumie Imatani
Yukino Imatani
Joan Ella Grime Inouye
Michita Inouye
Rin Inouye
Yoshie Inouye
Yonejiro Inouye
Seitaro Ioka
Saichi Iritani
Minoru Jackson Ishida
Frank Ishiguro
Fumiko Ito
Michiko Iwahashi
Shigeiko Iwasaki
Kiyoshi Roy Kagiya
Mary Kajiwara
Goroku Kanemoto
Murano Katayama
Minoru Lawrence Kato
Shigeiko Kawaguchi
Donald Masao Kawano
Yutaka Kawano
Yutaka Kawata
Tsutomu Kaya
Haruko Kimura
Tsurue Kimura
Mitsue Kinoshita
Betty Naoye Kitashima
Eto Kitashima
Tokujiro Kitashima

Grace Kazuko Kiyotake
Genkichi Koishi
Ito Kojima
Torayo Konishi
Wai Konishi
Haruko Koshio
Koma Kuge
Keiji Kusumi
Kiyo Kuwada
Eshin Mabe
Seiri Mameda
Fumiko Mamiya
Kenji Matsuda
Tetsuko Matsunaka
Tamaki Matsuo
George Hiroshi Matsushima
Johnny Yoshikuni Mayeda
Kantaro Mayeda
Kimiyo Mayeda
Naka Migaki
Tamie Miyamoto
Toyo Mizushima
Mary Hatsune Momii
Takeno Momii
Tom Kaoru Momoi
Fujie Moore
Masakatsu Morikawa
Kiyoshi Morimitsu
Hisao Morishige
Chizuko Mura
Masao Mura
Frank Masaki Murakami
Jimmie Tamotsu Muroya
Tatsuma Nagai
Tsutomu Roy Nagata
Jeannette Nakagawa
Patricia Nakamoto
Kaneo Nakamura
Kinjiro Nakamura
Seishiro Nakamura
Tatsuzo Nakamura
Toki Nakamura
Toshiko Nakashima
Chiyo Nakayama
Mieko Elaine Newhouse
Toyo Nobuta
Yoneko Nobuta
Yoshi Ogata
Darryl Ohye
Eddie Shigeru Okada
Terujiro Okazaki
Kumataro Okubo
Toyoko Okumura
Tsugi Okuno
Tsuru Okuno
Aiko Omiya
Lorilei Mayumi Omoto
Kamekichi Ono
Yae Osaki
Kameo Otsuka
Marge Otsuka

Tsunetaro Otsuki
Motoichi Joe Ozaki
Cheryl Jane Parisi
Hisano Sakaguchi
Hiroshi Sakurai
Paul Toru Sakurai
Chohachiro Sameshima
Inokichi Sasaki
Sam Isamu Sasaki
Yogo Fred Sasamoto
Setsu Sato
George Kazuwo Shibata
Kinhichi Shigemura
Cissy Tatsuko Shigetomi
Masao Shimada
Amy Shimamoto
Yoshio Shuto
Kenzo Soma
Caroline Misako Tagawa
Eiko Tagawa
Eijiro Charles Takahashi
Yataro Takahashi
Natsuye Takamori
Chiyono Takeshita
Frank Morito Takeshita
Kumaichi Frank Tanabe
Isao Tanaka
Tsuyo Tanaka
Saburo Ray Tani
Jiro Tanigawa
Satoko Taniguchi
Jane Tsurue Tashiro
Kimiko Tatsumoto
Sadako Tochiwara
Aiko Mary Tomita
Kei Tsukamoto
Frank Nagayuki Urano
Henry Urano
Yusaku Uyeda
Margaret Uyemura
Masao Joe Uyemura
Yai Uyeno
Torakichi Watanabe
Carol Yago
Sono Yamada
Rikizo Yamaguchi
Teruaki Yamamoto
Sumi Yamaoka
Jody Lynn Yamasaki
Betty Shizuko Yanari
Florence Hatsuko Yanaru
Keni Frank Yokooji
May Yokooji
Yone Yokooji
Chitoshi Yoshida
Keiichi Roy Yoshida
Lisa Eiko Yoshida-Henn
Kumiko Kate Yoshihara
Naoji Yoshikawa

Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service

April 29, 2018

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. 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 provides families with monthly memorial Shotsuki services held in conjunction with regularly scheduled Sunday services, so 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 is appreciated: \$50/observance.
In Gassho

April 2018

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

<p>1 9:30 am Family service 10:15 am Adult service 11:30 Humu Humu</p> <p style="background-color: #ff00ff; text-align: center;">Rev.Fujii in CA</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 11:30 am Dharma S&D - T</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 R</p>	<p>7 R 7:30 am—3:30 pm Aikido Tournament 1 pm Sedgwick w/Hoji F</p>
<p>8 R Hanamatsuri F/T 9:30 Combined service 11:30 Luncheon & Program</p>	<p>9 R</p>	<p>10 R 11:30 am Dharma S&D - T</p>	<p>11 R</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 11 am Shinran's Day Service F</p>	<p>14 11 am YBA Keirokai 12 noon Hoji (Miwa)offsite 1-4 pm Denver Taiko (gym)</p>
<p>15 8:30 am Nihongo F 9:30 Family service F 10:15 Adult service F 9 am Brighton service T 11 am Ft. Lupton serv. T</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 7 pm Humu Humu</p>	<p>18 11 am DU students</p>	<p>19 2 pm elderly visitors</p>	<p>20 R</p>	<p>21 R 12 noon Greeley Hanamatsuri T 4 pm Hoji (Burchinow) Nokotsudo</p>
<p>22 R 9:30 Family service T 10:15 Adult service F 11:30 TSDBT Board meeting</p>	<p>23 R</p>	<p>24 R 11:30 am Dharma S&D - T 3:30 speaker offsite—T</p>	<p>25 R</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 9:30 am Hoji - offsite</p>	<p>28 1-4pm Denver Taiko (gym)</p>
<p>29 April Shotsuki 9:30 am Family Service T 10:15 am Adult service F</p>	<p>30</p>					

May 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	Wednesday	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Saturday
		1	2 9 am HS students T 10 am Japan students F	3	4	5
6 8:30 Nihongo service 9:30 Family Service 10:15 Adult service 11:30 Scholarship inter-views 1 pm Sedgwick T	7	8 R	9 R	10 R	11 R 11 am Shinran's Day F	12 R
13 R YBA Breakfast 9:30 am Family service F 10:15 am Adult service F 11:30 TSDBT Board Mtg	14	15	16	17	18	19 Amache Pilgrimage 1 pm Greeley F Rev Thompson in Oakland
20 Gotan E & Hatsumairi May Shotsuki 8:30 Nihongo service F 9:30 am Family service F 10:15 Adult service 11 am Dharm School Teachers' mtg Rev Thompson in Oakland	21	22 7 pm Humu Humu	23	24	25 R	26 R
27 R NO Temple services 9 am Crown Hill 10 am Lafayette	28 R Office closed 10 am Brighton 11 am Ft. Lupton 12 noon Plattville 11 am Fairmont (NVHF) 2 pm Olinger (Temple) 3 pm Riverside	29 R	30 R	31		

Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples
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Ju Sei Ge; verse three

continued from page 1

“Today, I have good news for you. Ryukoku University, the oldest private college in Japan and belongs to Hongwanji, wants one person for office work. Nowadays, it is very hard to find a job. So why don’t you try it?”

The not-yet chief applied for and received the position of Chief of Student Affairs. He thought he could solve the true meaning of *Nembutsu* if he stayed close to Shinran.

“Upon hearing this explanation, the person who questioned the chief’s career choice said, “While listening to your experience, I came to realize that I have ignored the most important business as a human being: the solution of life and death.”

Then, other reunion participants also muttered the same thing. “

My Name (*Namo-Amida-Butsu*) shall be heard throughout the 10 directions; should there be any place (and anytime).

The 3rd verse summarizes that “My Name shall be heard throughout the 10 directions.” The Chief’s life, however, was already solved in the *Nembutsu*, when he sensed a voice calling toward his life while he hid in the foxhole.

I was quite happy to hear this story of a *Nembutsu*-practicer. I know that nameless, but true and real, people are living throughout the 10 directions.

In Gassho,
Rev. Doei Fujii