

Back to the Future with Jodo Shinshu
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In considering our present challenges to the future development of Jodo Shinshu in Hawaii, we can learn much from the past. The overall lesson we learn from history is this: nothing is more traditional than changing or even inventing tradition. To train and ordain ministers entirely in Hawaii without sending candidates back to Japan, for example, would depart from the so-called traditional system, but it would be consistent with the practice of Japanese priests being trained and ordained in Japan without going back to China. On the basis of past precedents, we can freely (1) redefine Shinshu doctrine with crystal clear clarity, (2) transform that doctrine into contemporary social teachings, (3) define Shinshu practice, if it has one, (4) engage in *intra*-faith dialogue with other Buddhist groups, (5) compose gathas with rock, hip-hop, Hawaiian and other youthful beats, (6) develop a visitor or tourist Buddhism to increase the number of outside participants in addition to members, and (7) reform temple governance to share real power with younger/newer members, who should be given the chance to fail (or succeed).

Conclusion: Hunt, Imamura and IBS. Much more progressive than we are now. New Buddhist movement centered in Hawaii.