



Mo'ili'ili Hongwanji Buddhist Temple  
902 University Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96826

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*Mo'ili'ili Hongwanji is the center of Shin Buddhist spiritual growth, learning, and compassionate service to our Community.*

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Moilili Hongwanji Preschool: (808) 946-4416 Project Dana: (808) 945-3736 [projdana@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:projdana@hawaiiantel.net)

## MOTTAINAI



Many if not all of you have heard and may have used the term “mottainai” in your daily dealings with each other. In everyday usage, we say it for example, when we carelessly throw away uneaten food, or throw away things that we no longer have use for, or for when we throw away things given to us but serve no useful purpose for us. We get rid of it.

Many Japanese terms are steeped in Buddhism, and “mottainai” is one of them that I thought of discussing with you. Other commonly used terms are “arigatai” and “okagesamade.”

In the Buddhist philosophy, there is a concept of Pratitya samutpada, or dependent origination. The Law of Dependent Origination is one of the important laws of the universe discovered by Shakyamuni Buddha through his enlightenment. Simply stated, it says that:

*It is produced; therefore the other is produced.  
It is extinguished; therefore the other is extinguished.  
It exists; therefore the other exists.  
It does not exist; therefore the other does not exist.*

According to what the Buddha taught, there is a close relationship between the Four Noble Truths and Dependent Origination. What is it that the Four Noble Truths and Dependent Origination have in common? The principle that both have in common is the principle of causality; the law of cause and effect, of action and consequence. The Four Noble Truths can be divided into two groups; the first two – suffering and the causes of suffering, and the last two – the end of suffering and the path to the end of suffering. In both of these groups, it is the law of cause and effect that governs the relationship between the two.

In other words, suffering is the effect of the cause of suffering, and the end of suffering is the effect of the path to the end of suffering. In regard to Dependent Origination, the fundamental principle at work is that of cause and effect. In Dependent Origination, we have a more detailed description of what actually takes place in the process.

Let's see an example that establishes the nature of Dependent Origination. The Buddha has said that the flame in an oil lamp burns dependent on the oil and the wick. When the oil and the wick are present, the flame in an oil lamp burns. If either one of these is absent, the flame will cease to burn. This example illustrates the principle of Dependent Origination with respect to a flame in an oil lamp. Now, let's take the example of a bean sprout. Dependent upon the seed, earth,

water, air and sunlight, the seed will sprout. There are innumerable examples of dependent origination because there is no existing phenomenon that is not the effect of dependent origination. All of these phenomena arise dependent on a number of causal factors. Simply put, this is the Law of Dependent Origination.

So in speaking or saying “mottainai,” we are attempting to communicate the inherent value in a thing and encourage using objects or things fully or all the way to the end of its lifespan. Or, to let others enjoy and use things to its lifespan.

Namo Amida Butsu

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## “TALK STORY” WITH BISHOP ERIC MATSUMOTO



“Talking story” with Bishop Eric Matsumoto came alive on Saturday morning, March 18, in the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Annex. About twenty-seven (27) people gathered to further our “Awareness in Jodo Shin Buddhism: Sharing Joy and Responding in Gratitude.” The event was organized by Alan Goto, assisted by his wife Rosemary, as well as Debbie & Alan Kubota.

Self-introduction by participants was an interesting opening activity as we shared our name, birthplace, high school, one thing that most people don’t know about me, and event expectation. It led to individuals making connections with each other as the morning went on. Personal sharing in the spirit of the Sangha is encouraged to develop bonding, trust, and support.

Our Dharma talk by Bishop Eric included the following teaching points:

- He sees Buddhism as a BIG TREE; Jodo Shinshu is one of the branches on this tree
- This branch is down near the ground so enlightenment is easily accessible
- Amida Buddha reaches out to each of us equally with the promise of enlightenment
- Encountering the teachings of Amida Buddha is life transforming; an experience of joy and awe
- Live our life by our actions and behavior; let joy and gratitude express itself

- Jodo Shinshu does not force anyone; it provides opportunities to learn and to make our own decision to embrace the ideals
- Even if I am a foolish being (bonbu), Jodo Shinshu accepts me unconditionally to experience compassion, happiness, peace, harmony, life without fear
- Grateful to encounter nembutsu experience; it is everywhere
- Every encounter – people that we meet, path that we take, every experience - even negative ones - can be life changing

The following questions were discussed in small group dialogue sessions, and later shared with the larger group:

- Since listening to Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Dharma Talks, what have you become aware of?
- How has this awareness helped you in life?
- How can you or the temple share this awareness with family, friends and the larger community?

This event promoted interpersonal relationships between attendees, including several ministers, and gave everyone an opportunity to share experiences through casual talking story, local style. There was that personal and emotional touch and “feel” that can never be replaced by any form of modern technology. Let’s keep on “talking story” to share joy and gratitude.

By Nancy Shimamoto, President

**The White Way** is the newsletter of the Moiliili Hongwanji Mission, located at 902 University Ave., Honolulu, HI 96826. It is printed monthly and the deadline for submission is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the issue date.

The opinions expressed by the individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of Moiliili Hongwanji Mission.

## ALOHA FROM KYOTO



### The Answer is Always Namo Amida Butsu

Aloha from Kyoto! Mimy and I arrived safely in Japan on March 2nd jet-lagged and tired from three weeks of packing up our 'stuff' and moving it into storage. Moving for the fifth time in six years, we realized that 'attachment' to 'things' is indeed the cause of suffering,

especially after walking up and down three flights of stairs 100 times, haha!

The next morning, we transited to the Hongwanji International Center in Kyoto, where we were grateful for the warm welcome by the international staff, who helped us take 300 pounds of 'stuff' up three flights of stairs to the dormitory floor for guests.

Waking up early the next day, I joined the early morning service at the Hongwanji. Despite being dressed for freezing cold temperatures, I shivered in the Amida-do and Goei-do halls while chanting Sanbutsu-ge and Shoshin-ge, and listening to the Dharma talk.

Since then, we've found an apartment, registered our residence in Kyoto, obtained National Health Insurance, and...I took the entrance examinations for Chuo Bukkyo Gakuin, the seminary where I'll be studying for a year.

I was stumped by the math section, which included:

$$X^2 + 2x = 15$$

What? I remembered why I became a language major more than 30 years ago...my brain just doesn't think this way, so I left it blank.

Later, I realized the answer was obvious.

$$X = \text{Namo Amida Butsu!}$$

I am profoundly grateful for this opportunity to awaken to the truth I have much to learn, that the causes and conditions of life have brought me and Mimy here to Kyoto only because of the support and encouragement of innumerable kind and gentle people—especially Rev. Bert and the Sangha of Moiliili Hongwanji.

Every day I awaken to the working of Great Compassion and Wisdom in my life. Me, of all people—*Mottainai, Arigatai, Namo Amida Butsu!*

May your days be filled with aloha, 'ohana, and mahalo!

Kerry & Mimy in Kyoto, 3/19/2017



### EDEN AT HOME WORKSHOP

For family and volunteer caregivers, don't miss the Eden at Home care partners workshop on compassionate caring for Elders who live at home. The workshop will be held at the Buddhist Study Center on April 21, 2017 from 8:30am to 4:30pm. Call the Project Dana office at 945-3736 by April 14<sup>th</sup> for more information.

### PROJECT DANA VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONAL

"My name is Mercedes and I'm a Buddhist Lay Practitioner living in Riviera, Uruguay." After reading about Project Dana in Rose Nakamura's interview in Lion's Roar Magazine, she emailed, "I'd like to apply as a volunteer." Mercedes has been teaching English as a foreign language and computer sciences to elderly citizens in Uruguay for about 10 years. She wanted to help her community by establishing a "branch" of The Project in her country, recruiting, training, and guiding new volunteers. Mercedes submitted a volunteer application and is the first Project Dana volunteer in Uruguay. Materials on the background of Project Dana and Rev. Sumikawa's recent Dharma talk on "The Spirit of Dana" were sent to her. With advanced computer technology available, training will be over Skype or Facetime. We are happy to announce that the spirit of Dana is spreading into Uruguay as well as Japan.

### VISITORS TO PROJECT DANA

A dozen members of Moiliili Community Center's Senior Group visited Project Dana as a "stop" on the Moiliili Tour led by Laura Ruby. Laura is a Moiliili Community Center (MCC) board member. The visitors were warmly greeted by Rose Nakamura, who presented a brief history of Project Dana and distributed brochures describing services. Project Dana was honored to be a part of the Moiliili Community Tour and look forward to future visits. (See photo next page)

## NORMAL VS. NOT NORMAL AGING

On Saturday, March 18, Project Dana co-sponsored with St. John Apostle & Evangelist Church in Mililani an educational, eye-opening workshop titled "Normal vs. Not Normal Aging" with dementia specialist, Dorothy Colby. Dorothy, Administrator of Hale Ku'ike Nuuanu, is a certified Positive Approach to Care Trainer and Support Mentor. Attendance was over 200.

She gave examples, definitions, and hints which caregivers of those with dementia would be able to put in action. Basic information included:

- Dementia is a chemical and structural change in the brain;
- Alzheimer's Disease is only one type of dementia;
- Four truths of dementia: 1) At least 2 parts of the brain are dying, 2) It is chronic and incurable, 3) It will worsen, and 4) It is terminal;
- There are various types of dementia, e.g. Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia, Lewy Body dementia, and Frontal Temporal dementia;
- **Important.** If you notice changes, obtain an assessment and see a specialist;
- Communication will vary with the level of memory loss. It is important to understand and learn about the disease, take care of yourself, and utilize resources such as Project Dana and others available.

Future training sessions offered by Dorothy Colby were announced to be held at The Plaza at Pearl City and Kahala Nui. If interested contact Jody Mishan at 295-2624 or [jmishan@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:jmishan@hawaii.rr.com).



MCC Senior Group visits Project Dana. Laura Ruby is the 2<sup>nd</sup> person from the right, in the white hat.

## PET MEMORIAL SERVICE

On *Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM*, we will honor



our beloved pets that have passed away. We all know how pets touch our hearts in so many ways and are such important members of our family. All are welcome to bring a picture of any pet you wish to memorialize in this special service.



Dorothy Colby leads workshop participants in an exercise designed to illustrate the effects of dementia on one's peripheral vision.

## MHM Reporter Needed



We need volunteers to write articles, take photos, design, layout, collate, mail, and distribute this newsletter. Did you know that The White Way reaches more than 400 people around the world? For our students, this would be great practice for that all important essay section on your college applications!

If you're interested or have any questions, please email Martha at

[communications@moililihongwanji.org](mailto:communications@moililihongwanji.org).



***Exciting things are happening at our Preschool.  
We are now accepting applications for our new 2  
year old class.***

***Please call the preschool at 946-4416 for more information.***

Children 2-5 years of age  
Weekdays 7:00a.m. to 5:15p.m.  
Wendy Harman, Preschool Director  
Telephone: 946-4416 • Mobile: 630-4963  
Email: [mhps902@gmail.com](mailto:mhps902@gmail.com)  
[www.moiliilihongwanjipreschool.com](http://www.moiliilihongwanjipreschool.com)



### **BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS**

MHBWA members were busy preparing items to sell at the Hawaii Betsuin's Taste of Hongwanji Spring Bazaar held on March 26. The delicious spam musubi, mazegohan and inarizushi were great sellers. Our Kyodan also sold a lot of ono food. A big mahalo is extended to all for your generous donations, hard work, and support in purchasing items in this fundraising effort. A special thank you goes to Barbara Kuba, a Preschool grandparent who taught us how to make 30 spam musubi at once, to Osamu Kawabata for making all the rice for us, to the drivers and those who helped setup and clean up, and to others who pitched in where we were short of help. Thank you also to Wendy Nakanishi who donates to the BWA most of the profit from the sale of her bead necklaces and bracelets. We are most grateful to Hawaii Betsuin for allowing us to participate in this event and will donate a portion of our proceeds to them. *(See pictures on page 8)*

Please join us on April 23 at 9:00 a.m. for the BWA-sponsored Eshinni and Kakushinni Day Service

honoring Lady Eshinni, the wife of Shinran Shonin, and Lady Kakushinni, their daughter. The speaker will be Mernie Miyasato-Crawford of Jikoen Hongwanji Mission. Following the service at 10:45 a.m. we will have our second general meeting for the year. Donations to our Eshinni Fund are greatly appreciated and are used to support youth programs at Moiliili Hongwanji as well as in the larger community. We look forward to seeing everyone!

Contributed by Jeanne Watari



### **DONATIONS TO THE TEMPLE**

Doris Aoyama, Alan & Mui Arakaki, Kiyo Corpuz IMO Linda Corpuz, Kiyoto Fujita, Ralph & Gladys Fukumitsu, Wesley Henry & Christine Jordan, Ross Hinazumi, Sue Ide, Anne & Osamu Kawabata, Bert & Hazel Maedo IMO Haruyo Maedo, Eugene Makino, Janet Matsumoto, Bert & Dawn Matsuoka IMO Yoshiaki Matsuoka, Roy & Leiko Murakami, Rose & Gwen Nakamura, Ann Nakata IMO Ryo Nakata, Barbara Nomura, Keith Oda, Wallace Ohta, Ann Tokumaru, Jeanne Watari

### **DONATIONS TO NOKOTSUDO**

Bert & Hazel Maedo IMO Haruyo Maedo, The Estate of George Miyamoto, Ralph & Judith Nakashima, Gertrude Okubo

### **DONATIONS FOR 110th ANNIVERSARY**

Doris Hamada, Stanley K Kato, Roy & Nancy Shimamoto

### **DONATIONS FOR HOONKO**

Edwin & Sue Tanaka, Sumie Tanaka

## DONATIONS FOR OHIGAN

Thelma Ando, Frances Aoyama, Dorothy Colby, Hudson Fukuki, Mari Fukuya, Sumie Hamamoto, Edgar & Helen Hamasu, Wesley Henry & Christine Jordon, Donna Higashi, Toshiyuki Hiranaga, Wallace & Nancy Hironaka, Stanley K Kato, Shinobu Kawano, Joanne Kealoha, Karen Kikukawa, Robert & Hatsue Kinoshita, Isao Kitagawa, Kathleen Komo, Satoru & Hideko Kumagai, Brian Kunimune, Yuri Matsui, Glen & June Matsumoto, Izuko Mikuni, Raymond & Violet Mimaki, Elaine Miyamoto, Momoyo Miyazaki, Doris Muraoka, Rose & Gwen Nakamura, Myrtle & George Nakasato, Nancy Nakatsuka, Thomas & Betsy Nishioka, Bert & Cynthia Ogasawara, Lois Ohta, Marsha & Garrett Okada, Gladys Okano, Rev. Thomas & Michiko Okano, Philip Okubo, Yaeko Onuma, Joanne Sakata, Kenneth & Jean Sato, Kiyoko Sato, Linda Sesoko, Mabel Shimabukuro, Roy & Nancy Shimamoto, Ethel Shintaku, Jean Ayako Shintaku, Tatsuki & Sachiko Shiramizu, George & Sumie Sonoda, Karen Sumida, Howard Takaki, Itsuko Takamura, Jenny Takemoto, Tom & Jane Tamura, Edwin & Sue Tanaka, Satsuye Tanaka, Sachie Tsukamoto, Sharen Uyeunten, Iris Wasa-Uehisa, Jeanne Watari, Katsumi & Mayumi Yamamoto, Edward Yamasaki, Gale & Yoshiko Young

## PROJECT DANA DONATIONS

### Organizations:

Church of the Crossroads, Jikoen Buddhist Women's Association IHO Chihoko Yosemite

### Others:

R. Akamine, Anonymous, Anonymous, A. Barboza, M. Bitterman IHO Brenda C.K. Lee, M. Bitterman IMO Harold Kuwahara, M. Bitterman IMO Marjorie Tanoue, R. Brown IMO Margaret Brown, M. Cheang, D. & L. Clark, I. Dragon IMO Sadamu Sumida, W. Harada, E. Higa, M. & J. Hirano, A. Ihara, E. Kagimoto, Y. Kaihara, T. & A. Kishimori, E. & E. Kohara, R. Kuriki, W. & L. Lum, E. Makino, J. Matsumoto IMO Yoshimichi & Toyoko Hirai, E. Matsumoto, F. Muramaru, S. Najita, E. Nakagawa, P. Nakasone IMO Yoshiaki Matsuoka, R. & J. Nishihara, J. Nishimura, F. Ogasawara IMO Edwin Ogasawara, C. Ogasawara IMO Harold Kuwahara, D. Ouchi, L. Pang, K. Reineman, A. Shintaku, G. & S. Sonoda, A. Tando, N. Tokuda IHO Theo Matsumoto, J. Torii, S. Yahata, L. Yamamoto, S. Yanazaki

## Project Dana 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:

Anonymous, B. & B. Brennan, D. Higashi, W. & D. Iwaoka, A. Kie, T. Matsumoto, M. Motooka, B. Nishioka, C. Ogasawara, N. Shimamoto, E. Shintaku, R. & G. Tokuoka, R. Nakamura IHO Dr. Mary Bitterman

### Caregivers Support:

M. Cheang, V. Golden, J. Komenaka, J. Toma

### Recipient Donations:

Confidential



## BORN INTO THE PURE LAND

Moiliili Hongwanji Mission extends its deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of the following who have recently passed away:

- Kiyoshi "Keo" Murai, 91, on Feb. 10
- Mae Matsuno Takafuji, 100, on Feb. 21

May the Onembutsu provide solace to family members during this time of sorrow.

### Letters to the Editor

We don't have any Letters yet... but hope to create this section next month! We welcome your thoughts, ideas and suggestions on topics of interest to our temple members. Of course we must keep all letters respectful and we reserve the right to edit or choose not to publish any communications we consider inappropriate.

Please email your **Letters to the Editor** to [communications@moililihongwanji.org](mailto:communications@moililihongwanji.org) (or post addressed to White Way Editor c/o Moiliili Hongwanji Mission, 902 University Ave., Honolulu, HI 96826) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the issue date.

## JR. YBA NEWS

YESS Camp 34 will be held on April 14-16, 2017, at Camp Kokokahi on Oahu and is open to anyone aged 13 to 23 years old who is interested in learning more or growing deeper in Buddhism.

The Jr YBA of Honolulu will be hosting the statewide convention on June 30-July 2, 2017. One of the workshops that we will be doing is making toiletry packets to donate to homeless individuals and families. We are asking for donations of travel sized shampoo, conditioner, body soap, lotion, toothbrush, and toothpaste. We are also accepting monetary donations to purchase the toiletries if we are not able to get enough toiletries donations. If you work or know someone who works at a hotel, and will be able to donate some toiletries, that will be great also. We are trying to collect as much as we can. If you have any questions, please contact Alia F. or Alisa K.



## THE BON DANCE RETAIL BOOTH COMMITTEE IS CALLING ALL CRAFTERS!

“Onegaishimasu,” the retail booth committee is planning for O-Bon 2017 and is revisiting “the meaning of the o-bon festival” to retain the continuity of the essence behind the earlier o-bon festivals in Honolulu. The retail booth committee is interested in our handcrafting members’ “donation(s)” for the committee to sell in the booth. A few examples are needlecrafts (sewn, knitted, crocheted, latch hooked, embroidered, cross stitched, etc.), calligraphy, paintings/sketches, paper art – cards, pottery, wood work, etc. small items that share with the community our Japanese heritage and culture. We are also interested in gently used yukata(s) and obi(s), both children and adult sized.

Interested? Please contact anyone in the retail booth committee: Iris, Ruth, Mari, or Shirley at our next temple activity and/or the temple office for more information by April 16.

## MOIILILI HONGWANJI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### APRIL 2017

- 2 **9AM** Hawaii Buddhist Council / Hanamatsuri
- 7 Buddha Day  
*Office and Preschool Closed*
- 9 **9AM** MHM Hanamatsuri Service  
*Guest Speaker: Rev. Noriaki Fujimori, Palolo Higashi Hongwanji*  
**10:45AM** Talk Story with Rev. Bert
- 14 Good Friday  
*Preschool Only Closed (Office is open)*
- 16 **9AM** Sunday Service  
**10:45AM** Talk Story with Rev. Bert
- 23 **9AM** BWA Eshinni/Kakushinni Service  
*Guest Speaker: Mernie Miyasato-Crawford, Jikoen Hongwanji Mission*  
**10:45AM** Talk Story with Rev. Bert
- 30 **9AM** Sunday Service  
**10:45AM** Talk Story with Rev. Bert

### MAY 2017

- 7 **9AM** Sunday Remembrance Service  
**10AM** Pet Memorial Service  
**10:45AM** Talk Story with Rev. Bert
- 14 **9AM** Sunday Service - *Mother's Day*  
**10:45AM** Talk Story with Rev. Bert
- 21 **9AM** Sunday Service – *Gotan-e*  
**10:45AM** Talk Story with Rev. Bert
- 28 **9AM** Sunday Service  
**10:45AM** Talk Story with Rev. Bert
- 29 Memorial Day  
*Office and Preschool Closed*

## REGULARLY SCHEDULED CLASSES & CLUBS

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Mondays 10AM                               | <b>Quilting</b>                           |
| Mondays 5:15PM                             | <b>Zumba</b>                              |
| Tues/Thu 8AM                               | <b>Shoshinge Chanting</b>                 |
| Tuesdays 9AM                               | <b>Adult Fitness &amp; Falling Safety</b> |
| Tuesdays 6:30PM                            | <b>Meditation Service</b>                 |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed. 10AM                  | <b>Japanese Grief Support Group</b>       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Wed. 10AM | <b>Japanese Dharma Class</b>              |
| Thursdays 9:30AM                           | <b>Ikebana</b>                            |
| Thursdays 5:30PM                           | <b>Zumba</b>                              |
| Fridays 1PM                                | <b>Conversational Japanese</b>            |

**For More Information:** Temple Office (808) 949-1659

**Subject to Change:** Please call the Temple Office to confirm times & dates of any event.

## WHITE WAY RADIO: SATURDAY MORNINGS AT 7:45AM ON KZOO AM1210

Join us on Saturdays for White Way Radio on KZOO1210 at 7:45a.m. for inspiring messages from a variety of speakers. We are truly grateful for our White Way Radio Sponsors who make it possible to share the Dharma on the air every week.

### WHITE WAY BROADCAST SCHEDULE 2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Sponsored By</u>
April	1 Rev. Earl Ikeda	Harman Family
	8 Rev. Yuika Hasebe	Mrs. Wendy Nakanishi
	15 Rev. Joshin Kamuro	Mrs. Rose Nakamura
	22 Rev. David Fujimoto	Mrs. Michi Motooka
	29 Rev. Kojun Hashimoto	Mrs. Thelma Ando
May	6 Mr. Ernest Morikubo	The Hirai Family
	13 Rev. David Nakamoto	The Yoshimura Family
	20 Mrs. Irene Nakamoto	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Sorakubo
	27 Rev. Shinji Kawagoe	Mrs. Alice Shiroma

Contact the Temple Office at 949-1659 if you'd like to sponsor a broadcast, be a speaker, or volunteer to help produce the weekly broadcast!



← The BWA ladies making mazegohan and inarizushi. We sold out on both!

Barbara Kuba, making 30 spam musubi at once!



Mahalo!

BWA & Kyodan!