

GEPPPO

Buddhist Church of San Francisco
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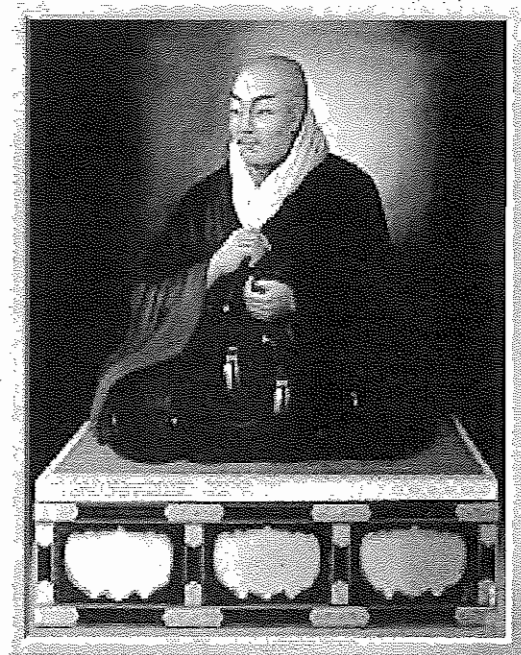
Special Dates to Remember

January 1 New Year's Day Service (Shusho-e)

January 10 Shotsuki Hoyo

January 17 Shinran Shonin Memorial (Ho-on ko)
Board Member Installation
New Year Party

*(Please see calendar inside for a complete listing
of services, events, and classes)*



January 2010

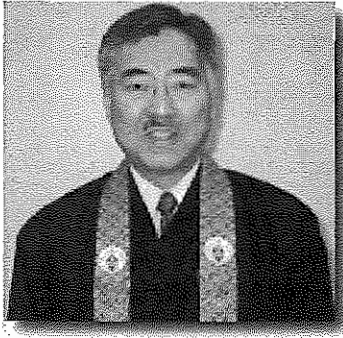
January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 10:00 a.m. New Year's Day Service (Shusho-e)	2
3 ----NO SERVICES---- 10 am: Dharma School Teachers' Meeting	4	5	6 7:00-9:00 pm: Taiji	7 7:00 pm: MAP meeting	8	9 11:00 am: Bay District Jr. YBA Meeting 3:30 pm Troop 29, Eagle Scout Court of Honor
10 9:00 am: Meditation 9:30 am: Sangha Service (Shotsuki Hoyo) 1:00 pm Sanbo no tsudoj (Shotsuki Hoyo)	11 7:00 pm: Buddhist Study Class	12 10:00 am: Service at Kokoro 7:30 pm: YAO General meeting	13 7:00-9:00 pm: Taiji	14 7:00 pm: Board Meeting	15	16
17 10:00 am: Shinran Shonin Memorial (Ho-on ko) Installation of Board Members New Year Party	18 7:00 pm: Buddhist Study Class	19 6:00 pm: JARF Annual meeting	20 7:00-9:00 pm: Taiji	21	22	23
24 9:00 am: Meditation 9:30 am: Sangha Service 11:00 BWA New Year's Party @ Kabuki	25 7:00 pm: Buddhist Study Class	26	27 7:00-9:00 pm: Taiji	28	29	30
31 9:00 am: Meditation 9:30 am: Sangha Service						

2010年1月 予定行事

- 1『金』 午前 10:00 修正会 (新年の挨拶—小杭総長)
 10『日』 午後 1:00 三法の集い (祥月法要)
 17『日』 午前 10:00 御正忌報恩講法要・役員就任式・新年会
 24『日』 午前 11:00 婦人会新年ランチョン
 場所: カブキ ホテル (日本町)
 申込み: 福田 慈子 (415) 351-0138

Kobata Sensei's Corner



Happy Wholly Days in 2010 Rev. Ronald Kengu Kobata

As a preface to the annual report below I would like to extend my New Year's greeting and best wishes to BCSF Geppo readers. I am looking forward to joining you in a full calendar of activities that bring life to our sangha. The light of your mindful presence in these events is what gives value and meaning to joining together in celebrating our Oneness in/of Being. May this life and light be our guide throughout the coming year.

My appointment as the resident minister of the Buddhist Church of San Francisco began on March 1, 2009. I have enjoyed this "return" to a full-time temple ministry, and my "hometown" through the encouragement and support of sangha members and affiliates. Though I have been peripherally involved with the BCSF as a paid member, and on various occasions prevailed upon the membership for assistance with BCA Headquarters business in the past, I am making a transition to assuming the resident minister's role at this church. In the process I have had the opportunity to experience firsthand all of the activities going on under the BCSF umbrella. I have been impressed with the level of involvement and dedication so many individuals and families are providing in developing and sustaining the programs, and maintaining the facilities.

It has been really encouraging to see the level of dedication that people in the BCSF family so willingly bring to their voluntary roles and responsibilities. I am especially indebted to the outstanding leadership that Jeff Matsuoka has provided as President, and the exceptional skills, social and administrative, that Elena Kastrisis brings to her pivotal role as office manager. Nanayo Silver was very helpful in making sure that Elena was able to learn the operation as thoroughly and efficiently as possible. Elaine Donlin's Bodhisattva-like efforts to tie together so many loose ends that had been dangling for quite some time has put our financial and Buddhist Education patchwork together into a more user/member friendly application. Getting on board with the Minister's Assistant Program has provided a vehicle for learning about what's transpired in the past, and sharing ideas for things to consider to try for the continued growth of the sangha, both internally and the community at large. I appreciate the talents that Leo Balambao, Jerry Bolick, Eric Burkett, Elaine Donlin, David Pating, and Matt Stimson have so readily shared. I also hope that Youth Minister Assistants Tim Chu and Matthew Pating will be able to share the appreciation and enthusiasm they gained from their participation in the Youth Advocacy Committee's Summer Retreat they participated in with their peers locally.

A few months after becoming the resident minister the temple I was contacted by the Japan Memorial Corporation with a proposal to do restoration work on the Gohonzon (main object of reverence, Amida Buddha statue), base, and altar tables. The board accepted the proposal tapping the *EiTaiKyo* fund to pay for this project. This was the first time since the central altar was installed over seventy years ago that it was disassembled, re-gold leafed, and carvings repainted. Additionally, the frame around Shinran Shonin's image was repaired, two hanging lantern were refinished, and cleaning and touch-up work was done on the altar in the stupa.

Now to get to the religious "business" of our sangha, a community dedicated to the spirit of living, or rather living the spirit of Nem(mindful) Butsu (our Truly Awakened Being, or being a person of awakening). My approach during the past nine months has been to be more of an observer than initiator of changes. I've tried to see and hear how things have been done in the past, and offer suggestions on different ways of thinking and doing things both within the temple and in the community at large. I appreciate the membership's cooperation and patience in this adjustment period. I've been pleased to learn of the kinds of relationships that have been developed over the years that have established the BCSF as a respected community institution.

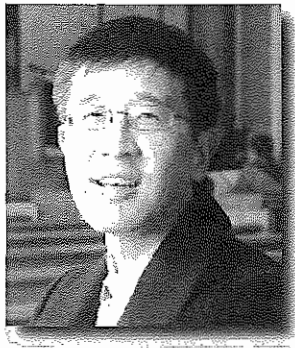
While it's nice to recognize points of encouragement, I am also aware of the concerns that have been raised at temple Board meetings regarding the need to grow our membership roster, and bring in more "new" people to assist and succeed our dedicated but aging volunteers and contributors. Related to this is the relatively small Dharma School enrollment. Given the size and history of our membership, and the popularity of our youth activities, our Dharma school enrollment does not reflect those numbers.

To address these concerns I'd like to offer a list of questions for consideration that can be applied to identifying the means through which we can realize our Mission Statement that appears in the BCSF Annual Report. The questions that I'd like to have us review to determine whether we are on the "same page" when thinking of and carrying out the Mission Statement are: Who are we? What are we doing? Where are we doing it? Who are we serving? How are we doing? Finally, to put the above into perspective I think it's helpful and necessary to ask, Why?

The why of why the Buddha taught, shared the Dharma, has been succinctly stated, "Dis/ease and its transformation". In Japanese there's an expression 転迷開悟 [*TenMeiKaiGo*] (Transforming ignorance into enlightenment). This is the end and means of the business of a sangha, and the BCSF is a sangha.

Namo AmidaButsu

President's Message



First, on behalf of the Buddhist Church of San Francisco, my best wishes for the New Year.

On Friday, Dec. 4 the annual Bodhi Day service was held in the Hondo. This candle-lit evening service commemorates the enlightenment experience of Shakyamuni Buddha. Since the service coincides with the usual Friday night meeting of the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, we were fortunate to have them present for this service. After an illuminating Dharma message given by Rev. Kobata (complete with a "light bulb" prop), we enjoyed a "call-and-response" musical interlude with D.I. Lewis. Refreshments were served after the service courtesy of the Board and the Dharma School. Thanks to all who helped out and participated in this meaningful service.

On Sunday, Dec. 13, the BCSF Annual General Membership meeting was held in the Social Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to make the membership aware of what the state of the church is, both financially and in terms of organizational issues. The tangible result of this effort is the printed Annual Report, which is used as the basis of this meeting's agenda. I felt that the meeting was positive – there was a good airing out of issues that face the temple as well as positive feedback from the membership on these and other issues. The results of the election of new Board members was also announced, and I would like to congratulate them (myself, Emi Uyehara, Yuri Ito, Gregg Sera, Dr. David Pating). It was also announced that the church will be undertaking the rehabilitation of the parsonage in the Educational Building so that Rev. Kobata can take up residence there. Copies of the Annual Report are available in the office.

I hope that you will join us for the Ho-onko service on Jan. 17. This service, the most important observance on our religious calendar, is the Memorial Service for Shinran Shonin, the founder of our Jodo Shinshu sect. Immediately after the service, we will be celebrating our New Year's party in the gymnasium. Details on how to sign up for the luncheon are contained elsewhere in the Geppo.

At its meeting on Jan. 14, the BCSF Board will elect a new cabinet of officers. This new Executive Committee will be installed at the Ho-Onko service on Jan. 17. So this will be my last message to you as Board President. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of my Executive Committee who have worked so hard on your behalf in the last year: Sandy Yamakishi (Co-President), Dr. David Pating (Vice-President), Elaine Donlin (Treasurer), Dr. Brian Nagai and Emi Uyehara (Secretary), and Rev. Ronald Kobata (Resident Minister). I would also like to thank our BCSF staff for their dedication: Elena Kastritsis and Nanayo Silver (Secretary), and Francisco Estrada (Custodian). Thanks to the Board members for their support and perseverance during those (long) monthly Board meetings. Finally, I would like to thank the members for your support and faith in me as I undertook this journey. I ask that you give my successor, Dr. David Pating, the same level of understanding that you gave me.

In Gassho,

Jeffery S. Matsuoka
President, Board of Directors

BCSF Board News

Buddhist Church of San Francisco Board of Directors Approved - November 12, 2009 Minutes

CLOSED SESSION:

Attendance: Board: Leo Balambao, John Bansavich, Elaine Donlin, Dean Hedani, David Kamita, Harumi Kishida, Fritz Kunze, Jeff Matsuoka, Linda Ono, David Pating, Yoshimitsu Shimazu, Yoshi Yao. **Others:** Rev. Ronald Kobata
President Jeff Matsuoka called the closed session meeting to order at 6:39 pm and closed it at 7:20 pm. Elaine Donlin led opening *Gassho*. The Board discussed the status of legal and personnel matters.

OPEN SESSION:

Attendance: Board: Leo Balambao, John Bansavich, Julie Hatta, Dean Hedani, David Kamita, Harumi Kishida, Fritz Kunze, Jeff Matsuoka, Linda Ono, David Pating, Yoshimitsu Shimazu, Yoshi Yao. **Affiliates and Others:** Rev. Ronald Kobata and Tara Mochizuki
President Jeff Matsuoka called the open session meeting to order at 7:20 pm.

General Information and Status Reports:

- A. **October 8, 2009 Board meeting minutes:** MSC—Fritze Kunze/ Yoshi Yao that the minutes be approved as submitted. Jeff thanked David Pating for presiding over the October 8 Board meeting in his absence.
- B. **Treasurer's Report:** Both September 2009 and October 2009 treasurer's reports and a BCSF Chart of Accounts 2008/2009 were submitted by Elaine Donlin. A question was raised about the "Tomiharo account." Because Elaine had left early and was not available to clarify the BCSF Chart of Accounts, the treasurer's reports were not approved at this time.
- C. **BEC Report:** per written report by Elaine Donlin
- D. **Minister's Report:** Rev. Ronald Kobata
 - 11/24/09: Interfaith Council Breakfast
 - 11/24/09: Kokoro Assisted Living JARF Interfaith Thanksgiving Program; MAP students are also invited to attend.
 - 11/29/09: San Jose Betsuin teenage Dharma School will attend the morning service.
 - 12/04/09: Annual BCSF Bodhi Day Service at 7 pm
 - The 1917-1978 volume of funeral records will be rebound at a cost of \$180.00. The expense will be paid through the Eitaikyo Fund.
 - The California Nisei Diploma Project is recognizing students of Japanese ancestry and asking organizations to communicate with former students of the UC system, state colleges, and community colleges whose education was disrupted by being relocated in 1942. The project was initiated by Warren Furutani.
 - Rev. Kobata called the Japanese consulate about old Japanese stock certificates that were found recently at BCSF. Initial information is that the certificates only have face value. The question still remains: how did we get these certificates?
 - Julie Hatta is our local temple contact for the Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial Commemoration to be held at the San Jose Fairmont Hotel on February 27-28, 2010. Registration deadline is January 31, 2010. We will charter a bus for 50 people, first come/ first served.
- E. **President's Report:** Jeff Matsuoka
 - **Board Election and Candidates:** Per the new By-Laws, the Board has been reduced to 15 members and we need to elect 5 new Board members this year. We have the following confirmed candidates whose candidate statements will be published in the Geppo: Yuri Ito, David Pating, *Jeff Matsuoka, and *Emi Uyehara. *Per a new nomination scheme, both Jeff and Emi would resign and become candidates for a new term of 3 years.
 - **Hongwanji Commemoration in May 2011:** Yasuko Fukuda is working with JTB to arrange tours for the commemoration which will be held in conjunction with the World BWA Conference.
 - **Giko Abiko Funeral Service:** Both Rev. Kobata and Jeff attended the funeral service on Friday, November 6, 2009. Koden of \$100.00 was given to the family.
 - **BCA JSC Campaign Status:** Fundraising is considerably down this year at barely \$500,000.00, compared to last year's \$2 million. A new appeal campaign will be launched.
 - **MIF Insurance:** We renewed our insurance at a cost of \$13,082.00 per year. Our property coverage is \$500,000.00.
 - **Sokoji Zen Temple** celebrated its 75th anniversary. We sent \$100.00 *oiwai* and a congratulatory letter.

BCSF Board News (continued)

- **Annual BCSF Meeting, 12/13/09:** Reports are due by 12/5/09. Affiliates who use the BCSF tax id no. should submit financial reports.
- F. Grateful Crane Fundraiser, May 8, 2010:** Tara Mochizuki and David Pating
Letters have been sent to lead donors. Each Board member is asked to raise \$500.00 in ticket sales. A subcommittee will be formed to write letters to potential donors. There will be a Silent Auction, which hopefully will not impinge on the Ginza Bazaar Silent Auction in July. The theme is to honor the Nisei and prepare for the future of BCSF. Posters and cards should be distributed by January. The affiliates (BWA, DS, BS, GS, YAO, and Soko Gakuen) will be asked to help with various aspects, including table set-up, flowers, dessert, etc. The tickets will be sold at \$60.00-\$65.00. Start time is 4 pm for the Silent Auction. Dinner will start at 5:15 pm and the performance will run from 6:15 to 7:45 pm. Board members were asked to work on Fundraising, Silent Auction, or Publicity. Tara and David requested \$2,500.00 in seed money. MSC—Yoshi Yao/ John Bansavich that the Board advance \$2,500.00 in seed money.
- G. BCA Leadership Workshop Report, October 23-25, 2009:** Linda Ono and John Bansavich--The workshop focused on issues confronting Buddhist churches and temples. Participants brainstormed, discussed ideas, and worked in small groups. They discussed successes as well as stumbling blocks and outlined steps to ensure a bright future. Socho Ogui shared his vision that Jodo Shinshu will become a major religion in the U.S.
- H. CDM and Membership Form/Survey:** Linda Ono
Linda reported that BCSF membership is down at 305 members from 389 members last year. Last year, membership revenue was \$43,000.00. She is proposing to increase membership as follows: Senior, 75+ years: \$100; Senior couple: \$200.00; Sustaining Senior Couple: \$300; Single, 22-74 years: \$200; Sustaining Single: \$400; Couple/Family: \$350; and Sustaining Couple/Family: \$500. She has drafted a survey to gather historical information which will be sent to the membership with the membership form. It was recommended that a clause be added to the survey that any information gathered from the survey would be held strictly confidential.
- I. Chicken Bento:** John Bansavich
John reported that the Chicken Bento committee has agreed to raise the price of a ticket from \$9.00 to \$10.00 in February 2010. The next Chicken Bento will be re-scheduled to 2/21/2010.
- J. Downstairs Men's Restroom:** Tara Mochizuki was copied on an e-mail from Rev. Kobata that someone had presumably had a bloody nose and left a mess in the downstairs men's restroom. She stressed that there are strict handling procedures in the clean-up of blood and body fluids and requested Harumi Kishida of the Safety Committee to establish a church policy and furnish supplies for cleanup. Harumi agreed to review guidelines and establish a church policy.
- K. Jikeikai Meeting:** Linda Ono
Linda reported that Jikeikai has a new website where obituaries can be posted: www.japanbenevolent.org

For Discussion/ Action

- A. Creating a BCSF Budget:** David Pating
David intends to create a BCSF budget by using a simple worksheet method based on four questions: how much did we spend this year, how much do we expect to spend next year, how much did we make this year, and how much do we expect to make next year?
- B. Maximizing Use of the Gym:**
The contract with Stuart Hall on the use of the gym has been re-negotiated. Linda asked if there was a revenue limit in order for BCSF to retain its 501(c)(3) status. It was agreed that we need to seek clarification from Glen Umeda, BCA consul, or Harry Burglund of BCO.
- C. Replacing Lights in the Gym:** Dean Hedani
The light bulbs in the gym have a 3-5 year life. Dean would like to replace all light bulbs at an estimated cost of \$3,500.00 during winter break. Funds are available. MSC—David Pating/ Leo Balambao to replace all light bulbs in the gym.
- D. BCA-BCSF MOU for BCA December Board Meeting**
The BCA-BCSF MOU, which involves sharing responsibilities for and costs of maintaining BCSF building, was reviewed. The BCSF Board sees no need to change the MOU at this time.
- E. BCSF New Year's Eve Toshi Koshi Soba**
Yoshi stated that the BCSF Board is responsible for this event. Yuri Ito is available to help with preparation of the soba.

MSC—David Pating/ Yoshi Yao that the meeting be adjourned at 10 pm. Rev. Kobata led closing *Gassho*.

Respectfully submitted,
Harumi Kishida, Acting BCSF Secretary

BCSF Board News (continued)

**Buddhist Church of San Francisco
Board of Directors
Highlights of the December 10, 2009 Board Meeting
Emi Uyehara - Secretary**

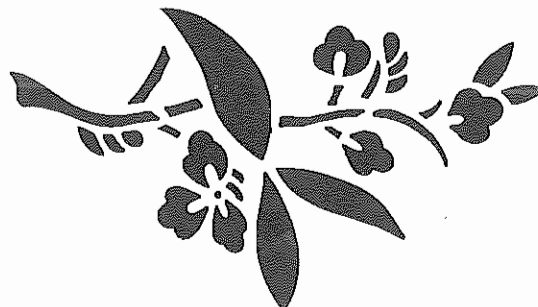
- The Board will focus on building a budget and refining its financial records in 2010. David Pating as the incoming President will be working with Jeff Matsuoka, the incoming Treasurer, and Dean Hedani to get the process started. The Board thanked Elaine Donlin who was Treasurer for the past 4 years for her work in general, and more specifically for her efforts to locate all of the BCSF accounts that had been held by individuals and to establish critical financial protocols and procedures.
- Rev. Kobata informed the Board that the Onajin renovation and repair work by the Japan Memorial Corporation is now complete with the return of the two hanging lamps from Japan. BCA agreed to reimburse BCSF for the cleaning of the stupa altar. Rev. Dr. Shoyo Taniguchi generously donated \$1,500 to the BCA to cover the cost of the project.
- The annual meeting will be held on December 13, 2009. Under the new bylaws, this will be the opportunity to review the state of BCSF and the activities of the affiliates and to ask questions. The election of the Board members will also be announced.
- The Board agreed to pay for the bus for the Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial in San Jose on February 28, 2010. BCSF members will be able to ride for free.
- The Joya-E Service will be on 12/31/09 at 7:00 p.m. Immediately following the service soba will be prepared and served under the supervision of Yuri Ito and Julie Hatta.
- Socho Ogui will be attending the New Year's Service on 1/1/10 at 10:00 a.m..
- The Board approved increases in membership dues, which have not been increased for the past few years. The proposed 2010 BCA budget reflects an increase in the pro-rated assessment which will come to approximately \$87.50 per registered member.
- The Board will also be working on a policy and procedures for renting its facilities.
- The Board also thanked Jeff Matsuoka for his tireless work as President for three out of the past four years. His knowledge and experience will fortunately remain on the Board as he assumes the position of Board Treasurer for 2010.

BWA News

(Please note: There are no BWA minutes published in this issue of the Geppo. Due to the BCSF General Meeting on December 13, the regular BWA meeting did not take place in December).

BWA TOBAN

Jan 2010 Toban
Sadako Kashiwagi
Setsuko Katsuyama
Janis Sera
Kiyo Yamasaki



BWA News

BWA Year-End Potluck

~ by Yoshi Yao

On December 5th, the BCSF BWA held our annual Year-End Potluck. As usual, Yuri was first to arrive to get things started. We began with a short service in the Hondo after which Rev. Kobata introduced Rev. Yuki Sugahara and asked him to briefly tell us about himself in both English and Japanese, saying it's good practice to have to get up and say a few words on the spur of the moment. Rev. Sugahara is enrolled in



BWA members enjoy delicious food and good company

planned it better if we had tried. Nell kept the program moving along as M.C., and Ayako came up with yet another fun game, pitting Susan, Yuri, Harumi, and Linda against Rev. Kobata and Rev. Sugahara as each team tried to outdo the other in a lively game of Pictionary. Who knew Rev. Kobata had hidden artistic talent?! Next, we were treated to a wonderful and long-awaited slideshow of Elaine's pilgrimage to India. It was a fascinating presentation which included beautiful photos of historical sites, including a few taken with the Dalai Lama. Elaine was peppered with questions following the show, so hopefully there will be another opportunity soon to view and hear more.

A handsome fruit basket donated by Sadako was raffled off and the winner was none other than Hatsumi, who received a "welcome back" round of applause. The afternoon culminated with a game of Bingo led by Yasuko, which ended only after each and every person got to call out "Bingo!". As with all potlucks, the food is always a big hit, but it's really the fun and fellowship that we all look forward to and enjoy the most.

In Gassho,
Yoshi Yao

IMOP (International Ministers Orientation Program) and we learned he played the bass guitar in a band. Last year the four ministers from IMOP had such a good time at the potluck that they all half-jokingly said they hoped to be assigned to San Francisco. We were happy to have Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara join us as well. His youngest son Eito, who was an infant when Kuwahara Sensei spoke at our Obon service, is now walking and kept his father busy as he explored the Social Hall.

Despite not knowing what everyone was bringing (a "true potluck"), and hoping we wouldn't end up with nothing but rice, the variety of dishes was just right and all agreed that we couldn't have

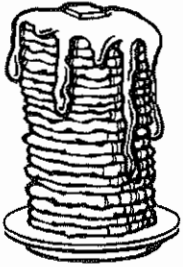


Rev. Sugahara and Rev. Kobata, trying to choose from the dazzling array of food

Temple News

Jr. YBA Pancake Breakfast

~ by Megumi Hatta-Wong



The Annual San Francisco Jr. YBA Pancake Breakfast on Sunday November 29, 2009 was a success. Jr. YBA was able to raise a good amount of money, and had lots of fun serving and organizing the event. The pancakes, eggs, and sausages were received well. One particular blip occurred, however, when a whole pan of sausages were found after the breakfast ended, inside an oven. The Jr. YBA sincerely apologizes for the lack of sausage seconds!

There are always a bunch of people in the church who help out at this even every year. A big thanks to the YAO and BWA for assisting. Also, a special thanks to Linda Ono for continuing to provide the fruit compote, Elena and Francisco for staff support, to Holiday Faire participants: Dharma School, BWA and individual vendors, to Tara Mochizuki for coordinating the raffle, all the Jr. YBA families that came out to support us, and to those who attended this year's breakfast!

The funds that the Jr. YBA were able to raise will go towards conferences and activities for the rest of the year. Coming up soon is the Bay District Ski Trip at Lake Tahoe, a trip that requires money to rent the bus and pay for the cabin.

The Jr. YBA members: Elizabeth Chu, Kara Glapian, Anna Pating, Matthew Pating, Michael Sera, Megumi Hatta-Wong, Erin Foley, Hitomi Silver, Chiemi Silver, Terrence Yee and Kevin Johnson would like to thank everyone who donated, attended the breakfast, or supported them this year. Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

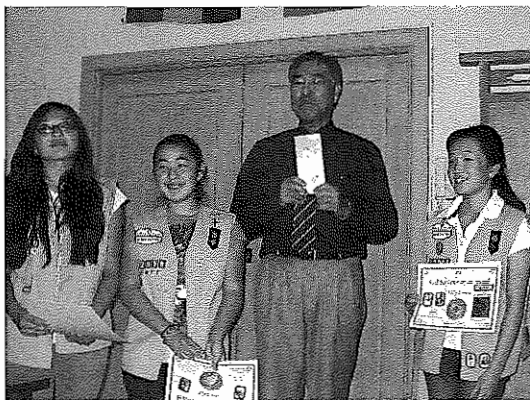
~ Megumi

PS: If there is anyone in high school and interested in joining Jr. YBA, please inquire at the office or talk to one of the members for more information. This group will help you gain leadership experience and improve your youth in general! :)

Girl Scout Court of Awards

~ by Kaitlyn Ikeda

Girl Scout Troop 32958 Cadettes 8's Achieve Silver Award



Kaitlyn Ikeda, Kana Palmer, Rev. Kobata, & Kelly Eshima

Kelly Eshima, Kaitlyn Ikeda and Kana Palmer received their Silver Award at the Girl Scout Court of Honor held at the Buddhist Church of San Francisco on November 13, 2009.

They researched, planned, developed, and implemented the HoopStarz Basketball Camp for 3rd through 5th graders for two days during the remainder of the week that school let out for summer break, 06/11/09 – 06/12/09. Their goal was to introduce drills and games in a fun format, so that kids who like the game will learn to love basketball and want to get better on their own. There was a range of skills from no experience to high level players who have tournament experience.

families who are sponsored by the church. given them so much.

As the Girl Scout Troop 32958 is sponsored by the Buddhist Church of San Francisco, the girls wanted to reach out to the church community and the Girl Scout and Boy Scout troop Kelly, Kaitlyn and Kana wanted to give back to the church that has

Temple News/Announcements

Calling all BCSF members!

Membership 2010

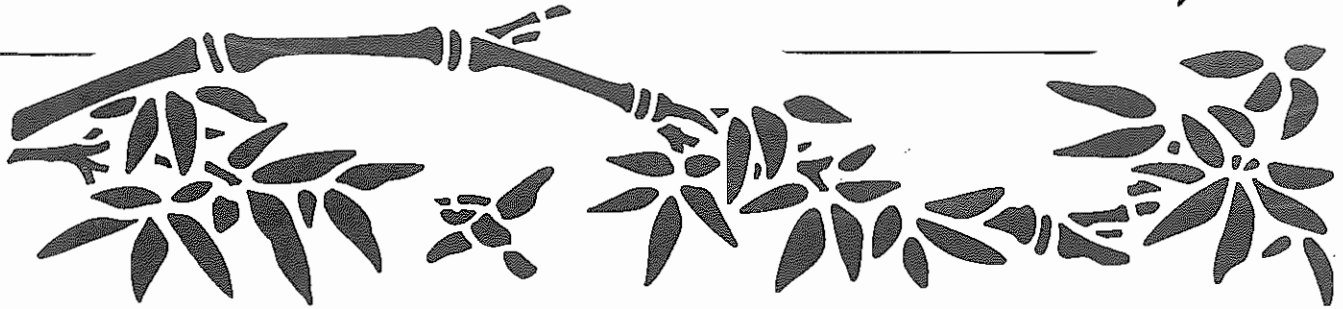


Dear Sangha Members:

Soon, you should be receiving your membership renewal letters, along with a survey that will help us take a look at our membership and update our new database. Please take a few moments to fill out your membership form and survey, and return them to the office by **January 31st, 2010**.

Annual dues can be paid all at once, or in two or four installments during the course of the year.

Arigato!



Ho-onko Service & Party

~ by Harumi Kishida



Our Ho-onko Service & Party is scheduled for **Sunday, January 17, 2010**. The service will begin at 10 a.m.. A catered bento lunch will be served at the party immediately following the service, in the gym.

Tickets for the bento lunch will go on sale at the BCSF office **after January 1, 2010**. Tickets are \$15.00 for an adult and \$8.00 for a child who is 12 years or younger. *Vegetarian bentos* are also available but you must indicate your preference at the time that you order.

Members who are **75 years or older** are eligible for a free ticket. In order to get an accurate head count, you need to either call or pick up your free ticket from the office. **The deadline for ticket sales is Monday, January 11, 2010.**

Temple News/Announcements

Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial

~ by Yumi Hatta

Join us for a once in a lifetime dharma experience!

BCA Shinran Shonin 750th Memorial in San Jose

Sat. Feb. 27 & Sun Feb. 28, 2010

at the San Jose Fairmont Hotel

Attend either or both days. Sunday Service is free to all!

Check details and download registration forms for both days at <http://ingassho.com/index.html>
Extra registration forms also available at the church.

Registration forms and fees (payable to BCSF) due to church office by January 20th.

Please note: ATTN: Shinran 750th Reg. on envelopes.

NEW!

BCSF Bus available for Sunday Service

Free to members! \$15 non-member (roundtrip)

Avoid driving and parking hassles

Reserve your seat now! First come, first served.

Deadline for bus reservations: Sunday, February 14th

Please call office to confirm your reservation at (415) 776-3158 or email office@bcسفweb.org.

Bus will depart from BCSF at 8 a.m.

Service at San Jose Fairmont: 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon

Lunch in San Jose J-town (bento order info TBA)

Return to BCSF by 2:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Questions? Talk with Yasuko Fukuda, Julie Yumi Hatta, or Elena at the Church Office

Chicken Bento News

The price of Chicken Bentos will increase in February. The Chicken Bento fundraising event will happen on February 21st. A signup sheet will be available online from the BCSF website (www.bcsfweb.org) beginning in January.

Please volunteer if you can.

Thank you!

John Bansavich,
Chicken Bento Chair



Taiji

Happy New Year Everyone !



The **Buddhist Church Tai Chi Class** invites everyone to join us in Room 102 on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. for some exercise of the mind, body and spirit. If your New Year's resolution is to improve yourself, please consider investing in yourself through Tai Chi. The time spent learning more of yourself is invaluable. Benefits include : stress reduction, muscle flexibility, cultivating chi energy, looking within ourselves to see our environment, focusing our mind, simple self defense, discovering Wuji (the balanced state of being) and best of all, **HAVING FUN!**
Free Class, open to all. Personal suggested donation to the Buddhist Church.

For more information contact Lawrence Kwock at 415-378-5431.

Temple News/Announcements

Volunteers Still Needed for Weekly Flower Arranging!

Have a car? Free Thursday or Friday mornings? The temple needs you!

BCSF is *still* looking for volunteers to take turns picking up the **flowers** for the arrangements that decorate our temple's *Naijin* and *Nokotsudo*. Flowers are picked up every Thursday or Friday morning from the San Francisco Flower Mart and dropped off at the church in time for Friday flower arranging.

We hope to establish a rotation of volunteers, so that each person need pick up flowers only once every 4 or 6 weeks, depending on the response we get.

Please consider helping out if you can spare a couple of hours once a month.

To volunteer contact the office at 415-776-3158. **Thank you!**



Lost and Found



If you're having trouble finding that favorite sweater or pricey pair of sunglasses, it may very well be currently residing in the BCSF's growing collection of "*Lost and Found*". This collection includes items that have been left at the temple over the last few years, including some of the clothing that had been hanging on hooks outside the kitchen until the last *Temple Clean-Up Day* back in September.

Please contact the office if you have a particular item in mind that might have been forgotten at the temple. Things that have been here for a long time, will eventually be donated to a charity.

BCSF Holiday Wish-List

Cleaning out your attic? Upgrading? Out with the old and in with the new? If you happen to stumble upon one of the following items that you would otherwise discard, please keep BCSF in mind:

- a mouse with a USB cable
- a DVD player that plays *Region 2* DVD's
- a projector that can be used for DVD's or computer presentations

Arigato!

News from the Office

The office is still in the process of transferring records to our new database. As mentioned in previous issues of the *Geppo* we hope that this will eventually allow us to keep more up-to-date and complete records of our membership, so we can better serve you.

Currently, we are in our first year of using the new database to do our *Shotsuki Hoyo* mailings. We would like to ask for your patience during this transitional phase and to request that you notify the office of any errors or omissions.

Thank you!

Acknowledgments for November

The Buddhist Church of San Francisco thanks our members and friends for your thoughtful and generous donations during the month of November. This list covers those contributions recorded as of November 30, 2009. If there are any errors please contact the church office at (415) 776-3158.

Memorials		Matsumura, Bob and Diane	50.00	Cash	20.00
Ichikawa Family	100.00	Mihara, Etsumi	20.00	Chu, Percy L.	25.00
Wong, Joann	200.00	Morimoto, Frank	50.00	Fritz, K. J. and B. W. Littmann	100.00
Funerals		Morino, Tamaye	25.00	Hamano, Timothy J.	50.00
Kojimoto Family	3,000.00	Morita, Shigeru and Constance	50.00	Kamita, David and Kaori	25.00
Shotsuki Hoyō		Murakami, Yukiye	25.00	Lee, Miyoko	25.00
Anonymous	25.00	Nakamura, Harry	200.00	Matsumoto, Sachiko	25.00
Aoki, Eiko	20.00	Nakamura, Sandra and Scott	50.00	Nakai, Toshiko	100.00
Cash (anonymous)	5.00	Nakano, Diane	50.00	Ono, Mitsue	20.00
Cash (anonymous)	20.00	Natsume, M	30.00	Tanaka, Shigeko	20.00
Eguchi, Mae	20.00	Noda, George and Yaeko	30.00	Tsuchitani, Chiyeko	300.00
Hamada, Mary	25.00	Okamura, Ricky	50.00	Wakimura, Ernest K.	100.00
Hanyu, Noboru	100.00	Okuno, R.S.	75.00	Yamada, Minoru and Suzanne	20.00
Hayashi, Joanne	15.00	Ono, Victor	100.00	Eitaiayo	
Hedani, Dean and Melainie	20.00	Ozaki Stan	50.00	Furuya, Emiko	50.00
Horita, Rosie	50.00	Satow, Joyce	25.00	Harada, Chiyeko	10.00
Inouye, Alice	20.00	Satow, Judy	50.00	Judge, Atsuko	20.00
Ito, Stan and Nancy	20.00	Satow, Midori	30.00	Kanegawa, Kazue	30.00
Ito, Yuriye	100.00	Suyeyasu, Marumi	100.00	Kojimoto, Mits	100.00
Kagami, Hisahi & Akiko	125.00	Suzuki, Harry and Lorraine	50.00	Kudo, Rance	25.00
Kajita, Mitsuko	20.00	Tamura, Toyoko	50.00	Matoi, Helen	20.00
Kajiyama, Aiko	25.00	Tanaka, M.	50.00	Munekawa, Satoru and Anna	20.00
Kamishita, Toshiko	20.00	Tanaka, Robert and Dola	100.00	Murakami, Yukiye	20.00
Kamishita, Toshiko	100.00	Tashiro, Chiyo	35.00	Nakano, Diane	20.00
Kume, Sachi	20.00	Tong, Dorothy	20.00	Nerio, Tokie	20.00
Langewisch, Sharen	50.00	Toyooka, Takashi	50.00	Ono, Mitsue	25.00
Leach, Ellen	100.00	White, Michele	100.00	Shida, Hiroko	20.00
Matoba, Greg	50.00	Yamamoto, Takiko	30.00	Shimoda, Misao	20.00
Matoba, Lori	40.00	Yasuda, May	100.00	Shintaku, Yone	30.00
Matsumoto, Sachiko	25.00	Yonekura, Alice	50.00	Wong, Jacqueline	50.00
		Special Contributions		Yamada, Minoru and Suzanne	100.00
		Anonymous	30.00	Yamaguchi, Shinya	20.00
		BCSF Cadette Troop 32958	100.00	Yoshikawa, Benji and Miyeko	35.00

Sustaining Donors

Thank you for being one of our sustaining donors and for keeping the doors to the Buddhist Church of San Francisco open! You can become a sustaining member by paying the higher membership dues. Donation envelopes for the major services are not sent to sustaining members.

Aoki, Eiko	Kobata, Ronald & Sayoko	Okamura, Ricky & Gienda
Arakawa, Janet	Kojimoto, Mits	Okazaki, George
Ashizawa, Masao & Yuki	Kunihara, Fumiko	Ono, Linda Saruwatari
Balambao, Leo Jr.	Kurata, Joseph & Shirley	Oshita, Yuriko
Bansavich, J. & Stimson, M.	Kuruma, Emiko	Otsuki, Midori
Durst, Thomas & Shinta, Diane	Lee, Miyoko	Pating, David & Camille
Fletcher, Marjorie	Lewis, Barbara & Hollins, Lyman	Saiki, Kinko
Hamada, Miles & Lorraine	Lum, Dwight	Sato, Hideo & Fumi
Hamada, Wallace & Mildred	Maeyama, Jun & Kay	Stowers, Brenda
Hatakeyama, Glen & Reiko	Masada, Miyuki	Sumida, Tatsuo & Yoko
Hedani, Dean and Melainie	Matsuda, Kent	Suzuki, Harry & Lorraine
Higashi, Jitsuo & Sakaye	Matsuoka, Jeffery & Akemi	Takeoka, Nora
Ikuma, Masahiko & Kazuye	Mizono, John	Tanaka, Isago
Inouye, Alice	Mochizuki, Tara & Chu, Jeff	Tanaka, Setsuko J.
Ishii, Hatsumi	Mori, Kazumi & Arris	Tanaka, Setsuko F.
Ishisaki, Ben & Mary	Nagai, Brian & Daroff, Robert	Tanaka, Violet M.
Ito, Yuriye	Nakamura, Harry	Tomita, Art & Tomie
Iwasaki, Shigetoshi	Nakasu, Hitomi	Tsugawa, Robert & Betty
Kagehiro, Satoru & Setsuko	Nakata, Evelyn	Utsumi, Takeo & Helen
Kakiuchi, Chizuko	Nishimoto, Ed & Ayako	Uyehara, Emi & Stewart, Pablo
Kashiwagi, Hiroshi & Sadako	Noguchi, Kei	Yamagishi, Edward & Akiko
Katsuyama, Minoru & Setsuko	Ochi, Alice	Yamamoto, Dick & Elaine
Kimata, Arlene & Kitahata, Gary	Ochi, Mickie	Yamamoto, Takeo & Yasuko
Kishida, Russell & Harumi	Ogawa, Mieko	Yamasaki, Joyce
Kobara, Kazuko	Oka, Yukiko	Yao, Shinji & Yoshi

Shotsuki Hoyo

The memorial service for your loved ones who passed away in January will be held on Sunday, January 10, 2010. You are most welcome to attend.

Martha Masako Abe	Jinjiro Inouye	Tami Minami	Minoru Okamoto	Kon Takemoto
Walter Shigeta Abe	Kumezo Ishisaki	Misao Minemoto	Jinsaku Oki	Tsuruyo Tamaki
Sanaye Akashi	Kazuko Iwasaki	Aileen Michimi Mizokami	Toki Omori	Tsuneyo Tanabe
John Yosei Aragaki	Kazuko Iwashita	Shichirouemon Mizuiri	Kimiye Ono	Satsumi Tanaka
Chizuko Arikawa	Chizuye Izuno	Rosemary Shigeko Mori	Marjorie Shizuko Osaki	Steve Tanaka
Minoru Arikawa	Akira Kakiuchi	Tom Satoshi Mori	Noboru Otani	Tadao Tanaka
Yutaka Arima	Kiyo Kakiuchi	Eiko Moriguchi	Ryu Osai	Mankichi Tanamachi
Hisako Arita	Kikuichi Kami	Yasuhei Morikawa	Kazue Oshita	Noboru Taoka
Seiso Arita	Asako Kawaoka	Chokichi Moriyama	Tome Sada	Mary Setsuko Goishi Toki
Setsuko Inada Blake	Chikahei Kawasaki	Take Moriyama	Yasuye Sakaguchi	George Eiso Tokugawa
Hachiro Chisaki	Tsunetaro Kawasaki	Kiku Murakami	Jean Fumiko Sakamoto	Yutaka Tomimoto
Masako Chisaki	Ayame Kawase	Hiroyoshi Murata	Ichihai Sakita	George Kozo Toshiyuki
Joe Doi	Kiyoshi Kawasetsu	Yukiye Murata	Kiyoshi Sasaki	Dr. & Mrs. Herbert Trant
Sei Doioka	Satoru Kidozaki	Eijiro Nagai	Tsure Sato	Arleen Honda Tsuchiya
Betty Suyeko Fujimoto	Kenichi Kiwata	Iwaichi Naganuma	Mary Fumiye Satomi	Kazuichi Tsuji
Risaku Enomoto	Katsue Kodama	Yoshie Nagata	Emiko Sawada	Kimiye Tsujimoto
Mildred Michiko Fujimoto	Hiroshi Kohagura	Helen Hatsuko Naito	George Hiroshi Sawamura	Takeo Tsujisaka
Yoko Fukami	Kusujiro Kojimoto	Paul Shizuya Naito	Harry Minoru Sawasaki	Michiko Utsumi
George E. Fussell	Michiko Koukame	Rev. Shozen Naito	Yamako Seto	Kisaichi Uyeda
Kazuko Hamada	Shigeo Roy Kunitake	Jinsaburo Nakabe	Matsuyo Shigemasu	Koto Uyemoto
Hatsue Hattori	Shinichi Kuno	Seiichi Nakai	Tasao Shigemasu	Mitsuo Uyemoto
Koyuki Hedani	Saichiro Kuruma	Yukino Nakamura	Yae Shigyo	Tsai Liu Wang (Mr.)
Ayano Higashi	Hikomichi Kuwamoto	Seiji Nakata	Herbert Tadashi Shimamoto	Shokichi Washimi
Misao Hirai	Iyo Kuwatani	Hatsumi Nakayama	Shojiro Shimizu	Yoshio James Watanabe
Bunueemon Hirano	Kiyoko Mametsuka	Tomohichi Nakayama	Tori Shimizu	Clarence Masayuki
Rikimatsu Hirata	Mei-Yu Chen Liu (Mrs.)	Junichi Nimura	Eshi Shimosaka	Yamamoto
Lung Hom	Sakuko Maruta	Beatrice Yaeka N Ishi	Takezo Shioda	Irving Shohei Yamamoto
Katsuki Horita	Fred Marubayashi	Taeko Nishihata	Toku Shiozaki	Kyokuso Yamamoto
Juro Hosoda	Masuichi Masada	Yoshitaro Nishihata	Yoshimatsu Shiro	Satono Yamamoto
Jane Kaoru Ide	Isao Matsukage	Masataro Nishimura	Hiroshi Sugawara	Tokizo Yamamoto
Tokiko Ikenouye	Ed Fumio Masuoka	Miki Nishino	Momoe Sugimoto	Albert Sumitaka Yamanaka
Isami Imazumi	Noboru Masuoka	Michiko Nogami	Mitsue Sugita	Ayako Yamanaka
Shigeru Imazumi	Kazuma Matsuo	Shokichiro Nonaka	Fumio John Suyehiro	Yoshio Yasuhara
		Kumakichi Oishi	Fumi Takamoto	Koben Yonemoto
				Masue Yoshimura

Sympathy

The Buddhist Church of San Francisco extends its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the late:

Asako Fukuhara, who passed away on November 23, 2009

Art Hiro Tomita, who passed away on December 4, 2009

Dennis Hiroshi Takeuchi, who passed away on December 4, 2009

今月亡くなられた方達の祥月法要は日曜日1月10日午後1時より行います。
もし名前がリストからもれていましたらオフィスまで連絡して下さい。

阿部マサ子	井上甚次郎	溝上アイリーン三千美	大森とき	田中さつみ
阿部重太	石崎久米蔵	水入七郎右衛門	小野きみえ	田中ステューブ
赤司早苗	伊津野ちづえ	森口ローズメリーしげこ	大下一江	田中忠雄
有川千鶴子	岩崎カズコ	森口タム智	大谷 昇	棚町万吉
有川 実	垣内 光	森口えい子	尾崎マジョリー静子	田岡 登
荒垣ヨウセイ・ジョン	垣内キヨ	森川安平	佐田とめ	土岐メリー
有馬ゆたか	加美菊一	森山長吉	坂口安枝	徳川ジョージ栄三
有田久子	川岡あさ子	森山たけ	阪本ジーン文子	富本 豊
有田セイゾウ	川崎近平	村上きく	崎田市兵衛	利行ジョージ孝蔵
ブレイク稲田節子	川崎恒太郎	村田広義	佐々木喜美	トラント・ハーバート
ちさ木八郎	川瀬 菖	村田幸枝	佐藤津礼	トラント・夫人
ちさ木雅子	川節 清	永井栄治郎	里見富美枝メリー	辻 一市
土井 穰	城戸崎 悟	永沼岩市	澤村浩ジョージ	辻本キミエ
土井岡セイ	木綿健一	永田芳枝	沢田恵美子	辻坂猛雄
榎本利作	児玉勝衛	内藤ヘレン初子	沢崎実ヘリー	内海美智子
藤木道子	古波蔵 浩	内藤照善	瀬戸やま子	上田喜三市
藤本ミルドレッド道子	柑本楠治郎	内藤ポール静哉	重益マツヨ	上木こと
藤本スエコベティー	高亀美智子	中部甚三郎	重益多佐雄	上本光男
深見洋子	国武しげお	中井清一	執行やえ	ウアング・ツイ・ルー
ファツソル・ジョージ	久野真一	中村ゆきの	島本タダシハーバート	鷺見昌吉
浜田壽子	車 佐一郎	中田誠次	清水庄治郎	渡辺義雄
服部初江	桑本博公	中山初女	清水とり	安原義夫
部谷小雪	桑谷伊誉	中山友七	下坂え志	山本アピング登平
東 あやの	ルー・メイユーチェン	仁村順一	塩田竹蔵	山本クレアンス"アーチ"
平井みさお	豆塚きよ子	仁紫弥栄香ビートリス	塩崎とく	山本旭爽
平野文右衛門	丸太佐久子	西畑妙子	城 由松	山本正行
平田力松	丸林フレッド弘	西畑吉太郎	末広文男ジョン	山本時造
ホーム・ルング	松尾カズマ	西村政太郎	菅原 明	山本さとの
堀田勝喜	政田増市	西野みき	杉本桃江	山中綾子
細田寿朗	榎岡文雄	野上迪子	杉田みつえ	山中純孝
井手かおるジェーン	升岡 登	野中正吉郎	高本ふみ	米本こべん
池之上とどき子	松陰伊左緒	大石熊吉	竹本コン	吉村ますえ
今住いさみ	南 たみ	岡本 実	玉城つるよ	
今住 茂	峯本みさを	沖 じんさく	田辺常代	

COLMA CEMETERY JIKEIKAI NEWS



加州日系人慈恵会
JAPANESE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA



- A new website has been designed <http://www.japanbenevolent.org>. Address, directions, photos and historical information are now available online. Obituaries may be posted on this site.



第七章 小さい乗り物と大きい乗り物

〔すべての人々が仏になる（成仏）ように〕

おしゃかさまのように苦悩を克服し、正しく生きていきたい。その願いから、少しでもおしゃかさまの「さとり」の境地に近づくように、弟子たちはおしゃかさまの教えを忠実に学び実行することに努力しました。しかし、出家してその規律（戒律）をまもり、難しい教理を学んでいくことは、だれにでも出来ることではありません。堅い決意と優れた知能をもった選ばれた一部の人間だけが、厳しい修行に耐え、おしゃかさまのような人格を目指すことになりました。ところが、時代とともにその閉鎖的で難解な学問の傾向が、だんだんエスカレートしてきて、一般の人々には近寄りがたいものとなり、せつかくのダイナミックな仏教の教理も枯渇化し、修行も形式化してきました。

当然その傾向にたいする批判が出てきました。おしゃかさまの元もとの願いは、特定の人たちだけの仏教ではなく、かけがえのない命を恵まれたすべての人々が「煩惱に翻弄されることなく、真理にめざめて本当の人間として生きてほしい」ということでした。その精神に返ろうとする人々が、おしゃかさまの教えに基本線を求めながらも、あらゆる人々に開かれた新しい

「さとり」への体系を主張しはじめました。「大乘仏教」と言われるのがそれです。それに対して、煩瑣哲学化し形式化した伝統的な仏教体系を「小乗仏教」と批判的に呼称しました。「大乘」(Mahayana)とは「大きい乗り物」、「小乗」(Hinayana)とは「小さく劣った乗り物」という意味です。「大きい乗り物は」多くの人々を安全に確実に目的地に運ぶことができるので「大乘仏教」こそが優れているというのです。

〔大乘経典の成立〕

大乘仏教の教えが、いかに優れていると言っても、それを私たち人間が勝手に言ったのでは、だれもそれを真実とは認めません。そこで大乘仏教の教えもおしゃかさまが説かれたものであるという「仏説……経」（おしゃかさまの説かれた経典）という経典の形式をとって述べられていきました。紀元一世紀ころよりそうした「大乘経典」が成立しはじめたと言われていています。当然、そういう経典をおしゃかさまが説かれたという歴史的証拠はありませんから、小乗仏教徒の方から「大乘非仏説」（大乘は仏説ではない）という批判が浴びせられました。大乘仏教の方は、「煩惱を断じ、人々にさとりをより効果的に実現させる教えであるから、大乘の教えは、たとえ形の上で悪魔が説いたにしても、それは仏説である」という論理で、大乘仏教の正当性を主張しました。ちなみに大乘経典に属するものとしては、

『仏説無量寿経』『仏説阿弥陀経』

『妙法蓮華経』『大方広仏華嚴経』など多くがあります。