

HAKUHO



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Hilo's Zen Temple

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JUNE 2021

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Aloha, Members and Friends of Taishoji,

On May 16, 2021, We had a special ceremony at Taishoji. It is the Shinsankaido and Hossenshiki ceremony. To explain the ceremonies simply, they are Jigaku and my promotion ceremony. They are a great celebration.

Shinsan means that a new resident minister enters the temple officially. In Soto Zen Buddhism, a new resident minister performs the Shinsan ceremony as a first ritual. For the ceremony, basically, many temple members and ministers gather at the temple to celebrate the new resident minister. But actually, this ceremony is normally held a couple years later after the minister has been ordained as the resident minister, because the resident minister cannot have the ceremony without his disciple. And the Shinsankaido Ceremony is part of the Shinsan ceremony.

Next, Hossenshiki Ceremony, Hossen means dharma battle. During the ceremony, my disciple, Deacon Jigaku Takenouchi, answered all the questions related to Zen practice from the attending ministers instead of me. This style came from the story in which Buddha let Mahākassapa, a disciple of Buddha to share his dharma with all the disciples instead of Buddha. Through this ceremony, Jigaku was tested for his practice of the Dharma and showed his determination. Both ceremonies are really successful.

The reason why we performed the ceremonies is that Jigaku became my disciple to be an official Soto Zen Minister. I mentioned that the Shinsankaido Ceremony is an important ceremony for me, but I could not have the ceremony without a disciple.



Deacon Juho, Rev. Hata, Deacon Jigaku

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After Deacon Jigaku became my disciple, I was able to perform the ceremony for the first time. And Jigaku also, could not perform his Hossenshiki Ceremony without his teacher. In order to become a Soto Zen Minister, he has to find a teacher and have the ceremony with the teacher. Both ceremonies are always held together. So the ceremonies are rare and people hardly get to see them. At Taishoji, I heard that the 10th resident minister of Taishoji, Rev. Aoki performed the ceremonies, but that was about 50 years ago. So you can understand how valuable the ceremonies are.

For Deacon Jigaku, it was difficult to perform the ceremony as a Soto Zen Monk, because everything was for the first time. He learned how to wear the robe and behave as a Soto Zen Monk. But he completed the ceremonies successfully. I am proud of him. I also learned a lot through the ceremonies. I really appreciate the Taishoji members, all the Hawaii ministers and deacons who helped. After the ceremonies, I remembered one of the Zen phrases. It is “**Isshi futai (一志不退)**.” It means make an effort to achieve your goal. Actually, I wanted to have the ceremonies last October, but I couldn’t do that due to the coronavirus. And we tried to have the ceremonies on different days several times and tried to have an online ceremony via Zoom, but we couldn’t schedule it again and again. However, Deacon Jigaku and I did not give up. Finally, we were able to have the ceremonies this month.

The dates and program of the ceremonies may have changed several times due to the coronavirus, but it became more special and meaningful as a result. The important thing in our life is to make an effort to achieve our goal without giving up. And to continue the efforts.

Things don’t always go the way we want them to. There are times we make mistakes. But I believe that if we always continue the effort to achieve the goal which we set, we will achieve good results and make new discoveries which we didn’t expect.

How about your life? Do you live your life with a goal? Depending on the person, there are different goals. For example, to act with compassion or to cherish family members. These are precious goals which we can achieve. The important thing is to continue the efforts whole heartedly. The efforts will change the course of our current life and create our future life. Age doesn't matter. I'd like you to believe in yourself and your own Buddha mind and cherish life every day.

Finally, my deepest thanks to the Taishoji members and all the Hawaii ministers and deacons who helped with the ceremonies. I had a really wonderful time. “Isshi Futai” let us have our own goal and live our precious life together. Thank you very much.

In Gassho,
Rev. Shinsho Hata



Shinsankaido and Hossenshiki Ceremony Participants and Guests

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Congratulations Rev. Shinsho Hata & Deacon Jigaku Takenouchi who participated in separate ceremonies at Taishoji. Mountain Seat Hall Opening Ceremony, or Shinsan Kaido. During this ceremony, Rev. Hata was recognized as the 15th resident minister of Taishoji and Deacon Jigaku Takenouchi went through a very impressive Shusho Hossenshiki Ceremony to show his wisdom and proven knowledge of the teachings of the Dharma to attend a monastery too become a Minister. In Gassho, Rodney Nishino



Hossenshiki Ceremony



Deacon Jigaku & Rev. Hata



Deacon Jigaku

FUJIN KAI

Aloha Dear Members, Friends and Families of Fujin Kai!

I hope you are well and in good spirits. After a long year of patience, it is so nice to hear the good news that we can get closer to our loved ones once again, but still please use caution. We will have our Kaisanki / Rekijuki / Kannon-ko in June, and on this day, we will have a Memorial Service for the late Baikako Members. Many Baikako members are / were also Fujin Kai members. They are / were our mothers, grandmothers, aunties, and friends. In loving memories of their singing voice and smiles, we put our hands together in gassho.

There will be no Fujin Kai meeting in June. Taishoji Fujin Kai, as always, is welcoming new members and supporters. Please share your thoughts, suggestions, and questions. (Tel/Text: 808-345-1765
Email: hilo1989@gmail.com)

With Gratitude in Gassho,
Yoko Gussman

BUSSHHIN KAI

Aloha, Everyone:

We hope you are well and healthy at this time and place. Please have every family member get a vaccination of Pfizer or Moderna when their age is allowed. We hope we win this battle with the Covid 19 pandemic.

When a loved one passes away, we do not rely on an imaginary being to care for the person in the spirit world. It is us the living family who remember and honors the departed each year at the time of Obon, when the departed return to our homes and temples in spirit. Ours is a loving memory tradition. One of our beloved Gathas, or songs, is "Farewell." It says:

(1) Evermore in memory we shall treasure,
The golden hours we spent with you;
Hours that brought to us in fullest measure,
All the blessings and the joys of friendship true.

(Refrain): Farewell to you our friend so true;
May Love and Truth Eternal guide you,
And love divine upon your pathway shine,
Until we meet again.

(2) We have bowed with you in sweet communion,
Before the Buddha's Holy Shrine,
And no parting e'er can rend the union,
Of our spirits in His Brotherhood divine.

(3) Up With Zen!

Please take care...

Walter Tachibana, President

Hello Taishoji family and friends,

It is already June! Half a year has gone by, and we are starting to see signs of things returning to normal or a pre-covid way of being. We have been fortunate to be able to welcome members back for in person services and sharing fellowship in small numbers when possible. Last month we were able to hold two special ceremonies for Reverend Hata and myself. I wanted to take some time to thank everyone for helping make the ceremonies a success. I would also like to thank Bishop Komagata and our Soto Zen ministers from across the islands for coming to Taishoji; and their support and encouragement. It was only a few years ago that I started attending services at Taishoji and felt the warmth and kindness of our Sangha. For me attending services at Taishoji opened up a door to a deeper understanding and appreciation of Buddha's teachings. Have you heard the phrase Reidan jichi? It can be found in our new Himekuri Zen calendar. It means, **True understanding can only come from personal experience**. My success thus far has only been made possible thanks to all of you. Our Sunday services provide us an opportunity to learn, grow and share new experiences while learning about the Dharma together. Last year Reverend Hata became my Dharma teacher when I went through the Tokudo ceremony in preparation for the Shusho Hossen Shiki ceremony that recently took place. This is a lifelong bond that we share as he prepares me for monastic life and priesthood. I am grateful for his continued guidance, support, and encouragement. It is likely I would not have awoken to my path if I had not attended services at Taishoji. If you have been unable to attend services, I encourage you to pass by and experience our Sunday services for yourself. Taishoji is a unique place with many wonderful people. I will continue doing my best for our temple and you, our members.

In Humblest Gassho,
Jigaku Takenouchi

ZEN

"The essence of Buddhist practice is inner cultivation, not external ritual." Dogen Zenji The way of Zen does not involve worshipping or praying to some supernatural being, but seeing into our true nature, which is Buddha nature. Understanding Zen is not a matter of book learning, but of personal experience. We do not only learn from a book, or teacher, but from life. The way of Zen is not a withdrawal from life, but is found in the activities of everyday life.

This is why Zen in Japan developed the cultivation of the arts. Arts such as tea ceremony, flower arrangement, bonsai, poetry and painting. Even in the field of martial arts like judo, karate, and aikido. The first supporters of Zen in Japan were the samurai, the warrior class, who found in Zen an emphasis on self-control, and equanimity of mind, a discipline conducive to their own end. To achieve the experience of Zen, practice is necessary. Even though we may accept the Buddha's teaching, and study it, we cannot get anywhere without practice, so then we can realize the teachings for ourselves, and develop a peaceful mind and life.

In Gassho,
Deacon Juho

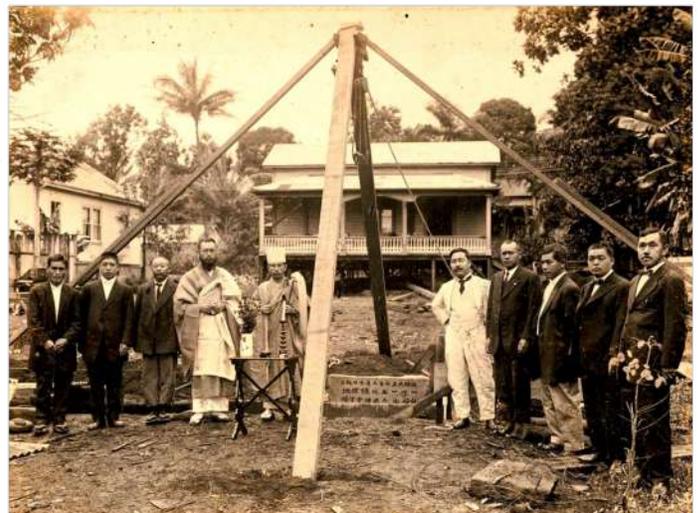
BAIKA-KO

Taishoji Baika-ko will be sponsoring the Kaisanki & Rekiju-Ki (Memorial Service for the deceased founder and past ministers of Taishoji) /Deceased Baika-Ko Members Memorial Service / Kannon-Ko **at 10:00am on June 6th**. The deceased Baika-ko Members Memorial Service honors our 78 deceased members. Their names will be read at the service. Family members and friends are welcome to participate in this service and offer incense to remember and honor them when their names are called. The service will be livestream via Facebook. The video will be posted on YouTube later.

CLICK ON THE LINKS BELOW TO VIEW THE SERVICES

Facebook Link - <https://www.facebook.com/Taishoji-Soto-Mission-121688031174831/>

YouTube Link - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSQ4EVugUml_rGhb1c-8RQQ



Ground-Breaking Ceremony February 10, 1918

TAISHOJI JUNE 2021 SCHEDULE

5	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 4
6	Sun	10:00 am	(Audience participation) Kaisanki / Rekiju-ki / Kannon-ko Service (Honoring the deceased members of the Baikako)
12	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 1
13	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service
		10:30 am	Kyodan Meeting
19	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 2
20	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service (last SS / Family Service)
		10:30 am	Otakiage
26	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 3
27	Sun		Daifukuji O-Bon Service

TENTATIVE TAISHOJI JULY 2021 SCHEDULE

3	Sat		7:00 am Temple Cleaning Group # 4
10	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 1 Rev. Hata to Maui Mantokuji for O-Bon Service Daifukiji Bon Dance
11	Sun	10:00 am	Kyodan Meeting
		1:00 pm	Fujin Kai Meeting
17	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 2
18	Sun	8:00 am	LANTERN REQUEST FORMS DUE
22	Thu	7:00 pm	Rev. Hata to Waipahu Taiyoji for O-Bon Service
24	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 3
25	Sun	9:00 am	O-BON & TOBA KUYO SERVICE (LIVE on Facebook)
		5:30 pm	TORO NAGASHI (TO BE VIDEO TAPED)
			Facebook Link - https://www.facebook.com/Taishoji-Soto-Mission-121688031174831/
26	Mon	10:00 am	O-BON, TOBA KUYO & TORO NAGASHI CAN BE VIEWED ON
			YouTube Link - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSQ4EVugUml_rGhb1c-8RQQ
27	Tue		Rev. Hata to Japan 7/27/21 - 9/14/21 to help father with O-Bon
31	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 4

TAISHOJI ZAZEN / YOGA / TAIKO / TROOP 95 / GO SCHEDULE

Yoga & Zazen	Monday	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
ZAZEN	SUNDAY'S / BEFORE SUNDAY SCHOOL	8:00 am - 8:35 am
Taiko	Thursday, Friday	5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Troop 95	Wednesday	7:15 pm
Go Class	Thursday	5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

IN MEMORIUM

Our Deepest Sympathy and Condolences to the Family of the late:

MRS. SATSUE "STELLA" WATANABE
MARCH 11, 1924 - APRIL 27, 2021

BON DANCE, O-BON, TOBA KUYO, HATSUBON & TORO NAGASHI

BON DANCE - We know everyone looks forward for bon dances. However, due to the **Coronavirus**, it was decided we **CANCEL** our **Bon Dance** again this year to be safe from crowd gathering and social distancing.

O-BON & TOBA KUYO SERVICES - Will be **(IN PERSON and LIVE STREAMED)** on **Sunday, July 25th at 9:00am** on **Facebook Only** with Rev. Hata, Rev. Nakade and Deacons Juho, Jigaku, and Jikai.

(WE ARE LIMITING AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION FOR 25 PEOPLE ONLY) If you are planning to attend, please call Rev. Hata at 808-935-8407 to reserve a seat.

HATSUBON SERVICE - will be a private service with Rev. Shinsho Hata, Rev. Jiko Nakade, Deacon Juho Kirkpatrick, Deacon Jigaku Takenouchi and Deacon Jikai Nakade attended by **Hatsubon Families Only. (The Hatsubon Service will not be live streamed or recorded on Facebook or YouTube)**

TORO NAGASHI - Lanterns can only be purchased with the request form in this bulletin sent in to Taishoji Soto Mission by **Saturday, July 17th**. **Lanterns will not be sold at the Wailoa Boat Ramp.**

WE ARE SORRY BUT DUE TO THE PANDEMIC YOU WILL NOT BE TO ASSEMBLE YOUR OWN LANTERNS AS WAS DONE IN PRIOR YEARS. WE WILL HAVE SEVERAL OF OUR MEMBERS ASSEMBLE IT FOR YOU.

Lanterns will be assembled and released by Taishoji members on **Sunday, July 25th at 5:30pm**. We apologize for this inconvenience but we hope you understand and help us in sending our beloved ancestors spirits back to their world of Nirvana.

O-BON, TOBA KUYO SERVICES and TORO NAGASHI, Will be available for viewing on **Facebook** and **YouTube** on **Monday, July 26th at 10:00am**.



LANTERNS TO BE RELEASED



ANCESTORS SAILING TO THE OTHER SHORE

CLICK ON THE LINKS BELOW TO VIEW THE SERVICES

Facebook Link - <https://www.facebook.com/Taishoji-Soto-Mission-121688031174831/>

YouTube Link - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSQ4EVugUml_rGhb1c-8RQQ

NOTE: THERE WILL NOT BE ANY TAIKO PERFORMANCE AT THE TORO NAGASHI SERVICE

2021 TAISHOJI O-BON DONATION FORM

Name of Donor: _____
Last First

Donation for: O-Bon Service \$ _____
Toba: \$2.00 each \$ _____
Total \$ _____

Toba Name (s): Please print

(1) _____
Donor Dedicated To

(2) _____
Donor Dedicated To

(3) _____
Donor Dedicated To

(4) _____
Donor Dedicated To

(5) _____
Donor Dedicated To

Make check or cash payable to **Taishoji Soto Mission, 275 Kinoole St. Hilo, HI 96720.**

Please mail or drop of form and donation to **Taishoji Soto Mission by Saturday, July 17, 2021**

.....CUT ON LINE.....

**TAISHOJI SOTO MISSION
2021 TORO NAGASHI LANTERN REQUEST FORM**

Donor's Name (Print) _____
Last First

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Cell Number: _____

Dedicated to: (Print) _____

Dedicated to: (Print) _____

Donation of **\$ 25.00** for each Lantern Check _____ Cash _____

Make check or cash payable to **Taishoji Busshin Kai, 275 Kinoole St Hilo, HI 96720**

Please mail or drop of form and payment to **Taishoji Soto Mission by Saturday, July 17, 2021**



Shinsan Kaido Ceremony
Rev. Hata answered all the questions related to Zen practice from the attending ministers.



Announcing mallet by
Bishop Shugen Komagata



Shuso Hossenshiki Ceremony
Deacon Jigaku borrowed Rev. Hata's shippei, the stick which symbolizes his authority to teach. After he returned to his seat, he answered all the questions related to Zen practice from the attending ministers instead of Rev. Hata.



Fujinkai Hospital Visitation May 3, 2021
Audrey and Yoko helped with the gift packing. Rev. Hata took them to Hale Anuene Restorative Care Center and Life Care Center of Hilo



Baika Workshop led by Rev. Ryokei Ishii
May 17, 2021



2021 Hilo High School
Graduate Kalif Leung & Rev. Hata