



# HAKUHO

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**MARCH 2018**

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Aloha, Members and Friends of Taishoji,

New banners of the Soto Zen School in Hawaii! As one of the Hawaii Soto Mission Association projects, these banners were completed by Rev. Jiko Nakade (Daifukuji) and Rev. Myoshin Kaniyomoe (Alaneo Zendo) last month. These banners will hang on the wall at all the Soto Zen temples in Hawaii. Actually, I also helped with this project and drew these Chinese characters at their request. Precious Buddhist teachings are written on these banners. "Giving", "Kind Speech", "Good Deeds" and "Empathy", these teachings are called the "four kinds of wisdom" or "The four Integrative Methods of Bodhisattvas." Each banner has three different translations in Japanese, English and Hawaiian. We made these banners so people can become aware of precious Soto Zen teachings.



I'd like to talk about one of these teachings, Giving. Giving is called Dāna in Sanskrit, which means voluntary giving of material, energy, or wisdom to others. These characters are called Fuse(布施) in Japanese. The character of "布(Fu)" means cloth. The other character means to Give. Fuse originally came from the story in which a poor person gave a dirty cloth to a monk in return for the monk's sermon since this poor person didn't have money and any kind of food. The monk sewed his robe using the dirty cloth without wasting it.

There are various ways of giving. In our daily life, we have the opportunity to give in many situations. However, we have to consider how we feel when we give something to others. Buddha and Dogen emphasized that "Giving is non-attachment."

There is a Buddhist story which I'd like to tell all of you. About 2600 years ago, there was a disciple of the Buddha called Shariputra. One day, Shariputra received a lot of food from people in town since he gave a sermon to them. After he went home, he felt that it was a shame to eat it all by himself. Shariputra decided to give the meal to Buddha, since Shariputra knew the importance of giving and respected Buddha. Shariputra went to Buddha. Then he said, "I came here to give this food to lord Buddha!" Buddha said "Thank you very much for bringing this food. Continued on next page

" Buddha accepted the food. Then, Buddha gave the food to a dog beside him. Shariputra was really surprised and said. "Why did Buddha give the food to the dog? I brought the food for Buddha!" Buddha said to Shariputra, "Which is the true practice of Giving, your behavior or my behavior? Giving is non-attachment. Non-attachment is to share things which you have with compassion, and even after you share the things, you should not think about wanting those things anymore."

Finally, Shariputra realized his mistake and reflected on his behavior. In this story, I thought that Buddha's behavior was a little mean. But Buddha wanted to teach Shariputra the importance of giving. Giving is non-attachment. At first, since Shariputra wasn't attached to the food, Shariputra could give the food to Buddha with compassion. But since Shariputra intended to give the food to only Buddha, Shariputra was angry at Buddha's behavior.

If I was Shariputra, I might also be angry at Buddha. However, Shariputra should not have been angry at Buddha. Because Giving is non-attachment. The same thing applies in our daily life. We tend to give something to only the person who we like or to give something expecting something in return. But if the person wasted what we gave or didn't do anything in return for our acting, we might be angry or think that it was a waste. This is not the true practice of giving. To give material, energy, or wisdom to others freely is the true practice of giving. Every time you see the Banner, please remember the importance of Giving. Giving is to just give what we have to others with compassion.

In Gassho,  
Rev. Shinsho Hata

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

The Kyodan Installation and Shinnen Enkai was held in February. Congratulations to the incoming officers of the various organizations. Let us work together to have another successful and exciting year.

Please make a correction in the Board of Directors list in the February Hakuho. The Fujin Kai President is **Mrs. Yoko Gussman**.

The homeless people are tempering with our security lights at night on our buildings by loosening the lamps and sleeping on the stairways of the buildings and the ramp area of the temple. The Hawaii Police Department has been notified of our situation. We have no trespassing signs posted around our premises and if they are caught trespassing, they can be arrested. If anyone sees strange people around our premises, please call the **Police at 961-8121** and report it. When you attend services at the temple be sure not to have any valuables visible exposed in your vehicle. Make sure your vehicle is **LOCKED!!**.

In Gassho,  
Rodney Nishino



Walter Tachibana, President Rodney Nishino, Rev Shinsho Hata, Mamiko Hata, Kazue Tanimoto, Hiromu Yamauchi Thomas Callis, Joseph Takenouchi, Larry Soma, Ellen Yamauchi, Patricia Fuke, Linda Matsushita, Derrick Izumo Yoko Gussman, Edith Nishino

**HANAMATSURI**  
~Flower Festival: celebrating Buddha's birth~



Sunday, April 1, 2018  
9:00 AM  
At Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin  
Sangha Hall  
Sponsored by the  
Big Island Buddhist Federation  
Hosted by Taishoji Soto Mission

**Taishoji Soto Mission invites you to the 2018 Big Island Buddhist Federation Hanamatsuri Service. This is a joint service with other Buddhist Temples in Hilo. Taishoji is the toban temple this year.**

**The service will be held on Sunday, April 1, 2018, at Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin Sangha Hall at 9:00am. We will celebrate the Buddha's birthday. The guest speaker will be Ms. Akiko Masuda.**

**A performance by Taishoji Taiko will follow the service.**

## FUJIN KAI

Hello to the members and friends of Fujin Kai,  
Thank you for your hard work and endless support.  
Here are some announcements for March:

1. The Fujin Kai monthly meeting which was scheduled for March 4<sup>th</sup>, will now be held on March 11<sup>th</sup> following our Haru No O-Higan Service.
2. Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am, the Niigata Kenjin Kai will be having their New Year's Shinnen Enkai luncheon at Taishoji. The Fujin Kai will prepare the lunch for this occasion as a fundraiser for the Fujin Kai. Your participation in this fundraiser will be greatly appreciated.
3. Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30am, several of our temple members will go to pick kakuma and bring it to Taishoji for processing in preparation for sale at the country store during the Fujin Kai UHSSWA conference at Kona Daifukuji Soto Mission on April 14 & 15. While members are picking the kakuma, we will need other members to come to Taishoji by 9:00am to prepare for peeling the kakuma. If you have a paring knife, please bring it with you. Otherwise we have knives you may use.
4. Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> the BIBF (Big Island Buddhist Federation) will be having their Hanamatsuri Service at the Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin Sangha Hall. Taishoji, as the Toban temple will be hosting for this service. The Fujin Kai was asked to prepare refreshments following the service. We will need your participation on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 8:00am at Taishoji and again on Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:00am at Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin Sangha Hall to prepare the refreshments. Please call Yoko Gussman at 808-345-1765  
If you have questions.

In Gassho,  
Yoko Gussman,  
President, Fujin Kai



Kinue Ito, President Yoko Gussman, Rev Shinsho Hata, Mamiko Hata, Kazue Tanimoto, Toshie Miyasaki, Ellen Yamauchi, Audrey Jyo,



Kakuma Peeling

## BUSSHIN KAI



Linda Matsushita, Thomas Callis, President Walter Tachibana, Rev Shinsho Hata, Kazue Tanimoto, Patricia Fuke

## SUNDAY SCHOOL



Linda Matsushita, Edith Nishino, Walter Tachibana, Rev Shinsho Hata, Mamiko Hata, Kazue Tanimoto, President Patricia Fuke

**TAISHOJI MARCH 2018 SCHEDULE**

<b>3</b>	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 2
<b>4</b>	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service
		<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>FUJIN KAI MEETING MOVED TO MARCH 11</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>ZAZEN CANCELLED / Rev. Hata to Honolulu</b>
<b>10</b>	Sat	7:30 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 3
		<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Kyodan Meeting</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Haru No O-Higan / Kannon-Ko Service (Fujin Kai)</b>
		<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Fujin Kai Meeting</b>
<b>17</b>	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 4
<b>18</b>	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service
<b>24</b>	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 5
<b>25</b>	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service
<b>31</b>	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 1

**ZAZEN / TAIKO / BOY SCOUT TROOP 95 SCHEDULE**

Zazen	Monday	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Morning Zazen	Sunday	8:00 am - 8:35 am
Taiko	Sunday	11:00 am - 1:00 pm
	Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Boy Scout Troop 95	Wednesday	7:15 pm

**TENTATIVE TAISHOJI APRIL 2018 SCHEDULE**

<b>1</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>BIBF Hanamatsuri Service (Taishoji is host)</b> <b>(Hilo Hongwanji Betsuin Sangha Hall)</b>
<b>7</b>	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 2
<b>8</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Taishoji Soto Mission Hanamatsuri</b> <b>Kannon-Ko / Toba Kuyo Service (Kyodan)</b>
<b>14</b>	Sat	7:30 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 3
<b>14 &amp; 15 Sat &amp; Sun</b>		<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>UHSSWA Conference (/Daifukuji &amp; King Kam Htl)</b> <b>KYODAN MEETING CANCELLED</b>
<b>21</b>	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 4
<b>22</b>	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service
<b>28</b>	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 5
<b>29</b>	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service

**PRACTICE**

Now if a bird or a fish tries to reach the end of the element before moving in it, this bird or that fish will not find its place. When we find our place at the moment, when we find our way at this moment, then practice follows and this is the realization of truth. For the place and the way are neither larger nor small, neither subject or object. They have not existed from the beginning and they are not in the process of realization.

# Our Vision

1. To offer the teachings of the Buddha and Soto Zen practice to the community.
2. Providing a safe and peaceful temple environment for Buddhist study, practice, and other Dharma-related activities.
3. All of us working in harmony as a Sangha, with compassion, respect, and kindness to benefit all people, caring for their spiritual and social needs.
4. Cultivating an appreciation for the Buddhist way of life.

## Our Vision

### 1. To offer the teachings of the Buddha and Soto Zen practice to the community.

Taishoji is a wonderful place that enables us to learn Buddhist teachings. Buddhist teachings and Soto Zen teachings are very useful for everyday life. By continuing Buddhist practices, we can develop our mind and have a fruitful life. Furthermore, we have the possibility of changing the world and making it a better place.

### 2. Providing a safe and peaceful temple environment for Buddhist study, practice, and other Dharma-related activities.

Since Taishoji is located in the heart of Hilo town, it attracts many visitors who are interested or curious about the Buddhist religion. We can offer and provide a safe and peaceful temple environment for practicing Buddhism.

### 3. All of us working in harmony as a Sangha, with compassion, respect, and kindness to benefit all people, caring for their spiritual and social needs.

Taishoji would like to create an Ohana where everyone feels comfortable and can support each other with compassion.

### 4. Cultivating an appreciation for the Buddhist way of life.

It is a great pleasure for us to practice Buddhism. It is a miracle for us to meet each other and grow together. We are all fortunate to live in a community that we cherish.

## SETSUBUN



“Oni Wa Soto, Fukuwa Uchi”



Sunday School Students and Friends

**HANAMATSURI (FLOWER FESTIVAL)**

**Sunday, April 8, 2018 at 9:30 am, the Taishoji Kyodan** will be hosting our **HANAMATSURI / KANNON KO / TOBA KUYO SERVICE**. We will be celebrating Shakyamuni Buddha's birthday. He was born more than 2,500 years ago to King Siddhartha and Queen Maya in the garden of Lumbini in Kapilavastu, a small kingdom in the Himalayan foothills. He was called Siddhartha and later, Shakyamuni Buddha.



Harry, Grace & Thomas Fuke bath's the Baby Buddha with Sweet Tea.

It has long been said that at the time of his birth Shakyamuni Buddha said, "Heaven, Earth and I are one person." At each temple through out Japan, a small pavilion, covering a statue of the baby Buddha pointing one index finger toward heaven and the other toward earth, is set up and decorated with flowers. This statue is bathed with sweet tea and this is the way Flower Festivals are observed.

Flower festivals are not held only at temples, however. It is also observed as a general, public event. Let us believe in the true happiness brought about by Shakyamuni Buddha's teaching and celebrate the unsurpassable joy it gives. Sweet tea is essential of the Flower Festival. According to the legend, two Dragon Kings rained warm and cold sweet water from heaven to bathe Buddha. Not only is sweet tea drunk at the Flower Festival, but there is also the custom of grinding *sumi ink* with it and writing "April 8<sup>th</sup> is a day of good fortune and insects are driven away." The piece of paper this is written on is hung upside down and thought to keep away disagreeable insects.

**PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING SHAKYAMUNI BUDDHA'S BIRTHDAY!**

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

**HANAMATSURI DONATION FORM**

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First

Donation For:

Membership Dues \$60.00 (if not paid)	\$ _____
Hanamatsuri Donation	\$ _____
Toba _____ @ \$2.00 each	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

Toba Name (s) (Please Print) (Include another sheet if more is needed)

- |    |       |              |
|----|-------|--------------|
| 1) | _____ | _____        |
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| 6) | _____ | _____        |
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*Thank you for supporting Taishoji Soto Mission Namu Kie Butsu. Namu Kie Ho. Namu Kie So*