

No. 203 JULY 2008

# ORIGINS

*I bring you together according to the causality of your previous lives and protect you. This settles the matter for all time.*

*Ofudesaki I:74*



***HAWAII SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT COURSE***

*June 15 - July 11, 2008*

## **Message from the Head of the Overseas Department June 26, Tenrikyo 171**

Here in Oyasato, we have welcomed the rainy season, however today, we were blessed with cloudy skies and weather bringing comforting breezes, as many followers returned to Jiba to participate in the June Monthly Service as it was performed spiritedly, in unison with the Shinbashira as the core.

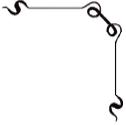
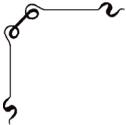
In his Service Prayer, the Shinbashira declared his resolution to apply deep thought toward the truth of the seasonable time in which we are shown and to always reflect upon ourselves, to incorporate deeply into our hearts, the parental heart of God, so that we may endeavor in the construction of our minds. And through any and everything, we must exert our sincerity in our single-heartedness with God and continue to work earnestly, to spiritedly initiate missionary activities with a unity of mind. In addition, he offered a prayer that all humankind may receive guidance toward a harmonious, Joyous Life.

Following the Service, myself, Miyamori, gave the sermon. (In regards to the details of the sermon, please refer to the English Tenrikyo Newsletter.)

Now, from the 10th of next month, the Oyasato Seminar will commence. This year, we are expecting 12 students for the English Course One, 8 students from the Mainland US, 3 students from Hawaii and 1 student from Nepal. 17 students are expected for the English Course Three, 10 students from the Mainland US, 3 students from Hawaii, 2 students from Canada, 1 student from Nepal, and 1 student from Hong Kong. In addition, 21 students will participate in the Portuguese Course and 11 students in the Chinese Course. Although it will begin in August, a Korean Course will be held for the first time with an expected 20 students. A total of 81 youths from all over the world will bear the responsibility of the future of the overseas mission and will accumulate precious experiences in Oyasato. On behalf of the Overseas Mission Staff, we would like to serve with unity of mind, to ensure that the Oyasato Seminar be held without incident.

Finally, I look forward to the many children who plan to return to Jiba from all regions of the world, for the Children's Pilgrimage, which will begin from July 26th. This concludes my greetings, Thank you.

Yoichiro Miyamori  
Overseas Department Head



## *June Monthly Service Prayer*

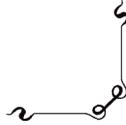
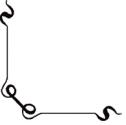
*Before You, God the Parent, Tenri-O-no-Mikoto, who resides in this shrine, I, (Michihito Hamada, bishop of the Mission Headquarters of Hawaii) pray with reverence.*

*God the Parent, as we receive Your over-flowing grace and blessings, which grants us the free use of our bodies, we advance toward the realization of the joyous life world as you guide us in our spiritual development. These boundless blessings are truly more than we can expect. We are forever grateful for these blessings and we express our gratitude day and night as we apply our effort in sprinkling the fragrance of the teachings and salvation work. Today is the day we are granted to conduct the June monthly service at this mission headquarters. The service performers will unite their hearts to perform the seated service and Teodori joyously in high spirits.*

*Today, as you view the brothers and sisters of the path who have looked forward to this day singing the songs of the service in unison, we hope that You can be spirited as well.*

*Beginning from today through the 11th, the 38th Hawaii Spiritual Development Course will be held, and over the course of 27 days, 6 participants will further their awareness of the Intention of God the Parent. Also, next month on the 4th, the Annual Tenrikyo Picnic will be held and we are presently planning for this event in hopes to strengthen the circle of friendship within our congregation. God the Parent, we would like to connect our efforts with Your intention to hasten world salvation, and pursue the path of the Divine Model of Oyasama, and we would like to strengthen within us, the mind of sincerity as we advance toward the realization of the Joyous Life world.*

*May You, God the Parent, accept our sincerity, and we ask that you guide us toward reconstructing the world where we can spend our days living in harmony by helping one another. Together with everyone present, I pray for these blessings.*



*Mission HQ June Monthly Service Sermon*

**Mrs. Jean Yama**

*(Tenrikyo Kalihi Church)*



**The Divine Model**

Thank you for your presence here at Hawaii Dendocho, connecting on to your parent churches and on to Jiba, the birthplace of humankind where God the Parent and Oyasama reside.

My assigned theme is Chapter Five, The Divine Model, of The Doctrine of Tenrikyo. Bishop Hamada had said that anything from that chapter was all right.

The Divine Model is the life of Oyasama after She became the Shrine of God or simply put the 50 years after She became the Shrine of God.

Oyasama in trying to save the many suffering people taught us of God the Parent's teaching by telling it to us and also by using the writing brush to write about

it since we the children often forget what is heard. Oyasama went even further and showed us how to live it during Her 50 years of physical life as the Divine Model.

She taught that the origin of illness comes from the mind and She did this because of Her deep parental love to lead us all to understand the heart of God the Parent.

We have heard many times how God the Parent had instructed Oyasama to fall to the depths of poverty. This was done to show us that it would be difficult to understand the poor or be approachable when you live in luxury. She endured many hardships in trying to get us, Her children, to understand the teaching. She consistently throughout the 50 years of Divine Model strove to achieve one goal, the performance of the Service. The Service that we complain is too long, the Service that is in a language which we do not understand but, nonetheless, the Service that will lead us to salvation.

The many teachings that led up to the Service were shown to us during Oyasama's Divine Model. What were some of those? I'd like to mention my two experiences with the Anecdotes. One was during our Shuyoka English Class in Jiba. Everyday I had an individual in class pick an anecdote to share with the class. They said they

## *June Monthly Service Sermon*

enjoyed this. The other one was during my speech here some years ago, when I shared some anecdotes. My interpreter was Ruriko Inouye. I found out later that during my speech Ruriko was crying as she read the anecdotes. Oyasama's anecdotes are that good! They help to build our minds. Let's recall a few.

### 130. FINE DUST

It was around 1883 that Naokichi Takai, who was in his twenties, was sent by Oyasama to save a sick person who lived about twelve kilometers south of the Residence. When he was instructing the man about the cause of illness, the man challenged Naokichi, saying, "I have done nothing wrong in my life." Naokichi said, "I have heard nothing from Oyasama about such a situation yet. I will go back at once to ask." He then ran the twelve kilometers back to the Residence to ask Her, and She explained to him in this manner: "I will tell you. Suppose you have a new house built and you seal up the windows so that no one can enter. The dust will still settle so thick on the floor that you can write a letter in it when you do not sweep it up for, say, ten or twenty days. You know that a mirror will stain. You sweep piles of dust when it is noticeable, but leave fine dust because it is hard to see. When the fine dust becomes embedded into a mirror, it will stain the mirror. Tell this story to him." Takai said, "I thank you very much," and hurried back the twelve kilometers to the sick person. He conveyed Oyasama's words saying, "I was just told this story." After he was finished,

the patient apologized to him, saying, "I now understand what you say quite well. Sorry, I was mistaken." From that time the patient began to believe in God and was completely cured of his disease.

### 31. THE MEASURE OF HEAVEN

One day Oyasama said to Izo Ihuri: "Izo, will you cut down a tree in the mountains and make a straight post from it?" Izo promptly did so. Afterward, Oyasama said: "Izo, try to place a ruler against the post," and She continued: "Isn't there a gap between the two?" When Izo placed the ruler against the post there was in fact a gap. So he replied, "There is a little gap." Then, Oyasama taught: "Exactly! Even the things that are considered to be straight by all the people of the world are warped when they are placed against the measure of heaven."

### 63. MERIT THAT IS NOT TO BE SEEN

Once Oyasama asked Koiso Yamanaka: "Do you wish to have merit that is to be seen by the eye? Or do you wish to have merit that is not to be seen by the eye? Which do you wish to have?" Koiso replied, "Anything with physical form can be lost or stolen. So I would prefer to have merit that cannot be seen by the eye."

### 77. CHESTNUT FESTIVAL

One day Oyasama said to Rin Masui: "The ninth of September is said to be the day of the Chestnut Festival. The Chestnut Festival is for sufferings to disappear. The

## *June Monthly Service Sermon*

bur of the chestnut is rough and prickly. Take away the bur and inside it there is a shell and then there is a bitter coating. Shell it, then peel the coating, and you will find a tasty nut. If a man listens to the truth and discards his bur and his bitter coating, his mind will become indescribably delicious.”

### 45. WRINKLES OF THE MIND

Oyasma did not waste one sheet of paper, not even an old scrap of paper. She carefully smoothed the wrinkles even out of the paper that had been used as gift wrappings and placed them under Her cushion to be used again. Oyasma taught: “If wrinkled paper is left as it is, it can be used only as toilet paper or as paper to blow one’s nose, but if its wrinkles are carefully smoothed out, it can be used in many ways. Once it is used as toilet paper or paper to blow one’s nose it cannot be retrieved and used again. The saving of a man also follows this principle. It is to smooth the wrinkles of man’s mind with the truth of the teachings. When the mind becomes completely wrinkled, it becomes like the toilet paper. Saving such minds, rather than discarding them, is the principle of this path.”

### 26. THE STORY OF LINEN, SILK AND COTTON

In 1872, while staying at the house of Matsuo, Oyasma said to the couple, Ichibei and Haru, when they came to greet Her one morning: “Both of you always

wear formal clothes when you come to see Me. From now on just wear your everyday clothes. Would it not be more comfortable for you?” When the two bowed their heads in appreciation, She taught them the following: “Today I will tell you the story of linen, silk and cotton. The linen lets the breeze go through freely and does not stick to the skin. Therefore, there is nothing cooler or better to wear in the summer. However, it is too cold to wear in the winter. It is just for the summer. After being worn for about three years, it begins to discolor. If it becomes completely discolored, it is worthless. Even when it is dyed into a darker shade, the color is uneven. When it reaches this stage, it is as useless as waste paper. Silk, whether made into a formal coat or a kimono, is elegant. It is something everybody wants even though it is very expensive. However, do not become a person like silk. It is nice while it is new, but when it gets a little old nothing can be done with it. Now, when it comes to cotton, it is ordinary but is used by everyone. There is nothing that is so handy nor so widely used as cotton. It keeps us warm in the winter and it absorbs our perspiration in the summer. When it becomes dirty, it can be washed over and over again. When its color fades and it becomes so old that it cannot be worn any more, it can be used as a diaper or as a cleaning rag or even as sandals. To be useful until its original form no longer remains: this is cotton. God desires man to have a mind like cotton.” It is said that thereafter Ichibei and his wife

## *June Monthly Service Sermon*

carved the word “cotton” in their minds and wore nothing but cotton throughout their lives.

### 160. SELECTING A PERSIMMON

It was autumn, the season of persimmons. Osame Masui happened to be in the presence of Oyasama and there was a tray full of persimmons in front of Her. In trying to select a persimmon from the tray, Oyasama looked at them from this angle and that. Observing this, Osame thought, “Even Oyasama chooses the best in selecting a persimmon.” But the persimmon that She selected appeared to be the worst of the lot. She then offered the tray with the other persimmons to Osame and said: “Now, please take one.” Observing Oyasama’s actions, Osame thought, “It is true that Oyasama makes Her selection, but what She chooses is different from that which we humans choose. She chooses the worst one for Herself. This is Oyasama’s parental love. She leaves the tastiest ones for Her children, wishing them to have the pleasure. This is truly the parental love of Oyasama.” Osame was impressed by Oyasama’s thoughtfulness and she ate her persimmon as told by Oyasama, while Oyasama ate another. Osame said that she would never forget for the rest of her life the way Oyasama was on that day.

### 123. IS MAN THE OBJECT?

Oyasama told Shirobei Umetani soon after he became a believer in the faith: “Become a person with a gentle heart.

Save other people. Change your habits and temperament.” He was hot-tempered by nature. Shirobei was working at the Residence, plastering the wall of Oyasama’s Resting House which was under construction in 1883. When he heard people maliciously gossiping that “the mason from Osaka, who cannot get work there, has had to come as far as Yamato for work,” he became very indignant. In the middle of the night, he quietly gathered his belongings and started to return to Osaka. Walking on tiptoes, he was about to leave through the main gate when he heard Oyasama cough from Her room in the Nakaminami-Gatehouse. “Ah! Oyasama!” he thought; his feet stopped and his anger disappeared. Next morning, while he was having breakfast with the rest of the people at the Residence, Oyasama appeared and said: “Shirobei, is man the object? Or is God the object? Remember that God is the object.”

### 75. THIS IS TENRI (THE REASON OF HEAVEN)

In the fall of 1879, Bunkichi Nakagawa, who lived at Honden in Osaka, suddenly contracted an eye disease and his condition became so serious that he was in danger of losing his sight. Umejiro Izutsu, his neighbor, without a moment’s delay began praying for Nakagawa’s recovery from the disease. Nakagawa was marvelously healed within a period of three days and three nights. One day in 1880, Bunkichi Nakagawa visited the Residence to express his gratitude for having been saved. Oyasama received

## *June Monthly Service Sermon*

him and said: "I welcome your seeking the parental home and returning here. Let us have an arm-gripping contest, shall we?" Nakagawa, who habitually boasted of his strength and had even participated in amateur sumo-wrestling matches, could not refrain from smiling wryly for a moment upon hearing Her words. He could not, however, refuse Her and so he stretched forth both of his muscular arms. Oyasama then quietly gripped Nakagawa's left wrist and instructed him to grip Her left wrist as tightly as he could with his right hand. As instructed, Nakagawa gripped Oyasama's wrist with all his might. Then, contrary to his expectations, he felt a sharp pain in his left arm as though it were about to break. He cried out, "I give up! Please, forgive me!" Then Oyasama said: "You need not be surprised. If a child puts forth all his strength, the parent also must put forth strength. This is the reason of heaven. Do you understand?"

### 147. TRUE SALVATION

In 1882, Isa, wife of Yohei Yamamoto of Kurahashi Village in Yamato Province, who was then forty years old, received such marvelous salvation that she was completely healed of a leg ailment of long duration. At the moment of her healing, as she rose to her feet, her leg and hip joints gave out cracking sounds from the long disease. Yet the trembling of her hands did not cease. She worried about it very much, even though it did not seem serious. She returned to Jiba in the

summer of 1884. When she was received by Oyasama, she begged, holding out her trembling hands, "May I ask you to breathe up these?" Then Oyasama instructed Isa: "It would be very easy to breathe upon them. But your trembling hands seem of little inconvenience since you have already been saved from your serious leg ailment. Rather than being cured completely, it is better that you have some trouble left to be healed; then you will understand the innen of your previous lives and be continually reminded of it. This will lead to your true salvation. People tend to wish nothing but to be completely cured. But what is most important is to gain virtue that will lead to true salvation. So I lend you this book instead of breathing upon your hands. Have this book copied and read it every day." Oyasama lent her a complete set of the seventeen parts of the Ofudesaki. From that time on her trembling hands no longer bothered her. For the rest of her life, she read the Ofudesaki which had been copied for her by her own father, and she spread the teachings to whomever she met. She was so blessed that she lived to be eighty-nine.

There's an image of Oyasama, Her love for us and the teachings in all these anecdotes.

In quoting from Reverend Iburi's speech given here a few months ago, "Oyasama warmly embraces us and leads us to the world of inexorable reason. Such is the path of the Divine Model."

***July Monthly Service***  
***July 20, 2008 (Sunday, 9:00 a.m.)***  
***Sermon "Divine Guidance"***  
***in Japanese by Reverend Takatoshi Mima***  
***English Translation by Lisa Okamura***

## **Monthly Service Shuttle!!**

### **YMA & YWC Members!!**

For every Mission HQ Monthly Service we will be having a shuttle service from TCC. We encourage all YMA & YWC Members to park at TCC to help to open up the Mission HQ parking lot for the elderly and possibly new followers who would like to attend the Monthly Service. For more information please call Moses at Mission HQ 595-6523.

## ***ORIGINS***

**[www.tenrikyo-hawaii.com/news](http://www.tenrikyo-hawaii.com/news)**

**e-mail: [origins@tenrikyo-hawaii.com](mailto:origins@tenrikyo-hawaii.com)**

# Faith Experience Speech



**By Daniel Higaki**  
**May 17, 2008**

Aloha everyone! Thank you all for participating in today's joint General Meeting. I have been given the opportunity by Dan Suzuki to share my faith with all of you today. I humbly asked for your kind attention.

Before I begin, I would like to thank Mrs. Kazuko Fujiwara for her efforts in translating of my speech today.

My faith can be broken up into 3 basic parts; pre-Jiba, living at the Jiba and post-Jiba.

Like many of you here, I found my faith while living at Jiba. I entered Shuyoka (Three-month Spiritual Development Course), Oyasato Fusekomi (Planting Seeds of Sincerity) Development Course and worked as an English (Language) instructor at TLI for a total of three and a half years. I can honestly say that my experiences in Jiba has made me realize the life of faith and made me appreciate this wonderful religion. But before I talk about my experiences in

Jiba, I would like to briefly explain about my faith before going to Jiba.

## Pre-Jiba

I was born into a Tenrikyo family but was never really taught the religion by my parents. Although my mother was a daughter of a head minister in Japan and my father, a second generation follower, they never forced the religion on me or my brother. We were encouraged to do morning and evening service whenever possible and required to attend monthly services at Aloha Church, but never really engaged in other aspects of the religion. The only Tenrikyo activity we were involved in was the Koteki (drum & fife) band, when I was about 11 years old. Later on, I was asked to go to Oyasato Seminar when I was a junior in high school but kindly declined because I didn't know anyone that was going and I didn't want to miss out on spending precious time with my friends during the summer.

After graduating from UH (University of Hawaii) with a BA in Japanese, I contemplated on my career and thought long and hard about my future. Basically, I had two choices; 1) become a Japanese school teacher, which I did not want to do or 2) get a job in the travel/hospitality industry. Although I had a Japanese degree, I was embarrassed to say I could not speak the language very well which therefore limited my chances of working in the travel/hospitality industry. My other option was to continue working at Costco, a part-time job that I had during college.

After thinking about it for awhile, I decided I wanted to make use of my degree and become more proficient in speaking the

## *Faith Experience Speech, Dan Higaki*

language. I figured the only way to do this was to immerse myself in the culture and live in Japan. First, I thought about going to school in Japan but quickly realized I couldn't afford the tuition, room and board.

I then consulted Rev. (Clyde) Mikuni, who is the head minister of Tenrikyo Taiheiyo Church, my (upper affiliate) church and he suggested I attend the Oyasato Fusekomi Katei Program (or Oyafuse). This was a one-year course (like a longer version of the Oyasato Seminar), which involved studying the teachings and the Japanese language. He also advised me that the prerequisite for Oyafuse was the completion of Shuyoka (3-month spiritual development course). Since I had not completed Shuyoka and knew nothing about the religion, I was hesitant to go all the way to Japan, to some foreign place and spend a year and 3 months there. However, if I really wanted to learn the language and culture, this was the only affordable option that I had. So I resolved my mind, worked for a year at Costco to save money and went to Shuyoka in January of 1993.

### Living in Jiba

There were many things that I learned in Shuyoka but one of the first teachings that I learned was “a thing lent, a thing borrowed”. In the beginning of Shuyoka, everyone was required to talk about why they entered Shuyoka. I think 99% of the participants were there because they wanted to be saved from some kind of illness, injury or bad situation. My situation did not fit into any one of these categories so I consulted my Shuyoka teacher and he told me about “a thing lent, a thing borrowed”. He said I should be thankful that I have lived a good

and healthy life up until this point, free of any serious injury, illness or bad situation. He also explained that, “to thank God the Parent for our healthy body and worry free life is a good reason to enter Shuyoka.” As I listened to all the other Shuyoka student's illnesses and troubled situations, I became very grateful of my well being and realized how lucky I was compared to the others who were experiencing a lot of suffering and difficulty.

My Shuyoka teacher further explained to express your gratitude to God the Parent for the use of our healthy bodies is to do Hinokishin. He said the main components of Shuyoka was attending morning/evening service, learning the Mikagura-Uta (instruments and hand dance) and doing Hinokishin. He said if you resolve your mind to do these three things in high spirits, you will continue to receive good blessings. I resolved my mind and spiritedly attended the morning/evening service, practiced and memorized the Mikagura-uta (hand dance) and earnestly did hinokishin on every occasion throughout my three months of Shuyoka.

After Shuyoka, I entered the Oyasato Fusekomi Katei program in April of 1993. During Oyafuse, I continued to attend morning/evening services, practice the otefuri, engage in hinokishin and learned many other aspects of the religion. Similar to the Oyasato Seminar program, we participated in such activities as jusan toge, kedai gakari (sanctuary security watch), kami-nagashi (singing of the Mikagura-uta in public), robokoen (street side speeches), mission caravan, etc.

The one thing that stood out amongst

## *Faith Experience Speech, Dan Higaki*

everything I learned in Oyafuse was the aspect of “kokoro sadame” or making a resolution to God. During Oyafuse there were many instances of fellow students succumbing to injury or illness. In these situations, we as a group (Oyafuse students) would administer the sazukey, go to the main sanctuary and pray for the individual (in the form of onegai zutome or special prayer) and determine a kokoro sadame or resolution (usually the wiping of the corridor floors) over a prescribed period. In most cases, marvelous blessings were received and the individual quickly recovered from their situation. I believe the prayers together with the resolution sends a strong message to God and in turn he recognizes the sincere efforts of the individuals involved by saving the afflicted person. To perform a resolution is not an easy task to do. It involves constant dedication and consistency of a determined action over a prescribed period without fail. These sincere efforts or true sincerity is strongly felt by God the Parent and creates a strong bond between one another. God the Parent recognizes this and shows us by saving the afflicted person and/or showing us blessings in our lives.

After Oyafuse, my intention was to go back to Hawaii and find a job. However, I was offered an English teaching position at Tenrikyo Language Institute (TLI) in April of 1994. Since I was enjoying the life of faith in Jiba, I decided to take on the challenge and accept the position. Although I had never taught English before, I quickly adjusted to the curriculum set forth by TLI and enjoyed teaching English for two years.

One day, while at my Tsumesho (followers dormitory), a head minister came

up to me and asked what were my plans for the future. I told him I had just accepted an English teaching position at TLI and will be living in Jiba for another two years. He congratulated me on the position and offered me some advice. He said, “you have received a wonderful blessing, please do not rest on your laurels. You should continue to give maximum efforts for your spiritual maturity during your stay in Jiba.” I took his words to heart and made two resolutions for the remainder of my stay in Jiba. The first, was to attend morning service every morning and the second, was to do one full round of kairo fuki (wiping of the sanctuary floors) everyday.

The reason why I chose attending the morning service as my first resolution was because; 1) getting up in the morning was a weak point of mine and I wanted to improve in that area and 2) I enjoyed the refreshing feeling after the completion of the morning service. It made me feel like I was starting the day correctly.

The reason why I chose wiping of the corridor floors as my second resolution was because; 1) I liked the physical nature of the activity and 2) it fulfilled my daily hinokishin requirement. I was also inspired by friends and fellow co-workers who wiped the corridor floors on a consistent basis.

Although there were many hardships involved during the two years of my resolutions, I firmly believe these two resolutions deepened my faith, accelerated my spiritual growth and strengthened my relationship with God.

### Post-Jiba

I believe I was able to receive many

blessings due to the resolutions made during my stay in Jiba. I met my wife in Jiba, I was given the opportunity to work for Japan Airlines after returning to Hawaii, I was blessed with two healthy kids, etc. These are just some of the blessings that I have received throughout the years and my family and I continue to receive more blessings each and every day.

As a member of several Tenrikyo future planning committees today, the overwhelming concern seems to be how to revive and rejuvenate the younger generation of the congregation. Worldwide, the overall number of Tenrikyo followers is dwindling, specifically the 20 – 40 years of age group. Why is this so? I believe our society today and human beings in general are focusing more on their jobs, financial stability, material gains, etc. I believe these factors are pulling humans away from religion and specifically, weakening our relationship with God. We have to remember, God the Parent created human beings. We exist because God exist and because we exist, we are able to have families, focus on our careers and do the things that we enjoy. God is most important.

I truly believe faith is based on the blessings you receive. As you receive or recognize these blessings, your faith becomes stronger and enhances your spiritual maturity. However, what we have to realize regarding faith is that the blessings you receive can come in any shape or form at any given time. Sometimes we may not even know it is a blessing until it is pointed out to you or realized at a later time.

So how do we receive blessings? I believe it involves strengthening our relationship with God by realizing the intention of

God. So what things do we do to foster our relationship with God? I think we all have an idea and have heard it many times but, it is performing the morning/evening service everyday, attending the monthly service of your church, directly supervised church and/or Dendocho, doing hinokishin, spreading the teaching, administering the Sazuke (Divine Grant of Healing) and helping others. I think we are all engaged in these intentions of God the Parent in some capacity but maybe not as much as we would like. I think to build and strengthen our relationship with God involves making a resolution to God and devoting ourselves to these intentions consistently. God is looking for our sincerity and dedication over a long period of time. When God sees this, he gives us blessings in return. When we are able to receive these blessings, I believe we grow spiritually, become closer to God and experience the joy of faith.

As you can see, my faith has grown leaps and bounds from the time I went to Jiba until now. There are many instances and situations that have lead me through this specific journey in my life but after looking back, I honestly believe God the Parent and Oyasama brought me to Jiba to enhance my spiritual maturity and to live the life of faith. I was able to learn the teachings through many first hand experiences, was taught the teachings by many accomplished individuals and was able to receive many blessings during my stay in Jiba. I encourage all of you to put maximum effort into your faith so that you'll be able to receive an abundance of blessings.

Thank you for your kind attention and precious time.

# ISLAND LIFE

## 38th Hawaii Spiritual Development Course

The English Class of the Hawaii Spiritual Development Course is being held from June 15 to July 11 at Mission HQ. There are five students and one reauditing student in this year's course. Rev. Tyrone Inouye, head minister of Hawaii Central Church, is the counselor for the class.



*Lectures of the Teachings*



*Musical instruments practice*



*Group discussions*



*Meals prepared by Women's Assoc.*

# MISSION HQ (DENDOCHO) ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 2008 OYASATO SEMINAR COURSE I AND III

The Oyasato Seminar will be held in Jiba from July 10th to the 27th. The lecturer will be Daniel Akemoto (Paradise Church/Shuto Grand Church). The Course I counselor will be Blaine Mima (Koshinokuni Hawaii Church/Koshinokuni Grand Church) and the Course III counselor will be Cheryl Horikawa (Mililani Mission Station/Funai Grand Church). Oyasato Seminar reflections will be in coming issues of Origins.

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE BY THE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (HUI O WAHINE OHANA)

Please donate school supplies for the children that desperately need them for the new school year. Supplies collected will be given to the children that utilize the facilities at the Institute of Human Services (a shelter for women and children). Folder paper, composition books, pencils, rulers and erasers would be greatly appreciated. Please drop it off at Dendocho by July 20th. Thank you!!!

### *Hawaii Tenri Judo Club*

Days: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday of every week

Time: (Mon, Wed, Fri) 5:30-8:30 (until 6:30 for beginners)

(Sat) 9:00-11:00 am All groups practice

*We are waiting for you! Great way for kids to join a club at a young age.*

*For more details and to get an application please contact*

*Melvin Iwata at 537-4852*

*Please visit our new website online at*

**[www.hawaiiitenrijudo.com](http://www.hawaiiitenrijudo.com)**

# Tid Bits

## Associations' Reports



### BOYS & GIRLS ASSOCIATION

#### ALOHA BAND

The Tenrikyo Aloha Band conducted a yard sale fundraiser on Sunday, June 29, 8:30am – 2:00pm at the Tenri Cultural Center “patio” area in front on the Judo Hall and Hawaii Tenri Bunko. We would like to thank everyone for your donations and hinokishin help! Proceeds will be used to offset expenses of the pom pom section uniforms and band instruments.

Band practices are presently held once a month on the third Sunday after the Mission HQ monthly service at 1:30pm.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school class is held every third Sunday during the Mission HQ monthly service starting at 9am. The program initially starts with joining the monthly service from the seated service through Yorozuyo, proceed to Rainbow Hale for the Sunday school program and then return to the sanctuary to rejoin with parents at 11:30am for the closing prayer.



### WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

At the 90th Women's Association Convention in Jiba, the Shinbashira emphasized, “Because Oyasama is the Parent of human beings, She would never make any negative outcomes for us. Despite the realities of the outcomes, She is surely bestowing us the best blessings.”

Let go of doubts and let us become the self filled with gratitude for the overflowing blessings and follow through the second half of the year with our best efforts.

#### BAZAAR HINOKISHIN

TCC West House (every Wed) 9 – 12 p.m

#### NUUANU HALE VISITATION

July 12 (Sat) 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

#### MONTHLY MEETING

July 14 (2<sup>nd</sup> Mon)

Meeting 9:00 – 10:00 a.m

Anecdotes of Oyasama 10:15 a.m.

Ten Providences 11:15 a.m.

#### WOMEN'S MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS PRACTICE

July 15 (Tue) 9:00 a.m. ~

#### TCC HINOKISHIN

July 19 (Sat) 9:00 a.m. ~

#### WOMEN'S SUPPORT NETWORK

July 20th (Sun) after lunch following Mission HQ's Monthly Service.

\*July Mission HQ monthly service luncheon hinokishin is assigned to Godo B Group. Thank you!



## YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION

### TCC TENT SET-UP

**\*\*The TCC Tent Set-up on June 22nd was for the Aloha Band yard sale. We thank everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to make this day a success!\*\***

### HINOKISHIN

**\*\*Thank you to those who participated in the hinokishin at Trina Inouye's house on June 22nd!! We hope to see you at our next hinokishin event. Check out next month's Tid Bits for details.\*\***

### 4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY PICNIC PREPARATIONS

June 28 (Sat) Rainbow Hale 7:30 p.m.  
July 3 (Thur) Rainbow Hale 7:00 p.m.

### 4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY PICNIC SET-UP

July 4<sup>th</sup> (Fri) Kapiolani Park 6:30 a.m.

### MONTHLY MEETING

July 18, Wednesday  
Please meet at Rainbow Hale, 7:30 p.m.

*Save the date!*

**YMA 90TH CELEBRATION BANQUET**  
October 18, 2008 (Saturday)  
Further details will be announced.



## YOUNG WOMEN'S CLUB

### 2010 YWC CONVENTION

Remember to make the commitment to return to Jiba for the YWC Convention in April 2010. Stop by the YWC mini bazaar table at the Mission Headquarters Monthly Service or call Terri at 387-1871 to put your name on our commitment list.

### VOLUNTEERS/DONATIONS FOR THE MINI-BAZAAR

We need volunteers to help with our monthly mini-bazaar at the Dendocho's Monthly Service. If you can donate a baked good or help out during lunch time, please contact Terri at 387-1871 to sign up.

### REMINDER-ANNUAL BAZAAR

This is a reminder that our Annual Tenrikyo Bazaar is just around the corner in August. We will be looking for volunteers to help with baking and packing donations. We will also need volunteers to staff the two booths that the YWC will be in charge of. If you can donate a baked good or help out, please contact Terri at 387-1871 to sign up.



# The Hungry Reporter

I happen to be on a detox diet right now. I took this blood test and tested positive to 16 things. I basically am not able to consume eggs, sugar, bread, tomatoes, wheat (so pizza is out for me), pork, pinto and kidney beans (oh no there goes the chili and spaghetti) to name a few. So I decided to go healthy this month and since someone requested energy bars for this months recipe. Rumi suggested Mrs. Jean Matsunobu's awesome recipe, so here it is!! I recall having the opportunity to eat this once. Really simple and tasty! Enjoy!

## Energy Bars

### Ingredients

Raisins 1 cup

Sesame seeds 1/4 cup

Protein powder 1/4 cup

Heat dry ingredients at 200 degrees for 15 minutes.

Heat the following ingredients in a large pot:

Margarine 1/2 block

Peanut butter 1/2 cup

Mini marshmallows 1-10 oz bag

### Directions

Mix all ingredients and pat firmly into 9x13" pan. Cool for 4 minutes and cut into desired size about  $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 2". Cool completely and wrap in wax paper.

## July 2008

<b>1st</b>	<b>Tue</b>	Monthly Hinokishin Day	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
<b>4th</b>	<b>Fri</b>	Tenrikyo Annual Picnic	Kapiolani Park	9:00 a.m.
<b>6th</b>	<b>Sat</b>	Missionary House Monthly Service	Missionary House	10:00 a.m.
<b>8th</b>	<b>Tue</b>	WA Narimono Practice	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
<b>11th</b>	<b>Fri</b>	Hawaii Spiritual Dev. Course	Closing Ceremony	4:00 p.m.
<b>12th</b>	<b>Sat</b>	Nuuanu Hale visitation	Mission HQ	9:30 a.m.
<b>14th</b>	<b>Mon</b>	WA Monthly Meeting	Mission HQ	9:00 am..
<b>16th</b>	<b>Wed</b>	YMA Monthly Meeting	Rainbow Hale	7:30 p.m.
<b>19th</b>	<b>Sat</b>	WA TCC Hinokishin	TCC	9:00 a.m.
<b>20th</b>	<b>Sun</b>	Mission HQ Monthly Service	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
		Women's Support Network	Mission HQ	
		Aloha Band Practice	Mission HQ	1:30 p.m.
<b>21st</b>	<b>Mon</b>	Monthly Nioigake Day	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
<b>26th</b>	<b>Sat</b>	Yohaishiki	Mission HQ	10:00 a.m.

WA = Women's Association  
 BGA = Boys & Girls Association  
 YMA = Young Men's Association  
 YWC = Young Women's Club

TSA = Tenrikyo Student Association  
 RH = Rainbow Hale  
 WSN = Women's Support Network  
 TCC = Tenri Cultural Center

**TENRIKYO MISSION HEADQUARTERS OF HAWAII**  
2920 Pali Highway  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
phone: (808) 595-6523 fax: (808) 595-7748  
e-mail: [origins@tenrikyo-hawaii.com](mailto:origins@tenrikyo-hawaii.com)  
Tenrikyo homepage: <http://www.tenrikyo.or.jp>  
Tenrikyo Online: <http://www.tenrikyo.or.jp/kaiden/newsletter/>  
Hawaii Mission HQ Online: <http://www.tenrikyo-hawaii.com/news>

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## **Annual Tenrikyo Bazaar**

**August 24, (Sun) 2008**

**8:30 a.m. ~ 2:30 p.m.**

**at Tenri Cultural Center**

**Please invite your friends and  
family for this yearly event**

