



Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

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WESTERN JAPAN FLOOD DISASTER RELIEF FUND

Summer 2018 flooding throughout western Japan has killed over 220 people and dislocated many thousands. High temperatures and shortages of drinking water, food, and electricity have compounded the disaster. As of July 20th, at least 99 Jodo Shinshu temples were damaged. Members of at least 182 Jodo Shinshu temples were affected, with nearly 50 dead or missing.

Hawaii Kyodan will immediately respond with an initial donation to Honzan from the Social Welfare Fund to help those impacted by flooding and landslides. Further, a “Western Japan Flood Relief Fund” has been created to allow temples, members and friends in Hawaii to contribute towards the relief effort. The funds will be sent to Honzan to support Hongwanji-related temples and those who are affected from this disaster.

The special collection will run through August 31, 2018, and we are requesting each temple to collect donations and submit one check (to Headquarters) payable to “Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii” with “Western Japan Flood Relief Fund” noted on the check. Donations can also be made on-line by using the Donate link at hongwanjihawaii.com.

The following photos show the situation of the affected areas. Mililani Hongwanji Mission got these photos from Senkōji, their sister temple in Hiroshima. Photo courtesy: Rev. Masashi Fujisawa





BWA EXCHANGE STUDENT

The BWA Student Exchange program was first inaugurated in 1971 as one of the approved World Buddhist Women's Convention resolutions. This year Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations will be hosting two girls from Japan from August 9 through 16. They will visit Kauai, Hawaii Island and Honolulu United BWA.

PBA STUDENTS PARTICIPATE RSG SEMINAR

Ryukoku Sogo Gakuen (RSG) will be holding the 66th Religious Education Seminar at Honzan Hongwanji on August 3-5, 2018 and four students from Pacific Buddhist Academy (Chaperone: Ms. Liane Vilorio) will travel to Japan to participate in the seminar. The objective of this seminar is to provide religious education to the students of RSG schools, and to develop the sense of awareness as the students of Sogo Gakuen by participating in the various programs with fellow students from other schools. The theme of this year's seminar is "Let us reflect the "path" that we walk together." RSG is a federation of 24 Hongwanji School Institutions which comprise a total of 68 schools. PBA has sister school arrangements with a number of the RSG Schools.

RSG EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING IN PBA

Ryukoku Sogo Gakuen (RSG) will be holding the Educational Program for International Understanding in Pacific Buddhist Academy on August 2 - September 15. The object of this new program is to nurture individuals with an international orientation founded on Buddhist values and perspectives through deepening their mutual understanding of differing cultures and societies. 18 students from 10 RSG high schools in Japan will have a homestay in Hawaii and attend PBA with the PBA students.

THE 60th ANNUAL HAWAII HONPA HONGWANJI MINISTERS ASSOCIATION SEMINAR

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to all ministers for their participation and all temples who supported this seminar.

The 60th State Ministers' Association Seminar was held at Ala Moana Hotel from June 12 to 14, 2018 hosted by Honolulu District Ministers' Association. The theme of the seminar was "Kaikyo Propagation" and the guest speaker was Rev. Gene Sekiya of Hongwanji International Center. The lectures based upon his own experiences were truly valuable to all ministers.

Today, many people have forgotten the importance of cultivating their spiritual life. As society gets more complicated, people face various different issues which we have never even imagined of. We, as ministers, who serve in current times, need to sincerely learn from our history and endeavor to find new approaches to share the Dharma. Rev. Sekiya's lectures deeply touched and encouraged us.

Again, thank you very much to all members and temples for giving us this wonderful opportunity to learn and share the joy of Dharma. Your continued support is truly appreciated.

(Rev. Yuika Hasebe, Chair of the 60th State Ministers Association Seminar)

