

Arthur J Kaufmann, Shaku Sho Ju

Bio

Arthur James Kaufmann was born and raised in New York City. He is the third of four children born to William and Roseanna Kaufmann.

After graduating from William Howard Taft High School at age 18, he enlisted in the United States Air Force and served eight years as a Supply Technician. He served one tour in Vietnam in 1966.

He received his Honorable Discharge from the Air Force in 1969 and returned to New York.

In 1975 Shaku Kaufmann moved to Denver, Colorado. While living and working in Denver Shaku Kaufmann began his study of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism at the Denver Tri-State Buddhist Temple under the guidance of Revs. Yoshitaki Tamai, Unryu Sugiyama, Harold Oda, Kanya Okamoto.

During his time in Denver he also began his study of the art of Aikido at Nippon Kan Aikido Dojo under its' head instructor and founder Sensei Gaku Homma of Akita Prefecture, Japan. He has received the fourth grade of the black belt and continues to practice.

Shaku Kaufmann moved to Hawaii in 1993 and married Ms. Judith Holland in 1995. Mrs. Holland achieved her internship in psychology with the VA and later taught at the Hawaii Pacific University, Kaneohe campus.

While studying for the Ministry, Shaku Kaufmann also attended Kapiolani Community College where he graduated with an Associate's Degree in Art.

He received his Tokudo Ordination in 1994 at the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-Ha in Kyoto Japan under the sponsorship of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Mission of Hawaii.

Shaku Kaufmann and his wife have five children between them and have ten grandchildren.

In 1999 his was assigned as a Ministerial Aide to the Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin and served there for three and a half years under Rimbans Thomas Okano, Toshio Murakami and Rimban Muneto.

In February of 2003 Shaku Kaufmann left the Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin to take the position of Resident Manager at BDK Sudatta Hawaii,

the Society for the Promotion of Buddhism. He also worked as the distributor of the book, "The Teaching of Buddha" to hotels in Hawaii and Guam.

Shaku Kaufmann received his Kyoshi Certification on December 13th 2007 and has been assigned as Resident Minister for the Aiea Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii since Jan. 15th, 2009.

In 2013 Shaku Kaufmann was requested to take a position of Associate Minister at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, which is his present assignment. He has been there for about 5 years having worked under Rev. Muneto and the present Rimban Toyokazu Hagio.. Shaku Kaufmann's next assignment will be at the Lihue Hongwanji Mission on Kauai starting July 15, 2018.