



KONKOKYO

Airshio[e'rshio]

JULY, 2013
BY REV. KOICHI KONKO



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SHORT TEACHING FROM VARIOUS MATERIAL

- Hardships are messages from Kami-sama to reform ourselves.
- Understand not only in your mind, but also in your heart.
- Listening to others in order to understand and help them makes Kami-sama happy.
- We should feel ashamed when we waste food. We need to apologize to Kami-sama for the life that was used in the preparation of food for people.

MY COMPUTER CRASHED

My desktop computer crashed at the beginning of this month. That created an emergency situation for me because all my data is kept in the computer, including the dates and schedules for our church services, programs and activities. After I turned on the computer, the blue screen came on. That meant, "no good". I could not fix it. Maybe a professional technician could fix it. I tried to avoid having negative emotions in this situation. Thankfully, I had previously saved the data, but my computer would not start.

I needed the computer to prepare *saishi* prayers for a house blessing and a funeral. I needed information regarding the "Little Star Dance" group from Tokyo, Japan. They were scheduled to performed at Kuakini Hale Pulama Mau (joining Konkoko Missions' community service project), at Ward Warehouse and the Konkoko Mission of Honolulu on the third weekend of July. I was one of the contact persons for them. But the computer crashed and that meant I could not print out the *saishi* prayers for services and posters for the Little Star Dance performances. I was not able to use my email application neither. Very very inconvenient. However, I was surprised I was not upset at the situation. I was able to remain calmer than I thought. I apologized when I realized that I didn't appreciate my computer. I realized how much I depended on my computer for church work and my personal matters, such as the preparation for my wife's and our son's permanent visa. I remained calm so it enabled me to find ideas and solutions to the situation.

I was glad I backed up my data, although the last back up was a few months ago. I might lose some documents, pictures, and email addresses that I saved during the past few months but that was okay. I was also glad that I have an old, but still usable laptop. I had to spend some time to update the laptop so I could substitute it for my main computer. Finally I was able to print out the *saishi* prayers just one hour before the service. I also printed out other documents for the church and posters for the Little Star Dance group. I have not been using this old laptop for

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AUGUST SCHEDULE

Note: Church services will be held on **Sunday** at 9 a.m., unless otherwise specified.

Konkokyo Youth Assembly Maui 22-26; visit Oahu church 8/24

4	Monthly Service – Family Sunday
11	Sunday Service – One for the Goyo
18	Monthly Service – Corporation Board of Directors Meeting
25 11am	Rev Masayuki Kodama 40th Memorial Service

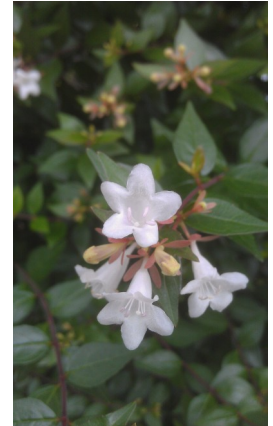
church matters because the hard drive is too small and takes too long. But this old “faithful” laptop came to the rescue to save me.

My desktop computer was sometimes unstable for several months. I wanted to buy a new computer and transfer all the data before it crashed. But I was told, “We have to save money for our son.” Makes sense. But I have to admit I momentarily thought that if the desktop computer was broken, I could buy a new one. I quickly felt guilty and sorry for my thoughts. We have to be very careful of what we think. Our unknowing wishes and prayers are sometimes very strong.

I kept calm so I could make the right decisions. I appreciated my desktop computer, apologized for what I thought, but I didn't thank the desktop enough. Then I felt everything in the universe is full of Divine virtue. I actually felt the work of Kami-sama through this incident. I tried to strengthen the bond with Kami-sama while thinking and recognizing my inner feelings.

I believe when we encounter an unwanted incident, it is a good opportunity to check our faith. If we respond negatively, such as anger or worry, we cannot advance our faith from the incident. If we can learn something when encountering hardships, we are going to the next level. When we can stay calm and receive divine arrangements, we are also standing at the entrance of the next stage of our faith.

Feeling Kami-sama is a significant blessing and a happy time for me. It helps me to move forward and have a happier life. So as I cannot function because of too much stress or problems, I feel I need to establish the stronger bond with Kami-sama, our Divine Parent of the Universe. Unknowing prayer is strong, but our sincere appreciation, apology and request prayers are also very strong to become closer to Kami-sama.



We have to be very careful of what we think. Our unknowing wishes and prayers are sometimes very strong.

TEACHING FROM KONKOKYO “KYOTEN”

When people suffer from sickness even while practicing faith, it means that Kami is taking away their offenses. Be patient. Being patient is practicing faith.

[Konkokyo Kyoten Gorikai II: Kunieda, Sangoro #4, Page 123, Konkokyo Honbu 1987]

BACK TO SCHOOL SERVICE ON 7/13/13

The Back to School Service was held on July 14, 2013. All students offered their personal prayer form and *tamagushi* as the new school year begins.



LITTLE STAR DANCE PERFORMANCES

Our friend from Tokyo, Little Star Dance Studio students, joined Konko Missions on Oahu's joint volunteer activity visiting Kuakini Hale Pulama Mau this year again. They performed their dances at Ward Warehouse, Kuakini Hale Pulama Mau auditorium and the Social Hall of the Konko Mission of Honolulu. One hula dance, "*Ka Nohona Pili Kai*" was performed beautifully by newlywed Shizu (Ishii) Fukuda. Shizu dedicated the dance to the Late Rev. Masahiko Yoshino. Rev. Yoshino's *Toritsugi Mediation* with the Leader and Choreographer of the Little Star Dance studio, Ms. Kazumi Ishii and her family, when they first visited Konko Mission of Honolulu, is the beginning of our bond and relationship with the dance studio.



TEACHING OF BY REV. MASAYUKI KODAMA FOUNDING MINISTER OF KONKO MISSION OF HONOLULU

How glad will a dying man be, should he be brought back to good health through the blessings of Okage?

A man devoted the rest of his life in "Goyo" to the Konkokyo, as his "Orei" or appreciation. Another man did errands at his church. While another man helped lead and brought people into our religious way of life. We are presently enjoying the blessings of good health that these dying people were so glad to regain, so we must be equally glad and grateful as they are.

How glad will a blind man be if by the miracle of "Okage" his sight was restored? He must think what can I do to repay for his blessings? We are presently enjoying the blessings of sight that these blind people are so grateful for. If so, we too must feel the same desire to do something in "Orei" for our sight.

If a lame person should regain the use of his limbs and can walk with ease, he must think how can I express my gratitude? We are presently enjoying the ability to walk, so we too must feel the desire to express our gratitude.

Our teachings are that: Those who believe in our religion must, when arising after resting on a tree stump, have gratitude in his heart. When a woman plucks a vegetable from her garden, if she plucks it with a prayer and a thanks to earth, she will receive "Okage."

Without this gratitude in heart, without the desire to serve in gratitude, then salvation, wherein Kami-sama is saved and humans are saved, is not possible.

How does one get to this state of being grateful that you want to do something as "Orei?" This is possible only when one gets away from a life of greed and selfishness wherein you are first and only. Where in you must have your own way, and wherein your own aims are foremost. You must get away from this life and get into a life wherein you are kind and sincere to yourself, to others, and to Kami-sama. This change-over is the most important part of our religious way of life.

We are presently enjoying the blessings of sight that these blind people are so grateful for. If so, we too must feel the same desire to do something in "Orei" for our sight.



Konko Missions in Hawaii website

<http://konkomissionshawaii.org/>

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**WE ARE ALL BELOVED CHILDREN
ALLOWED TO LIVE IN THE DIVINE VIRTUE**

REV. MASAYUKI KODAMA 40TH MEMORIAL SERVICE

Date: **Sunday**, August 25, 2013

Time: **11:00 a.m.**

Refreshments will follow.

We will have our Founding Minister of the Konko Mission of Honolulu, Rev. Masayuki Kodama 40th Year Memorial Service to honor him and express our appreciation. Please mark your calendar.

Rev. Koichi Konko has been appointed as the Head Minister of the Konko Mission of Honolulu on June 22, 2013 by Konko-sama.

Konkokyo Declaration

As humans, who are all allowed to live by the Great Universe,

We accept and respect all lives as being precious,

And pledge to manifest an ideal world where

Kami and people,

People and people, and people and all things

Live together through an Interdependent (*Aiyo kakeyo*) relationship.

The Movement for the Mutual Fulfillment of Kami and Me

I will seek and receive Mediation

I will realize the blessings of Kami

I will live a joyful life of appreciation

I will be one with Kami

I will pray for, help, and guide others

To actualize the Way of Kami and people

