



KONKO MISSION BULLETIN

Konko Mission of Wahiawa, 207 Muliwai Avenue, Wahiawa, HI. 96786. Phone/Fax: (808) 621-6667, Cell: (808) 294-6331
E-mail: konko-wahiawa@hotmail.com. Also, find us on Facebook. Head minister: Rev. Yasuhiro Yano. Vol. XXVIII, No. 2, February 1, 2016

Attending the 10th Year Memorial Service for My Father



I attended the 10th Memorial Service for my father, Ichiro Yano held at the Konko Church of Kawanoishi in Ehime on January 25, 2016. He passed away on February 5, 2006 at the age of 88. Both my father and my mother were devoted Konko believers who were able to successfully hand down the Konkokyo Religious tradition to all of their children of five boys and three girls. And two of the children emerged as Konko ministers, including me and my elder brother, Seijiro Sensei. I have two other brothers who have served as “Hokyo” or assistant to the ministers at their designated churches. When I was small, I thought it would be natural for the Konko believers to keep their family religious tradition of Konkokyo. But such families are quite rare in the whole Konkokyo faith community.

The reason I have been serving at the Konko Mission of Wahiawa in Hawaii could be attributed to my parents who included us as part of their faith life. I feel very grateful for their extended care, thoughts and prayers.

I also made a visit to Gohonbu Headquarters Church at Konko Town in Okayama, and stayed overnight at the Konko Church of Iwatani where my second eldest brother has been serving as Head Minister. He gave me a copy of a newsletter article of Konko Church of Osaki in Tokyo. The Rev. Motoo Tanaka, Head Minister contributed the writing. My brother gave me a copy and

told me to bring it back to Hawaii because the article was impressive.

Upon my return from Japan after attending the memorial service, I read the article. The message quoted in the newsletter was quite identical to the Konkokyo faith message. But the authors quoted in the book were not identified as Konko believers. They seemed to practice the teachings of the Konko Daijin, the Founder. Also the message is quite identical to the signature message always delivered by my daughter, the Rev. Edna Kazuko Yano, regarding talking to the body.

I want to share the message with you for your reference. The English translation was made by Yasuhiro Yano

Osaki Dayori No. 454 issued in December, 2015

Okage wa wagakokoro ni ari (Actualization of divine blessing through the exercise of Wagakokoro (harmony, joy and gratitude))

*By the Rev. Motoo Tanaka,
Head Minister of Konko Church of Osaki*

One of my friends recommended me to read a newly published book titled, “*Idenshi Switch On No Kiseki*” or “The Miracle of activating DNA,” published by Fuunsha publishing company. Mrs. Fusami Kudoo authored the book. The following notation was made along with the author’s name, “A housewife with a prognosis of just one month to live.”

The author was informed of stage 4 uterine cancer nine years ago and was told by her doctor that surgical removal of the mass was impossible. The first action she took was to prepare her death will for her three beloved children. She extended her apology to her children for getting so sick and wrote a loving message that they should support and help each other and enjoy a fulfilling life.

Since it was too late for the surgical removal of the mass, the only alternative treatment was to take thirty sessions of palliative radiation treatment. Towards the last few sessions, the numerous radiation treatments burned the surface of her skin. Even the faintest brush of fabric on her skin was painful. Following the radiation treatment, she went through another procedure called RALS (Remote After Loading System)—a type of brachytherapy for three sessions. Her whole body was bound tightly and kept immobile for the session. A towel was shoved into the mouth so she wouldn’t budge and scream during the procedure. Then, without any anesthesia, the high dose radiation source was directly shot around the cancerous spots her uterus. She expressed that RALS was not a treatment, but rather a horrific torture session with indescribable pains. After the end of the first treatment, her body was stiff from extreme fear and pain. She cried all night thinking to herself why she had to get cancer and suffer to this extent. She felt her life was truly going to be over.

Several days later, just one day before the second session of the RALS treatment, one of her friends sent a book titled, “Seimei no Angoo” or “Hidden Message in Life” published by Sunmark Shuppan publishing company. The author was Dr. Kazuo Murakami, emeritus at the University of Tsukuba, one of the most notable researchers of DNA in Japan.

Dr. Murakami stated, “Research on life science has made an amazing advancement. The revolutionary decoding of the human genome was complete in 2003. Scientists hoped they could understand the mysterious nature of human life. But in actuality, they have opened an even greater mystery of the human life cell.” The more they learn, more deeply unknown elements emerged. It is absolutely impossible for such a deep and complicated blueprint for life to ever be replicated with human intelligence. The more they study the life, the more they become fascinated by the wondrous nature of the blue print for life. Dr. Murakami stated that the wondrous work of the human life blueprint is not a random development, but “Something Great” has been at work.

In his book, Dr. Murakami stated, “The father has 23 chromosomes, the mother also has 23 chromosomes. A child is developed through the probability of 1 in 70 trillion combinations of the parental chromosomes.” In other words, the probability of the first child birth could be likened to winning a jackpot of 100 million yen for one million times consecutively. It can be mindboggling indeed. Every one of us comes into this world in the rate of 1 in 70 trillion. Every child, even including myself, represents a miraculous existence of one in probable 70,000,000,000,000 choices.” Dr. Murakami also stated, “Every individual who was born has already achieved a wondrous accomplishment, and continue to sustain one’s life can only be achieved by a miracle.”

Mrs. Fusami Kudoo felt so intently inspired by the statement of Dr. Murakami, “Only five percent of the total DNA of a human being is activated, but the researchers could not understand the roles of the rest of the DNA since they have been kept in the state of inertia.” In corresponding to the enlightening thought, Mrs. Kudoo reflectively shouted out loud in breaking the silence of the night at 2:00 a.m., “Banzaai!” She resolved at the moment, “I have a conviction that if I could activate even one percent of the rest of the dormant 95% of the DNA in me, I am sure I would get some improvement for my condition.”

She could see a ray of hope in the total darkness she was in. She felt as if she could hear her cells saying to her, “We have sustained your life till this day.” She became overwhelmed in the thought of gratefulness and happiness and was prompted to extend her thoughts of Thanks for her whole body, for every elements of 60 trillion DNA in her body. She became fascinated in her spiritual challenge of attempting to say “Arigato Gozaimasu” for her eyes which enabled her to see, for her ears that enables her to hear, for her hands and its functionality, for her legs that support her body, for the individual strands of hairs on the head, for the heart that pump the blood, and any other bodily elements in a sincere heart.

She underwent a second session of RALS treatment the following day. This time, she felt no pain at all. She was totally fascinated by the miraculous effects of extending “Arigato Gozaimasu.”

Mrs. Kudoo made a conviction that extending gratitude generated some special powers that could activate some of the dormant DNA. She experienced no pain at all for the third phase of RALS treatment.

After a month and a half had passed since the treatment, she had a regular x-ray image taken to see the status of the disease. The doctor exclaimed in amazement and declared, “You are now cancer free.” While both of them were in jubilation, another diagnostic image revealed that the cancer in the uterus had completely disappeared, but now a constellation of miniature cancerous masses were visible in the lungs and the liver. It was a total devastation for Mrs. Kudoo. There was a large mass in the liver and on the surface of the liver there were countless specks of cancerous lesions. It had metastasized.

She was informed by the doctor that if no treatment was carried out, she could have only one month of life to live. She suffered from deep anxiety and convinced herself that the rest of her limited life to live would be consumed by the debilitating side effects of chemotherapy. She underwent chemotherapy. As she anticipated the side effects of chemotherapy was too much to bear and she shed tears in suffering. However, amidst the suffering, she tried to say “Arigato Gozaimasu” even for the tears that rolled down. She tried to extend her “Thank you” for every cell in her body and DNA that have helped sustain her life.

She also talked to the cancerous cells, “I feel thankful even for the cells that turned into a cancerous state. You have sustained my life. You may not have wanted to become cancer cells. You probably had to become cancerous for me to try to understand something very important in life. I feel very sorry for you all.” She also extended her “Thank you” to each and every hair that fell off her head. She counted 100,000 that has dropped off from her head and said “Thank you dear hair” to every strand. In corresponding to the acts of extending thanks, she felt overwhelmed with the feeling of deep gratitude. After extending “Thank you” for over 100,000 times, her heart became saturated with the feeling of thankfulness and felt like the expression of “Thank you” overflowed from her heart. She had never experienced such a deep fulfilling gratefulness in life before.

One of those days, her second eldest son said to his mother, “Okaasan, you should enjoy this special time in your life.” She was taken aback by her son’s remark and was confused. At first, she felt she could not understand the intent of the remark. But she learned to appreciate his thoughts in gratitude. True happiness and gratitude can exist even in very difficult circumstance. She tried to enjoy the given circumstance by expressing, “I am happy. I am grateful.” This state of mind in fulfillment of thanks and gratitude seemed to help activate some of her dormant DNA.

After half a year of practicing the way of life of being grateful, she experienced some of her physical burdens being lifted. The doctor who diagnosed her declared, “You are now cancer free.” The intuition of being healed by the heart of gratitude had come true for Mrs. Kudoo.

Mrs. Kudoo stated, “The best way to activate the dormant state of hidden powers inside us is to live a way of life that makes the DNA happy. That can be fulfilled through the acts of extending

'Thank you' for anything at all and trying to enjoy even difficult circumstances presented to us."

She also shared some other elements that enhances activation of dormant DNA in such manners as helping others, always try to hold a positive thought under any circumstances, changing the living environment, appreciating encounters and meetings with others, believing in yourself, and taking good care of yourself, enjoying the excitement and trying to laugh and get excited.

Konko-Sama Says . . .

People exist because of Kami, and Kami exists because of people. Therefore, you should pray to Kami about everything, including sickness and problems, whether it is an emergency or not. Practicing faith is to have a heart like Kami in your everyday life. Praying to Kami by putting your hands together is not the only way to practice faith. A single heart means one heart. So be sure you do not go astray by having a double heart. Depending only on Tenchi Kane No Kami is having a single heart. You should be single-hearted and receive divine blessings fully. (III Jinkyu Kyogoroku 1981, 2)

Konko Daijin said, "Everybody asks me to come to their homes, but since I cannot be absent from Kami's Hiromae, I do not go. However, I have never failed to help save a person who asked me for help with a single heart."
(Jinkyukyogoroku 55)

Bulletin Board

Monthly Services for February 2016

- 1 Mon -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami (7:30 pm)
- 7 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am)
- 14 Sun -Monthly Service for Ikigami Konko Daijin (9 am)
- 21 Sun -Monthly Memorial Service (9 am)
- 28 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am)

March 2016

- 1 Tue -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami (7:30 pm)

Hawaii Conference of Religions for Peace

The regular meeting will be held on Monday, February 8, 2016 at Gedatsu Church of Hawaii at 1:30 p.m.

KMH Head Ministers' Meeting

Local Head Ministers will confer at the Konko Mission of Honolulu on February 8, 2016 at 10:30 am.

KMH General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the Konko Missions in Hawaii will be held at the Konko Mission of Honolulu on Saturday, February 20 at 1:30 pm.

Volunteer Activity

The regular monthly visit to the Long-Term Care Facility at Wahiawa General Hospital will be made on Friday, February 12, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

Kaka'ako Ehimemaru Memorial

Ehimemaru 15th Memorial Service at Kaka'ako (1:30 pm).
The Ehime Kenjinkai members will conduct regular care for the Mikan trees at Kaka'ako on Saturday, February 27, 2016 at 9 am.

Honoring the Mitama Spirits

February

Umi Yasuyo	2/3/1965
Ichiro Yano	2/5/2006
Dennis Fujio Tamashiro	2/6/1998
Thomas Takahashi	2/9/2005
Yoshiyuki Momotomi	2/10/2003
Rev. Yukio Hiramoto	2/10/2012
Mildred Chiyoko Oka	2/12/2004
Rebecca Jean Burns	2/14/2013
Jiro Oho	2/14/1937
Robert Yoshikazu Hirota	2/16/2014
Norma Teruko Katsura	2/18/2008
Elisa Albarran	2/20/1977
Marilynn Olsen	2/22/2009
Kay Yamamoto	2/22/2015
Suetsuki Toyofuku	2/24/1995

If you wish to have a name added to the church Mitama listing or removed, please contact Rev. Yasuhiro Yano.

Insight into the teachings in "Tenchi wa Kataru" or "Voice of the Universe"

The following are excerpts of series of an English translation of "Tenchi wa Kataru—Kanwa-shu" or "Compilation of Insight into the teachings in the Voice of the Universe" which contains 400 selected teachings from the original "Konkokyo Kyoten" or the "Konkokyo Scriptures." Three authors, namely, the Revs. Mikio Seto, Yasushi Hata and Matsutarō Kōsaka contributed the insightful articles. The translation is provided by Yasuhiro Yano. (Reference pages 140, 141 and 142)

#140: Konko Daijin did not have anyone he could ask for teachings. Many people come from afar to receive divine blessings. However, by receiving virtue, you will be able to pray on your own. (III Konko Kyoso Gorikai 64 Kyoten page 790)

Be able to pray on your own.

The original source of this message was the message given to Norio Sato. The message reads, "In 1878, the Murasakiya shop owner, Torii Jiemon, from Takaya Village, went to the Hiromae to cure his abdominal dropsy. The Founder told him, 'although everyone comes here saying that this is the main Hiromae, you should become able to pray by yourself when the need arises. In my case, I don't have anyone request to have prayers given for me'" (I Sato Norio 7).

The Founder gave this message to Norio Sato while he was still getting engaged in his occupation of carpentry. Norio Sato responded to a request from a person who needed help for his grave illness, and extended his earnest prayer in hope of saving this individual. But the person didn't show any signs of

improvement. In corresponding to the circumstance, Norio Sato went to see the Founder for help. The Founder responded to him by saying, “Although everyone comes here saying that this is the Main Hiromae.” It could be a natural response to seek help from the main branch when a branch agent could not deal with the matter that seemed beyond his capacity. This could happen even today.

The original Japanese expression “身しのぎ” or “mishinogi” means that a person takes care of his/her own personal matters by him/her without seeking external help.

In Japan, many ordinary people have a perception that when they encounter issues they cannot deal with by themselves, they tend to ask some special religious people, such as shamanistic priests, for help dissolve the issues. They believe “shinjin” or practice of faith is apart from their own personal lives.

The Founder stated, “Practice faith (shinjin), ‘shin’ means your heart, and ‘jin’ means Kami. Practicing faith means you direct your heart toward Kami” (I Ichimura Mitsugoro 1-1). Directing one’s heart only when they encounter difficulty in life would not be of any use. Instead, one should direct one’s heart toward Kami in one’s daily living. Through the way of life, they are to get blessed with “toku” virtue that would help the believers to be able to cope with any difficult encounters in life.

Seeking Toritsugi-Mediation means little if the believers just convey their message of requests to the Toritsugi-Mediator. The vital aspect of Toritsugi-Mediation is to practice the message received from the ministers. Blessings are to be actualized through our own practice of faith. To develop self-reliance in getting engaged in the practice of faith is important.

#141: Without virtue, you will worry. If you receive Kami’s virtue, you will not worry. (III Konko Kyoso Gorikai 54 Kyoten page 788)

No worry with Kami’s virtue

While we live from day to day, we are to get encountered with many difficult issues that we have to deal with in worries. The truth is that everybody tries to hold hope for a promising future and have many wishes to get fulfilled. But no one would be able to see what will happen in the immediate future. No one knows what the future holds. Naturally, we are to hold anxieties. We may become overwhelmed with greater anxieties.

The Founder stated, “Without virtue, you will worry.” The original Japanese expression “徳” (toku) refers to the virtue we get through our own engagement in the practice of faith. We hold worries because we get disconnected from Kami and try to deal with anything in exercise of human-oriented wisdom and capacity alone.

A message from Jirosiro Kataoka reads, “We cannot help but think about our future since we are human beings. However, as we cannot control our future, it is also useless to worry about bad things that may occur. Wondering what we should do about things that only Kami knows is ‘worrying.’ You worry because you do not depend upon Kami. You will have no worries if you

receive divine virtue by practicing faith” (III Jinkyukyogoroku 43).

There would be no ways we can stop worrying depending on circumstances. The Founder stated, “Instead of worrying practice faith” (III Shinkun 2-18). The message implies that the believers should direct their hearts toward Kami, with the same intensity of worrying. The message does not imply that the believers should not get worried or holding worry would be irreverent toward Kami.

When we direct our hearts toward Kami and rely on Kami, we are to get blessed with divine power and the worries would go away.

Turn your worries and anxieties into your prayers to Kami and enjoy getting blessed with divine virtue.

#142: I told Konko-Sama, “With my sickly health condition, I can’t help thinking that my life won’t be long.” Konko-Sama taught, “Humans are unable to predict human life spans. Kami’s blessings are unlimited, so practice faith, accumulate divine virtue and live a long life.” (II Okada Kiku 1 Kyoten page 469)

Enjoy a long life with divine virtue.

Kiku Okada lived in Onomichi, Hiroshima. Her initial visit to see the Founder was on January 3 (of Chinese calendar), 1883. She was a hairdresser. She was much concerned about her poor health. She honestly related her personal concerns of health to the Founder. She appreciated the forwarded message in gratitude.

The quoted message was the only message she could share with others. She might treasure the message and got engaged in the practice of faith devotedly. She enjoyed good health and got married in 1886 and was blessed with two sons and one daughter.

“During Taisho Era (1912 to 1924), many people made a visit to seek Toritsugi-Mediation from Kiku Okada. When she reached the age of 80 years old, she moved to live at the Konko Church of Yoshiwa which was established by her second son, So. She passed away in September of 1948. She was 85 years old” (Konko Daijin Jinbutsushi page 17).

Measuring a life span of each individual is beyond human capacity. Some people who enjoy good health and fulfilling lives could die unexpectedly. When we encounter such eventualities, we may feel overcome with anxieties and fears for our own lives. We could be defeated in sadness.

But the Founder stated, “Kami’s blessings are unlimited. We do not have to limit how long we live in such a manner as ‘I want to live at least to the age my parents lived; I would be able to fulfill if I would live to the age I wish to accomplish something.’”

We can follow the examples shown by Kiku Okada, who got engaged in pursuit of faith, got blessed with divine virtue and power and was of service to Kami.