



KONKO MISSION BULLETIN

Konko Mission of Wahiawa, 207 Muliwai Avenue, Wahiawa, HI. 96786. Phone/Fax: (808) 621-6667, Cell: (808) 226-9594
E-mail: konko-wahiawa@hotmail.com. Also, find us on Facebook. Head minister: Rev. Yasuhiro Yano. Vol. XXIX, No. 5, May 1, 2017



Mrs. Fusami Kudo, an Extraordinary Spiritual Transformation

*By Yasuhiro Yano
Head Minister of Konko Mission of Wahiawa*

In January of 2016, I made a visit to Japan to attend my father's 10th year memorial service. At that occasion, my elder brother Rev. Seijiro Inagaki who also has served as Konko minister in Hiroshima handed me a copy of the monthly publication of Konko Church of Ōsaki in Tokyo. In the publication, the Rev. Motoo Tanaka, Head Minister of the church, quoted a condensed summary of the book titled, "Idenshi Switch On No Kiseki" or "The Miracle of Switching on the DNA" authored by Mrs. Fusami Kudo. The Rev. Tanaka was also hospitalized when he was introduced to the book. Soon after I returned from Japan, I looked over the article and was moved by the message extended by Mrs. Kudo. I made an English translation of the article and published it in our monthly publication.

I have never imagined we would have an opportunity to invite this wondrous woman from Japan and hold an open public presentation by Mrs. Fusami Kudo. The invitation of the speaker was actualized by the enthusiasm of the Rev. Masato Kawahatsu who has been operating the Konko Church of San Francisco Satellite Church at South San Francisco for many years. The Rev. Kawahatsu found the message given by Mrs. Fusami Kudo to be identical to the theme he has been advocating throughout his ministerial career. He simply tries to expand the practice of saying, "Arigato Gozaimasu" for over 10,000 times a day. The Rev. Kawahatsu developed his own conviction for his advocacy based on his own personal experiences over the miraculous power of expressing "Arigato Gozaimasu." For him, all that exists and anything we can do are possible in the state of "Ari Gatashi" or in Japanese, "有り難し" that means "Whatever we have and whatever we are able to do are actually impossible, yet possible. For the Rev.

Kawahatsu, at every moment in life is the state of "Arigatashi" that implies the feeling of ultimate gratitude and the only expression he could utter is the exclamation of deep gratitude expressed in Japanese, "Arigato Gozaimasu."

Mrs. Fusami Kudo, survived the state of impasse and despair in dealing with the terminal stage of uterine cancer and was given the prognosis of less than one month. This happened twelve years ago, while she was working hard at a company and taking care of her three teenage sons. One day she was bleeding profusely from the nose and groin for no apparent reason, and she collapsed. She was raced to the ER. The doctor found that she had cancer that had already spread to the state of helplessness. A biopsy was performed, but the blood vessels were damaged in the process and the bleeding could not be stopped. As an attempt to heal the wound, she underwent 30 radiation treatments and a procedure called "RALS" or remote after loading system treatment. The first of the three consecutive treatments of RALS was horrendous and torturous because of the pain and the way the procedure was carried out. This is unthinkable in the hospitals in America. The patients would sue the doctors and the hospitals for the inhumane treatments of RALS according to a medical professional. While she was awaiting for the second procedure, her son's teacher gave her a book titled, "The Divine Code of Life" authored by Dr. Kazuo Murakami. An encouraging letter from the son's teacher was also enclosed in the packet.

In the message given by Dr. Murakami, Mrs. Kudo's attention was drawn to one line of description. "A person who weighs 60 kilo has 60 trillion cells. A newborn has a few trillion cells. In each of those 60 trillion cells resides the exact same DNA. Contained in one human cell, there is the basic genetic information which is written in 3 billion letters. If one were to make this into a book, you would have 1,000 letters on each of 1,000 pages, and you would need 3,000 of these books. This vast amount of information found in just one cell is also found in each of the other 60 trillion cells. Inside the DNA of human body, only about 5% of them is actually running and working; the function of the other 95% of the DNA is still a mystery." In corresponding to the extended information, Mrs. Kudo responded, "If this is the case, 95% of my DNA remains dormant and on top of that, if I can awaken even 1% of the good DNA, I can probably get a little better than I am now. I shouted out, 'Hooray! Hooray! Thank goodness! I am a human.'" Mrs. Kudo also learned that she was born into this world as one in 70 trillion miracle. She found out her own existence in this world is just "Arigatashi" or could hardly actualized without the work of "Something Great." Her awakened awareness of herself is quite identical to the awareness held by the Rev. Kawahatsu.

We have an expression called "Aien Kien" or a fortunate encounter in the Konkoko faith community. Mrs. Fusami

Kudo has little affiliation with any other religious practices in life. Why has she responded to share her stories with the believers in the Konkokyo faith communities in Japan, San Francisco, Gardena and Hawaii? Mrs. Kudo revealed her first book titled, “Idenshi Switch On No Kiseki” or “The Miracle of Switch on the DNA” in 2015. In two months, the Rev. Michihiko Suenaga, Head Minister of Konko Church of Reihoku in Kumamoto made a call to see her at the Lotus Restaurant she was running. The Rev. Suenaga read the book and was so much impressed by her message and responded to make an arrangement of public presentation at the Konko Church of Airaku in Kurume. The Rev. Suenaga related to Mrs. Kudo how he learned of the publication of the book. A Konko minister in Tokyo read the book and posted his remarks on Facebook. The Rev. Kawahatsu of South San Francisco made a copy of the writing in his church publication. And the Rev. Takeuchi of Konko Church of Chicago was informed about the book by the Rev. Suenaga. After the presentation at the Konko Church of Airaku, Mrs. Kudo has agreed to speak at different Konko churches. The Rev. Kawahatsu persuaded Mrs. Kudo and her assistant, Mrs. Tomomi Kinoshita to come to San Francisco, Gardena and Hawaii to share her stories. The Konko Missions in Hawaii also responded to the project of inviting her to make a visit for her public presentations at Konko Mission of Honolulu on April 22 and April 23, 2017.

Mrs. Fusami Kudo’s presentation was the second publicly invited program ever held in the faith community of Hawaii. As a member of the sub-committee, I made a proposal to have a professional Japanese to English interpreter for the program. The well orchestrated professional English interpretation serviced by Mrs. Keiko Grant was one of the major contributions for the successful program.

It is said that approximately 75 people including 35 non-Konko believers showed up at the first day of the program. Prior to the presentation, on April 20, a half an hour interview session with Mrs. Kudo was aired in the afternoon. It was well-worth the interview for many listeners. The interviewer from KZOO Radio station also showed up for the presentation at the church and shared her thoughts with the radio listeners about the presentation.

To save expenses for the program, Dr. and Mrs. John Tamashiro and Mr. and Mrs. Masahiko Taniguchi and the Wahiawa Church responded to host their stays in Hawaii. We hope they were able to experience a local household stay and their hospitalities with Aloha. It was a special occasion and honor the two guests from Japan stayed at our residence for two nights and three days. They expressed, “This is Japan!” They especially enjoyed the homemade Japanese dishes, *ofuro* soaking in our Japanese bathtub, walking on the beach, viewing the beautiful sunset and beach picnic barbecue. They also joined the 5:30 a.m. early Morning Prayer services, and read Kyoten Gorikai.

Mrs. Fusami Kudo is an ordinary individual who made an extraordinary spiritual transformation and continuing her ever-

lasting spiritual evolution. Personally, I found so much identical elements shown in the Konkokyo Kyoten Scriptures in the expressed thoughts and actions of Mrs. Fusami Kudo and her cousin, Mrs. Tomomi Kinoshita.

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

Main Services for May 2017

- 1 Mon -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami (7:30 pm)
- 7 Sun -Monthly Service for Ikigami Konko Daijin (9 am)
-Wailuku Church Spring Grand Service (11 am)
- 14 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am)
-Hilo Church Spring Grand Service (11 am)
- 21 Sun -Monthly Memorial Service (9 am)
- 28 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am)
- 29 Mon -Memorial Day—Visit Punchbowl Cemetery (8 am)

June 2017

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

Hawaii Conference of Religions for Peace

The regular meeting will be held on Monday, May 15, 2017 at Gedatsu Church of Hawaii at 1:30 p.m.

Volunteer Activity

The regular monthly visit to the Long-Term Care Facility at Wahiawa General Hospital will be made on Friday, May 12, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

Spiritual Training

Nicholas Furusho (1st son of Randy and Masumi Furusho) will be heading to the Konko Church of Amagi, Fukuoka, Japan for spiritual training from May 27 through August 1, 2017. He will be graduating from Leilehua High School on May 19, and attend University of Hawaii at Manoa beginning in August.

Zippy's fundraiser tickets for the Ohana Camp

Zippy's fundraiser tickets are available from April 24 through June 25, 2017. All proceeds will go toward the church educational fund and help with the 7th Summer Ohana Camp that will be held on June 17 and 18 (Saturday and Sunday), 2017 at Camp Erdman, Mokuleia. Your help and support for the annual educational program is greatly appreciated.

Konko Mission of Wahiawa 7th Summer Ohana Camp

We will hold the annual 6th Summer Ohana Camp organized by the Konko Mission of Wahiawa from June 17 to June 18 at Camp Erdman, Mokuleia. The theme for this year's gathering is "Orei, Owabi and Onegai." The Rev. Dr. Todd Zenji Takahashi will make a presentation. Attending day-time activities including the lecture alone will be recommended if you hesitate to stay overnight. This time, we will enjoy the usual camp fire and crab hunting. For more information please contact Edna Matsuoka via internet: ednakazuko@hotmail.com or call (808) 223-3448. Please apply by May 21, 2017.

KMH Calendar

May 20 –Board of Trustees Meeting at 10:30 a.m. at Konko Mission of Honolulu

May 27 –Ministers meeting at 10:30 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. at Konko Mission of Honolulu

Honoring the Mitama Spirits

May

Toshiko Yogo	5/2/2010
Kiyoka Takahashi	5/5/1999
Rev. Masahiko Yoshino	5/9/2013
Saichi Eguchi	5/9/1997
Rev. Hidejiro Hosaka	5/16/1972
Fernie Furusho	5/26/2001
Hideo Fujimoto	5/26/2005
Hiroshi Katsura	5/26/1959
Takahiko Yano	5/28/2016

If you wish to have a name added to the church Mitama

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 158, 159 and 160)

No. 158: Toritsugi of Kami is performed by a kami. People with true faith are kamis. Therefore, toritsugi of Kami can be performed. How can animals like foxes, snakes, and birds perform toritsugi for kami? Though people say that some kami uses foxes or snakes as messengers, Tenchi Kane No Kami uses people, Kami's children.

(I Shimamura Hachitaro 7-1, 2 Kyoten page 327)

Toritsugi of Kami is performed by a kami.

A toritsugi-mediator, who works as a communication agent between the secular world and the divine world, can be functional only when the go-between fully understands the person's emotional elements and thoughts in deep empathy. This is the meaning of "Toritsugi of Kami is performed by a kami."

A true Konko believer would be able to understand the divine will and would have the same heart in line with Kami. The message stated, "people with true faith are kamis. Therefore, toritsugi of Kami can be performed."

The following statement, "How can animals, like foxes, snakes, and birds perform toritsugi for Kami?" is a powerful message. The term "tsukawa-shime" or agents for divinity, in the original Japanese message is less familiar in today's society. The extended thought, "Though people say that some kami uses foxes or snakes as messenger" shows that there were many religious traditions in Japan that worshipped some particular animals as agents of divinity. There could be many people who asked the Founder about the messenger for the religious tradition.

The quoted message could be a definitive response to those people who believed in animal-oriented messengers. The message, "Tenchi Kane No Kami uses people, Kami's children" can be interpreted as follows, "People are Kami's children who have been bestowed with precious personalities; can get evolved to kami through sincere pursuit of faith; we should be awakened to this blessed nature of ourselves and have confidence in pursuit of faith."

No. 159

Kami will teach the Way of the Universe and show people the way to give themselves peace. (II Okida Kisaburo 3-2 Kyoten page 451)

The Way of the Universe

The ultimate truth the Founder tried to convey to the world through his dedicated work of Toritsugi-Mediation for 25 years is, "The Way of the Universe."

"The Konkokyo Kyoten" or "the Konkokyo Scriptures" was published in 1983. This publication, "Tenchi Wa Kataru" or "Voice of the Universe—Selected Teachings of Konkokyo" was published in 1990. Both publications have many teachings

of the Founder. At first, the selected teachings are random, but they are all related to the one theme of “the Way of the Universe.”

There are many identical teachings referring to the blessed nature of Heaven and Earth. There are also some other teachings pertaining for thoughts and wisdoms for better social lives. But they also lead to the subject of “the Way of the Universe.”

In other words, if we follow “the Way of the Universe” in our daily livings, we are to enjoy our lives accordingly.

It seems that Heaven and Earth speaks through the mouth of the Founder. This publication, “Tenchi Wa Kataru” or “Voice of the Universe—Selected Teachings of Konkokyo” shows the exact nature of the messages.

The Founder stated that through “the Way of the Universe” people are to enjoy peaceful lives.

Since we are born in the blessedness of Heaven and Earth and are inseparable from Heaven and Earth, the most assuring way of life is to appreciate “the Way of the Universe” and live accordingly. The society we live continue to evolve rapidly, but we live on the stable foundations provided by Heaven and Earth. When we live in accordance with “the Way of the Universe” we are to enjoy happy and peaceful lives.

No. 160: In Konko Daijin’s way of faith, you are saved not through chanting prayers, but through listening to the teachings. *(III Naiden 6-6, Kyoten page 899 to 901)*

Teachings save people.

The Konkokyo Religious Organization initiated a program called, “Yoi hanashi wo shite iku undo” or “Promote comfortable and meaningful dialogies” in June of 1989. The program was based on the quoted message.

The Founder’s message, “You are saved not through chanting prayers, but through listening to the teachings” was revolutionary in the general faith community in Japan in consideration of the religious environment of those days in which the tradition of chanting for healing was prevailing.

The Founder lived in the turmoil of political transitional period from the Tokugawa government to the Meiji Restoration. In those days, people sought help in the practice of chanting prayers for dissolutions of their difficult encounters in life. Even in this age of scientific and technological advancements, once we encounter some difficult and unhappy eventualities, we are to respond to seek help in the traditions of prayers and folk religious practices. In disregard of the prevailing spiritual inclinations of the people in general, the Founder made a radical statement, “You are saved not through changing

prayers, but through listening to the teachings.” He made such a bold statement to the world in conviction of his own belief.

The Founder’s conviction about the statement, “You are saved not through changing prayers, but through listening to the teachings” was built through his own experiences. The true teachings were not composed through human-oriented theories, but actualized by the Founder who lived as a farmer who developed full appreciation of the work of Heaven and Earth and worked with the heart of pure and true sincerity.

The Founder actualized the teachings and proved the valid nature of the teachings as “the Way of the Universe.” The teachings are saturated with the elements of divine love and thoughts for people, the beloved children of Kami, and have elements that cannot be provided by “chanting prayers.” If we develop full appreciation and gratefulness for the extended teachings, we are to enjoy blessed peaceful lives.