

KONA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE



E - JIHO
September 2019



Theme & Slogan 2019: Embrace Change: Transformation (Walk in Peace)

GRANDPARENT'S DAY SERVICE

Sunday, September 8, 2019 at 9:00 am

PEACE DAY SERVICE

Sunday, September 15, 2019 at 9:00 am

In 2007, Hawaii became the first state in the nation to officially recognize and annually celebrate the **International Day of Peace**. The International Day of Peace was established by the United Nation as the day of worldwide ceasefire and non-violence. The **Hawaii Federation of Jr. YBA** lobbied the legislature to set aside a Peace Day in Hawaii. State Representative Jon Riki Karamatsu introduced a bill on behalf of the Hawaii Federation of Jr. YBA. Governor Linda Lingle signed the bill into law on April 17, 2007.

AUTUMN O-HIGAN SERVICE

Sunday, September 22, 2019 at 9:00 am

Japanese Service at 10:45 am

Speaker: Reverend Shinkai Murakami

Resident Minister at Wailuku Hongwanji Mission

It has been a long Buddhist tradition to gather in our temple twice a year during the Spring and Autumn equinox to recall the six Perfections: -- **Giving, Behavior, Endurance, Endeavor, Meditation and Wisdom**—and once again devote themselves to the fulfillment of these practices as **Bodhisattvas** (a faithful disciple of Buddhism).

2020 CALENDAR ORDER

Orders are now being taken for the 2020 Hongwanji Calendars
please call: 323-2993 to place your order

NEED THE ASSISTANCE OF THE MINISTER, contact Rev. Blayne Higa at 323-2993 or Emergency only (808)383-9153 or Joseph Gusman at 896-4988 or 324-0708. To schedule services or activities, call the church office at 323-2993 Monday thru Friday – 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed on weekends and holidays. If unable to contact the office clerk, leave a message on the answering machine.

E-MAIL ADDRESS: Church – konahongwanji@twc.com

SEPTEMBER

1 Sunday ...	-----	NO SUNDAY SERVICE
4 Wednesday ...	9:30 AM ...	Service @ Hualalai Regency
	11:00 AM ...	Service @ Life Care Center
8 Sunday ...	9:00 AM ...	Grandparent's Day Service
10 Tuesday ...	10:30 AM ...	HAIB Meeting
12 Thursday ...	9:30 AM ...	Preschool Temple Visitation
13 Friday ...	8:30 AM ...	Senior Activity Program
Sept. 13 th thru Sept. 15 th		Lay Convention @ Hilo Betsuin
15 Sunday ...	9:00 AM ...	Peace Day Service
21 Saturday...	8:00 AM ...	Omigaki #1 Food Prep #2
	-----	HIUH BWA Meeting
22 Sunday ...	9:00 AM ...	Autumn O-Higan Service
29 Sunday ...	9:00 AM ...	English Family Service

OCTOBER

2 Wednesday ...	9:30 AM ...	Service @ Hualalai Regency
	11:00 AM ...	Service @ Life Care Center
5 Saturday ...	7:00 AM ...	Cub Scouts Pancake Breakfast
6 Sunday ...	9:00 AM ...	English Family Service
9 Wednesday ...	7:00 PM ...	Board of Director's Meeting
10 Thursday ...	9:30 AM ...	Preschool Temple Visitation
11 Friday ...	8:30 AM ...	Senior Activity Program
Oct. 12 th thru Oct. 13 th		HHM of HI 130 th Anniversary Hilo Betsuin Sangha Hall
13 Sunday ...	-----	NO SUNDAY SERVICE
20 Sunday ...	9:00 AM ...	English Family Service
	-----	HIUHBWA Convention
26 Saturday ...	7:30 AM ...	Manju Making
27 Sunday ...	8:00 AM ...	Manju Pick-up

CUB SCOUTS & BOY SCOUTS

EVERY MONDAY CUB SCOUT PACK 12 MEETING AT 5:00 PM
EVERY WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY CUB SCOUT PACK 12 MEETING AT 5:00 PM EXCEPT 1ST
WEDNESDAY
EVERY TUESDAY BOY SCOUT TROOP 59 MEETING AT 7:00 PM

TAIKO PRACTICE

EVERY TUESDAY ADULT'S TAIKO PRACTICE AT 6:00 PM
EVERY THURSDAY TAIKO PRACTICE AT 5:30 PM
TAIKO MEETING EVERY 2ND THURSDAY IN THE SOCIAL HALL AT 6:45 PM

JUDO PRACTICE

JUDO CLUB MEETING EVERY 1ST WEDNESDAY IN SCOUT ROOM
EVERY MONDAY AT 7:00 PM NIGHT CLASS
EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6:00 PM NOVICE; 7:00 PM NIGHT CLASS
EVERY THURSDAY AT 7:00 PM KATA CLASS
EVERY FRIDAY AT 6:30 PM ADULT ONLY

IKEBANA

EVERY 2ND SATURDAY AT 9:00 AM IN THE SCOUT ROOM

rally and an anti-fascist counter-protest. Our nation is also hurting from gun violence and yet there is a bitter divide on what to do about it. Here on the Big Island, we are the epicenter of the TMT protest centered atop Mauna Kea which has spread across the state and is dividing our community.

Conflict also happens on a personal level. How many of us have been in conflict with a spouse or family member? With a co-worker? It sometimes seems like there is no end to the constant state of conflict in our lives which is often caused by dualistic thinking and our attachment to fixed views which the Buddha taught is the cause of suffering.

As I reflect on the many conflicts in our world, I go to the Dharma for insight into understanding and helping to resolve these divisions. I am reminded of a time when our local community was struggling with the issue of Marriage Equality for same-sex couples. At that time, as well as now, there seems to be so much fighting going on with very little true discussion taking place. I wondered how did we fall away from the ideals of American Democracy—that of reasoned debate and discourse and the art of compromise? How did we let our ego-selves run amok in such destructive ways?

On October 28, 2013, I was honored to offer the opening Invocation for the Hawaii State House of Representatives as they convened in Special Session to discuss the issue of Marriage Equality. I shared with them the following advice from the Dharma on how we should not be blinded by our own limited views on issues and to try to listen to others with open hearts and minds. And I believe this lesson continues to be relevant in our world today.

I shared with them *The Parable of the Blind Men and the Elephant* from *Udana 68-69* in the *Pali Canon*: “In a time of great conflict between many teachers of different traditions and philosophies, the Buddha shared the following story: Once upon a time in the city of Shravasti there lived a king. One day, the king instructed a servant to round up in one place a gathering of men who had been blind since birth. “The blind men have been assembled, your majesty,” said the man. The king further instructed him to introduce an elephant to this group of men, such that each could examine it for himself. “This, sir, is an elephant,” the servant said to each of the blind men in turn. But to the first, he presented the head of the elephant, to the second, the ear, and so in turn to the rest of the blind men he presented the tusk, trunk, body, foot, backside, tail, and tuft of the tail. At this point, the king approached the blind men and asked of each, “Tell me, sir, what is an elephant like?” Each answered according to his own experience, saying in turn that the elephant was like a water pot, a winnowing basket, a plowshare, a plow pole, a granary, a pillar, a mortar, a pestle, and a broom.

These blind men then began to quarrel about the nature of the elephant, each one saying, “The elephant is like this, not like that,” and “The elephant is not like that, it is like this.” Eventually, they came to blows and began striking one another with their fists. The king who called them all together sat back and watched the scene in great amusement.

What the king seemed to understand is the extent to which views, beliefs, and opinions in people link directly to our very primitive instinct for defending what belongs to us and attacking what is regarded as belonging to others.”

Shakyamuni Buddha then concluded his teaching with the following verse:

“O how they cling and wrangle, some who claim
For preacher and monk the honored name!
For, quarreling, each to his view they cling.
Such folk see only one side of a thing.”

Very rarely are conflicts black and white. It is natural that most issues in life are complex, and that people will have different perspectives on them. It is also inevitable that most perspectives will derive from a limited range of experience and are unlikely to embrace the whole picture. It is also understandable that people will express their differences of opinion, engaging in mutual dialogue and debate. However, what is

utterly unnecessary is that such differences need to escalate to verbal or even physical violence. Doesn't this sound familiar to what is happening in our world today?

I concluded my invocation by offering an aspiration to our lawmakers and to everyone participating in the debate on Marriage Equality. I said, "My challenge to everyone who participates in our democracy is to live with Aloha. To understand that at the end of the day we are all one Ohana, one Family, one Hawaii. And that our thoughts, our words, and our actions should reflect that awareness of our profound connection to each other. So let us engage in vigorous and civil debate—understanding that each of us has only one part of the whole truth. Let us listen with open hearts and minds. And let us always extend compassion and respect to everyone we meet."

In times of difficulty, we often look for someone or something to blame. However, in Shin Buddhism, we are taught that all definitions like good and evil, while useful, can be arbitrary. As our founder, Shinran Shonin reflects in the *Tannisho (A Record in Lament of Divergences)*, "I know nothing at all of good or evil. For if I could know thoroughly, as the Tathagata [Buddha] knows, that an act was good, then I would know good. If I could know thoroughly, as the Tathagata [Buddha] know, that an act was evil, then I would know evil. But with a foolish being full of blind passions, in this fleeting world—this burning house—all matters without exception are empty and false, totally without truth and sincerity. The nembutsu alone is true and real." Shinran contrasts the limited nature of human concepts and understanding with the Nembutsu, the Name of the Buddha, by which we encounter ultimate reality or Truth. It is this activity of spiritual truth which enables us to see our ego-self at work in the light of boundless compassion. Isn't this the ideal for all religions and philosophies? That they provide ways of understanding our often-chaotic world by awakening us to our true and real selves—our full humanness?

The Dharma does not always offer us simple or easy answers in life. The Dharma pushes us to go deeper into our own human experience and understanding to realize the complexity of situations and their underlying causes and conditions. The Dharma challenges us to think critically about our lives and about every situation we encounter. The Dharma ultimately asks us to temper our ego-selves within the embrace of Amida's wisdom and compassion and to approach life humbly with kindness and compassion for ourselves and others. May this teaching help us to better understand and to resolve conflicts in all aspects of our lives. *Namo Amida Butsu.*

SAVE THE DATE

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii 130th Anniversary Celebration
Hawaii District Event and Joint Service

Guest Speaker: Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki of Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple

Date: October 12 & 13, 2019

Place: Hilo Betsuin Sangha Hall

More details to follow

Daily Morning Service

Start your day with gratitude by chanting the *Shoshinge* together. A daily morning service is held Monday through Saturday beginning at 8:00 am and 7:30 am on Wednesdays.

world. All living things born into this world, not just people, but animals and plants, coexist as part of a greater life that they share.”

His Eminence Gomonsu Emeritus Koshin Ohtani of Nishi Hongwanji encourages “Think more expansively of your connectedness to life.” “All things on earth, all things in the Universe, are in the fold of a great life-force linking us all together. In this world, there is no life that was ever lived in vain. There is no life that is meaningless. All life is linked together. All of us share in the light that Amida Buddha shines upon us—this is what Buddhism teaches.”



All life, all existence, regardless of whether they lived in the past, are living in the present or will be born in the future are illuminated and nurtured by the Buddha’s Light of Wisdom and Compassion. Just as when the light is turned on in a darkened room and we are able to see, likewise, with the Buddha’s Light shining upon us we begin to see and understand ourselves and the world in a different light. It is through this understanding that our life changes. This is what happened to Mogallana and his Mother. They found themselves living in a new awareness that life and living is made possible by innumerable others not

limited to our fellow human beings. May we, too, come to realize the equality and preciousness of all life including plant and animal life, actually all existence and move away from self-centeredness and selfishness to a world filled with respect and appreciation for and of one another.

Further, at Obon time, we express our joy as we come to realize that Amida Buddha embraces us just as we are, including our deceased loved ones, promising us the great Enlightenment equal to the Buddha’s own Enlightenment. Thus, we refer to Obon as “A Gathering of Joy” at Hongwanji as we rejoice in the fact that we are all (living and deceased) embraced by Great Compassion. The life of a Shin Buddhist is one of “Responding in Gratitude” in which I gratefully recite The-Buddha’s-Name-That-I-Call (in gratitude), Namo Amida Butsu and try to live a life in accord with the Buddha’s Teachings which aspires for more peace, harmony, and happiness in the world.

I end by expressing my ardent wish and hope that you will attend Sunday services to learn and experience more fully the Great Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha. Namo Amida Butsu.

SADAKO’S PAPER CRANE (ANOTHER) FINDS A NEW HOME ON BOARD THE USS MISSOURI, PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII

How fortunate we are in Hawaii! A second paper crane folded by Sadako Sasaki has found its home here in the Islands, manifesting her aspiration for peace, “I shall write Peace on your wings and you shall fly all over the world.” Sadako died of leukemia in the aftermath of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

The presentation ceremony took place in the Captain’s Cabin on board the USS Missouri on June 29, 2019, as the 87th Annual US Mayors Conference was being hosted by Mayor Kirk Caldwell and the City and County of Honolulu. Sadako’s nephew, Yuji Sasaki of the Sadako Legacy, presented the tiny paper crane to Meghan Rathbun, Curator of the USS Missouri Memorial Association Inc. The crowd of local dignitaries included the Consul General Koichi Ito of the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu and even a few international guests from Japan.

Edwin Hawkins organized the ceremony and emceed the event, introducing each of the evenings speakers: the Honorable Mayor Kirk Caldwell, Yuji Sasaki, Meghan Rathbun, and Bishop Eric Matsumoto of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Bishop Matsumoto’s reflection is available on the following:

<https://hongwanjihawaii.com/message/reflection-offered-at-sadako-paper-crane-presentation-062919/>

Earlier in the day, Bishop Matsumoto addressed the 62nd Jr. YBA State Convention where he credited and applauded the Hawaii Federation of Jr. Young Buddhists Associations for their successful endeavors in

establishing “Peace Day” in Hawaii (September 21), propelling Hawaii Kyodan’s involvement for world peace.



*Yuji Sasaki holds a box with Sadako’s crane with Bishop Eric Matsumoto, Robyn Omuro-Osaki of the USS Missouri Memorial Association (left), and Megumi Sasaki (right)
Photo courtesy: Robyn Omuro-Osaki, USS Missouri Memorial Association*

SPIRITUAL CARE IS HEALTH CARE: LEARNING HOW TO CARE FOR THE WHOLE PERSON AT THE 2019 ISPEC TRAINING IN HAWAII

From July 9-11, 2019, HHMH participated in an international gathering of hospital chaplains and medical professionals to learn how to integrate spiritual care with medical treatment. Our goal was to develop a resource network of ministers to support hospital chaplains serving Buddhist patients throughout the State of Hawaii.

Dr. Trace Haythorn, PhD, Executive Director/CEO of The Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) based in Atlanta, GA wrote: “I had the pleasure of serving as a member of the leadership team for an ISPEC program with Pacific Health Ministry, our ACPE Center in Honolulu. ISPEC is a program of the George Washington Institute for Spirituality and Health, founded by Dr. Christina Puchalski. The program brings together pairs or small groups from institutions, usually anchored by a spiritual care professional, to explore how we can more fully integrate spiritual care into our health care settings. Through work with case studies and standardized patients, teams not only develop new skills for assessing spiritual distress, they also deepen their knowledge and appreciation of one another.”



During this 3-day Workshop, Honolulu was host to about 70 participants of the 2019 ISPEC Training Session with attendees from the US Mainland, several countries from Asia and Africa and our own Hawaii. The ISPEC stands for “Interprofessional Spiritual Care Education Curriculum” and is endeavoring to make spiritual care of individuals become an integral part of health care. Rev. Blayne Higa was a member of the Course Faculty for the 2019 Training Session. Some Committee members of the HHMH Compassionate Care Committee like Rev. Yuika Hasebe, Rev. Shawn Yagi, Rev. Bert Sumikawa and Bishop Matsumoto attended together with others who have previous associations with Pacific Health Ministries like Dr. Dexter Mar, Rev. Sol Kalu and Ms. Mernie Miyasato-Crawford. Plans are to share learned knowledge, skills and experiences.

On the eve of the conference July 8, Office of the Bishop and the Honolulu District Hongwanji Temples encouraged by Council President Dr. Dexter Mar hosted the Participants and also the local community to an Opening Reception at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin at which time Buddhism including Jodo Shinshu and the significance of chanting and memorial services were shared so Buddhist perspectives could add to the richness. The highlight was the simultaneous Japanese chanting of “Hakkotsu no Sho” and recitation of the English Translation of Rennyō Shōnin’s “On White Ashes.” Following this introduction, refreshments and temple displays hosted by Honolulu Hongwanji Council followed and the evening culminated with a public lecture by Dr. Christina Puchalski and panel members.



Needless to say, the Opening Reception and Training Session were an enriching experience for all participants! We express our gratitude to Rev. Anke Flohr, Executive Director of Pacific Health Ministries (PHM) in Honolulu for coordinating not only the Training Session with ISPEC, but also for making the arrangement so Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii could be an integral part of the 2019 ISPEC Training Session. We will continue to work with

PHM to develop the HHMH minister-PHM chaplain network to provide spiritual care for Buddhists receiving hospital and hospice care.

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL CONCERNS

Donation to Saint Elizabeth Episcopal Church

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii presented a donation of \$2,500 to Saint Elizabeth Episcopal Church to support their Wallyhouse Peace Garden Project. The Peace Garden will serve the surrounding community (Kalihi-Palama) with the following objectives: “We aim to grow fresh food for the community. We aim to provide a nurturing activity for local youth in gangs, to help focus their energy in creative and uplifting ways, decreasing the levels of theft and vandalism in the neighborhood. We aim to provide an enriching and creative outlet for the houseless and for the immigrants, fostering peace and nonviolence in the neighborhood. We aim to provide a space for community gatherings where a cross section of peoples can share and enjoy together on a regular basis. We aim to practice urban permaculture, regeneration of the land and ample food to share.”



Dean Sakamoto presented the donation to David Catron (a Wallyhouse Catholic Worker) at their Wednesday liturgy on May 29, 2019.

Donation to Samaritan Counselling Center Hawaii

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii presented a donation of \$5,000 to the Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii to support their mission of providing affordable, professional counseling sensitive to the spiritual orientation of individuals, families, and



Acknowledgement continued:

HAKASOJI and NOKOTSUDO

Mr. & Mrs. Casey Kirihara
Larry & Leinette Schaetzl
Mr. & Mrs. Masakatsu Tsukahara
Mr. & Mrs. Sukeji Yamagata
Mr. & Mrs. Yoshiyuki Kaneko
Clara Uechi

Roy Matsumoto
Marjorie Fergerstrom
Mr. & Mrs. Kaoru Uyeda
Mr. & Mrs. Francis Abe
Lynn Tom
Katy Uemura

Claudia Chang
Ukie Saito
Ronald Shirai
Clifford Tanouye
Nancy Fujimoto

Total - \$595.00

JIHO

Mr. & Mrs. Keith Hayama
Mr. & Mrs. Masakatsu Tsukahara
Mr. & Mrs. Sukeji Yamagata
Mr. & Mrs. Yoshiyuki Kaneko
Mr. & Mrs. Shizuya Sakata

Larry & Leinette Schaetzl
Helen Oishi
Mr. & Mrs. Francis Abe
Lorraine Haraguchi
Katy Uemura

Marjorie Fergerstrom
Ronald Shirai
Nancy Fujimoto
Nora Koyanagi

Total - \$390.00

JULY and AUGUST SUNDAY SERVICES

Total - \$1,135.00

BON DANCE

Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Chong
Gordon & Annie Fujino
Mr. & Mrs. Clayton Grace
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Hayama
Mr. & Mrs. Sadayuki Inouye
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Kaneko
Keei Buddhist Church & Cemetery
Kel Kunitomo
Margaret Masunaga
Norma Matsumoto
Bobby Miyashiro
Mr. & Mrs. Mitsuo Nagai
Nona & Clayton Nishina
Shari & Gordon Ogi
Lance & Gloria Okamura
Estaban & Moira Rabang
Richard & Grace Sasaki
Susan Shiota-Nishioka
Randal Smith & Susuie Yamane
Raymond & Susan Takiue
Chad & Carol Yamamoto
Susumo & George Yoshida

Gerri Ann Davidson
Alice Fujii
Yvonne Hanato-Wells
Jean & Myles Ikeda
Elbert & JoAnn Iwane
Nancy Katayama
Koochi
Sharon Langsi
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Matsumoto
Gifford & Sheila Matsuoka
Mizoshiri
Linda Nagai
Pauline Goodwin-Nishina
Barbara Nomura
Rodney & Karla Park
Syncier Rabang
George & Nobuko Shimamoto
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka
Raymond & Arlyne Takiue
Velma Usui-Noda
Jim Waddington
James & Mae Zane

Elaine Chapman
Lloyd Fujino
Akinori Imai
Deanna Ishihara
Margie Kaiser
Kenneth Komo
Eric Kunitomo
Darla Lovell
Machiko
Sueto Matsumura
Karen Morimoto
Aaron Nagata
Helen Nagata
Luana Ogi
Claude Onizuka
Ernest Sasaki
Hanna Shirai
Alberta Takashiba
James Tashima
Dean Uemura
Maki Yamaguchi

Acknowledgement continued:

Judy Amano & Family, Bon In Memory of Katsumi Takamoto
In Memory of Richard Miyamoto
In Memory of Takiyo Tanaka

Total - \$3,674.11

HATSUBON SERVICE

Dr. Bart Aoki & Geri Ann Davidson	Mr. & Mrs. Colin Byars	Lisa Ciriako
Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Chong	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Gusman	Mary Katayama
Mr. & Mrs. Hiroki Ishimaru	Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Kaneko	Edna Kitagawachi
Mr. & Mrs. Yoshiyuki Kaneko	Mr. & Mrs. Daren Katayama	Elaine Komo
Robert & Helen Kobzi	Kel Kunitomo	Janet Lindner
Mr. & Mrs. Bert Maedo	Alan Matsumoto	Sueto Matsumura
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John & Shelley Tsue	Chizu Nakamura	Betty Matsuo
Hatsuyo Haimoto	Fujie Ichishita	Sandy Iwashita
Mr. & Mrs. Michitoshi Murakami	Keith Nishihara	Yooko Moriguchi
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Yamauchi	Amy Okuno	Doris Yamamoto
Ukie Saito	Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Matsumoto	

Judy, Lance & Crystal Amano and Stuart Umeno, Hatsubon In Memory of Katsumi Takamoto
Jim & Marsha Boyle, In Memory of Yoshimi Taniyama's 7th Year Anniversary
Elaine Chapman, In Memory of Stanley Kunitomo
Ernest & June Fujikawa, In Memory of Desiree Shiraki and Stanley Kunitomo
David & Susan Miyashita, Hatsubon In Memory of Ethel Aoki
Hisako Taniyama, In Memory of Yoshimi Taniyama's 7th Year Anniversary
Tomono Family, In Memory of Koshi & Sadako Tomono, Grandparents & Great Grandparents
Wesley & Ilyn Ferreira, 1st Year Hatsubon In Memory of Hatsuko Shiraishi

Total - \$2,443.00

CAPITAL FUND

Mr. & Mrs. Keith Hayama	Mr. & Mrs. Sukeji Yamagata	Ronald Shirai
Mr. & Mrs. Francis Abe	Mr. & Mrs. Yoshiyuki Kaneko	Nancy Fujimoto
Nora Koyanagi	Katy Uemura	

HAWAII KYODAN DUES

Claudia Chang	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Hayama	Ukie Saito
Mr. & Mrs. Casey Kirihara	Akino Sonoda	Ronald Shirai
Mr. & Mrs. Sukeji Yamagata	Mr. & Mrs. Francis Abe	Nancy Fujimoto
Mr. & Mrs. Yoshiyuki Kaneko	Mr. & Mrs. Shizuya Sakata	Nora Koyanagi
Clara Uechi		

