

FROM OUR READERS

Questions, Suggestions

IJUST received my first copy of *Living Buddhism*. I'm so excited about the look of the magazine and some of the editorial changes that have been made, for instance, the clarity and brevity of this month's selected Goshō. I even appreciate the use of English words instead of Japanese (i.e., Nichiren Daishonin's Writings vs. Goshō). This will make the magazine more accessible to nonmembers.

There are, however, four areas about which I have questions/suggestions:

1. In addition to giving background information on the artists whose work is featured on the cover (which I hope you'll continue to do), could the "Expressions" feature also include more stories about other types of artists? For instance, I'd like to read about members who are writers and performers, etc.

2. Is it possible to make the children's and youth pages a regular feature, so that each month we'll know for sure there will be material for the youth?

3. I looked for the quote on page 17—"They do injury to the faith of many believers"—in *The Major Writings of Nichiren Daishonin*, volume 4, page 13, but I could not find it. Is there an updated volume 4 out already, or is this just a mistake?

Overall, I am glad about all the changes. I look forward to seeing where else the magazine is going.

LAVORA PERRY
East Cleveland, Ohio

Editor's reply: 1) We are planning to include the stories of people from all fields in the near future.

2) We have turned the articles geared toward children and youth over to our sister publication, the World Tribune. We felt we were duplicating our efforts. The Philadelphia correspondents and artists who produced the children's section for the magazine are now contributing to the "Friends for Peace" pullout section in the World Tribune.

3) The reference on page 17 (January issue) for the quote "They do injury to the faith of many believers," from The Major Writings of Nichiren Daishonin, should be volume 6, page 13. We apologize for any confusion we created. Thank you for your input.

Request for Bigger Type

I WOULD like to make some comments on the format and type size of *Living Buddhism* as changed from the *Seikyo Times*.

I enjoyed reading for pleasure, and studying articles in the *Seikyo Times*. The large type size and two-column per page format were a joy. It made reading seem less like work. As I get older, my eyes have more trouble with small print. In *Living Buddhism*, the captions to pictures are also more difficult to read because of the small size of the print and the length of the line.

Title: From Our Readers: 03/97

Subject: Living Buddhism 03/97 v.1 n.3 p.2 LB9703p02

Author:

Keywords: 03/97 Alarming Bigger Photograph Questions Readers Suggestions Type

Would you possibly consider going back to the larger type style and two-column format?

NICHOLAS W. CARLIN
Louisville, Ky.

Editor's reply: Thank you for your comments. For now, we have adopted new type face and size that would fit a three-column format. However, we are always ready to respond to the voices of our readers. We would like hear from many of you regarding the present format.

Alarming Photograph

GREAT first issue! We're getting there. I was quite confused at the picture you decided to run of President Makiguchi on page 22 [January issue]. We have been made to understand that taking pictures of the Gohonzon is a definite no no. Why have you published a picture with the Gohonzon in it? Please explain. This has confused the matter for me and possibly others.

LARRY TISH
Boston

Editor's reply: Several others have expressed their concern about the photo on page 22 as well.

You are correct in saying that it is not proper to photograph the Gohonzon. It is like making a "bootleg" reproduction of it.

The photo in question has been published numerous times in SGI publications over the years. It is one of a few rare photos of early discussion meetings held with Tsunesaburo Makiguchi, the first Soka Gakkai president. However, the altar in the photograph is so illegible that if you were not familiar with Buddhist altars, you would not know what you were looking at. It is hardly a reproduction of the Gohonzon.