

Brazilian City Names Park After Josei Toda **Courtesy of SGI NEWSLETTER**

The Brazilian city of São José dos Campos, in the state of São Paulo, has announced its decision to designate a park in honor of Josei Toda, the second Soka Gakkai president, in a letter sent to SGI President Ikeda from City Councilor Florivaldo Rocha.

This announcement follows recent plans to name a thoroughfare in Curitiba, in the Brazilian state of Paraná, Josei Toda Road.

Brazil has also honored the memory of the first Soka Gakkai president with the establishment of Tsunesaburo Makiguchi Park in the city of Curitiba and Tsunesaburo Makiguchi Road in Itapeva, a suburb of São Paulo.

Situated about 62 miles northeast of São Paulo with a population of 600,000, São José dos Campos is a burgeoning center of aerospace technology and research.

Josei Toda Park, also in close proximity to the SGI of Brazil São José dos Campos Community Center, will be nestled in between a planned residential district and an industrial sector.

In his letter, Councilor Rocha noted the SGI's worldwide activities' focus on peace, culture and education. He further stated that the SGI is a model for people everywhere who possess a sense of social responsibility.

Mr. Rocha also declared that the park is a crystallization of the esteem held by the citizens of São José dos Campos toward Josei Toda for his strong sense of duty and selfless struggle, laying the foundation for the Soka Gakkai to develop into a global organization.

BSGI General Director Eduardo Taguchi expressed his deep joy and gratitude at seeing the great efforts of presidents Makiguchi and Toda recognized in a country so far away from Japan.

This is evidence that the SGI's activities have become highly regarded throughout the world, Mr. Taguchi said.

The park's announcement coincides with the 40th anniversary this year of President Toda's famous declaration for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

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