

Let Us Talk About the 21st Century

SGI President Ikeda dedicated the following poem to the future division members in celebration of May 5, Soka Gakkai Successors Day.

*My Young Successors:
To You, I Entrust the 21st Century!*

*Divine emissaries of the 21st century
Build a palace in your heart
Hold aloft your golden flag!*

*My dear young friends
Be wise!
Be strong!
Illuminated by the moon
Bathed in the light of countless stars
Always treasure your parents*

*My dearest friends
Bring the fountain of learning
Bubbling forth
Create a lake of magnificent splendor*

*Surrounded by a forest of towering giants
Bid farewell to a tragic spirit
Allow your life to shine
With a spirit of joy and good cheer
Live out your youth
With all of your might!*

*Youth passes by all too soon —
Therefore
To create the most beautiful hope
And memories
Let us together, you and I
Unfold our wings
My gentle young friends
My strong young friends
Tonight again
Let us chat together
While gazing up at the constellation of Leo
Let us talk about the 21st century
Let us talk about the future and life*

*We who possess
The solemn spirit
Of faith*

Title: Let Us Talk About the 21st Century
Subject: World Tribune 08/01/97 n.3150 p.9 WT970801p09
Author: Daisaku Ikeda
Keywords: About Century Ikeda Poem Poetry President Speech Talk

*Must never forget
That we have a profound mission
Do not be defeated
And wallow in misery
I want you my friends
To have happy, bright eyes
That sparkle
As you declare in final triumph,
"I have won!"*

*My dearest friends
Who will grow into the leaders
Of the 21st century
My dearest friends
The successors of Soka
The disciples who will realize
The widespread propagation of the Law*

*Charge bravely ahead through all storms of obstacles
Make your way with composure and dignity
Through pounding waves of difficulty
Advance high-spiritedly through the dark gloom
Of scheming and duplicity
And employing the jeweled sword of faith
To resolutely cut through the tangled web
Of waiting traps and pitfalls
Forge ahead with determination
My dearest friends
Courageously take your place
On the grand stage of the 21st century!*

World Poet Laureate