

U.S. Peace Organization Commends SGI President Courtesy of SGI NEWSLETTER

In honor of the 40th anniversary of second Soka Gakkai president Josei Toda's Declaration for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons, the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation in Santa Barbara, Calif., has stated its intent to prepare a commemorative statement recognizing SGI President Ikeda's achievements and pioneering endeavors to create lasting peace.

Foundation president David Krieger informed Mr. Ikeda by letter, saying that he would personally present the statement to the SGI leader this September. Dr. Krieger noted that now, 40 years after Mr. Toda's bold initiative, many citizen organizations throughout the world are working hard to realize this essential goal of a world free of nuclear arms.

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation was established in 1982. Working together with such noted peace scholars and human rights activists as Dr. Johan Galtung, Dr. Ved Prakash Nanda and the late Dr. Linus Pauling, it has formed alliances with groups focused on achieving peace across the globe and taken the lead in promoting antinuclear and pro-peace movements in the United States.

In 1957, President Toda made his landmark declaration denouncing nuclear weapons and calling for an unconditional ban on their use and manufacture. Carrying on that vision as his disciple and successor, Mr. Ikeda has visited the United States, the former Soviet Union and China during the height of the Cold War and has continued to hold frank dialogues with national leaders, scholars and cultural figures around the globe. He has thus built friendships and established trust in an effort to create a world without war. The SGI held the "Nuclear Arms: Threat to Our World" exhibition in 26 cities in 17 countries toward raising awareness of nuclear issues. President Ikeda also founded the Toda Institute for Global Peace and Policy Research in February 1996, whose top priority is nuclear disarmament.

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