

WORLD TRIBUNE MAILBOX

Behavior Is Key

I would like to comment on the Dec. 26 *World Tribune*. Besides being outstanding as usual, and the “Editorial” very informative (we’re being excommunicated AGAIN???), the page 6 article by Jeff Farr on “The How-To of *Jiyu*” was particularly interesting. In the *jiyu* poem, SGI President Ikeda teaches us how to act like a Buddha. Jeff very succinctly weaves this in with a quote from the Gosho and his own examples. We need to read more of this type of writing. It’s fine and dandy to “do the practice” — gongyo, daimoku and attending meetings — but there is no excuse for bad behavior. There is no point to saying we are Buddhist if we don’t behave as a Buddha.

— GERI KAUFMAN, Cayucos, Calif.

More Experiences, Please

I’ve been a member since 1974; I have had lots of benefits but lots of obstacles which I didn’t like. But I know that without these obstacles I would have given up. I am still fighting, and I am going to win. I win every day because I have one more on this Earth. I would like you to print more experiences in your paper, as I get encouraged by them.

— BEA GALLEGOS, Los Angeles

EDITOR’S NOTE: In 1998, we plan to have at least one experience in every issue. But we need help from our readers. If you’ve experienced powerful proof of faith, we’d like to hear about it. We’re looking for stories that share your struggles, your realizations and your triumphs. If you need help writing, we can find someone to help. If you’re interested, please contact the editorial office at (310) 451-8811 or e-mail us at SokaNews@aol.com. Thanks for your support.

Speak Out Against Evil

In the Dec. 5 *World Tribune*, Jeff Farr wrote a piece for the “Sign Posts” column. I’d like to add to this. We are all aware of the evil in our own life, and many of us every day chant to purify our own life, study the Gosho and President Ikeda’s guidance. Along with the evil in our own lives, one may find evil existing in our local organization. We may not want to admit this and try to brush it aside, but it will resurface. So what do we do about this? President Ikeda discusses evil in the June 1997 issue of *Living Buddhism* in the “Dialogue on the Lotus Sutra.”

Identifying it is the easy part and acting upon the evil is more difficult; however, the most difficult will be confronting the obstacles that will naturally occur. Then remaining resolute is even more difficult.

If we do not speak up, then we are evil.

— BERNIE SPIEGEL, Boston

Title: Mailbox: 01/09/97
Subject: World Tribune 01/09/98 n.3173 p.3 WT980109p03
Author:
Keywords: 01/09/97 January June Mailbox Opinion Tribune World