

WORDS TO THE WISE USING TIME WELL

“Deep in the Snow Mountains lives a bird called Kankucho which, tortured by the numbing cold, cries that it will build a nest in the morning. Yet, when the day breaks, it sleeps away the hours in the warm light of the morning sun without building its nest. So it continues to cry vainly throughout its life. The same is true of people.” (*The Major Writings of Nichiren Daishonin*, vol. 1, p. 255)

From SGI President Ikeda:

* (On finding time to read books:) It's a matter of setting your mind to it. Those who claim they have no time haven't really tried. If the desire to read is there, there is no way you can't find 10 or 20 minutes. . . . When you're head over heels for someone, for instance, you want to see him or her whenever and wherever you can — even if it's only a brief glance or just for five minutes, right? That should be our attitude toward reading. (Nov. 14, 1997, *World Tribune*, p. 12)

* In what little free time [Shin'ichi Yamamoto] had between commitments, he busied himself writing encouraging messages on the flyleaves of books and other items to present to members. Wherever Shin'ichi traveled around Japan, his schedule was extremely hectic. He was determined to meet, encourage and inspire as many people as he could; he didn't want to waste even a second. (Sept. 5, 1997, *World Tribune*, p. 7)

* (When asked how he is able to do so much and still be so full of energy, Shin'ichi Yamamoto replies:) “That's the wondrous thing about Soka Gakkai activities. There are many people I have to encourage. They are all waiting for me. When I think about them, I can't rest. I find courage. And when I meet people, I think, 'I have to inspire courage and determination in this person' or 'I mustn't allow this person to be unhappy.' The strength of my determination then arouses a powerful life force within me.” (Oct. 3, 1997, *World Tribune*, p. 8)

* The famed German playwright Johan Wolfgang von Goethe (1749–1832) offered the following advice to children: Since one hour equals 60 minutes and one day is worth more than 1,000 minutes, there is ample time for children to do anything they please if they are convinced they can. (June 2, 1995, *World Tribune*)

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