

## **SGI PRESIDENT HONORED BY CHINA'S NANKAI UNIVERSITY**

On Nov. 25, 1998, SGI President Ikeda was inaugurated an honorary professor by China's Nankai University and an honorary director of the university's Center for Zhou Enlai Studies. The ceremony took place at the Fifth Soka Gakkai Student Division Leaders Meeting, which was held in Tokyo. In his acceptance speech, President Ikeda discussed the Japanese bombing of Nankai University in 1937 and the ensuing eight-year occupation of the campus by the Japanese army. Although the staff of the university were forced to move their operations from one place to the next, President Ikeda explained, their spirit to educate and foster youth never wavered. As a result, many students raised during these eight years courageously stood up in opposition to their Japanese oppressors. The Nankai spirit is consonant with the Soka spirit, the SGI president said — the spirit with which the successive presidents of the Soka Gakkai have fought against the evils of nationalism.

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